



BGD-CUP-UAG-P01 Bangladesh
Reporting Period: July to December 2018

## **Children's Uplift Program**

Budget: \$16,280. Fully funded.

## **Update:**

Our partners provide holistic support and training for women who are street based sex workers, at risk of being trafficked and survivors of sexual trafficking. Their vision is to see women and their children who have been victims of exploitation and/or are living in street situations develop holistically, help each other and return to society.

This project assists with the expenses of running a hostel for at-risk girls. These girls were living on the streets prior to contact with our partner. At the hostel, the girls are able to complete their schooling and are provided with a caring and supportive environment in which to live.



There are now 12 girls living at the hostel who are enrolled for school in 2019. Some have been living there for up to 5 years and others have transitioned to the hostel during this six-month period. One's girl's mother died and she became an orphan while two girls were abandoned when their mother went overseas for work. A further two girls came from living on the streets and a final girl was sent to the hostel because she experienced child exploitation in a garments factory and was at high risk of child marriage. These girls are all aged between 8 and 10 years old; they have not received any education and so need a lot of support learning general life skills.

Each of the girls has a unique story and past history but all of them are traumatised and are now being cared for and nurtured through this program. When Sarah\* came to the hostel she shared with the hostel mother that it was the first time she had ever slept on a bed. She is eight years old and has lived on the streets with her parents since birth. Sarah is thriving in her new environment. When Mia's mum died suddenly from kidney failure, Mia was lovingly supported by staff and the girls at the hostel and is in a stable situation where she can continue to be nurtured.

Thank you for your part in providing a loving environment to support the physical, emotional and academic development of these 12 vulnerable girls.

