

# 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 **two million needy people** across 15 states of the country, predominantly in South India. More than 150 corporates across the country have been partnering abhaya with their CSR grants in furthering this cause. **abhaya** has been a pioneer in the CSR space and since 2013 has organised multiple seminars to promote CSR among corporates and in the process connecting corporates to more than 150 NGOs and channelising their CSR contributions towards social causes.

## *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. True to its belief, none of its applications seek data regarding caste, creed and religion.

## *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 400 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 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers. It has also started ~25 **abhaya Samskara Kendras** (“ask”) in the rural areas for after-school coaching and imbibing values to young and needy students in the process empowering 25 rural women with employment and at the same time educating nearly 1500 students every day.

### *Supporting students pursuing higher education*

**abhaya**, on a continuous basis, also provides financial assistance and mentoring to over 1,000 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, 60 students from Government High Schools were chosen solely based on merit after an extremely comprehensive selection procedure. **abhaya** started this program online during Covid period in May 2021 in one centre and today it runs this program across two Telugu states as residential program, covering more than 200 students annually and benefitting 750+ students till date.

By upgrading public school infrastructure and supporting students through higher education, **abhaya** ensures that children from marginalized backgrounds receive opportunities comparable to those in private institutions, thus bridging the economic divides in our society.

### **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 20,000 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.

**abhaya's** skill development and livelihood programs empower poor families, particularly in rural areas, to achieve economic independence and respectful social status, further reducing the gap between different social strata.

### **Enlightenment**

**abhaya** Foundation under its **Breathing Bharath** program 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 one million 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.

As part of "**abhaya Bhavita**", it promotes safety techniques amongst girls through literature, posters and targeted workshops, covering over 1000+ schools till date.

**abhaya** has published about 22 publications till date on various social topics, with “**Compass**” being one of its recent publications on value systems and life skills. **Compass** has been published in three languages – English, Telugu and Hindi, the latest Hindi version being released by the Honourable Governor of Telangana, Sri. Jishnu Dev Varma Ji.

### **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), Tamil Nadu (2015), Kerala (2019), Telangana (2024), **earthquake** in Nepal (2015) and **landslides** in Kerala (2024). **abhaya** and its volunteers were at the forefront in providing extensive assistance to Covid-19 affected families during this worst medical tragedy. In partnership with Telangana City Police and other like-minded NGOs, it served more than a million people in the most-needy situation.

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 110,000 blankets to the homeless people across the country and in the latter program, over 10,000 umbrellas and canopies were distributed to the poor, elderly and roadside vendors.

## Impact Summary

abhaya's work has touched the lives of more than a million people over the last several years.

### Quantitative Impact

- **Education**
  - **400+ schools** got better infrastructure benefitting over **20,000 students and 1000 teachers** annually
  - **25+ abhaya samskara kendras** providing tuitions and value-based education to **1500+ students** daily
  - **200+ students annually** provided free coaching for entrance exams to several integrated/professional courses
  - **1,000+ students** till date provided financial assistance and mentoring in pursuing higher education
- **Empowerment**
  - **20,000+ total beneficiaries** impacted
  - **4,000+ men and 15,000+ women trained** in multiple skills
  - **1,500+ placed** in boutiques, tailoring centers, and beauty parlours
  - **13,500+ home-based entrepreneurs** created
  - **5,000+ employed**
  - **₹5,000–₹25,000** monthly earning range for trained youth
  - **₹200 crores** estimated cumulative household income generated
- **Enlightenment**
  - **Over two million** lives touched through various engagements and motivational sessions across schools, workshops and seminars
  - **22 publications** till date on various social topics on value systems and life skills
  - **Bhavita**, promoting safety techniques amongst girls, across 1000+ schools and ~200,000 students till date.

### Social Impact

- 100+ destitutes found a home
- Livelihood and dignity to millions of families
- Financial dependency on spouses reduced significantly for empowered women
- Many widows, deserted women, and single mothers gained stability
- Children's education improved as mothers took charge of income
- Domestic distress reduced, confidence increased; Women gained identity and respect in their communities
- **Hunt-the-summer** and **Hunt-the-winter** initiatives provide comfort and continued business for lakhs of under privileged and homeless people
- On-ground support during natural calamities helped revival of livelihoods of thousands of families

### Institutional Impact

- Training centers evolved into multi-skill hubs
- Former trainees became certified trainers
- Curriculum improved based on market feedback
- Centers became self-sustaining empowerment ecosystems

## 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 ~150 like-minded NGOs.

## Contacts

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