# YFS Annual Report 2016-17

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1. ABOUT YOUTH FOR SEVA

Youth for Seva (YFS), founded in April 2007, is a nation-wide volunteering movement that inspires youth to volunteer, and provides them with meaningful opportunities to serve the community.

The goal of YFS is to support schools, destitute shelters, government hospitals and other organizations in the social sector through volunteers who can use their skills to mitigate some of their shortcomings and challenges. YFS aims to create positive change agents in the society, through the culture of volunteering.

VISION

Self-reliant communities powered by selfless individuals.

MISSION

- To facilitate a movement of volunteering.
- To empower and enable individuals to become positive change agents.
- To enable institutions to effectively engage community to deliver services.
- To promote sustainable lifestyles.

Volunteering is made easy and customized to the individual's interests, time availability and skill sets. We have flexible volunteering models, where you can devote a few hours over the weekend or immerse yourself in the social sector for 6 months during a career break.
Namaste,

The last year has been a huge milestone in our journey as a nation-wide volunteering movement—it was our 10th year of making a difference to the society, and more so in our own individual lives; and in saying this, I speak on behalf of every single member of the YFS volunteering family, whose heads I see nodding in affirmation.

From the baby steps taken in 2007 with our roots in Bengaluru and not looking much beyond then, we have seen a phenomenal growth to be present in 33 cities/towns in 10 states across India, purely based on the tremendous potential and undaunting will of volunteers who are ever-willing to go that extra mile to devote their time and talent for the society.

The year saw us look beyond numbers, and focus more and devise strategies and design programs to achieve greater impact on the field—be it in terms of educational outcomes, health initiatives or any other chosen volunteering activity. It also saw us explore collaborations for delivering the best to the community, with strong partnerships being forged with CAF-India to be a part of their ‘Give As You Earn’ program, and with UNICEF as their executing partner for RKS (Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram)—a holistic adolescent health program in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh, to name a few.

Having experimented with the idea of volunteer engagement across geographical, individual and project diversities for the last 10 years, we also commissioned a third party to carry out a Vision-Gap analysis involving all our stakeholders including volunteers, corporates, partner NGOs and our board, to take stock of how aligned we are with what we set out to achieve, and make course corrections where necessary. We are truly delighted to see the alignment amongst all the stakeholders in doing their best for the development of the community. The outcome of this exercise is also the set of simplified Vision-Mission statements that you will see as a part of this report, and everywhere else moving forward.

The coming year, 2017-18 has already started on a highly exciting and energetic note, thanks to our year-long decennial celebrations. A bike rally from various parts of India to launch the decennial celebrations, a volunteering gala in the form of ‘Storyfied’ to engage 10000 volunteers across India over a single weekend, in narrating a story to be published by YFS on the theme of ‘Resilience’ to underserved children, and a conclave focused on ‘Corporate Volunteer Engagement for Community Betterment’ are the highlights of the celebrations.

In view of harnessing the potential of volunteering and the power of collaborations to a large extent and provide concrete direction, we have envisioned the following strategic priorities for delivering our best to the community at large:
1. Build Community Ownership (deep and engaging community volunteers)
2. Create Change Agents
3. Be a Thought Leader in the Volunteering Space
4. Build Government and Strategic Partnerships

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful team at YFS, all the volunteers, donors, our corporate and NGO partners, colleges and universities, and the board of trustees and advisors, for the unflinching support at all times of need. While looking forward to your continued support, we will consistently endeavour to deliver our promise of facilitating a movement of volunteering, where every individual feels empowered to make a difference, and also live up to our guiding principle of creating change agents invested in national development.

Vande Mataram!

Swathi Ram
National Coordinator

“Go, all of you, wherever there is an outbreak of plague or famine, or wherever the people are in distress, and mitigate their sufferings…Preach this ideal from door to door, and you will yourselves be benefited by it at the same time that you are doing good to your country. On you lie the future hopes of our country. Set yourselves to work – to work!”

-Swami Vivekananda
3. HIGHLIGHTS 2016-17

10 STATES
33 CITIES

17,360 VOLUNTEERS
91,806 BENEFICIARIES
1,32,984 VOLUNTEERING HOURS
4. FLAGSHIP EVENTS

4.1 SCHOOL KIT DRIVE

School Kit Drive addresses student retention at government and other needy schools, by gifting them school bags consisting of note books, pens, water bottles, labels etc., fulfilling their basic need of resources for the entire year. School kit drive 2016-17 saw the distribution of kits across various urban suburbs and rural areas of India.

Hyderabad also saw the participation of 400 volunteers who packed 8000 kits in just 2 hours, all under a single roof. Employees from WellsFargo, NTT DATA Ltd., Teklink Software private Ltd. have volunteered to distribute school kits at following rural areas: Solakpally, Achampet, Talkondapally, Ananthapet, Hanumakonda, Zaheerabad, Kodangal, Sadasivpet, and Narayankhed, in the districts of Adilabad, Mahboobnagar, Medak, Sangareddy and Warangal.

The campaign was a resounding success due to the efforts of the volunteers and donors.
Here are some figures from YFS School Kit Drive 2016:

- **950** in-house and corporate volunteers participated
- **40** corporate companies were involved
- **300** schools were covered
- **49,680** school kits distributed this year

School Kit Packing at Hyderabad
4.2 CHIGURU/NAVOUDIT: BUDDING EVERYWHERE!

“Chiguru”, a Kannada word, translates to ‘Budding’ in English. Budding is a sign of growth and we at YFS believe that the idea of growth for our children should extend beyond academics. This annual cultural show organized by Youth for Seva exists to broaden that definition of growth to include Music, Arts, Cooking, Yoga and Sports, and Public Speaking.

Chiguru, initially conceived as an inter-school competition in Bengaluru, has not only grown but also evolved. The highlight for 2016 was the addition of six new locations: Delhi (‘Navoudit’ in Hindi), Belagavi, Hubballi, Mysuru, Mancherial, Narayankhed & Warangal.

While Chiguru has been organized on a large scale in the South for the past few years, the Delhi Chapter surprised all by reaching such large numbers in their first year of conducting this event. In Delhi, the passion of youth volunteers from colleges contributed greatly the best possible kick-off for Chiguru in the North.

Months of preparation are undertaken by both volunteers and teachers to ensure the participants’ readiness for the event. We look forward to having Chiguru expand to more locations in 2017-18. Most importantly, we want to give participating children many more reasons to smile!

"About 20 employees from Persistent Systems volunteered at the Chiguru event. We simply didn't know what to expect! Arriving at the venue, getting acquainted with YFS and the gifting the students with goodie-bags in a cheerful atmosphere energized the volunteers. The event was planned well, thanks to YFS - everything was done to make the children and volunteers comfortable. Serving food to over 3000 children needed some spirited footwork from the volunteers who enthusiastically participated. Through this volunteering effort, we reconnected with the values instilled in us since our childhood. All in all, Chiguru was an incredible experience. We made some of our best memories that we will keep with us forever! Thanks to YFS for giving us this wonderful opportunity!"

- Vishnu Mamidipally,
Chief Principal Consultant
10,000+ Children

2,880 Volunteers

313 Project locations

8 Cities/towns
4.3 YUVA CHETANA AWARDS: WARRIORS OF CHANGE

Warriors of Change is an annual, national-level campaign to recognize and nurture college students doing their bit for the community. It aims at recognizing, incubating and nurturing social potential. In this 4th edition of the campaign, Youth for Seva reached out to every nook and corner of India, and received a total of 165 nominations. After 3 rounds of screening by esteemed panelists, 10 Warriors of Change were awarded in 4 categories:

1. Most Impactful - For volunteer work with most tangible impact
2. Visionary - For foresight and planning
3. Most Innovative - For “Out of the Box” solutions
4. Positive Journalism - For bringing to light stories of hope and change

The award ceremony was held at Consultation Club of India, Delhi, on 26th March 2017 where Dr. C R Magesh, Scientist ‘B’ Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was the Guest of Honor.

I was invited to attend the event Yuva Chetana Awards – The Warrior of change

Working selflessly for better tomorrow, better future for all. The whole program is to encourage and acknowledge the

extraordinary efforts of youth – the beacons of hope for a better tomorrow, to recognize and reward students serving the society by Youth for Seva. When I reached Constitution Club and met the team of YfS and attended the whole program, I was surprised and impressed by the way the event was organised, the passion of YfS team members, the positive energy of the group and the way the whole event was planned. I was able to become part of the whole process easily. The purity of intentions, their selfless nature and the cohesiveness coaxed me to say that we should always support and serve society through organisation like YfS and as shared during post event mingling I shared with the team that whatever is possible by me as a Mentor, Happiness Coach and Leadership Trainer, I am always available for the team, without any condition.

- GopiKrishan Bali,
CSR head (Volunteer training and development)
Bennett, Coleman & Co
4.4 #LIVELIKEKALAM

Promoting sustainable lifestyles is one of the core goals of Youth for Seva, since we believe in individuals being the change and bringing about more. A pan-India campaign #LivelikeKalam was celebrated from Oct 14th - 16th, in commemoration of the birth anniversary of the great visionary leader Sir Kalam. A ‘3C Challenge’ - one for each day, including Conscious Consumption, Conscious Choices and Conscious Commute were released, with simple practices that could be followed as a part of each. The campaign saw an engagement of 2 lakhs +, with people sharing and promoting simple, sustainable practices they follow in their everyday lives.

The Gujarat chapter organized a one-month campaign on sustainability, which culminated in the Dr. Kalam Youth Conclave, with 8 eminent speakers talking on Sustainable practices for everyday living. Nearly 20,000 school and college students were taught about sustainable lifestyles, in emulating Dr. Kalam’s simple living and high thinking.

Videos by distinguished personalities including Padmashri Dr. Prahalada Rama Rao who had worked with Dr. Kalam were also released as part of the campaign.

"A little inspiration changes your life and becomes the turning point of your life." My little inspiration is Youth for Seva and their campaign livelikekalam.

Working for such a good cause gave me satisfaction, which also turned out to be a great source of mental peace. I realized I'm creating a positive change, I've the opportunity to make a difference and I'll do it the best way I can. I felt responsible towards our society and nature. Such an exposure won't have been possible without YFS and the amazing people working there. It really amazed me to see people who have given all their lives to such a noble cause working selflessly with such enthusiasm and expecting no personal gain in return.

I knew about sustainable living but never thought such little steps will help me start practicing a sustainable lifestyle. Not only me but to all the people around me, YFS has made a difference in our life. It was pleasure interacting and discussing our views on the group. Such positive vibes from all the members of the group made me grow a lot in the past week. Appreciating each other’s work, motivating each other was such a lovely experience.

Thank you YFS for this opportunity. Looking forward for many more campaigns.

- Himani Bhadauria,
  B.Com (P), 2nd Year, Gargi College, Delhi
5. OUR CORE PROGRAMS

5.1 EDUCATION: NO CHILD SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND

School-centric activities including teaching spoken English, mathematics, basic IT skills, summer camps, National-Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS) coaching and Vidyachetana. These activities are aimed at filling the gaps present in government schools in terms of curriculum and preparing mostly first-generation learners for the outside world.

Teaching activities

Both weekday and weekend volunteers contribute to teaching at model schools. In addition to the previously established subjects of Spoken English, Maths and BasicComputers, volunteers were also involved in coaching students for the NMMS talent examination. YFS Hyderabad in particular, took great initiative in preparing students for this scholarship examination administered by the Central government which provides a monthly scholarship of Rs. 500 for 4 years, ensuring that 210 students were successful.

A summary of teaching activities for the year 2016-17 is presented in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Subject Taught / program name</th>
<th>Volunteers Participating</th>
<th>Schools reached</th>
<th>Students benefited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>Spoken English</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2200</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NMMS coaching</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>NMMS coaching</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As I actively started participating in YFS activities, my first big event was the NMMS teaching program. Initially, I was shocked as only 4 out of 80 7th grade students were qualified to write the scholarship test. I wanted to change the attitude with which students were approaching their studies. I would take classes early in the morning, one hour before their school started. Many of the 7th grade and 8th grade students showed interest and I asked whoever was interested to come. I taught them aptitude and maths and also helped with Hindi, other subjects and labs. Out of 3 who wrote the exam I got through and this was the proudest thing that has happened to me, even more than my own achievements!

- Keerthi Basa,
  Volunteer, Hyderabad
Summer Camps

Summer is a time when children are free from the demand of academics but it is also a period when they can learn something new while having fun. Activities such as art and craft, origami, acting, dancing and jewellery making help to increase their creativity while story-telling can be used as a means to imbibe values. This year, robotics was also one of the activities to encourage children to innovate beyond their textbooks. In the Bengaluru chapter, 191 volunteers were instrumental in the organization of these summer camps across 47 Seva Kendras, ensuring a reach of 920 beneficiaries.
LITERACY SURVEY AND AWARENESS IN SLUMS

75 volunteers from YFS Bhubaneswar chapter conducted literacy surveys around the slums of Bhubaneswar to ascertain the reason for high dropout rates in the area. The findings were that this was mainly due to their living conditions and lack of awareness about the importance of education among family members. Volunteers spoke to individual families during these surveys and encouraged them to send their children to school. The chapter hopes to build on this activity for the coming year.

"I have had a great experience with Youth for Seva. Most of us fail to recognize the change that our nation requires however, youth for Seva gives one a platform to contribute a little to this change. A famous saying, "Little drops of water make the mighty ocean," is what I have seen while working in YFS. I was not very good with children before but today I share a great rapport with them. The experience has been incredible at YFS. They have been providing us with many activities that help us build our personalities and add on to our skills. I have been volunteering for tutoring kids who belong to the underprivileged society. Once you enter the four walled house where these children study i am sure one would not want to leave. These children are forced into labour and made to work against their will. They are no different then us; they want to play just as we do ,live free and want to study to have jobs that can improve their present condition.

In the end, all I got from YFS was lots of positivity and a major change in my personality. There are a lot of experience that I might have missed out but my experience with YFS has been phenomenal. And it also incorporated into me a sense of selflessness - that one time when you put others before you. I would love to continue with my contribution with YFS to my country.

- Tripureshwari Paul,
BA (H) Applied Psychology
SEVA DINA: WHERE BENEFICIARIES TURN VOLUNTEERS

As part of YFS’ continuous endeavours towards making children more skillful, healthy and knowledgeable through its various flagship educational projects - yet another program, ‘Seva Dina’ was conducted in January 2017. The concept of providing selfless Seva at such an early age by these kids helps instill the true spirit of volunteerism and sows seeds of responsibility and altruism.

This year around 472 volunteers took the initiative to be a part of this program which touched the lives of close to 1600 plus students across different parts of Bengaluru, with activities such as Each One Teach One, Traffic Awareness, Awareness campaign on importance of Education, Save Water campaign and Sapling Plantation.

“

In conclusion, we can proudly say that “Seva Dina” was a grand success, not just because of the huge numbers of volunteers and our diverse topics, but because through our humble, noble ways we were able to touch lives of around 1600 students who would then spread the news amongst thousands of more Indian citizens. The spark of volunteerism and true responsibility that we lit up in these young minds, would soon become a wildfire.

- Aditya,
YFS Volunteer

“
5.2 A HEALTHY PASSION FOR HEALTH

There is still a large gap in terms of public health in India due to lack of awareness and timely screening for basic health problems. To mitigate this, YFS conducts both health screening and health awareness camps focused on schools and local communities.

This year, 200 doctors volunteered their time in the Bengaluru chapter to conduct health screening and awareness camps. Here is a snapshot of our reach in these areas:

- **9347** Children Screened
- **948** Refferals completed
- **4553** Awareness program reach
- **631** Eye Screenings completed
- **140** Spectacles provided

In addition to our core screening activities, YFS Bhubaneswar conducted a door-to-door awareness campaign in slums across the city to combat the rapid spread of dengue. 17 volunteers were divided into 4 groups and spoke to slum dwellers, particularly women and children, about the causes and prevention of dengue. The residents were also briefed on how their immediate surroundings, mainly stagnant water in pots and disused tires, provide breeding grounds for deadly mosquitoes. Besides this campaign, this chapter organized a blood donation drive where 930 volunteers participated.
5.3 CREATING A SAFER ENVIRONMENT FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

YFS organizes various green activities, across multiple cities.

Swachh Bharat

YFS partnered with India@75 (CII’s grassroots initiative) to organize a Cleanliness drive at Delhi in June 2016. It was a very dynamic event held at the busy area of Connaught Place, New Delhi which saw more sweepers than hawkers and more volunteers than shoppers. The event lasted 3 hours and involved more than 1000 volunteers who undertook the mission of thoroughly cleaning the area. Each one of them showed their enthusiasm in cleaning while creating a wave of awareness in the society. Seeing so many people in action, even the onlookers were motivated to join the cause.

Numerous Swacch Bharat drives have also been conducted in Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad and other cities, ensuring community engagement and sustenance.
Eco-friendly celebrations

YFS does its bit every year to make the festivities eco-friendly and increase awareness amongst people by organizing a mass clay Ganesha drive.

This year, in Hyderabad, around 150 volunteers reached out to about 6000 beneficiaries at 110 locations. Overall the drive was a success in adoption of eco-friendly Ganesha theme to the festival for a lot of families.

YFS Hyderabad volunteers also encouraged the practice of playing Holi with organic colours with more than 500 children in 30 locations across the country. Eco-friendly Holi was also celebrated at Delhi and Bhubaneswar.

Lake Cleaning

Lakes once contributed to the beauty of the city, but of late have become victims of pollution and land encroachment. This not only creates an unsightly scene but also disturbs the balance of the ecosystem. This year, YFS volunteers undertook to clean 5 lakes in Bengaluru and Hyderabad, thereby restoring them to their original state.
Sapling Plantation Drives

Another concerning consequence of the rapid pace of development is the loss of green cover in the pursuit of construction. The situation is alarming as trees and plants provide us with oxygen, without which we cannot breathe freely! YFS volunteers planted 4667 saplings this year to tackle this loss of greenery.

Scrub it - Bhubaneswar

Monuments have always been the illustration of heritage of a country. However, simply possessing them is not enough; preserving them should be equally prioritized.

In this direction, YFS volunteers organize regular 'Scrub it' drives to aid in revival and maintenance of monuments, and also sensitize visitors about their responsibility towards preserving the national wealth. Volunteers scrubbed the writings by general public on the rocks of Khandagiri and Udayagiri caves and also cleaned the surroundings.
5.4 EMPOWERING THE DIFFERENTLY-ABLED

Sphoorti: A cultural event

YFS celebrated the second edition of SPHOORTI 2016 in partnership with Sakshama Foundation, a national level organization working towards the all-round development of children with special abilities. Around 177 differently-abled children from 19 NGOs participated in 13 cultural events in 5 different categories. The children showcased their talent in various contests such as pick and speak, yoga, quiz, clay-making, fashion show, group dance, and braille writing. About 199 volunteers, including 70 corporate volunteers from CISCO, CTS, VM Ware, Adecco India, Mysis and Axis Bank, participated in this event.

Scribes

Differently-abled students frequently require assistance for examinations and YFS provides them with scribes. 744 volunteers served as scribes in 2016-17, contributing a total of 2232 hours.
320 specially abled kids (from centres like Akshayakruti, Medhosampatthi, Devnar school for blind, Autism Research and Multi-disciplinary School, etc.) took part in Chiguru-Hyderabad. Visually challenged kids performed few classical dances and sang heartwarming patriotic songs. The silent National Anthem enacted by hearing impaired kids stole hearts like none other.

“

The journey started a year ago, with a phone call from YFS about Enable Orientation. The orientation was very simple and straightforward, give something back to the society and do something special for the specially abled persons. Existing volunteers briefed their experiences and those stories touched me.

During this travel, I met many youngsters who are contributing their valuable time for the society, be it for a school, slum, village or a center for disabled I wonder even today how this generation youth is spending their extra hour for a valuable cause. Their everyday efforts inspired me and book of my experiences filled with more Volunteering activities like, school kit packing, distribution, clay Ganesha making, diya painting, saving the lakes, serving the needy, food distribution drive and few more activities for specially abled kids brought a greater meaning to my actions.

I love this travel which got lot of inner peace and now I strongly believe Volunteerism is a lifestyle

- Chandrika,
  Volunteer, YFS Hyderabad
5.5 Vidyachetana: Sponsor a Child

Vidyachetana provides educational support to children from underprivileged backgrounds carved out with the intention to create community outreach centres assisting in the fields of education and vocational training in economically backward areas. It was started in 2009 to connect those who are in need for educational sponsorship and donors who wanted to give back to society.

The scheme has grown rapidly over the years and in 2016-17, 3528 children were supported by 577 donors. The number of learning centres has also increased from 62 to 73, with a presence in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

In the recently concluded SSLC examinations, 12% of supported students scored distinction and 51% obtained first-class marks. The stellar performance was also replicated by students appearing for 2nd PU exams: 33% scored distinction while 59% achieved a first-class.

“YFS - Vidyachetana is a great initiative which helps people like me who want to give back to the society but are too occupied in our own day to day job. YFS helps to bridge the gap between the helper and the need help, and their Sponsor a Child program does it in such ease and transparent manner that you know your contribution is going in the right place. I have been associated with the program for the last 5 years and I am grateful to YFS for taking the relationship between me and the child I am sponsoring to the next level by helping the sponsored child for her higher education now. It’s even more satisfying when you connect with the child and see the progress they are making in their studies’

- Parul Gupta,
  Donor, Sponsor a Child Project
6 PARTNERSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

6.1 ENGAGEMENT WITH CORPORATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Corporates engaged with</th>
<th>No. of new Corporate Partnerships</th>
<th>No. of events held</th>
<th>No. of Volunteers</th>
<th>No. of beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>6058</td>
<td>11,249</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here are some highlights of our corporate engagement:

Dhaatri Mother’s Milk Bank

A study by the YFS team revealed that Telangana faced one of the highest rates of neonatal and infant deaths in South India, attributed to factors such as extremely low breastfeeding rates and lack of surround medical infrastructure, both in terms of equipment and manpower.

After extensive consultations with domain experts, the team decided to set up a Mother’s milk bank at Nilofer Hospital, Hyderabad. Known by the name of ‘Dhaatri’, it stems from the thought that newborns deprived of their own mother’s milk can be given a donor mother’s milk.

Corporate partners Wells Fargo India, Cotiviti Cares and NTT Data came forward to support the setup of Telangana’s First Mother’s Milk Bank while YFS is mobilizing volunteers to spread awareness of the importance of breast milk in the surrounding communities.

“

It is education, the key for liberating lives. When I along with my team have visited Govt. schools in Anantapur, it is clear how backward the villages still are. When the situation of the village, close to a well known place like Nirmal is in such state, we could envision the circumstances in remote tribal agencies. We aspire to work towards providing quality education to the students and helping the economically backward communities for a better living. Thanks Youth for Seva, for providing us this chance to interact with the children and school authorities. We will continue to render our best support. All the best.

- Prasad Tipparaju,
  Director, NTT DATA

“
School Adoption Programs by Yokogawa and Texas Instruments

Yokogawa has adopted 15 government schools of Jagalur and Chikkaballapura in Karnataka and provide them with interventions such as building of infrastructure for computer training such as setup of computer labs and hiring suitable teachers, setup of libraries with adequate books, school kit distribution, development of teaching material for English and Maths, and capacity building for teachers.

Texas Instruments adopted a total of 6 government schools in Bengaluru and motivated employees to support teaching activities, summer camps, and sanitation awareness, and organize events such as Annual Day, science fairs and educational tours. Around 157 volunteers gave their time, directly impacting over 2800 children. A highlight of our collaboration is that the Government Lower Primary School at Annasandrapalya, one of the adopted schools, has been shortlisted for the state-level ‘Swachh Vidyalaya’ program.

“
The support given by Texas company & YFS to our school, GHPS Kathriguppe is commendable. Renovation of toilets and construction of urinals has helped every student to use the toilets without any problems. Providing salary to the toilet maintenance person has helped in terms of hygiene and good health of students. We appreciate and expect the same cooperation in the coming future. We are glad that our students needs are met, which gives us a complete satisfaction. Thank you.

- Ramaswamy,
  Head Master, Kathriguppe school, Bengaluru

CISCO Student Enrichment Program, Bengaluru

In partnership with CISCO, YFS has identified 28 schools across Bengaluru, Kuppam and Delhi to provide students with educational support, be it in the form of school kit distribution, setup of libraries, providing contractual teachers, awarding scholarships to meritorious students or health screenings. Volunteers from CISCO have enthusiastically conducted eye pre-screenings for children and also taught English and Basic Maths at partner schools.
Lab on Wheels

The cornerstone of science education is practical laboratory work without which many theoretical concepts are not well understood. Unfortunately, there is a lack of infrastructure in government schools and students are therefore detrimentally affected. YFS’ team visited 40 government schools in 2016-17 and demonstrated interesting experiments to over 3000 children from classes 5, 6, and 7. This project was supported by Armstrong.

Corporate Volunteering, Bengaluru

Mitra Jyothi is working towards assisting visually impaired individuals and enabling them to lead independent, dignified lives through education. 20 volunteers from Wells Fargo took part in giving voice tests for audio recording and scanning documents which in-turn will be helpful for visually impaired individuals for their education.

100 kids from Nele homes for the destitute and Surabhi Trust visited Dell office as part of their CSR activity. The activity enabled them to gain exposure of how a corporate office functions and hopefully inspired them to work towards their future dreams.

A newspaper collection drive was conducted at NASDAQ office to support Sandhya Kirana, an organization working towards providing support services to senior citizens. They provide a platform for elders to learn certain skills such as making paper bags, candles, dolls, greeting cards, mats etc. These products are then sold, enabling our seniors to earn a minimum income. NASDAQ employees came together to successfully run this newspaper collection drive and donated newspapers to Sandhya Kirana so that senior citizens could make paper bags.
Corporate Volunteering, Hyderabad

A whopping 600+ employees from Wells Fargo were engaged in various activities throughout the year including seed-ball making, cleanliness campaigns, career counseling drives, rural visits and sports meet with differently-abled kids.

200 employees from Thomson Reuters were involved in Paper bag making, Clay Modelling, Sports activity at Kondapur government school, and a 100kms cycle ride to promote the idea of YFS and volunteering.

A cohort of 30 employees from NTT data volunteer at Shishu Mandir, Fateh Nagar adopted by the company. Similarly, employees from Persistent volunteer at the slum learning centres adopted by the company.

School Kit Drive also saw the participation of Google, Virtusa Corporation, Cotiviti HealthCare, AMD, GGK Tech, Ernst &Young, CA Technologies, Value labs, TMIEC, Capgemini, Oracle, Rockwell Collins, Hyderabad Industries Limited, Teklink, AMS, Sparsity, Verizon, Opentext, Thomson Reuters.


Corporate Volunteering, Delhi-NCR

Delhi saw the active participation of 56 volunteers from Dell in it’s first edition of Navoudit – Cultural event for the underprivileged. Sapling plantation drives, painting competitions in schools, cloth donation drives, cleanliness drives were also conducted in various NGOs like Desire Society, Earth Saviour Foundation etc... and saw the participation of 200+ volunteers from Dell, CISCO, SRSG, GlobeOps, Ericsson and KPII
6.2 ENGAGEMENT WITH COLLEGES

The objective of YFS is to sensitize college students towards current issues in the society and inspiring them to bring positive change. At the same time, it is important to establish a good relationship with college management in order to facilitate a sustainable volunteering model for students.

In 2016-17, we actively engaged 2000 college volunteers from 50 colleges located in Bengaluru in different projects, out of which 1592 volunteers participated in YFS’ one-time activities, 214 volunteers proactively engaged in Partner NGOs, and 194 were engaged as Seva interns.

YFS Bengaluru also conducted a Corneal Blindness Awareness Campaign on 31st July. The campaign was a platform to sensitize citizens on ‘Corneal Blindness, Eye pledging and Signature for declaring Eye as a National asset’. 520 students reached out to 5,287 people and in turn made an impact on 1,739 people to pledge their eyes for donation.

"YFS Seva Internship program was a platform for me where I could contribute something for the society. It helped me to lend a helping hand for the children who are deprived of certain facilities. I would like to thank YFS for giving me this opportunity. I would like to remain connected to YFS"

- Vaishnavi
  Seva Intern, BMSCE, Bengaluru
Delhi-NCR chapter engaged 278 Seva interns in various activities throughout the year. Partnerships with SRCC, Aurobindo College, Gargi College, SGND Khalasa college have proved to be very valuable for YFS in student volunteer engagement.

“Being a part of youth for Seva has been an incredible experience for me. Youth for Seva is a body which brings together the youth of the country to work on some of the most prominent issues which we today face as a society. We all understand the need for policies which the government frames for the betterment of some particular groups like the poor, the marginalised, orphans or for awareness towards environmental issues, etc.

But merely understanding the policies isn’t how the youth, i.e., the future of the nation will be sensitized towards these issues. For this, they need to confront the ground realities, by understanding closely these issues, and finding out details about them. This is what YFS has instilled in me, a habit of understanding deeply the plights of the people, of the society. I believe YFS has changed me a lot as a person. It has given me a platform to come out of the academic culture, and given some space for critical thinking and analysis.

All in all, it is an experience worth cherishing.

- Apoorva Dua,
  B.Com (P), 2nd Year, Gargi College, Delhi
YFS has been focused on enabling a culture of volunteering and cultivating volunteers into positive change agents in society, which would be possible only with collaboration between corporations, partner NGOs, schools, doctors, professionals and college students. The annual day offered an opportunity for all of these catalysts of change to come together under one roof to celebrate their spirit of giving. Annual Day 2016-17 was held in Bengaluru on the 21st of January 2017 with 526 attendees, and in Hyderabad on 5th of February 2017 with 183 attendees.

YFS laid out in one voice the clear vision of a self-reliant society where developmental needs are met locally by selfless individuals.

The event in Bengaluru began with 155 beautiful voices singing the National Song. Together, they greeted the attendees and filled the hall with a powerful declaration of love and devotion towards the Motherland. The evening was further enriched by children from the Sneha Seva Trust, who performed their winning dance from Chiguru.

Sri Tejasvi Surya, a social entrepreneur, prominent political reformist, and motivational speaker in the Bengaluru circuit, joined the evening as the Chief Guest. He spoke about the very important distinction between ‘Charity’ and ‘Seva’ and encouraged the audience to adopt the latter. Strong ideas of economic empowerment and nation-building also rippled throughout his talk.

Hyderabad was blessed to have the august presence of renowned social worker Sri Appala Prasad RaoJi who enlightened the audience on the spirit of Seva.

The core of YFS Annual Day is the Seva Sankalp, where every attendee is given the opportunity to pledge their time and resources towards betterment of the society. It is therefore apt that this pledge is undertaken in the birth month of Swami Vivekananda, our ideal whose words still echo as one of the strongest proponents of the culture of selfless service.
This selfless service has been the hallmark of a YFS Volunteer. They remain the bedrock of the organization’s campaign for change. Volunteers who crossed 50 hours, 100 hours, and 500 hours of service were respectively honored on stage with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. Every volunteer was received with thunderous applause. For those who completed 500 hours, the crowd chose to bestow upon them a standing ovation.

YFS works closely with many organizations to broaden the reach and deepen the impact of the work it does. The mementos presented served as symbols of recognition and appreciation of partnerships, the efforts of the past and carried promises of cooperation for the future. As schools, colleges, hospitals, NGOs and corporations came up to collect their mementos, the vastness with which the volunteering movement had spread was palpable.
8 OUR PARTNERS
9. RECOGNITION

A DELIGHTFUL DAY OUT FOR CHILDREN

December 2 was just another day for the 1500 plus government and informal school children in the city. It was a day of joy, enthusiasm and triumph for these children. Youth for Seva, (YFS), had organized Chiguru 2012, an annual event that provides opportunity for children to showcase their extracurricular talents.

SUCHASMOJ

A day packed with enthusiasm, energy, enjoyment and the highlights of all being the natural kids who were an added bonus to this fun filled occasion. Chiguru-2012 an annual event organized by the Youth for Seva for the government school kids who attended extra-curricular classes in December 2 at VJ Medical College premises on RV Road. The event was sponsored by Dell and Cambridge Silicon Labs (CSL).

One in government schools of Bangalore and above 1500 children from these schools participated in the cultural events and sports activities, which were organized by the Youth for Seva.

A true mentor for many!

Symbol of dedication, compassion
Green Commandos aim for zero waste

For those interested in Zero Waste Commandos, it was an assign-ment which they entered during the intercultural presentation on the topic of environmental conservation held in management colleges in the city. - Selukarangal Sangama Road, Bhaskarla and Shankar Road.

The implementation of Zero Waste Commandos, an organisation which includes common people, members of civic organisations and school children of various ages, has created a green revolution in the city. The organisation takes steps to promote waste segregation and recycling at various locations in the city.

Recently, it was announced that a Zero Waste Commando was also formed in the town of Bhaskarla and took charge of handling waste in the city

Deprived kids flower at Chiguru finale

The platform is intended to provide opportunities to youth who want to take an active part in community development.

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10. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS

TRUSTEES

D.M.Kiran, President - YFS, CEO - iSol Softech Pvt Ltd.

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Madan Padaki, Co-founder & CEO, Head Held High Services

Dharmendra Rangain, Director IT, IT Leader for India/SAARC region, CISCO

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MP Shyam, Managing Director, Akshaya Benz
Inspire...  
Connect...  
Transform...  

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