

IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Supporting Child Heart Surgeries

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Project details

Project number:	10597
Project title:	Supporting Child Heart Surgeries
Project duration:	18 th January 2023 to 30 th April 2023
Approved budget:	INR 100 lakhs
Major stakeholders:	Children with Congenital Heart Diseases (CHD) and their families
Location:	All districts of Maharashtra
Implementation agency:	Sri Sathya Sai Health & Education Trust (SSSHET)
Assessment agency:	Thinkthrough Consulting Private Limited

Congenital heart diseases (CHD) are problems with the heart's structure that are present at birth. They may alter the normal flow of blood through the heart. CHD is the leading group of birth defects, with 13.3 million patients worldwide in 2019, and an important cause of non-communicable diseases (NCDs)¹.

In India's landscape, the estimated number of children born with CHD is more than 200,000 per year. Of these, about one-fifth are likely to have a serious defect, requiring intervention within the first year of life.² Without timely medical care, infants with these conditions may not survive.

Children with CHD face an uncertain future and adding to their challenges are the stark inequalities in India's healthcare sector. While urban regions benefit from decent operative services, rural areas face a significant disparity, largely due to absence of specialized facilities and trained professionals equipped to manage the complexities of paediatric cardiac care.

The project 'Supporting Child Heart Surgeries' was a CSR endeavour by Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd. (BHFL) in partnership with Sri Sathya Sai Health & Education Trust (SSSHET). The project's overarching objective was to enable patients from underprivileged background to get a second chance in life by providing free surgical and medical support. The project aimed to support 77 beneficiaries by providing end to end congenital heart disease support.

¹ Global Burden of Cardiovascular Diseases and Risk Factors, 1990–2019. Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2589537021005307#bib0001>

² National Library of Medicine, Congenital Heart Disease in India: A Status Report. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30745481/>



Figure 1: Hospital visit for stakeholder interaction

02 Key activities

Patient Identification and Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify patients through the referral process – assess, manage, and evaluate the eligibility criteria
Medical and Surgical Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surgical treatment of children suffering from CHD The project supported 77 beneficiaries by providing end to end congenital heart disease support
Post-Treatment Care and Follow-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-surgery follow-up with patient and family

03 Key impact

The impact assessment is based on the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) criteria developed by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with a focus on **five key** components:

Relevance

The project's relevance was assessed based on its alignment with international mandates, national priorities, and beneficiary needs.

- Specific SDGs supported by the project include SDG 1, SDG 10, and SDG 3.
- The project aligns with various government schemes that support children suffering from congenital heart diseases. These government schemes include Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK).

Effectiveness and Efficiency

Effectiveness and efficiency of the project was assessed by examining the project's achievements against the set targets.

- **84.4%** of respondents learned about the services offered by Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital (SSSHET) through word of mouth, followed by **9.1%** who were informed via RBSK camps.
 - **87.5%** of surveyed families reported that a pre-treatment assessment was conducted, explaining treatment options and associated risks.
 - **100%** beneficiaries who underwent catheter interventions had hospital stays of less than 10 days.
 - Among beneficiaries who underwent surgical interventions, **43.1%** had hospital stays of less than 10 days, **44.8%** stayed for 10-19 days, 6.9% stayed for 20-29 days, and 5.2% had hospital stays exceeding 30 days.
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Impact

The impact of the project was assessed by evaluating the positive changes brought about by the project, as outlined in its design objectives.

- **100%** of surveyed beneficiaries reported full recovery post-surgery.
 - **All surgeries were fully funded by SSSHET**, eliminating direct medical costs for families.
 - **63 out of 77** families reported paying for hospitalization before coming to SSSHET.
 - **36 families (out of 77)** incurred debt before accessing free treatment at Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital.
 - All beneficiaries reported receiving follow-up support after the surgery.
 - Regular follow-ups monitored social, educational, health, emotional, and psychological aspects of beneficiaries.
 - **100% of respondents reported high satisfaction** with medical treatment, support services, and follow-up care.
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Sustainability

Sustainability of the project was assessed by examining the extent to which the project's activities, results, and effects continue beyond its completion.

- **100%** of the surveyed families expressed high satisfaction with the services provided by the hospital and its staff.
- **100%** of the respondents indicated that they would definitely recommend Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital to others, reflecting their confidence in the hospital's ability to deliver quality care.