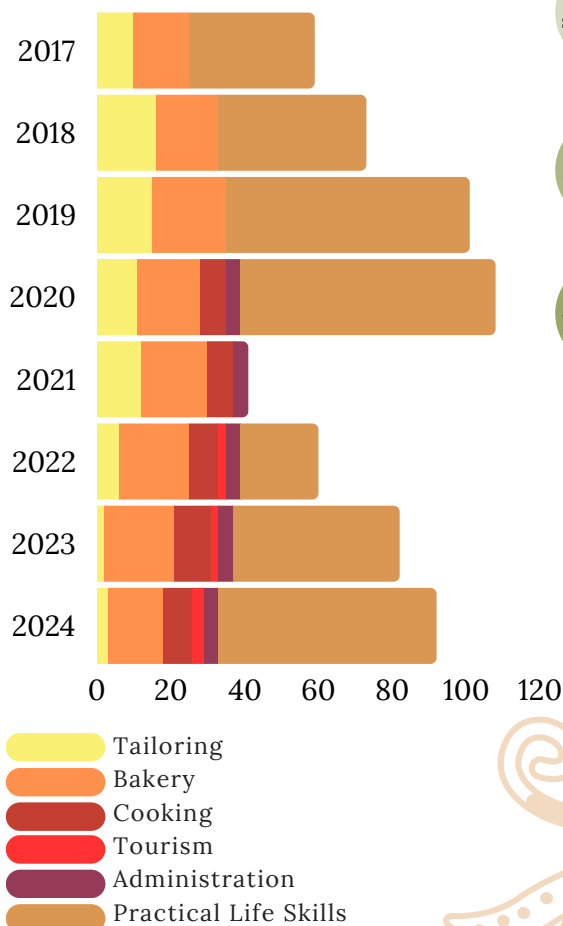


## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

The Learn For Life Empowerment Project (LFL) continues to work along three interconnected initiatives serving over 200 clients from marginalized communities:

### Vocational Training & Practical Life Skills - Participants -



152  
students

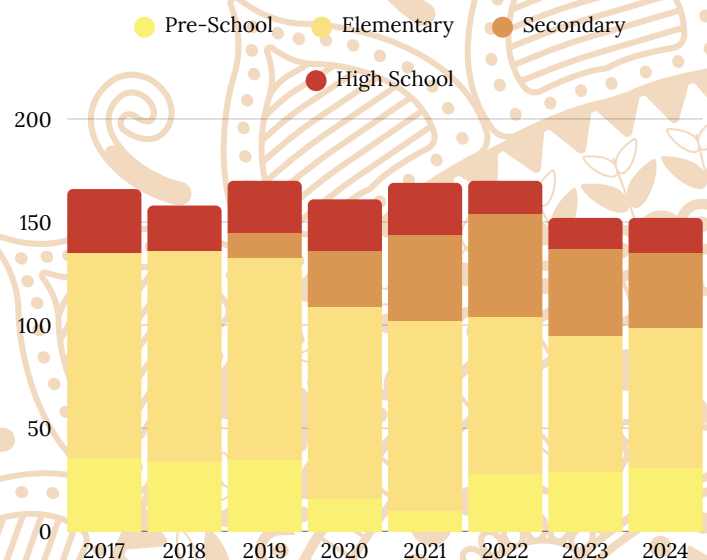
**Education** - (Early Childhood Development, primary and secondary schooling) at Badi Asha School, fee and tuition scholarships until graduation

33  
trainees

**Vocational training** - on the job training of baking, tailoring, hospitality and tourism services in our commercial outlets

59  
learners

**Practical life skills program** - training in computers and stitching for students and community members





## BADI ASHA SCHOOL

The teaching approach is rooted in research from the field of educational psychology. It draws inspiration from various educational philosophies and pedagogical models, particularly those of Montessori, Krishnamurti, and Rudolf Steiner.

As part of the shift from textbook-based instruction to learning-centered lesson planning, teachers are guided to enrich the curriculum with creative exercises, interactive teaching methods, and smartboard integration.



WE OFFER FREE*	AGE
Pre-School	4-6
Elementary School	6-14
Secondary School	15-16
Highschool Tuition	17-20

Alternative teaching methods that support diverse learning needs and foster connection, confidence, and self-worth include activities such as art, music, dance, gardening, interactive games, and open dialogue.

In 2024, with the building renovations completed, the school could focus on enhancing teaching quality.

A collaboration with Sunbeam School in Varanasi was launched, allowing monthly meetings between their students and those of Badi Asha. These sessions encouraged shared learning experiences and helped students develop social skills in diverse settings.

Teachers were also given the opportunity to visit other schools, observe different educational systems and implement their teaching skills.

This exposure aimed to inspire new approaches and broaden their teaching perspective.

These visits complemented their ongoing weekly training sessions.

\*The school follows the official NCERT English medium curriculum, and all textbooks are in line with that standard.





German language classes were introduced for students in Classes 4 and 5. The goal behind this initiative is to help young learners feel part of a larger world and to begin shaping their cognitive abilities through the structure of a new language. This early exposure may also open a path for those who, in the future, may wish to pursue vocational training with the Brown Bread Bakery.

Our gardening activities have become more organized and now serve as a model for teamwork and system-building. Teachers and students are divided into teams, working collaboratively to learn the entire gardening process. The long-term aim is for students to eventually manage a garden independently, gaining both practical and organizational skills.

To promote health and well-being, awareness sessions were conducted by a medical doctor for both students and female teachers. These important lessons focused on hygiene, the menstrual cycle, and reproductive system cancers, empowering participants with knowledge and promoting open, informed discussions.

As part of our commitment to experiential learning, the 7th-grade students once again took their annual trip to Delhi. This journey continues to be a powerful and eye-opening experience, offering exposure to a very different urban reality. Meanwhile, the rest of the students visited Sarnath, where they explored Buddhist temples and engaged with historical and spiritual perspectives outside their daily experience.

Finally, we have significantly strengthened our academic coaching program by hiring highly qualified English and Science teachers. Their expertise has already led to a noticeable improvement in the quality of teaching and learning for our coaching students.

## Break the BIAS

The renowned Asian Bridge Foundation launched a program for both staff and students aimed at promoting behavior change for gender equality. Over the past two years, the program addressed key topics such as human rights, responsibilities, gender roles and discrimination, patriarchy, masculinity, and sexuality. In 2024, the initiative continued with one-on-one meetings to help participants—especially teenagers—navigate personal challenges and difficulties. For anyone in need of further psychological or psychiatric support, we maintain a connection with a psychiatrist at the Ramakrishna Mission Hospital for professional counseling.

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## TAILORING PROJECT

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The Tailoring Project was launched in Varanasi in 2016 with the aim of empowering women through the creation of handcrafted, hand-printed, and hand-woven products, marketed under the Learn for Life label.

By gaining professional tailoring skills, women in India are empowered to enter a field traditionally dominated by men, breaking gender norms and opening new opportunities.

The atelier supports the project in multiple ways: it produces student uniforms, all school-related materials and garments for the bakery—including aprons, caps, and full baker uniforms.

In 2024, a laundry service was launched. A washing machine was purchased, and a dedicated staff member was hired to manage the operations. With support from the stitching team, the laundry now handles washing and ironing for the school, the bakery, as well as for the customers of the restaurant and guesthouse.







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## BAKING TRAINING

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The vocational training program, based on the European dual system, offers instruction in computer literacy, arithmetic and English, business training, and baking and kitchen skills. Many participants come from challenging backgrounds and gain practical skills for future employment or self-employment.

In 2024, the program reached new standards with the arrival of more motivated trainees and a highly qualified trainer dedicated to developing both practical and theoretical content. Partnerships with German bakeries were strengthened, enabling certified apprenticeships. Two German students from JNU University in Delhi completed an internship at our bakery and went for Ausbildung at our partner bakery, Nussbaumer, near Karlsruhe. In addition, it was confirmed with SES that a master baker will come in February 2025 for five weeks to train our trainers in Delhi and Varanasi and assist in setting up a vocational training institute.




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## BAKERY VARANASI

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The bakery, restaurant, and guesthouse continue to operate and improve steadily. Thanks to the generous support of Bäckerei Nussbaumer, we received several pieces of professional baking equipment—including an oven, mixer, freezer, cold store, and proofer. These were transported to Delhi and Varanasi as a CSR initiative by Schenker, significantly enhancing both product quality and working conditions. Our bakers organized a gingerbread house workshop, using the proceeds to purchase winter clothing and supplies for Badi Asha students and for those in need.






Additionally, German language classes have been introduced for trainees and staff, creating future opportunities for advanced training in Germany. In addition, staff and trainees from Varanasi are regularly traveling to Delhi for training, while the trainer from Delhi also visits Varanasi. This ongoing exchange helps maintain high standards across both locations, fostering consistency, collaboration, and shared growth within the team.

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## BAKERY DELHI

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The new location and expanded space have allowed us to bring more structure and efficiency to our bakery operations. We now manage regular deliveries, particularly to embassies, cultural centers and schools, and participated in several successful Christmas markets at the German, Swiss, and Italian embassies.

Proceeds from these sales supported our winter campaign, funding the collection and distribution of essential items for our students and people in need in both Delhi and Varanasi. We also upgraded our workshop offerings, making them more structured, skill-based, and results-oriented, with a focus on German breads, Brezel and other specialties.

Our hygiene department ensures we maintain high standards of cleanliness and safety in food production.

A highlight of the year was the visit of German Federal Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Hubertus Heil, to our Organic German Bakeshop. He participated in a Brezel-making workshop and interacted with our trainees, underscoring our mission to empower lives through vocational training and skill-building.

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### PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

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Learn for Life not only focuses on educating children but also extends its support to the broader community by offering adult basic computer classes and vocational training to former students who were unable to complete their education for various reasons.

Thanks to the ongoing support and collaboration with Labdoo, computer classes are now also available to our bakery trainees, older students at Badi Asha School, and new office staff, helping to build essential digital skills across all levels.





LEARN FOR LIFE  
ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE

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## LOOKING FORWARD

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In the coming years, our goal is to maintain the high quality of our school, bakeries, restaurant and guesthouse, while further strengthening the vocational training program. Vocational training for young people has become increasingly important, as we've seen the growing need to create real opportunities for the future of children and youth in the community. We believe that true empowerment comes from combining education with practical skills.

We sincerely thank you for your continued support. Your assistance means more now than ever and plays a vital role in helping us carry this mission forward.

