

At a glance

Certificate No: PCP-2004/0010

Registration

The Societies Registration Act, 1860 (Registration No. RP/5737-L/S/96/2921) in 1996 in Lahore

Major Programmes

CCF is working for rehabilitation of children working in carpet industry. Their major programmes are Education (Formal & Non formal), Health Care, Awareness Raising, Pre-Vocational training and Micro Credit.

Human Resource

Governing Body: 20 Members
Chairperson: Dr. Parvaiz Hassan
Staff Strength: 320 (30 Males, 290 Females)

Area of Operation

Districts Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Sheikhupura, Attock; Punjab and Karachi; Sindh

Banks

PICIC Commercial Bank & Faysal Bank, Lahore

Auditors

Khalid Majeed Rehman & Co. Chartered Accountants, Lahore

Tax Status

Exempt U/S 2(36) the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001

For Information and Donations

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Mission

To undertake community development programmes at the grassroots level in the education, health and vocational training sectors for alleviation of poverty and elimination and rehabilitation of all forms of child labour



Inception

Poverty pushes children into a never-ending cycle of exploitation and deprivation. Child labour issues attracted considerable attention in the national and international media in the 1990s. The Government of Pakistan and the Pakistan Carpet Manufacturing and Exporters Association (PCMEA) recognised child labour as a problem and responded by deciding to establish an organisation to combat child labour and create awareness amongst the public. As a result of this public private partnership, Child Care Foundation (CCF) came into being.

It is difficult for the child rights activist groomed purely in Western traditions of human rights to understand that in many developing countries like Pakistan, child labour is family oriented and necessitated by acute poverty. Child labour also arises particularly where apprenticeship is required, specially in traditional occupations where employment opportunities are few and far between. Under the circumstances there existed a need to develop institutional mechanisms to protect child rights and to ensure workplace safety. In 1996, Government of Pakistan and ILO conducted a countrywide survey to ascertain the extent, incidence, size and socio-economic characteristics of child labour in Pakistan. The survey provided the context in which CCF was to operate.

Realising that its niche lay in the carpet industry, CCF embarked on a more focused, in-depth qualitative analysis of the nature and dimensions of child labour in this sector. The objective was to explore effective, inclusive, sustainable and efficient ways to tackle the child labour issue in the carpet industry. They found that given the peculiar socio-economic conditions prevailing in the rural areas, it was not possible to completely eliminate family oriented child labour in the carpet industry or phase it out completely in the foreseeable future. However, all stakeholders unanimously felt the urgent and pressing need for launching multiple interventions to improve the conditions of working children and their families.

Achievements

Changing the gender balance has been a priority for CCF in its schools. Presently, the girls to boys ratio is 3:1, 75% of the pupils are girls.

201 non-formal and 3 formal schools set up

6063 students enrolled in non-formal schools

62 students enrolled in formal schools

Established 8 skill-training centres and 27 vocational training centres for girls



“ We look to change lives of children by rehabilitating child labour through education ”

Nasim Ahmed, CEO, CCF

Outreach

CCF has initiated 3 formal as well as 291 non-formal education programmes in Karachi, Lahore, Attock, Sheikhpura, Gujranwala and Faisalabad exclusively for children working within the carpet weaving industry. 13,366 children are enrolled in non-formal schools and 562 in formal schools. Interventions are simple: Children are removed from their work place for at least 3 to 4 hours daily and provided an atmosphere for confidence building. The facilities are situated close to the workplace, allowing children to study even if they are working as wage earners or apprentices.

Non-Formal and Formal Education Programmes:

In order to bring 13 year olds closer to the level of a child receiving formal education, the syllabi obtained from the Punjab Text Book Board, are trimmed and re-designed so that a child can easily qualify for the school admission within 6 months. In this way, a child can reach 5th grade within 2 years and is able to take regular examinations within a year. Hence, the total stipulated time for non-formal primary education is 3 years. The children who successfully qualify 5th grade exams are encouraged and admitted to government schools. The three formal schools follow the Board of Secondary Education. Unlike non-formal education, a complete syllabus of each course is taught. The students also indulge in a variety of extra-curricular activities. Currently CCF is running a formal education programme for 140 out of school female adults in Faisalabad. The main aim is to provide educational opportunities to those females who left education after primary school.

Vocational Training:

Since 2003, CCF with the collaboration of ILO and Skill Development Council has launched a pre-vocational training programme where 8 skill-training centres and 27 vocational training centres have been established for girls. These centres continue to function, providing specialised skills and contributing towards developing a skilled labour force.

Building Ownership of the Community:

The community is actively involved in regular monitoring of its school activities. In most cases the community itself has provided the premises for the schools. Local teachers are appointed and in a few instances the teachers themselves have allocated a room in their homes for the school. To facilitate the students, textbooks, reading and writing material and learning aids are provided by the school. All services provided are free of charge.

Income and Sources of Funding (Rs.)

Sources of funds	2003	2004	2005
Self Generated Income	4,450,816	4,680,990	3,700,283
National (Grants/ Donations)	4,620,043	6,323,324	6,559,607
International (Grants/ Donations)	196,382	851,592	763,059
Total	9,267,241	11,855,906	11,022,949