



**ONE BILLION  
LITERATES**  
EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

**2021**

# Annual Report



# CONTENTS

Editorial | 1

Our Methodology | 2

EDUCATION & SKILLING | 3-8

Theory of Change

Out of School Learning Program

ELEVATE: Curriculum Development for  
our School Adoption Program

Partnerships

WOMEN'S CAPACITY BUILDING &  
LIVELIHOOD | 9-10

DIGITAL LITERACY & EDTECH BASED  
LEARNING | 11-12

Solve Education

Edugrigo

COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROJECT |  
13-16

PUBLIC HEALTH & COVID RELIEF WORK |  
17-20

Mitigating the Impact of COVID 19

A snapshot of our Covid Relief Work

COVID Distribution Drive

Our Team - New Additions | 21

OBLF USA | 22

Financials | 23

OBLF on the Ground: A snapshot of  
2020-2021 | 24- 26

Voices from the Ground | 27 - 28

CEO's Note | 29

Corporate Volunteer Engagement | 30





"Hope lies in dreams, in imagination, and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality"

## EDITORIAL

How does one begin to describe a year that has been so unique, when each one of us has continuously wished for some semblance of normalcy in our lives? A year that has evoked a multitude of emotions from being stricken with sorrow, to being frustrated, to feeling extremely helpless while we were in the throes of the Pandemic. However, this year has also shone a light on some of the finest human traits, on how ordinary people can be extraordinary and be change agents to make a true impact in people's lives.

For us at One Billion Literates Foundation, it was not a question of whether we should make a pivot from the work we had been doing for the past decade. But how do we go about saving lives? Because we simply couldn't close our eyes to the devastation. This was easier said than done. It was clear that we had a better chance of positive impact and outcome if we continued to focus on Anekal Taluk and drove a set of complementary strategies that drove value for our target beneficiaries in marginalized communities. Our team spent countless hours brainstorming the ins and outs, built fruitful partnerships on the ground to take on shared responsibilities, partnered closely with the state health authorities, and did everything we could from running Covid care centres to building Oxygen plants, to creating capacity in ASHA workers, to educating & creating awareness in interior villages, and finally vaccinating over 10000 people to contain the virus.

But this is not the only thing we did. Like every organization, big or small, we have also had to reimagine how to go about fulfilling our mission to impart quality education. The Pandemic has disproportionately affected lives and it is unclear when Government Schools will reopen. So, it was imperative to ensure continuity in learning, or else that would mean the end of childhood for millions. For the demographics we work with, access to laptops, smartphones, and the Web is not the norm, and exposure to the English language is very limited. So here again, we have innovated and our team has worked hard to develop highly engaging teaching and learning collateral that can be used by our para-teachers on the ground. And like always, our para-teachers who live in the rural communities around the schools have done us proud by ensuring that no child is left behind.

The adverse conditions of the past year and a half have allowed us to identify gaps, standardize processes and come up with a more holistic approach to make an impact in the communities we work for. And this comprehensive "care package" that we come up with during this time, will help us during unprecedented and unprecedented times going forward and enable us to grow our impact.

Anamika Majumder  
Founder, OBLF

Anish Ramachandran  
CEO (Hon), OBLF



# OUR METHODOLOGY



## FOUNDING PHILOSOPHY

The Foundation was set up on the belief that quality education is the absolute right of every person, and a strong engagement from the local community is essential for sustainable community development. Lack of access, infrastructure, resource constraints, or policy should never be a cause for denying anyone their fundamental right to pursue and fulfill their dreams.



## VISION

We enable rural communities - young children and women - to take informed decisions and lead meaningful productive lives by setting a strong foundation through education and capacity building and employment.

## MISSION

One Billion Literates Foundation seeks to provide quality education to children from socio-economically weaker sections of society in rural Bangalore. We leverage the power of the community based on our belief that the intersectionality of educating rural children and empowering rural women has to come together for rural communities to move forward. And by engaging rural women to address the massive learning deficit within the mass schooling system, this organization is striving to create an equitable platform and bridge the rural-urban divide.

## OUR FOCUS



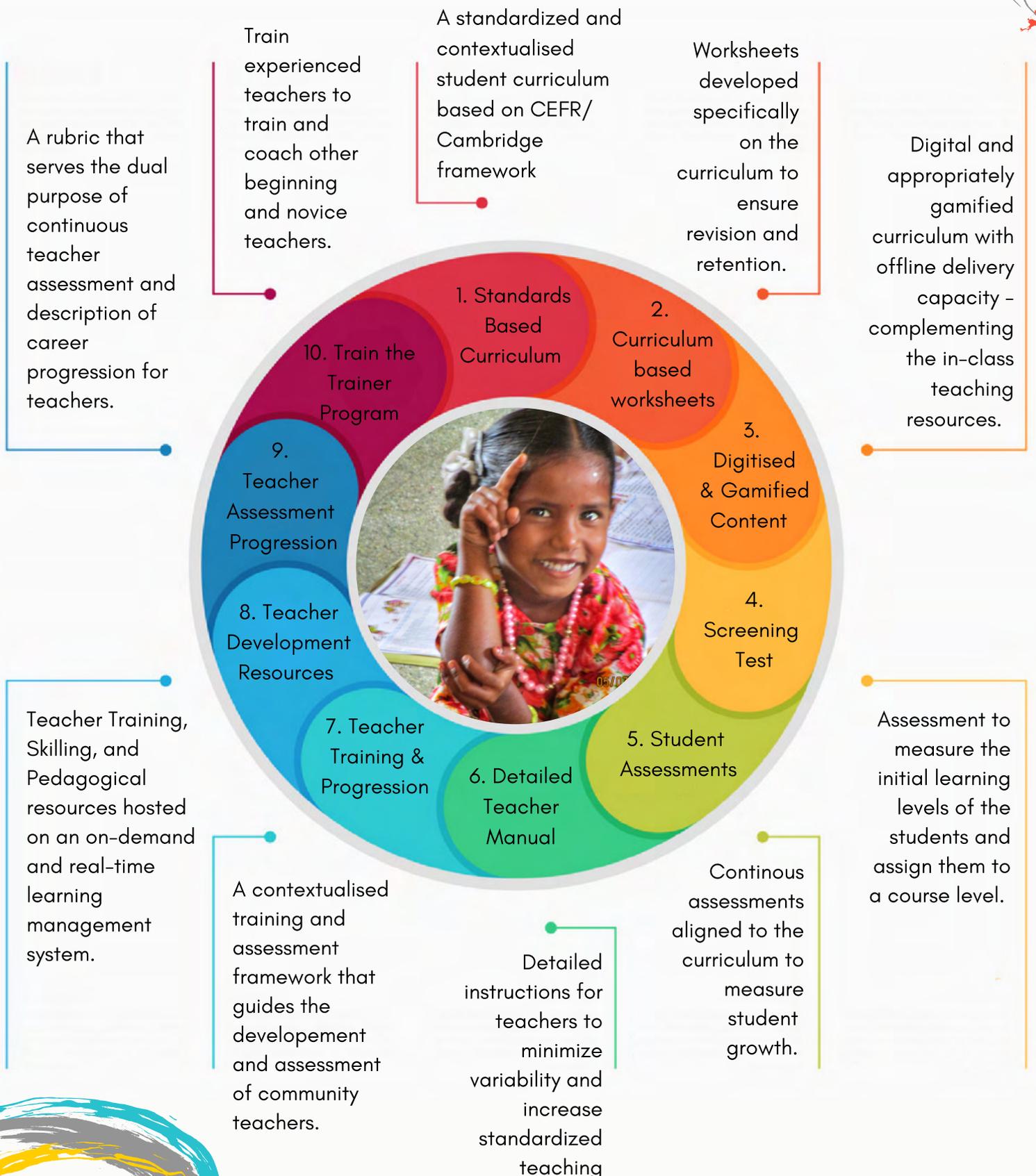
One Billion Literates Foundation has two equally important areas of thrust and impact. The first has been towards curating high quality and research-driven curriculum on English and basic Computer literacy. The second area of emphasis has been on socially empowering, capacitating, and creating employment for semi-educated women from these communities. This dualistic approach has created a sustainable model of gaining and imparting education through collective community action.



# EDUCATION & SKILLING

# OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

**High Quality Classroom Resources** complemented with **Skilled Teaching** drives **Effective Learning Outcomes**



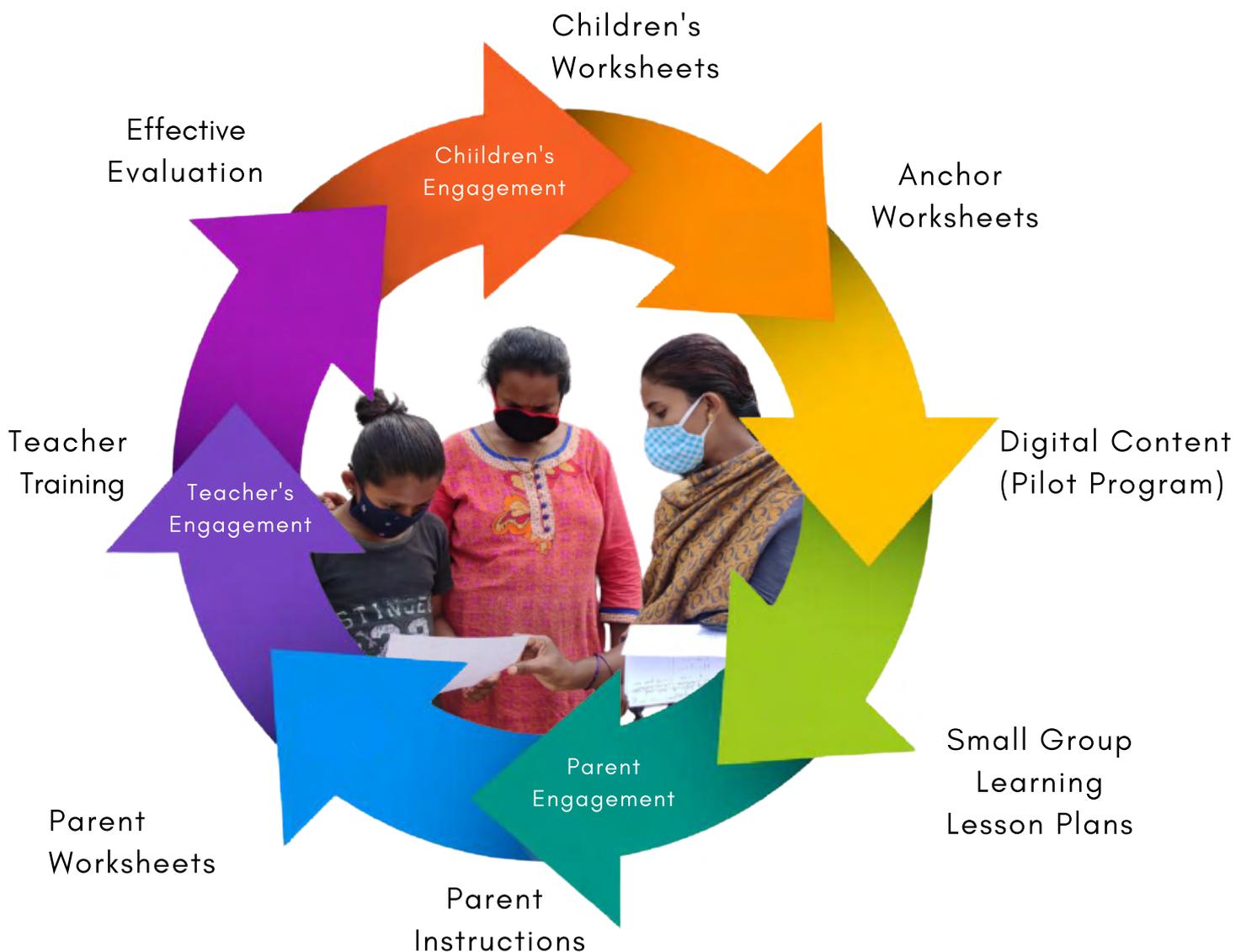
# EDUCATION

## OUT-OF-SCHOOL LEARNING PROGRAMS

In a world still reeling from the impact of COVID which has been forced to go virtual, who gets impacted the most by lack of digital access, especially when it comes to education? It is unmistakably the children of the rural poor who are at the periphery of accessibility and opportunity. Already burdened by poverty and an intersection of several other challenges, these families have no access to online resources and virtual teaching strategies. The longer such children are deprived of learning and intellectual engagement, the higher the probability of them regressing, thereby further expanding the divide between the urban rich and vulnerable sections of society.

Government schools remain closed down due to the pandemic, leaving the children in rural areas with limited learning opportunities. OBLF remains committed to providing the children we work with exposure to engaging curriculum and learning strategies. Keeping safety as our top priority, we have developed various Out-of-school learning programs - which deliver the same classroom curriculum experience to the children at their doorsteps.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE PROGRAM





Small  
Group  
Learning

Our para-teachers take small batches of children 10-15 in a group to an open space in the neighborhood - like the local school compound, or their terraces, temple complex, etc. and conduct classroom-based sessions for two hours.

Worksheet  
Distribution

OBLF has created worksheets, charts, and other learning material based on the new CEFR aligned curriculum that is distributed from house to house by our para-teachers to the children in their neighborhood. The teachers visit each house explaining the details of the worksheets and collecting completed assignments while providing feedback to each student. This is repeated every alternate day. Additionally, the parents of the children also receive learning material that they will participate in and collaborate on with their children, thereby encouraging and contributing towards their child's learning and holistic development.

Parent  
Engagement

Our team has created Parent Engagement collateral which is designed to be an accompaniment to the children's worksheets. Apart from instructions for parents to help their children with the worksheets, it is also meant as an aid for parents to help create a strong learning environment at home;

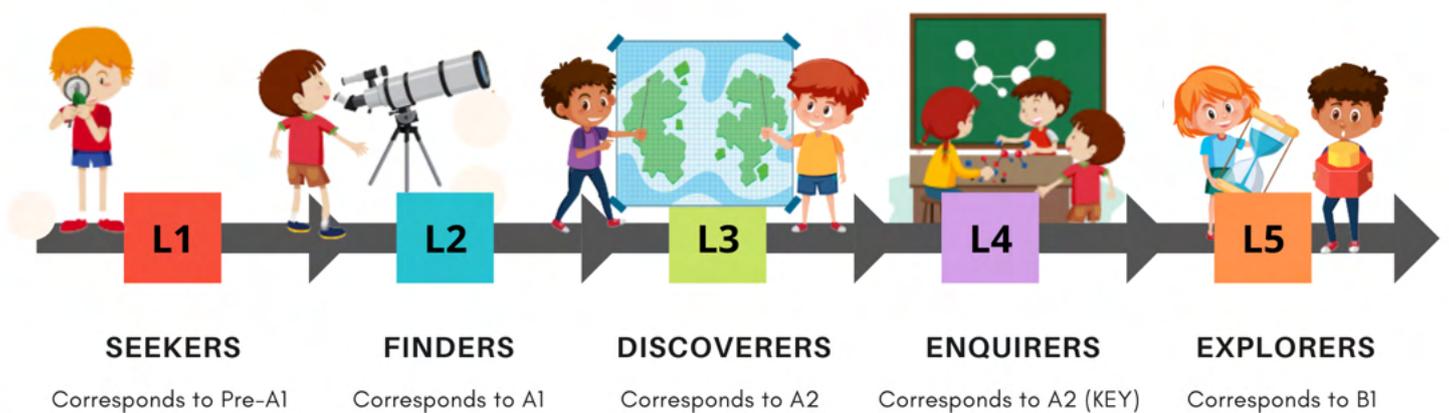
WhatsApp  
Learning

OBLF has leveraged limited digital accessibility with the community we serve, by creating WhatsApp groups with children whose parents have smartphones. Worksheets and other cognitive exercises are sent through WhatsApp and answers are discussed in the group with the children. Our groups are filled with plenty of pictures from the children displaying their creative creations and excitedly giving answers.

# ELEVATE: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT FOR OUR SCHOOL ADOPTION PROGRAM

Elevate is the flagship program of the foundation that provides a comprehensive learning package in English literacy for primary school children studying in rural government schools across Bangalore. The multi-skill course employs the L-S-R-W model and has been designed in line with the CEFR Cambridge model. The sessions and teaching material seek to improve the communicative language production, reception, interaction, and linguistic capabilities of children. The program has five learning levels – Seekers, Finders, Discoverers, Enquirers, Explorers, where each level corresponds to a CEFR Level (Pre-A1 – B1).

OBLF has spent the year developing and designing the curriculum. Our curriculum team consists of prolific content developers, designers and illustrators and, voice artists who have brought their expertise together to create a truly engaging learning experience for the children.



We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Prof. Rajeevan for giving shape to this vision, for showing us the way in the creation of this learning material, and teaching us along the way. He gave freely of his time to advise us about the impact we can create with this approach and curriculum, pushed us to continuously do better and strive higher when looking at the quality of our curriculum, and deliberated and discussed at great detail nuances of the text as it got developed. His imprint on this material is indelible.

It is our commitment that as a Foundation dedicated to the cause of education of the underprivileged, we will always strive to bring the best we can offer to our beneficiaries. We see this as a journey, and there is no end to this journey. We will constantly keep getting better and better in everything that we do, and that is indeed the promise of One Billion Literates Foundation to the children we seek to educate.





## PARTNERSHIPS

Over the course of the year, we have been fortunate to have had the partnership and collaboration from many co-travellers who shared the same mission and purpose, and without whom we would not have been able to make the progress we have.



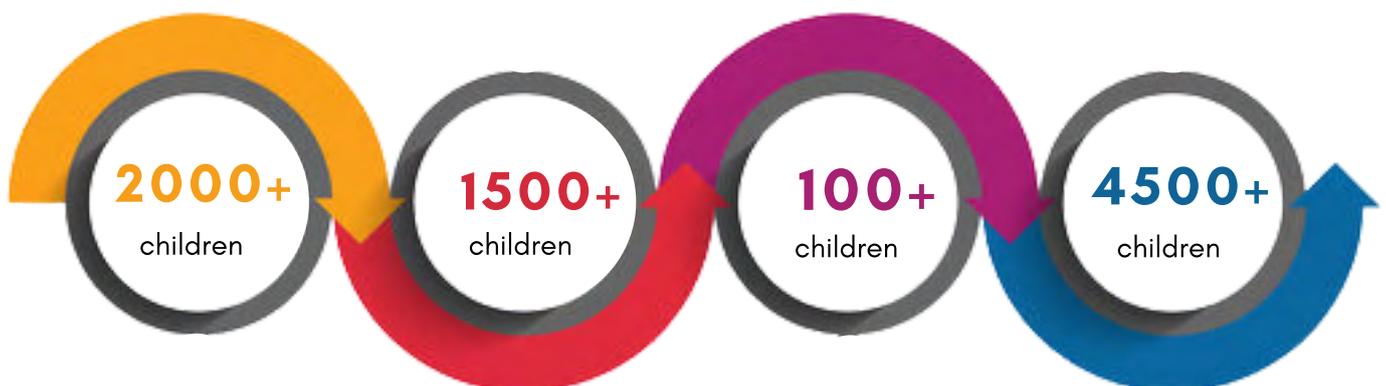
## PANDEMIC RESPONSE IMPACT

Small Group Learning

Worksheet Distribution

WhatsApp Learning

Curriculum



# WOMEN'S CAPACITY BUILDING & LIVELIHOOD





One aspect of OBLF's core focus has been to consistently upskill the women we work with. Our focus has been to promote holistic skill development of our para-teachers that is an amalgamation of 5 key skills: English Language Proficiency, Curriculum Mastery, Pedagogy, Social and Professional Skills, and Personal Leadership skills. We have begun identifying partners to collaborate with while also designing in-house programs to train the teachers on these key skills.

## Callan Method English Training

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30 teachers attended a 3 months Spoken English Training. On an average our teachers grew by 78% from the baseline assessment. The teachers now feel more confident in speaking English. The training also helped them reflect on aspects of spoken English that they struggle with like use of proper tenses or use of the right prepositions. They now proactively seek this learning from multiple sources.

## Personal Leadership

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We were very fortunate to have had Tresa Paul, a highly experienced consultant, and coach to volunteer her time over several weekends to conduct personal leadership workshops for our teachers - to help them explore aspects of leadership related to their roles at home, within the community, and in the classrooms.

## Ongoing Curriculum and Pedagogy training

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The teachers have been attending curriculum and pedagogy training twice a week since March 2021. With the second wave and lockdown, we have moved to online training space. 65 teachers are now onboarded onto using the different levels of the new curriculum and basics of classroom management. These trainings have also focused on the English Language Proficiency of the teachers.

Our immense gratitude to Preethi Madappa, Geeta Das, and Sumana Mukerjee for giving freely of their time and energy to spend in the development of our teachers.

## Queen's English Training

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40 teachers are currently attending a 6-month online training on Spoken English organized by Queen's English. This course is based on the CEFR framework and is aimed at getting all the teachers to a minimum of A2 level to be able to teach student curriculum at pre-A1 and A1 levels.

30

25

65

40



# DIGITAL LITERACY & EDTECH BASED LEARNING

# SOLVE EDUCATION & OBLF



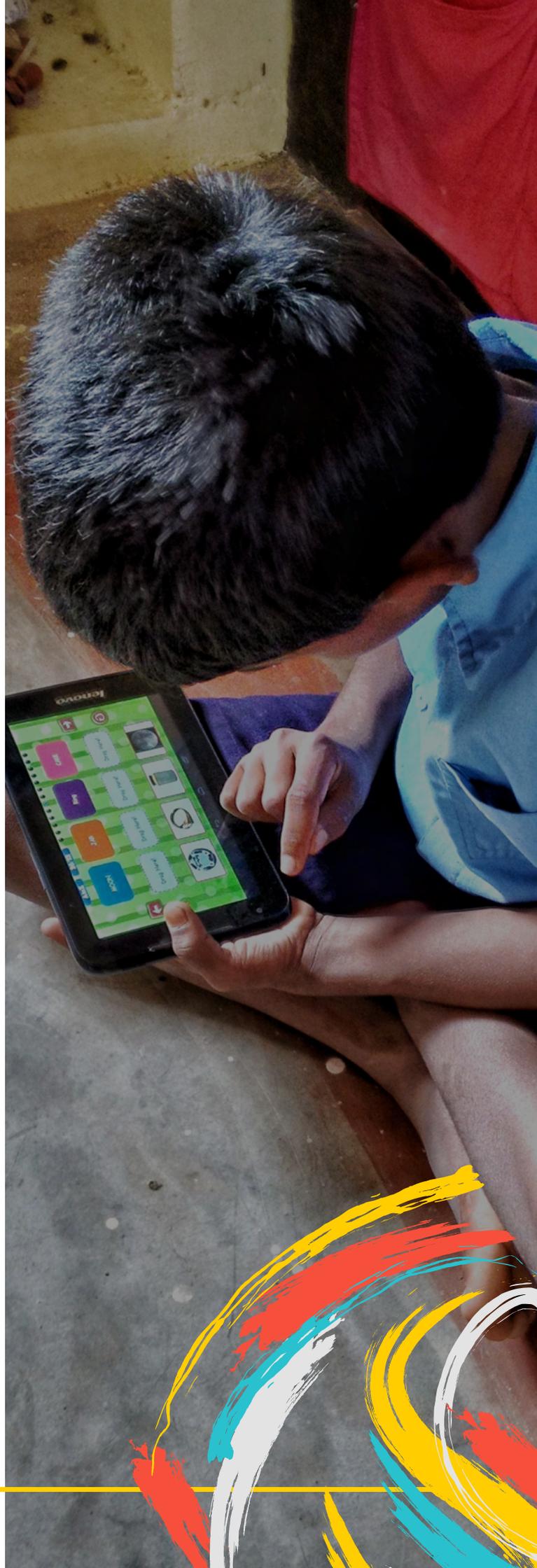
Solve Education is an organization that develops tools to make teaching easier for teachers and learning easier for students. OBLF has collaborated with them on developing gamified content to aid our curriculum-based classroom learning. Solve education's gamified content is based on the CEFR/Cambridge Framework with 16 different mini-games that build English proficiency in students.



## EDURIGO: LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Our partnership with Edurigo will help us host learning modules and reference material needed by teachers that can be accessed in real-time and on-demand. All the curriculum material including coursebooks and audio files developed for the Elevate program have been uploaded onto the platform. Our vision with this platform is to make this the go-to platform for all our teacher training, development, and assessments.



# COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROJECT



The primary mission of the Community Rehabilitation project at the waste picker's colony is to

1. Give the children of the community the foundational education required, and to integrate all of them successfully into Government schools in the State.
2. Design Livelihood Programs for Women and Young Adults - and create partnerships with organizations to implement them
3. Build and Deploy sanitation facilities for the community
4. Design regular health-based interventions for Women and Children of this community

Over the last year, we have successfully set up and run a Learning Center for the children focused on early learning capabilities.



## Education and Child Development

A total of 56 children have been enrolled at the OBLF Learning Centre. There have been shifts in our attendance because they are a migrant population. Based on the study we have done, all the children who have discontinued have done so because their parents shifted to other labour sites. At the same time, we have had several new students joining us as well. While this is something we should continue to expect going ahead as well, what is heartening is that we have a substantial cohort of students who have been a consistent and steady part of our learning program.

## Nutrition Program

One of the key areas that we wanted to include when we started the learning center was to provide nutrition to the children. Nutrition has always proven to be a key to the success of any literacy program that is set up in such a demographic. When we conducted the medical camp, the doctors and the public health expert from Anahat Foundation told us in their report that it would be good for us to address the severe protein deficiency, which in turn would help to solve the malnutrition and dermatological issues that the children were facing. The nutrition program, therefore, includes the following:

Milk and Finger Millet cookies

Lunch with Eggs included on a couple of days

We have continued with the nutrition program through the second lockdown and ensured that the children do not miss out on this essential aspect.

## Hygiene

An important aspect of this community rehabilitation program was to stress the importance of hygiene given the overall environment the community is living in. A lot of the underlying medical and dermatological issues that the children community has can be attributed to unhygienic living conditions. We have established a hand washing routine before the children enter the class. We also distribute a hygiene kit every quarter, and it includes the following: bathing soaps, washing soap, a dental kit, menstrual hygiene kit and a towel.



## Health and Medical Camps

One of the key factors that will help in making the project a success is to have all members of the community invested in this. One of the initiatives to build a level of trust and help them, is to conduct regular health and medical checks. In December, we had our first medical camp in association with Smile Foundation. The focus of this camp was the women and children of the community.

In January, we had another medical camp conducted for the community as a whole. This camp was done in association with Anahat Foundation with doctors from St. Martha's hospital. We conducted an inoculation camp, as well as a Polio drops drive with the help of doctors from the Primary Health care center at Anekal. We regularly check with the parents and help them connect with the primary health care center to keep up with the vaccination schedule.



## Faculty Training

We had initially appointed two teachers, and in December we scaled to 4 teachers. We have also initiated a special program based on story telling and theatre of the oppressed. This was primarily to address the four levels of the student sessions that we needed to create based on the students ability and understanding. A significant part of this project is also the investment on faculty training to deal with the demands placed on teaching given the student demography. Two of our teachers completed the training on "Introduction to Early Childhood Education" and received certificates for the same. The teachers are now competently planning the monthly activity schedule for the early Learner's.

## ROADMAP

One of our key goals is to further develop curriculum and content tailored for this demographic. We are partnering with Gubbachi, an organisation that has been working with migrant children for the last 10 years. We will be adopting the curriculum developed by them for the Bridge Education program to bridge the 6-9 year olds into the government school program.

We plan to have quarterly meetings with parents of the community to keep them apprised with how the children are progressing in school. Another objective of this session is to engage with and counsel the parents and people in the community for a sustained behavioural change. We plan to have the following sessions:

Sessions on Sexual & Reproductive/Maternal Health, Substance Abuse, etc.

Vocational Training for women and youth in the community

Sustained & Planned programs on Safe Waste Management Practices.

Develop a sports/play facility for the children



# PUBLIC HEALTH & COVID RELIEF WORK



The crisis and suffering in India goes on unabated. And we, at OBLF are determined to do whatever we can to help as many of our countrymen as we can. Despite being an organization with a strong focus on education, we have pivoted so that we can save lives. During the first wave of COVID, we distributed 60T of rations to affected communities along with procuring PPE kits for hospitals. However, this year, the Second wave of COVID has led us to re-calibrate our approach, underscoring the need for immediate treatment and care facilities while also laying the groundwork for systems that will help prevent another outbreak of COVID where the vulnerable are left to their own defences in a resource exhausted India. We continue to explore other complementary strategies to help address the impact as the pandemic moves further into interior districts.

## MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID 19

### A collaborative, systemic approach to Public Health, in Anekal

**1** Ration and Food kits for the needy | Identify specific pockets of need and ensure ration and food at timely intervals | (Activate in partnership with CSOs/partner orgs.) | Status: Ongoing

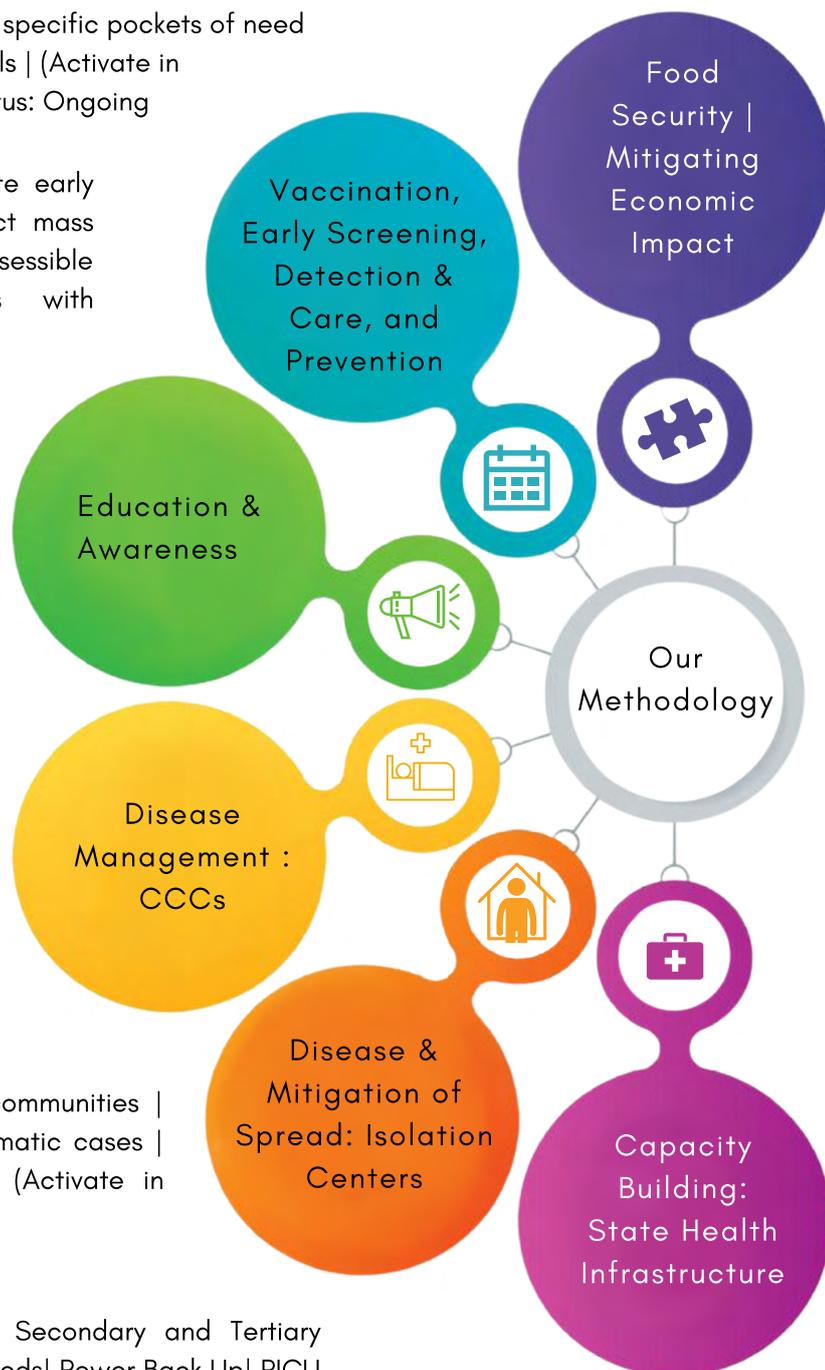
**2** Build and deploy ground force for remote early detection, screening and care | Conduct mass vaccination drives | Make vaccination assessible and easy | (Activate partnerships with CSOs/partner orgs) | Status: Ongoing

**3** Build Capacity in Frontline Health Workers Provide Protective and Screening Equipment | Drive awareness and education on safe practices and vaccination benefits | Reduce misinformation | Status: On-Going

**4** Covid Care Centers: Establish in peri-urban locations. Close to Hospitals |Oxygen Stabilization & Primary Medical Care | Stabilize saturation levels | Transfer to Secondary or Tertiary Care. | (Activate in partnership with other CSOs & partner orgs) Status: Functioning in Jigani & Chandapura since early May.

**5** Establish isolation centres close to rural communities | Isolate asymptomatic and/or mildly symptomatic cases | Enable early detection & management | (Activate in partnership with other CSOs & partner orgs) Status: Started in Indlawadi, since early June

**6** Build healthcare infrastructure in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary health institutions | o2 Plants| o2 Pipelines| Beds| Power Back Up| PICU | (Activate in partnership with State Administration) Status: On-Going.





## A SNAPSHOT OF OUR COVID RELIEF WORK



Covid Care  
Isolation Centres

03

**3 CCCs** operationalised by Enablers United, our implementation partner. Treated **1500+** patients



PSA Oxygen  
Generation  
Plants

03

First PSA Oxygen Generation Plants installation at Anekal Taluk Hospital on-track  
**2 more PSA plants** being planned at Primary Health Care Centres



Paediatric ICU  
at Anekal  
Hospital

01

**10** Bed Paediatric ICU at Anekal Taluk Hospital on track | Turnkey execution including NABH standards-based ICU ward design/set up, equipment installation, and knowledge transfer With GE Healthcare, GMS, and Bio Motion.



Education &  
Awareness  
Sessions

27

Vehicle-based and in-person education and awareness sessions were completed in **27** villages in Anekal Taluk, working with the Panchayat Development Officers. Sessions covered Safety and Vaccine Hesitancy education.



Equipping  
Frontline Health  
Workers

340

Equipped ASHA personnel with N95 Masks, Surgical Masks, Face Shields, Hand Sanitizers, and Education Pamphlets, covering all **13 PHCs**, working with local Panchayat and PHC MOs.



Home Based  
Surveillance,  
Screening

18

Training a pilot group of **18** volunteers to be developed into a remote health screening, early detection, and telecare team with Swasti | Extend pilot to cover wider area depending on results.



Food Relief  
and Dry  
Ration Kits

87T

**87,000 kg and 87 T** of dry rations distributed to targeted economically disadvantaged groups. **29,000** beneficiaries reached.



Vaccination  
Camps

12K

**12,000+** people covered so far via **18+** Vaccination Camps |



## OUR TEAM GROWS BIGGER!

### **Tuhina Nair - Fundraising and Volunteer Engagement**

Tuhina has been instrumental in helping OBLF build fundraising and resource mobilization capacity by developing functional linkages with both corporate and social sector donors. She has been running our Covid fundraising campaigns, working on developing proposals, and building a volunteer base. Tuhina has arranged various successful volunteer engagements for OBLF with Thomson Reuters, Intel, Rubrik to name a few, where our team collaborated with the volunteers to develop collaterals for our curriculum.

### **Vinita Kurup: Program Manager (Hon.)**

Vinita has been instrumental in helping set up and lead our Community Rehabilitation activities, especially the learning center at the Waste Picker's Colony. She is now actively looking at ways to create more structure and build scalable processes to take our community rehabilitation work forward. More recently, Vinita has been helping to co-lead the Vaccination drive across the marginalized population in Anekal Taluk.

### **Sunadini - Master Trainer**

Sunadini is our Master trainer and currently oversees the training and development of our para-teachers and field trainers. She is currently working on familiarizing our para-teachers with the new curriculum, as well as the out-of-school program. She has also been working with the content team on developing collaterals for the LMS platform Edurigo as well as creating standardized teacher assessments.

### **Swati - Project Associate**

Swati is a graduate from Christ University, Bangalore with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce and is also a Teach for India Alumnus. Swati has brought in her vast teaching experience to co-train the teachers on the new curriculum as well as the out-of-school worksheet program. Additionally, Swati has taken over the learning centre which is part of our Community Rehabilitation Project

### **Safoora Noor - Field Trainer**

Safoora is also a graduate from Christ University, Bangalore with a Bachelors's in Psychology, Sociology, and Economics. She has previously worked as a fellow at Teach for India teaching in a low-income private school for two years. Safoora will also co-train the teachers on curriculum, worksheet engagement while making school visits to ensure quality teaching is being delivered at the ground level.

### **K Sree Vidya Lakshmi - Finance Consultant**

Shree Vidya is a CA who has been in practice for the past 4 and a half years. She has also completed IFRS (ACCA) & Dip. In. Forensic Audit & Fraud Detection (ICAI) and has been managing all of OBLF finances alongside our Director, Ruby Kamdin.

### **Elizabeth Elenjical - Project Associate**

We were fortunate to have Elizabeth with us from July 2020 till June 2021. We wish her the best as she leaves to pursue her post graduate studies in Mass Communication from XIM, Bhubaneswar.



## OBLF USA

We are very glad to say that we are now a registered non-profit in the USA as well - and One Billion Literates Foundation, USA is live. Our gratitude to our Board members in the US - Scott Fortmann, Leena Janaradhanan, and Daaman Hejmadi, for agreeing to be part of this journey and for their leadership in taking this forward.



State Bank of India, New Delhi  
Main Branch  
FCRA Account  
Account Name: One Billion  
Literates Foundation  
Account Number:  
00000039872234358  
IFSC Code: SBIN0000691  
SWIFT Code: SBININBB104

Canara Bank, Cunningham Road  
Branch  
Account Name: One Billion  
Literates Foundation  
Account Number: 0431101203551  
FCRA Utilisation Account Number:  
0431101206628  
IFSC Code: CNRB0000431

Union Bank of India, Chandapura  
Branch  
Account Name: One Billion Literates  
Foundation  
Account Number: 520101256953467  
IFSC Code: UBIN0911640

FOUNDATION OFFICE:  
72, Cunningham  
Apartments,  
5, Edward Road, Bangalore  
560 052  
Telephone: 9845119023

LEGAL:  
Legal, Registered  
Charitable Trust u/s 12AA  
FCRA Approved  
IT - 80 G Approved

OUR AUDITORS:  
Philips Cherian &  
Associates  
2497, 17th Main, HAL 2nd  
Stage, Indira Nagar,  
Bangalore 560 008

# FINANCIALS

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2021			
LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (INR)	ASSETS	AMOUNT (INR)
General Fund + Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,61,02,604.55	Fixed Assets	5,17,331.82
Corpus Fund	24,87,000.00	Investments (including Corpus)	1,42,87,000.00
Current Liabilities	79,861.00	Other receivables & Advances	3,66,175.74
		Products	1,20,740.39
		Cash/Bank	33,78,217.60
	1,86,69,465.55		1,86,69,465.55

CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021			
EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (INR)	INCOME	AMOUNT (INR)
Opening Value of Products	59,677.80	Donations	2,11,95,290.26
Purchase of Products	82,533.00	Interest	5,60,919.10
Project Expenses	1,58,16,322.07	Others	21,956.60
Management Expenses	8,36,547.70	Closing value of Products	1,20,740.39
Depreciation	2,75,707.27		
Excess Of Income over Expenditure	48,28,118.51		
	2,18,98,906.35		2,18,98,906.35

# OBLF ON THE GROUND: A SNAPSHOT 2020-2021

## EDUCATION & SKILL DEVELOPMENT



## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & LIVELIHOOD



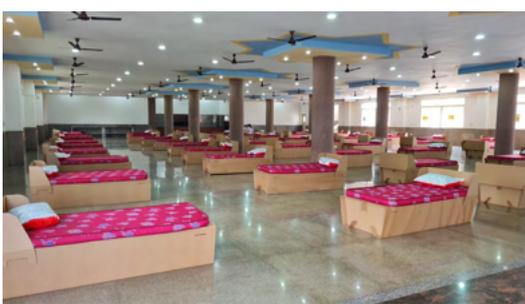
# DIGITAL LITERACY



# COMMUNITY REHABILITATION PROJECT



# PUBLIC HEALTH & COVID RELIEF WORK



# VOICES FROM THE GROUND

From.  
GEETHA.

DATE  
4/8/21

These are my w.p.c teaching experience.

It is good opportunity for me. because w.p.c children don't know the any thing about the school. be teachers are tell and giving basic knowledge about the school. and they will feel very easy to move on for the learn next part. of there school. I feel very proud to teach them, by this we teacher also learning so many, before I don't now how to teach for them, but know I feel very easy to teach them. It is good experience for me.

Thank you sir

Priya Bhaskar.

04/August/2021

Thank you for one of the most remarkable experiences of my teaching career. I have been associated with WPC almost for ten months now and I thoroughly cherish my journey of interacting and teaching the WPC students. I have inculcated the habit of being more patient with students as each student has a different mindset and grasping power. I have learnt a different approach of teaching students and this has a great impact on me as well. I have also had the opportunity to motivate students about their future as well which is very satisfying. The organisation is also very supportive and I wish all success to the students and the organisation.

It was a nice experience in working in WPC and children's are so innocent and with love and respect they received me daily with their smiling face and really its new experience to me and apart from that in worked in as normal school and in WPC children's are gathered to learn in one class so, I first checked their previous knowledge and ideas about learning process and next I taught from basic and its really to happy to me to teach them because they are very excited and intrusted to learn new learning things and they are successfully achieved their knowledge goals and its proud to me as a teacher to see their smiling faces with knowledge. Thank you sir giving me <sup>chance to</sup> to work within WPC. its really lucky chance to me and I glad to you always sir.

I am thanking to OBLF for giving me the opportunity to help the people to get vaccination. so I am very happy to share my experience about vaccination camp. It was first experience and I was filled with fear of because to meet people during the pandemic. People say that the happiness found everywhere but I say my happiness found by helping the people to get vaccination. during the vaccination camp some of the people didn't know about the vaccination they were very scared and confused to take the vaccination so I clarified them to get vaccination. Finally again I thank to OBLF TEAM.

Thank you.

Hello Everyone,

I am Pushpa. I am working as a co-ordinator since 5 years, I would like to share my experience about OBLF. OBLF is not only supporting well experienced persons but also it supports rural ladies. When I joined this organisation the management gave us regular English and basic computer training. We will go to government schools and teach the children from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> standard.

Past 2 years because of the pandemic we didn't stop teaching. We have taken all levels of precaution about covid and went door to door and help the children's education by giving worksheets. We have taken further step not only in the education field but also in covid relief programs. In the beginning only the management provided vaccination for us. Then they arranged the vaccination camps for needy people. Most of the rural people and migrants used this opportunity. Finally we have completed more than 10,000 vaccinations successfully.

I would say Thanks to our management people Anish sir [CEO], Ruby mam [MD], Anamika mam [Founder], Mahesh sir [program manger], all the trainers, all the supervisors and my friends [co-ordinators]. Really I am happy to work in this organisation. Thank you for giving this opportunity.

I am Gayathri N. I live in a village with my family. I didn't think that I will come out of my home. In 2017 our program manager Mahesh sir encourage and gave opportunity to work as a para teacher. Ruby ma'am is training us and gave opportunity to work in four schools. In all four schools they warmly welcome me and gave one hour to teach children. When we were working happily, this corona pandemic started and all schools were closed but we didn't stop our program. We started small group learning and gave worksheets to our neighboring government children. Those who have smart phones we started whatsapp group learning. The government made full lockdown and didn't let anyone to go out. In this pandemic I lost my uncle and aunt. In this sadness my program manger Mahesh and CEO Anish helped to take vaccine for all coordinators and their families and provided food kits for poor families and migrated peoples. They started vaccination camp for every panchayat (Anekal) and gave opportunity to work as a volunteer in the camp. Really I am very lucky to have like this opportunity. We completed 10,246 vaccinations till now. I am very happy and feeling proud to work in OBLF. Heartly thank you, Ruby ma'am, Mahesh sir, Anish sir, and Anamika ma'am.

Thanking you  
Gayathri N.

DATE: PAGE:

Thank you OBLF team for giving me strength & confidence to keep working as a teacher. It helps me financially & encourage to teach village children.

In this pandemic OBLF team was helping poor people to give grocery kits. Last two months our team had done vaccination camps. It was helped our family members, friends & more than 10246 beneficiaries vaccinated in Anekal Taluk.

I am proud to be part of being with OBLF.

P. Anitha.

I am really happy to share my experience about vaccination camps & neighbourhood teaching. That is well planned & organised vaccination camps at their villages, serve to needy people, followed safety protocols in neighbourhood teaching made me happy & feel proud to be part of it. Thanks to OBLF for giving me an opportunity to do this.

Rathna C.

I am very glad to share my experience about vaccination camps and trainings. Our OBLF team has well organised vaccination camps for needy people. We started on June 5<sup>th</sup> to July 29<sup>th</sup> within this period, we have covered 10,246 beneficiaries at Anekal taluk.

All of them appreciated our work and thanked our team. It was a very good opportunity for me to work as a volunteer. everyday is new for me to learn new things that I never had before. We are getting trainings from the trainers that incredible experience for us. All trainers are putting more effort on us and we are also doing well. I thank entire OBLF team members for giving me this beautiful opportunity.

# CEO'S NOTE

The past year-and-a-half has definitely been one such period, when most of us have been just grateful to have had a glass, with no time to consider whether it was half-empty or half-full; focused on putting one foot in front of the other and keep going ahead.

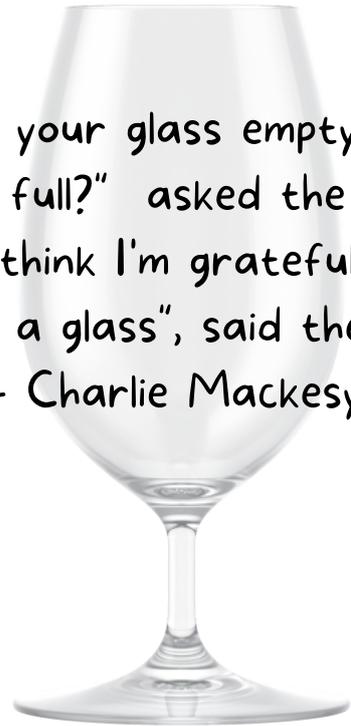
Many times in this past year, I have been asked "what is a non-profit focused on education doing in covid relief and public health?" The answer is simple - for One Billion Literates Foundation, it has really has been about knowing that we could not be bystanders to what is probably the biggest humanitarian disaster to have hit the country. That simple guiding principle led us down a path of incredible discoveries about human tragedy, loss, forbearance, and resilience. We have met ordinary people with extraordinary courage. We have been privileged and humbled to witness inspiring stories of personal leadership unfolding in front of our eyes. And time and time again, we have been reminded of the immense depth of empathy and generosity that we - the people - have - which has allowed organizations such as us to put our heads down and keep doing the work that we can.

As we look ahead, if there is one learning that we have which we will take forward, it is to keep ourselves open to new journeys and new possibilities - and to continue to be driven by the desire to do good.

*"They give that they may live, for to withhold is to perish. For in truth it is life that gives unto life - while you, who deem yourself a giver, are but a witness"*

- The Prophet, Khalil Gibran

"Is your glass empty or half full?" asked the mole.  
"I think I'm grateful to have a glass", said the boy.  
- Charlie Mackesy





# CORPORATE VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

We are a small, but ambitious team! At OBLF, we believe in including like-minded people in our journey in order to create larger impact. Thus, having volunteers support our work has been extremely valuable over the years. We have always received overwhelming response from both individual as well as corporate volunteers in various ways.

Since the pandemic hit, more than ever we felt the need of volunteers to help us develop various learning aids/ materials to help rural children continue with their education. Yet again we had large number of volunteer signups to create these materials for our remote/ small group learning initiatives. Over 700+ volunteers from Intel, Thomson Reuters, Rubrik India Private Limited and Caterpillar India Pvt. Ltd came together and contributed around 2300 hrs. of their valuable hours to back up our efforts .

Through their support:

- More than 2500 children were able to receive some form of education despite schools and other educational institutes were closed because of the pandemic.
- 70+ teachers could use the materials created, as teaching tools to facilitate during teaching sessions.
- More than 100 children could be introduced to digital literacy.
- We acknowledge the incredible efforts of our volunteers, and we thank each one of them for making a positive difference in the work that we do .



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Batch of 2001 & 2003

**Mr Sujeet Kumar**  
Co founder, Udaan

**Ms. Sashi Rajamani**  
Philanthropist, Social Investor

We are also incredibly thankful to the many hundreds of anonymous donors who have supported our work over the course of the year.