

YOUTHREACH BUZZ

NEWS BULLETIN: PART 9

Youthreach, a Delhi-based non-profit organisation, has been working for 26 years with disadvantaged children, youth and women through interventions such as education, health care, skill development, livelihood support, water and sanitation. Currently we work in seven states, covering more than 600 villages, and have reached out to more than 80,000 children and youth, and 12,000 women. We have also placed more than 18,000 volunteers with our 114 NGO partners across India.

We are delighted to present the 9th edition of our news bulletin and update you with our projects and programmes as well as the work we have done in the last six months. It also gives us the opportunity to thank all the corporates and individuals, including volunteers, who have supported Youthreach - our friends who have loyally stood by Youthreach and dedicated themselves to the spirit of our cause.

Building Community Libraries

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds have limited exposure to the creative arts and reading. Keeping this in mind, Youthreach has undertaken a new project of setting up community libraries 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. The library gives hundreds of children an opportunity to read, learn and share.

Our first collaboration was with ONE UP Library, Bookstudio and Learning Lab and Shanti Devi Charitable Trust, when we set up a library in the Kusumpur Pahari village in Vasant Kunj. Our second library was launched at Rangpuri Village. Our third Library was set up with our partner NGO Spread a Smile in Munirka in collaboration with the ONE UP Library, Book Studio. This library is being accessed by more than 500 children in the community to enjoy. In the past, we have also set up a beautiful library in collaboration with Apeejay Group in Haryana.

We're happy to announce the opening of our fourth community library in partnership with ONE UP at Sshrishti Trust in Vasant Kunj. We are deeply grateful to ONE UP and the entire team at Sshrishti Trust for their invaluable support and collaboration. Together, we are committed to empowering our community through knowledge and creating opportunities for growth and development. This library is not just a collection of books; it is a hub for inspiration, learning, and community building. The libraries are very welcoming to the children, colourful and aesthetically designed with different genres of books for all ages.



Integrated Community Development Programmes at Youthreach (ICDP)

Highlights from February - July 2024

Youthreach has been working with companies and businesses under their respective CSR programmes to help them identify and implement projects to address the community's evolving needs. We work in the areas of Education, Health, Sanitation, Skill Development, and Women Empowerment with our long-standing partners Asahi India Glass Ltd. (AIS), Avitech Nutrition Pvt. Ltd., Chanana Welfare Foundation (CWF), DMI Finance Pvt. Ltd., Sona BLW Precision Forgings Ltd. and Unipatch Rubber Ltd. We are also delighted to welcome on board McCoy Silicones as our new corporate partner. Our Integrated Community Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented in Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand. This quarter we have extended our ICDP implementation to one more state – Rajasthan.

Digital Literacy Programme

This Programme continues to make significant strides in reaching marginalised communities. In the last six months, we have reached out to more than 700 children, giving them access to essential digital skills. Our NIIT accreditation allows us to give participants certificates upon course completion, which can be used to enhance resumes for job applications. NIIT Foundation also conducted two Artificial Intelligence (AI) CHAT GPT online training sessions, equipping students with advanced AI tools for Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word.





School Bus Service Programme

Our School Bus Service Programme continues to provide safe and secure transportation for pick-up and dropoff of more than 600 girls from rural villages of Bawal (Haryana) and Roorkee (Uttarakhand).





Remedial and Dropout Prevention Education Programme

Over the last six months, we have extended our remedial educational support to more than 900 students through 30 Centres across four states. Under this Programme, we provide supplementary support to students in Mathematics, English, Science, and Hindi to improve their academic performance. We are looking forward to opening two new Remedial Centres in Nalagarh, Himachal Pradesh.

Furthermore, we have supported more than 45 students through professional guidance and support to reintegrate them into mainstream education. Five girls enrolled in the Dropout Centre cleared the Secondary School examination in the month of May.

Primary School Education Programme

Our commitment to quality education has led us to extend our support by placing dedicated and qualified teachers in Government Schools. In Bawal (Haryana), we have placed teachers who support eight Primary Government Schools impacting 665 students. In Patan (Gujarat), we help schools in six villages impacting 250 students. By collaborating with local education authorities, we ensure that our teachers complement existing Programmes, contributing to a harmonious and effective learning ecosystem.

Tailoring and Cutting Programme

Our initiative to empower women through skill development has impacted over 250 women and girls with valuable skills in tailoring and cutting. The Programme's impact extends beyond skill acquisition as it directly contributes to the economic independence of women in our communities.







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English Speaking Programme

This Programme was initiated in October at the Unnati English Speaking Centre, Bawal (Haryana). We are currently training 20 students, empowering them with English-speaking skills so that they can excel in diverse social and work environments.

Life Skills Programme

Our Life Skills Programme addresses a wide range of skills such as communication, problem-solving, and emotional intelligence. Through this Programme we aim to empower participants to navigate life's challenges with resilience and confidence. The Programme runs at the Government Senior Secondary School, Bithwana in Haryana with 228 students participating actively in the sessions.





School Sanitation and Hygiene Programme

More than 5000 students have benefitted from our School Sanitation and Hygiene Programme, an initiative committed to creating a clean and healthy environment for students. Our commitment to fostering a culture of hygiene extends beyond infrastructure improvements. We have conducted educational workshops for students, teachers, and parents, focusing on the importance of hygiene practices and their impact on overall health.



Beautician Training Programme

Amongst our new initiatives is a Beautician Training Programme, where participants are trained in a wide range of skills, including skincare, haircare, makeup application, and salon management. We are proud to announce that 26 participants in rural Gujarat are currently attending the training sessions regularly.





Self- Defence Training

This year we have introduced self-defense training for girls, which provides them with essential skills for personal safety and confidence. These classes cover techniques for physical defense, situational awareness, assertiveness training, and strategies for avoiding dangerous situations. This initiative is aimed at fostering a sense of security and resilience among the students in our community. More than 200 girls have been trained under this initiative.

New Partnerships

New partnerships are integral to Youthreach in our endeavour to address several critical social issues as well as provide volunteering opportunities to individuals and corporations. This quarter we would like to welcome on board our new partners - Aureus Investment Private Limited (AIPL) & McCoy Silicones Limited.

We would like to express our gratitude to AIPL for sponsoring and supporting the education of children who have lost either, or both, parents, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in Delhi. These children are housed at a shelter home run by HAQ: Centre for Child Rights. AIPL has also provided cleaning material to support the sanitation of toilets in Roorkee and Rewari.

McCoy Silicones is helping us take forward an ongoing Digital Literacy Programme and a Life Skills Programme in a Government School in Bithwana, Haryana.

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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 allowing dynamic young people from society to connect with grassroots organisations. At any given time, Youthreach has over 200 volunteering options available with 70 grassroots organisations. These options are updated every two months.

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

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to Suhana Grewal (Founder, Finance Frontier) for organising an insightful Financial Literacy Training session at our Sona Comstar Digital Literacy Centres in Gurgaon and Manesar. Her engaging and comprehensive session covered crucial topics, helping attendees understand financial planning, budgeting, and smart money management. These sessions aligned perfectly with our mission to promote empowerment within our community. This training has equipped our participants with the tools to make informed financial decisions, fostering greater economic independence and confidence.

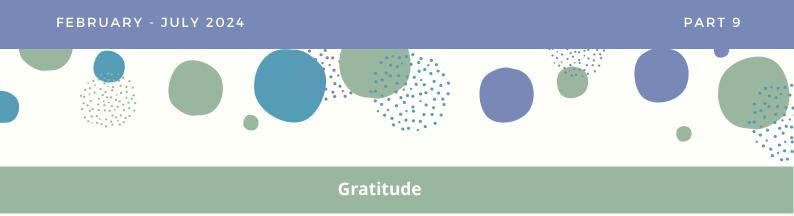
Donations

We are proud to share that we were able to help our partner NGOs, several slum communities and shelter homes through material donations which were generously given by our friends and supporters. Be it sponsoring a child's education, or meals, participating in fun games in the park, or donating laptops, footballs, books, air conditioners, water coolers, and clothes in the last few months. A large number of individuals from our community stepped forward to make a positive impact on the lives of many children.



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We would like to express our gratitude to Anjali Khosla, Anshu Khurana, Beni Khurana, Keggs Farm, Kanan Kapur, Kiran Modi, Leena Labroo, Malvika Halwasiya, Shalini Bijou, Sunil Modi and Sunita Trehan for their generous donations towards providing clothes, toys, air conditioners, coolers, stationeries, eggs, organising lunches, and funds to support children in the shelter homes.



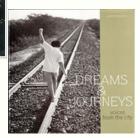
Our deepest gratitude to the Khemka Family, the principal sponsors of Youthreach. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have volunteered, and to corporates, NGO partners, and individuals who have supported Youthreach, without whom we would not have been able to implement our Projects and Programmes.

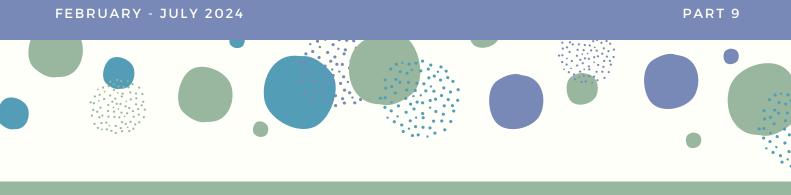
Our gratitude to Asahi India Glass Ltd. (AIS), Aureus Investment Pvt. Ltd. (AIPL), Avitech Nutrition Pvt. Ltd., Chanana Welfare Foundation (CWF), DMI Finance, McCoy Silicones Pvt. Ltd., Sir Sobha Singh Trust, Sona Comstar, Unipatch Rubber Ltd., and for being our partners in supporting our current Programmes and Projects. Special gratitude this quarter to Amit Malhotra, Anjali Khosla, Artdemic, Asahi India Glass Ltd., AVL India Pvt. Ltd., Avitech Nutrition Pvt. Ltd., Gujral Foundation, Imran Baig, Jai Springs, Jindi Khosla's Family, Kabir Bhandari, Kanan Kapur, Kema Foundation, Krishna Group, K. Sarajit, Leena Labroo, Neesha Singh, Nirmala Jain, Padminivna, Payal Vir, Pradeep Singh Jauhar, Rahul Kapur, Rajan Dhameja, Ramni Narula, Rani Kapur's Family, Sanjay Labroo, Shashi Singh, Sona Autocomp, Sunandan Kapur and Sunjay Kapur.

Publications

We conceptualised and edited three major books at Youthreach. 'If I Were Rain' explores the lives of children in India who live at a disadvantage and celebrates their spirit. 'The Secret Abode of Fireflies' is an amalgamation of perspectives on ecology and environmental issues in the country. 'Dreams and Journeys' is a collection of stories of 60 young people who came to Delhi to realize their dreams and what Youthreach made possible for them to achieve. To order your copy, please contact <u>ritika@youthreachindia.org</u>

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Board Members

Our deepest gratitude to 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), Jitendra Jha (Sr. Manager, Accounts), Neha S Chaudhry (Associate Manager), Siddhartha Kaul (Associate Manager), Md. Ifatkhar Alam (Associate Manager, Bawal), Mandeep Ahlawat (Project Coordinator, Bawal), Shahzada Imran (Senior Coordinator, Roorkee), Mohd. Masood Alam (Project Coordinator, Roorkee), Hiren Modhawadia (Senior Coordinator, Gujarat), Amardeep Singh (Associate Manager, Nalagarh), Vinesh Kumar (Coordinator, Gurugram), Manish Choudhary (Senior Coordinator, Soniyana), Prem (Office Assistant), Raushan (Office Assistant).

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



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