



# RESULTS REPORT

## 2004-2022







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# Background

**Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners (CWP) was notified by the Government of Sindh in 2004 under the Chairpersonship of Justice (R) Nasir Aslam Zahid and has been provided statutory footing under section 55 of the Sindh Prisons and Corrections Services Act 2019 .**

**The Committee provides free legal aid and representation to underprivileged under-trial prisoners (UTPs) implicated in petty offenses in 24 prisons across the province of Sindh, Pakistan.**

The Committee's work is undertaken under the Legal Aid Office project (CWP-LAO) in the following thematic areas:

## Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance



Connecting under-trial prisoners to providers of justice to ensure right to fair trial and representation before the court.



## Legal Awareness and Legal Empowerment

Enabling under-trial prisoners to access protections and rights through legal empowerment

## Welfare and Rehabilitation



Working for the welfare of juvenile prisoners, women prisoners and children living with their mothers in prisons in the areas of education, health rehabilitation and livelihood support



## Research and Policy Advocacy

Conducting research, reviewing laws, rules, regulations and policies related to prisoners and prisons alongside suggesting repeal, amendment or new legislation

# Geographic Footprint

Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners (CWP) provides legal representation in 49 judicial districts across Sindh through a team of 38 lawyers.

## LARKANA

House# 170, Sachal Sarmast Colony, Near Khuhra Sport Complex Larkana.  
Phone: 074-4756029.

## SHAHEED BENAZIRABAD OFFICE

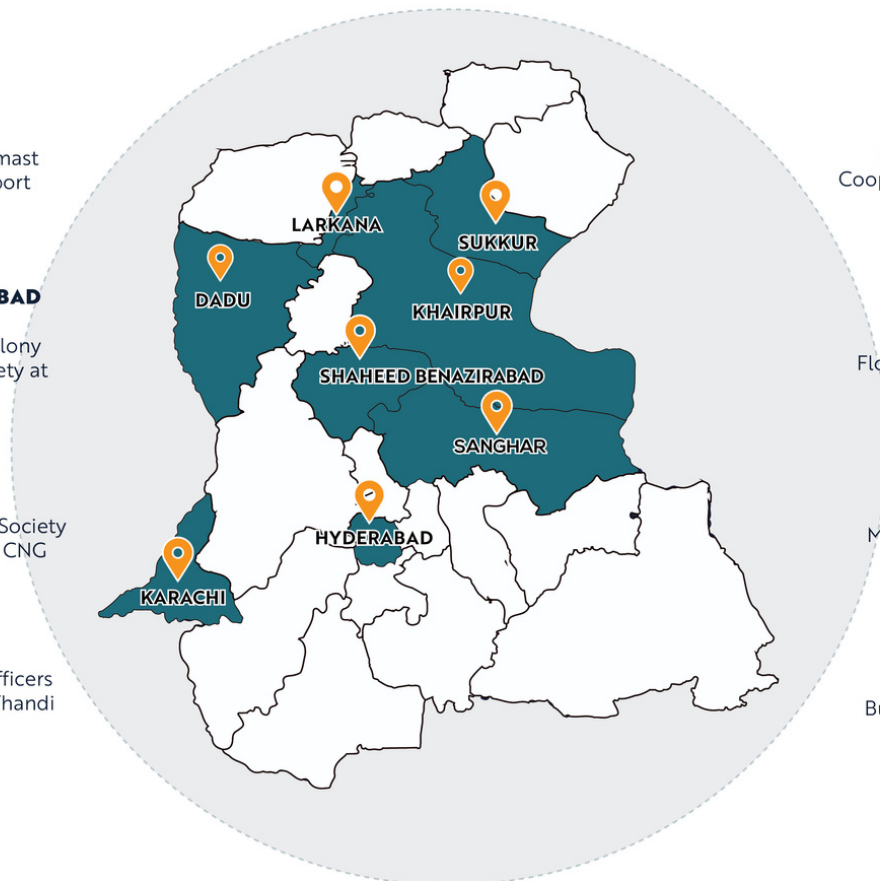
House# 11 Khairshah colony link Road Housing Society at SBA  
Phone: 0244-381437, 0244381379

## SANGHAR

House# 129/2, Housing Society near Gokhlani Brothers CNG Station at Sanghar.  
Phone: 0235-541181-2

## HYDERABAD

House# 153, Defence Officers Housing Society, Main Thandi Sarak, Hyderabad.  
Phone: 022-2720042-3



## SUKKUR

Bungalow# A-32, Friends Cooperative Housing Society, Shikarpur Road, Sukkur, Pakistan.  
Phone: 071-5807215-6

## KHAIRPUR

Street No. 1, House# 4, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Citizens Colony, Near Garhi Pul Khairpur.  
Phone: 0243-686022-23

## DADU

Near Qalandari Hotel Moundar Naka Moro Road Dadu  
Phone: 0254-610050

## HEAD/KARACHI

Block C, 1st Floor, FTC Building, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi  
Phone: 021-35634112-5



## Legal Aid, (Advice and Assistance)

### Litigation

**25,795** UTPs Represented in Cases

to ensure right to a fair trial and due process, thereby, supporting Sindh's criminal justice system

- 21,781** cases disposed by court orders
- 8,794** applications for bail granted
- 9,568** acquittals on merit

### Legal Advice

**43,233** prisoner interviews conducted

for the profiling of inmates and identification for the provision of legal support

**12,499** legal aid clinics conducted

to provide an introduction to the basic legal information required by UTPs and to introduce CWP-LAO's free legal services



## 2020-2022

### Litigation

**6,101** UTPs Represented in Cases

- 4,849** cases disposed by court orders
- 2,772** applications for bail granted
- 3,260** acquittals on merit

### Legal Advice

**3,252** legal aid clinics conducted

**8,051** prisoner interviews conducted

**3,956** prisoners provided legal advice







## Legal Awareness and Empowerment

### Prison Paralegal Program

first convict-led paralegal program initiated in 2017 to create a sustainable mechanism of legal awareness within the prison to promote legal literacy among prisoners

**251**

inmates trained as paralegals<sup>1</sup>



**6,454**

prisoners provided with legal awareness



**2020-2022**

### Prison Paralegal Program

**101**

inmates trained as paralegals



**3,380**

prisoners provided with legal awareness



**173**

prison paralegal sessions conducted

### Legal Aid and Advisory Camps

to provide topic-specific free legal advice to UTPs and convicts to inform them on prison norms and rules, prisoners' rights as well as the duties of the Criminal Justice System

**144**

legal aid and advisory camps conducted



**2,333**

UTPs and convicts provided with free legal advice

<sup>1</sup> Paralegal is a person trained in subsidiary legal matters but not fully qualified as a lawyer



## Welfare and Rehabilitation

### Early Learning Centers

to neutralize the prison environment, normalize the living experiences of children incarcerated with their mothers in prisons, and help them reintegrate with society after their release.



**176**

children imprisoned with their mothers attended ELCs



**2-9**

years old inducted at the pre-primary level.



**2**

women's prisons with ELCs:  
i) Karachi  
ii) Hyderabad



#### sensory garden

platform for the children incarcerated with their mother so they can feel a sense of life outside, and learn the importance of different general ethics in a friendly environment.

partnership with **AMI School**

location **women's prison Karachi and Hyderabad**

- elements of the sensory garden
1. play area
  2. music wall
  3. tree house
  4. Sandpit
  5. bird cage
  6. pond







## Welfare and Rehabilitation

### Recreation for Juveniles

#### Football Training Camps

to engage juveniles in a healthy recreational activity and allow them to learn essential life skills such as team building, leadership, sportsmanship, discipline and hard work.



**612**  
total juveniles enrolled  
in football camps



started in **2017**  
partnership with **Karachi United Football Club**  
location **YOIS,<sup>2</sup> Karachi**

#### Computer Lab and Game Room

to train juveniles in IT skills and equip them with technical skills to enhance their professional capacity post incarceration

established **October 2017**  
location **YOIS, Hyderabad**



#### Sports Room

to provide juveniles a healthy recreational avenue for their wellbeing



established **2015**  
location **YOIS, Hyderabad**

### Sewing Centres

to provide a recreational and employment activity for women inmates, allowing for income generation inside and outside of prison.

**42**  
women currently engaged  
in weekly sewing classes



established **2004**

location **Karachi women prison  
Hyderabad women prison**



<sup>2</sup> young offenders institution



## Welfare and Rehabilitation

### Basic Literacy Program

to provide a rehabilitative environment to juveniles that instills a sense of self-worth and interest in learning. It also aims to reduce recidivism rates, by teaching them basic reading, writing, and interpersonal skills, thereby enhancing juveniles' chances of employability once they are released from prison.



established	<b>2018</b>
location	<b>YOIS, Karachi</b>
partnership with	<b>SABAQ (ed-tech startup)</b>
target audience	<b>12-17 years juveniles</b>
curriculum	<b>10 digital literacy modules</b>

### Adult Literacy Program

to impart basic education among prisoners so that they are able to learn basic words and language concepts that build and support their communication and information exchange. This also supports laying down the foundations for their empowerment and can help in reducing poverty and crime.



**50**  
women attended the basic literacy classes

established	<b>2018</b>
location	<b>women prison, Karachi</b>
partnership with	<b>SAHEE (Society for the Advancement of Health, Education and the Environment)</b>
target audience	<b>incarcerated women</b>





## Welfare and Rehabilitation

2020-2022

### COVID-19 Response in Prisons

the Legal Aid Society (LAS) with the support of Open Society Institute- Pakistan and in collaboration with the Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners (CWP-LAO) devised an initiative to provide immediate assistance to the prisons with provision of essential PPE and in collecting data to understand prevalence rates of COVID-19 within prisons.

**2500**

rapid testing kits distributed and tests conducted



**63** juveniles

**124** prison medical staff

**82** women

**365** prison staff

**1875** adult males

**4%**

prison population protected



**24**

prisons across Sindh where personal protective equipment was distributed



**2514**

bottles of hand wash distributed



**4190.55 (litres)**

hand sanitizers distributed



**51984**

pairs of hand gloves distributed



**879**

bottles of Dettol liquid distributed



**15969**

pieces of antiseptic soaps distributed



**40**

thermal scanners distributed



**400**

empty spray pumps distributed







## Welfare and Rehabilitation

### Provision of Resources to Prison Health Facilities

1240

hospital bedsheets distributed to the prison health facilities across Sindh



### Feminine Hygiene in Prisons

to provide free packs of sanitary napkins to women prisoners in Karachi, Hyderabad, and Larkana to ensure their menstrual hygiene management in a dignified manner.

1500

sanitary napkins distributed



partnership with **Santex (Butterfly) Pakistan**



### Mental Health of Prisoners

to ensure that the prison staff is better equipped and sensitized with the skills required to respond effectively to the mental health needs of prisoners and their well-being.

25

prison staff members trained on the psychosocial needs of inmates



partnership with **Sehat Kahani**

### Art Behind Bars

an exhibition featuring artwork by incarcerated women to provide them with opportunities for rehabilitation, education, and skill building while supporting them to take a step towards financial independence.

104

artworks by women in prison put on display and sold at the exhibition

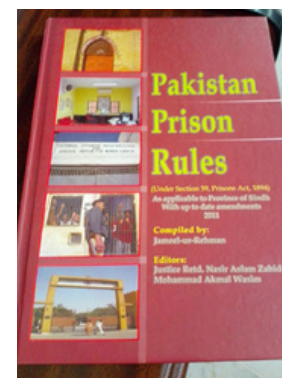
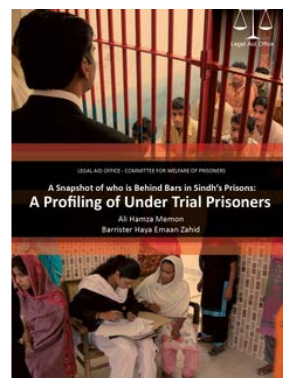
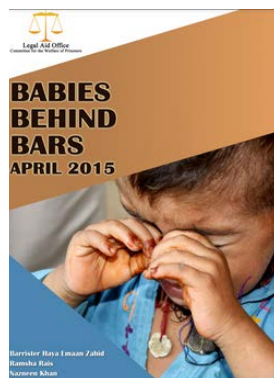
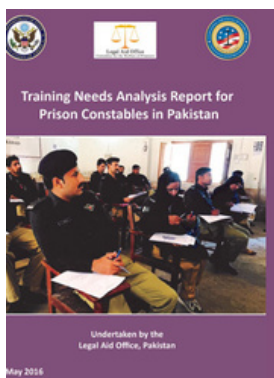
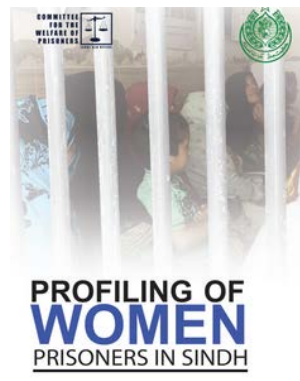
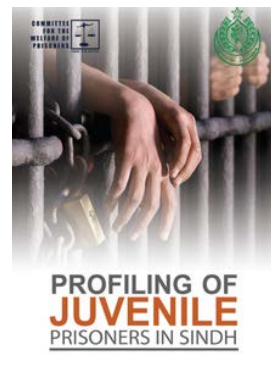
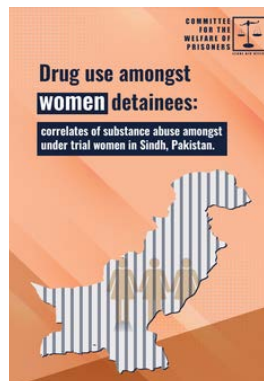
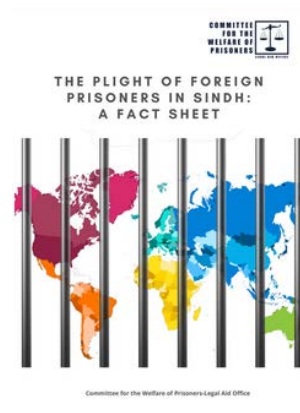
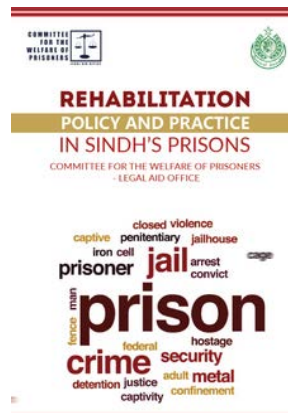
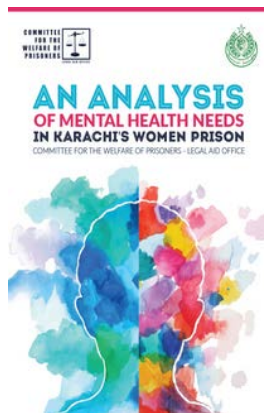


partnership with **National Commission on Status of Women**





## Research at CWP-LAO



# Success Stories

## Yasmeen, *a Litigation Success Story*



Falling privy to bad company, Yasmeen's husband got involved in mugging habits and shot dead two victims. He went into hiding while his accomplices were caught by the police. Upon no trace of him, the police arrested Yasmeen and charged her with dacoity and double murder. Her finances did not allow her to hire a private lawyer which meant she required legal aid. She was represented by Noor-ul-Sabah, a lawyer at CWP-LAO. Since the evidence incriminating Yasmeen was not sufficient, she was acquitted of all charges after 5 years of case proceedings.



## Yawar Zaman, *a released Prison Paralegal*

Yawar Zaman, one of the released paralegals, extended his legal knowledge at a community paralegal session in Agra Taj Lyari Town, Karachi conducted in collaboration between CWP-LAO and its sister organization Legal Aid Society.



Under the supervision of senior lawyers, he conducted the session on legal awareness and the legal property rights of women. The session on property rights of women was the most popular among the audience.

## Lusaulwa Augustino, *a successful repatriation*



Lusaulwa Augustino, a Tanzanian prisoner, remained in the Central Prison, Karachi, for 9 additional months even after completing his sentence because he was unable to bear the travel costs back to Tanzania. CWP-LAO coordinated with a well-known travel agency, JAS travels, to sponsor 50% of his travel costs. With this gracious support of JAS Travel Group, the Committee was able to repatriate Lusaulwa Augustino, and send him back home.





## Hansi Korani, *a Litigation Success Story*



Implicated in a false theft case, Hansi Korani, aged 26 years old, spent one and a half months in central prison. Coming from a minority background and belonging to a family dependent on daily wage labor, his finances



disallowed him to hire a private lawyer to advocate for his case. The case stage was analyzed and then a vakalatnaama was filed by a lawyer from CWP-

-LAO, Mr. Abid Jatoi. During the case trial, it was revealed that Hansi was not involved in the crime and hence the court passed his acquittal orders and the case got resolved in 46 days.



## Humera, *a Litigation Success Story*

Humera, a 35 year old woman, was implicated along with her 50 year old mother in the case of her husband's murder that was registered by Humera's brother-in-law. At the time, Humera also had to bring along her 9 month old baby to the prison.

Mr. Toseef Ahmed Chandio, a CWP-LAO lawyer filed a vakaltanaama in the court on behalf of the mother-daughter duo. All



8 case witnesses and other relevant evidence were examined by the court. But none was sufficient enough to prove them guilty. The court ruled in their favour and within 7 months of the court proceedings, they were released from the prison.

## Uzair Ahmed, *a juvenile justice story*



Uzair Ahmed, a 17 year old young boy hailing from Lasbella and a daily wage laborer supporting his parents and 3 siblings, was arrested by PS Soldier Bazar Police on the charges of theft. With no means to contact his relatives for help, his vakalatnaama was filed with the court by CWP-LAO's lawyer, Ms. Mehwosh Naz. Uzair informed her how he was planning to plead guilty just so he could receive some relief in his conviction. However, Ms. Mehwish guided him through the process at length and the case was taken up in court officially.

The court found contradictions in the statements of the case witnesses and after the examination of the evidence, Uzair got acquitted of his false case.

# Our Partners



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SAHEE











## Contact

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