

Sisters Led Youth Initiatives(SLYI)

**Apostolic Carmel Seva Kendra
C/O Apostolic Carmel Generalate
Jayanagar, Bengaluru-41**

Success :

Sisters Led Youth Initiatives has successfully completed two years of operation, providing skill training to 1,320 participants. The program has demonstrated measurable success: as of July 9, 2025, approximately 696 participants (52.72%) have engaged in various employment opportunities or continued their education.

1312 are female participants have successfully completed the course 98% total number of participants, only 18 participants are male.

Among the employed participants, 168 individuals have secured jobs in the beautician, computer, and tailoring sectors. The initiative primarily aims to empower vulnerable, marginalized, and economically deprived communities. Notably, 82% of the participants were school dropouts, who have greatly benefited from the program. Through skill training, they have become financially independent and are now able to contribute to their family income, despite not succeeding in mainstream education.

Through the Sisters Led Youth Initiatives (SLYI) project, we have successfully reached out to marginalized communities and empowered them through various programs and activities. A total of 669 Yoga and Meditation sessions, 110 motivational sessions, 103 counselling sessions, 759 spoken English sessions, and 270 life skill classes were conducted to nurture personal growth and confidence among the participants. In addition, 124 special activities and 14 job orientation programs were organized to enhance their exposure and employability skills.

The project has also played a significant role in connecting people to Government welfare schemes and financial inclusion. We created awareness about Government welfare schemes among 1,345 individuals. Furthermore, 221 bank accounts were opened for trainees who did not have bank accounts when they join the skill training and 928 participants updated their Aadhaar cards. Several others were facilitated in obtaining essential documents: 213 PAN cards, 159 ration cards, 113 voter IDs, and 128 labour cards.

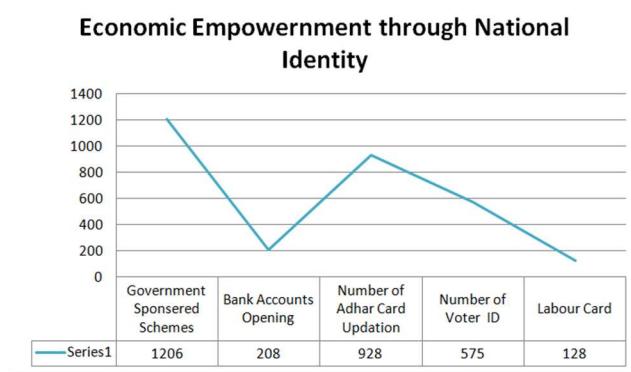
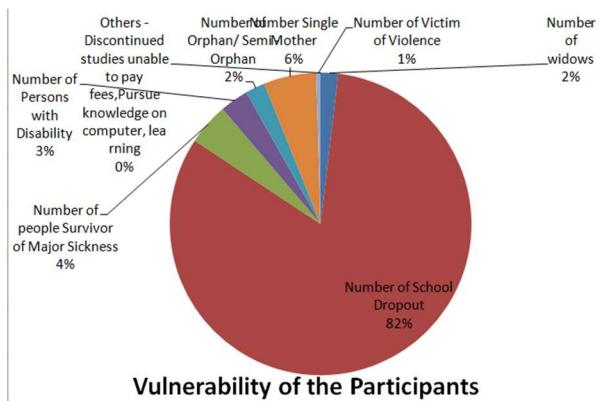
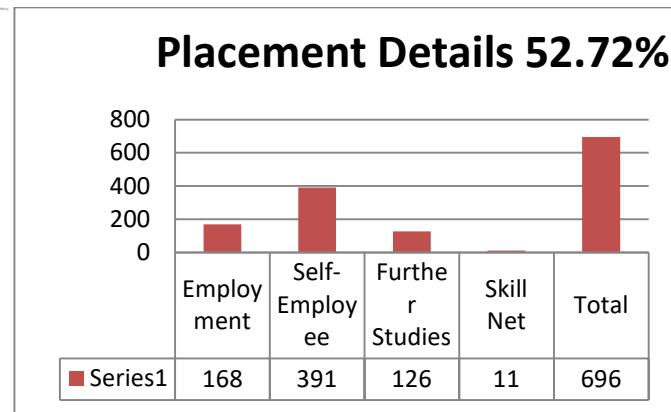
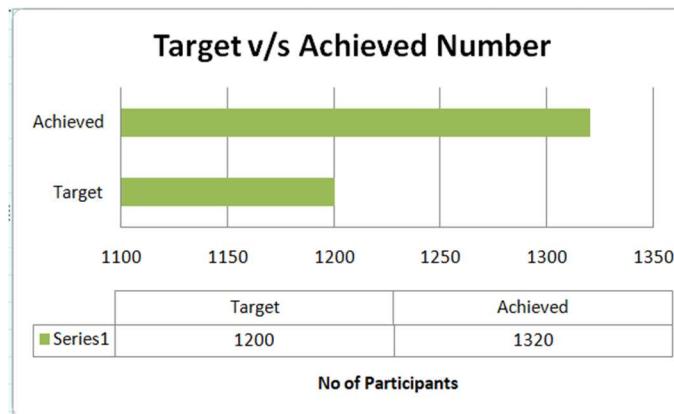
Our efforts also helped 128 people enroll in the Shakthi Yojane, 55 in the Grulakshmi Yojane, 140 in the Gruha Jyothi Yojane, and 1 each in the Yuvanidhi Yojane and PDS schemes, ensuring that even the most marginalized individuals receive their entitled government benefits.

The SkillNet initiatives were launched by two of our centers—Seva Kendra and Ferrando Centre for Vocational Training—under the leadership of the Apostolic Carmel Seva Kendra and the Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians. These two congregations are actively

working together to promote SkillNet. Currently, a total of 12 women participants are meaningfully employed through this initiative. Additionally, the Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco congregation have also shown interest in joining and supporting this mission.

These achievements reflect the collective effort of the SLYI project in improving the lives of the underprivileged, empowering them not only with skills but also with the benefits of government schemes, thus creating pathways to a better quality of life.

The remaining beneficiaries include orphans, single mothers, and persons with disabilities. These individuals have completed the skill training and are now earning a livelihood, enhancing their self-reliance and dignity.



Challenges :

- In these two years faced several challenges such as family issues, health problems, and relocation, which led to participant dropouts. Due to family and personal reasons, 157

participants were unable to continue their course, even though they had a strong interest in learning.

Some courses had to be modified or discontinued due to low interest:

- The Modern Secretarial Practice course was discontinued and replaced due to lack of participant engagement.
- The Accounts Executive course required a basic understanding of mathematics, which deterred many participants, resulting in the course being replaced by training in Beauty & Wellness.
- In the NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling) program, students preferred to take only two subjects per year, as managing all six subjects simultaneously proved difficult for many.
- Enrolling participants in long-term diploma courses (10 months) has also been challenging, primarily due to the full-day schedule (9:30 AM to 4:00 PM), which many participants found difficult to commit to.
- The SkillNet initiatives require several formal procedures with the government, such as obtaining licenses and entering into agreements with shop owners. However, the participants often lack a stable mindset and are unwilling to make a long-term commitment.
- Having the project started in the middle of year has created lots of confusion among centers, it also have reflected in extending the project to another year.
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Lessons lend / learnt :

- In the NIOS program, students may need to appear in successive years to complete their Class 10 or 12 examinations, requiring continued support and motivation.
- There is a greater demand for short-term courses than long-term ones. The preferences of participants evolve annually, influenced by market demands, technological trends, and skill relevance.
- For example, the Domestic Data Entry Operator course (previously offered under NSDC) was discontinued due to regulatory changes. The program has now transitioned to offering training in Senior Associate – DTP Operator, aligning with current industry needs.
- To ensure the effectiveness of the training programs, it is essential that our skill trainers continuously upgrade their own knowledge and skills. With the rapid evolution of market demands, technological advancements, and shifting course preferences, trainers must stay informed and adaptable.

