



RLCC

Empowering Women
Ra'ana Liaquat Craftsmen's Colony



Bi-Annual Results Report

EMPOWERING WOMEN

Strengthening Communities


2016 - 18

Report written by Laleh Habib



Table of CONTENTS

Message from our Chairperson	01
Highlights at a Glance	03
About RLCC	04
Our Values & Approach	06
Sustainability	08
Education	10
Healthcare	11
Economic Empowerment	12
Awareness and Outreach	14
Strategic Partnerships	15



Message from our Chairperson

Persistent inequality remains one of the greatest problems in Pakistan. It is estimated that 35% of the population live below the poverty line and are unable to access adequate education, healthcare and economic opportunities. This poverty trap is becoming increasingly intergenerational: today, children born in low-income families are less likely to break out of the cycle of poverty than 20 years ago. In addition to the massive human cost of this phenomenon, persistent inequality hinders economic growth, prevents social mobility, and can lead to extremism, crime and political and social instability.

Women are often amongst the most marginalized and disadvantaged sectors of the population and frequently face discrimination, violence, and inequitable access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. In the developing and slum areas where RLCC works, girls and women are more likely to be out of school, to be unable to leave their homes to seek employment and to face domestic violence and sexual harassment.

The Ra'ana Liaquat Craftsman Colony (RLCC) is committed to fighting economic and gender inequality in Shah Faisal Colony and in other parts of the country by implementing long-term programmes to deliver lasting change and help lift people and communities from poverty. We focus primarily on women and children as we believe that this can create powerful ripple effects across the community and country. When we empower women and children, we empower the whole community, maximize impact, and create broader social change.

In our 65 years of operation, RLCC has been privileged to serve Karachi's poorest and most vulnerable populations by responding to the economic, psychosocial and material needs of individuals. Our work is primary directed in four outcome areas: Economic Empowerment; Outreach and Awareness; Healthcare; and Education. We invest in proven approaches such as our vocational training programmes that have remained at the heart of RLCC's strategy since the organisation's inception. Additionally, we continue to innovate and develop new strategies and programmes. We are currently exploring ways of introducing information and communication technologies, such as apps for smartphones, to help enhance our impact and meet the evolving needs of the community.

The past two years have been a particularly exciting one for us, and we are excited to share some of our achievements and the impact in this report. Some of the highlights include:



We embarked on a new **three year strategy** with clearly defined targets and goals, designed to help prioritize our work streams, and to allow us to operate with maximum efficiency, impact and professionalization.



We are proud to have launched a **Day Care Centre** and **Chai Khana**. These facilities allow women to become more active within the community and economy.



In **2017/18**, 10 students became the first Matric cohort to be enrolled at **The Ra'ana School**.



RLCC has forged a partnership with **The Recovery House**, aimed at providing residents of Shah Faisal Colony with high-quality mental healthcare and support.



We have expanded our vocational training programmes to include additional courses. **Over 1,200 women** have been trained through this programme **over the past year** and have gone on to utilize their skills.



We continue to seek new markets for our products and goods to ensure a continuous revenue stream. We are excited to have started stocking at Khaadi and at Sanghi's commercial outlet, Sabah over the **past year**.

We have been joined in our efforts by a team of tireless volunteers, dedicated partners and generous donors to whom we are extremely grateful. We have also received invaluable support from specialised strategic partners, who have enabled us to deliver targeted assistance to our beneficiary communities and to scale our efforts. Above all, RLCC is about community and our work would not be possible without our unshakeable community of support.

As we plan for the future, we look forward to calling upon this community so that together, we can build stronger and more resilient and equitable communities, and transform the lives of the residents of Shah Faisal Colony.

Selwa Habib
Chairperson, RLCC

GENERAL BODY MEMBERS

Aasma Zaidi
Ali Almani
Dr. Bushra Shirazi
Dr. Farida Babar
Dr. Rufina Soomro
Fatima Haider
Hessam Khaleeli
Kamyla Marvi
Mashal Farookee
Nadira Panjwani
Rubica Raza

Saadiyeh Saeed
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Seema Jaffer
Selwa Habib
Shahla Shareef
Shameem Jahangir
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Shireen Naqvi
Sohail Habib
Somayeh Bardai
Zahra Arif
Zehra Gheewala

BOARD MEMBERS

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Kamyla Marvi
Mashal Farookee
Saadiyeh Saeed

Seema Jaffer
Selwa Habib
Shahla Shareef
Shameem Jahangir
Zehra Gheewala



Highlights at a Glance



9,800

People treated at
RLCC Clinics

970

People reached
through RLCC
Outreach Health
Camps



320

Students enrolled at
The Ra'ana School

13

Years of high-quality
education are
offered



220

Women registered
at RLCC's Livelihood
Programme

About RLCC

Shortly after Partition, Begum Ra'ana lobbied the newly formed Government of Pakistan to grant her an allotment of land so that she could fulfil her vision. In 1949, she was given 6 acres of property in Shah Faisal Colony, an underserved slum area in Karachi. In 1952, she launched a maternity home and a vocational training centre within the allotment. In 1954, Begum Ra'ana partnered with the Rotary Club to start cooking classes and a nursery school.

Over the past six and half decades, RLCC has continued to grow and develop new programmes and services to better serve the evolving needs of the residents of Shah Faisal Colony. The Ra'ana School grew from a nursery to include primary and secondary education. This project was nationalized in 1972, re-established in 2016 and currently extends up to Matric. Vocational training has been the mainstay of RLCC since inception, along with the livelihood programmes RLCC began offering in 2008 as part of its Economic Empowerment initiative. The maternity home has expanded to include other healthcare services including a mental health clinic and awareness programmes, breast cancer screenings and diabetes clinics. Plans for the Ra'ana Hospital are currently underway. In 2011 RLCC launched the Outreach and Awareness Programme with 116 partner community schools and clinics which serves as a vital link between RLCC and the community.

Our programmes and services have been critical at times when the government has been unable to support the citizens of Shah Faisal Colony. RLCC has made a direct and tangible impact and has empowered thousands of women who are better able to support themselves and their families.

We continue to operate as not-for-profit, non-partisan and inclusive organisation dedicated to furthering Begum Ra'ana's vision and the spirit of community service.



"We hope to have a Craftsmen's Colony which will serve as a model and an inspiration for a more desirable standard of individual and community living."

Ra'ana Liaquat Ali Khan
RLCC Opening Ceremony
25 August 1954

Structure and Management

Over the past few years, RLCC has undertaken the organisational restructure to streamline operations, professionalize organisational structures and promote sustainability, accountability and transparency. In 2014, new members were invited to the General Body and a Body of Governors was instituted. Sub-committees have also been established to overview the finance, programming, marketing and fundraising functions of the organisation.

Vision and Objectives

RLCC is driven by a vision of Shah Faisal Colony as a safe, violence-free, clean community, where all have equal access to high-quality healthcare, education and economic opportunity.

We aim to actualize this vision through our work in four key outcome areas:

- Awareness and Outreach
- Education
- Healthcare
- Economic Empowerment

Gender remains a cross-cutting issue through all our areas of operation. We strive to empower and uplift women and girls by providing capacity building, vocational training, education, and economic opportunities.

RLCC also aims to ensure maximum transparency, efficiency, and accountability for its donors and beneficiaries. We regularly share externally audited financial reports to demonstrate maximum value for money. We also strive to produce results reports to show impact and to guide organisational learning.

Strategic Plan

In July 2017, RLCC launched a new three-year Strategic Plan that outlined the way ahead for the organisation and defined clear priorities, milestones and targets. The plan is a road map that builds on RLCC's strengths and sets the direction in which an organisation must work to effectively respond to the needs of the community.



RLCC's strategic planning workshop

The Strategic Report delineates six main work streams: Management, Human Resources and Administration; Education; Health; Vocational Training; and Outreach and Awareness. Each of these work streams includes a breakdown of activities, objectively verifiable indicators, and a budget.

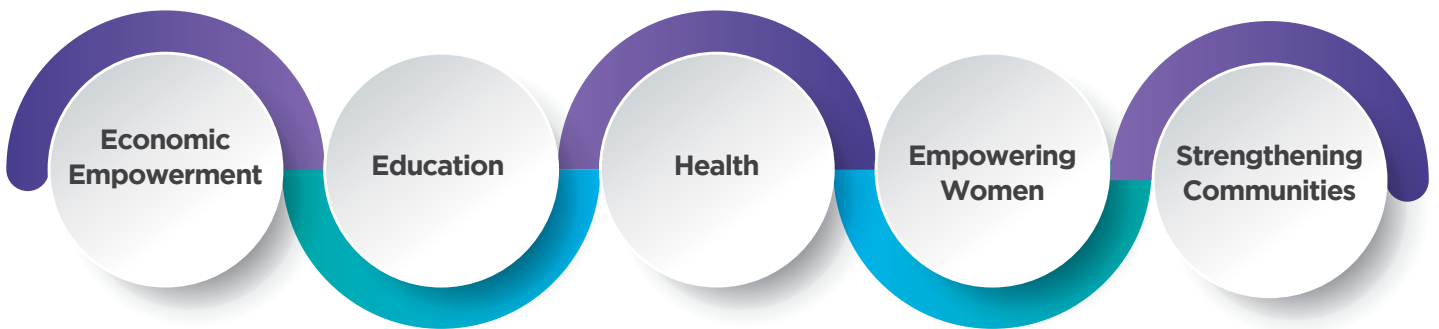
Our Values & Approach

empowering women and children, providing life and vocational skills trainings, building confidence in individuals, and strengthening community connections. This enables individuals to direct the development of their own lives, their families, and their community.

Internally generated revenue streams fund a majority of our day-to-day operations and ensure the sustainability of our programmes.



Gift bags made from
recycled
newspapers



Transparency, Accountability and Integrity

RLCC aims to ensure absolute transparency and accountability to our board and our donors. Our annual reports are increasingly evidenced-based and are focused on the outcomes and impact of our programmes and services. RLCC's financial accounts are audited every year by prestigious third party firms and are available upon request.

RLCC is also very proud to announce that in February 2018, we received full accreditation by the Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) after having demonstrated transparency, professionalism and commitment to philanthropy and social work. This further establishes RLCC's high standing across the country as well as our integrity and professionalism.

Sustainability and Self-Reliance

RLCC's vision is to help build sustainable, self-reliant and resilient individuals and communities. We aim to ensure that the ripple effect of our work continues long after our programmes and services have ended. This is why we place so much focus on education and

Our focus on sustainability also extends to the environment. Wherever possible, we aim to utilise recycled materials in the products developed as part of our livelihoods programme. This reduces our overheads, ensures that the majority of profits go to our workers, and helps the environment.

A Comprehensive Solution

RLCC employs a holistic, multifaceted approach that includes economic, health and psychosocial aspects. We do not simply wish to eliminate hardship or illness, but to help promote optimal wellbeing, success and happiness. We systematically address all barriers and challenges that an individual may face and provide a comprehensive platform to uplift and transform the community.

Bridging Gender Disparities

Gender remains a crosscutting theme across all RLCC's outcome areas. In all our areas of work, we prioritize women and girls, as we believe that females will pass on their learnings and gains to their families and communities. We encourage women to take a more informed, active role in decision-making, economic participation and in community life.

Community Led

RLCC's Outreach team works closely with beneficiary community to identify those problems and issues in greatest need of addressing, and to develop solutions that are culturally sensitive, bespoke and relevant.

In our work on economic empowerment, we determined that many women were unable to leave their homes owing to traditional values and family obligations, so we devised income generation programmes that would allow women to work from their homes, on their schedule.

programmes, and that overheads and operating costs are kept as low as possible. The Ra'ana School and all our other programmes and classes are housed in the original allotment of land granted to Begum Ra'ana, which eliminates the need for any outgoing rent payments. All of our dedicated board members work for free.

Our partnerships and strategic relationships also enable us to maximize our impact and stretch resources by providing critical inputs and resources including medicines, information and other supplies.



Girls at an RLCC summer camp



Clinic



500 children from four local schools

walked the streets of Shah Faisal Colony

to raise awareness about child abuse

Our healthcare workers, mobile clinics and outreach workers recognised a need for information and treatment of diabetes and mental health conditions. They worked with the community and our strategic partners to set up clinics and centres dedicated to the treatment of these illnesses.

We continuously strive to involve members of the community to take ownership in the decision-making process and thereby ensure the relevance of our programmes and services.

Value for Money and Resource Management

At RLCC, we guarantee value for money by ensuring the majority of our resources are directed towards our

Awareness and Outreach

RLCC's Awareness and Outreach Programmes serve a vital two-fold role of identifying the needs of the community and raising awareness about life skills, sexual health and rights.

RLCC has been particularly focused on raising awareness on child abuse and has been actively working with students and families to break the wall of silence and shame around this issue. We have educated hundreds of children and families on the issues of "wrong touch", and have empowered children to raise their voices and speak out. Our outreach workers have also been trained to observe signs of trauma and distress and to intervene when abuse is suspected.



Sustainability

In early 2018, (second walk) we mobilised a large-scale peaceful demonstration after the assault and murder of Zainab, an 8-year-old girl in Punjab.

Building Stronger Communities

Community is at the heart of all that we do at RLCC. We believe that for a community to be strong, there must be safe, inclusive spaces for people to come together to share ideas, discuss common concerns and connect with one another. However, in many parts of Pakistan women face obstacles to leaving their homes including gender-based violence and harassment. This can lead to feelings of isolation and depression, as women may feel trapped.

At RLCC, we wanted to create a safe space where women can feel secure and at home, where they can bring their children, exchange information and ideas, and build communities of support. In 2017, we were proud to have launched a “Chai Khana”, where women from the community can come together, meet friends and neighbours, while relaxing over a low-cost cup of tea.

No One Left Behind

At RLCC, we are committed to ensuring that everyone in the community, irrespective of their financial status, can avail of the assistance that we provide. All our programmes and services are heavily subsidised and made available at nominal cost. We also provide emotional and psychological support, as well as material support in the form of food provisions and childcare arrangements for women working in or attending our programmes.



Additionally, our outreach workers identify those with the greatest need and distribute Zakat in the form of additional subsidies, rations, schoolbooks, school fees, and other forms of support to help alleviate financial barriers and hardship.

Sustainability remains a key priority for all that we do at RLCC. Development and progress should always be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. We strive to ensure the financial sustainability of our programmes and to work in ways that are socially and environmentally conscious and responsible.



Coasters and bowls made from recycled material

Producing goods in an environmentally sustainable way, supporting all our registered workers and reusing and recycling whenever possible demonstrates our commitment to the community and country. Pollution and environmental degradation are serious problems in Shah Faisal Colony and across the world and it is our aim to help combat this. We educate our students about littering and proper sanitation. We also receive scrap materials, old newspapers and cloth from local vendors and repurpose these items into beautiful mats, bags and cushions. This helps us keep our costs down while also supporting the environment.

RLCC is also in the process of installing a reverse osmosis plant to convert groundwater into drinking water. This will reduce our reliance on water tankers and will ensure that the residents of the colony always have access to a clean drinking water supply.

At RLCC, we believe that financial sustainability is a key benchmark of resilience and of impact. Almost 70% of our development programmes are funded by internally generated revenue sources. This includes the nominal fees charged by our clinics, schools and courses, the rent received from commercial properties within the allotted area, and returns on investment from our endowment fund. We recognise that for an organisation and for individuals to be truly resilient, they must not solely depend on donors and funds. When a majority of our funds are raised through our social enterprises, we achieve self-reliance, gain credibility within the community and from donors and partners, and inspire confidence in our beneficiary community.

Whenever possible, we charge a nominal, highly subsidized fee for our clinics, schools and courses. Our experience has taught us that when individuals are asked to pay for a service, they value it more highly. However, we will waive all fees when individuals

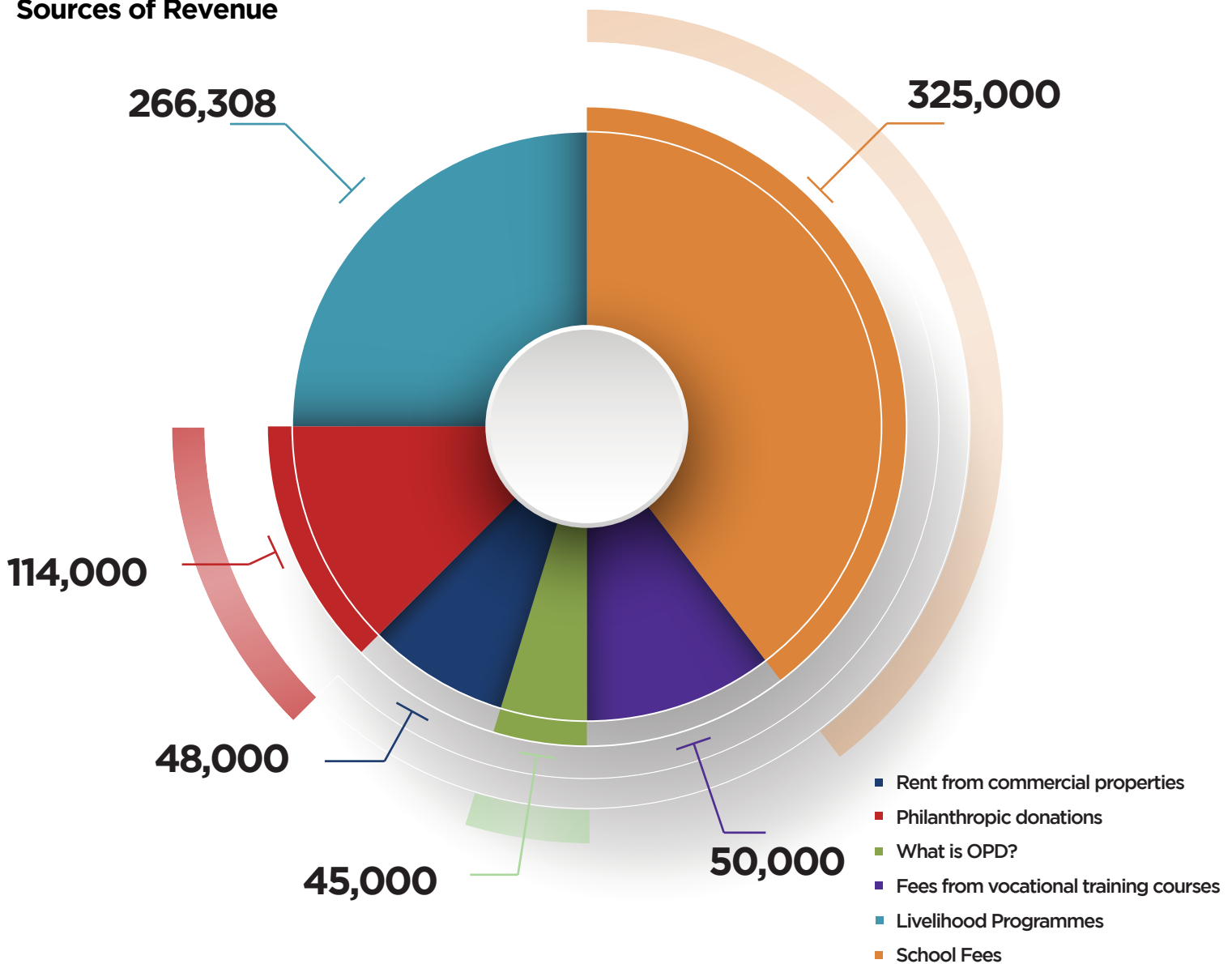
demonstrate that they are unable to pay. We aim to be inclusive and to ensure that financial hardship is not an obstacle to accessing our services.

Other Sources of Revenue

RLCC gratefully accepts donations in cash and kind from private philanthropic individuals and from our corporate partners. We receive Zakat donations and ensure that the funds are spent on Zakat-compliant activities such as food, books and medicines. Some of our donors support us by providing free services and products. For example, Mounira Ghoulam Hussain donates fresh milk to our schools, ensuring that all our students receive a glass of milk a day, which is sometimes their main source of nutrition. Other donors fund specific programmes, including our health camps and medical screenings. We appeal to our donor base for all new projects and ventures so as to maintain the endowment fund and our surplus funds.

We wish to extend our most heartfelt thanks to all of our donors and strategic partners who have allowed us to work towards fulfilling our vision. None of this would have been possible without the support we have received.

Sources of Revenue



Education

being disproportionately represented within this category. Even when educational opportunities are present, the quality of education may be lacking. Additionally, there are few avenues for adults, particularly women, to seek an education or trainings that may help empower them or confer marketable skills.

At RLCC, we employ a multifaceted, comprehensive approach towards promoting education through the following programmes:

The Ra'ana Liaquat Public School is the flagship of RLCC's education programme and one of our oldest projects. It was first established in 1954 and ran till 1972 when it was nationalised by the government. RLCC rebuilt the school in 2016 and has since expanded the years of education that are offered, the number of students that can be accommodated and the school facilities. The Ra'ana School currently extends from Playgroup to Matriculation and has over 300 students. This year, we were proud to launch our Matric programme, for which 10 students are currently enrolled.

Our goal is to provide high-quality education, extracurricular activities and a supportive learning environment for the children of Shah Faisal Colony, irrespective of their financial status. Students who are able to pay are charged a nominal fee, and fees are further discounted or waived entirely for lower income students.

A critical component to promoting education is creating safe spaces for our students and teachers that are free of abuse, sexual harassment and bullying. At The Ra'ana School, we cultivate an inclusive environment where children can focus on learning and development.

Our **Adult Education and Literacy Programme** offers courses in Urdu, English, Mathematics and Computing for the women of Shah Faisal Colony. Most of the individuals that attend these courses were not able to access education in their childhood and are functionally illiterate. Through this programme, they are able to grasp the basics of mathematics, accounting and language and develop the skills and confidence that will enable them to enter the workforce. Over the past two years, 492 women have attended our courses and 28 women are currently enrolled. Our graduates have gone on to play a more active role in managing household finances and have sought employment at RLCC and across the community.

RLCC operates regular **Teacher Training Programmes** for teachers working at The Ra'ana School and at other schools in Shah Faisal Colony. We believe that teachers are the foundation of any education system. Our programme allows us to contribute towards the professional development of teachers, to ensure the success of students at The

At RLCC, we believe that education is a fundamental human right and not a privilege. High-quality education helps empower children, build confidence and impart valuable skills and training. Educating girls and women in particular can have a direct and tangible outcome on community health and economic development outcomes.



However, there are many barriers that children face to receiving education in Pakistan. This includes inequitable access, prohibitive costs, discrimination, and gender inequalities. It is estimated that 35% of children in Pakistan are excluded from the school system, with girls

Ra'ana School and across the area and raise education standards. We are currently exploring ways of further developing this programme and launched a pilot programme in partnership with Hamdard University in August 2017.



RLCC also works with 116 schools across the area to deliver career fairs, after-school programmes, and life skills and child safety-training programmes. We invite students and teachers from across the area to attend and participate in programmes and events at the school. Over the past decade, we have established ourselves as a leader in community education and as a vital resource and support system for students, schools and teachers in Shah Faisal Colony and beyond.

Healthcare

Healthcare is one of RLCC's oldest and most established priority areas. Our community-based approach aims to ensure that the residents of Shah Faisal Colony have access to high-quality and affordable health services.

We specialise in promotive and preventive healthcare; raising awareness about hygiene, nutrition and family planning, and providing treatment, medication, screenings and immunizations.

RLCC's outreach team works with individuals and organisations to determine the community's health concerns and priorities and helps design and deliver holistic and targeted healthcare solutions. For example, we identified the need for increased awareness and treatment of mental health issues and diabetes, which we have met through our specialist clinics.

RLCC operates a primary healthcare clinic six days a week that offers extremely subsidized, high-quality care and free medication. Over the past two years, we have treated over 700 people at this clinic. When necessary, we refer individuals to our partner hospitals for more specialised treatment.

RLCC regularly conducts specialist health camps aimed at increasing awareness about specific conditions, offering screenings and diagnoses, and providing treatments. These camps are delivered in partnership with hospitals and pharmaceutical companies, which helps maximize resources and ensure that the best treatment is offered. Our outreach workers promote these services by liaising with local schools, places of worship and community centres. Over the past two years, we have conducted over 20 camps focusing on breast cancer, hepatitis, diabetes, malnutrition, mental health and tuberculosis, and have been able to help thousands in the community.

We continue to expand our services, train more health workers, and collaborate with pharmaceutical companies and hospitals to support the community. Over the past two years, we have partnered with The Recovery House to work with addiction and mental health and continue our work with Ziauddin Hospital and Sanofi Aventis to maintain health records and provide treatment and lifesaving medication.

Economic Empowerment

Women's health is one of our primary focal areas. We offer a holistic approach that includes family planning, breast cancer screenings, antenatal and postnatal care and ultrasounds. We also offer basic neonatal services including immunization, height and weight check-ups and advice about newborn care.

In 2017, we were proud to partner with the Midwifery Association of Pakistan (MAP), who's office is now housed within RLCC grounds. This alliance allows us to deliver essential healthcare and support to the women and babies of Shah Faisal Colony and to help reduce infant mortality and support maternal health. As part of this alliance, MAP will provide professional training to community midwives and will sponsor two students to study midwifery.

The Ra'ana Hospital

Even as we reach thousands in the community through our clinics and health camps, we are committed to doing more and have commenced planning for the Ra'ana Hospital. The hospital will mark the fulfilment of Begum Ra'ana's vision of a state-of-the-art medical facility located within the RLCC allotment, dedicated to provision of high-quality, affordable healthcare.

RLCC has contracted a leading architecture firm to design the Ra'ana Hospital and is currently fundraising to secure adequate resources to help us achieve the next step in our plans.



Eye camps run by



RLCC's strategic partners

RLCC's **Economic Empowerment Programme** addresses two of the most critical issues facing Shah Faisal Colony: poverty and gender discrimination. In Pakistan, women are often economically marginalized and likely to be amongst the most dependent and deprived populations. Women may lack the education and training to enter the workforce and can face barriers to market access. Traditional attitudes and beliefs also often prevent women from leaving their homes to receive training or seek work. This can compound women's dependency and exacerbates gender inequality in the workforce.

RLCC is working to bridge this gender gap by offering vocational and livelihoods training and facilitating market access. This empowers women by enabling them to generate their own income, achieve financial security and make positive life choices.

Our programme has two core elements; vocational training programmes that impart marketable skills and enable women to seek employment in the community and beyond, and our livelihoods programme which focuses on product development and sale.

Our vocational training programmes are short-term and aim to give women tangible, marketable skills and the confidence to find gainful job opportunities. RLCC has run henna, cutting and sewing and computer and English language literacy courses for 5 years and is proud to have introduced beautician courses over the past year. There are currently 222 women enrolled in all our vocational training courses, and over the past two years 1021 have received training. Our graduates have gone on to work in salons, offer beautician services at home and in their neighbourhoods and worked in schools and are able to generate an income to support their families.

RLCC also supports traditional crafts through our Livelihoods Programme. We work with women to develop and hone skills and provide materials to create high-quality products including decorative bowls, gift bags and personal and household accessories. Currently, over 200 women participate in this programme and earn a minimum of Rs. 2,000-3,000 a month. This initiative also enables women to work from their homes, at their own convenience. Most of the participants are prevented from entering a conventional work environment due to societal

pressures or family responsibilities. RLCC is mindful of the cultural attitudes and practical constraints that would otherwise bar women from earning a living, and works within these parameters to help empower them.

Our registered workers can work from their homes and are paid immediately for the items they supply. All items subsequently undergo quality checks to ensure that they meet RLCC's stringent criteria and are suitable for the market.



Teacher training

course offered

RLCC also accesses market by partnering with retail chains, exhibiting at fairs and hosting events. This ensures a continuous generation of funds to reinvest in this project and helps ensure sustainability. We are always working to develop new items to meet market needs and to seek out new retailers and sales opportunities. In the past two years, we have forged partnerships with Sanghi and Khaadi to stock our products.



Some of the products that are developed as part of our Livelihoods Programme



Nasreen's Story

RLCC is deeply indebted to Nasreen, who spearheaded our Economic Empowerment Programme.

Nasreen is an ethnic Pathan and a resident of Shah Faisal Colony. Her husband was a day labourer and on the days that he was unable to get work, she could not feed her eight children. Nasreen was driven to desperation and took the initiative to approach RLCC in 2009. She wasn't looking for a hand out but an opportunity to use her skills and resourcefulness to earn a living. Nasreen is skilled in crochet, and with RLCC's guidance and support, she developed beautiful products that we were able to sell. Nasreen began taking more orders and would work from home, juggling her work alongside family and household responsibilities. As Nasreen began to draw a regular salary, we advised her to open a bank account of her own. She was overjoyed when she first deposited money in her account!

Over the years, Nasreen has taken on a more active role at RLCC and has mentored other women with skills development and demo classes. The success of the crochet pouches that Nasreen made has led us to develop a broad range of items, to market these across the country, and to recruit more women for our Livelihoods Programme.

Awareness and Outreach

RLCC's Awareness and Outreach Programme serves as a critical link between the organisation and our beneficiary community. It allows us to be responsive to the evolving needs of the residents of Shah Faisal Colony, promote the programmes and services that we offer and offer critical life skills training.

Our outreach team works at the grassroots levels, visiting individuals and institutions within the community and provides a broad range of support. They are our frontline workers and help bring vulnerable individuals within the community to RLCC. They also give the management an accurate picture of the needs of the community and advice on the development of new programmes and initiatives.

The outreach team interfaces with our education, vocational training and health services to deliver comprehensive, holistic solutions. They raise awareness about promotive healthcare by delivering talks on nutrition, hygiene and women's health. As a direct result of our Outreach and Awareness Programmes, instances of skin diseases have declined dramatically and more women are practicing effective birth control. By raising awareness about the importance of hygiene and sanitation, our outreach team has helped reduce cases of skin infection. Outreach workers also go from house to house to distribute birth control and help women take control of their bodies. Over the past two years, the outreach team has delivered 445 talks on Breast Cancer, Hepatitis, Child Abuse, Mental Health and Diabetes at clinics, community points and places of worship. We have reached out to 38,000 individuals over a two-year period. These talks have helped change attitudes, raise awareness and improve health, education and health outcomes.

The outreach team also identifies vulnerable individuals within the community and directs them to relevant RLCC programmes. Dozens of individuals have been placed in

our vocational training programmes and have been informed of clinics. The team also assesses the evolving needs of the community and helps develop initiatives to address these needs, to better serve the community.

Our outreach workers also create awareness about child safety, sexual health and life skills under the banner of **Ehsaas-e-Zimadari**. We partner with specialized NGOs and hospitals to educate the community about critical issues and help mobilize support.

Over the years, the team has recognised the need for awareness and information around child abuse. Upon investigation, they discovered that over 70% of children in the community have experienced abuse. We have since gone to schools, clinics and places of worship to advise about "wrong touch" and have given children the confidence to speak out. Our team is trained to spot signs of trauma and will approach the child and the family to offer help. Victims of abuse are offered counselling at the RLCC Psychiatric Clinic and are given the resources and support to heal.



Life skills training

Our programme on child abuse is currently running in 55 private and state schools in Shah Faisal Town, Karachi, and other schools and organisations regularly approach us. Earlier this year, RLCC coordinated a 500-person march after an eight-year-old girl, Zainab, was brutally murdered.

Strategic Partnerships

At RLCC, we believe that if any organisation benefits and is better able to serve others, we all become stronger. Part of our mission in supporting the community is working with other organisations and institutions to help build capacity and to share our learnings.

We support 116 schools and several clinics and charities in Shah Faisal Colony to improve social, economic and health outcomes. RLCC is recognized as a thought leader and innovator in the community and as a resource for other organisations. We provide support, trainings and advice to organisations and help lift the whole community, not just develop our own brand.

RLCC is deeply indebted to all of our supporters, partners and friends who enable us to continue with our work. Most of all, we wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to the residents of Shah Faisal Colony who have given us the privilege to serve them and who teach us daily about human resilience, compassion and fortitude. Thank you for the opportunity to develop as an organisation, and as individuals.

RLCC has actively forged partnerships with commercial and non-governmental organisations that share our vision and objectives. Our many friends and strategic partners often supply us with critical inputs and resources, including medicines, information and other supplies. This allows us to harmonize resources, build on our comparative advantage and enhance our impact. Partnerships are essential in building a network of support for ourselves and for our beneficiaries.

Our esteemed partners include:

WE-NET

In Pakistan WE-NET and RLCC entered a partnership through which RLCC is able to gain market access and publicity by exhibiting at WE-NET events across the country.

MIDWIFERY ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN (MAP)

RLCC partnered with MAP in 2017 to help provide the best midwifery care for the women of Shah Faisal Colony and across the country. MAP has shifted its offices to the RLCC building and the two organisations work together to reduce maternal mortality rates and support mothers and babies.

KARACHI UNIVERSITY

In 2017/18, RLCC came into a partnership with Karachi University's prestigious Social Work department, through which eight students joined us as interns and have supported our outreach work.

HAMDARD UNIVERSITY

RLCC partnered with Hamdard University in 2017 to further develop our teacher training programmes.

GREENSTAR

Greenstar provides RLCC with contraception and other medications and has also assisted in the delivery of health clinics.

AAHUNG

Aahung is a long-term partner and associate of RLCC. Together, we raise awareness and deliver programmes on sexual health and child abuse.

DOW MEDICAL

Dow Medical has been running health camps in Shah Faisal Colony since 2011.

SANOFI AVENTIS

RLCC has been working with Sanofi Aventis since 2013 to fund our diabetes clinic.

ESSA LABS

Essa Labs has been supporting RLCC since 2011 by providing lab tests, awareness sessions and medical camps.

THE RECOVERY HOUSE

RLCC partnered with The Recovery House in 2016 to support the psychological health of our beneficiary community. Through this partnership, Recovery House provides a Psychiatrist for the mental health clinic at the RLCC clinic, twice a week with free medication and guidance.

INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Institute of Clinical Psychology supports RLCC by providing low-cost counselling and running mental health camps.

HUNAR FOUNDATION

RLCC supports the Hunar Foundation by promoting its classes and referring students to the organisation for technical training.

ZIAUDDIN HOSPITAL

RLCC health fieldworkers participate in a comprehensive training at Ziauddin Hospital. RLCC also assists the University by collecting and collating data.