

YOUTHREACH BUZZ 5

A QUARTERLY BULLETIN



ABOUT US

As Youthreach continues its journey in its 25th year we are proud to share that today we partner with 116 non-profit organizations across 8 states in India working with street and slum children, youth, and women through interventions in education, health care, skill development, livelihood support, and water and sanitation. Our community outreach has reached out to more than 70,000 children, 8,000 women, and 5 lakh community members covering more than 350 villages.

OUR CURRENT PROJECTS

REHABILITATION OF
CHILD BEGGARS

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Rehabilitation of Child Beggars

We all know that Child begging has been a deep-rooted issue in Delhi for multiple decades now. Due to family unemployment, lack of shelter, and slum displacement in Delhi, a large proportion of these children end up living on the streets with their families for means of survival.

Keeping in mind our vision of looking after the critical needs of disadvantaged children, Youthreach partnered with The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) with the objective of rehabilitating 10,000 child beggars on the streets of Delhi over the coming year.

For a pilot project, in August 2021, the Commission initiated efforts to rehabilitate and reintegrate Children in Street Situations (CiSS) across districts in Delhi NCT. During the span of 7 months, the commission rescued 440 CiSS children with the assistance of the SDM, Labor Department, Delhi Police, Childline, and local voluntary organizations. All the children were produced before the Child Welfare Committee and the committee has restored them to their families keeping in view the best interest of the child.

Seeing the success of the pilot project the current rehabilitation project was started by DPCPR and Youthreach in April 2022. For the smooth implementation of the project, we have divided Delhi into 10 districts, and we have started this project Salaam Baalak Trust in the South, Southeast, and Northeast Shahdara districts of Delhi and are happy to share that within the span of one month, we have been able to identify more than 200 children for whom the process of rehabilitation has been initiated.

For making this possible, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to Asahi India Glass Ltd., Avitech Nutrition Pvt Ltd., AVL India Pvt Ltd., Jai Springs, Kema Foundation, Krishna Group, Padminivna, Sir Sobha Singh Trust, Rajan Dhameja and Ramni Nirula, for their generous donations towards this project. A special thank you to Leena Labroo for her support and guidance.

We appeal to all friends and families of Youthreach to support us in this project so that we are able to rehabilitate all 10,000 child beggars in the coming year.



Integrated Community Development Programme at Youthreach

Youthreach has been working with companies and businesses under their CSR programmes to help them identify their CSR interests and implement projects to address the community's evolving needs. The principal partners that we work with are Asahi India Glass Ltd, Indag Rubber Limited, Unipatch Rubber Limited, Chanana Welfare Foundation, McCoy Soudal Sealants Adhesives & Foams Pvt. Ltd., National Geographic Channel, working in the areas of Education, Health, Sanitation, Skill Development, and Women Empowerment.

At present, our community development work encompasses 52 villages in Bawal- Haryana, 50 villages in Narsan block- Uttarkhand, 9 villages in Patan – Gujarat, and 35 villages in Nalagarh – Himachal Pradesh.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT

a) Education- School Intervention Programme

Under this programme, English teachers are placed in government schools to improve Spoken English among students from class 6 to class 10. Our teachers conducted regular sessions in high schools and prepared students for final examinations in the last quarter. Under the AIS Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP) in Gujarat, a total of 354 students were covered from April to June.



AIS Remedial Education Centres are running in villages in Roorkee with 90 students. In addition, CWF Remedial Education Centres are running with 60 students. A total of 15 students appeared for Class 10th Board examinations out of which 7 students got first division and 8 students got second division. In May, Class 12th Board Examination results were declared and Aanchal of Molna Education Centre scored first in her class. Priya of the Unnati Education Centre, Sadhauli scored the first rank in her class with 81.60% along with a distinction in science. Sakshi of Class 10 scored 77.8% with distinction in science and stood first in her class.



AIS Adult Literacy Centres provide education on basic Mathematics and Hindi to rural women who have never been to school or had to drop out due to personal reasons. This programme not only builds confidence in women but also enables them to conduct daily tasks.

In Bawal, AIS Remedial Education Centres are fully functional after the lockdown. These centres reach out to students of classes 8 to 10 students in government schools. Parent-teacher meetings were held for the mobilisation of students and we also conducted an orientation for 524 students across all the Education Centres.



b) School Bus Service

Due to the lack of proper public transport, many parents hesitate to send their daughters to school/ college because of which girl students eventually give up their daily commute and attend college once a fortnight or month. To eliminate this problem we have resumed the AIS School Bus Service after two years for the students of Government Girls School and College. Currently, we are reaching out to 327 girls and 60 girls in Bawal and Roorkee respectively.





c) Digital Literacy

Lack of the ability to use digital technologies can affect an individual's skills especially in the job sector.

Youthreach has been running the digital literacy programme with 126 students through AIS Unnati Computer Centre in Bawal and with the McCoy Soudal Pragati Computer Centre also in Bawal, Haryana to prepare students for the workplace. NIIT certified courses are taught from basic to advance i.e. Certificate Course in Active Basic IT (CCAB) and Certificate Course in Active Tally Prime (CCAT).

d) Skill Development

At Nalagarh, the Unipatch Digital Literacy Centre is functioning smoothly and during the first quarter of 2022-23, four batches comprising 32 students got trained under the program.

Chanana Welfare Foundation has Tailoring and Embroidery Centres running in Roorkee. 45 girls/women completed the course and the next two batches of 41 girls/ women are currently in the process. Most of the women who have learned the craft of stitching, embroidery, and tailoring are now using it to start their own centre and save money by stitching clothes for their families and relatives.

At Nalagarh, the Unipatch Cutting & Tailoring Centre is fully functional for the past seven years. Youthreach has trained 36 community members under this program in the last quarter.

AIS Unnati Cutting and Tailoring Centre in Gujarat has completed first batch of 30 students during the last quarter and started a second batch with 25 students. Two AIS Skill Development Centres are functional in the Bawal block, where the final assessments were conducted wherein, we reached out to 54 girls and women.

Under Skill Development, three Unipatch Omni Skill Development Centres are fully functional at Government ITI Nalagarh in Himachal Pradesh and Government ITI Shivpuri and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh. Under this programme students are trained to repair tires with scientific techniques and are taught new innovations in tire technology. Many students have opened tyre repair shops post-training. During the first quarter of 2022-23 at all three locations, 174 students were trained under the program.



e) Youth Employability

AIS Unnati Skill Development Centres for Life Skills and Spoken English for Employability is fully functional in Gujarat, wherein young girls and boys are being trained in Life skills and Workplace English to avail of employment opportunities.

The McCoy Soudal Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) is designed to help rural youth/students in developing entrepreneurial abilities and skills which are required to run a business successfully in Bithwana, Haryana. It helps the students in acquiring skills and necessary capabilities to play the role of an entrepreneur effectively. Currently, the trainer has been able to reach out to approximately 100 students in Grade 11 and 12 in the Government school.

Under Women Empowerment through Community Institutions, eight new Self-Help Groups have been formed in Roorkee, Uttarakhand with 91 women and 16 new enterprises have been set up including a general store, cosmetic shop, vegetable carts, beauty parlor, etc.



f) Kitchen Garden

The major objective of a kitchen garden is to save the expenditure of the economically deprived on the purchase of vegetables and fruits as well as provide produce that is high in organic and has a high nutrition value. The seeds provided in the last quarter were spinach, fenugreek, calabash, and green chilly to 95 families in Bawal, Rewari



g) Awareness of Government Schemes

Indag and Youthreach work together on achieving the long-term objectives of the government in the field of agriculture. Our team conducted awareness activities, implemented government schemes, organised training sessions and exposure visits to the Krishi Vigyaan Kendras. In the first quarter of 2022-23, our team assisted 100 farmers in availing direct monetary benefits under various schemes such as seed selling, formation of women groups, and availing subsidies on drums. Youthreach also assists farmers in attending state-level agriculture festivals promoting farmers to exhibit organic produce as a result of natural farming.



h) Sanitation

It is extremely important to create a safe and hygienic environment for young children when they are on the school premises. Our sanitation cleaners are deputed in 25 schools where they maintain the cleanliness and hygiene in Government Primary Schools as these schools are in a deficit when it comes to sanitation funds and Youthreach further helps these schools by providing cleaning material funded by AIS and Chanana Welfare Foundation.



i) Teachers Training

To ensure the professional development of our field teaching staff, an in-house refresher training was conducted in collaboration with Oxford Hub, an organization formed by alumni of the University of Oxford to build a network to share their insights, knowledge and experiences, thus bringing about a systemic change. A professional trainer from Gyandeeep Vidya Mandir School, was invited to conduct the training. The training focused on Life Skills, personality development, improving spoken English, and mathematical and scientific schools.



NGO Reach out and Trainings

Youthreach conducted a Life Skills training for teachers from Spread a Smile and Amba Foundation at the India International Centre for 4 days. This training was to train these teachers with life skills popularly referred to as soft skills which are psycho-social and interpersonal skills, which would help them make informed choices, communicate effectively and develop coping and self-management skills that they can teach to their students. The training was attended by 25 teachers and the feedback we received was excellent. The teachers have already started implementing the curriculum in their respective schools.



Page by Page Curriculum Training

A two-day training workshop 'Page by Page' developed by Samaira Kapur, was conducted by Youthreach at the India International Centre for the teachers of Vidya school and Spread a smile. This curriculum is for students from underprivileged backgrounds to assist them in undertaking a journey of self-exploration, self-expression, and emotional growth. The goal was to encourage creative expression through therapeutic exercises.

This curriculum is divided into 3 stages, each specifically curated for different age groups from Grade 6 to 12.



Life Skills Training at Bawal

In loving memory of Mrs. Rani Kapur on her birthday, Life Skills Training was organized for government school girls in Bawal. We are grateful to her family for helping us organize the training.



Need Assessment Study

Youthreach conducted a needs assessment study for Sharanam, at the Jal Mahal block of Jaipur, the purpose of the needs assessment is to start social interventions in the area.

Volunteers at Youthreach

As part of our Volunteerism Programme, Yasar Arafat, a library professional currently working at the South Asian University, New Delhi volunteered with Youthreach at the Apeejay Anand Children's Library at Bawal. This library is a joint initiative of Youthreach and the Apeejay group.

Yasar Arafat interacted with students of class 12 and spoke to them about the importance of reading as a habit. Further, he also interacted with the librarian on duty and shared his ideas on how to make the library more user-friendly, the maintenance of the books and records, and promotion of a reading culture amongst the students. We would like to thank Yasar and wish him all the best for the future.



Donations

We are extremely grateful to Rani Kapur's Family, Jindi Khosla's Family, Sakshi Seth and Imran Baig for providing nutritious food at Udayan Care, Udyam Trust, Samarpan and Earth Saviours respectively.



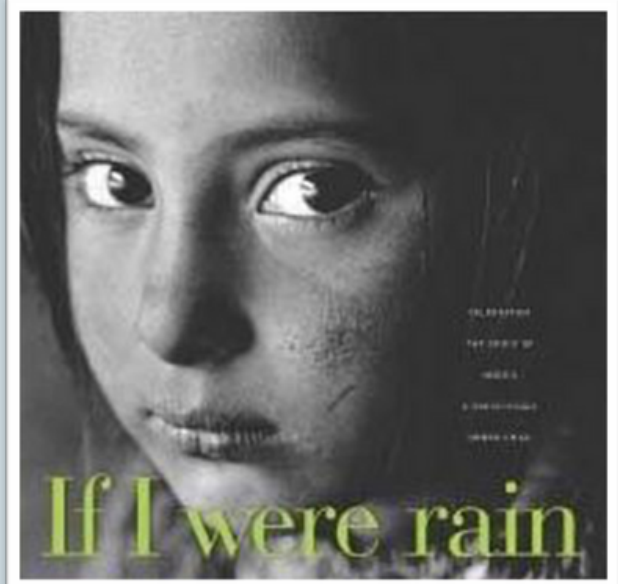
Publications

Youthreach has created and designed publications which are integral to our awareness programme. In the past, we have conceptualized and edited three books at Youthreach.

'If I were rain', is a photographic book about children, by children. It is a visual and testimonial tribute to the spirit of India's children who live in the very difficult circumstances of poverty, exploitation and exclusion. The book is now a role model of its kind and is representative of children all over the world living in difficult circumstances. So far, it has been reproduced in Palestine and Canada and we hope that it will inspire many other countries to do the same.

The book has received national and international acclaim and to date more than 30,000 copies of the book have been sold.

This year we were delighted when the Edition Peters Group, a music publishing house, based in Leipzig, London and New York asked us if they could use the poems written by the children in 'If I were rain' and give music to them for a voice ensemble. This voice ensemble will be played in New York and Germany.



Gratitude

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered, and to corporates, NGO partners, and individuals who have supported Youthreach, without whom we would not have been able to implement our projects and programmes. We deeply value our national and international partners who have enabled us to work across the country over a spectrum of issues, volunteers who have contributed their time and energy as well as those who have mobilized material and funds for our beneficiaries and for our organization.

Our grateful thanks to Asahi India Glass Ltd., Indag Rubber Ltd., Unipatch Rubber Ltd., National Geographic Channel, Chanana Welfare Foundation, Sir Sobha Singh Trust, and McCoy Soudal Sealants Adhesives & Foams Pvt. Ltd. for being our partners in supporting our current programmes and projects. Special gratitude this quarter to Leena Labroo, Sanjay Labroo, Asahi India Glass Ltd., Shashi Singh, AVL India Pvt Ltd, Sunandan Kapur, Krishna Group, Pradeep Singh Jauhar, Jai Springs, Kema Foundation, Rahul Kapur, Avitech Nutrition Pvt. Ltd., Kabir Bhandari, Padminivna, Rajan Dhameja, Ramni Narula, Anjali Khosla, Jindi Khosla's Family, Rani Kapur's Family, Artdemic, Gujral Foundation, Imran Baig, K.Sarajit, Neesha Singh, Sunjay Kapur, Sona Autocomp, Payal Vir, Kanan Kapur and Nirmala Jain.

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For more information: <https://www.youthreachindia.org/>
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