Summary of Independent Impact Assessment Studies Conducted Year 2022-23

1. Impact Assessment of Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship Programme

Theme – Education

Implementing Agency – Reliance Foundation

Impact Assessment Agency – 4th Wheel Social Impact (Prudential Building, Ground Floor, Central Ave, Powai, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400076)

1. Background

The Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship (DAS) program was established in 1996, driven by late Shri Dhirubhai Ambani's belief that the best way to ensure the nation's progress is to invest in its youth. The program supports meritorious students of standard XII to pursue college education in the stream of their choice. Top-ranking students of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and State Boards across 28 States and 5 Union Territories are identified and supported. Scholars who demonstrate a need for financial support are prioritized for scholarships. The scholarship is provided over the course of three years, with funds disbursed annually based on the academic performance of scholars. Funds cover tuition fees, and costs related to transport, accommodation, books, stationery, and various other allowances needed for the duration of graduation. Since its inception, there have been 12,737 scholarship recipients with an equal gender ratio, including 2755 especially abled scholars who represent more than 20 percent of the total scholars supported by this program.

2. Research objectives

The evaluation traced the impact of the DAS scholarship beyond the immediate individual scholar impact and analyzed the multiplier effect of the scholarship support at a household, organization, and societal level. The impact study of the DAS program focused on process and impact outcomes over 5 years, spanning the batches of 2015-2020.

3. Key findings and impact

3.1 Scholar Outcomes

- 70 percent were studying, 24 percent were in employment, while 6 percent were not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) at the time of the study.
- More than 50 percent scholars are pursuing science related degrees in medical sciences or engineering.
- A large percent of scholars have enrolled in prestigious top-ranking universities as per the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF).

3.2 Impact on Households

- Impacts of the program extend to a household level as well, since more than 65 percent scholars' hail from families with annual household incomes less than ₹ 2 lacs.
- 87 percent employed scholars contribute their salaries to household incomes, better quality of life in terms of asset ownership and technology access.
- On an average, employed scholars contribute ₹ 30,000 on a monthly basis to their families. 25 percent of total earning scholars contributed to their siblings' education.

3.3 Organizational Impact

- Even though scholars are at a very nascent stage of their careers, in managerial or executive roles, results are very heartening.
- 36 percent working scholars have contributed to improving specific processes or functions in their organization.
- 17 percent contributed to developing a New Service and 11 percent played a role in developing an innovative product within their organisations.

2

2. Impact Assessment of healthcare partnership project

Theme – Health

Implementing Agency – Reliance Foundation

Impact Assessment Agency – Lattice Solutions (Ground Floor, Kh. No. 59, DCM Colony, Village Ibrahimpur, New Delhi-110036)

1. Background

Ravindra Joshi Medical Foundation received the grant support from Reliance for two projects in 2020-21. The first involved renovating a medical center in Andheri that has been in operation for over a decade, which provides essential maternal and paediatric services to those in need. The second project was the establishment of a diagnostic center in Bandra, Mumbai that offers a comprehensive range of facilities, including MRI and scanning services, all located under one roof. The trust works in the areas of affordable healthcare specifically targeting underprivileged sections of the society, raising awareness in the field of general health education and provisioning of modern health diagnostic systems.

2. Research Objective

To assess the effectiveness and impact of RF's support (direct & indirect) on the service delivery of both the centers.

3. Key Findings & Impact

- 3.1 24*7 medical support is available for citizens
- 3.2 There has been a gradual increase in the footfall of patients since 2021
- 3.3 23 % reduction in out-of-pocket expenses/household on medical travel & diagnostic cost
- 3.4 Faster turn-around time is the prominent cause of satisfaction among patients
- 3.5 10 types of diagnostic facilities are available under one roof
- 3.6 ₹ 10/- is charged as OPD cost for general healthcare and maternity services

3. Impact Evaluation of The Health Outreach Programme of Sir H.N Reliance Foundation & Research Centre (RFH)

Theme – Health

Implementing Agency – Reliance Foundation-Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre

Impact Assessment Agency – Dr. Arundhati Char (Independent Consultant, F-502 Palm Court Complex, Link Road, Malad (W), Mumbai-400064).

1. Background

Reliance Foundation (RF) and Sir H.N. Reliance Hospital (RFH) Health Outreach Program have been catering to over 500,000 people in the slums of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai across 70 locations in 11 wards since 2011. It functions on a service-on-demand model through its three static and four mobile medical units (SMUs and MMUs). The program enhances the quality of life by improving health-seeking behavior among the community with the specific objective of reducing the disease burden and associated out-of-pocket health expenditure (OOPE) among marginalized households. The mobile medical unit provides doorstep services enabling community members, especially women and elderly patients to undergo regular check-ups and treatments under experienced doctors. RF health educators interact with community members in the field to educate them on disease prevention and health promotion. Along with consultation, patients are provided free drugs and testing facilities which help them to reduce OOPE on healthcare.

2. Research Objectives

In February 2023, RF initiated an impact assessment of the RFH program for four selected health conditions viz. severe and moderate acute malnutrition (SAM and MAM) among under-five children, anemia among adolescent girls and women, diabetes, and hypertension in adult populations including the elderlies. The objectives of the study are:

• To understand the improvements in the health status of patients who have been visiting the clinics.

- To assess knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) on various health conditions such as anemia among females, malnutrition among children, hypertension, and diabetes among these health conditions of patients.
- To quantify the economic benefits and savings accumulating within the community owing to reduced expenditure on healthcare.

3. Key findings and impact

The RF clinic has been appropriately targeting the economically and socially marginalised and vulnerable communities, serving 92% of patients belonging to poor and low-income families (annual household income of ₹ 85,000 or below) and more than half of the patients are female (58 percent).

3.1 Anemia among females

- A total of 22,317 girls and women aged 10 to 49 years were screened for anemia from 2019-2023 at the clinic. The anemia prevalence among females has reduced from 34.4 percent to 28.4 percent after the clinic's intervention.
- 90 percent of the females were aware of the consumption of a balanced diet for anemia control.

3.2 NCDs- Diabetes and hypertension-

- A total of 48,464 patients were screened for diabetes and hypertension at the clinic 32 percent had only diabetes, 41 percent only hypertension, and 27 percent had both diabetes and hypertension.
- More than half have at least some knowledge about how to manage diabetes and hypertension.
- After getting detected for the NCDs 75 percent of patients have been visiting the clinic for the follow the treatment regime for better management of the disease.

3.3 Malnutrition among Children

- The chances of malnourishment among children were 61% lower from the first visit to the clinic.
- About 89% of primary caregivers mentioned that episodes of illness among children have decreased and 71% have mentioned that the eating habits of their children have improved, and 65 percent mentioned that their children are looking healthier.

3.4 Economic impact

The program has generated ₹ 16 crore worth of economic impact created for NCD patients in the form of potential savings on out of pocket expenditure.

3.5 Patients' satisfaction

A majority (92%) of the patients mentioned who have been visiting the clinics mentioned that they were highly satisfied with the consultations, and quality of services provided at the clinic.