



YOUTHREACH BUZZ

A QUARTERLY BULLETIN: PART 6

It has been over 25 years since Youthreach started its journey and we can say with pride that we are well on the way towards achieving what we had set out to do and much more. Youthreach currently partners with 114 non-profit organisations across eight states in India working with children, youth, women, and disabilities through interventions in education, health care, skill training, livelihood support, and water and sanitation.

Our community outreach has directly reached out to more than 70,000 children, 8000 women, and 5 lakh community members covering more than 350 villages. We have also placed over 10000 national and international volunteers, including photographers, filmmakers, sportsmen, dancers, musicians, and professionals from diverse backgrounds creating high-impact projects for Youthreach and partners.

Over the last few years, Youthreach has chartered newer directions for itself and, as we embark into 2023, we are now also working towards the Sustainable Development Goals of 2030.

In this newsletter, we are happy to update you on our projects and programmes and the work we have accomplished in the last three months. It also gives us the opportunity to thank all the corporates and individuals, including volunteers, who have supported Youthreach and our friends who have loyally stood by Youthreach and dedicated themselves to the spirit of this cause.

Our Current Programmes at Youthreach include Community Development Programme, Volunteer Programme, The Knowledge Bank, and Awareness Programme.

A Glimpse of our activities from September 2022 - January 2023

1. Rehabilitation of Child Beggars

Child begging has been a deep-rooted issue in Delhi for many 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 as 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.

With the support of Salaam Baalak Trust, we are currently working in the South, Southeast, West, Northeast and Shahdara districts of Delhi. We are extremely happy to share that over the span of 7 months, we have been able to identify about 1405 children for whom the process of rehabilitation is in progress.

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, SRF Welfare Trust, Sona Autocomp Holding Pvt Ltd., MGF Mall Management, D P Halwasiya Foundation, DMI Alternatives Pvt Ltd., DMI Capital Pvt. Ltd., 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.

For more information, Email: ritika@youthreachindia.org

To donate please log onto: <https://www.youthreachindia.org/Donation/>.

2. Integrated Community Development Programmes (ICDP) at Youthreach - Highlights

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 Roorkee- Uttarakhand, 12 villages in Patan – Gujarat, and 35 villages in Nalagarh – Himachal Pradesh.

In the last quarter, Youthreach has reached out to more than 4000 beneficiaries through ICDP in Haryana, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Himachal Pradesh. Youthreach has restarted a **school bus service** with AIS this year in both Bawal and Roorkee which has enabled EWS girls covering 50 villages to be able to reach school safely and on time which has further led to decreased dropout rates in the region.



More than 1500 girl students are using the **library** established in the Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Bawal by the Apeejay Group in collaboration with Youthreach which plays a crucial part in fostering a culture of reading and supports the individual growth of students.

To empower rural women and improve their socio-economic condition in Roorkee, our institution-building programme **(Self-Help Group (SHG) & Village Organizations (VO) formation)** in collaboration with Disha aimed at inculcating primarily the habit of saving and inter-lending and ultimately promoting sustainable livelihood. This quarter, SHGs were given the training to initiate small businesses instilling in them a sense of entrepreneurship. A total of 30 enterprises have been set up taking a loan from SHGs and the revolving fund in this with the support of AIS.



Youthreach organised **awareness programmes** on government schemes such as district rural development agency loan schemes, mudra loans for SHGs, and life insurance schemes. Liaisoning with government officials in order to provide the widow pension, person with disability (PWD), poor girls, and labourers for the benefit of schemes to which they are entitled. Twenty One beneficiaries under Ayushman Yojana, one under Sukanya Suraksha Yojana, 19 under MGNREGA, and one under Samaj Kalyan Yojana got registered during this phase in Roorkee.

At Nalagarh, as part of Indag's CSR Programme, Youthreach has partnered with the Agriculture Development Office of the Government of HP. Our team conducts awareness activities to implement government schemes, organises training sessions and Kisan festivals, forms Kisan clubs and farmers' schools, and organises exposure visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendras.



Digital literacy enables youth to develop skills for better job prospects and higher education. To achieve this, Youthreach continues its journey in Bawal with AIS and McCoy Soudal via computer centres certified through NIIT courses. We have a fully functional centre in Nalagarh, Himachal Pradesh under the Unipatch initiative. We have also opened two new centres in Gujarat and Roorkee under AIS, reaching out to more than to 1000 students. We have also placed computer teachers in the girls' school in Roorkee with the intervention of CWF.



In **remedial education**, we reach out to students from class 8 and 10 of government schools. A total of 19 remedial educational centres are functional in Bawal and 8 centres in Roorkee. Youthreach also has a school intervention programme in government primary schools who facing staff shortages for primary students in Gujarat. This has led to increased attendance of the students in school and enhanced quality of education.

We were able to reach out to 200 girls and women in this quarter at seven of our **tailoring centres**, which are functional in all our locations. This programme is committed to enhancing the skills of women by focusing on improving local handicraft products, especially after the plastic ban by the government.

Under the skill development programme, three **Omni skill development centres** are running at the government ITI Nalagarh, ITI Shivpuri, and ITI Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh. In this programme, students are trained to repair tyres with scientific techniques and new innovations in tyre technology are introduced to students. At all the locations, more than 200 students were trained under the programme.



Adult Literacy Programme provided women in Roorkee with the opportunity to fulfil their dreams of being educated. Presently, nine Adult Literacy Centres are running smoothly with the objective of giving an understanding of basic Hindi and Maths to rural women.

Life Skills Programme is designed to help rural youth/students in developing their emotional, social and intellectual tools which are needed to be successful in life – on a personal and interpersonal level as well as within their community and at the workplace. This also includes a workplace spoken English programme that is being actively carried out in Gujarat.

As part of our new initiative under AIS, **General Health Camps** were organised in Ziliyavasana village, Gujarat. Dr. Ketan Bamaniya and his team, from Visnagar hospital, provided free consultation to people related to their general health check-up and well-being. Free medicines were also provided to patients.

The **sanitation, health, and hygiene programme** is essential for the development of students' well-rounded personality. In order to tackle everyday health problems and provide a healthy environment, CWF constructed toilets at both Bawal and Roorkee. Construction of these toilets supported the government initiative Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which is being accessed on a regular basis by over 1000 students.



New Partnerships

New partnerships are integral to Youthreach as it gives us the opportunity to work together with other organisations in various ways.

This year we would like to welcome on board our new partner the Anand Spa Foundation. The Ananda Spa foundation is a charitable organisation that has been established with the objective of empowering women from lower socio-economic groups. The foundation gives skill development to girls to become therapists in the field of beauty and culture and post the three-month training gives them employability in different Hotels in India.

We are delighted to share that all the girls who were trained have now got employment.



Volunteers at Youthreach

Promoting the spirit of volunteerism and creating volunteering opportunities with the objective of building a community of volunteers, has been a core function at Youthreach. We match the skills and interests of volunteers with the needs of our partner NGOs thereby engaging dynamic young people from society to connect with grassroots organisations through imparting skills.

At any given time, Youthreach has over 200 volunteering options available with 70 grassroots organisations. These options are updated every two months. Over the years Youthreach is proud to say we have placed over 6000 volunteers that have come from diverse backgrounds ranging from education, engineering, medicine, photography, film, sports, dance, theatre, and music, with 114 NGO partners across 8 states. The volunteers enjoyed their experience thoroughly and were very enthusiastic, punctual, regular, and interactive with the children.

In order to sign up to volunteer please log onto www.youthreachindia.org

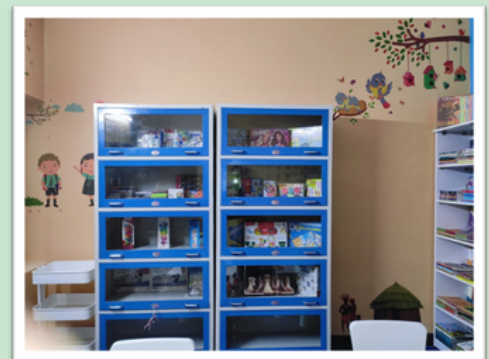
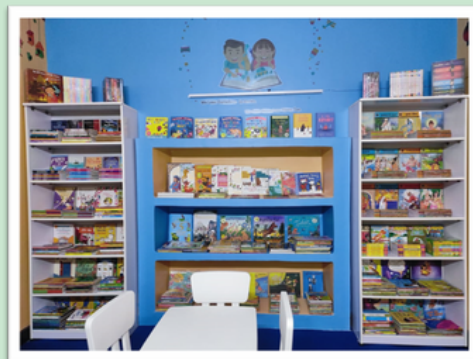
We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered with us in the last two months.

Building Community Libraries

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds have limited exposure to the creative arts and reading. It is important to enhance the quality of education in the communities by starting community libraries for underprivileged children. Keeping the above in mind, Youthreach has undertaken a new project wherein community libraries are set up in slum colonies. The library not only provides reading material to the community but is also a space for self-expression through various creative forms.

We have set up community libraries with the help of ONE UP Library, Bookstudio and Learning Lab & Shanti Devi Charitable Trust. Our first centre was in the Kusumpur Pahari village in Vasant Kunj, and the second library was launched at Rangpuri Village. The libraries are very welcoming to the children, colourful, and aesthetically designed with different genres of books for all ages. The library gives hundreds of children in the village an opportunity to read, learn and share.

This month we opened our third Library with our partner NGO, Spread a Smile, in Munirka in Collaboration with the ONE UP Library, Book Studio. This library will be accessed by more than 500 children in the community to enjoy.



Donations

We would like to express our gratitude towards Kanan Kapur for supporting the education of two children in Vidya India, Udayam Tust.

We are grateful to Beni Khanna, Payal Vir, Malvika Halwasiya, Maina Chawla, Anupama Sarougi, for providing clothes and shoes to children at our partner NGO Jamghat and Earth Saviours.

We are thankful to Leena Labroo, Usha Mahindra, Imran Baig, Rajan Dhameja, and Shabnam Sahni for providing nutritious lunch at our partner NGOs Jamghat, Spread A Smile, and Earth Saviours.

To bring warmth into the lives of street people, Anjali Khosla, Aditi Bhaskar, Sarita Pradhan, Imran Baig, Rajan Dhameja, Amit Bhalla and Jitendra Jha supported us with their generous donations towards our Blanket donation drive this year. We are grateful to them.



Publications

Youthreach has conceptualized, edited, and written several publications in the past which have received national and international acclaim. One of the most widely sold is: -

'The Secret abode of Fireflies' is a tribute and celebration of trees and the rare urban wildernesses in India. It is an exploration of the changing relationship between man and nature in modernity, and how we are fast losing the very essence of our lives through this diminishing connection to our wild and natural spaces in the city.

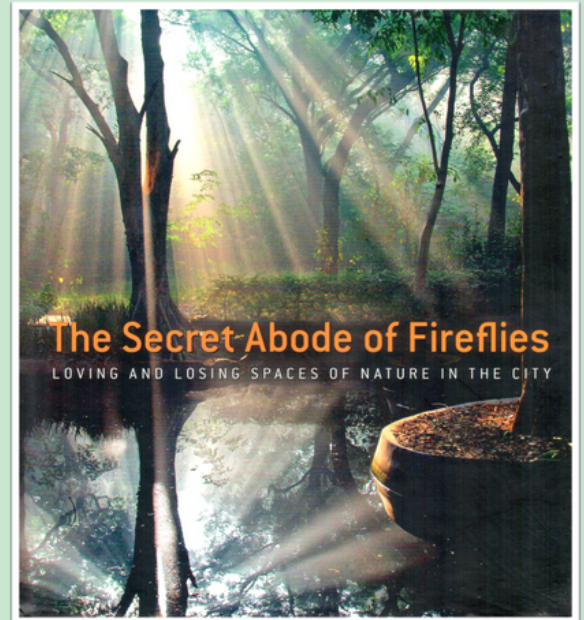
The unique selling point of this book is its brilliant photography, art, poetry, and the real-life experiences of urban planners, writers, and activists and their love and loss for the trees and diminishing natural spaces. The book provides a lucid roadmap of possible solutions and how one can personally contribute to the preservation and renewal of the country's dying urban ecology.

This year the book was distributed to all the speakers and some of the participants at the Kasauli Literary Festival and was greatly appreciated by all.

To order your copy please contact Youthreach at

..... Price Rs 600/=

Or email: ritika@youthreachindia.org



GRATITUDE

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered, and 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 organisation.

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.

Our deepest gratitude to the Khemka Family- the principal sponsors of Youthreach, Our Board Members Uday Khemka, Gagan Singh, Nandita Kathpalia Baig, Sheyna Baig, Gauri Ishawaran (Edugroom Pvt Ltd), and Ramasubramaniam Appadurai (Sportsdom Developers Private Ltd.) and (Humanidad Evolreach Pvt Ltd.)

OUR TEAM

Nandita K. Baig (Executive Director & Founder Member), Leena Labroo (Advisor), Ritika Dhameja (Head of Programmes), Garima (Sr, Coordinator, Corporate Programmes & Social Media), Jitendra Jha (Sr. Manager, Accounts), Mohd. Ifatkhari Alam (Associate Manager, Bawal), Mohd. Zaid (Project Coordinator, Bawal), Shahzada Imran (Senior Coordinator, Roorkee), Arun Kumar (Project Coordinator, Roorkee), Hiren Modhawadia (Project Coordinator, Gujarat), Amardeep Singh (Associate Manager, Nalagarh), Prem (Office Assistant), Raushan (Office Assistant).

For more information:

<https://www.youthreachindia.org/>



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