

Juveniles Accessing Mental health Services

CAPACITY BUILDING ON MENTAL HEALTH

The JAMS project has officially launched the implementation phase of mental health training programs in the districts of Coimbatore, Erode, and the Nilgiris. This marks a significant step in bringing our capacity-building efforts from planning to action.

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Second Editions here

First Edition

Second Edition

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**Ramlath Nisha training the
staff of Seva Nilayam**

In Coimbatore,

All 14 trained Master Trainers have begun the rollout. Among them, 3 Master Trainers have already completed two sessions each, showing steady progress and dedication to equipping CCI staff with essential mental health knowledge.

The 14 master trainers include Krithika, Ramlath Nisha, and Poornima from NMCT organisation. Dr. V. Priya, Shriram Sughir, and Asvitha from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham. Sr. Monica, Sr. Margaret Joisy, and Paul representing Mount Carmel. Parasakthi and Rupavathi are empanelled counsellors. Swetha joins from the Nalandaway Foundation, and Vismaya is from the DCPU office.

The training is supported by Program Coordinator DCPO Hafsa and Bhuvana.



Poornima training the staff of Thai Anbalayam



Krithika training the staff of Universal Peace Foundation

In Erode,

Seven out of eight trained Master Trainers have started delivering sessions across 14 CCIs. Some staff members have already completed up to the fourth session, demonstrating strong engagement and progress. The sessions have focused on stress management, communication, and child-sensitive care practices.



Sathish training the staff of St. Joseph's Home

The 8 master trainers from Erode include Poonthamizhan, Nithya Sree, Surendar, and S.K. Dharani from Kongu Arts and Science College; Monisha and S. Dharani from Vellalar College for Women; Sathish from Childline; and Shanmuga Priya from the DCPU office. The DCPO is Tmt. R. Umamaheshwari.



Monisha training the staff of Helping Hearts Home

Erode, Tamil Nadu, India
8phq+mpm, 5th Main Rd, Erode, Tamil Nadu 638002, India
Lat 11.329474° Long 77.739382°
21/05/2025 04:45 PM GMT +05:30



S. Dharani training the staff of Mariyalaya



Sowmiya training the staff of CMS Underfell

Coonoor, Tamil Nadu, India
1/80, Tiger Hill Rd, Brookland Area, Alwarpet, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu 643101, India
Lat 11.347042° Long 76.804618°
22/04/25 12:05 PM GMT +05:30

In Nilgiris,

The training is off to a strong start. A dedicated team of 10 Master Trainers is working across 15 Child Care Institutions (CCIs), with a total of 50 sessions conducted. These sessions are designed to equip CCI staff with essential skills and knowledge to support children's mental health in a youth-friendly and compassionate manner.

The 10 master trainers from Nilgiris include Anisha from Jeevan Raksha Bhavan; Antony Dcruz R and Catherine Aurore from Happy Home; Nalini Petricial from CMS Underfell; Pallavi B from LML Home; Ramyah R from Nalandaway Foundation; A. Babyreeta from GTMO; Santhosh from CSI Tribal Home; Shyla Jigi from CMS Kotagiri; and Sowmiya from Sirumalar Children's Home.



Anisha training the staff of Fathima Girls Home



Babyreeta conducting activities with the staff of Sirumalar Home

HANDHOLDING SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT

As part of our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Child Welfare and Social Services (DCWSS), the JAMS project received essential funding support to expand and sustain its training efforts across Child Care Institutions (CCIs). This funding has been instrumental in enabling our network of trained Master Trainers to deliver focused, high-quality mental health capacity-building sessions in their respective districts. The financial assistance has supported for master trainers honorarium which included their travel logistics, training materials, travel for trainers, and coordination efforts—ensuring that each session is delivered with consistency and care. It has also empowered us to roll out sessions that are interactive, context-sensitive, and youth-friendly, directly aligned with the needs of CCI staff and children.

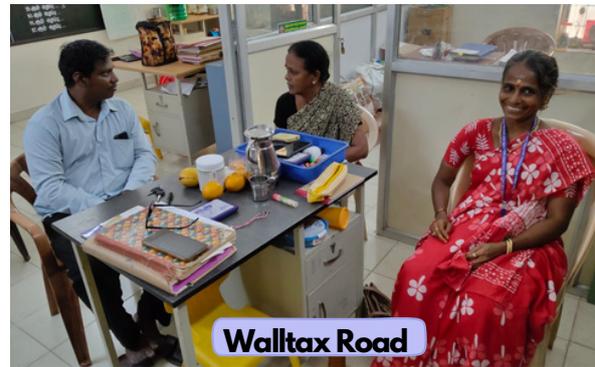


ENDLINE ASSESSMENTS OF JAMS PHASE 1 IN BMKT

Anand and Arpita, Research Assistants from the JAMS Tamil Nadu team, conducted endline interviews with participants from Phase 1 of the JAMS intervention in BMKT. These interviews assessed the impact of the phase by capturing participants' experiences, changes in knowledge and attitudes, and the effectiveness of the training. The process also explored how the intervention influenced daily practices in CCIs and supported staff in addressing children's and adolescents' mental health needs. The findings will help shape the next phase of the JAMS project for more sustained outcomes.

OBSERVATION VISITS OF CHENNAI CCIS

As part of the JAMS project activities, the Project Coordinator Mr. Fredrick Melwin, visited three Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in Chennai – Kosapet, Walltax Road, and Royapettah. These visits aimed to observe ongoing practices, connect with staff, and understand the on-ground implementation of training sessions.



At Walltax Road CCI, a staff assessment was conducted to evaluate current capacities and identify specific training needs. This assessment will help in tailoring future training sessions to better support the staff and children in the institution.



ARPITA FROM JAMS TN TEAM

Arpita from the JAMS team travelled to Odisha to facilitate a Training of Trainers (ToT) program. This session was a key step in equipping a new group of Master Trainers with the skills, knowledge, and tools needed to lead mental health capacity-building sessions in Child Care Institutions (CCIs).



The ToT program focused on core components such as understanding mental health in children and adolescents, trauma-informed care, youth-friendly communication, and practical facilitation techniques. Through interactive sessions, group activities, and real-time practice, participants were prepared to take on the role of trainers within their own districts.

TOT PROGRAM ODISHA



For Gajapati district a two-day ToT program was organized at Gopalpur – On – Sea, Ganjam, Odisha. Selected staffs from different CCIs, One Stop Center, DCPU & Shakit Sadan participated in the training program. DCPO Gajapati – Mr. Arun Kumar Tripathy was also present and encouraged the participants. 20 master trainers were trained in this ToT workshop on mental health awareness and intervention strategies who will further train to rest staffs in CCIs in future course of time. There were mock sessions on day 2 by the participants with feedback.

GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION

The Project Coordinator of JAMS actively engaged with the District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) of Khurda, Nayagarh, and Nabarangpur to initiate groundwork for the upcoming Master Trainer’s Training Program. Through regular coordination meetings and consultations, the DCPUs were briefed on the program objectives, expected outcomes, and their critical role in facilitating the sessions. The involvement of DCPUs is a key step towards strengthening mental health capacity within CCIs across these districts.

YFS ACTIVITIES

The Project Coordinator of JAMS actively facilitated collaboration with the District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) of Khurda, Nayagarh, and Nabarangpur. This coordination aims to ensure smooth planning and implementation of the upcoming Master Trainer's Training Program across these districts.



PARTICIPATION IN WORLD ORPHAN DAY

Out Project Coordinator for JAMS, Odisha – Mr. Protush Panda participated in World Orphan Day organized by Day Star Home, Gajapati. On this occasion, he presented an article – Importance of Mental Health Assessment for Destitute Children in CCI and Therapy. Joint article written by Dr. Shiva Prakash Srinivasan and Mr. Protush Panda was published in their souvenir from experience of JAMS 1.0 and JAMS 2.0.



CAREER COUNSELING

As per instructions from DCPU Gajapati, Research Assistant Tapaswini conducted interactive sessions for CCI children who passed their matriculation this year, guiding them on suitable education and career pathways. The sessions provided insights into available courses, vocational training, and scholarship opportunities to support their future goals.



LFA COUNSELING

As instructed by DCPU Gajapati, our Research Assistant Tapaswini provided emotional support to children legally free for adoption, preparing them for family integration. She also learnt about different schemes of WCD/DCPU appropriate for CCI children.



POCSO COUNSELING

Following a joint visit with the Counselor from DCPU Gajapati, trauma-informed counseling was provided to children who are victims of sexual abuse under the POCSO Act. The sessions focused on creating a safe and supportive environment to help the children process their experiences, build emotional resilience, and begin their healing journey. Additionally, the children were sensitized about their rights, available legal support, and the procedures under the POCSO Act

In an age-appropriate and reassuring manner. This intervention aimed to empower the children while ensuring their psychological well-being and legal protection.





Schizophrenia Research
Foundation (I)



Department of
Youth Mental Health

CONNECT WITH US

Have ideas, questions, or looking to partner with us?

We're always open to conversations that spark impact!

 Email us: jams@scarfindia.org

 Visit: www.scarfymh.org

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