

# One Billion Literates 2013-14

*"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy." - Khalil Gibran*



May 2014

## [ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14]

One Billion Literates Foundation, 72 Cunningham Apartments, 5 Edward Road, Bangalore - 52

## Our History

OBLF was started in July 2010 by a software engineer, Anamika Majumder, who, after 12 years, moved back from Boston, USA, and decided to give back to her country where she had received quality education for next to nothing. We have come a long way since we started when Anamika, our Managing Trustee, was the only one teaching the children.



**We are very thankful to SUPRAJIT FOUNDATION for extending their support to our Rural School Adoption Program.**

**We appreciate the continuing support of Destimoney Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.**

**We are grateful to the Printers(Mysore) Pvt. Ltd. for their sponsorship.**

**We thank Novozymes South Asia P Ltd. for regular donations of laptops**

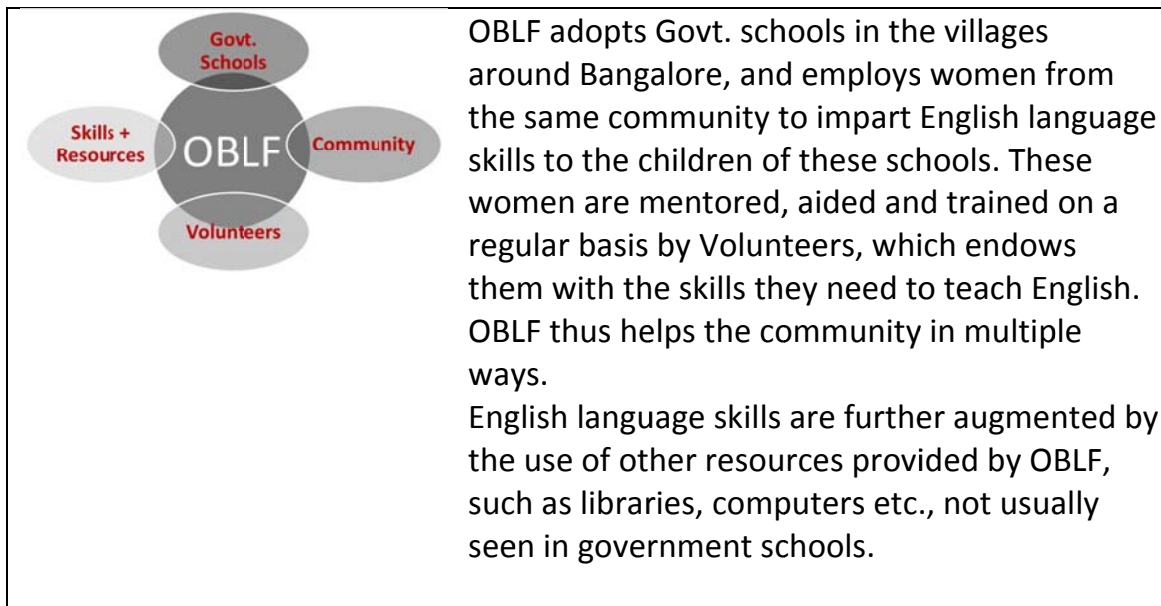
## Our Relevance

There are over 50,000 primary schools in Karnataka that are run by the state government and over 5.6 million children attend these schools. But the ASER tells us that the quality of education imparted is a matter of grave concern. Learning English and Computer skills at an early age will help the children attending these schools to access the information and technology that is out there in the world and help them find meaningful employment when they reach adulthood. By partnering the Government and bringing new resources to these schools, we are working hard to tap this huge potential by using the existing infrastructure of govt. schools, and building the basic foundation in English & technology in a fun-filled non-prescriptive manner with the help of rural women and volunteers from the city.

## Our Goals

**Equality in Education & Women Empowerment** are our twin goals, in order to make ours a society of equal opportunity. We bridge the urban-rural divide by imparting basic English language and computer skills to underprivileged children attending government schools. We empower rural women by training and employing them to impart these skills, thus making them financially and intellectually independent.

## Our Model



## Our Strengths

1. No rote learning - our own syllabus designed for a fun way of learning.
2. A baseline assessment method which ignores the kid's age / grade, but gauges the child's level of English knowledge, thus ensuring that each kid gets a sound foundation by learning at her/ his own pace and no child is left behind.
3. Computer skills brought to rural women and children.
4. Really low overheads, by having our village Coordinators and one Program Supervisor as our only paid staff and no rented office space.
5. Our cost child/year is only Rs.3,000/-
6. Weekly in-house training for our village Coordinators.
7. Coordinators also sent for training to other organisations

## Our Impact

- We have adopted 9 rural schools in the Anekal Area and we support 6 urban schools in the Bangalore East area. Over 550 children get quality education
- **Our Assessments show improvement in over 70% of the kids who are part of our intervention. On the other hand, the same Assessment shows that, a control group of kids who have not had the benefit of our intervention, has done very poorly.**
- Rural communities are empowered through financial & intellectual independence for women
- Technology is brought to the under-served
- It costs OBLF Rs.90,000/- to run a school. Our model of functioning has next to nothing of overheads and hence it is extremely cost effective – it costs us only Rs.3,000/- per child / year
- **We impact each individual life that we touch, in a different way -**



Rohit, one of our first students at Lakshmisagara, has made a very **successful transition from Kannada medium at the Primary level, to English medium studies at the Secondary school level**, (securing 80% in English in Std VII), thanks to the English skills imparted by OBLF. He, like many others, has a bright future ahead of him.



**Thanks to the weekly in-house training sessions in English**, our Coordinator Harini, who hails from the small remote village of Kadujakkannahalli (Anekal), **passed her PUC II, securing 78% in English**. She will now pursue her college studies.



Our Coordinator Padmavathi of Guddhaty village, a mother of 2 boys (18 & 16), **gained sufficient self-confidence** and was inspired by our English training sessions, to **appear for her SSLC exams, after 20 years**

Our regular and structured Computer & English training sessions enabled our Coordinator Suvarna, **to get a more lucrative employment as an Office Assistant**

## Our Current Year's Activities

### 1. Coordinators & Computers



Our Rural Coordinator strength has again increased this year, thus further reducing the student-teacher ratio, which now stands at 20:1

We also started a structured Computer orientation program for our Coordinators & distributed laptops donated by Novozymes South Asia P. Ltd., to our senior Coordinators.

### 2. Muse Charity Bazaar – September 2013



On 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2013, OBLF participated at the Muse Charity Bazaar, organized by Mrs. Miho Malhan of Muse Creations. **We thank Mrs. Malhan and the other Japanese ladies for inviting us, and for their unstinted support to our cause.**

### **3. Collection Drive at Shishya Nursery – September 2013**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2013, OBLF had a collection drive at Shishya Nursery, where the parents of the students donated generously.

**We thank the parents and the Principal of Shishya Nursery – Mrs. Lakshmi Vijeyndra for her support and the school's own generous donation**

### **4. Workshop with EZ Vidya – September 2013**

On 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2013, our Director, Mrs. Ruby Kamdin, along with our Technology Volunteer P Mahadevan, attended a workshop on Innovation in Educational methods, conducted by EZ Vidya

### **5. Zynga Computer Training – Sept 30, Oct 1, 3 –2013**



The Zynga team once again organized a 3-day training on computers for our coordinators. They also arranged the pick up/drop off that was very convenient for the ladies. The Coordinators learnt a lot of basic computer skills from the training. **OBLF thanks the Zynga Team.**

## **6. Joy of Giving Week – Oct 2-8 2013**



The **employees of the Red Bus Line Co.** very enthusiastically fulfilled all the wishes of our 300+ kids that were put up on the Wish Tree. Also fulfilling many of OBLF's wishes were the generous **employees of Happiest Minds, Biocon and Ibibo.** We thank the **employees of all these companies for their generosity, and their Managements for organizing these events.**

We also participated in the Food For Change charity dinner in which 17 people who contributed to our Foundation got to try food from top hotels and restaurants in town and were entertained by well-known music bands.

## **7. GeneroCity – October 2013**



On 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2013, OBLF participated in GeneroCity, an NGO Mela sponsored by United Way as part of the Joy of Giving Week

## 8. NGO Mela at Yodlee Infotech – October 2013



On 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2013, OBLF participated in an NGO Mela at Yodlee Infotech, as part of the Joy of Giving Week.

**We are grateful to the team at Yodlee Infotech, for inviting us.**

## 9. Distribution of Gifts – Nov 2013



Gifts donated by Red Bus employees during the Joy of Giving Week were distributed to the kids in November 2013.

## 10. Collection Drive at The Cherry Tree Nursery – November 2013

OBLF had a collection drive on Children's Day, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2013, at The Cherry Tree Nursery, where the parents of the students donated generously.

**We thank the parents and the Principal of The Cherry Tree Nursery – Mrs. Vinitha Belliappa for her support and the school's own generous donation**



### **11. Donation of Boards by Inner Wheel, Bangalore – November 2013**

On 27<sup>th</sup> November, the Inner Wheel, Bangalore, donated a Green Board to Chandapura Higher Primary School and a White Board to OBLF, for Training purposes.

**We thank the President, Mrs. Prabha Pai, and member, Mrs. Meghna Bhat, for their support.**

### **12. Symbiosis in Bridging gaps in Education – December 2013**

On 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, our Director, Mrs. Ruby Kamdin, along with our Technology Volunteer P Mahadevan, attended a Symbiosis on Bridging Gaps in Education. Mahadevan is now volunteering on the Technology Committee set up to ensure that every child in Bangalore is enrolled in a school in the next 5 years.

### **13. Donation of more laptops – December 2013**

On 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, Novozymes South Asia Pvt. Ltd. Donated 7 more fully refurbished laptops to OBLF. **We are grateful to Novozymes for their continued generosity.**

### **14. Seminar on CSR – December 2013**

On 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, our Director attended a Seminar on CSR, organised by Nasscom and sponsored by IBM. It was a very informative seminar for both – Corporates and NGOs.

### **15. School visit by Syngene – January 2014**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2014, over 20 employees of Syngene International Ltd. visited our school at Adugondannahalli and interacted with the kids and our Coordinators. They gave gifts and cut a cake for the children, who were thrilled with the attention they got.

### **16. Reappointment of the Trustees – January 2014**

Five of our Board members, whose term expired in January 2014, were reappointed. Our Board of Trustees has six members, consisting of

S.No	Name	Gender	Age	Position in Board	Occupation	Total amount paid by OBLF ( in INR last financial year)
1	Anamika Majumder	F	40	Managing Trustee	Software Engineer	-----
2	Aashu Calapa	M	46	Trustee	Chief HR Officer, Redbus	-----
3	Arvind Malhan	M	41	Trustee	Principal New Silk Route	-----
4	Manosh Sengupta	M	55	Trustee	Founder brand-@itude	-----
5	Nikesh Jain	M	41	Trustee	Software Engineer	-----
6	Rajan Narayanan	M	55	Trustee	Promoter Director – Second Avenue & People English.	-----

### 17. CNBC Run – February 2014



On 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 Pradip Majumder, Pankaj Dixit, P Mahadevan and others ran the CNBC 3/5k Run in support of OBLF.

### 18. Distribution of Solar Lights – February 2014



On 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, Mr. Pramesh of One Child One Light visited our Bendigondannahalli school and distributed solar lights to the children. **We thank Mr. Pramesh for this gesture.**

### 19. Leadership beyond Authority – February to July 2014

Our Director, Ruby Kamdin has joined the Meridian program of Common Purpose UK, India chapter. This is a 5 month program in Leadership beyond Authority.

### 20. CII NGO Mela – February 2014



On 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 our Director, and 2 of our rural Coordinators, attended the CII NGO Mela, where the new CSR norms were discussed, and NGOs had a chance to meet Corporates. **We thank Mr. Ajith Rai of Suprajit Engineering, who evinced interest in OBLF and has now agreed to support us.**

### **21. Workshop at British Library – February 2014**

On 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2014, our Director, along with 2 of our rural Coordinators, attended an English Teaching workshop at the British Library. The Coordinators learnt many new ways of teaching English, which they later shared with the others, and successfully implemented in their schools.

### **22. Year end Assessments – February 2014**

Year-end Assessments were carried out in all our schools in February 2014, to gauge the impact of OBLF. **We are grateful to the Maneckji & Shirinbai Neterwalla Foundation for sponsoring the year-end scholarships for the top 3 children in all our schools.**

### **23. Training at Mt. Carmel College – April 2014**

Our Coordinators underwent a 3-day training on teaching techniques at Mount Carmel College, Bangalore, conducted by Mrs. Usha Kumar, HoD Human Development of Mount Carmel College. The Coordinators hugely benefited from the training. OBLF thanks the Principal of Mount Carmel College and Mrs. Usha Kumar for their continuing support to OBLF.

### **24. Program Supervisor – May 2014**



On 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2014, Mr. Mahesh Krishnappa was appointed as Program Supervisor, to oversee the Foundation's Rural School Adoption Program.

## **25. Summer Tutorials – 21<sup>st</sup> April to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2014**



To keep the children engaged even during the holidays, we had Summer Tutorials at 3 centres, where kids from all our rural schools gathered daily for 3 hours of fun-filled learning – through games, songs, rhymes, activities, story-telling etc.

## **26. TCS 10K Run – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014**



A total of 16 People participated in the TCS run under the 10K and Majja run category. Three of our Care Champions raised funds for us.

OBLF thanks Bangalore Cares, the participants, the Care champions and the donors for supporting us.

## **Our Gratitude**

We express our sincere thanks to all our donors, supporters, mentors, volunteers and well-wishers. Your continued support will enable us to provide our children the quality of education they deserve – and need – to live a life of dignity, and to participate in the progress of our nation.

Anamika Majumder  
Founder & Managing Trustee  
One Billion Literates Foundation

## People

**Coordinators:** Swapna, Manju, Munirathna, Veena, Vanishree, Padmavathi, Rekha, Harini, Ashwini, Shobha, Varalakshmi, Uma

**Volunteers:** Ruby, Mahadevan, Jayashree, Nikesh, Sai, Pankaj, Archana, Himja, Neha, Aruna, Aarthi, Aparna, Rashmi, Kanchan, Sudha, Latha, Shubha, Neetu, Priya Mani, Priya Balu, Reshma, Lalitha, Subha, Brinda, Manju, Simi

## Legal

- Registered Charitable Trust u/s 12AA

- . IT 80-G approved.

- Chartered Accountants:

Philips Cherian & Associates,

1029 80 Ft Road, I Block,

Koramangala, Bangalore-34.

Tel: 080-25532299

Email : philipsca@gmail.com

- Foundation Office:

72, Cunningham Apartments,

5, Edward Road,

Bangalore 560052

Tel : 9632600650

Email : [rubyk@onebillionliterates.org](mailto:rubyk@onebillionliterates.org)

## Financials

### PROJECTIONS FOR 2014-15

To further strengthen our Program and increase our impact, we have now appointed a Program Supervisor to oversee our Rural School Adoption Program. We have also now increased our Coordinator strength, to further reduce the student / teacher ratio. **Both these steps will increase our Project Expenses from the current Rs.5.34 lakhs to almost Rs.11 lakhs in 2014-15.**

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31 2014

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT(INR)	ASSETS	AMOUNT(INR)
General Fund+ Excess of Income Over Expenditure	8,16,183.66	Computers, Accessories and Library Books	46,340.39
Advance	4,198.30	Loan to Staff & other advances	4,000.00
		Products	45,533.00
		Cash/Bank	7,24,508.57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,20,381.96</b>		<b>8,20,381.96</b>

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31 2014

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (INR)	INCOME	AMOUNT (INR)
Opening value of Products	59,888.00	Donations	7,48,437.00
Project Expenses	5,34,378.08	Events	3,49,301.00
Events	91,521.00	Sale of Products	7,200.00
Others	42,043.81	Others	16,102.00
Depreciation	8,404.01	Closing value of Products	45,533.00
Excess of Income over Expenditure	4,30,338.10		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,66,573.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,66,573.00</b>

## Expenditure Per Month (INR)

SALARIES	M	F	
<5000		10	(Includes stipend + conveyance)
5001-10000		1	(Includes stipend + conveyance)
5001 - 10000			Coordinator Training

## We bank with:

**Canara Bank, Cunningham Road Branch, Bangalore**

Account name : One Billion Literates Foundation

Account no : 0431101203551

IFSC Code : CNRB0000431

**State Bank of India, Health City Branch, Hosur Road, Bangalore**

Account name : One Billion Literates Foundation

Account number : 31445249698

IFSC Code : SBIN0010450

**For more information:** [www.onebillionliterate.org](http://www.onebillionliterate.org) [www.facebook.com/onebillionliterate](http://www.facebook.com/onebillionliterate)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/oblvideo>

**We are looking for like-minded people to donate just Rs.500/ month. If each person reading this report commits to supporting us, that will allow us to move our focus from fundraising to strengthening the program.**

*“The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy.” – Kalu Ndukwe Kalu*