



## **Outcome Evaluation of Delhi Food Processing Unit**

Project: Delhi, India

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### **Program Background:**

The concept of Sanskar food processing unit in Allahabad under Delhi project was initiated in 2009 when mothers received training on food processing for 90 days from a government department. The food processing unit was established in 2010 with 8 mothers. An initiative that started with Indian Rs. 500 is now producing 1800 boxes of pickles, jams, jelly, and sauces twice a year. Other Unbound families also seem to be benefiting from this food processing unit as more and more raw materials and vegetables for pickle making are purchased from the families that are involved in farming. The initially trained 8 mothers are now looking to disperse their skills and knowledge to other mothers in the communities by giving training every year in the summer and including other mothers to the unit as partners as well. At the moment, 15 mothers are working on the unit in production as well as training others.

### **Purpose of the Evaluation:**

- To understand the socio-economic status of the mothers involved in food processing unit and the impact it is having on other mothers in the community.

### **Methods:**

- Survey of participating mothers
- Review of Food Processing Unit financial records
- Focus group discussions with 4 groups with 5 to 6 mothers in each group.

### **Key Findings and Conclusions:**

- All the mothers reported an upliftment in their financial status after working in the unit.
- All the mothers reported increase in self-confidence, enhancement in their skill levels, and increased socialization as the most important changes they have seen in themselves.
- 66% of the mothers report to be working more independently and feeling a sense of increase responsibility and control through their work in food processing unit.
- Half of the participants shared that the decisions in the household are now being made jointly by both husband and wife. All the mothers reported that they feel their families and communities recognize and interact with them better now.
- Review of project records showed that between 2012 and 2017, total 130 mothers have been trained for food processing by other already trained mothers
- The focus group discussions with other mothers in the community highlighted that the primary motivation for them to take this training was to increase their skill set.
- They also expressed that in addition to technical knowledge, increase in self-esteem and self-confidence was a result of this interaction with other mothers. .

### **Learnings and Report Recommendations:**

- The review of their financial records showed rooms for improvement in how the financial and administrative expenses were being tracked. The project plans to share some simple yet credible formats to ensure there is financial accuracy and transparency.
- More mothers can be trained and invited to join the food processing unit based on the increasing demands for their products as well as interest shown by the trained mothers. At the moment, although the profits seem to be on an increasing trend, sales is on decline.
- Discussion regarding how to best utilize the findings from different methods so as to answer the key evaluation questions for future evaluations was done within the evaluation team.
- Recommendation on sharing the evaluation and its findings with key stakeholders to get their inputs was also provided.