



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-2025





## Founders

Girish Nair  
Ankeet Dave

## Registration No.

47455

## CIN

Access Life Assistance Foundation  
Registered As A Section 8 Company Under  
The New Companies Act, 2013  
VIDE CIN: U74900MH2014NPL258629

## PAN

AAMCA9705B



[www.accesslife.org](http://www.accesslife.org)



[accesslifeindia](https://www.accesslifeindia.org)



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# “MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

When we started Access Life, 10 years ago, we had envisioned that every needy child who comes to Mumbai to undergo treatment for cancer would have access to a clean, safe, comfortable, caring and a cost-free accommodation - a home away from home, for both the child and his family. In such a nurturing environment, these little ones would have another opportunity to experience childhood, the way they ought to.

Keeping this in mind, we developed a model at one location, the successful framework of which could then be replicated elsewhere. Thus, we set up the first Access Life Center for Childhood Cancer Care at Chembur, in Mumbai, Maharashtra, in June 2014. The donation of a mini-van by a generous contributor has ensured a stress-free transport to and fro from hospitals for our children.

Along with meeting their physical needs, we have also addressed the psychological and social effects of cancer. Counselling, yoga, music, recreation, education and nutritional supplementation programs, have helped in giving the parents and children, the holistic support they need to tackle this challenging disease. As we grew over the years, we added four more centres for accommodating the children and their families and have received four vehicles that help us provide transportation for the children at our Centres. At present we have 10 centres - taking our occupancy capacity to 171 accommodation units that serve the needs of over 513 individuals. Our 10 centres are operating at full capacity and we are looking forward to launch our next center in Madurai in the coming months. The driving force(s) behind all this are our volunteers; and our committed staff, who work selflessly.

But in this journey of trying to spread happiness, we have also faced a major challenge in the form of people unwilling to let out their properties for housing young, poor Cancer patients. Creating more awareness on Cancer should hopefully motivate more people to open their hearts and homes to these children.



Before the end of Financial Year 2019-20, the entire world was severely challenged by COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a deep impact. We are yet to see the wild consequences of this deadly pandemic. We continue to strive towards our goal, ensuring a healthy & hygienic atmosphere for our brave hearts and their care takers as well as our team members.

and so our Mission continues .....

**Girish Nair**



# ABOUT US

We are.... **A Home away from Home**

Access Life Assistance Foundation (ALAF) is a not-for profit organization setup in June 2014 and is registered as a section 8 company under the New Companies Act 2013.

Research indicates 70 -90% of childhood cancers are curable, but the treatment can often be a long drawn one, lasting from anywhere between 5-12 months or sometimes even extending to 24 months. While Hospitals provide quality medical services, these treatments are often offered as day care visits where the patient has to periodically visit the hospital on a regular basis.

Many families who come from remote places across India to metropolitan cities for their child's cancer/bone marrow transplant (BMT) treatments have no place to stay during the course of the treatment. Some families end up living on footpaths or in unhygienic conditions due to lack of proper accommodation. When living in such an unhygienic environment without having proper nourishment, these kids start losing their battle against cancer very early on. Many under privileged families find themselves at crossroads for the want of a good, affordable and hygienic place to stay and have to often abandon treatment and return to their hometown.

Access Life was thus born to provide a loving and temporary home for the outstation children undergoing treatment for cancer/BMT along with their parents or caretakers. Besides providing a comfortable shelter for these families, Access Life also addresses the psycho-social impact of Cancer/BMT children by providing nutritional support, safe transportation to hospitals, practical support services, counselling services, educational services, and recreational facilities like music, dance, art and craft and many more.

## PHILOSOPHY

High quality and holistic healthcare facilities should be available for all, regardless of their economic status.

## MISSION

To create an environment where children & their caregivers have access to quality health care and holistic support and which allows families to face the weight of illness together.

## VISION

To offer free clean and safe accommodation, hygienic environment, nutritional food, safe local travel, counselling, recreational & educational support to outstation children challenged with cancer/BMT with their caregivers, during the entire duration of treatment.



# MANAGEMENT TEAM



## **Girish Nair**

Founder & Chairman

Girish has over 15 years of experience in Finance management across industries like Aviation, Public Relations, and Travel. He has worked with Ethiopian Airlines, Malaysian Airlines, Neucom Consulting, SGS Enterprises, and Nexus Travel Solutions. In 2016, he received the Asia-Pacific Cancer Society's Training Grant (APCASOT) for a program in Australia.



## **Ankeet Dave**

Co-Founder & Executive Director

Ankeet has over a decade of experience in PR and Communications. He has worked for agencies like Hanmer MS&L and Vaishnavi Communications, handling clients in media and entertainment, and managing PR for celebrities.



## **Preethi Mutta**

Director

Preethi holds a Master's Degree in Social Work and comes with ten years of professional experience with organizations like the Family Planning Association of India.

## Advisory Board Members



Nikunj Jhaveri



Sanjiv Mehta



Sneha Jaisingh



R N Mukhija



Kala Sundarvedha



Neha Huddar



# A PEEK INTO **ACCESS LIFE**



**2650+**

Children saved till date

**10**

Centres across Mumbai (4), Pune, Manipal, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru & Coimbatore

**7950+**

Lives Changed  
(1 Child & 2 Caregivers)

**3944**

Stress free nights

**12000+**

Activities under emotional and psycho-social support

**13600+**

Activities and sessions under Educational Support



# WHAT WE PROVIDE



## ACCOMODATION

Access Life engages in serving through its 10 childhood cancer care centres - 4 in Mumbai, 1 in Pune, 1 in Manipal, 1 in Bengaluru, 1 in Chandigarh, 1 in Ahmedabad and 1 in Coimbatore. Our 10 centres are located as below:

**Access Life (Chembur-HO),** Jolly Land CHS, Bungalow No 6, Ghatla Village, **Chembur**

In 2014, Access Life launched its 1<sup>st</sup> center in Chembur, Mumbai. Due to expansion & increased staff, we converted this centre into an office.

**Access Life (Chembur),** 2nd Floor, Plot 403.J, Suswagatam 2, Sion Trombey Road, **Chembur**

In 2018, we started AL centre in Chembur, Mumbai which serves 12 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Pune)** Nirmal Bungalow , D/3 Hindustan Estates, Jupiter Society, Kalyani Nagar, **Pune**

In 2021, we started our centre in Kalyani Nagar, Pune which serves 10 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Chandigarh),** House No - 103, Sector 23A, **Chandigarh**

In Aug 2022, Our centre started in Chandigarh which serves 20 kids and their families

**Access Life (Ahmedabad),** Plot no. 586/17, 7B, I P Mission Compound, Santosh Baug, Ellisbridge, **Ahmedabad**

In 2023 Sep, we started our centre in Ahmedabad which serves 20 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Coimbatore) -** Laxmi House, 3, Nanjundapuram Rd, Gandhi Nagar, Sreepathy Nagar, **Coimbatore**

In Aug 2024 we started Coimbatore centre which serves 13 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Chembur),** Plot 5B, Gurunanak Niwas, Near Wasan Motors, Sion Trombay, **Chembur**

In 2017, we began our centre in Chembur, Mumbai & in 2020 renovated this place which serves 30 kids and their families

**Accesslife (Borivali),** CTS 68, A/2, opp. Neha Industrial Estate, behind Geetajali Tatva CHSL, Food Corporation of India Warehouse, **Borivali**

In January 2025 we started Borivali centre which serves 18 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Manipal),** Bungalow no. 30, 31, near, BQ Rd, Madhav Nagar, **Manipal**

In 2022, Our centre started in the Manipal campus, Manipal which serves 12 kids and their families

**Access Life (Bengaluru),** 66/4 , 4th B Cross Rd, 36th Main, Dollar Scheme Road, BTM 1st Stage, **Bengaluru**

In June 2023, our centre in Bengaluru started which serves 22 kids and their families.

**Access Life (Sandu Garden),** Plot No 372 D, Deep Ashish, Road No 9, Near Sandu Garden, **Chembur (E)**

In 2024 Jan, we started our centre in Sandu Garden, Chembur which serves 14 kids and their families.



## Nutrition

A well-balanced nutrition is very crucial for the optimum development of children. This requirement is further exaggerated in cases where children are being treated for cancer/BMT.

Cancer/BMT itself can be debilitating. Furthermore, treatments like chemotherapy and radiation can cause loss of appetite, inability to eat food because of various side effects like nausea, vomiting, mouth ulcers, change of taste, and inability to retain nutrients from food.

If the children are malnourished during the course of their treatments, they will be unable to respond well. Moreover, the impoverished state of the families of these brave hearts and their inability to afford nourishment during the treatment process made it necessary for Access Life to step in to provide nutrition and accommodation.

We at Access Life ensure that the children staying at our centres get appropriate nutrition through the provision of food grains and nutritional supplements required by the children. Additionally, considering the multi-diversity of families staying at Access Life, each family is given a separate gas stove, groceries and other cooking facilities at their accommodation.

## Transportation

Each family undertakes on an average, 3-4 trips a week to the hospitals, for tests and treatment, in our 15 donated cars & a 26-seater bus. Due to the weak immune system of the children, public transport exposes them to further risk of infections. Easily accessible and stress-free transportation forms an essential part of a supportive care system that is provided by Access Life.



# Counselling

The act of venting out has proved itself to be very helpful and therapeutic.

Counselling services have been an integral part of Access Life. The impact observed in the lives of children and parents is high. Counselling can help one to cope with Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and with many issues faced during and after the cancer/BMT diagnosis and treatments. Different counseling therapies and interventions help heal and put across a clear vision of the purpose of living with motivation and encouragement.



In the latter part of Year 2019-20, a professional In-house counsellor joined us on board, and she supported the kids, parents and occasionally the staff with sessions related to:

- Behavioural issues
- Eating habits
- Psycho-education
- Motivation & Self-esteem
- Team building
- Palliative Care Counselling
- Bereavement counselling
- Counselling for Anxiety, Depression & Fear



## Non Formal Education

When the children are in Mumbai during the course of their prolonged treatment, they tend to miss out on regular school. Hence, efforts are made to keep them mentally engaged through non-formal educational sessions in order to create a bridge for them when they go back to their hometown and rejoin school. Informal education activities continue to mentally stimulate the curious minds of our bravehearts.



# OUR JOURNEY SO FAR...



**2014 JUNE**

Access Life Ghatla Village Centre Set-up at Chembur



**2015 SEP**

Commence transportation services

**2017 JULY**

Access Life Gurunanak Niwas Centre set-up at Chembur



**2018 FEB**

Diamond Garden Centre Set up at Chembur



**2021 JUNE**

Access Life Pune centre set-up



**2020 FEB**

Introduced Counselling as a core activity



**2021 FEB**

Introduced Education as a core activity



**2022 APR**

Access Life Manipal Centre set-up



**2022 AUG**

Access Life Chandigarh Centre Set-up



**2024 AUG**

Access Life Coimbatore Centre Set-up



**2023 JUNE**

Access Life Bengaluru Centre Set-up



**2023 SEP**

Access Life Ahmedabad Centre Set-up



**2024 JAN**

Access Life Sandu Garden Centre Set-up



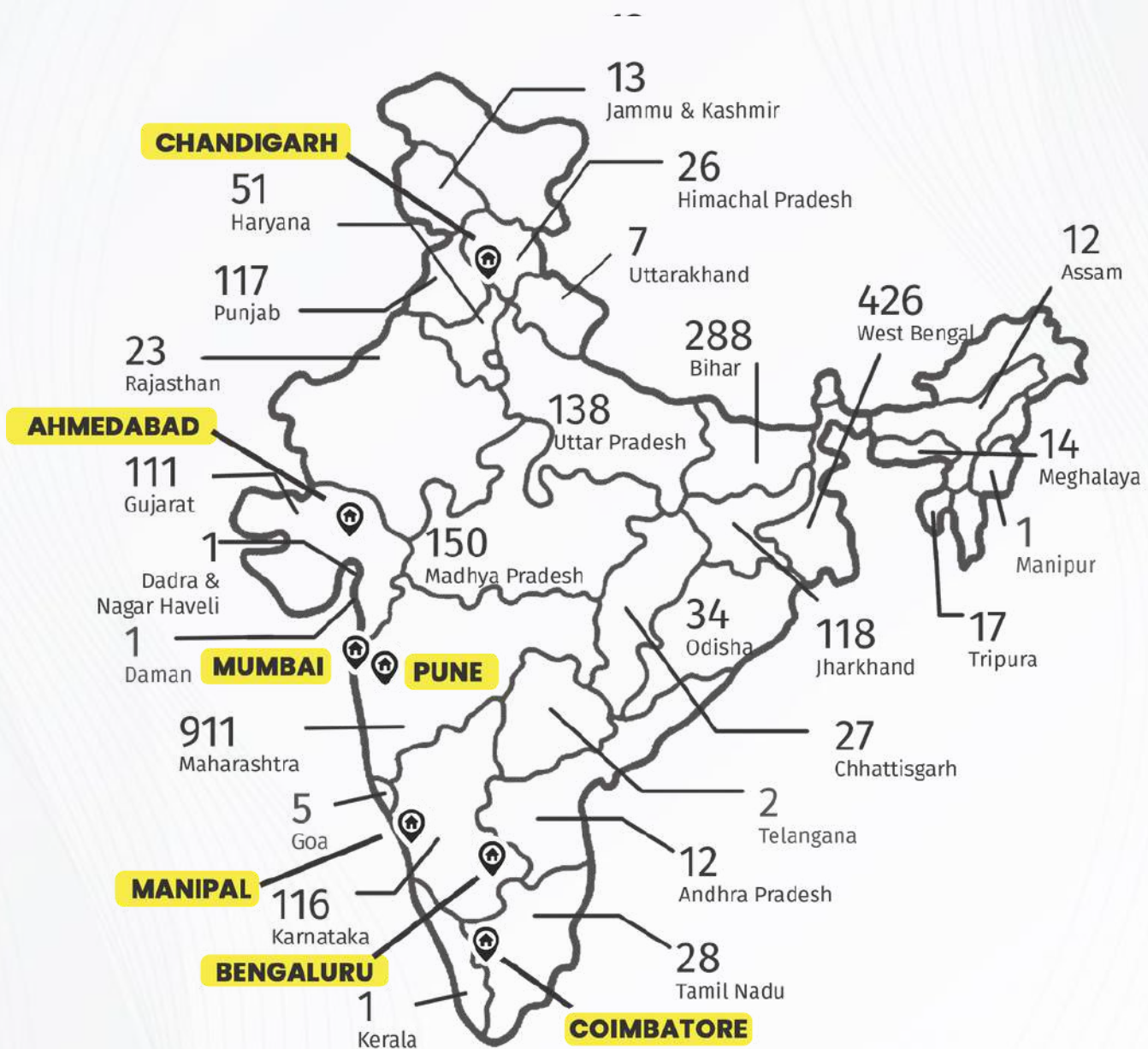
**2025 JAN**

Access Life Borivali Centre Set-up



## Home away from home across India

2650+ Bravehearts Kids 🏠 in a Span of 10 years



Data is as of March 2025

🏠 | 07 Cities

🏢 | 10 Centers

🚗 | 15 Vehicles

👨👩👧👦 | 171 Family Units

🗣️ | 12,000+ Counseling Sessions

📖 | 13,600+ Education Sessions

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## THREE YEARS FINANCIALS

Amount in Rs. lakhs

|                                 | 22-23<br>(Audited) | 23-24<br>(Audited) | 24-25<br>(Unaudited) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Expenditure                     | 835.46             | 1347.57            | 1173.96              |
| OPEX                            | 582.97             | 739.04             | 898.75               |
| HAH Setup                       | 252.49             | 608.53             | 275.21               |
| Income                          | 817.14             | 1253.7             | 1279.59              |
| Retail                          | 176.73             | 312.28             | 347.41               |
| CSR                             | 606.22             | 830.48             | 714.65               |
| FCRA                            | 34.19              | 110.94             | 217.53               |
| Difference (Income-Expenditure) | (18.32)            | (93.87)            | 105.63               |

**Note:** In 22-23 we had a reserve of 5.59 cr, over 2 years we have utilised the amount to cover our deficit.

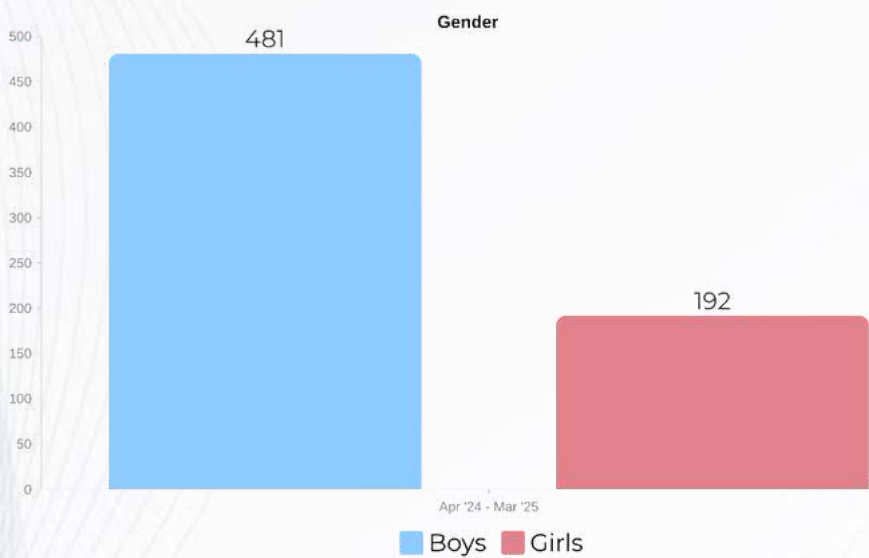
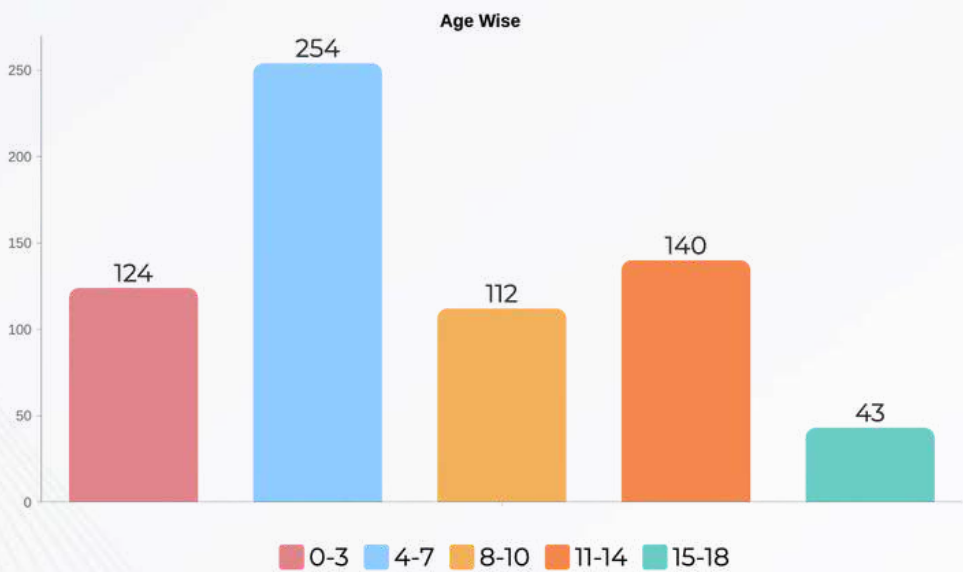


# BENEFICIARY DATA

APR '24 - MAR '25 (PAN INDIA - 10 CENTRES)

| Particulars                          | Count |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Bed Accupancy                        | 85%   |
| Registration & Admission of Children | 673   |
| Accommodation of caregivers          | 1346  |
| Education Session                    | 3491  |
| Counselling Session                  | 2166  |

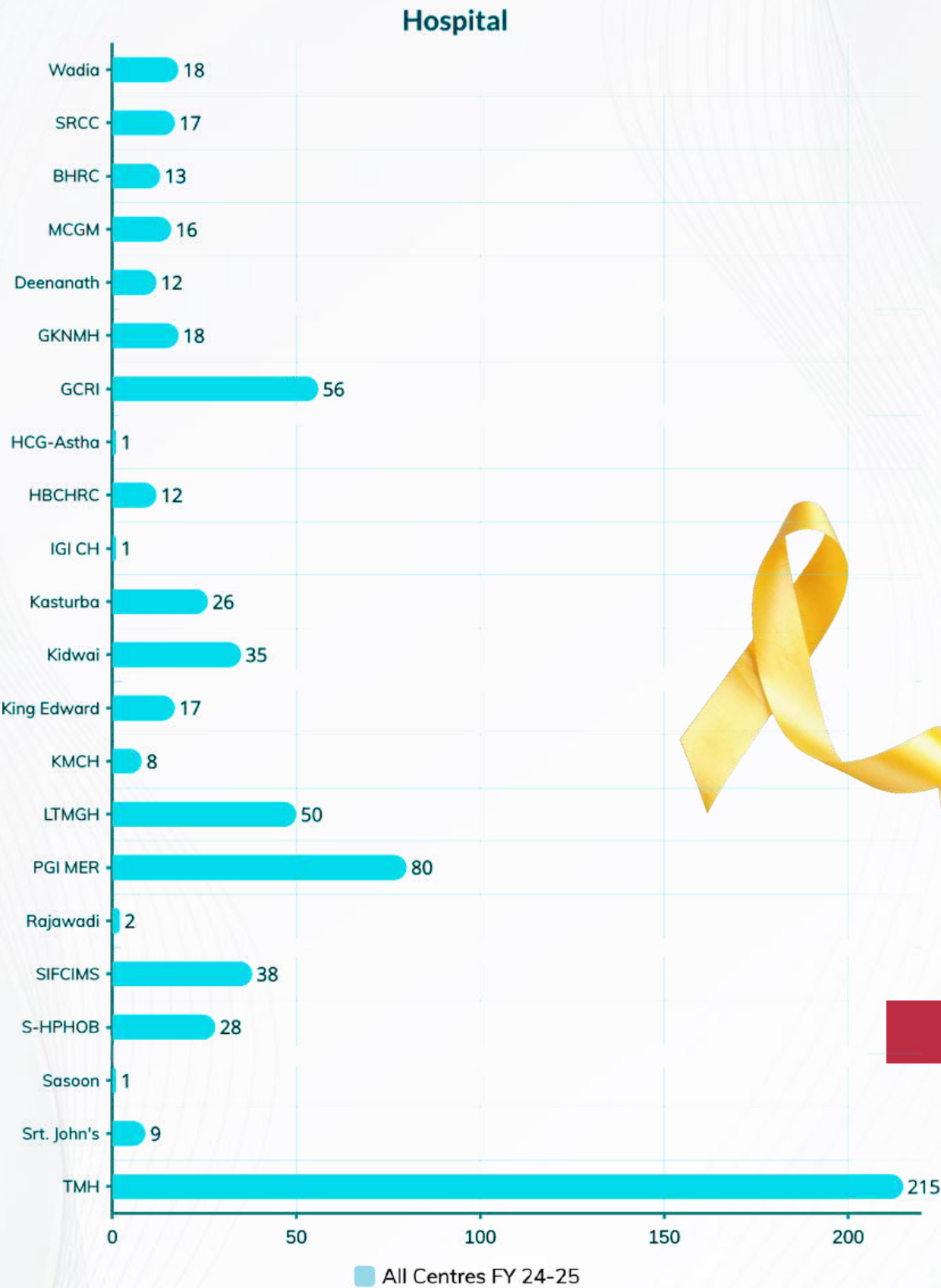
## Graphical Representation



# BENEFICIARY DATA

APR'24 - MAR'25

## Graphical Representation



# Coimbatore Centre



Family Units



Kids Play Area



Kitchen



Dining Area



Entrance Passage



# Borivali Centre



Entrance & lobby Area



Unit passage



Kitchen



Staircase passage Area



Kids Play Area

# Lighting Event - Sep 2024



Garden of Peace, Chandigarh



Manipal



Manipal



Aga Khan Palace, Pune



NMMC, Navi Mumbai



Bengaluru



Kankariya lake, Ahmedabad



Garden of Peace, Chandigarh



# Special Days Celebration



# Visitors & Volunteers



# CASE STUDY

## BRAVEHEART PRINCE MANDAL,

|            |                                          |
|------------|------------------------------------------|
| Age        | 5 years 9 months                         |
| Gender     | Male                                     |
| City/State | Paschim Medinipur / West Bengal          |
| Diagnosis  | Pinealoblastoma                          |
| Hospital   | Kidwai Memorial Institute of<br>Oncology |



In March 2024, 5-year-old Prince Mandal from Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal, began experiencing severe headaches and vomiting. Concerned, his parents took him to Sardar Hospital, where MRI and CT scans revealed a devastating diagnosis—a brain tumour. With no time to lose, they were referred to NIMHANS, Bengaluru, where doctors identified the tumour as Pinealoblastoma, a rare and aggressive condition accompanied by fluid buildup in his forehead.

Prince underwent urgent brain surgery, followed by two months of intensive care. The procedure left his young body in pain and his spirit overwhelmed. Once stable, he was referred to Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology for further treatment. Relocating from West Bengal to Bengaluru was an emotional and financial burden for the family. The mounting costs of treatment, travel, and accommodation added to their distress. Recognising their struggle, the hospital staff referred them to Access Life Bengaluru.

On June 12, 2024, Prince and his family found a safe haven at Access Life. They received clean accommodation, nutritious meals, hygiene essentials, and emotional support. The cheerful, child-friendly environment lifted Prince's spirits, and he remained active and playful, engaging in cricket, cartoons, and creative activities.

The Access Life team nurtured his dream of becoming a police officer, encouraging him to stay positive and focused. After seven months of unwavering care and treatment, Prince was discharged in stable condition on January 30, 2025.

Prince's story is a powerful reminder of how timely medical care, community support, and emotional strength can help a child and his family overcome life's toughest challenges.

# CASE STUDY

## BRAVEHEART HYDER CHAUHAN

|            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| Age        | 7                  |
| Gender     | Male               |
| City/State | Akola, Maharashtra |
| Diagnosis  | BLL                |
| Hospital   | Sion               |



Hyder came to us, from Akola, on January 28, 2024, after being diagnosed with BLL (B-cell Lymphoblastic Leukemia). His initial symptoms were deceptively mild—just a pain in one hand—but they marked the beginning of a year-long battle. Following his diagnosis, he was transferred to TMH (Tata Memorial Hospital) and later to Sion Hospital for treatment.

The road to recovery was not an easy one for Hyder and his family. Over the course of his treatment, he endured rigorous chemotherapy sessions. Complications arose when he developed pneumonia, causing further delays and adding to the emotional and physical toll on him and his loved ones. There were nights of emergencies when Hyder's parents had to rush him to the hospital. During these critical moments, our dedicated staff and drivers ensured that Hyder received the care he needed, providing timely assistance and unwavering support.

After almost a year of relentless determination, Hyder's hard-fought battle came to a victorious conclusion. On December 3, 2024, Hyder was officially discharged, marking the end of his treatment journey. Today, he returns home to his brothers, carrying with him the joy of a new lease on life and the triumph of beating cancer.

Hyder's story is a testament to the power of resilience, love, and the collective effort of everyone involved in his journey—from his family to the medical team and the compassionate staff at Access Life. It is a reminder that, together, we can turn the tide against even the most formidable challenges.

As we bid farewell to Hyder, our hearts swell with pride and joy, knowing that he leaves with not just health but also memories of hope and care that will stay with him forever. Here's to Hyder, our little angel, and his incredible victory over cancer!

# OUR DONORS



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TATA INVESTMENT CORPORATION LIMITED



United Way Mumbai

**V Care**  
Empowering cancer patients with care



Wolters Kluwer



As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of our donors, volunteers, and partners. Together, we have made a significant impact on the lives of children with cancer and their families.

As we look forward to the coming year, we remain committed to expanding our reach, enhancing our services, and continuing to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for those in need. Thank you for being a vital part of our journey and for helping us bring hope and healing to so many.

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