

Impact Assessment Report

Clinical Sessions For Children With Developmental Disabilities From Low/Mid Socio-Economic Backgrounds

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Project details

Project number:	10367
Project title:	Clinical Sessions For Children With Developmental Disabilities From Low/Mid Socio-Economic Backgrounds
Project duration:	1 st January 2018 to 31 st March 2021
Approved budget:	INR 120 lakhs
Major stakeholders:	Child with developmental disabilities and their families
Location:	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Implementation agency:	Ummeed Child Development Center
Assessment agency:	Thinkthrough Consulting Private Limited

Developmental disabilities include limitations in function resulting from disorders of the developing nervous system. These limitations manifest during infancy or childhood in form of delays in reaching developmental milestones or as lack of function in one or multiple domains, including cognition, motor performance, vision, hearing and speech, and behaviour¹.

According to a report published by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, an estimated 317 million children and young people were affected by health conditions contributing to developmental disabilities in 2019. India, China, and Nigeria are the three leading countries with the highest number of children either with or at risk of developmental disabilities.²

The project 'Clinical sessions for children with developmental disabilities from low/mid socio-economic backgrounds' is a CSR endeavour by Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd. (BHFL) in partnership with Ummeed Child Development Center (UCDC). The project's overarching objective is to provide clinical care to the children dealing with developmental disabilities and their families.

¹ National Institutes of Health (NIH), Developmental disabilities – Neurological, Psychiatric, and Developmental Disorders. Available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK223473/>

² Global report on children with developmental disabilities. Available at: <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/372864/9789240080232-eng.pdf?sequence=1>

Clinical and Therapeutic Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted clinical sessions for children with developmental disabilities Operationalization of Early Intervention Center (EIC)
Family and Social Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided social work support to families of children with developmental disabilities
Research, Development, and Innovation in Care Models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed, implemented, and disseminated new models of care Conducted evaluation research

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 Goal 3, Goal 4, Goal 10 and Goal 16.
- The project aligns with various government schemes that support children with developmental disabilities. These government schemes include Disha scheme, Samarth scheme, Badhte Kadam scheme, and Sahayogi scheme.

Effectiveness and Efficiency

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

- Autism therapy **(26%)** was the most accessed service, followed by mental health sessions **(22%)** and occupational therapy **(21%)**. Speech therapy had lower uptake due to a shortage of specialists.
- 87%** of the respondents rated the quality of services as excellent, emphasizing positive developmental progress in their children

Impact

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

- **83%** of respondents were highly satisfied with the professional conduct of clinic staff.
 - **93%** of respondents found social work support from the UCDC team helpful.
 - **100%** of respondents noted improvements in their child's social and communication skills.
 - **100%** of respondents indicated that clinical sessions positively influenced their child's physical and cognitive development.
 - Clinicians use the AWAZ application to bridge communication gaps with children who have hearing impairments.
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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.

- **93%** of respondents expressed a strong willingness to recommend Ummeed's clinical sessions to other families with children who have developmental disabilities.
- **87%** of respondents indicated they are very likely to participate in similar projects in the future.