Annual Report
2023-2024

Empowering Voices, Transforming Communities



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About
Basera Samajik Sansthan



Basera Samajik Sansthan (BSS) is a community-based nonprofit committed to social justice and health equity for marginalized individuals across Delhi NCR and Gautam Buddha Nagar. Since our founding in 2006, we have focused on HIV prevention, sexual health, and the protection of LGBTQ rights—serving sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender persons, hijras, and people living with HIV.

Through grassroots outreach, peer-led education, psychosocial support, capacity-building workshops, and advocacy, we empower underserved communities and help facilitate social entitlements. BSS sustains its work through a mix of government grants, CSR partnerships, international donors, and community-driven fundraising. Collaborative at its core, BSS partners with organizations like UPSACS, Alliance India, The Humsafar Trust, MAMTA-HIMC, and the Asia Pacific Transgender Network. Together, we strive to ensure dignity, inclusion, and sustainable solutions for those we serve.

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History of Basera Samajik Sansthan



Basera Samajik Sansthan (BSS) was established in 2006 as a grassroots initiative in response to the growing HIV epidemic among marginalized communities in Gautam Buddha Nagar. From its early days, BSS was led by community members and focused on outreach for men who have sex with men and hijras, offering HIV testing, preventive education, and counseling.

By 2011, BSS expanded to Noida and established a presence across Delhi NCR, building strategic alliances with India HIV/AIDS Alliance and other partners under projects such as Pehchan, Wajood, and Prayas. These collaborations catalyzed both capacity building and diversified services, including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health programs for MSM and transgender persons.

Through the years, BSS became known for documenting gender-based violence and advocating for social change. During the COVID-19 pandemic, BSS swiftly partnered with the Asia Pacific Transgender Network to deliver emergency relief. Now, after nearly two decades, BSS is recognized as a leader in advancing LGBTQ rights, promoting anti-discrimination legislation, and ensuring inclusive welfare access for marginalized groups.

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Introduction to the Annual Report 2023–24

The year 2023–24 was a transformative period for Basera Samajik Sansthan, marked by meaningful growth, enhanced collaboration, and new challenges. Our organization further expanded its reach, diversified initiatives, and deepened its impact across marginalized LGBTQ and allied communities in Delhi NCR and Gautam Buddha Nagar.

Throughout the year, BSS strengthened partnerships, refined health and social service delivery, and launched innovative projects in response to emerging needs. Our collective resilience enabled us to adapt to changes in staff capacity and respond to significant external events, ensuring continuous support to key populations.

This report presents a comprehensive overview of the year's key achievements, stakeholder voices, program milestones, and lessons learnedfrom April 2023 to March 2024, underscoring our enduring commitment to equity and inclusion.





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Flagship Initiatives: Pehchan, Sabrang, Connect, Prayas & Wajood

Basera Samajik Sansthan's journey has been marked by several impactful projects advancing the welfare and rights of marginalized communities.

Pehchan focused on strengthening MSM, transgender, and hijra-led community organizations to deliver holistic, stigma-free HIV prevention and sexual and reproductive health services across 17 states.

Sabrang pioneered digital outreach through a mobile app, empowering community members with education, free health consultancy, and accessible support via smart technology.

Connect built regional and national advocacy networks, hosting LOK PANCHAYATS and creating e-resources to amplify the voices and rights of sexual minorities.

Prayas championed PrEP awareness and accessibility for transgender and hijra communities, training 'PrEP Champions' and collaborating on national policy for preventive treatment.

Wajood advanced rights-based HIV prevention, GBV mitigation, and empowerment for transgender and hijra individuals through extensive outreach, clinical partnerships, crisis response, and sensitization work.

Together, these initiatives reflect BSS's core mission—championing inclusion, empowering community leadership, and forging sustainable, rights-based approaches to health and social justice.

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Targeted Intervention-UPSACS

Since May 16, 2022, Basera Samajik Sansthan has collaborated with the Uttar Pradesh AIDS Control Society (UPSACS) to deliver targeted HIV-prevention services across Gautam Buddh Nagar. In the 2023–24 financial year, the project has scaled to full operational strength, supporting 1000 high-risk groups, 300 female sex workers (FSWs),200 Female SPA workers, 250 men who have sex with men (MSMs), and 250 Transgender population, through rigorous peer mapping and outreach. Weekly group discussions and monthly community events foster trust and facilitate demand generation, while quarterly mobile health camps provide vital screenings, HIV testing, STI diagnostics, blood pressure, and metabolic health checks—and immediate linkage to care.

Building on these achievements, UPSACS has allocated additional targets and, for the first time in its history, endorsed a Female Sex Worker (SPA) intervention. Basera pioneered this SPA model in Uttar Pradesh, HIV prevention counselling, and adherence support alongside core HIV services. In 2023–24,

As the first CBO to implement Female SPA in the state, Basera is demonstrating how community-led, gender-sensitive frameworks can deepen service uptake, foster resilience, and drive measurable reductions in HIV transmission among key populations

Particulars	Target	Acheveiment
New Registration	1000	601
Total No. Counselling	1006	2487
HIV Screenings	1006	1348
Syphilis testing	1006	1461
TB Screenings	1006	2487
Total RMC done	1006	1968
Total Condom distribution	478276	141577
Total Found positive-HIV	N/A	18
Linked with ART	N/A	16
Total Syphilis positive	N/A	11
Treatment provided	11	11





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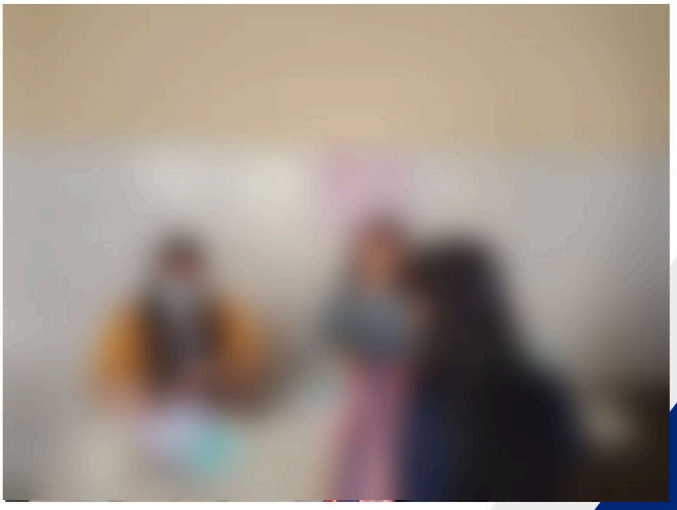
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CBM -Tool (AISA PACIFIC TRANSGEDER NETWORK)

During 2023–24, Basera Samajik Sansthan piloted a three-month Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) assessment in partnership with the Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN). Utilizing APTN's CBM tool and a lean staffing model, the project systematically evaluated the accessibility, quality, and responsiveness of core health and social services for transgender persons, transwomen, and people living with HIV in Gautam Budh Nagar. Field teams mapped and engaged key populations to gather real-time feedback on six critical service domains: mental health care, HIV prevention and treatment, STI management, TB screening and therapy, social entitlement services, and welfare scheme delivery.

The assessment revealed both strengths, such as high uptake of ART services and proactive welfare case management, and gaps in mental health provision, documentation barriers for social entitlements, and inconsistencies in STI protocols. Insights from the CBM exercise informed targeted advocacy with local health authorities to address structural bottlenecks, refine referral pathways, and enhance community trust. By demonstrating the practicality and impact of CBM at the grassroots, Basera reinforced its commitment to evidence-driven programming and laid the groundwork for scaling this participatory monitoring framework across other districts.





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Current ongoing projects

"ISRG"- Indian Strategic Resource Grant (Women Fund Asia)

During the financial year (February 23 to March 24), Basera Samajik Sansthan implemented the Saksham project across Noida, Greater Noida, and Ghaziabad with a grant from Women's Fund Asia under the project "ISRG"- Indian Strategic Resource Grant.

Anchored on three strategic pillars socioeconomic empowerment, enabling environments, and advocacy- the initiative commenced with a comprehensive baseline assessment and community mapping exercise to tailor district-specific interventions and identify local leaders. Under socioeconomic empowerment, quarterly engagement meetings with 30–40 transgender and gender-diverse participants facilitated targeted skill-development courses, entrepreneurship support, and corporate internships. To foster enabling environments, bi-monthly sensitization workshops were convened, and healthcare providers, while a dedicated Crisis Response Cell, documented and mitigated incidents of violence and discrimination in real time.

The advocacy pillar featured an annual forum engaging over 50 policymakers and community experts, alongside mass sensitization events and the production of gender-inclusive IEC materials to destigmatize healthcare access. Capacity-building workshops held each quarter trained more than 50 second-line leaders in advocacy, crisis mitigation, and organizational skills, and two self-help groups of five to ten members each were formalized to sustain savings, entrepreneurship, and peer support networks.

A robust monitoring and evaluation framework incorporating midline and endline surveys enabled data-driven course corrections and demonstrated measurable improvements in participants' economic resilience, legal identity documentation, and psychosocial well-being. Building on these successes, Basera will scale its self-help group model, deepen partnerships with local authorities, and develop digital tools to sustain inclusive service delivery and amplify community voices.





Project "SASHAKT"-

During FY 2023–24, Basera Samajik Sansthan piloted a dynamic street-theatre initiative to drive social awareness and community engagement across Gautam Buddha Nagar and Delhi NCR.

Twenty volunteers underwent intensive training in acting, script interpretation, improvisation, and public speaking, alongside in-depth sessions on gender equality, environmental conservation, health promotion, and education rights. Working closely with Basera's mentors, the cohort co-developed compelling scripts featuring relatable characters and thought-provoking dialogue. Over the year, they staged over 30 outdoor performances in high footfall zones—markets, transport hubs, and community gatherings—leveraging humor and emotion to captivate diverse audiences.

Each enactment was followed by facilitated discussions, Q&A sessions, and interactive activities that invited community members, local authorities, and students to reflect on systemic biases, challenge stereotypes, and identify actionable solutions. The street-plays generated measurable shifts in public attitudes, with post-performance surveys indicating a 60 percent increase in audience awareness of key social issues and a 45 percent rise in expressed willingness to volunteer or advocate for change. By embedding participatory dialogue into each performance, Basera not only deepened trust between marginalized groups and local stakeholders but also built a sustainable cadre of citizen-activists equipped to drive inclusive, rights-based transformation in their communities.

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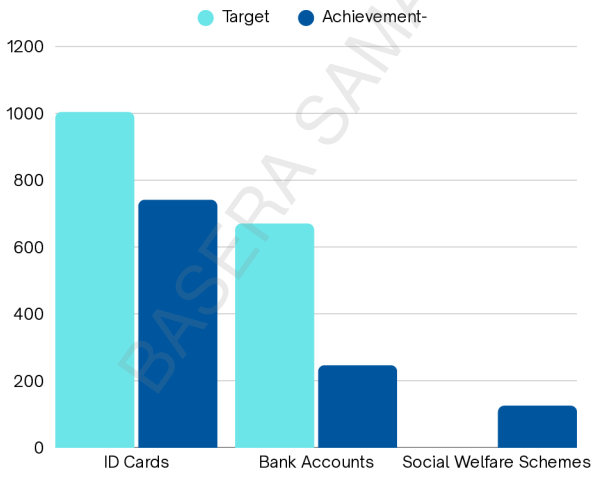
"KP GRANT -C-19RM " – GFATM

During the 2023–24 fiscal year, Basera Samajik Sansthan, acting as a Sub-Sub Recipient under SAATHII's COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) grant, partnered with The Humsafar Trust to enhance social protection and financial inclusion for transgender persons and men who have sex with men across two operational units Gautam Budh Nagar (Unit 1) and Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh (Unit 2).

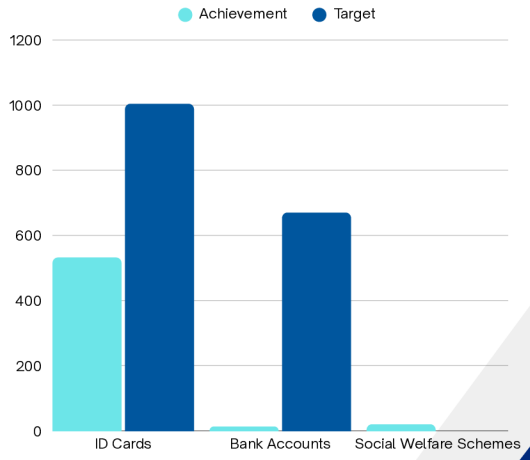
Basera recruited and trained 80 Community Facilitators to conduct peer-led outreach and guide beneficiaries through the application processes for essential identity documents and bank accounts.

The project is entitled to deliver 1,004 identity cards, including Aadhaar, Voter ID, Transgender Identity, and Ration Cards, and facilitate to opening of 670 bank accounts under schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Man Jan-Dhan Yojana, nationalized and private banks, and Post Office Savings. Supported by robust technical assistance, monthly monitoring reviews, and timely programmatic and financial reporting, these interventions significantly improved access to social welfare services and contributed to reducing HIV vulnerability among targeted key populations

Service Delivery Unit-1



Service Delivery Unit-2



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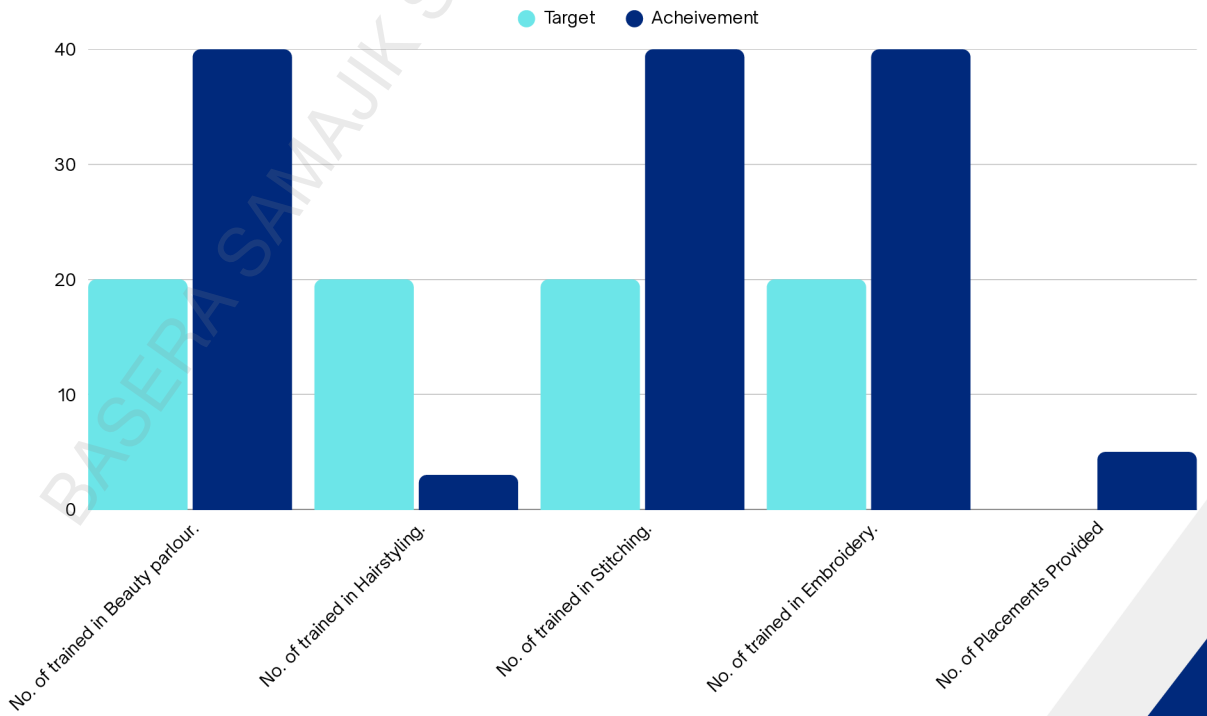
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"PAHAL -Met Life

During FY 2023–24, Basera Samajik Sansthan implemented the PAHAL project, a structured six-month skill development initiative in partnership with MET LIFE India under its CSR program. Operating in Noida, Uttar Pradesh,

PAHAL enrolled 80 marginalized individuals, including transgender persons, adolescent girls, and women facing socio-economic exclusion. The curriculum combines comprehensive hands-on training in beauty parlour services (hair styling, makeup, beauty care, and stitching and embroidery skills) alongside foundational modules in fashion design. Robust complementary workshops in customer service, marketing, business planning, and financial literacy equipped participants with the entrepreneurial competencies necessary for micro-enterprises or wage employment.

Basera fostered a safe, inclusive environment, supported by monthly assessments and combined technical and psychosocial guidance. Pre- and post-training assessments tracked improvements in technical proficiency and self-confidence. A capstone assessment and guided internships with local salons and tailoring units consolidated participants' skills, effectively bridging the gap between training and practical employment. The project is poised to contribute to stable livelihoods and enhanced self-esteem among beneficiaries. PAHAL exemplifies Basera Samajik Sansthan's commitment to transforming lives by empowering individuals to thrive with dignity and economic independence in a more equitable society.



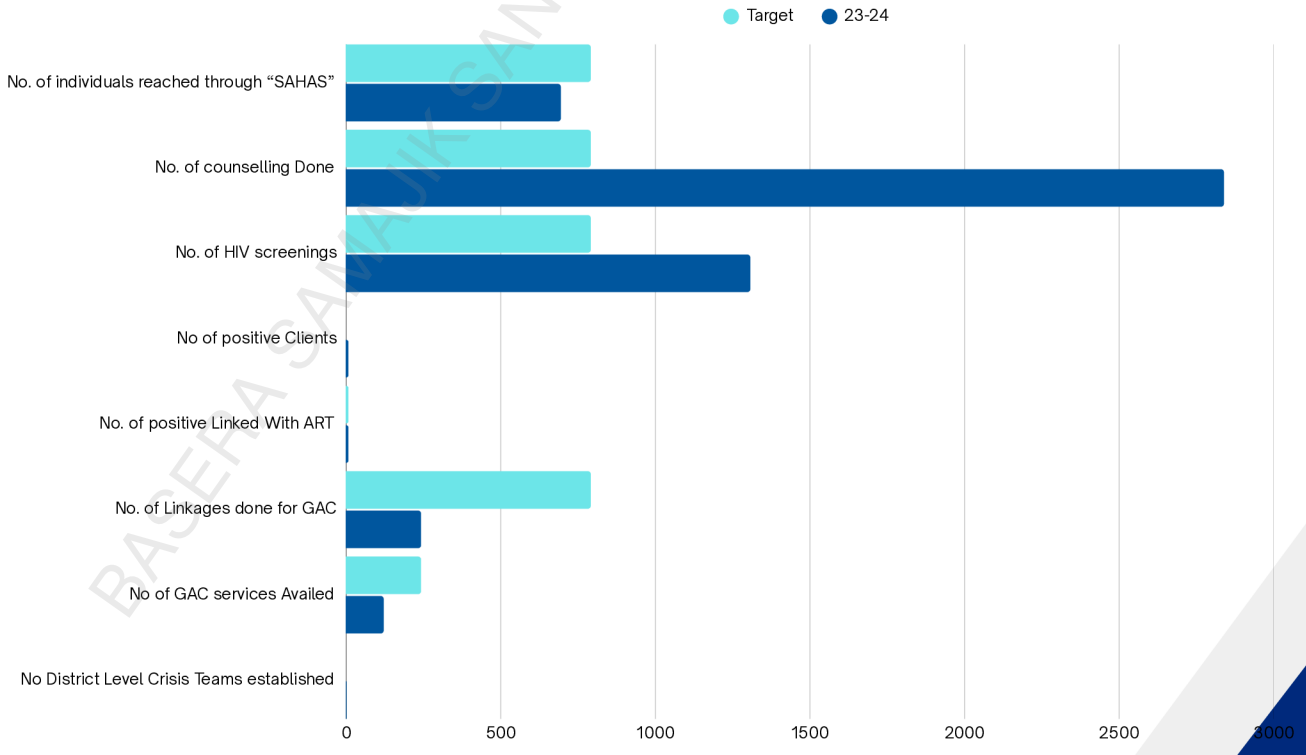
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Project “SAHAS”- Azim Premji

During FY 2023–24, Basera Samajik Sansthan launched Project SAHAS, a three-year, Azim Premji Foundation–funded collaboration with India HIV Alliance, across ten sites in partnership with seven community-based organizations. Anchored in a rights-based framework, SAHAS aims to establish stigma-free, inclusive environments for transgender and Hijra communities by piloting scalable, community-led service models; empowering individuals to drive policy reforms in health, social welfare, and economic inclusion; and strengthening the leadership and operational capacities of trans-led CBOs.

Over the year, the Basera SAHAS team convened sensitization workshops, community sabhas, health camps, and social entitlement fairs to expand access to holistic care, legal identity documentation, and welfare schemes. Crisis response team meetings and day-care shelter consultations addressed emergency support and psychosocial needs. The project exceeded its target by co-hosting three State Transgender Welfare Board reviews (versus two planned) with the UP TG Welfare Board and conducted two Community Advisory Board meetings to incorporate grassroots feedback. Complementary advocacy sessions with law enforcement sensitized frontline officers to gender diversity and rights protection.
By integrating participatory governance forums, mobile outreach, and strategic advocacy, SAHAS has catalyzed systemic shifts in policy and practice. Basera Samajik Sansthan will build on these achievements to deepen service integration, policy engagement, and CBO resilience through 2026.



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Reflections, Challenges, and The Way Forward

The year 2023–24 provided Basera Samajik Sansthan with valuable lessons amid both achievement and adversity. We deepened capacities through resilience, particularly while responding to pandemic-related disruptions and community-specific challenges noted in the Wajood project—such as navigating bureaucratic hurdles, documentation issues, and resource limitations. The COVID-19 crisis tested our flexibility, but rapid partnerships with networks like the Asia Pacific Transgender Network enabled emergency support and the continuity of core services.

We learned that building trust, streamlining referral systems, and adapting outreach approaches are crucial for sustained impact. Despite facing constraints with volunteer recruitment and systemic barriers to social entitlements, our commitment to evidence-informed advocacy and inclusive programming only grew stronger.

Looking ahead to 2024, Basera reaffirms its focus on collaborative innovation, policy advocacy, and empowering community leaders. Strengthened by experience, we advance with renewed optimism to promote dignity, health, and equality for all marginalized communities we serve.

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Conclusion

During FY 2023-24, Basera Samajik Sansthan delivered integrated health, social, and economic interventions across Delhi NCR and Gautam Buddha Nagar. Through flagship initiatives Pehchan, Sabrang, Prayas, Wajood, and SAHAS and partnerships with UPSACS, GFATM, APTN, and Women's Fund Asia, the organization reached over 7,000 beneficiaries.

Targeted interventions produced more than 1,000 HIV screenings, 1,300 syphilis tests, and the distribution of 140,000 condoms. Service Delivery Units facilitated identity documentation and financial inclusion for over 1,600 individuals, while vocational programs empowered 80 marginalized participants with employable skills. Street theatre performances engaged thousands, generating a 60 percent increase in public awareness and fostering a new cadre of citizen-activists.

Building on these achievements, Basera will scale community-based monitoring across districts, expand digital outreach, and intensify policy advocacy for transgender-inclusive state health schemes and corporate DEI frameworks. Future priorities include strengthening self-help group networks for socioeconomic resilience, integrating mental health and psychosocial support with referral systems, and forging new partnerships with government and private stakeholders.

Leveraging data insights, participatory governance forums, and youth leadership, Basera aims to galvanize broader social coalitions and drive evidence-informed reforms. With an unwavering commitment to inclusivity and innovation, the organization is poised to catalyze systemic change and empower marginalized voices throughout 2023-24.

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