

2024-2025



Gratitude

Report

What does gratitude really feel like?

From big changes to the smallest acts, we are grateful for it all.

Read to find out.



Because of you, he got stronger.

Four-year-old **Vaibhavnath** lives with his farmer parents in Anantapur. Their lives changed forever when he was diagnosed with **neuroblastoma**, a high-risk form of cancer. His parents packed their bags and travelled to **BIACH &RI Hyderabad** for treatment.

When our nutritionist **Mula Lakshmi**, first met him, he was weak, undernourished, and unable to eat by mouth. To ensure adequate nourishment, enteral feeds, that carried food directly to his stomach, was started early. We also enrolled in him in our **FoodHeals Program** to receive nutritious in-meals, monthly rations, and supplements to support his **treatment** and **recovery**.

Gradually, his energy began to return. His appetite improved, and he grew stronger. With the right nutrition and care, he was ready for surgery and a bone marrow transplant.

How did his story end? Turn to **Page 9** to find out.



No child fighting cancer should be hungry.



Much love,

Purnota Dutta Bahl
Founder & CEO
Cuddles Foundation

Dear Friend,

As we grow in scale and impact, our gratitude to you grows deeper too. This past year at Cuddles has been one filled with purpose and progress, and you've been the heart behind it all. Together, we've supported over **19,000** children and their families across more than **40** hospitals. Our nutritionists have designed thousands of personalised nutrition plans, making sure every hot meal, in-meal, monthly ration, and nutritional supplement worked toward helping a child heal better. With our core **FoodHeals™** programme running strong, our focus now turns to building an equally caring **Survivors Programme** so every little cancer warrior can catch up with their healthy peers through simple, affordable home meal plans, regular check-ins, and thoughtful guidance for school and play.

As we look ahead, we're investing in major improvements to the two pillars that make our work truly stand out in paediatric oncology nutrition. The first is our **FoodHeals™ App**, a proprietary nutrition care management platform that helps our nutritionists assess children, plan diets, track growth, and work closely with doctors in real time. The second is our **Learning Management Portal**, which keeps our nutritionists learning, growing, and sharing knowledge all year long.

Sharing what we learn with the wider medical community is key to building a future where no child in India fights cancer while malnourished. In August 2025, we co-organised a nutrition workshop at the **10th Midterm PHO CME** in Noida, bringing together leading experts in paediatric haematology and oncology.

In February 2026, we'll host the next **National Paediatric Nutrition Summit**, where hundreds of nutritionists will train, refresh their knowledge, and explore new developments. We're also proud that **BMJ Global Health** recently cited our research on the link between cancer type and undernutrition in children, proof that your support is creating global impact.

As our family of donors and well-wishers grows, we're finding more ways to connect. In 2025, we held fundraisers in **Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Pune**, and hope to meet you in more cities soon. For those who love going the extra mile with your running shoes on, we'll be at the **Tata Mumbai Marathon** in January 2026.

Thank you for believing in us and in the children we serve.
Here's to another year of healing, hope, and togetherness.



Because of you, more plates were full.

From class projects to solo superstars, our Young Heroes found joyful ways to help children with cancer eat well and heal better. Thank you for caring so much.



Shubh Mertia Jain pledged his birthday and raised ₹4,00,000.

Last year, we raised

₹ 1Cr

Meet our Young Heroes



Students in Pune organised a Christmas fair and raised ₹2,69,140



Mira Joshi ran for us at Tata Mumbai Marathon and raised ₹7,56,601

With your support

97%

of children came back after their first visit and continued with their treatment.*

81%

of patients showed an increase in their nutritional status or maintained it.

Get more insights



Why this matters?

Since 2021, we have been sharing our abstracts at the Annual SIOP (International Society of Pediatric Oncology) conferences; covering key insights into nutritional support in childhood cancer and how this support helps improve malnutrition and treatment outcomes.

What this means

Health care practitioners and other stakeholders can use this data for improving clinical care and policy-making. Our research is beginning to be recognized globally. In 2025, a BMJ Global Health review cited our finding that undernutrition was more prevalent in children with solid tumors (71.1%) compared to those with blood cancers (52.3%).

Read our abstract



*Patients who returned for a second visit or continued treatment.

We did this together.

943k+

In-meals for children
and caregivers

48k+

Nutritional Supplements
for undernourished children

65+

Nutritionists

58k

Hot Meals for children
and caregivers

22k

Ration Bundles for children +
families who were struggling
with cancer and poverty

15

states

44*

Hospitals

"During chemo my little boy had bad mouth sores. He couldn't eat and kept pulling out the feeding tube. I felt lost. Our 'dietitian ma'am' sat with us, changed the plan, started tube feeds, and showed me simple, affordable food we could manage at home. The in-meals, monthly rations and supplements saved money and brought his strength back. Today he is well-nourished and in maintenance. He wants to visit Shillong, buy a toy car, and says he'll be a police officer one day. Thank you for holding our hand."

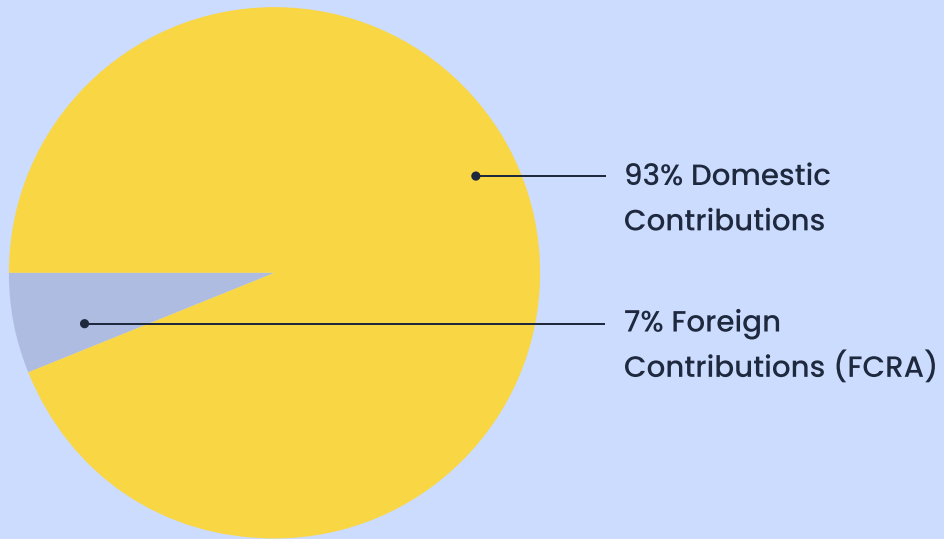
MOTHER OF A 5-YEAR-OLD KYNSAI



Total Income

₹31 Cr

The funds came from:



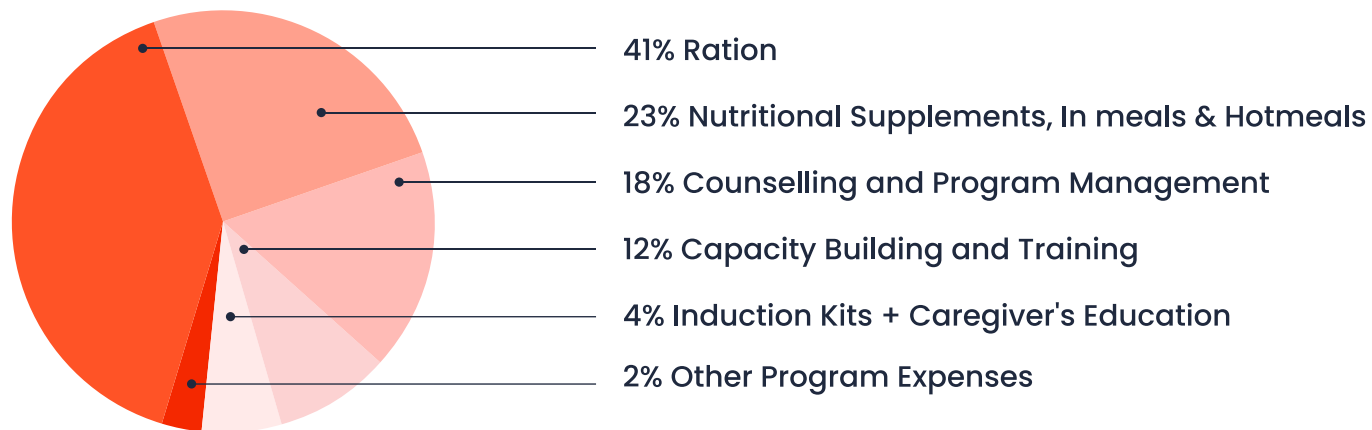
[Read full financial report](#)



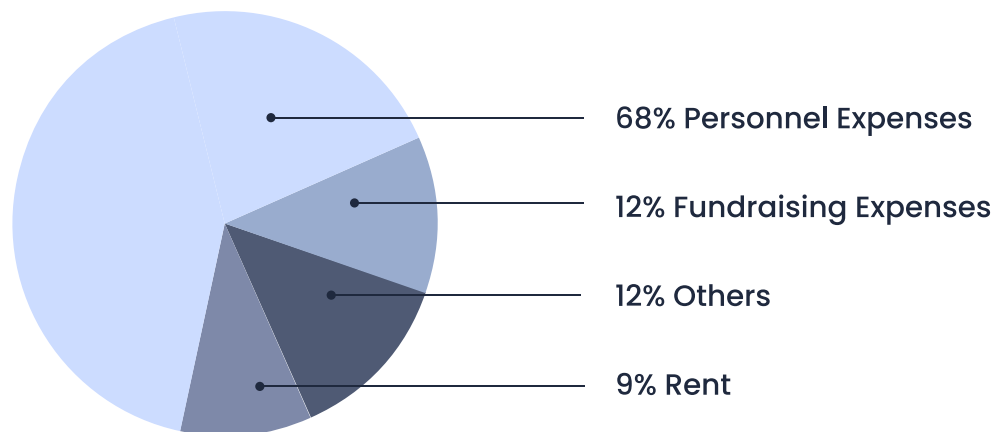
Total Expense

₹30 Cr

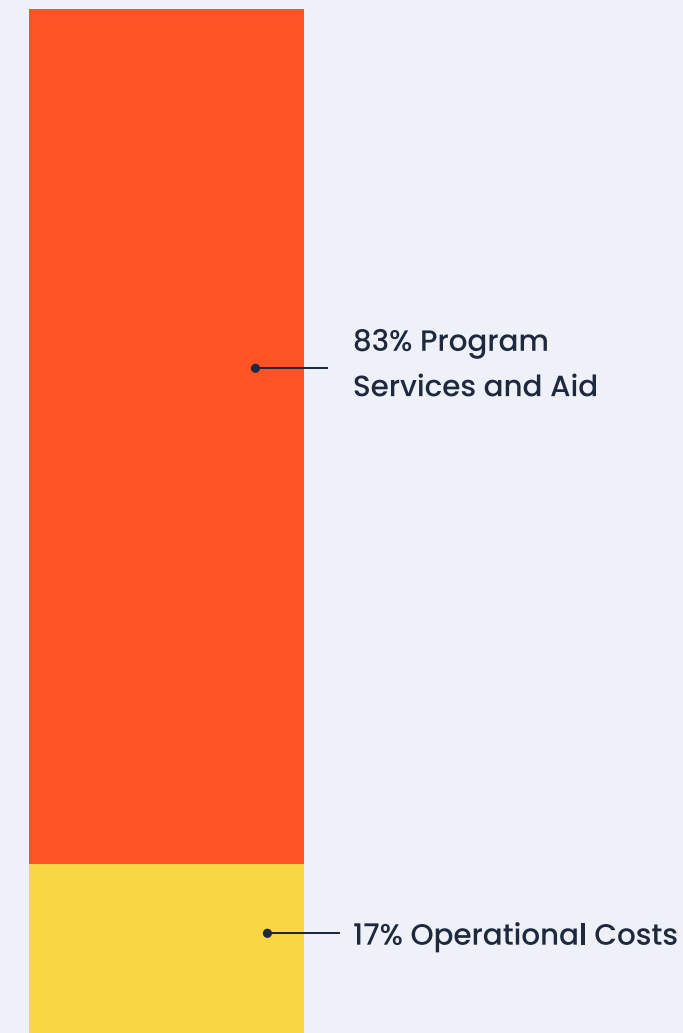
Program Services & Aid Spending Summary



Operational Spending Summary



Allocation of Expenses



You are the reason.

Always be proud of that.

“

TEJASWINI, (VAIBHAVNATH'S MUMMA), LEAVES YOU WITH A MESSAGE

“Every day we saw him get stronger. The NG feeds were the turning point. I am so grateful to the doctors and Cuddles team for guiding us so patiently.”

Today, Vaibhavnath is back home in Ananthapur. He has started school, is well nourished, and dreams of joining the Army one day. Your support gave his family courage, dignity, and the strength to dream again.

”





2024-2025

Thank you
for feeding
children and
starving cancer!

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www.cuddlesfoundation.org

