SHAKTI SHALINI

Supporting Gender equality, Individual Choice and Dignity since 1987

Annual Report 2019-2020
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Shakti Shalini is Delhi based Non–Governmental Organization that has been actively working against all forms of gender and sexual violence since 1987. Gender and sexual violence is a critical social evil in India and needs concerted effort at individual, social and policy levels to bring about change. Shakti Shalini has a holistic and inclusive approach. We work with individuals, families and communities; with women, men, children and LGBTQIA* community members.

Our mechanisms for promoting gender equality are four fold:

**Responding to violence:** The support services offered to survivors at Shakti Shalini include a shelter home for women in distress, regular counseling, crisis intervention, legal counseling and litigation services, physical and mental healthcare, complete rehabilitation including educational and earning opportunities, and follow-up.

**Preventing Violence:** We conduct rigorous outreach, awareness and sensitisation with five socially and economically marginalised urban communities in South-East Delhi, conduct a skills development center for combating violence and organise numerous art and cultural events that promote an ethos of zero tolerance to violence.

**Educational Enhancement Programs:** An upcoming program, educational enhancement, is focussed at an ideological and ethical investment into all interns and volunteers who work at Shakti Shalini in order to ensure that topics such as gender equality, consent, violence, awareness of resources, etc. become core topics in the education of young people who can be powerful future changemakers in the world.

**Darmiyan:** Darmiyan is a creative and upcoming literature publication hosted by Shakti Shalini which currently contains life narratives of survivors of violence and numerous poems.
WE DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE:

- There is zero tolerance to violence
- Where a person’s “gender” does not become a basis for violence, oppression or exploitation.
- Where each individual is free to exercise one’s agency, to define oneself and “choose” the role they wish to play in society.
- Where the integrity, dignity, individual identity and personhood of a person is not trampled upon.
- Where every woman is freed from the centuries old yoke of patriarchy and she is not trampled upon solely for being born female.
- Where the fluidity of gender is understood and respected as a human right.

OUR IDEOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

The ideological framework and principles that govern the thoughts and actions of the entire Shakti Shalini team are simple:

- Gender equality
- Equal educational, economic and social opportunities for all
- Respect for individual choices, dignity, independence and personhood
- Zero tolerance for violence

Gender is a powerful constituent of identity and defines, in varying degrees, the position and role one occupies in a given society. A patriarchal social system normalizes gender violence and discrimination. Our ideologies are formed in opposition to wide-spread and dominant discourses of patriarchy and gender discrimination that have plunged their claws deep into all frameworks of society whether legal and economic or pedagogic and familial. All operations and activities of our organization are guided by our principles. Shakti Shalini respects all genders and all sexual orientations. We believe in the choice of the individuals with regard to gender and sexuality and attempt to aid them, if they seek it, in exercising their agency and upholding their choices regarding their identity.
Indian women often face many difficulties within their family, community, and patriarchal society. Women or girls who have experienced domestic violence and abuse are victims of abject social situations most often do not have a source of help or a place to go to seek refuge. Most often they have to come back to their abusive partner, family or they commit suicides. Lack of education, awareness, and fear of social stigma has made thousands of women suffer in silence. Our shelter home offers protection, guidance and support to the destitute women seeking help. We conduct workshops, facilitate discussions, and carry out regular activities to keep them occupied which eventually help them heal from their disturbing situations. The shelter home can ideally cater to a maximum of 10 women along with their children. As a policy, no woman is denied shelter post sunset is ever denied shelter. The women here live in a secure and clean environment. Sanitary and dietary amenities as well as medical aid are regularly provided at ‘Pehchan’ from case to case basis. However, recognizing our own present limitations of resources, expertise, infrastructure and workforce, we do not accept individuals who suffer with very extreme mental conditions and clinical psychiatric concerns.

**Story of Change**

Razia (name changed) is from Delhi and a mother of three children. She was married for 13 years with the love of her life. Soon after the marriage her husband started to abuse her physically, mentally and sexually. During Razia’s first pregnancy, her husband eloped and she was left alone to take care of herself and her unborn child. Petrified by this sudden turn of events she asked for her mother’s help to be with her through the entire pregnancy period. One day her husband suddenly turned up and started to apologize to the family members. The family asked Razia to make a settlement and be happy with the fact that at least he is back. During her second pregnancy the husband again eloped and came back after couple of months and again a settlement was made between the two. A few years after Razia was diagnosed with tuberculosis, she was asked by doctors to not conceive as it could be life threatening. Razia’s husband forced her to have unprotected sex she became pregnant again. Moreover, Razia’s husband would force her to have intercourse in front of her children and family and when she refused, he would beat her. She escaped the clutches of her husband with the help of the police and reached Shakti Shalini. In a hurry to leave her abusive marriage she had to leave behind her three children. Shakti Shalini, with the consent of the mother, rescued all the three children who were brought to Pehchan, our shelter home. Soon her husband started visiting Shakti Shalini’s office and created ruckus almost every few of days. After the regular counseling sessions, the survivor was able to stand for herself and confronted her husband that she won’t be taking any abuse. Razia added that she will stay apart and will look after her children all by herself. After two months of stay at Shakti Shalini’s shelter, she has finally moved out and is now staying independently with her children. She is working as a patient caregiver and raising her children on her own. She is pursuing divorce through Islamic personal law. At the time of leaving she shared “When I had come here, I was very afraid that how will I manage everything. But now, I have gathered courage to face my husband and I don’t fear him anymore. I will take care of myself and my children alone.” The victory of Razia represents a triumph for all women in such difficult situations. She stood her ground with courage and fought all odds to make a better future for herself and her children.
Our counseling services are available even for men, children and for the LGBTQIA* community in addition to women and girls. CICC includes services of crisis intervention, intensive and regular counseling, physical and mental healthcare, legal advice and litigation aid, art programs, vocational training, educational and employment assistance, rehabilitation and housing aid. Counseling has proven to be an extremely effective method of mitigating the suffering of survivors.

Each survivor undergoes various levels of counseling at our organization. In a month, we may conduct as many sessions as necessary for a client. All sessions are designed according to the needs of the individual concerned. The form of counseling is flexible. We prefer counseling in person, however, if the need arises, we conduct counseling over phone calls and pay home visits as well. Counseling need not be limited to the client. Depending on the case, we, more often than not, we include the families or the closely related people of the client. In the eventuality that a legal case has to be fought in court, we are able to provide lawyers. Survivors may also need assistance in mental and physical health and we provide therapy and treatment for the same.

Firdauz (name changed) was a young, passionate girl who met her partner at an event. Love grew between the two and contrary to traditional Indian culture, she chose to go for a live-in relationship and also bore a son. However, her partner became extremely abusive. Just after both of them moved in together he started to torture her physically and mentally. He would splurge money on his alcohol and substance use and when there was no money left he forced her into sex work and beat her to beg out in the streets. When she first came to Shakti Shalini, she described, “He would abuse each part of my body in a different way. For my face he would use a pressure cooker, a wicket for my hands, roller to break my teeth. I feel very scared of him. If he comes in front of me I’ll go with him otherwise he will put me in a terrible condition”. During Firdauz’s stay at the shelter, Firdauz’s abusive ex-partner also attacked Shakti Shalini’s counselor who was facilitating the case. He came with a group of friends and attempted to abduct the counselor in a private car from a public location. Shakti Shalini immediately went to the media and to the police but received little support. Gradually, over many counseling sessions, Firdauz gathered the courage and became sure of her decision on fighting a legal battle against her ex-partner. Writ Petitions were immediately filed in the Delhi High Court on behalf of its counselor as well as Firdauz against the abusive man and his friends. With much struggle FIRs were ultimately filed and protection was received. The perpetrator and gang are currently absconding and the cases proceed in the court. Firdauz continues to live under the care and protection of Shakti Shalini with increased self confidence and participates actively in various activities happening at the shelter. She now says, “Now I don’t feel scared of him and even if he comes in front of me now, I can deal with him myself”. Firdauz’s experience tells a story of rejection and cruelty in the face of abuse but, above all, of human resilience to push through despite the odds.
Shakti Shalini currently works with five disadvantaged communities in South-East Delhi. To achieve our aim we work at the level of the individual, the family and the community; with women, men, adolescents and children. The community outreach workers daily interact with the women, men, adolescents, children and families of the community, gaining their confidence, discovering their grievances and attempting to address them.

Our community outreach program is a form of direct negotiation and communication with the residents of the communities that aims at bringing about an ideological and cultural change in favour of gender equality and zero tolerance to violence.

Having protection committee in the community is one of the effective ways to sustain zero tolerance to violence in and around us even when the community outreach coordinator is not physically present in the community. The protection committee consists of people from the community itself who acts as community vigilant group and reports any form of violence that happens in and around. This focuses on making the communities self sustained in taking actions against anything wrong or undesirable that happens in the communities by teaching them how to complain directly to the police. In the last quarter a number of total 5 cases of violence were addressed by one of our protection committees independently among four. 2 cases were directed to CICC and 3 were reported directly to the police. This whole event of the quarter tells us that the protection committees formed are actually functioning effectively. The communities themselves have started identifying violence around them and have become receptive about it too which is a small start towards a big goal.

"When I look at the world I'm pessimistic, but when I look at people I am optimistic."

CARL ROGERS
Roopa (name changed) is from Joanpur, got married to Ambar (name changed) and settled in Delhi with her husband and his parents in 2016. While Roopa was trying to make herself comfortable and adjust in the new family, Ambar never really spent time with her. Even after trying for a couple of months after the marriage Roopa struggled to talk and build a relationship with her husband. The distance that Ambar maintained from Roopa made her doubtful and she figured that Ambar was having an affair. Roopa found out that Ambar has been in the relationship before marriage and the girl is Ambar’s cousin who lives in the neighborhood. Ambar’s mother knew about his affair all along and because of the societal pressure the mother got Ambar married thinking this might end his relationship. Roopa comes from a poor family and is the eldest among four sisters; she also didn’t receive education and had no idea about how she could help herself legally in this situation. Therefore, even after finding out about Ambar’s relationship, Roopa tried to connect and make a conversation with her husband. In return, Ambar started abusing and beating her even for the smallest of reasons. Nobody including her in-laws helped her when Ambar used to beat her; she had no option but to go back to her parents’ home. She came back after a few months when her sister-in-law delivered a baby. She was back to take care of her sister-in-law and her newly born baby. Still nothing had changed, Ambar used to beat and hit her badly. Somehow, Roopa got to know about Shabiha, our community outreach coordinator, and contacted her for support. Roopa would meet Shabiha secretly and shared her violent and abusive marriage. Roopa was suggested to either contact 100 or 181, women helpline number for immediate support if her husband hit her the next time. Shabiha also helped Roopa understand her rights and legal actions that can be taken against Ambar. Shabiha counseled Roopa and made her believe that the actions that she is taking are for her safety. Roopa is now living with her parents happily and our community outreach coordinator, Shabiha, helped her understand what can be done is such situations and saved her from regular domestic violence. Roopa is yet to file for a legal action against her husband, she plans to visit Delhi and consult Shabiha as soon as the lockdown ends and situation
It provides vocational training and remedial educational classes to all six communities as well as residents of the shelter home. KVK is dedicated towards encouraging a culture of learning and growth within the communities. Enhanced education for children and vocational training for community residents may take them a long way in securing earning and employment opportunities. The trainers, interns and volunteers who conduct classes at KVK find creative and effective means of interweaving democratic values of equality, individual choice and zero tolerance to violence within their classes. The network of activities and facilities we organize provides our clients with a nurturing environment through which they can develop into strong individuals taking full charge of their lives. It plays a crucial role in healing and strengthening an individual, building self-confidence and independence. Kushalta Vikas Kendra includes the following programs:

- Cutting and tailoring (certified courses)
- Computer (certified courses)
- Beauty culture (certified courses)
- Notebook Making
- Mehendi Art
- Remedial Education
- English Language
Khushi, 26 years old, was connected to Shakti Shalini by one of our partner organizations in the year 2017 for a safe space. Khushi escaped from her family because of extreme violence from her father and brothers. Khushi, a story of courage and determination who fought her own family in every step to be free from the violence and abuse. It all began when the conversations started around Khushi’s marriage. Khushi was never comfortable with the whole idea of marriage because of her health issue. Her only condition from her family was to totally recover first and then she will get married. When she was taken to a male doctor she was too shy to share her health concerns with him. Khushi says “I have never spoken to boys in my life, I was never told how I was supposed to talk men, I never spoke to my male cousins as well. So how was I supposed to show my body to a doctor who is male and a total stranger to me?” But the family never understood her concern and discomfort with men; instead, they believed that it’s her excuse to not get married. She was regularly beaten and abused by her father, neither her mother nor her brothers tried to stop her father. Nobody from the neighborhood came forward and tried to help her. The family spread the rumor that Khushi has some mental illness and which is why shouts and screams are every now and then. Khushi adds “I was taken to the room inside so my screams couldn’t go out. My father started beating me and my brother held my arms tightly, he took my dupatta (scarf) that I was wearing and tied my hands. I had never removed my dupatta ever, even when I was sleeping or going to the washroom, I always had my dupatta around my neck”. Khushi’s youngest brother suggested her father that “we should take her to the mental hospital get a certificate made and we can always tell the neighbors that she gets fits and which is why she needs to be taken to the hospital immediately.” The violence on Khushi continued for many months together. She tried escaping, getting in touch with the neighbors asking for help, and tried to commit suicide but all failed. She was given sedatives and injections to keep her calm and quiet. Khushi says “I feared my life every day. Every day I felt like it is the last day of my life”. Living in an abusive household for 24*7 she still was able to chalk out her escape plan. With the help of one of the doctors from the hospital she contacted a feminist organization working against domestic violence for her escape. She coordinated her next visit to the hospital with the organization. When she next came to visit the doctor with her father she was rescued from the hospital. The organization contacted her family and informed them about Khushi and asked them to visit them if they wish to speak to their daughter. Khushi was connected to Shakti Shalini in 2017 for shelter space. In the shelter home Khushi engaged herself in many activities, one such activity was a notebook making classes that she joined. In another month Khushi learned to make notebooks and started taking orders. She was motivated by Shakti Shalini to start with her own venture and continue taking orders. Khushi was provided every support from the organization to initiate with her notebook making business. Her business, Abhilasha was launched officially on 08 th of Mach 2019 by Shakti Shalini. Currently, Khushi is working as a night caregiver at Shakti Shalini’s shelter home and running her independent notebook making business. She aspires to give opportunities to more girls and women in her business by publishing their art, poetry, writings etc. in her notebook.
Artivism is an initiative by Shakti Shalini to employ the arts as sites of therapy, awareness and activism for social change. It is a project of KVK.

Arts such as theatre, dance, music, painting, photography and so on are cultural sites and registers through which ideological changes can be facilitated to conduct a political opposition to oppression, violence and discrimination. Arts can become the points through which one negotiates, engages with, analyses and critiques one’s context thereby developing one’s political and social consciousness, self-reflexivity, knowledge and identity.

“The task of therapy is not to eliminate suffering but to give a voice to it, to find a form in which it can be expressed. Expression is itself transformation; this is the message that art brings. The therapist then would be an artist of the soul, working with sufferers to enable them to find the proper container for their pain, the form in which it would be embodied.

- Stephen K. Levine
We celebrated Women’s Day on March 15th and March 16th, with a fantastic line up of dancers, painters, poets, actors, musicians drawn from two spaces – beneficiaries supported by Shakti Shalini as well as volunteering individuals and groups of artists/activist from around the city. Amidst exhibitions, performances and creativity, we celebrated the launch of two new entrepreneurial initiatives by women at Kushalta Vikas Kendra, Skills Development Center for Combating Violence by Shakti Shalini. Women’s movement in India has radically grown louder in the past years, and it’s not to be viewed as an insulated force. Resistance comes not just via a deluge of voices, but with ways in which structures that they operate in, are questioned. Feminism that must give agency to the marginalized communities. Stakeholders of our movement must always rebel against the binary of gender, the atrocities of caste, and the statics of sexualities.
Dhruv Jain, a 12th Standard student from Amity International School, designed “Mission Mahavaari” a 3D video game focussed on generating awareness regarding menstrual hygiene and questioning unfounded myths surrounding it. Breaking the stereotype of young men’s disengagement with menstrual issues, Dhruv engaged women and children living at Shakti Shalini’s Pehchan Shelter Home for Women in Distress, in an informative and interactive game that uses dialogues and signboards to engage players. The game was followed by a healthy constructive discourse which helped all the participants to delve deep into the scientific explanation to the societal constructs. The participants were asked to fill a survey before playing the game and the same survey after the game to understand how the game helped in breaking the myths around Menstruation.

Seminar on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra

Our KVK participants attended a seminar on skill development and entrepreneurship organised by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra (International Youth Center). The objective of the seminar was to bridge the gap between the youth currently getting skilled in some vocational course and the various opportunities and schemes of corporate houses and Government. The technical sessions included discussion on avenues and opportunities that the participants can avail and how we can access them. During the session, several entrepreneurs shared their stories of struggle and the importance of being aware of the several opportunities around us in determining the success of the business.

They also learnt about various schemes that can benefit their enterprise and the importance of honing their skills. The seminar helped to bridge the knowledge gap among participants and in boosting their confidence.
This year, along with Diwali mela, Shakti Shalini also celebrated the first anniversary of the 377 Supreme Court verdict. This year’s Diwali mela saw posters painted in all seven colors of the rainbow. The mela showcased various handicrafts, art, notebooks, cloth bags and other utility products made by the participants of Kushalta Vikas Kendra (KVK). This year young boys from the communities where Shakti Shalini intervenes also participated by putting up stalls of their handcrafted items which in a way also showed that how they are trying to break the stereotype of men not involving in handcrafted items which is traditionally associated with women. By involving men from the society we have been successful in helping them realize that patriarchy harms men equally. Diwali mela has always been an opportunity for our KVK participants to showcase their skills and talents, likewise even in this diwali mela the KVK participants were eager to prepare for the day and were equally taking up responsibilities in various organising committees which shows the growth of leadership as among them.
A cloth bag making unit was formalized and named as ‘Pahal’, meaning beginning. The distribution of the profit is divided equally between Shakti Shalini and the producers. In the past six months, Pahal has made and sold a total of 126 bags offline. We tend to promote eco-friendly products which explain our concept of Pahal, a production unit that uses donated clothes in good condition to make bags, pouches and other goods. These goods have been displayed and sold in various Diwali Mela stalls. They are representative of the creativity of women and showcase their devotion to their art. One bag is made by 4-5 women symbolic of the unity in our community. With the initiation of the apprenticeship program, it has instilled confidence and a sense of purpose among the trainees. In near time, Pahal is going to have an online presence and eventually our products can reach a wider audience.

**Mehfil-e-Kitaab: Book Donation Event**

It was just another day when Priya (name changed) shared, "Reading a book for the first time felt like I was having a conversation with the author. After finishing it I became curious to read more books." It was then that we thought of building a library at our Pehchan shelter home. On a chilly evening of 15th December 2019, “Mehfil-e-Kitaab”, Donate a Book event was organised by Shakti Shalini. It was a fun-filled day of sharing, storytelling, poem recitation and playing games. From a handbook of the Constitution of India to progressive poems of Amrita Pritam, from the mystical world of Harry Potter to the political satire of Animals Farm; all kinds of books were donated. The event ended with food, dance and music. The residents of Pehchan witnessed an ocean of imagination with creative performances, knowledge sharing and joyful company which will not only help them unlearn the long imposed social constructs but will also arm them to break the glass ceiling and form a perspective of their own.
I had the opportunity to work with Shakti Sahalini for a period of one month which was all about learning and meeting enthusiastic people working for the cause, “zero” tolerance towards gender based violence. My entire internship period was more inclined towards the CICC, where I have learned things that shall stay with me for a lifetime. Firstly, understanding the law with examples and that the counsellors who were my mentors were very friendly and I had a very positive approach to understanding certain areas of the law, courts, police stations, the One stop centre, and much importantly the shelter home. Coming as a student of Gender Studies, examples that I have come across have played a very interesting role in building my grounds towards Mainstreaming Gender equality, and walking forward with pride that such a working body has been protecting women for years now and shall continue further. I’m thankful for each and every member, group discussions, and debates on certain laws, which has helped me gain my grounds to debate with existing patriarchal ideologies which still continue to violate Human Rights.

- Tejaswinee, CICC intern

The two hours at Shakti Shalinia are my favourite hours of the week. Visiting Pehchaan Shelter or taking online classes makes me feel as if I am part of a team, of a family, of a community. I strive to work on the educational and emotional growth of the residents, and in the process my own growth has also been mammoth. I wish to continue the engagement with Shakti Shalini for as long as possible. :)

- Anchal, KVK volunteer

My journey as a KVK volunteer has been very transformative as it gave me some very defining moments of my life. As the life-skills classes workshop facilitator, I got an opportunity to engage with some stimulating conversations and ideas to ponder on. With every session, I came across some powerful narratives of strength, resilience and courage which profoundly influenced me as a person. Along with the participants, the team of Shakti-Shalini has always extended their gracious support and guided me at every stage. All the members are very warm and approachable and it is always a delight to interact with them. As a member of the Shakti-Shalini family, I have always endeavoured to create a conducive space of sharing, learning and evolving together and the efforts will continue to go on. My sincere gratitude to the whole team once again for giving me this platform to do my bit towards propogating women solidarity and gender equality. I take deep pride in being a part of this fraternity. More power to you all!

- Vini, KVK volunteer

The two hours at Shakti Shalini, Freshly graduated from a business school, I decided to take a gap year to travel and develop my experiences abroad before looking for work in France. From the very beginning, with the managers, we defined together the missions and projects to be realized during my volunteering. At Shakti Shalini, I had the opportunity to learn about the issues of Indian society today, and to discover the problems of patriarchy within families and mentalities. I learned how essential their struggle is over there and how society and mentalities are changing and evolving. The organization fights for a better women conditions, for individual choice and dignity, but also brings a solution to the problems of sexual and domestic violence (and so many others!) and a significant protection for those who are victims of it. It has been a real pleasure to work alongside them! I have learned a lot of things both in terms of content and form. They have been of a precious help and bring an unconditional support to all the project ideas that I could propose to them. I really felt integrated and useful to the cause they defend. I highly recommend this NGO because it was one of the best experiences of my life, professionally and humanly speaking.

- Arine, Volunteer
Shakti Shalini does not work in isolation but is part of a large network of individuals, groups, collectives, organizations, institutions and bodies that are dedicated towards ‘zero tolerance to violence’. Considering the extreme paucity of financial support received by Shakti Shalini, the extended local, national, regional and global network is the reason we are able to conduct our programs. It follows then, that any financial support towards Shakti Shalini strengthens and entire operative network. Shakti Shalini stands in gratitude and solidarity towards all the stakeholders of this extended network listed below:

**Kred-Jure** is a full-service boutique law firm offering strategic legal solutions in Civil, Criminal, Arbitration, and Commercial Law. It provides probono legal and litigation services to the survivors of gender-based violence at Shakti Shalini.

**Saarthak** focuses on the mental health needs of the community, considering positive mental health as a basis of all human development. It provides psychiatric help and therapy treatment to the survivors of gender-based violence at Shakti Shalini.

**Pandies** theatre group is based out of Delhi, India, with a simple agenda of staging plays relevant to our ethos and time, conducts pro bono theatre workshops and productions with Shakti Shalini beneficiaries for social therapy and social awareness.

**Moser Baer India Limited** is an Indian manufacturer of digital data storage devices having tie-ups with optical media storage manufacturers. It provides certified computer courses at Shakti Shalini.

**Enactus** is an international not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to inspiring students to take entrepreneurial action to improve the lives of others. ENACTUS PGDAV collaborated with Shakti Shalini to carry out Project Korakagaz, wherein they trained women from marginalized communities to produce spiral-bound notebooks at Shakti Shalini Skill Development Centre.

**India Dans Theater** is one of the leading dance companies in India and has a core group of dancers who travel and perform all over the world. They equip their students to discover new possibilities through dance and movement and also conduct dance classes at Shakti Shalini Skill Development Centre.

**Content Ninja** is a digital marketing company focusing on online marketing optimization. It provides probono IT services to Shakti Shalini in the form of hosting, creating, and maintaining the website.

**Experientia India** is a tourism company that helps in providing employment opportunities to survivors of gender-based violence.

**Be Good Tribe**, the social initiative of marketing solutions provides Shakti Shalini with the opportunity of advertising and promotion.

**World Plus** is a global network connecting Shakti Shalini with NGOs and activist groups to promote gender equality across the globe.

**Girls For Tomorrow** is an initiative inspired by Nirbhaya, which was started to empower girls and make them strong & self-reliant with respect to the self-defense knowledge base. They support Shakti Shalini by providing self-defense trainers/

Zariya seeks to educate low-income communities in developing countries to recognize the impact of basic public health problems on their families’ health.
Nazariya works towards affirming the rights of queer people (LBT) by making visible their lives and creating an enabling environment where queer lived realities are non-negotiable and informs the work and discourse of organizations and institutions.

JAGORI is a women's documentation, training, and communication center, having a mission to inform, inspire and empower women. Their endeavor is to reach out to women in increasingly innovative ways.

Action India works towards enhancing the participation of women as citizens to claim their rights and entitlements, to public health and civic services to better the environment and quality of life of the urban poor.

HAQ is a Child Rights NGO that recognizes, promotes, and protects the rights of all children to build an environment where every child’s rights are paid relevant importance without discrimination.

BOSCO is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) working with the young at risk.

UNHCR with partners and communities purposes to safeguard the rights and well-being of people who have been forced to flee. They work to ensure that everybody has the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another country.

Snehalaya is an Indian NGO that provides services to women, children, and LGBT communities affected by HIV, AIDS, poverty, violence, and sex trafficking.

Samarpan Foundation is a charity with a global volunteer-based network that seeks to change universal consciousness by opening minds and hearts.

Bapnu Ghar aims to provide unhappy, mistreated women in social distress with a place where they could find refuge and solace.

Azad Foundation is an NGO for resource-poor women in India to empower them with knowledge and skills so that they earn a livelihood with dignity.

Prayas is a humanitarian, gender-sensitive, and child-focused development organization with a vision to restore the lost childhood of children in need of care, protection, and development.

Naz Foundation (India) Trust is a non-governmental organization (NGO) that works on HIV/AIDS and sexual health.

Tara Homes, Global Family, SOS & Family Welfare provide shelter to vulnerable children in distress.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Guwahati), Delhi School of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia, Ambedkar University, Delhi University, and Indira Gandhi National Open University regularly send interns and trainees to Shakti Shalini. The departments of Gender Studies and Social Work across these universities are most actively engaged with Shakti Shalini.