

# abhaya FOUNDATION

**abhaya** (<https://www.abhayafoundation.org/>) is an NGO started in 2006 by Balachandra, a Company Secretary by profession, who is a committed social worker/reformer and is now totally engaged in helping the most needy in our society. Over the last 19 years, **abhaya** touched the lives of over **one million needy people** across fifteen states of the country, predominantly in South India. More than 100 corporates across the country have been partnering abhaya with their CSR grants in furthering this cause. Balachandra, as a pioneer in the CSR space, along with his team, organised a grant “Bharat CSR Summit” during Jan 2023, wherein more than 150 NGOs and 100+ corporates and professionals participated and explored areas of cooperation.

## *Our Commitment to Social Justice*

**abhaya** is dedicated to promoting social justice in community. Through its initiatives and programs, it strives to create equal opportunities, empower marginalized groups, and advocate for fairness and dignity for all. **abhaya** believes that every individual deserves respect, inclusion, and a voice in shaping a just society.

In line with its mission to serve with the “H.E.A.R.T”, **abhaya** is focused on the following segments – Education, Empowerment and Enlightenment. All the activities at **abhaya** are only focused on the need and the needy, irrespective of their caste, creed, religion, region and gender.

## *Education*

### *Upgrading infrastructure of Government Schools*

**abhaya**’s focus is to improve the quality of infrastructure and facilities in rural and/or Government schools, providing teaching aids and requisite mentorship to the teachers and consequently enable them to provide better education to the students. In this pursuit, it has assisted more than 350 schools in the Southern states and continues to engage with several of them, in the process adding significant value to the education system and benefiting fifteen thousand students and thousand teachers. It has also started ~35 **abhaya Samskara Kendras** (“ask”) in the rural areas for after-school coaching and imbibing values to young and needy students.

### *Supporting students pursuing higher education*

**abhaya**, on a continuous basis, also provides financial assistance and mentoring over 900 students pursuing higher education. This is just not passive financial assistance but also constant engagement so as to assist the students focus on their studies, build good value systems and plan their careers.

### *abhaya “Super 60”*

**abhaya** has been running a very successful program called “Super 60” wherein Std X students were provided completely free coaching program for entrance exams to several integrated/professional courses. As part of this program, sixty students from Government were chosen solely based on merit after an extremely comprehensive selection procedure. **abhaya** conducted this program online during May 2021, in one centre (offline, residential) in May 2022, in two centres (residential in one and non-residential in the other) in May 2023 and has a plan to replicate across ten centres benefitting 750+ students every year.

### Empowerment

Empowering the youth and women, particularly from the rural areas, is a very important focus area for **abhaya**. It regularly conducts skill development and career-oriented courses across the country, **helping more than fifteen thousand families** over the last decade in becoming self-reliant and providing them livelihood. For men, it conducts courses like car driving, electrical house wiring, mobile repair, basic computer knowledge and computer operations. For women, **abhaya** has been conducting courses in tailoring, beauticians, making handicrafts, mehendi design, vehicle driving, computer courses etc. **abhaya** provides not just training but also gives the necessary tool kits to start their livelihood.

### Enlightenment

**abhaya** Foundation firmly believe that awareness is the key to national and social progress. It regularly conducts awareness programs right from the primary school level to rural/urban communities on various aspects of better living, covering subjects such as moral awareness, social awareness, health, hygiene & sanitation, education, beneficial government schemes, managing finances, entrepreneurship etc., so that they are better informed and can make beneficial choices in their lives. Since inception, **abhaya** has benefited over ten lakh citizens across different age groups as part of this program.

One of **abhaya**’s prime endeavours is to reach out to people and make them ‘aware’ that help is available and direct them towards such help. **abhaya** continuously acts as an information channel between resource providers and the resource needy and thus creates all-round awareness in people.

### Relief and Rehabilitation

**abhaya** and its dedicated pool of volunteers are always at the forefront in terms of helping the needy at *ground zero* during calamities. **abhaya**, along with assistance from local volunteers, has been at the forefront of providing relief material to the affected, needy families during floods in Andhra Pradesh (2009), Uttarakhand (2013), Tamilnadu (2015), Kerala (2019) and earthquake in Nepal (2015). It not only provided material such as groceries, blankets, mats and cooking vessels but also assisted in repairing damaged home appliances.

Since inception, **abhaya** has been running *Hunt-the-Winter* and *Hunt-the-Summer* programs with active participation by over 750 **abhayans** across 15 states. As part of the former program, volunteers distributed more than 90,000 blankets to the homeless people across the country and in the latter program, over 12,000 umbrellas and canopies were distributed to the poor, elderly and roadside vendors.

**abhaya** and its volunteers were at the forefront in providing assistance to *Covid-19* affected families. In partnership with Telangana City Police, it distributed more than 10,000 grocery kits to needy families across all the Southern states. As part of its “**abhaya** Breathe India Mission”, it provided helpline access for medical assistance and all other services (*abhaya Sahaya*), precautionary essentials like masks, sanitizers and Pulse Oximeters (*abhaya Kavacha*), distributed more than 10,000 cooked meals for the people in home isolation (*abhaya Prasada*), medical assistance through tele-consulting (*abhaya Vaidya*) and hundreds of lifesaving equipment like oxygen concentrators, Nebulisers, vaporisers etc (*abhaya Vayu Patra*).

### Campuses

**abhaya** is headquartered in Hyderabad and has three own facilities/centers.

- **abhaya ‘Home of Happiness’ (HoH)**, a 16,000 sq.ft. complex built on a two-acre land at Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad, Telangana. It houses several destitute/needy people who are fully taken care with love and compassion including their food, accommodation, bedside assistance and medical needs. It has benefited over 100 destitute people till date.
- **abhaya Yuva Empowerment campus**, a 3,000 sq.ft. facility built in partnership with Yuvashakthi Seva Foundation in Ajagondanahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore, is used for skill development and empowerment courses.
- **abhaya CCL Empowerment Campus**, is about 20,000 sq.ft. facility built over a 0.75-acre plot in Ananthapuram, Andhra Pradesh, is used for skill development and empowerment courses.

### Governance

**abhaya** has a competent Board of Trustees comprising accomplished professionals from across various segments of the society and is ably supported by over 400+ volunteers across the country and supported by ~50 like-minded NGOs.

### Contacts

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