

Ekta Shakti Foundation

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PROGRESS REPORT

2021-2022

During the year 2021-22, it was again a COVID-19 year and the Brahmashakti Special School was closed for the entire year as per the guidelines from Government of India and Delhi Government. Although the services were given to few of the students through virtual methods. In this year the total expenditure was INR 18,96,056/-. During the year the expenses were met through the donations and other sources. Efforts being made on regular basis to arrange funds from various sources to cater more children in the school.

About Ekta Shakti Foundation

Ekta Shakti Foundation is a non-profit organization with a vision of a world of hope, kindness, and positive action where every person has the opportunity to live a healthy and productive life. It was established in the year of 2003. To focus on the development of Women, children, youth, and differently-abled children. The foundation has a mission to undertake and reform the ongoing positive transformation in the lives of people. To get strengthen our holistic approach in the development of society, the organization laid the foundation of the Brahmashakti Special School in 2006. Where the focus is on the positive inclusion of special children in society. To make it more effective, The school has a set of specially trained teachers who deliberately work towards the betterment of these special children. To make a healthy and nutritious society The organization provides Hot-Cooked meals to the school-going children under the Mid-day Meal program of the Government of India, which functions in three states (Delhi, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh). Ekta Shakti Foundation has marked a difference in the lives of more than 10 lakhs of school-going children by serving nutritious Hot-Cooked meals. To revamp and revolutionize each and every life in the society, the organization has equally emphasized the development of women as a change in the life of women can bring change in the lives of a family. In 2006, Radhika Skill Development Centre came into function with this objective. The primary objective of the Radhika Skill Development Centre was to create employment opportunities for adolescent girls and women

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT BRAHMASHAKTI SPECIAL SCHOOL

As per the last Census of India 2011, 2.21% of the total population of the country is disabled. In an era where "Inclusive Development" is emphasized as an adequate path in the direction of sustainable development, focused tasks for the welfare of disabled people are essential. This emphasizes the need for removing the barriers to unlock the vast potential of people with disabilities.

Brahmashakti Special school is a school for children with special needs. This initiative came into existence by the founder Mr. Anil Aggarwal, a distinguished humanitarian who felt that there is a need for a school for special children when he encountered a child named "Brahma". He was suffering from a mental disability and was dismissed by most people, but not by Mr. Anil Aggarwal.

Brahmashakti Special school is an added feather to the Ekta Shakti Foundation in 2006 with a small group of differently-abled children in Matiala village, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi. We are moving into the new world of "Inclusive Development". And Brahmashakti Special School aims to enable these children with special needs to become an integral part of society and to equip them with all the necessary skills to lead an independent life. The special school helps to build an inclusive and favorable environment for children with special needs through special education curriculums, co-curriculum activities, physical education, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and vocational training to empower the students with special needs. CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT BRAHMASHAKTI SPECIAL SCHOOL Children who are assigned and availing these beneficial activities and exercises are in a way better condition today than before.

We have a set of special educators and a well-advanced set of training under Brahmashakti Special School. A significant number of children come in with multiple or complex issues. The individual educational plans are conducted and the progress is being measured by the achievement/assessment reports focusing on the individual child.

Those children who have been a part of our Brahmashakti Special School can cope much better in their families and societies. Brahmashakti special School works closely with parents by providing them regular guidance and counseling sessions. At Brahmashakti Special School, children take part in the state, national, and international sports events and win every year. Some patients are also referred by reputed hospitals such as AIIMS, Ganga Ram, and Vimhans.

This year was a year of glory for Brahmashakti Special School. The foundation had successfully initiated the #WeBelong Campaign. With the theme of generating a sense of belongingness and prohibiting discrimination of the differently-abled children in the society #WeBelong Campaign gained a lot of appreciation and success. The goal of the Campaign was to create opportunities and foster such children to make a stand for themselves in society. The organization has contributed to making a world where nobody feels left out. It has focussed on being patient, practiced empathy instead of sympathy, and became more vulnerable and vocal about the community of people with special needs. Ekta Shakti Foundation has disabled the stigma attached to the label "Disability" by becoming part of the disability awareness program. It explored innovative ideas at Brahmashakti Special School that can more swiftly respond to the emerging societal problems and provide strategic solutions to issues be it health, nutrition, unemployment, or special needs. The foundation addressed the unaddressed facts of the differently abled children through our #WeBelong Campaign.

Although the school were closed the whole year due to COVID-19 effect as per the guideline from State and Central Government. We have tried our level best to cater to few of the students online.

Nutritional Support- (Mid-Day Meal Program)

Food and Nutrition are fundamental to good health and its functionality. In the 2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI) published by United Nations sources India ranked at 102nd place in 2019 as compared to 103rd place in 2018 and 100th position in 2017. With a GHI score of 20.0, the level of hunger and undernutrition worldwide is on the cusp of the moderate and serious categories. According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) report, India's child wasting rate is extremely high at 21%. The country's child stunting rate, 38%, is also categorized as very high in terms of its public health significance.

In India, just 9.6% of all children between 6 and 23 months of age are fed a minimum acceptable diet. Child malnutrition is a chronic problem and a longstanding challenge for the public administration of India. It is a doorway to a life landmarked with cognitive and physical setbacks. Malnutrition shines a light on poverty, inequality, and lack of access to facilities. To fight this battle, in 1995, MidDay Meal Scheme came into existence in India as 'National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NPNSPE)'. In 2007, NP-NSPE was renamed as 'National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools,' which is popularly known as the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

The programme is designed to better the nutritional standing of school-age children nationwide. Under this programme free lunches are provided on working days for children in primary and upper primary classes in government, government-aided, local bodies, Education Guarantee Scheme, and alternate innovative education centres, Madarsa and Maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, and National Child Labour Project schools run by the Ministry of Labour.

Under Mid-Day Meal Scheme, 12 crore children in over 12 lakhs schools are being served, it is the largest of its kind in the world. Ekta Shakti Foundation has been assiduously contributing to combat the problem of malnourishment in our country through the Mid-Day Meal Scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource and Development by the Government of India. The organization has decided to advocate for this modification in the lives of children across the country. The main objective of the Mid-day meal scheme is to ensure the nutritional need of the government school children. Ekta Shakti Foundation has distributed more than 8 crore meals to school-going children in around 8000 schools covering Delhi, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh, and Assam. Ekta Shakti Foundation is extremely grateful to the subsidies provided by the state and the central government for the materials and the utilities. In the larger prospect, the government funds are utilized among the labor cost and kitchen development. In the present era of changing food habits among children, ESF seeks the vision of providing healthy and nutritious food to each child.

Due to COVID -19 pandemic, the schools were closed in the entire country, and the school going children were suffered a lot due to unavailability of nutrition food and study. Although, Ekta Shakti Foundation has provided a take home rations to the children as well as in the community to support them. Take home Ration were supplied in Bihar, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh etc.

CSR Program

Ekta Shakti Foundation has been able to mobilize the funds under CSR from Hindustan Unilever Limited for distribution of Dry Ration to the 45000 school students in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh for the duration of 9 months. The kit includes the Rice, Pulses, Gur, Health drink, Face Mask, Soap for bathing, soap for cloths etc. The kits have been distributed in the schools with the support of teachers and school administrations.





Vocational Training Program

Vocational training program “Radhika Silai Kendra” was closed during the entire year due to COVID - 19 so no progress made in this vertical.

DIN DAYAL UPADHYAYA GRAMEEN KAUSHALYA YOJANA (DDUGKY)

ESF has collaborated with the government under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), with an aim to skill rural youth who are poor and provide them with jobs having regular monthly wages or above the minimum wages. It is one of the cluster of initiatives of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India that seeks to promote rural livelihoods. Around 550 rural youth from the districts of Varanasi and Chandauli shall be trained under this project by 2024.



Environment

Ekta Shakti Foundation has started a new vertical of Environment. To combat the climate change and its impact on the environment, ESF is focusing on the Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action. We are taking urgent action to ameliorate degraded land, water, and air by the process of Phytoremediation.

HIGHWAY PLANTATION

ESF is running the plantation process of ornamental and phytoremediation species in an area of 20 km stretch from Faridabad to KB India's plant to raise the aesthetic value and beautification. The plants will act as a barrier preventing flash from high beams of vehicles. Fountains and lights will be installed to enhance the beautification. Simultaneously it will create a prominent recreational spot for the local visitors too



PALWAL RAILWAY STATION

Ekta Shakti Foundation is running a CSR initiative for the holistic development at Palwal Railway Station. The focused areas under this initiative are Watson, environment, beautification, and livelihood. 4 water purifiers will be installed with a cooling facility to improve the availability of potable water and drinking water. Revamping the toilets for a safe sanitization facility at the station. Installations of dustbins for dry and wet waste for proper waste management, which will improve the air and water quality. Wall paintings, swings, flowers, and open gym installations are in process to make the place more visually appealing. 5 kiosks will be installed for the benefit the low-income groups.

Conclusion

Looking at the scenario during the pandemic, Ekta Shakti Foundation has contributed for the society through different kind of support like providing take home ration to the needy community, providing support of medical, referral services, etc. It was good that we were able to get support from HUL for nutrition support to 45000 children. It was a worst year in terms of education, livelihood, health and life. We hope that this pandemic shall vanished at the earliest so that the life can come back in normal.