



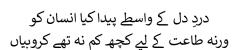
# **Annual Report 2024**

# Dream Children Rehabilitation and Autism Centre Multan, Pakistan (2016)

A Project of Non- Profit Organization Peelu Registered (Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860) Accredited By PCP (Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy)

# **Message of Founding President**

In Pakistan, the issue of disability among the small kids is growing day by day, which is not properly addressed at any level. At our Center, we strive every day to unlock the unique potential of each individual we serve—providing not only specialized therapies and education, but dignity, joy, and belonging. With your partnership, we envision a future where no one is defined by limitations, and every child with Autism, Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome has access to transformative opportunities. We invite you to stand with us as champions of possibility and progress.





Shaista Bano Founding President

#### **Introduction of Peelu Organization**

Drawn from the soulful verses of Khawaja Ghulam Fareed—Saint of Southern Punjab—the word Peelu carries more than meaning; it carries longing. In his mystical poetry, it became a symbol of divine love, unity, and peace, echoing through time as a whisper of harmony between the soul and the Creator. The theme appears in the following line:

At this retreat, may Peelu guide each heart toward stillness, each spirit toward light. We liken Peelu to our Dream Children—souls entrusted to us by the Divine— just as Peelu symbolizes spiritual yearning, these children reflect our sacred duty to love, uplift, and guide them towards the light—it's a nurturing call for compassion and unity of a believing community.

#### **Location of Centre: Multan, the City of Saints**

Multan, the soul of Punjab, breathes with the fragrance of centuries past. Sanctified by mystic Saints whose shrines grace every corner, it echoes with the whispers of devotion and timeless wisdom. Resting by the River Chenab's eastern bank, this city—cradle of history for over five millennia—stands as a luminous beacon of faith, culture, and commerce with a population nearing six million.

#### **Inauguration Ceremony (April 30, 2016)**

In the heart of Southern Punjab, we began with six remarkable children—two each with Autism, Down Syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy. Guided by a devoted female pediatrician (our board member), friends, family and helping staff, our mission was fueled by Allah's grace and ten generous donors who believed in our dream.

Today, we serve 75 registered children, with many more awaiting their turn. With pride and gratitude, we hold the distinction of launching the first rehabilitation and autism center in Southern Punjab—a place where hope grows and healing begins. Our donors are also growing around the country and abroad.







# **Main Areas of Focus**



Cerebral Palsy



Autism Spectrum Disorder



Down Syndrome

# <u>Vision</u>

Empowering them for their self-sustenance and income generation with a community acceptance in a dignified way.

# **Mission**

To make them a productive and independent members of society and to reintegrate them with Mainstream School.

# **Certificates & Achievements**



Registration Certificate



Certification from Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy



Certification from Punjab Charity Commission

#### Global Prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy & Down Syndrome

#### 1. Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Prevalence: According to a meta-analysis, 0.77% of children globally are diagnosed with ASD with boys comprising 1.14% of this group (Isaac et. al., 2025)
- Race: White children have a 2.4% prevalence of autism, while Black and Hispanic children have higher rates at 2.9% and 3.2%, respectively.

#### 2. Cerebral Palsy

• Globally, approximately 17 million people have CP while the mortality rate is 2.9 deaths/1000 person-years in individuals with CP (Kim et. al., 2019).

#### 3. Down Syndrome

• The Center for Disease Control reported that Down syndrome is the most common chromosomal disorder, with an incidence of 1 in 700 births (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020).

#### <u>Prevalence of Autism, Cerebral Palsy & Down Syndrome in Pakistan</u>

#### **Autism Spectrum Disorder:**

• There is no reliable data on the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in Pakistan, but estimates suggest that over 350,000 children in the country are affected.

#### **Prevalence of Autism in South Punjab:**

- In Pakistan, families of children with ASD encounter numerous hurdles in accessing appropriate healthcare services.
- The journey of seeking healthcare for a child with ASD is often fraught with obstacles. It ranges from the limited availability of specialized professionals to the societal stigma surrounding neurodevelopment disorders
- Due to a lack of awareness, taboos, stereotypes, lack of resources and expertise in diagnosis, most of the children with ASD remain undiagnosed specifically in South Punjab with no statistical data available.

#### **Cerebral Palsy:**

• In developing countries, the average prevalence rate of CP is 2.5/1000 live births, ranging from 1 to 6/1000 livebirths (Afzal et al., 2014; Bangash. et al. 2014).

#### **Down Syndrome:**

 According to research study, 1 in 300 babies in Pakistan are diagnosed with Down syndrome (Gustavson, 2005)

#### **Disability In Pakistan**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), one billion people in the world are living with some form of disability. This number is expected to rise to 2 billion by 2050.

The National Policy 2000 defined disability as "The inability to carry out a normally performed action".

According to researches, up to 27 million people in Pakistan living with some form of disability (Razzaq & Rathore, 2020).

n the record, 2% of the Pakistani population is suffering from several disabilities age group of (0-14 years) (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics).

#### **Impact Of Disability in Pakistan**

- Health: In Pakistan, 62% of men with disability and 87% of women with disability are financially dependent on their families and relatives. 17 million persons with disability in Pakistan does not have access to wheelchairs, spectacles, hearing aids and health care services.
- Education: In addition, disability is considered as stigma due to which they use to hide such children and don't allow them to get an education (Rohwedder, 2017). According to researches, up to 27 million people in Pakistan living with some form of disability (Razzaq & Rathore, 2020). The Persons with Disability PWD face mobility barriers and sociocultural discrimination in the community. They are still not part of the mainstream society and have difficulty accessing healthcare services.
- **Employment**: In Pakistan, PWDs are dependent on their families for the fulfillment of their different needs. Owing to this dependency PWDs consider themselves as burden on their families. Resultantly this dependency leads to loss of respect and honor and they are not treated properly (Ali, 2007).

#### What is the role of Peelu Organization to mitigate these challenges and barriers?

By identifying the barriers for children with special needs encounter from the initial stages of seeking a diagnosis to accessing ongoing interventions and support services, we took an initiative of providing awareness and psychoeducation to parents, access to diagnosis and executing all the intervention therapies under one roof meeting the needs of the children with Autism, Down Syndrome and Cerebral Palsy with our limited resources.

#### **Outcome of Our Dream Children Rehabilitation & Autism Center**

- ❖ Total number of students enrolled up till 2025 in DCRAC = 425
- ❖ 150 Autistic children have been trained successfully up till now to join the Mainstream or Special Education Schools.
- Other disabled children successfully trained for Mainstream Schools = 70
- ❖ Intellectual Disabled (ID) children, unable to join School are trained for Daily Living Skills = 90
- Students switched to vocational training = 20
- Students left without completing their training = 20
- Students under training (2025) = 75 (49 boys; 26 girls)

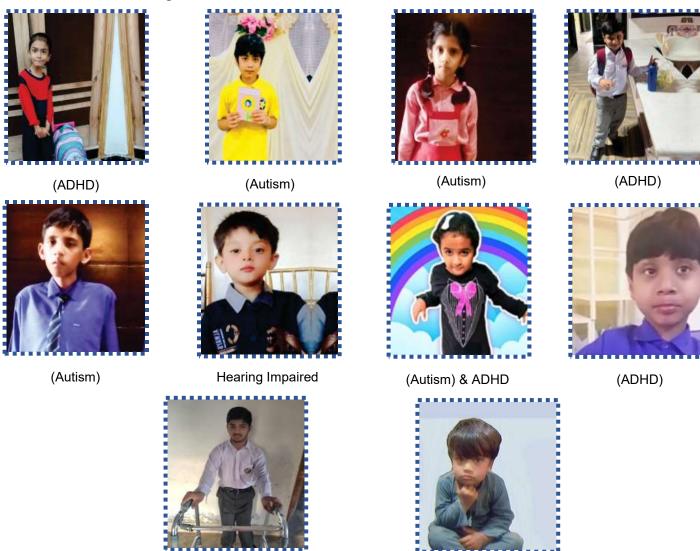


# **Our Success Stories**

Children who have been promoted to the mainstream or special educational schools after the successful implementation of the required intervention therapies at our Center.

Indicators of measuring success:

- 1. Joining Mainstream or Special Education School
- 2. Achieving developmental Milestones
- 3. Learning daily living skills to become independent as much as possible
- 5. Developing communication skills
- 6. Behavioral management



Down Syndrome

Cerebral Palsy

# **Future Plans**

- 1. Cost of building = 70 million PKR
- 2. Two High-roof Vans = 20 million PKR
- 3. Start of evening paid program for center sustainability
- 4. Increase the number of beneficiaries with addition in infrastructure

# **Bank Account Detail**

Bank: Allied Bank Limited (ABL)

Branch code: 0926

Title: Peelu Organization

IBAN: PK28ABPA0010047652290011

#### Accounts 2024



"Join hands for the noble cause"