



Head Held High

Head Held High Foundation

...where the mind is without fear & the head is held high

- Rabindranath Tagore

Head Held High Foundation

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About Head Held High Foundation



Head Held High Foundation is a community organisation and institution dedicated to disrupting the cycle of poverty in India and attaining sustainable economic prosperity.

Our mission is to empower individuals and communities residing below the poverty line, those in vulnerable and marginalised circumstances, by affording them access to innovative training programmes, resources, and support networks, enabling them to become agents of change and advocates for resilient and sustainable livelihoods.

Through our pioneering and evidence-based solutions, we collaborate with governments, private and public entities, and engage in cross-sector partnerships to cultivate a more just and prosperous society.

We aim to achieve this goal by dismantling obstacles and facilitating individuals in constructing brighter futures for themselves and their families, providing them with opportunities to flourish and make their maximum contributions.

With a pronounced emphasis on community-led development, we aim to realise this vision through our interventions, impactful programmes, and initiatives. Join us in contributing to the creation of a poverty-free India, where each individual has the opportunity to reach their full potential."

Over the last decade we have touched lives of 2,00,000+ youth (18-25yrs) with little or no schooling – from rural communities, the poorest of families, the most marginalized communities, and mostly girls (67%). So far we have operated community based centre's across 20 states and 100+ districts.

Vision



Our view is that the world is full of richness, abundance. There is enough and more for everyone on our planet. Poverty simply makes no sense in such a world of abundance.

At Head Held High (HHH), we aim to address this by implementing multiple initiatives. We believe in transforming the lives of the helpless, and giving them the means to stand on their own two feet capably and independently

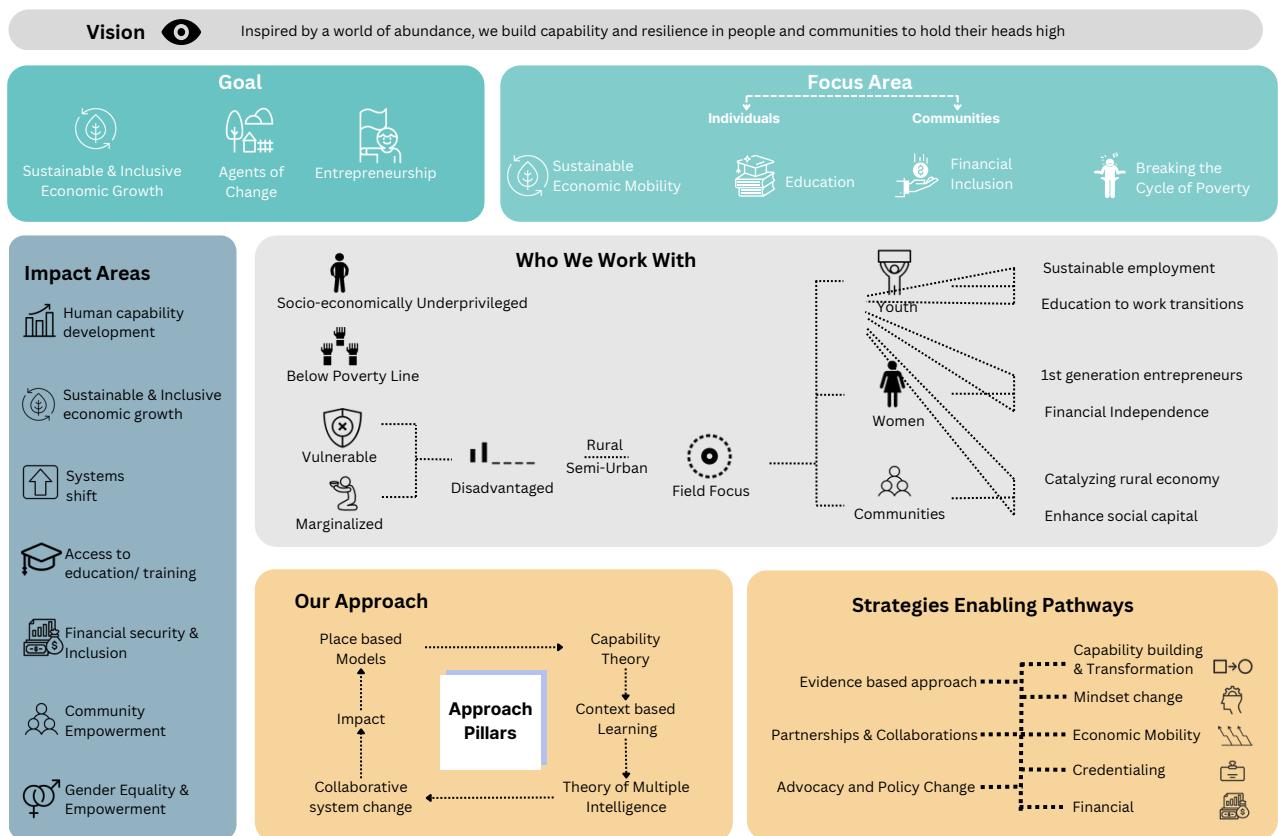
Purpose

Inspired by a world of abundance, we build capability and resilience in people and communities to hold their heads high.

"From Poverty to Dignity"



Our Theory of Change



Most of the communities we work with live in multi-dimensional poverty, which is further exacerbated by the following:

Low access to social entitlements due to lack of awareness

Limited exposure and mindset for being resilient

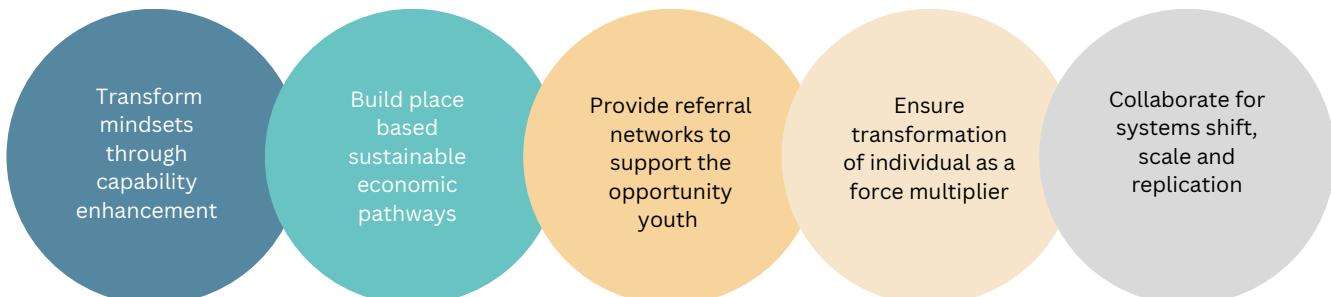
Low access to education and learning leading to gainful employment

Poor emotional well-being

Low entrepreneurship and local economic opportunities

Low ease of living

Through the implementation of our theory of change we intend to achieve the below mentioned impact and create a more desirable aspirated state for our beneficiaries



Our Capability Approach

We subscribe to the belief that poverty extends beyond a mere measure of income; it encompasses the deprivation of capabilities and agency that perpetuates an individual's impoverished state.

In line with Amartya Sen's Capability Approach, we recognise a person's essential capabilities, including foundational literacy (comprising spoken English, mathematics, and general knowledge), digital skills, financial literacy, soft skills, life skills, and work readiness, as pivotal determinants of their socio-economic well-being. Through this perspective, poverty is redefined beyond the narrow constraints of income and education, focusing instead on whether an individual possesses the awareness of economic opportunities and the ability to make informed choices.

We have embraced the life and work capability approach, which illuminates a spectrum of economic possibilities available to young people & households and grants them the freedom to exercise their choices.

Our approach to addressing poverty is all-encompassing, encompassing the personal, social, and economic dimensions of youth, enabling them to transition from a state of poverty into a realm of dignity and abundance

Our Interventions

Make India Capable

Make India Capable (MIC), is a core initiative of HHH that transforms the lives of low/un schooled youth and makes them capable for work, entrepreneurship and further education. In within 6 months, a rural youth with limited schooling is transformed into an extraordinary person, capable of work and ready to fit into a professional environment. This miraculous transformation enables such youth to be able to live their lives with dignity and opens-up economic opportunities.



At the heart of the MIC youth transformation program, is the belief that disconnected youth can be empowered through a mix of interventions like foundational and digital literacy, sector-based exposure, life skills, communication & personality development in just 6 months. Youth go through self-directed learning to enable transformation at – social, personal, and economic levels. Our centers are based within the community, which serves as a safe space for youth to explore their potential and build their agency.

Economic Resilience



The objective of the Economic Resilience intervention for households in poverty is to facilitate their transition towards economic self-sufficiency. This approach is grounded in a 'whole of family' perspective, acknowledging that poverty affects entire households and that addressing their needs collectively yields greater effectiveness.

The objective of addressing poverty at the household level is to provide enduring solutions. Rather than focusing solely on individual requirements, the program aims to tackle the underlying causes of poverty, thereby fostering sustainable change within households. This approach aligns with the program's overarching goal of promoting economic resilience through comprehensive and lasting interventions that empower families as a whole.

Antarprerana : Creating rural entrepreneurs



HHH aims to build, revitalise, and enhance local community-based and individual enterprises to enable them to run as independent units through its Antarprerana initiative. We work towards empowering the underprivileged groups by creating access to sustainable livelihood opportunities and creating a safe space for them to work, grow and become financially independent. The idea is to take employment to them (instead of the other way around). Our methodology is holistic and focuses on socio-economic and behavioural aspects, as well as, the whole business cycle of market linkages & access to capital.

Future Ready Guidance (FRG)



FRG is a holistic program on career guidance and counselling which brings together essential elements like contextual career information, blended learning, soft skills, social-emotional learning, job-readiness, and one-on-one guidance for youth. The initiative encompasses developing content and curriculum to offer effective career guidance and counselling to the students and youth across rural communities in India.

Our Interventions

Global Action on Poverty (GAP)



Global Action on Poverty (GAP), builds and supports change making communities that directly or indirectly impacts poverty eradication.

GAP brings people together from all walks of life to work on specific challenges within poverty by empowering existing Changemakers with resources and capabilities that they need to bring about a step change in the impact that their project has on people in poverty

Community Response Centers (CRC)



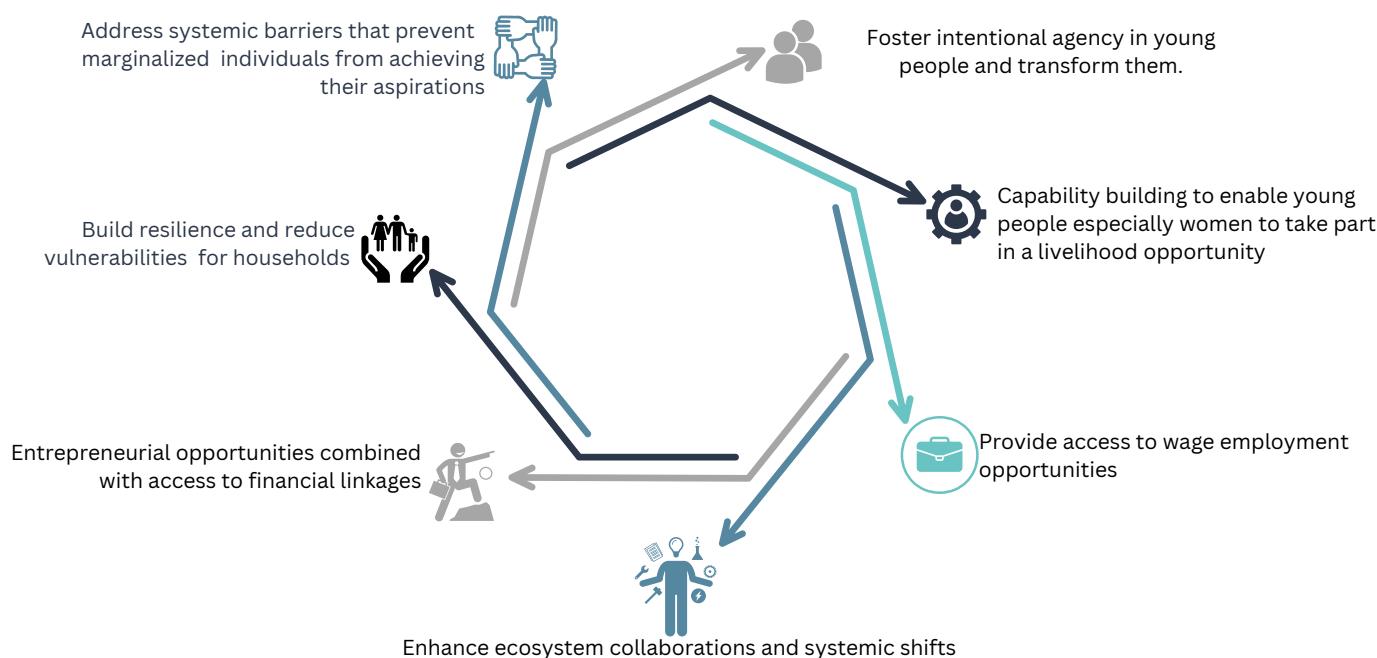
To address challenges communities (urban & rural), face due to poverty and deprivation, the CRC operates as a one-stop solution for information regarding the spectrum of opportunities for the poor communities; community members are connected for skilling, employment, and entrepreneurship; they also have access to safety nets to safeguard them from vulnerabilities. Young people are at the center of this effort, but benefits are not limited to them only; men and women from the community can benefit from the various services provided for linkages and economic opportunities.

Financial Inclusion



HHH financial inclusion intervention involves understanding the needs of the community in relation to the schemes available and eligibility of beneficiary groups: understand their awareness on the available schemes; explore their perspectives in terms of barriers in access and level of satisfaction with the schemes; and evaluate the appropriateness and sufficiency of the schemes in meeting the needs of the beneficiary groups

Intended Outcomes from our Interventions



Our Partners



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