



Youth for Seva

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Activity Report

2012 - 13



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Youth for Seva

(A Project of Hindu Seva Pratishtana)

Activity Report 2012-2013

Bangalore Chapter



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NOTE FROM THE COORDINATOR

“Describing an event is simple. Detailing a celebration is tough. But wording an experience is perhaps nigh impossible.”

It is that time of the year, again, where I am tasked with the responsibility of wording the experience of YFS; review the journey so far, reflect on the endeavors and refine the plans for the coming year.

At the outset, I would like to clearly outline YFS's role as an enabler in society. We are all witness to the changing panorama of life around us and the problems are manifold. Yes, the problems of yesterday continue to taunt us, even as we fight tooth and nail to keep evil at bay. Then again, we are also faced with an evolved form of social evil and social enterprises have to evolve as well to effectively tackle this new evil that is slowly gaining hold in the roots of modern civilization. YFS seeks to address both these sets of problems, and not just limit itself to a particular framework or issue plaguing our society and I believe that the founding principle of our organization - “Promoting Volunteerism” has a definitive role to play and it's heartwarming to see the palpable enthusiasm and continued commitment of people joining our ranks as volunteers.

Nurturing our flesh and blood !

Recognizing the necessity of expanding our volunteer base and nurturing existing volunteers to optimize their efforts, various initiatives were undertaken such as orientation for new volunteers which were conducted twice a month throughout the year, thus expanding our volunteer base. Cluster Meetings were initiated monthly in all the 4 clusters. Furthermore, interactions with inspiring individuals like Dr. Harish Hande, Mr. Sanjay Gubbi and Dr. Balasubramaniam were organized for volunteer enrichment. A 6 days residential camp for all fulltime volunteers from across the country and a 2 days residential camp for part time volunteers in Bangalore were conducted to facilitate the growth and enrichment of volunteers.

YFS engaged 30 Seva Interns during the past year along with 8 international interns and 11 fellowship volunteers.

The infant is now a toddler !

YFS has undertaken numerous initiatives in the verticals of Education, Health and Environment like Doctors for Seva, Government School Adoption, Rural initiatives, corporate partnerships, Non-formal school for children of migrant labour, Sponsor a Child, School kit Drive, Summer camps, Seva Fair and ParisaraGanapati and so on. The infant that YFS once was is now a toddler consolidating the steps and ensuring that these programs are fine tuned, their fallacies worked upon and efficiency increased such that the benefactors can truly reap the fruits of such initiatives.

Novel Initiatives: positive activism, the microcosm way !

YFS sincerely believes in the potential of the youth and looks to channelize this innate fire in them in the right direction. One such example is that of the success story of Bhadravathy, where YFS volunteers, mostly college students, effectively put a stop to children begging in the town. Their commitment and dedication was even appreciated by the Superintendent of Police at Bhadravathy station.

To bring about holistic development in the students, a partnership was formed with VSET for incorporating value education in volunteering. Another initiative was the partnership with Agastya International, to promote scientific temper and nurture the scientific curiosity of the young minds via science experiments.

On a happy note, I would like to comment on the consistency of rural initiatives like that in Afzalpur where specialist doctors were posted on rotation to Afzalpur Taluk health centre in Gulbarga district. DFS has received an official letter of support from the Health & Family Welfare Department, signed by the NRHM Mission Director, for our 3 main initiatives - Rural project, Doctor at School and Menstrual Hygiene program.

Co-operating the Corporate way!

A staunch ally in all our efforts has been the corporate sector. In total, YFS engaged 31 corporates. Expansion of CSR engagements at Bosch (from 10 to 18 schools), EMC (1 to 2 school adoption), Alliance (from 150 to 400 students for sensitization and introduction to the developmental sector), along with new initiatives at Cisco and Dell are keynote happenings that deserve special mention. The level of involvement and planning by Dell employees for the annual cultural student extravaganza called "CHIGURU" clearly demonstrated the potential of micro-volunteering.

In a nutshell

Volunteers were, are and will continue to be the backbone of YFS. Without the commitment, dedication and passion of the volunteers, scripting all our success stories would have been impossible.

YFS is largely supported by the generous contribution from individual donors, who believe in the power of Youth. This has given us the confidence to think big and act better. We sincerely appreciate contributions from every one of them and look forward to their continued support.

Our country is awakening from its slumber. It is time for us, the people of this country, children our Motherland, to awaken as well and realize our destinies. Let us march on with heads held high, and hearts strengthened to bring about the change we badly need, to be the change we badly need.

I take your leave by repeating the mantra at YFS: "make volunteering a movement."

JAI HIND!

- Venkatesh Murthy, Founder and National Organizing Secretary

YOUTH FOR SEVA

Youth for Seva (YFS) started in April 2007 as a platform to provide opportunities for youth who wanted to take an active part community development despite time constraints. Through this platform, YFS aims to empower youth to become positive change makers who will enable organizations and institutions to work without a vested interest. The goal of YFS is to support schools, NGOs, government hospitals and other organizations in the social sector through volunteers who can help them mitigate some of their shortcomings and challenges. Volunteering is made easy and customized to the individual's interests and time constraints. Youth for Seva (YFS) is a project under Hindu Seva Pratishthana.

Vision

A self-reliant and happy society where there is harmony and where the developmental needs are addressed locally through individuals who act without vested interest.

Mission

- ◆ To facilitate a movement of volunteering.
- ◆ To empower and enable individuals to become positive change agents in the society.
- ◆ To enable institutions to effectively engage community to deliver services.
- ◆ To create models to address developmental needs through the culture of volunteering.
- ◆ To promote sustainable lifestyles among individuals and strengthen the required social institutions to sustain communities.

Advisory Board

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Organizing Secretary

Venkatesh Murthy

Founder and Organizing Secretary

YFS Bangalore – Steering Committee

Bangalore chapter has a steering team that comprises of both part time and fulltime volunteers.

For 2013-14, these are the members of steering team:

Murali Rao

President

Soumya Dey

Organizing Secretary

Keerthishankar K.N.

Verticals Manager

Raksha Ramachandra

Member

Naresh Bhadrecha

Member

Ajay Gopal

Member

Volunteering Models

Youth for Seva has designed several volunteering models to enable individuals get involved in the community despite their time constraints. These models also allow volunteers to commit for a longer period of time. Volunteering is made easy as it caters to the individual's interests and convenience w.r.t. time availability and location. Currently, the following models are in place:



Weekend volunteering : Spare a few hours on weekends. This is ideal for professionals and college students.

Weekday volunteering: Give few hours for 2-3 days during the week. This is most suitable for housewives and retirees.

Seva Vacation: Volunteer every day for 1 month or more. Typically, college students serve during their semester breaks.

Seva Intern : Volunteer every day for more than 2 months. College students who wish to learn more about the social sector can benefit from this model. YFS will provide certificates after the intern completes the project.

Seva Fellowship : Volunteer every day for 6 months or more to gain deeper understanding of the social sector and contribute significantly. This is suitable for those looking for a job or looking for a career change. YFS will reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred during this time.

Virtual Volunteering : People with special skills like creative writing, movie making, website creation, graphics design, etc. can help YFS and other NGOs with backend tasks such as creating websites, newsletters, grant proposals and project reports.

Why Volunteering

“ So long as millions are living in hunger and ignorance, I hold every man a traitor, who, having been educated at their expense, pays not the least heed to them. ”

– Swami Vivekananda

Importance of Community Engagement:

There are many programs and activities implemented by the government, NGOs and corporates to reach out to the economically needy section of the society. There is a limit to the extent which government, corporates and NGOs could help the society. Funds to help the poor will run out and continual pumping of investments in these programs will continue. However, it is through volunteerism which will sustain the help granted by the people who earn from the society.

Volunteerism stems from the heart of the people. In the longer term, volunteerism enables mass community engagement. Volunteers are also the communication bridges for implementation of new government policies. Besides helping to raise awareness of the programs reaching out to the needy, volunteers also ensure the emotional well being of the people. The power of volunteerism cannot be undermined. It is the collective power of volunteers who can help make our society a better place.

When every individual in the society realizes the need to engage with the community, the government can empower the community and catalyze development by providing a platform that makes it easy for individuals to get involved in the community despite their time constraints.

YFS and Volunteerism

A strong society should not require NGOs or any such external agents. The community itself should be able to organize and take care of its needs. Grooming individuals to become change agents within their own community will empower the people to become capable to manage their own development. The chief goal of YFS is to develop a platform that helps individuals take an active role in their community by presenting volunteering opportunities to them. Ultimately, YFS hopes to instill individual social responsibility to all. Empowering volunteers to be change agents is the first step towards this goal. This empowerment is done through volunteer trainings and sensitizing volunteers to society's needs. YFS should enable such individuals to become competent to provide leadership in the community to create self-organizing society. Through volunteerism, volunteers can also meet people from all walks of lives and this will be helpful for them in the later parts of their life journey.



Contours of Volunteering

Driving a volunteer movement is the ultimate aim of YFS. This section presents the different volunteer program YFS has and how each segment contributes to the organization.

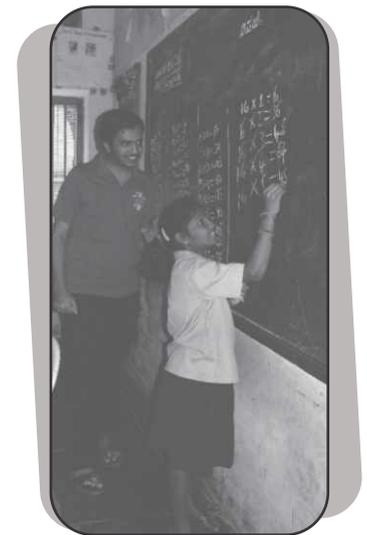
Overview of YFS Volunteers

<i>Volunteering Model</i>	<i>Number of volunteers</i>
Weekend	974
Weekday	45
Fellowship	11
Intern	38
Vacation	90
Virtual	83
One-time / for events	1265
Total	2506

Weekday / Weekend Volunteers

There are several volunteers who regularly spend 1-2 hours per week at a school either in education or health activities. In the past year, there have been 45 weekday and 330 weekend volunteers.

Individuals from all walk of life volunteer on an ongoing basis for YFS – be it college students, high school students, housewives and those who are working full time. There is so much dedication volunteers bring to the work that numbers don't do them any justice.



“ Interacting with children is very refreshing and satisfying, it can wash away all accumulated stress. My teaching stint has increased my patience, enhanced my ability to listen, negotiate. ”

- Murali, YFS Volunteer, works at Oracle

Seva Fellowship

YFS recruited 11 fellowship volunteers for the past year. These fellowship volunteers were given major projects to work on during their fellowship. For fellowship volunteers under the health vertical, they are primarily involved in fieldwork where they visit the schools and community to assess their needs for health services. Volunteers under fellowship are also given the autonomy to decide on the projects which they would like to work on based on their personal interests. One of our fellowship volunteers helped to plan and organize the Chiguru event by coordinating the logistics for this event.



“ Before joining YFS as a full time fellowship volunteer, I was doing part time volunteering with YFS for a year. Since the fellowship started, I have been involved in coordinating projects for one of the volunteer cluster. I have enhanced my communication and crisis management skills since taking up the role of managing volunteers. I enjoy interacting with the volunteers informally to check up on their progress, this has also improved my level of confidence in meeting people. Meanwhile, if any other NGO or verticals of YFS are in need of volunteers, I will also do my best to help mobilize the volunteers for these activities. I enjoyed my work at YFS a lot as I have always wanted to contribute to the society. I encourage everyone to take up the fellowship program as you will be amazed by how much you can gain. ”

- Nivedita, Fellowship Volunteer

Seva Interns

For Seva Interns, YFS provides the flexibility the areas which they would like to work in. This allows the interns to develop their skills as well as working on projects which they are passionate about. YFS recruited 38 Seva Interns for the past year and 8 of them were international interns.

“ Working as a YFS intern has enabled me to be a more independent person while teaching me about the meaning of 'seva'. I was able to work on the ground-level in schools as well as with organizational work for the organization, and I feel like that combination of experiences has been invaluable for me. This summer, I learned a great deal. ”

- Shivani, intern from USA



Seva Vacation

During their semester break, there were 90 local Seva vacation volunteers. Besides being involved in the activities and programs under the three main verticals of YFS, these vacation volunteers also helped out with organization of major YFS events and documentation work. In general, these volunteers help out with teaching at government schools, recruitment drive under health vertical and other co-ordination work.

“ It is very easy to narrate my experience at YFS. When I joined, I thought of it as a means to spend my time usefully. I chose teaching as I was interested in teaching. What I did not know that I am going there for the kids, and not for me. But 1 month into YFS, I have realized the bigger picture. I now know that my teaching at a school is a part of a larger plan of enhancing our education system. Having said that, volunteering also helps me be a responsible citizen. ”

- Gaurav Dave, B.E. student from R.V. College of Engineering

Virtual Volunteers

The key goal of virtual volunteering is to fulfill documentation and communication requirements within YFS and other partner NGOs. YFS recognizes the fact that many people are interested to volunteer but are unable to fork out to do so physically. Virtual volunteering is a good option as volunteers can contribute from work or home. Volunteers can contribute by helping to write and design content for website, brochure and reports. Opportunities are also available for social media mavens who wish to help maintain our social media platforms. Additionally, virtual volunteers also assist with translation work and audio recording for the blind. In sum, in the past year, 38 volunteers were engaged in documentation and 45 volunteers were engaged in audio recording for the blind.

Youth for Seva in collaboration with 'SAKSHAM' (an NGO working with visually challenged people) is organizing a workshop to train our volunteers on how to create audio files, how to edit them in 'audacity' (an open source software) to create tracks and indexing for random access and also to use a specialized equipment called 'ABRAR' that helps such students to easily index the lessons.

Volunteers are sent e-books of textbooks; they then record the books and upload the mp3 audio files.

“ My experience with Writers for Seva has been great . This was the first time I've written articles for an NGO. The process and the team at WFS makes it really simple and easy to contact the volunteers for volunteer highlight story and even the stories of change. Its incredibly easy to carry out and execute the whole process of writing and capturing a story. ”

- Anuj, Writers for Seva Volunteer



Volunteer Development

With the growing number of YFS volunteers every year, the volunteer management team has also put in effort to orient these volunteers and train them to become change agents. Regular meetings are set up to discuss volunteer issues and keep them motivated on the volunteer journey which they have embarked on. The volunteer management team seeks to engage individuals who want to contribute to society by volunteering taking into account their interests, skills, location, time availability.

Volunteer Get-together

Volunteers in YFS are divided into four clusters namely: Banashankari, Jayanagar, Malleshwaram and Indiranagar. Regular cluster meetings are held on the first Sunday of every month. Cluster meetings serves as a platform for volunteers to share their experiences and challenges throughout their volunteer journey. Volunteer meetings are platforms where volunteers can share their experiences and obtain solutions for their problems from senior. It is also an opportunity to foster bonds among the volunteers from different clusters. Volunteers are also informed of the organizational plans during volunteer meetings.

Volunteer Orientations and Trainings

The key objective is to introduce volunteer to social realities take them through the various social structures. The session also talks about the gaps within the society and how these volunteers could fill the gaps. Volunteer Orientations are held twice a month and 23 orientations have been conducted to date. In the past year, 650 new volunteers have attended orientation sessions.

Volunteer trainings such as enrichment sessions and workshops are held once a month. For the past year, 11 enrichment sessions and 2 workshops were conducted as part of volunteer development. Zonal coordinators have also undergone specific induction training to groom and further enhance their leadership skills.



The highlights of the volunteer development camps are as follows:

2-day camp at S-VYASA for part-timers

Youth for Seva had organized a weekend camp (from Oct 5 – Oct 7) for part-time volunteers at S-VYASA and 82 volunteers participated to make it a success. There were various resource persons like Shikaripura Krishnamurthy who conducted sessions on team building and leadership and Prof. Vaidyanathan from IIM-B who spoke of the impact of family values on the country's economy.

During the camp, the concept of seva was being educated. Team building activities such as Yoga was also conducted during the session. National Coordinator of YFS, Venkatesh Murthy also shared the founding principles of YFS. The 'Seva attitude' was also continuously reiterated throughout the camp and the fundamental notion of volunteering was brought up during the camp.

Motivating volunteers to keep on spreading the volunteering movement was paramount and many inspirational figures were also mentioned and shared with the volunteers. The camp ended with volunteers updating what they have done and the upcoming activities which they have planned.

“ We were privileged to be in a serene environment which lives and spreads the vision and message of Swami Vivekananda and triggers positive energy within us. It was a tightly packed schedule for 2 days with highly motivating, fun-filled and knowledgeable sessions. It has broadened our thinking about doing seva in the society... Through this camp, we had an opportunity to meet like minded people and it has helped us widen our horizons both personally and socially ”

- M.S.Vas

6-day camp for full-timers

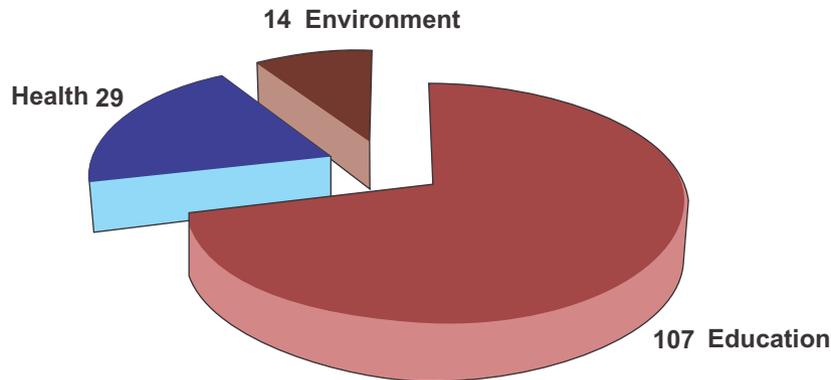
35 full-timers from Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore chapters came together for a 6 day residential camp at Nagarbhavi, Bangalore from February 19 to 24. The camp was organized to provide ample opportunity for the team to get to know each other in both formal and informal settings. The main purpose of the camp was to motivate the employees, educate about the founding principles of YFS as well as allowing them to rediscover themselves.

The 6-day camp also allowed the full-timers to expand one's horizon through interactive sessions with inspiring social workers as well as appreciating the personal journey of each fellow team member who has stepped into this social space due to diverse experiences and motivation. In addition, the team also discussed approaches to solving an issue in the community, participated in talent show.

YFS Partnerships

YFS believes in collaboration as community development is a complex process which requires partnerships to serve as much and reach as many as possible. YFS has several partnerships: other NGOs, Government Organizations, Colleges, Corporate, Hospitals, etc.

The following table summarises the number of partners YFS has under each vertical:

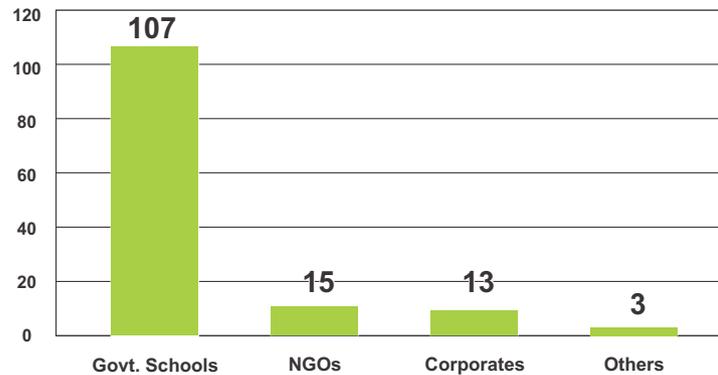


“ The length and breadth of the programs run by Youth for Seva is very impressive. I have been engaging with them for various campaigns for the last 2 years and the sheer amount of passion and enthusiasm that YFS and all the YFS volunteers brings on the table is extremely inspiring. The diverse programs they are running coupled with the result oriented approach to each initiative is something that acts as an enabler to continue driving employee engagements with EMC. ”

- Divya Sen, Program Manager of Corporate Sustainability, EMC

Education Partners

YFS currently partners with 107 government schools. The aim of the partnership is to identify and fill the gaps in government school through volunteer's time. Needs assessments are usually done at these schools before engaging the volunteers.

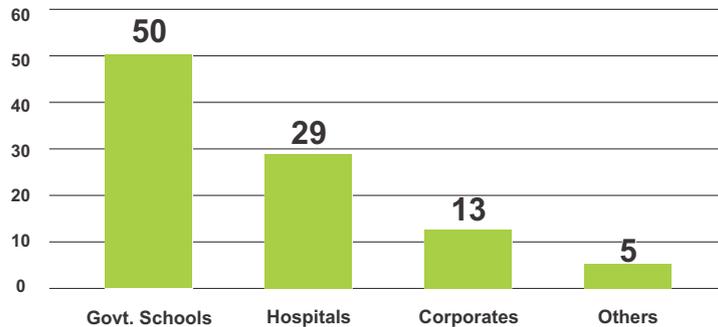


“On Jan 17th 2013, BMC Software had a unique evening to remember! 12 children through the Sponsor a Child program, came to BMC Bangalore office. It was amazing to see their energy & enthusiasm! Be it the sparkle in the child's eye when they experienced their first Video conference or the joy of seeing hundreds of computers together inside the server room! They were fascinated with how access cards work! They had so many questions about servers, computers & the internet! Then there were fun filled games, songs, dance & story telling. This event was a huge inspiration to the children. They promised us that they would study harder & achieve their ambitions! Even the volunteers left with a smile on their faces. It was indeed a 'Prerana!' ”

- Nishchita, BMC Software employee

Health Partners

YFS worked with 5 government and 24 private hospitals last year. These hospitals offer their health services to the schools which require health screenings. YFS volunteers play a vital role in organizing these health screenings in school by co-ordinating and selecting the suitable children to participate in these screenings.

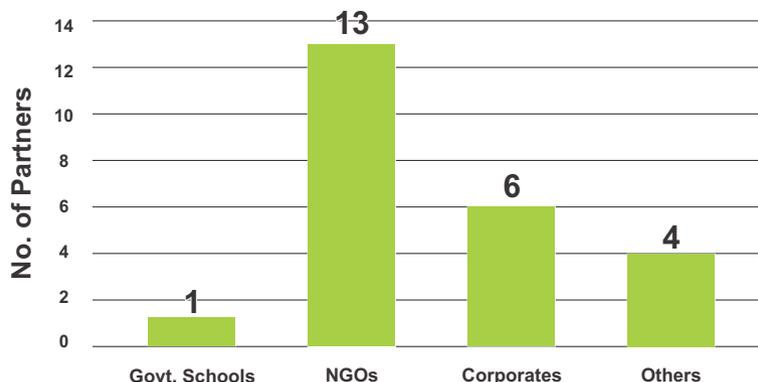


“ A continuum of great service rendered by the government medical team, reaching out to screen, pick up , refer and treat the underprivileged school child, far from the public eye. Let's join hands with them, let's make that extra caring contribution of our time and expertise, to make a worthwhile difference. ”

- Dr. Shubha Badami, Pediatrician & President IAPBPS.

Environment Partners

Under the environment sphere, there are a total of 24 partners. These partners consist of government boards, self-help groups as well as NGOs. YFS collaborate with these partners to organize environment related events for the community. More information could be found under the environment section of the report.



Other Collaborations

The Alliance School of Business partnered with YFS to provide an introduction and orientation to the development sector for its management students. The orientation program included a session that provided an overview of YFS and its activities.

Students interacted with the staff and inmates of these NGOs; participated in Tree plantation, visit to village. Also students were suggested how management professionals could assist and make a difference in the growth and development of NGOs.

The summary of the visits are captured below

Sl.No	NGO	No. of Visits	No. of Students
1	Nele (Urban NGO)	2	48
2	Ramana Maharishi Blind School (Urban NGO)	3	83
3	Shivanahalli Ramakrishna Mission (Rural NGO)	5	267



“ The orientation visits organized by YFS for students of Alliance University proved to be successful as we were able to give the students an insight into the grassroot realities of the sector. Feedback also revealed that the students were really moved by the rural visit to Shri Ramkrishna Mission at Shivanahalli and they were more interested in exposure visits to rural areas maybe a rural overnight camp. Our grateful thanks to all the volunteers from YFS for making these visits very informative, useful and popular. We are looking forward to more association with YFS activities in the next year. ”

- Leela Karkaria Assistant professor and Manager- CSR, Alliance University



CSR-NGO South Regional Conference

In addition, YFS was the technical partner at the CSR-NGO South Regional conference that was held on December 14 and 15 at the Alliance University, Anekal campus. YFS full-timers attended the conference held at Alliance University, Anekal which focused on strategies for building CSR-NGO partnerships

Verticals in YFS

Youth for Seva's projects spans across three arenas. First, education area covers all the activities which benefit the children and projects involving fundraising campaign to better improve the lives of the children. Under the health segment, we have various projects such as health awareness talks and eye screening for working adults and children. Waste management and environmental awareness initiatives are all under the umbrella of our Environment. The growth of waste management issue in India has also propelled more activities to be organized to educate the public on such issues.

Education

Educating the next generation of leaders is always paramount to every country. Similarly, YFS aims to assist the government in providing every single child an opportunity to learn. Volunteers of YFS often go to government schools to teach the children. YFS also partner with corporate companies to bring this vision to greater heights. Such initiatives also provide the private sectors an opportunity to carry out their social responsibility. In addition, volunteers also played a pivotal role in helping to coordinate our activities as well. The end goal of these initiatives is to ensure that every child will be awarded the chance to learn and lead a better life in future. An overview of the activities is given below:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Reach</i>	<i>No. of Volunteers</i>	<i>Total Volunteer hours</i>	<i>No. of Students Benefited</i>
Teaching	98 schools	320	8080	4463
School Adoption	4 schools	167	9984	1040
Sponsor A Child	103 schools	25	1460	864
Other Education events (i.e Chiguru, Vivekananda Jayanthi celebrations, Summer Camps, etc)	70 schools 20 slums	600	-	3475
School Kit Drive	218 schools	404	1210	16490
TOTAL		1516	20734	26332

Teaching

All regular 320 volunteers under Education are teaching volunteers of YFS. These volunteers help to bridge the gaps in the education system. They specialise in teaching Spoken English and computers. Additionally, the volunteer teachers help to raise awareness about living a healthy lifestyle and encourage participation in cultural events amongst the children.



“ From my perspective I feel that I have changed the thinking of many students, especially the girls. They are always told that they are being sent to school to learn only to the extent of reading or writing some basic things. But I keep telling them that we need to study not just to read and write but to be educated to such an extent that we can decide on what is wrong and what is right in the life. I keep telling them that education gives us the confidence. I feel there are many kids who have been inspired by my words. ”

- Raksha Ramachandran, volunteer at Kattriguppe Govt. School

“Lab in a Box” Training at Agastya

YFS partnered with Agastya Foundation to engage volunteers in conducting Science experiments to the students. Lab in a box training was conducted by Agastya foundation to a group of 15 YFS volunteers who are interested in teaching science projects in YFS sevakendras. Lab in a Box is a unique concept that Agastya designed out of a decade of experience to facilitate scale-up. Science and Mathematics models are developed concept-wise based on pre-designed learning modules and together with relevant concept related books, put into boxes of varying sizes.



YFS wants to start “LAB IN A BOX” as pilot project for 7th class students in selected schools with Agastya training volunteers from Jan 2013 till end of this academic year. Agastya foundation is ready to support this pilot project. YFS has a plans to visit “KUPPAM LAB” which is head office of Agastya training.

Non- formal school

With the growth of construction industry in Bangalore, there is a large number of migrant construction families settling down in the overcrowded city. A YFS volunteer Latha Rao saw the need to provide education for the group of children from these families. She then started out an informal school in January 2009. It caters to the children of primarily construction site workers in and around the locality. YFS played a prominent role in setting up this informal school. The non formal school is situated at the PoornaPrajna Layout near Uttarahalli. The school consists of 55 children, 2 volunteers and 1 regular teacher. The school runs from Monday to Saturday, from 9.30am to 2pm. Last year, 9 students got admission into regular schools from Poornaprajna layout non-formal school.



School Adoption Program

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is an important initiative in many companies. Corporate companies strive to be more socially responsible and adopted government schools to help provide resources to enhance the infrastructure of the school and provide added education resources which will form a better learning eco system for these schools. Companies also hope to provide a more conducive environment for the children.

EMC

EMC has adopted two government schools – Govt. High School, Hoodi and Govt. High School, Garudacharpalaya – and will be setting up a computer lab equipped with a computer teacher to ensure that children are able to learn the basics of computers. Activities in the schools are summarized below:

◆ EMC rewards children on Independence Day

On August 15, 2012, EMC rewarded students who had scored the highest marks and had the highest attendance in the previous academic year. They rewarded a total of 15 students (11 in Hoodi and 4 in Garudacharpalya) today with a SONATA watch and a certificate. There were 8 employees from EMC who participated in the celebrations.

◆ 20 Students from Garudacharpalya Govt. School receive hands on training

20 children of Garudacharpalya School, all from 9th and 10th standard were brought to the EMC office for basic computer SW and HW training. The EMC employees volunteered their time to plan the lessons and took charge of the coordination of the entire training session.

Students mainly received basic computer training such as learning how to surf the net and search for information. Additionally, students also learnt about basic computer hardware and the assembling and dissembling process.

◆ Computer Lab Inauguration at Hoodi School

The inauguration of the Computer Lab was held on Feb. 15th 2013 at Govt. High School, Hoodi. Chief Guest Sri Shekar Ganapthy was the master of the ceremony and the lab facility was handed over to the School Headmistress Smt. Saroja. Employees from EMC and Staff of YFS were also present at the ceremony. SDMC members and teachers of the school were part of the audience as well.

The success of the event was attributed to Nandisha, who has been teaching Hoodi High school students computers on weekdays consistently for last 4 months.



Bosch

In partnership with YFS, BOSCH has adopted 10 government schools this year with the objective to bring about awareness about issues like water and waste management. After a thorough assessment of the needs and challenges at each school, BOSCH will facilitate in infrastructure such as rainwater harvesting and setting up a compost pit to encourage waste segregation.



On December 21, BOSCH organized an Environment Day where 65 children from 10 different schools participated in various competitions like Drawing, Pick & Speak and Collage. The primary objective was to increase awareness about different forms of pollution – air, noise, water and land.

The inter-school competitions on the Environment Day was conducted at Munichinappa School grounds. Preceding this competition, the YFS coordinator conducted several awareness sessions about the environment to the children. Employees from BOSCH actively participated at the event w.r.t. judging the competitions and distribution of prizes.

KPIT

KPIT adopted two government schools – Sukenahalli Government School and Hosakerehalli Government School and has been continuously supporting them since 2011. School activities under different verticals were planned by YFS for these adopted schools. The following summarises the activities:

Hosakerehalli Govt. School

- ◆ 7 children were coached by the volunteers to participate in essay writing, drawing and storytelling competition.
- ◆ 275 children from 4th standard to 8th standard received books and stationery items funded by school kit drive.
- ◆ 5 children partook in debate competition under the coaching of YFS volunteer.
- ◆ Holiday camp was conducted for selected students from 6th, 7th and 8th standard.
- ◆ 120 children benefitted from the health checkup conducted by Doctors for Seva team.

Sunkenahalli Govt. School

- ◆ 250 children benefitted from the Eye Pre-screening conducted by Citrux volunteers.
- ◆ 47 children were given school bags funded by school kit drive. Books and stationery items were distributed to the entire school.

English baseline assessment was also conducted for both schools and this assessment will help to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the students in terms of English grammar and sentence construction.

Sponsor A Child

Sponsor A Child (SAC) Program started out since four years ago. To date, the programme has successfully clinched sponsorship for more than 1100 children. The campaign this year has also raised sponsorship for 350 students. Notably, this programme is volunteer driven as the volunteers took charge of searching for potential prospect and raising awareness of this programme to potential donors. Every year, the SAC team seeks to implement new programs to equip the children with more skills. This year, training sessions were given to the teachers who tutor the children to provide them a new perspective on pedagogy. Children also attended more useful basic IT courses to equip themselves. More communication initiatives took place to foster the bonding between the donors and the children as well.

19 year old Bagu is a bright, hardworking student who lives with his parents and two younger brothers in Veerabhadranagar in Bangalore. Bagu scored 87% in his SSLC despite the fact that there is no electricity in his house. He studied under the street lamp near his house.

His education was sponsored by YFS' Sponsor a Child (SAC) program. SAC runs an evening tuition centre for Bagu and many other children like him.

Mr. Lava Vasista, one of the full-timers at YFS, recalls his first meeting with Bagu: "I asked the class to tell me tables. Only 4 students raised their hands confidently. Bagu was one of them!", he mentions proudly.

Bagu is already an inspiration to many children around him. Hard work, sincerity and determination are not the only virtues that one can learn from him.



CONTOURS OF VOLUNTEERING



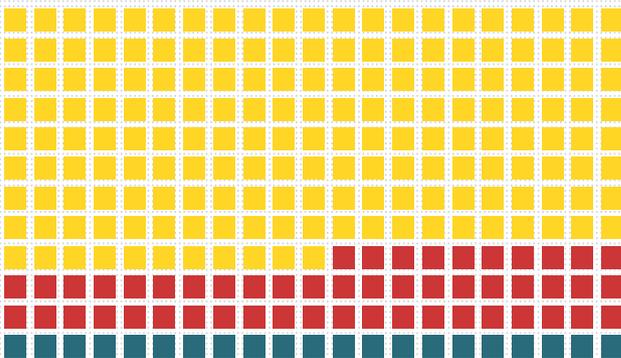
Volunteers Engaged



Weekend Weekday Fellowship Intern Vacation Virtual
One-time volunteers

 **2,506**
Total volunteers engaged

Partnerships



Education Health Environment

 **20,734**
Total volunteers hours under Education

Volunteer Hours

 **4,234**
Total volunteer hours under Health

 **1,502**
Total volunteer hours under Environment

Volunteer Development

 **650**
New volunteers have attended 23 orientation sessions

 **82**
Part-time volunteers participated at a 2-day camp at S-VYASA

 **35**
Full-time volunteers participated at a 6-day camp at Nagarbhavi

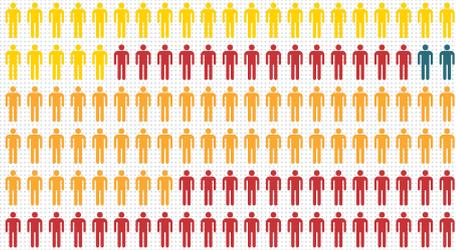


EDUCATION

HEALTH

ENVIRONMENT

Number of Volunteers



1,516
Number of
volunteers
engaged

Teaching School Adoption Sponsor A Child Education Events
School Kit Drive

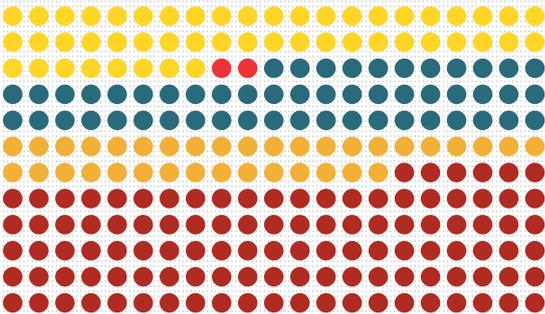
Chiguru

★ 1,400
Number of
students

Vivekananda Jayanthi

● 1,200
Number of
students

Schools Reached out to

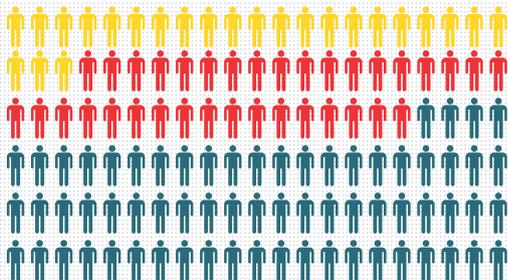


Teaching School Adoption Sponsor A Child
Other Education events School Kit Drive

Sponsor a Child

1,100
Number of
students

School Kit Drive No. of students Benefitted



2010 2011 2012

● 16,490

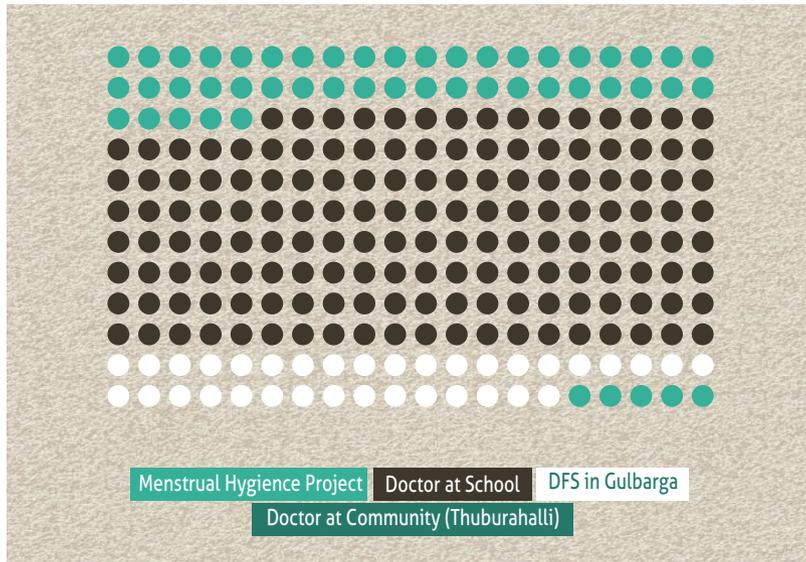
Number of
students

▲ 218
Number of
schools
covered

★ 1,210
Number of hours
put in by 400+
volunteers for
School Kit Drive



Number of Beneficiaries



13,159
Number of beneficiaries

Doctor at School

8,500
Number of beneficiaries

53
Number of schools covered

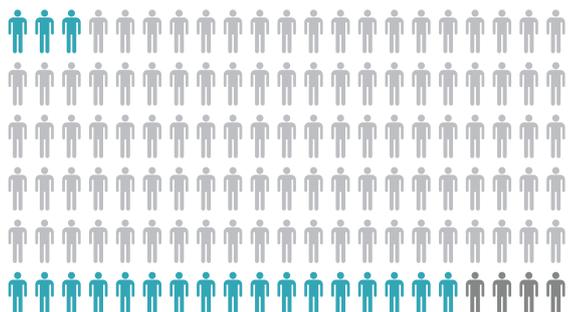
Menstrual hygiene project

2,465
Number of beneficiaries

18
Number of urban school covered

17
Number of rural school covered

Number of Volunteers Engaged



371
Number of volunteers we have engaged

3,151
Number of students benefitted from eye pre-screening with the help of volunteers from 10 different corporate companies

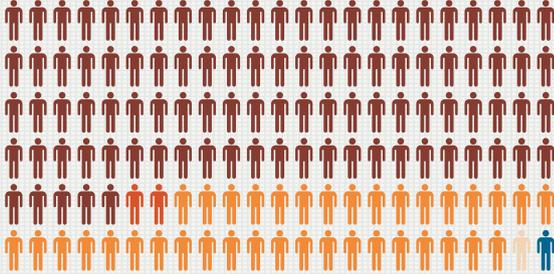


EDUCATION

HEALTH

ENVIRONMENT

Number of Volunteers Engaged



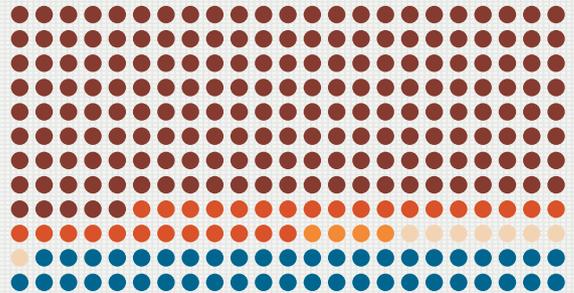
- Waste Management Awareness Sessions
- Green Club Activity in Bosch Schools | Paper Bag Making Event
- Resource creation and contribution to BBMP
- Representation and participation in various forums



170

Number of volunteers engaged

Number of Events



- Waste Management Awareness Sessions
- Green Club Activity in Bosch Schools | Paper Bag Making Event
- Resource creation and contribution to BBMP
- Representation and participation in various forums

73

Number of Environmental events held.

22

Number of Schools covered for Green Club Activities



1,000

Number of residents we have reached out to from Waste segregation awareness sessions

Sponsor A Child (Contd.)

The highlights of the project are listed below:

- ◆ **97 students from four schools visit Agastya Science Lab with volunteers**

Success Factors in partnership with Sponsor a Child organized an educational trip for students from underprivileged background. 97 students, studying in classes 8th to 10th, from four government schools along with 6 teachers visited Agastya Campus on November 21st where understood science concepts through hands on demonstration

- ◆ **25 teachers attend training conducted by Dr.Malavika Kapoor**

On November 25, Dr. Malavika Kapoor conducted training for 25 teachers and 73 students at Rashtrottahana Parishat. These teachers tutor the students who are part of the Sponsor a Child program. Dr. Malavika Kapoor was the Professor and Head of the Department of Clinical Psychology at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore. The purpose of the training was to allow the teachers to better understand the children and enhance the mentorship programme under SAC.

- ◆ **50+ students attend 5-day EXCEL course to as they prepare for their SSLC exams**

The team organized an EXCEL course in partnership with Rashtrottahana Parishat for 10th standard students from December 10 to December 14.

An average of about 50 students attended the EXCEL course. The primary goal was to bring in expert teachers to review concepts, share tips to answer questions and resource persons to motivate the students.



◆ Innovative ways to connect donors and children

Each year, Sponsor A Child program organizes an event that allows donors to meet and interact with the children they sponsor on a personal level. Last year, at a cultural event, “Milana,” there were 50 odd donors against 500 plus active donors during the annual Donor-Child meeting. 345 children attended function. The team decided to try something new this year. The team took the children to the donor's door step. This approach is used when there are at least 15 donors present in the same office location and apartment complex.

In the month of January, SAC children were taken to two companies – BMC Software and Analog Devices. The children and the donor were very happy to see one another and more than willing to spend more time with each other to get to know each other really well. This year 15 students were taken to the doorstep of BMC software and 16 students were brought to Analog Devices.

YFS also adopted the use of technology to better facilitate the virtual meet ups between the donors and the children. Skype calls and telephone calls were arranged by the SAC team to allow the donors to speak to the children whom they sponsor respectively. This alternative method created a greater rapport between the donors and their children.



New initiatives

In the last year, SAC started 15 more learning centres at slums around K.R. market, Chamarajpat, Bannerghatta Road, Koramangla and three other tribal areas. Each centre consists of 40 children and 3 teachers covering English, Mathematics and Science. In addition, YFS also partnered with Dream a Dream foundation to restart mentoring program and engage at least 100 mentors in the first year.

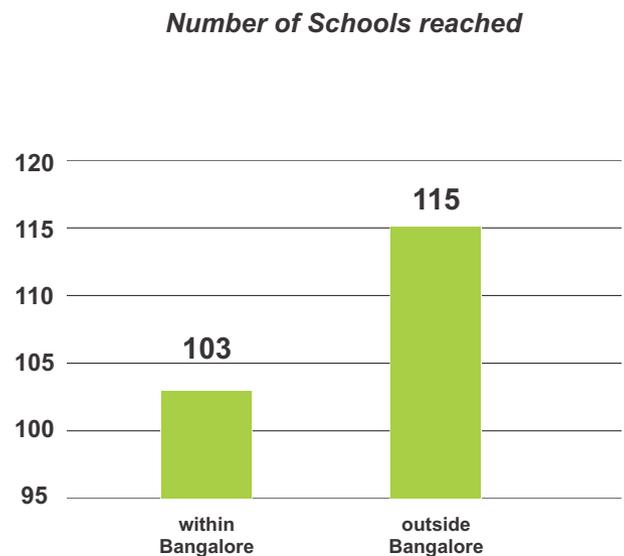
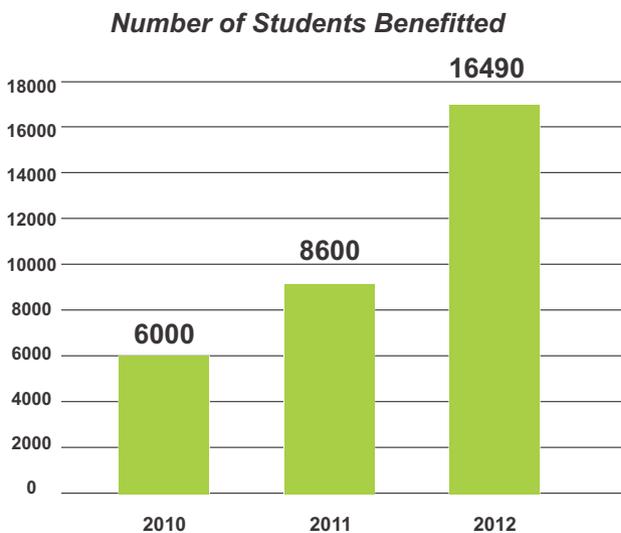
Looking ahead, the SAC team hopes to set up more learning centres while more children are in need of help. More mentors and volunteers will be roped into their new initiatives as they rebrand themselves in the 2013 as “Vidyachetana” and it will be launched in multiple cities.

School Kit Drive

Every child deserves a chance to learn. School kit is a basic necessity which kick starts the learning. However, in India, there are still many uncountable children out there who are unable to afford this basic necessity which many of us take for granted. Since 2007, the school kit drive team has been trying to reach out to children in both the cities and the rural areas to provide them to proper materials to start their education journey. Each year, the YFS team brings together volunteers and together spread the word about the School Kit Drive campaign and involves individuals in colleges, corporates and apartment complexes. In 2012, over 16,000 students have benefited under the School Kit Drive. Half of the children who received the stationeries were living outside the Bangalore city. In 2013, the team targets to reach out to more children in the rural areas near Bangalore city. The school kit drive has received relentless support from YFS volunteers in terms of coordination work and corporate volunteers also participated in the assembling of the school kits. It is no doubt that the school kit drive will reach out to more children and bring more smiles to them in 2013.

As part of the fundraising efforts of the school kit drive, over 400 people participated with full enthusiasm in 'Sports for Seva', an inter-corporate/community sports event.

In the year 2012 alone, over 16,000 students have benefitted under the School Kit Drive. It involves supplying school children with all the basic equipment (stationery, books and bags) required for an improved classroom experience. Children, who see the unskilled labour done by their families as an easy source of income, do not understand the positive outcomes of going to school. The School-Kit drive attempts to remove the haze around the incentives of receiving an education. This program seeks to target areas where it is implausible for volunteers or other NGOs to go. 50-52% of the school kits are distributed outside Bangalore.



Other Activities:

Summer Camps

Summer camps have been conducted in about 35 locations for children in 5th – 8th standard. The objectives were to enhance creativity among children, facilitate children to discover and express their talents, provide an atmosphere where values can be imbibed, present role models and facilitate children to dream. There were two training sessions for volunteers where they were given all the materials they needed for the summer camps.

In some locations, the children have requested volunteers to continue the camp for a longer time as they have enjoyed so much.



“ Activities like singing, quiz, puzzles, and games took turns one after the other. Desha Nammadu was the super hit song of the camp. Ms. Leela kept the students enjoying with her Quiz and Puzzle programs. Children liked the game PING PONG, very much. They even gave different versions for it like naming leaders of the nation. I could really feel the innovative nature of the growing students. At the end even a field trip also happened which was a long pending program. ”

- Ms. Paranjyothi, YFS volunteer involved in Summer camp

Holiday Camp during Dussera

YFS Holiday camp was conducted in Hosakerehalli Govt. School and Veerabadhranagar Govt. School from 8th October to 21st October when the students had Dussera vacation. Activities planned included: coaching for NMMS (National Means Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme Examination) for 8th standard students, volunteers helped selected children prepare for the upcoming Chiguru competition and coaching for GMAT (General Math Ability Test). 7 volunteers have put in 100 hours benefitting 51 students from both schools.



Fun day at Anatha Shishu Nivas

A group of 16 employees from Exeter Software visited “Anatha Shishu Nivas” on August 26 to spend some fun filled and meaningful time with the children there. The ashram is shelter to 80 children up to 14 years. The team planned game activities and brought stationeries and gifts for the children. It was a fun-filled day for both the volunteers as well as the children.

Ugadi celebrations with the children



On March 23, 2012, over sixty five volunteers celebrated Ugadi with their extended family at across ten units covering the government home for destitute children and at Kidwai.

The torch bearers of Seva were then divided into groups to take on each unit separately. The celebrations at each unit were invoked with prayers for health and happiness for all. The goodwill mascots then distributed sweets, keeping up with the tradition of the festival to around 800 children and adults at BalBhavan. The volunteers across the units were left deeply gratified for the fulfilling day of Ugadi. Everybody who participated thanked for the bliss that Seva brings. Over at Kidwai, volunteers

distributed fruits for above 500 patients.

Field Trip to Mysore

On 22nd February a very enthusiastic team of volunteers from IPNEC was up by 5.00am to participate in Day of Service – trip to Mysore. They took a group of 33 children from a Non-formal school run for children of construction workers on an educational trip to Mysore.

The volunteers from IPNEC clocked in 112 hours of volunteering. The volunteers also had an unforgettable time with the children. The team was also thankful to Youth for Seva for giving them the opportunity to touch the lives of the children.



Chess Camp

On Oct 27, eleven volunteers from Oracle conducted a Chess Camp for 26 children (from 5th – 8th standard) at Hosakerehalli Government School.



The session began with volunteers teaching the basics of chess as in the name of each pawn and how it functions on a chess board and rules of game. Then, it was followed by practice sessions and puzzles round. Prizes (a sketch pen set) were given to the children who were answering the questions. Oracle team also handed the folder to children which consisted of chess learning and its basics.

Vivekananda Jayanthi celebrations with children

Youth for Seva's aim of making volunteering a movement is buttressed by Swami Vivekananda's teachings. Every year, volunteers use his birth anniversary as an opportunity to recall his teachings and spread his message.



In January and February, about 35 volunteers with the help of the teachers at the learning centers, celebrated Vivekananda Jayanthi with 1200 children across 20 locations in Bangalore.

“ We were very thankful to the sponsors, a bunch of kids raised funds in their apartment (“IttinaAkkala”) for this cause. Whereas the sponsors experienced the joy of giving, the students got inspired by meeting them. Special thanks to school staff and volunteers who were involved in this program. ”

- Sushma Shetti, Volunteer

Women's Leadership Forum

The women's leadership project is a collaboration between EMC2, Youth for Seva and RashthrotanaParishath. The program targets at college-going girls aged 16 to 25 years from lower economic background. There are ongoing computer and spoken English classes for these girls daily at the slum centre in Byappanahalli. Notably, these college girls also initiated library projects and the annual Gynecology camp for 180 women and children in the slums. The program has empowered the girls to become change agents to help their community.

Last year, project committee rolled out a Personality Development program which benefited 25 girls. Dr.ShikaripuraKrishnmurthy, CEO of Abhiyanam- Center for soft skills training, conducted the training session. The girls were taught on how to improve their communication and interview skills. Cultural events such as Ganesh Pooja was also celebrated at the Library premises and close to 35 participated in the program.



Looking Forward

As we move on to new academic year YFS will continue to focus on its vision of identifying and filling the gaps in Education sector through volunteer's time. The programs will be structured to enhance the benefits to the school children in the following segments.

- ◆ Improve communication skills and nurture their talents – through Spoken English Training.
- ◆ Encourage students to explore the world through Science experiments and knowledge of computers.
- ◆ Encourage students to have a positive self-image and healthy lifestyle – through awareness programs.
- ◆ Engage children in cultural activities (participation in Chiguru, Vivekananda Jayanthi, Pratibha Karanji, etc)

YFS will also partner with corporate companies to bring this vision to greater heights. Such initiatives also provide the private sectors an opportunity to carry out their social responsibility. The end goal of these initiatives is to ensure that every child will be provided with an opportunity to learn and also lead a better life in future.

Health

Ensuring that the people in need have access to quality healthcare that is affordable is the end objective of the health division of YFS. Doctors for Seva aims to establish a network of doctors, hospitals, medical institutions and allied medical professionals worldwide in order to provide them with a credible and supportive platform to offer voluntary services. The team comprises of Doctors (Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Homeopaths, etc), General and Specialty hospitals, Medical, Dental, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy colleges and their students, Pharmacists, and Diagnostic labs and the whole spectrum of individuals and organizations affecting Healthcare. While doctors provide medical help, a large number of non-medical volunteers assist in logistics and administrative jobs. This also allows more volunteers to be able to engage in social service in the health arena and the related checkups and screenings. These non-medical volunteers will also help facilitate the progress of the patients and minimize the workload of the doctors.

The following presents the summary of activities implemented under the Health vertical of YFS.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Number of Locations covered</i>	<i>Number Benefited</i>	<i>No. of Volunteers</i>	<i>Total Volunteer hrs</i>	<i>No. of Medical Staff</i>	<i>No. of Hospitals</i>
Menstrual Hygiene Project	17 rural and 18 Urban schools.	Total 2456 1219 rural 1237 urban	8	-	-	-
Doctor at School	53 schools	Approx 8500 Children screened in school (875 treatments completed out of 1085 requiring treatment)	~300	-	~100	~30
DFS in Gulbarga	2 Taluks (Afzalpur, Aland) surveyed + Gulbarga town	1933 patients screened	50	-	~38	2
Doctor at Community (Thuburahalli)	Thuburhalli Community	270 treated cases	13	-	4	2
TOTAL		13,159	371	4234	142	34

Doctor-at-School

There are many government health care schemes and healthcare services in place, however, lack of manpower to execute and follow-up becomes a cause of concern. Moreover, lack of medical manpower at the Government health centres who are supposed to screen the children, lack of health workers to follow up on the children and extensive paperwork to avail the services, prevents this plan from being utilized as it should. YFS also noticed a need for healthcare treatment for the weaker sections in urban areas that neither fall under the Below-Poverty-Line category nor can afford private medical treatments.

This program is aimed at connecting at least one doctor (General Physician or Pediatrician) or a hospital to one or more government schools located in an area of their preference. Along with a doctor/hospital, teams of 3-4 volunteers are also connected to the school to assist the doctor in organizing the screening, follow up treatments and to deliver awareness talks. While we did this program in 53 government schools, covering 8500+ children in 2012-13, we plan to undertake this effort by keeping the Government Primary Health Centre (PHC) at as the focal point of our program in the year 2013-14, not only to be able to reach out to more schools, but also to empower the existing system to efficiently cater to the healthcare needs of school-going children. Within these 53 government schools, 18 of them are sponsored by Bosch, 8 of which are sponsored by Cisco and 3 of them are sponsored by Qualcomm.

Doctor at School aims at plugging these gaps and empowering the existing system by working with the different stakeholders in this program in the following manner:

The Doctor-at-School program is covered in 3 Phases, starting in the month of June and finishing in the month of January (following year). First phase would include screening and treatment at school. In the second phase, referrals to specialists and home visits will be conducted for patients which require special medical attention. The last phase would involve the organisation of awareness talks and mapping doctors to schools.

Channabasava, an engineering graduate from NIT Calicut, has been regularly volunteering with YFS for the last 3 years.



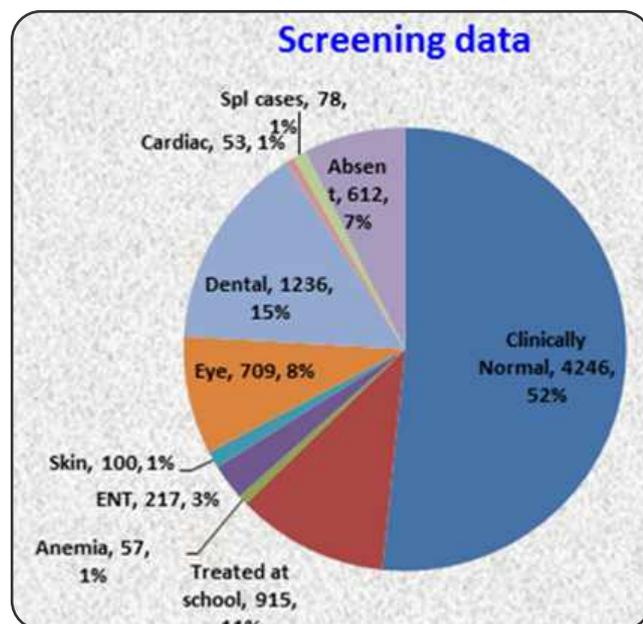
One incident that has left a deep effect on him is when the doctors at a hospital pronounced a child beyond treatment at the school he volunteers. He sees the boy regularly at school even now, but his health is in limbo, as his condition was pronounced untreatable because he was brought too late to the attention of the doctors.

Channa rues the fact that the help could not have been rendered at the right time. Hence, he says there is no right time to start volunteering as there are countless people who need immediate attention & this moment is the right time to help them.

- Channabasava

The following graph provides an overall view of the types of cases and the number of students being screened:

- ◆ 52% of the children screened are clinically normal
- ◆ Dental issues highest among various referrals (15%)
- ◆ 11% of the children treated at school for different kinds of issues
- ◆ 8% of the children were treated for eye issues by Eye hospitals.
- ◆ 120 children provided with spectacles.
- ◆ Medicines procured thru samples from PHCs, hospitals, doctors and Sanjeevani
- ◆ Negligible numbers of cases for any kinds of diagnostics tests
- ◆ Need to work on addressing the dental cases; also on preventive measures



DFS in Gulbarga

The Doctors for Seva Paediatric and Gynaec clinic at the Afzalpur Taluk hospital has been running successfully for the last one year. We have managed to engage over 50 specialists and the 2 Medical colleges on a regular basis to provide their services. The facility has reached out to 929 children, 772 women and 232 general patients in the past one year.



The program has been demonstrated as viable model for the local community to handle their needs. Doctors for Seva also started a weekly clinic in Tarfail, considered to be one of the biggest slums in Asia. They have engaged about 10 doctors and provided consultation to about 175 people in the last 3 months.

DFS in Thubrahalli

This section presents the health initiatives implemented at the Thuburahalli community since end of 2012. The DFS team spent 3 months assessing the needs of the community before proceeding to implement suitable health programs according to their expressed needs. Doctors for Seva team started their health initiatives in the Thuburahalli community on October 28, 2012. Doctors and non-medical volunteers living in the vicinity took time out to interact with and understand the people's health seeking behaviour and follow up on patient's seen by the doctors. The living conditions of the place are very poor and lacking in water and proper sanitation.



The following health initiatives were undertaken:

Pulse Polio Drive – Around 15-20 non-medical volunteers were connected to the Siddapura PHC and around 6 of them were involved in two days of pulse polio drive on Jan 20 and Feb 24 and administered polio drops to around 85 children from Thuburhalli below the age of 5 years.

Eye treatments – Sankara eye hospital screened around 30 people who was diagnosed by the General Physician as needing eye tests from Thuburahalli on Jan 11, 2013. Free spectacles were distributed for around 7 people and free cataract surgery was offered for 5 people, of which 1 person availed the service. Similar screenings will be undertaken

once in 3 months so that others who may have missed the first screening will have another chance.

Dental treatments – During each visit of the General Physician and Pediatrician, we found adults and children with dental issues which were being continuously ignored. Also frequent tobacco chewing led to women having severe dental issues, with one woman suspected to have oral cancer. Therefore, we approached Vydehi dental college and hospital to screen, treat and work on prevention of dental issued in Thuburhalli. The interventions began on March 24 and the screening and treatment of people will continue every alternate Sunday, for about 3-4 months, and conclude after providing necessary awareness on preventive aspects.

The health care intervention at Thuburahalli is looking positive. The programme has benefitted the community in the following ways :

- Providing information and facilitating laparoscopic surgery for a woman with six children
- ◆ Cataract surgery for an aged individual who was unable to see prior to this
- ◆ Spectacles for 7 people, of which one was an old woman who could not have visited a doctor due to age
- ◆ Around 5 pregnant women have been encouraged to deliver at hospitals (instead of at home) following interactions with us
- ◆ Repeated talks on family planning have encouraged women to start considering it
- ◆ 3 doctors and 2 hospitals from the vicinity of the community have been mapped to the community
- ◆ 270 cases treated since we started the program

The FS has built a rapport with the community since the programme started.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

DFS Team joined hands with BBMP in the Malnutrition Eradication Drive

Based on the request by BBMP, DFS volunteers volunteered at the local government health centers in the Malnutrition Eradication drive. About 10 volunteers registered and participated at a location convenient to them.

Under the guidance of Dr. Vimochana, the volunteers, in Vijaynagar, planned for a follow up of children falling under SAM – Severely Acute Malnutrition and Moderate as per growth chart graph. For eradication drive, it is indeed very important to track the growth of Malnutrition children in Anganwadi linked to a slum. As volunteers, we can update the doctors with improvement in these specific children by making a visit every month.

Corporate volunteers engage in eye pre-screening

For the eye pre-screening program, 700 children were identified as having issues and close to 600 of them received treatment. Overall approximately 2000 children were screened.



It is estimated that in a typical govt. school 15% of children have ophthalmic problems. However, to identify these 15% children, technicians and ophthalmologists have to spend 4 to 6 hours screening all students in a school having strength of around 250.

To tackle this issue, Sankara Eye Hospital, Bangalore, in association with Sri Ramana Trust trained YFS volunteers (non-medical) to undertake eye pre-screening programs in government and corporation schools in Bangalore. While Sankara Eye hospital partnered with many NGOs across Bangalore in this program, ours was the only program which ran without any external source of funding or monetary incentives for volunteers. A total of 178 volunteers from 10 institutions helped in the eye prescreening.

Volunteers lend a hand at the Medical Camp

Nine YFS volunteers helped at the medical camp organized by Jain Hospital and KeshavaSevaSamithi on January 27th. The medical camp was organized to help the underprivileged with required medicines, diagnosis, treatment and surgery. YFS volunteers participated in every aspect of the camp including registration, taking the patients to the relevant specialties, regulating the flow and guiding the patients who required surgery. 650+ patients screened, medicines were also given and the screening process included lab tests. Most of the people who availed of the camp were from villages and most travelled for long distance. Volunteers present from YFS included Ashokji, Gulshan, Ankit, Sudarshan, Suman, Dilna, Samitha, Ranjith and Dr. Santhosh.

Over 100 volunteers lend a hand during the Pulse Polio Drive

The first day of the Pulse Polio Immunisation drive took place on the 20th of January 2013. The Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike (BBMP) achieved 85.65 percentage coverage with 5,57,232 children receiving polio drops. The drive lasted 3 days. This was the first time DFS & YFS participated in the drive. Volunteers as a team played their part in success of this program. Coordinators from DFS approached the following PHCs a few days ahead of the program to get an understanding of how we can assist the PHCs in their activities during the program. Five PHCs and centres were chosen to facilitate volunteers from DFS and YFS because DFS has previously worked with these centres.

The second round of National Pulse Polio took place from the 24th-27th of February 2013. This was also the second time that volunteers from YFS participated in the drive in Bangalore city. A

total of 65 YFS volunteers have participated in this second drive and have collectively immunized around 1100 children including those belonging to vulnerable and high risk population groups. The drive was facilitated in the city mainly by the Bruhat Bangalore MahanagaraPalike (BBMP) and the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) drops were administered at Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs), booths set up at public spaces and transit points like bus-stands, railway stations, parks, tourist spots etc. YFS coordinators approached PHCs in their respective clusters ahead of time and determined needs of their PHCs after which they arranged for the required number of volunteers.



Looking Ahead

This year DFS plans to focus on expanding the network of Doctors, nurses, specialists, hospitals, pharma, students – both medical and non-medical. We will also roll out several new initiatives in order to provide meaningful volunteering opportunities to the extended network. Some of which include taking the Doctor at school program to nearly 500 schools working with the Primary Health Care System, reviving the Family practice tradition as well as the Paediatric ICU project. Partnerships with like-minded organisations and systematically working with the government will be the way forward. The synergies of a collaborative effort will amplify the benefits to the neediest. Volunteerism in various ways will be the key driver to achieve the end objective of decommodification of the healthcare system so that every individual has access to quality health and healthcare.

Environment

Waste management has been a major issue in India. The rapid growth in population coupled with a lack of public awareness attributed to the country's ever-increasing amount of garbage. The lack of a proper and organised waste management system will lead to serious health problems and cause grave damage to the environment.

It is the responsibility of every individual in India to know how to properly dispose their waste and not litter excessively. The Green Commandoes team from YFS has risen up to help address these issues which are harming our mother earth. The pollution caused by these waste is gradually affecting the eco system which we live in. In a longer term, the polluted water and plantations will be too detrimental for consumption. Proper waste management stems from proper waste segregation which the Green Commandoes have been trying to educate the community about. Started in 2011, Green Commandoes has been organising many events to educate different sectors of the society about the importance of waste management. From schools to community, their efforts definitely deserve due recognition. We have seen has increased in the number of corporate volunteers who are involved in the Green initiatives and event over the past year.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Reach</i>	<i>No. of Volunteers</i>	<i>Total Volunteer hrs</i>
Waste Management Awareness Sessions	1000 residents	120	1080
Green Club Activity in Bosch Schools	8 events	3	16
Paper Bag Making Event	1event	45	270
Resource creation and contribution to BBMP	2 events	1	40
Representation and participation in various forums	12 events	1	96
TOTAL		170	1502

Waste Segregation Awareness

Green Commandos is starting an initiative to train volunteers to become “Waste Smart” so that they can help others in the community to segregate waste. Green Commandos was involved as SWMRT member in various discussions with BBMP in coming up with action plan to implement waste segregation at source in the city. As SWMRT member, Green Commandos team was invited to attend a full day workshop conducted by ministry of Urban Development authority on waste management implementation in city.

Green Commandos team has created resources like categorization of Indian house hold waste. These resources were officially recognized and appreciated by BBMP and have been included in the BBMP website for general public reference. In last 3-4 weeks the Green Commandos team has been giving talks / conducting workshops for apartments and Resident Welfare Associations to help them understand waste segregation and the new BBMP directives. The team's work got media coverage in Bangalore Mirror. In the month of September, Green Commandos has given presentation about waste segregation for over a 1000 households.



“ The awareness session conducted gave us pretty good start. So post her session, few in-house sessions were conducted by residents for other residents, maids, cooks and housekeeping staff. This was followed up by door to door campaign which brought in lot of awareness among the residents. This has resulted in good start of waste segregation at source in our complex. However, there is still some more re-enforcement needed on this front. ”

- Kanchana, a resident at Mantri Sarovar apartments on Sarjapura Road

Other Activities

Engaging School Children to be more eco-friendly

To bring about awareness among children and to engage children in activities that have a positive impact on the environment, Green Clubs have been kick started in both government and private schools. Green Commandos team has come up with specific programs with activities in the following focus areas: General Environment, Waste Management and Water. The first green club activity was launched with DPS north school on 12 July 2012. The program was attended by around 200 students, the teachers and the principal. In partnership with YFS, BOSCH has adopted 10 government schools this year with the objective to bring about awareness about issues like water and waste management. After an assessment of the needs, BOSCH will facilitate in infrastructure such as rainwater harvesting and setting up a compost pit to encourage waste segregation.

Volunteers actively participate in “My Clean Malleshwaram”

My Clean Malleshwaram was a daylong 'Waste Management Community Conference and Expo' which showcased various waste management solutions available for residents living in individual homes on January 26th. It was jointly organized by Malleshwaram residents, elected representatives and experts in waste management. Residents from over 100 apartment units had participated in programme. Solution providers exhibited various waste management strategies including wet waste composting, biogas plants, vermicomposting, plastic waste disposal, bio waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal and e-waste disposal. In addition, YFS-Green Commandos volunteers from different parts of Bangalore were also part of organizing committee and were actively involved in various activities of the programme.



“ This was my first experience with working with YFS volunteers. I was very impressed by the commitment and energy shown by all YFS volunteers. This opinion is shared by my peers in the MCM team. By the end of it, I felt that you guys were part of the core team. Once again, thanks for all your help, and looking forward to working with you in the future. ”

- Mr. Krishna, Programme Co-ordinator

“Green” Ganesh



YFS organized two events where a total of 110 children participated and learned how to make clay Ganesh. The goal was to spread awareness on the possible environment hazards caused by painted Ganesh idols and promoting the use of clay idols. Green Commandos has taken initiative to work towards reducing the negative impact caused by the above practice. Around 30 kids participated very enthusiastically. Even their parents participated. At the end of the session we gave a brief talk on using unpainted clay Ganesh and Gowri for the coming festival.

On 15th September, a workshop was conducted for children at Jayanagar Balbhavan where 11 volunteers trained 80 children to make clay Ganesh.

Paper bags making

Over 20 volunteers participated in the Green Commando's paper bag making event conducted at Abalashrama on November 18. As part of the initiative to demonstrate and promote usage of green alternatives to plastics, GC had planned for a workshop where people from Abalashrama would teach our volunteers to make paper bags.

20 volunteers participated enthusiastically by learning and making bags. A total of 130 bags in 2 sizes were made after the workshop. We kept few and donated over 100 bags to Abalashrama. The next step is to get our trained volunteers to teach other volunteers, have an event where we target to make 1000 bags and take up an awareness campaign.

On March 15 there was a newspaper bag making event conducted at Abalashram where 47 volunteers from Dell participated and made 250 carry bags from old newspapers. Volunteers from Dell share their experience:

“ It was a great experience to be part of this event and appreciate efforts from Youth Seva for acting as the bridge to give back to community. ”

- Rema

“ It was a humbling experience for sure. Kudos to the Ablashram for supporting these young women and children and helping them find a footing in life, in a safe and secure environment. It's good to have people like Youth for Seva who are instilling a sense of giving for the community and creating these opportunities. ”

- Nitin Seghal



Clean-up Drive

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bengaluru planned a clean-up drive from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bengaluru Campus till Sarjapur road and from Flyover to Wipro office in Sarjapur Road, about 6 kms stretch on February 24, 2013. YFS Environment team volunteers participated in the event and helped the institute's team to drive this effort. Over 250 students from Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, staff and students from BBMP together with YFS volunteers participated in this drive.

The event started at 7:30 AM and completed by 11 AM. The enthusiasm shown by the students and volunteers was great and the team run awareness programme across the stretch and enabled people, vendors and shopkeepers to realize and be part of the clean environment initiative.



Volunteer engagement at Shivanahalli

Volunteers from NetApp, Cisco, National Instruments and Shell Inc spend a day at Ramakrishna Mission, Shivanahalli.

The Ramakrishna Ashram at Shivanahalli has been a center for CSR activities from a long time, which has resulted in afforestation of an area more than 150 acres in size. Youth for Seva hosted over 40 employees from NetApp Inc with the blessings of Swami Soukyananda and involved them in weeding and cleaning activities around the ashram. 18 employees from Cisco contributed to increasing the green cover by planting 30 saplings and logged in 100 volunteer man hours.



Volunteers from National Instruments came to the mission early noon and left for the tree plantation activity. Volunteers from Shell had almost finished planting close to 30 saplings by then. It was a pleasant experience to see more than 25 volunteers from National Instruments toil hard under the hot sun and contribute their time and energy for a noble cause. The volunteers from NI too planted close to 30 saplings.

National Instruments donated sports kits and food items to the children as a part of their CSR initiatives and spent the whole day at the ashram participating in the activities organised. It was a great day for the volunteers from National Instruments and Shell, they made a difference to the society and to themselves by taking part in the project.

Looking Ahead

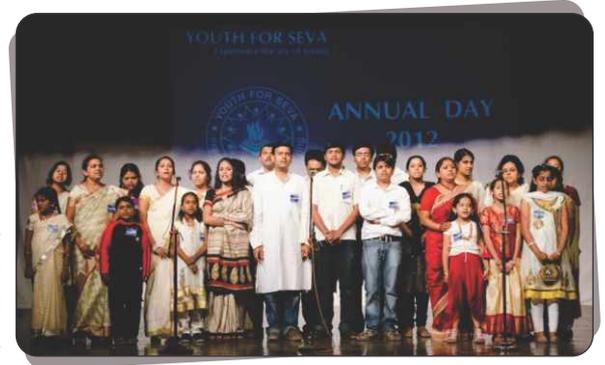
In the upcoming year, Green Commandoes plan to narrow down environmental focus areas and shortlist the NGOs who work in those respective domains. Given that more attention has been brought upon the waste management issues in India, the frequency of environmental awareness talk will also increase. More volunteer support is also expected to involve volunteers to become environmental change agents as well.

In terms of partnership, Green Commandoes will dedicate more time to evaluate and approve suitable partner NGOs which YFS volunteers could be deployed to as well. In addition, Green Commandoes also plan to form an expert group who will later plan, coordinate and implement relevant programs group in chosen focus areas.

EVENTS

Annual Day

More than 400 people attended the YFS Annual Day to make the event a grand success. There was singing, dancing, a skit showcasing the power of volunteering and an engaging speech by Mr. RamjiRaghavan, the key note speaker. The keynote speaker, Mr. RamjiRaghavan, spoke about those having a B.E.E. degree (Brimming with Energy and Enthusiasm) doing a lot for the society. He said that impact will happen and we shouldn't overthink how to measure it. He also urged everyone to act on the ideas already available.



Mr. Venkatesh Murthy stated that YFS is planning on starting several YFS chapters across the country in 2013. Also, in the Bangalore chapter, the focus will be to improve the efficiency of current projects. The YFS team had a wonderful time catching up with all the volunteers and partners. On every Annual day, volunteers are once again reminded by the joy their work brings.

Chiguru



CHIGURU 2012 was a mega success with 1400 students participating from over 45 government and non-formal schools supported by more than 50 judges, 350 volunteers and a core team of 60 event organizers.

It would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of volunteers to ensure that the children were prepared for the events, arrived on time, did not miss the opportunity to participate. Words aren't enough to capture the energy and commitment to the school and the children they interact with regularly.

Vivekananda Jayanthi

Vivekananda has spurred a worldwide movement which is popularly celebrated on Vivekananda Jayanthi. This is the reason for YFS to organize a day to remind us of this message and spread it to the youth to carry

forward on the path inspired by Swami Vivekananda on his 150th birth anniversary. In commemoration of his birth anniversary, a quiz competition and an essay writing competition was held and the results of the winners were announced on that day.

The keynote Speaker and the Chief Guest of the evening, Dr.H .Sudharshan , an Indian social worker and tribal rights activist well known for his contributions to the upliftment of the forest dwelling tribes addressed the august gathering. His



lecture was enlightening carrying a simple message of living for the world and providing service in every way possible. His expertise along with experience in tribal area upliftment is commendable. He has started the Vivekananda GirijanaKalyana Kendra for the integrated development of tribals in Chamarajanagar district of Karnataka and is also the founder and Honorary secretary of Karuna Trust.



Looking Ahead

YFS clearly understands that the process of social change is gradual and the results of endeavors undertaken will sprout in due course of time. This doesn't deter us or quench the fire of commitment within us. We look forward to tackling societal issues and transforming lives in our own small way. The framework within which YFS seeks to go about its activities in the coming year as follows :

- Strengthening volunteer enrichment programs and investing in them.
- Initiate and support chapters in smaller towns of Karnataka.
- Strengthen partnership engagement by proactively identifying more NGOs in various sectors and identifying meaningful volunteering opportunities.
- Constantly keep an open eye and ear with a clear conscience to identify the evolving problems in society and come up with constructive solutions and implementing them effectively.

#opinion box

@Rajeshwari, YFS volunteer
We all enjoyed and learnt a lot. Thank you YFS...

@Nivedita, fellowship volunteer
I enjoyed my work at YFS a lot as I have always wanted to contribute to the society.

@Harish Raju, fellowship volunteer
I've picked up some practical knowledge in marketing, accounting & resource mgmt. it has also helped me to develop new skills useful in the corporate world

News in two minutes
Youth For Seva is going Nation wide
Change to believe in
By Priyanka S Rao | 01st July 2012 12:00 AM
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



Venkatesh Murthy surrounded with kids.
In February this year, Rohini finished her final MBBS examinations and is now looking forward to a lifetime of saving lives. Having interned in government hospitals and served in rural areas as part of the curriculum, Rohini is well aware of the disadvantages, the poor people face, when it comes to good health and wishes she could dedicate all her time to providing free treatment. But in reality, she knows that it is impossible and she needs to make a decent living to pay off her education loan.

When a friend mentioned Doctors For Seva, a campaign started by Youth For Seva (YFS) that helps doctors volunteer in remote areas lacking medical help, Rohini realised that her wish may finally come true.

Started in 2007 in Bangalore, Youth For Seva is a platform for young people to give back to society. The mission of YFS is to inspire youth to volunteer, connect them to grassroots projects, and provide ongoing support and training to volunteers and NGOs. Be it teaching English in government schools or camps at a summer camp or trying to cheer up young patients in cancer wards in the city, the organisation has been successful in bringing smiles to the faces of many, not only in Bangalore, but all over the country.

YFS has over 800 volunteers working for them, 123 schools, 40 hospitals and 120 doctors in their network in Bangalore alone and branches all over India in Hyderabad, Chennai, Delhi, Bhopal, Pune and others.

YFS made a small beginning in Bangalore. Venkatesh Murthy, a Bangalorean working in the US left in the midst of a 14-year successful stint as a software professional to pursue his dream of setting up an organised volunteering network back home in India. Ask him what made him to leave a lucrative career and he says that he was inspired by the volunteering work done in the US. "Community service is compulsory for high schoolers in US. They have a volunteer manager who helps engage them and guide them to do volunteer work," Venkatesh Murthy says. He has also co-founded the Seva International in the US, on the lines of which YFS was formed here.

What sets this organisation apart is the model it has adopted to facilitate volunteering. "Many NGOs lack professionalism, don't know how to approach corporates for funding and have no management system to scale up. In 2007, we started as a 7-member group and by 2008, our volunteer base grew to 800."

We never campaigned for YFS; it was through word of mouth and emails. Every month, we see 100 new volunteers enrolling with us and not only youth. Our aim is to make volunteering a movement," he says.

Even corporates have roped in YFS for their corporate social responsibility programme by adopting schools through them. So far, in Bangalore, 30 schools have been adopted by corporates like Philips and Bosch.

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Write to us at editor@youthforseva.org

Docs on call for seva

DFS is a platform for volunteers from the medical and non-medical professions to help the needy

JayanthiMadhukar
Posted On Sunday, May 27, 2012

December 26 2004, tsunami struck the southern coast. Dr Dayaprasad G. Kulkarni was an intern at a hospital in Kolar. He raised about Rs 2 lakhs and went with a couple of his doctor friends to Nagapattinam to help with the relief work. After which he "knew I had to do something more." Armed with a MBBS degree from the Devaraj Urs Medical College, Kolar, he did a stint with Doctors Without Borders in Chattisgarh treating villagers who were affected by the Naxal presence there. "I realized that there were international doctors working these areas, but our own Indian doctors were absent," says Dayaprasad. "In fact, there are so many international organizations like Red Cross and Volunteers but specifically for the medical fraternity, there isn't anything on a national scale."

After a master's degree in clinical research from UK, Dayaprasad returned to India and started an organization for the children and people from the marginalized society - MadhyamaPrasarn and Scientific Research Foundation. Dayaprasad met Venkatesh Murthy, founder of the Youth For Seva, and was soon associated with Doctors For Seva (DFS). He speaks of DFS: "Doctors For Seva was created in 2010 to change the mindset of how healthcare is perceived. Years back, doctors were respected for the services rendered. Today, it is about which hospitals they are associated with. Plus, in healthcare significant amount of money is spent in tertiary care (terminal days) rather than primary and preventive healthcare. The main ideology behind DFS is to create a platform wherein doctors, nurses and anyone in the medical or the non-medical fraternity can volunteer to help provide better healthcare. This also includes homeopathy and Ayurvedic practitioners as well."

DFS identifies areas needing healthcare, arranges for resources and creates a database of volunteers. It also interacts with the government for facilities and infrastructure. "The idea is to involve the neighborhoods as far as possible," says Dayaprasad. He is excited about their flagship project Doctor At School that started off in Bangalore last year. He explains: "Doctor at School involves identifying a government school in the neighbourhood and finding volunteers - doctors, hospitals and pharmacies to serve here." The project has one general practitioner or pediatrician assigned to a school. He/she along with other volunteers conduct general health checkups for the children at the school during the first three months. Volunteers will hold year round general health awareness programmes every weekend at the school. The following three months will see follow-ups with elective procedures (like deformity correction) taken up. Malnourished children are given supplements. Another three months, children come up with skits and plays that are related to health care topics. The last three months being school holidays are used for maintaining records and other administration work. "As far as possible, we try to keep things absolutely free for the patients. Neighbourhood hospitals are requested to lend their facilities for free. The best part is that after a year, we now can scale it up anywhere in India. Those interested can use our handbooks detailing the processes involved," says Dayaprasad. Today the project covers 100 schools.



NAME
Dr Dayaprasad G Kulkarni
AGE 29
OCCUPATION
Public Health Consultant
MISSION
To get medical professionals to help provide primary medical care to the poor

Dayaprasad has consciously taken the path of community service. "I live with my parents so food and boarding is taken care of. An honorarium comes from my work at Jagruthi Trust, a home for HIV children, and Youth For Seva. I really don't need much to live," he says. A theater enthusiast, he has done several films on the healthcare theme and short films on child abuse and homosexuality. His aim for DFS is simple: Get people involved for something as basic and important as primary healthcare.

If you want to know more about Doctors For Seva contact 9632306256 or send an email to info@doctorsforseva.org. They are also on Facebook

TIMES CITY

Temple of education for kids This Software Engineer-Turned-Teacher Runs An Informal School In A Place Of Worship For Children Of Construction Workers

Garima Prasher | 15th

Bangalore: On a typical morning, the corridors of Anjaneya temple in Poorna Pragna Layout, near Utarahalli, are a hive of activity. Dressed neatly, 30-odd poor children sit on woven mats and listen to their teacher in rapt attention. "Shalaya", as the informal school run by Latha Rao, a volunteer from Youth For Seva (YFS), is called, has definitely come a long way - if not in terms of infrastructure but



WHERE THERE'S A WILL... This makeshift school that runs in the temple corridors or under a tree has limited facilities

CITY AND THE CITIZEN

certainly in the number of lives it has touched. The makeshift school that runs at times in the corridors of the temple and other times under a tree on the temple premises, has very little to boast of in terms of facilities. With a blackboard propped up on a tree trunk or hung on a wall, mats in place of benches and temple premises as its playground, the school caters to children of construction workers from the area.

What prompted Latha to start this school? "Three years ago when I quit my job as a software engineer, I got into teaching street children through YFS. At the same time, our house was under construction in the layout. Daily I would see groups of children of the construction workers playing and whiling away their time. The workers had migrated from villages in North Karnataka and they stayed in the city as long as the work demanded," says Latha. Poverty-struck children and the mindset of their parents who found education of their children an unnecessary luxury forced Latha to take up this initiative. "I thought of starting a non-formal school for these children. A place where I could teach them the basics of reading and writing. Parents wouldn't mind as we were charging no fee. That's how Shalaya came into existence. The school doesn't trouble parents in any way as we even allow kids to carry their younger siblings with them to the school. Not allowing younger siblings was the major reason for most of the dropouts," says Latha. Shalaya engages children from 10 am to 1:30pm on six days a week. Accompanied by another volunteer Roopa Srinivas, Latha has been teaching the kids for three

No midday meals

Shalaya school was providing midday meal to the children till March this year, but the service has been interrupted since then. "Our contract for the midday meal needed renewal and we tried to get it through a registered NGO, but we have failed so far. We have also contacted the education department in this regard. Every time we are given an assurance that the midday meals will start in a week's time but nothing follows. Children are still waiting for the food. The delay scares me as it might turn out to be a reason for these poor kids to drop out," says Latha.

HEALTH

HEALTH is wealth but when it comes to better healthcare facilities, it still remains restricted to the wealthy Indians in this World Doctors Day, July 1, Doctors For Seva (DFS), a voluntary and an independent organization which is a social healthcare wing in the Youth For Seva, stands as a right example. This organization is striving hard against such notions and provides healthcare to the needy people in the society. With a network of over 120 doctors, 37 hospitals and around 300 non-medical volunteers across Bangalore, the organization aims to create a paradigm shift in the way the medical fraternity and the society at large look at healthcare. Here, doctors provide medical help and a large number of non-medical volunteers assist in coordinating various health projects and activities.

"We have volunteers from different walks of life being associated with DFS. The idea is to start DFS from the camps that we were organizing at government schools as part of our school health program. The school authorities used to approach us with the medical problems faced by the students and then we thought to come up with a proper solution for the same. There existed a gap between qualified doctors and these children and we thought to bridge the gap and we came up with the group, Doctors For Seva," said Siva Madhukar, National Coordinator, Doctors For Seva.

Started in June 2010, the DFS has been working as a team delivering voluntary services to government schools across the city. Not just limiting its work to schools, it has spread its services to rural areas as well. Covering starting 14 government schools across Bangalore, its Doctor at School program is already a hit. To address the problem of shortage of specialists in remote tribal hospitals, it also came up with micro-volunteering in rural areas. The group has given special attention in delivering awareness on menstrual hygiene to both urban and rural adolescent girls for two years. Naming the project - 'Manaska', it has developed special awareness animated video, available for free of cost. Even for economically weaker sections of people, it has made up a special centre giving medical care free of cost.

"The work done by the volunteers are highly helpful for the needy and the poor. We have many students who are getting free medical check from this facility. The menstrual hygiene awareness is something which is hardly known in rural areas and this is really a great initiative taken by them," said Binaya, who has witnessed their activities and wishes to participate in the team. Calling volunteers from all sectors, the diversity in the team, which includes students, doctors and people from non-

Polio drive by volunteers

CITYPLUS NEWSDESK

THE first round of the year's National Pulse Polio drive took place across the country from 20-24 January 2013 and the second round from 24-27 February 2013. This was also the second time that volunteers from Youth For Seva (YFS) participated in the drive in Bangalore city. The drive was facilitated in the city mainly by the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) drops were administered at Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs), booths set up at public spaces and transit points like bus-stands, railway stations, parks, tourist spots, etc. The Health and Family Welfare Minister, Dr. Ravindra Reddy, had also announced that several mobile teams were placed to detect children of construction workers, migratory population groups and other communities at risk of missing the immunization.



YFS approached and partnered with the following PHCs for the second round: Byappanahalli, Malleshwaram, Basaveshwarnagar, Basavanagudi, Siddapur, Doddanekundi, and Hanumanthnagar. Six YFS volunteers were present at the Byappanahalli PHC and have immunized approximately 200 children. From the Basaveshwarnagar PHC, 6 volunteers reported hav-

ing immunized approximately 200 children. A total of 15 volunteers participated at the Thubarahalli PHC and have immunized 600-650 children. These volunteers were sent to apartments, slums with construction workers and migratory population from Bangalore and elsewhere. The PHC at Doddanekundi received two volunteers. Thus, a total of 65 volunteers have participated in this second drive and have collectively immunized around 1000 children including those belonging to vulnerable and high risk population groups.



YOUTH FOR SEVA TIMES

Regular Volunteers

Seva Fellowship

Seva Interns

Seva Vacation

Virtual Volunteers

Find out more about our news updates @ www.facebook.com/YouthForSevaBangaloreChapter

Symbol of dedication, compassion

Determined to bridge the gap between the exorbitant medical facilities and the needy, Doctors For Seva symbolizes compassion, integrity and dedication towards providing quality health-care through the concept of community service.



TEAM WORK: Doctors For Seva team at a school health program

Who can be a Doctor for Seva?

Anyone that is from a medical profession and willing to provide free voluntary service with the intention of benefiting the economically needy community can join this organization. A general physician, specialist, dentist, counsellor or psychiatrist, pharmacist, medical student, chemist, a medical officer, or a hospital, can become a member of DFS.

medical background, makes it deliver an impactful service to the society. Aiming to expand its activities across the country in future, DFS aims high to cover more schools in smaller towns we well.

"We are planning out for a detailed assessment program in consultation with the government agencies as well as local NGOs, after which DFS initiative will be initiated in 2 taluks in Gulbarga apart from Malajur and at least 2 other districts in Karnataka in future. We also look forward to expand the volunteer base by reaching out to key agencies like the Indian Medical Council, Dental and Nursing Councils along with other para and allied medical professionals. We also wish to have at least two scientific publications by the end of the year 2013-14," added Siva.

Standing tall and making a difference to serve the poor and needy, Doctor For Seva aims to reach the maximum and also giving the doctors an opportunity to stand up for what they take oath and on what they need to pre-serve those in need, irrespective of any situation.

Bangalore's most admired preschool is now in Malleshwaram! Admissions open - 2012 Toddlers to Kindergarten

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Join Hands with us, to bring more smile!!

Vivekananda Jayanthi celebrated at YFS



Cityplus

BANGALORE - JAYANAGAR

A DELIGHTFUL DAY OUT FOR CHILDREN

December 2 was just not any other 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.

SOULASALONI

A day packed with enthusiasm, optimism, energy, enjoyment and the highlight of all being the talented kids who were an added feature to this day filled occasion. "Chiguru-2012, an annual event organized by the Youth For Seva for the government school kids witnessed an overwhelming response on December 2nd at Vijaya College grounds on BT Road. The event was sponsored by DSI and Cambridge Silicon Radio (CSR).

Over 40 government schools of Bangalore and above 1500 children from these schools participated in the cultural events. Competitions like dance, music, painting, quiz, etc were organized for the kids. This was the fourth consecutive and successful year that the organization orchestrated an inter-school competition for the government school children in the cultural arena.



TALENT SHOW: Various Government School Children enjoying the event at the Chiguru event. BUREL A is showing a play

The talent buds

Schools like Channarayana School, Husekurnahalli School, children from Yashwanthnagar club and many more showcased their talent through 17 competitions. "It is not only the magic dance, music singing, sketching, painting, but also the creative writing, singing, translation, debates, riddle, problem solving, short story, creative writing, skits and plays, story telling, collage making, preparing working models were some of the cultural events that were showcased by the kids. They truly enjoyed the day participating in the various competitions, making new friends, meeting out and winning prizes. A day well spent by the kids, the organizers of the event, the volunteers and the judges. The day concluded with colorful dance performances by the budding dancers, individual singing performances and creative art projects.

What is Youth For Seva

Youth For Seva (YFS), the organization dedicated to provide a platform with opportunities for the youth who want to become the widely used word towards well-meaning. The organization started in the year 2007 through the platform. YFS aims to empower youth to become positive change-makers who will enable organization and contribute to work towards a better tomorrow. The goal of YFS is to support schools, NGOs, government hospitals and other organizations in the world-wide through volunteers who can help them mitigate some of their short-comings and challenges.



Continued on page 2>>

Green Commandos aim for zero waste

For three volunteers of Green Commandos it was an assignment which they enjoyed doing. The trio made presentations on the issue of environmentally-friendly solid waste management techniques in four different locations in the city - Sahakarnagara, Sarjapura Road, Bilekahalli and Banerghatta Road.



A volunteer speaks to residents of an apartment complex on Sarjapura Road

The volunteers of Green Commandos, an organisation which believes common people are catalysts of systemic change, especially in the area of waste disposal, spread awareness on environmental-friendly practices by reaching out to several residents in 14 apartment complexes in the four areas.

Residents were informed of waste management techniques which they could practice in their own homes. They were also exhorted to spread the word with other residents in the

neighbourhood, ensuring that the entire community contributed less waste to landfills. The presentation at Sarjapura Road, gave residents of the 140 apartment tips and measures on how to make the entire complex and the neighbourhood a zero waste one. Green Commandos also adopted the area of Bilekahalli and is looking to motivate residents to take charge of various different environmental issues in the locality themselves.



*All have to give some time
Some have to give all the time*



Volunteer and enjoy the satisfaction of contributing for a better society



It is YOUR turn to make a move.

Volunteer



For a better society



: <https://www.facebook.com/YouthForSevaBangaloreChapter>

All the organizational expenses at YFS are supported by the generous contribution from individual donors, who believe in the power of Youth. Such contributions are called "Seva Nidhi". You can choose to contribute monthly, yearly or at any other frequency that suits you. One time contributions are also welcome.

To contribute, cheques drawn in the name of "HSP-Youth for Seva" can be mailed to our office address. You can also donate online through online transfer. For details, go to www.youthforseva.org/donate You are encouraged to contribute your part.

Note : All donations are tax exempt under section 80 (G)



Youth for Seva

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