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their heartfelt sentiments.

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# DCCWConnect



## CRITICAL Building Repairs

**PALNA Nurses' Quarters:** The Palna nurses' quarters have been needing repairs urgently since the pandemic. But due to both financial and logistic constraints, work on these critical repairs could be eventually done only this year, when the situation warranted immediate attention. Interim arrangements were made for the nurses, while a structural renovation and upgradation of the building was undertaken. This was finally completed in April 2025. These upgrades were aimed to provide a safe, comfortable, and dignified environment for our nurses—many of whom live on-site and are an essential part of the Palna family. The renovation also reflects our commitment to the well-being of our caregivers, recognizing that quality care for children starts with supporting those who provide it.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this renovation possible — from our generous donors and partners to the hardworking teams who completed the project with care and precision. With your continued support, PALNA remains a home of hope, healing, and heart.



**Vocational Training Centre at Trilokpuri:** With the help of our long-time partners and well-wishers EXL and Ms Sadhna Alström we were able to do the necessary repair and renovation of our vocational training centre for underprivileged girls at Trilokpuri.

This centre has long been a beacon of hope for hundreds of girls from under-served communities, offering them practical training in areas of tailoring, beauty culture and computer literacy.

The transformation of the centre not only improves the physical space but also uplifts the spirit of the young women who come here to build better futures for themselves and their families.



**Janakpuri Centre:** The reconstruction of our flagship programme centre at Janakpuri is in progress as per the plan. It remains our highest priority at this time and we continue to seek your support to enable us to complete this project.

## Spotlight: Payal - a young well-wisher

Payal Shamdasani, a graduate of Okinawa Christian School International, Japan, chose Palna for her school project and ran a fundraiser to support education for underprivileged children, especially girls, in India. Inspired by her aunt, Mrs. Sangeeta Aswani, who is an Executive Committee member at DCCW, Payal was moved by the impactful work she witnessed over the years.

Payal's passion for helping children access their rights led her to support DCCW, and she hopes to continue contributing to its mission in the future. Thank you, Payal!



## Quarterly Updates

### Programme Highlights

**Educational Sponsorship:** In April, **630 students benefited** from our educational sponsorship program, receiving both financial aid and stationery gift hampers. Our counselling sessions focused on fostering effective study schedules, time management skills, stress and anger management techniques, and leveraging online study resources. Additionally, students were motivated to develop their personality and professional skills.



**Vocational Training centres at Qudsia Bagh:** Last year, for the first time we started our vocational training programme at our Qudsia Bagh premises, with a unit of our computer literacy training. This year we have been able to expand further with units of both Stitching & Tailoring as well as Beauty & Wellness, with the generous support of **Star Cements, Krishaj Foundation, and Globe Capital Initiative.**

### PALNA Updates:

- In this quarter we had 14 new arrivals at Palna.
- 4 of our children went in adoption and joined their forever families.
- One of our Palna girls who was adopted by an Italian family in the 1980s, has recently become a grandmother! Such a lovely milestone for Palna!
- The renovation of the Palna nurses' quarters got completed and the resident nurses moved back to their rooms in April.



### Joyful Farewell

*A day filled with emotion, celebration, and hope, we bid farewell to our beloved **pre-school Palna WeeKids** as they got ready to step into the next stage of their journey, leaving behind the warmth of DCCW to begin formal schooling.*



In a continued effort to promote physical well-being and mental peace, DCCW organised **Yoga Camps across its centres on International Yoga Day**, bringing together children, staff, and caregivers in a shared journey of health, harmony, and self-care.

At Palna, Ms. Shivani Rana from the Morarji Desai Institute of Yoga (Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India) organised a free yoga camp for a month for the vocational training girls. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the instructors and volunteers who made these sessions meaningful and enjoyable.



**Instructor Training:** A one-day specialised session on Makeup training was conducted for our VTP instructors by the **Nykaa Foundation** and led by expert trainer Ms. Pooja. Eleven instructors participated in the session, which covered bridal makeup techniques, HD vs. non-HD products, pre-bridal client consultation, and content creation through videography. The training aimed to equip our instructors with the latest industry trends and techniques.

A mental health session was held with VTP girls led by Ms. Karuna Chopra. Focused on the difference between peer pressure and peer power, the session encouraged self-awareness and support among peers. Engaging activities like role-play, sharing positive traits about friends, and writing promises to peers helped the girls reflect, open up, and build emotional strength.

**Mother's Day** was celebrated across our DCCW centres. From heartwarming performances by our little stars to exciting games and prizes, every moment was a tribute to maternal love. Children and teachers crafted memories in handmade frames and penned love in every Mother's Day card.

## ***Partnerships in Action***

Our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors and well-wishers who have always come forward to help us in fulfilling our objectives and ensuring the wellbeing of our children. In particular, this quarter we would like to acknowledge:



**Autozone India Services support for our Educational Sponsorship programme:** A team from Autozone India visited us to meet the 14 School going marginalised children they sponsor under our Educational Sponsorship Program - a support initiative that supports underprivileged school-going children. During the visit, they interacted with the children and their parents, distributed stationery and foodstuffs, and shared their own inspiring journeys. The children expressed their appreciation through poems, stories, and handmade cards.



This is the first time that DCCW **partnered with Pratham** during summer camps to bring joy, creativity, and learning to children through the “**Kamaal Ka Camp**”, a special initiative designed to turn the school break into a time of meaningful engagement. Held across our centres during the summer vacation, the camp combined fun activities with learning experiences through storytelling, reading sessions, arts and crafts workshops, and basic numeracy and problem-solving games to promote intellectual and social skills

**This World Environment Day**, PALNA was honoured to welcome the **Indian Coast Guard** for a special tree plantation drive on our campus — a beautiful gesture of environmental stewardship and community partnership. In the spirit of this year's theme, "Our Land. Our Future. We are #GenerationRestoration," the Indian Coast Guard team joined hands with PALNA to plant saplings across our premises, contributing not only to a greener future but also teaching our children the value of nurturing nature.



Palna hosted a health awareness **workshop conducted by AIIMS** on the Prevention of Breast, Cervical, and Oral Cancer, educating DCCW care-givers staff and Vocational Training Programme girls about cancer risk factors, early detection, and treatment options. The workshop featured expert insights from Dr. Pallavi Shukla, Associate Professor, Preventive Oncology, IRCH, AIIMS, and Dr. Ritu Duggal, Chief, CDER, AIIMS, on breast and cervical cancer prevention. Dr. Neha Chauhan and Dr. Sarah Paul from the NOHP Team, CDER, AIIMS provided guidance on oral cancer prevention.

We are grateful to **Arpan Prayas** for extending support for Palna groceries and medicines.

**Manzil Mystics** conducted impactful musical workshops at Trilokpuri centres for our Vocational Training girls, using music as a medium to explore themes of inequality, teamwork, and focus. The sessions encouraged open expression, boosted self-confidence, and fostered peer connection through interactive activities and games.

## Well-wishers Speak

As always, your messages of support mean a lot to us.!

**Ravi Sakhare, CSR Manager, IDFCFIRST Bank:**

*Visited Palna, very hygienic so well maintained. Staff are very good and premises have positive vibes. Every donor must visit this centre.*

**Mr Manoj Kumar and Ms Ranjana, Child Welfare Committee, Delhi:**

*Children are seen happy or smiling. We found that Palna follows all the norms as per J.J. Act. The staff are very kind and cooperative.*

**Pooja Malhotra:** *I hope this helps the children and God bless them. Please ask the children to send good wishes and blessings.*

**Ankita Goel:** *Give my love to children.*

**Anant Saxena:** *I hope this amount will help children in need. Thanks Palna for taking care of children in need.*



# Photo Gallery



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