

Annual Report

April 2018 to March 2019

Sparsha Trust



Celebrating 10th Anniversary



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Letter from the Managing Trustee – Shri Gopinath R.

Dear friends and well-wishers,

We are happy to present you the annual report of Sparsha Trust in this very special 10th year of its functioning. It is an amazing journey which started with the five children in a cowshed and has led us to where we are today. As Sparsha is celebrating its 10th anniversary, we would like to take this opportunity to say that today we have come a long way and are very happy and proud that we have been successfully able to transform the lives of around 8000 children in various ways possible.



Sparsha Trust is now on a high growth trajectory with many of our programs expanding in terms of numbers and scope of services. During these 10 years, we have added to our open shelters and multi-dimensional residential programs with projects on developing model schools and on-site crèches for children of construction laborers. As an implementation partner to Child Helpline 1098, we were able to rescue children from exploitative circumstances, enroll school dropouts and help parents to understand the importance of continued education, especially for the girl children. Many of our programs are being managed independently by the senior team members, indicative of a growing second line of leadership.

With the increased involvement of the Board members, the organizational management has become more streamlined and oriented towards meeting its objectives. We are putting in all possible efforts to construct “Makkaladhama”, a multi-dimensional residential center for boys aged 7 years and above. We are privileged to have very senior professionals from the corporate sector and various walks of life as our committee members for Makkaladhama.

Many migrants from the neighboring districts as well as states come to Bangalore every single day, adding to the numbers of local population who do not have a roof over their heads. I was honored when the Supreme Court identified me as one of the members of the core committee for the urban homeless in Karnataka alongside the Ex Chief secretary of Karnataka and three secretaries of different Government Departments. We are working towards recommending a practical solution on the issue.

Given the suitable environment, children can make use of the opportunities, put in efforts and do well in the future and can fulfill all their dreams. Like every year this year too, children have passed with flying colors. Total 20 children have appeared for the 10th standard exam among, 17 have passed and majority of the children scored between 60% to 70%. We are extremely proud of Rekha who fought against child marriage and ran away from home to continue education, has scored 91% in the 2nd PUC exam. One brighter child of Sparsha Kumara scored 91% in his 10th CBSE. All other children belong to labor families from the construction sector and other daily wages unorganized sector.

We are very fortunate to have dedicated team members, volunteers and management committee members of different projects who work tirelessly and assure for its growth and progress. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors who support us and showed faith in us which has made us come this long way. We are sure that they are happy to see their support is being utilized to the maximum as the children are having a safe and comfortable childhood with access to proper nourishment, growth and developmental opportunities. Thank you once again.

Yours Truly

Gopinath R.

Managing Trustee

Brief of Sparsha Trust - A team striving to improve the society

Sparsha Trust is a registered, Charitable Trust working primarily for underprivileged children and youth. Initiated in 2005 by a handful of students of Master of social work (MSW), its vision is to create a society free of exploitation of children; children are supported to discover their potential and given opportunities for comprehensive development.

Vision

A society free of exploitation of children, where children are supported to discover their potential and given opportunities for comprehensive development.

Mission

- To Create a safe home for every child with a free access to basic facilities (food, health, clothing)
- To Ensure that children enjoy their constitutional rights and eradicate the child labor system
- To Develop the children's creativity and strengthen their self-confidence
- To provide quality and skills-oriented education to empower underprivileged children and youths
- To create a community of responsibility and solidarity in which every child has his/her own place
- To Raise public awareness about Child Rights: care, protection, development and education

Organization Profile

The organization has a management board of 10 members, an advisory board of 24 members and 33 permanent staff members. It is registered under 80G and 12A of Income Tax Department and has FCRA of the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India. It also has PF, ESI Registration, TDS and Service Tax etc. The organization also has Financial Policy, HR Policy, Child Protection Policy, Policy against Sexual Harassment at work place, Recruitment and Selection Policy, Volunteer Policy.

Board of Directors

- President: Dr. D.S. Krishna
- Managing Trustee: Mr. Gopinath. R
- Wing Commander R. Srinivasa Murthy
- Member: Srikanth Ekambaram
- Member: Mrs. Rupa Mahajan
- Member: Mr. Shashidhar M. Kotian
- Member: Ms. Geetha B.
- Member: Mrs. Prameela S.R.
- Member: Ranganatha GR
- Member: Mr. Ramakrishna. A.B

Advisory committee for(Nisarga Grama and Makkaladhama)



Mr. Rajendra Hinduja
MD Gokaldas



Dr.D.S.Krishna
President Sparsha Trust



Wg. Cdr. R.S.Murthy
Trustee Sparsha Trust



Mr. Ragheven G
CEO Bharthiya Urban (Real Estate)
& Independent Director
Amrutanjan Health Care Ltd



Mr. Eric Sell
VP Marketing
Service Center Asia at IBM



Mr. Chittaranjan Nareyane
Area Vice President at NETSCOUT



Mr. Ranajit Victor Sen
Senior VP Insurance Operations AXA



Mr. Shembulingayya Swami
CEO Parikrama Pesticide Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Srikanth Ekambaram
CFO Terex India



Mr. Verun Vijay Rao
President India at CIRCOR International, Inc.



Mr. Andrew Tanner
Ex.Director - Global Solutions
Engineering, Kennametal



Mr. Nikhilesh K. Reddy Myleveram
GM Zwilling Kitchen India Pvt Limited



Mr. Chittbhanu Nagri
Director HR - Moonfrog Labs



Mr. Virenderkumar Garg
Senior manager sales,
Kennametal India Ltd.



Mrs. Heera Brauner



Mrs. Rupe Mahajan
Trustee Sparsha Trust



Mr. Shivaprekash,
Head of Engineering,
KSSPL



Mr. Sheshidher Kotian
Assistant Manager, KSSPL
& Trustee Sparsha trust



Mrs. Tina Restogi
Volunteer of Sparsha Trust



Mr. Gopinath.R
Managing Trustee Sparsha Trust



Mr. Suresh Babu
General Manager - IndiGEO



Mrs. Mahalaxmi Bhat
Associate Director - HR
IBM India Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Raghevendra Totamane
Senior Manager - Technology



Mr. Asim Kumar Mendal
Program Manager Persistent

Awards and Recognitions

- 2018 "Shree Matha award" at Horanadu by "Shree Annapoorneshwari trust"
- 2018 "Persistent Sanman award" at Pune by "Persistent foundation"
- 2017 "Karnataka State best NGO Award" from Hon. Governor of Karnataka"
- 2017 "National Youth Leadership Award" in Ranchi from Jharkhand Hon. Chief Minister
- 2016 "Glory of India" Award from Global Achievers foundation at Dehradun
- 2014 Karnataka State Best NGO Award by Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka
- 2013 Art of Living "Sri Sri Award" as best NGO working for Child and Woman Development
- 2012 "Kalasha Award" from Inner Wheel Club Bangalore

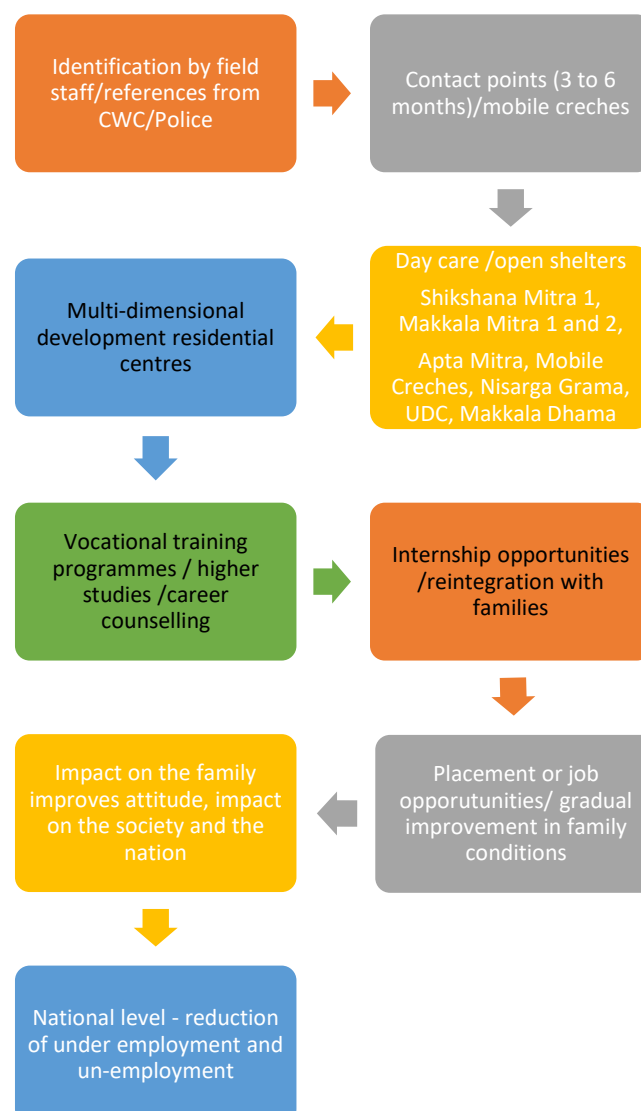
Experience of networking with key stakeholders

- 2004-2007: State coordinator of State Alliance for Education
- 2008 – 2009: Regional Consultant for Serva Shikshana Abhiyana, project of the Department of Education to work on enrollment of out of school children.
- 2013 till date: Member of District Committee, Bangalore Rural District for prevention of child marriages and child abuse
- 2015: Convener of Anti-Human Trafficking for Bangalore rural district.
- 2016- Nisarga Grama - A Multi-dimensional development centre for 300 children who need care and protection
- 2017 - AVID (Alumni for Village Integrated Development at two Districts – Bangalore Rural and Kolar District)
- 2018– 40 Model Anganavadis (Early care centres for children below 6 years at Bangalore) (reaching out to 700 children in the first year)
- 2018 – 3 Model Schools (transforming Government or state-run schools)
- 2019 – Makkaladhama - A Multi-dimensional development centre for 300 boys at Devanahalli
- 2016: The Chairperson of KSCPCR nominated Mr. Gopinath as a member of a team to implement a school development program in Bangalore Rural and Kolar District under the District Collector.
- 2017: One of the state's conveners of the Bharat Yatra, organized by Nobel Laureate Shri. Kailash Satyarthi, for Karnataka. Sparsha Trust was one of the lead organizations in this program in Bangalore related to child safety and abuse.
- 2018: Initiated AVID (Alumni Village Integrated Development) in Manchiganahalli, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar District and in Bijavara, Devanahalli, and two programs are successfully running.
- 2018: Gopinath was selected as a member of the Independent Impartial Committee formed by the Supreme Court of India for Urban Homeless related issues for Karnataka.
- 2018: Formed a committee for MakkalaDhama, a multi-dimensional development residential center for 300 boys. The high-profile committee has members who are working at the senior management level in different corporates and educational institutions.

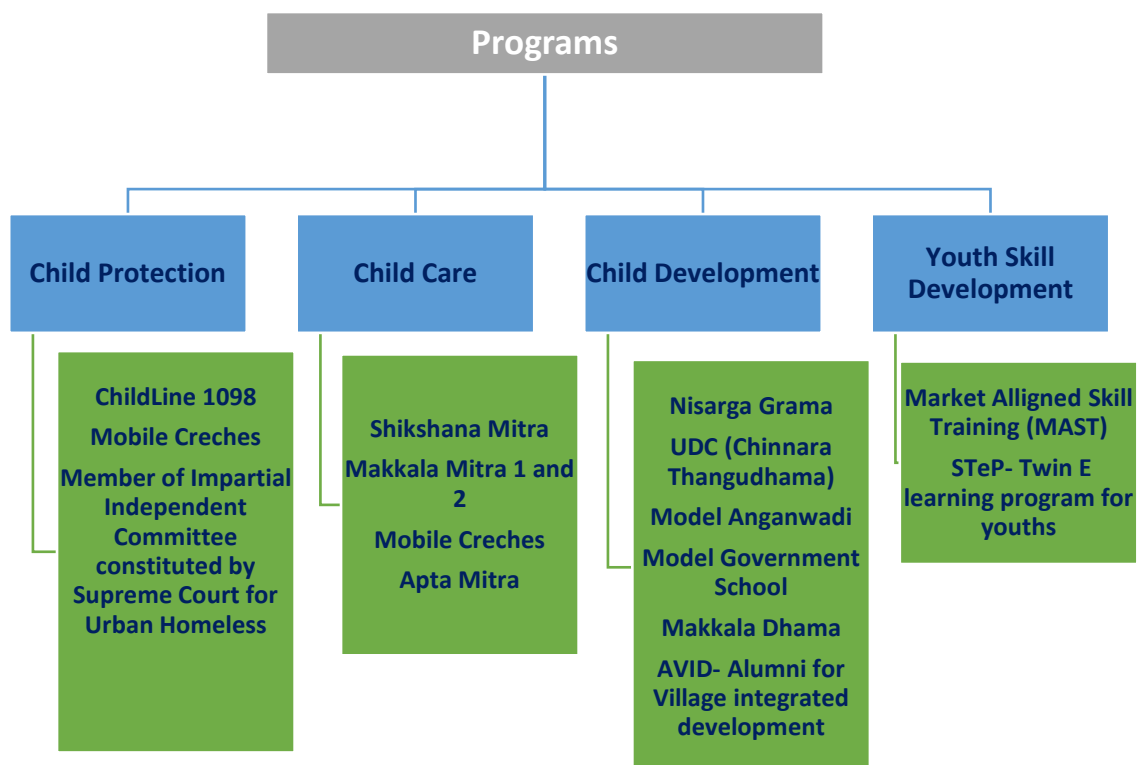
Timeline of projects

- 2009 -Makkaladhama- started with 5 children working in a quarry (cow shed) (approx. 400 children)
- 2010- Shikshana Mitra 1 & 2 – A friend for education, UDC and Jnana Mitra, reached about 1500 children
- 2011 –Samudaya Mithra (A Friend for Community at Anekal Bangalore rural) (reached to out about 20,000 persons for getting social entitlements)
- 2012 -Multi Dimensional Learning Centre for government school children (reached out to more than 700 children) and 2 Urban Homeless shelters (around 500 homeless persons)
- 2015 -Child Help Line 1098 at Bangalore Rural (around 500 children were reached out to every year)
- 2015 - Skills training programmes for youth at Bangalore and Mysore- MAST, STeP (approx. 1500 youths were benefitted)
- 2015- Six Mobile Creches for Construction labour family children (approx. 400 children every year)

The Way Sparsha Works



Projects Undertaken by Sparsha (2018-2019)



Impact at a glance

- 3000 children including child laborers, and into rag picking and begging are now enrolled into schools
- 2500 families with acute food and livelihood crisis have been directly benefitted
- 5000 children of construction laborer and migrants are given care and development facilities
- 1500 youth have been trained of which 70% got placement opportunities
- More than 700 children rescued each year from difficult circumstances through Childline 1098
- From 2011 to 2014, Sparsha Trust implemented a Worker Facility Centre in Anekal (Bangalore Rural) during which 25000 persons enrolled for different types of social entitlements and security/welfare schemes.
- Since 2015, till date (2018 end) about 60 cases of child marriages have come to our notice and we prevented about 50 child marriages.

Activities during the year

Annual events of Sparsha Trust

Apart from the regular programs, Sparsha Trust has four major annual events which are inter-linked in their own way and follow a sequence of activities from June of every year to May of the next year. These events are Summer Camp, My Steps Towards Education, Friends of Sparsha and Joy of Learning.

1. Summer camp -April 2018

Good memories and good habits of childhood stay with people all their lives.



And the summer camp of Sparsha Trust, that started in 2016 and is conducted in April-May each year, ensures that the participating children go home with not just good memories and habits, but also an enriched understanding about themselves and the world around them.



In 2018, about 150-200 children including school drop-outs, children from migrant families, child rag-pickers and child beggars, who never would have got the opportunity otherwise, attended the year's summer camp. Thanks to the enthusiastic engagement of various companies, individuals and groups with the children, the latter learnt about the importance of care and protection of natural resources such as water and the eco-system, compassion for animals and India's wildlife heritage.

Physical exercise, proper food habits and health care go a long way in maintaining good health throughout one's life. Thanks to the support of companies and medical staff, the summer camp

organized dental and eye check for the children. First aid practices, menstrual health practices, engaging in creative arts through chart papers, science experiments and concepts, yoga asanas, film screenings and entertainment were a few of the activities in which the children participated with great interest.

In a span of just one month, the children got exposure to issues that will benefit them and groom them to be good citizens in the future. Various gifts and delicious refreshments made the summer camp even more enjoyable.



Sparsha Trust is grateful to the companies and groups, whose employees and team members engaged the children in different sessions with great enthusiasm. These companies are Walmart India, Kennametal, Inteva, People for Animals, India Literacy Project, Actuant company, Aggarwal hospital, Mrs. Sindhu Naik from Green the Red, Mr. Subhash and his friends, Mr. Mouli from First American India, and members of Ajith fan club members.



Sponsors of the Camp: New Horizon Education trust, Inner wheel club of Bangalore west, Mrs. Vani Sathish, Lions club Bangalore, Bandhavya team, Mr. Chit Bhanu Nagari, Mr. Anup Gangawar, Mr. Shrinivasan Narasimhan, Ajith Fan Club

2. My steps towards education (Nanna Nade Shaale Yedege) - May 2018

Since 2013, June to April each year, Sparsha Trust organizes an annual event titled **“My Step towards Education”** which marks the entry of about 200 children to formal education, in the presence of government officials, school principals or head masters and teachers.

This year too, My Steps Towards Education celebrated the entry of about 120 school dropout children to schools. The program was organized with the support of Department of Women and Child Development. Sparsha Trust also provided educational accessories such as books and bags to the children. The function was inaugurated by Chief Guests Mr. Mariswamy, KSCPCR member, Mr. BC Rao, MD of Kennametal India, Mr. Varghese Mathew of Lodge Sainik, Mrs. Sunitha, HR, Infinite Computer Solutions, Mr. Chithbanu from Tawanth, Mrs. Durga, Yoga Teacher and Wg. Cdr. R S Murthy, Sparsha Trustee.



During the event, the children regaled the audience with traditional cultural performances and various other activities that they learnt in the summer camp. This included the art of writing using both the hands, science experiments; Dollu kunitha dance performed by our new group of children and Dejambe Damarugan.

3. Friends of Sparsha

“Sparsha Trust is like Padmayuga in Mahabharatha; once you enter, there is no way to go back!”,

This was the welcoming statement of Shri Gopinath, Managing Trustee of Sparsha Trust at Friends of Sparsha, a flagship annual event. The event is organized specially to thank the funders and supporters of Sparsha Trust, update them on the activities of the Trust and brief them about key future plans.

About 250 esteemed guests and supporters attend the event that held on 1st December 2019 in Le Meridien Hotel. The program started with a prayer song by Mr. Kishan , a volunteer. The function was inaugurated with a lamp lighting ceremony led by Mr. Amrit Paul, Inspector General of Police, Mr. Palaiah, labor Commissioner, Karnataka State, Mr. Maheshwarappa, Deputy Director, Department of Women and Child Welfare, Mr. Rajendra Hinduja, Managing Director, Gokaldas Warehousing Corporation and Advisory Member of Makaladhama, Mr. A Radha Krishnan CEO, BPM Infosys, Mr.

Mohan Kumar, Assistant V P Infinite Computer Solutions Pvt Ltd, Mr. Suresh Reddy, CFO Kennametal, Mrs. Anjali Ramanna (CWC, Chairperson), Mr. Shama Sundar, CFO Bhartiya City, Mr. Balachandar (Group Director Human Resources, Café Coffee Day), Mr. Vinod Advani (Secretary, Jai Shivshakti Health and Educational Foundation), Mr. Tulsi Mouli (CSR Head, First American India Pvt Ltd, Mr. Shivanna Alanguru(Farmer Association, Kolar)



Mr. Raghavan and Mr. Eric Sall, VP, Marketing Services Center Asia IBM Corporation made a presentation on Sparsa Trust's Makkaladhama, a multi-dimensional center for 300 boys in Devanahalli. Volunteers also shared their experience of working with the children.

(should we mention the names of those who made financial contributions here in this segment or later. Is there a word document of the JPEg image report?)

4. Joy of Learning, January

Joy of Learning is an opportunity to celebrate the synergy of children's learning and their talents. This year, 'Joy of learning' was conducted on 5th and 6th of January 2019 at 'Nisarga Grama' and the



event has sessions on reading, tables learning, geography, science and related experiments. The children had lot of fun competing against each other in disciplines such as Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, long

jump, shuttle cock, chess, lemon and spoon, sack race and three leg races. The second day was full of cultural activities and awareness about environmental issues. The display stalls were full of items made by the children which included flowers, lamps, buildings, shoes, ornaments and decorations out of used bottles, ice pedestals, plastic bags and other waste materials. The stall of Nisarga Grama stood out with its huge, beautifully decorated elephants, paper and self-made jewelry and different types of flowers that were made from materials such as old plastic spoons and a variety of different science experiments from a baking soda-vinegar rocket to a water filter.



more than 400 children participated and expressed their interests, hobbies and abilities. Due to wonderful team work and cooperation, the effort and commitment of children and the support of all friends of Sparsha, persons in charge and staff members, this program was a great success.

Sparsha Trust has a tradition of respect for state and national leaders as the well as for India's rich cultural and traditional heritage. This respect manifests in programs in which the children participate and celebrate with enthusiasm. In the process, they learn about its significance.

During such events, the children express their own thoughts, and celebrate in their own unique way through song and dance performances, skits, essays, and paintings, to name a few creative activities.

By celebrating the various festivals of all religions, Sparsha Trust's children not only keep the rich cultural heritage of the state and the country alive but also develop a healthy respect for all religions.

Sparsha Trust wishes to thank all its supporters and volunteers and staff who have engaged the children in understanding and celebrating these important days and festivals in its true spirit. No festival or celebration is complete without delicious food and refreshments. Sparsha Trust likes to thank many of its volunteers and donors who have sponsoring the food or have prepared and served them at the venue.

National festivals Celebrations at Sparsha

- **World Environment Day** The children of various projects observed World Environment Day where they learnt about our eco-system and natural resources and the importance of about eco-friendly practices.
- **Independence Day**
- Gowri Ganesha festival on 13 September 2018
- **Teachers Day:** As a tribute to the effort put in by teachers, assistant teachers and other staff members at different projects of Sparsha Trust, the children of planned and organized various activities on Teachers Day (05.09.18).
- Birthdays of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri (02.10.18)
- Dasara and Ayudha Pooja
- **Children celebrating Christmas and new year eve**
- Republic Day Celebration
- Makara Sankranthi

Makkala Santhe



Usually children living in the shelter homes and day care centers of different NGOs in Bangalore do not get a full day out given the routine of shelter homes, budgetary constraints and time bound schedules. Sparsha Trust wanted to organize an event where children could take a break from the routine and enjoy themselves. In March 2019, Sparsha Trust organized the first time ever MakkalaSanthe, Carnival for children) at Freedom Mark. It was a dream of 10 years that came true for Sparsha Trust which feels that

having fun is the right of every child. It partnered with ONGC and IOC, who supported the program and networked with about 9 NGOs to ensure participation of children from their respective centers. Sparsha invited other NGO's like **APSA, BOSCO, GASS, IPDP, Sarvodaya, Need Base India, Vidya Nikethan, Surabhi & Paraspara** to be part of our celebration.

Attended by about 1000 children, the event organized sports, games, traditional cultural and a variety of refreshments. Planning and preparations for the day began many weeks ago to ensure that all the children visiting the Santhe can enjoy by participating in various activities.





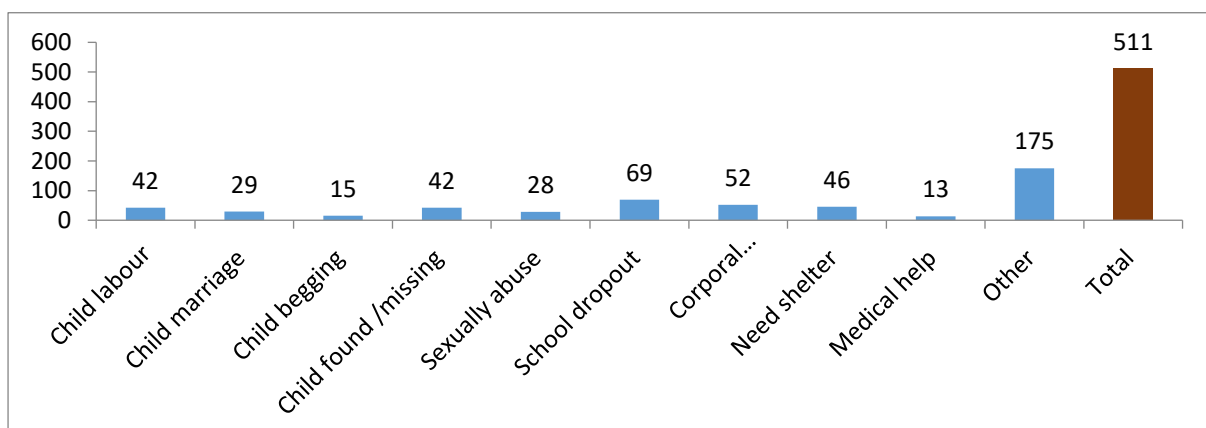
Program specific summary of activities and impact

Child Protection programs

Childline 1098

Since 2015, Childline 1098 is being implemented in Bangalore Rural (Doddaballapur, Nellamangala, Hoskote, and Devanahalli) by Sparsha Trust along with two other NGOs. A nodal organization, Sparsha Trust is supported by Childline India Foundation, Ministry of Women and Child Welfare, Government of India. Apart from creating awareness about Childline 1098, Sparsha Trust is also into **rescue, organizing outreach and awareness programs, phone testing and open house** for addressing local issues related to children.

Impact: During this year, the Bengaluru Rural Child Helpline 1098 reached out to 186 during its outreach and awareness, conducted 840 phone testing calls and conducted 9 open house programs. Of the 770 cases reported, 691 children were rescued.



Highlights

6 staff training programs attended 26 were organized during the year and the themes included POCSO Act – 1012, Juvenile Justice Act (Care and Protection), Child Marriage Act – 2006 and Child Welfare Committee.

After getting permission from the BMTC and Department of Public Education, posters, wall paintings and stickers related to Child Helpline have been placed at key locations such as in buses of Hosakote Bus Units, walls of schools and in health clinics.

Organized in November 2018, the Childline se “DostiWeek” (Friendship week with Childline) was inaugurated by a taluka judge. It included a Press Meet and had activities for special children (children with mental retardation and cerebral palsy). Awareness was given about the misuse of the internet and a rally was organized to create awareness about sexual abuse. Given below is the type of cases attended to during the year.



Child Care Programs

ShikshanaMitra 1

Started in 2010-2011, ShikshanaMitra 1(Friend of Education) is a residential center for children from 6 to 14 years old. Located in Sanjeevini Nagar, near Kodigehalli, Sahakara Nagar, Bangalore North, it is reaching out young children who are deprived of education opportunities due to their family's poverty, neglect or migrating patterns. Twenty-eight (80%) of the present 35 children in the Centre are girls.

Statistics related to ShikshanaMitra

- Children from 2017-18: 34
- New Children: 16
- Home Placement: 8 children

- Presently in shelter: 42 (2018-2019)

Case Study

Mahantesh, a 14 years old boy, who joined ShikshanaMitra 1, about 9 months ago or 3 months ago is a native of Gulbarga. His parents migrated to Mestripalya due to which Mahatesh was forced to drop out from school. Here, the field staff of Sparsha Trust identified him and spoke to his parents about enrolling him in ShikshanaMitra Centre 1. Realizing that the center would be beneficial for their son, the parents agreed. At the time of joining, Mahantesh was a quiet child, and could not read or write. With the support of Rupa Mahajan, he got admission in a school and benefitted from the evening tuitions on spoken English and reading.



Now, Mahantesh has become active and outgoing. Although he engages in many activities such as making paper bags, greeting cards and coloring divas, he has a special talent for sports, and tennis. Sparsha Trust encourages engaging the children in sports as it is good for their development, and accordingly, organizes sports coaching for them. From Shikshana Mitra 1, about 14

children attend free tennis coaching classes. Seeing his talent, Mahantesh's coach recommended his name along with Ganesh and Sanjay to participate in tournaments. Mahantesh has even participated at the District level tournament. A disciplined child, Mahantesh is getting many opportunities to develop his talent and study at the same time.

Makkala Mitra 1 and 2

MakkalaMitra 1 is in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Mysore Road, Bangalore, while MakkalaMitra 2, is in Hoskote. Both the Centers, started in 2011, are residential open shelter which caters 24 hours to children who need care, protection and development opportunities. Many of the children who are staying here were once living on the streets, were victims of abuse and exploitation and were into begging and rag picking. Funded by Department of Women and Child Welfare, Government of Karnataka, these centers give children the option of either staying in the Centre or coming in the morning and leaving at night.

Statistics related to Open Shelter R R Nagar (Makkala Mitra) 1

- Total admission of children in 1 year: 46 children
- School Placement: 24 children
- Home Placement: 25 children
- Referred to CWC: 26 children

- Every month, health checkup is done for all the children in the organization
- Within 24 hours health checkup will be done for any child enrolled to organization

Statistics related to Open Shelter Hoskote (Makkala Mitra) 2

- Total admission of children in 1 year: 56 children
- School Placement: 23 children
- Home Placement: 27 children
- Referred to CWC: 11 children
- Every month, health checkup is done for all the children in the organization
- Within 24 hours health checkup will be done for any child enrolled to organization

We are thankful to donors and supporters for their contribution of materials, services and financial support. We got educational materials, provisions, cooking and serving vessels, gifts during festivals, medicines and medical kits.

Challenges or need

- Need to appoint subject wise teachers as the current staff is equipped to teach the only the basics and cover general subjects.
- We need subject experts to teach the children on a regular basis



AptaMitra

Since 2012, Sparsha Trust is managing a night shelter known as AptaMitra (Friend of those in distress or need) for homeless people in urban Bangalore. Located in Ulsoor, and funded by Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike, AptaMitra has capacity for 60 persons, located in Ulsoor. During 2018-2019, on an average, about 68 urban homeless persons 12 women and 56 men including a few physically challenged or too ill or old to move used the night shelter at different points in time. They were provided with dinner, personal hygiene accessories, health care and a safe place to sleep in. AptaMitra has also catered at times to street children who came in for protection and care to the Centre.

Our regular activities included check-ups, ensuring compliance with BBMP Regulations, regular health care and maintenance of hygiene. 22 home placements took place during the year.

Mobile Creches

After a due diligence in 2015, Mobile Creche Delhi began its support to Sparsha Trust to set up mobile crèches for children of parents working in the construction industry in Bangalore. At present, it is supporting three crèches or centers located at different construction sites. Their staff is building the capacities of our staff due to which our program documenting the program activities and other aspects in a systematic manner.

Migrant couples and laborer families work at construction sites in working conditions that have many health and professional hazards. Without any one to look after them, their children spend their time without any proper activity, and often wander off to different locations of the construction, sometimes near the road. As a result, the children are very vulnerable to dangers/accidents, and different forms of abuse and neglect.

Sparsha Trust is collaborating with Mobile Crèches India to manage mobile crèches for the protection and care of about 160 children at three construction sites in Bangalore (two centers at Mestripalya, behind Manyata Tech Park and one at Hommbale Construction, Kommaghatta, near NICE Road). Funded by Mobile Creche, New Delhi, the objective of the project is to ensure adequate protection and care services for the children of construction workers. During the year, the children (aged between 0 to 14 years) benefitted by the health care, nutritious food, and early learning and play activities as well as non-formal education sessions.



Parents meeting, and volunteer's engagement added to make the program more effective. An important feature is the Baal Sabha of the children .he children of the mobile crèche programs celebrated various festivals and birthdays and participated in Sparsha Trust's combined activities for children of different projects. During this year, 37 Children from the Mobile Creches joined formal schooling. The project was supported by IBM, Cognizant , Tata Builders, Hombale Group, and NR Green Wood Companies.

Makkala Dhama – born out of the need to consolidate interventions for better impact

Sparsha Trust is consolidating its interventions to provide more focused care to the children staying in different shelters. This move is also in accordance to the regulations of Juvenile Justice Act (Board) that boys and girls cannot be housed in the same complex or building. Also, as rentals and frequent shifting from one rented premise to another can disrupt the program activities, Sparsha Trust is planning for a permanent multi-dimensional residential development center for 300 boys at Devanahalli, Bangalore rural district. Makkaladhama is fortunate to have a core management committee of about 24 persons who are holding top positions in corporates, and retired defense

personnel who are personally involved in making this vision a reality. They are mentoring all activities related to Makkala Dhama such as design, construction, and financial management. We have launched this project on 1st December 2018 and are working towards completing Makkaladhama by June 2020.

Letters from well-wishers and supporters of Sparsha

Mr. Eric Sall

VP, Marketing Services Center Asia

I became involved with Sparsha Trust after attending the Friends of Sparsha event in 2017, where I learned about its incredible work with neglected, abused and underprivileged children in the Bangalore area. I was moved by the whole-hearted approach Gopinath and his team take in rescuing, protecting and mentoring these children, putting them on a successful path of learning and employment. I've attended several events this year, and I've been very impressed with the dedication of the staff and even more so by the joyful and positive environment they have created for these needy children.

More the 50 employees from my IBM team now regularly volunteer their time teaching children of migrant construction workers in the mobile creche near our office. Others have helped Sparsha with their digital and social presence. I have joined the Makkala Dhama Committee and have been helping Gopi and his team plan the fundraising effort to build the new center for 300 boys. This is desperately needed to consolidate the several rented locations Sparsha uses to house the boys today, as they can't be housed at the same facility Sparsha runs for the girls, per the Juvenile Justice Act. Makkala Dhama will provide increased development services for the boys, and the stability they need to get their lives on track. We have now identified the land and have an initial design, and we hope to break ground later this year, and complete the construction in time to open the center in early 2021.

Regards,

Eric Sall

VP, Marketing Services Center Asia

IBM Corporation

Mr. Raghavan

CEO of Bhartiya City

Sparsha Trust has been doing pioneering work in supporting children who do not have other means of looking after themselves. Now the Managing Trustee, Gopinath has taken the game a further notch higher by launching a project that is a consolidated facility for accommodation, education and training of 300 boys who are in one place. This project is the Makkaladhama project. I am very fortunate to be a member of the Committee for Makkaladhama. The formation of the Committee has enabled a broader base of individuals to take on the responsibility and the opportunity of creating a new facility for 300 boys who otherwise would not have the opportunity to live, educate themselves and train themselves as they eventually launch into their own respective lives.

I am very happy to be part of this important work which currently is engaged in the fund raising and designing of the place. Soon we will move to further phases of the Makkaladhama Project which is to

have the construction done and relocate boys who are currently distributed in various places. I wish the project the very best. I am once again very grateful to be part of it.

Child Development Programs

Nisarga Grama

Recognizing the need for a 24/7 facility to ensure protection and development of children who have faced abuse, neglect and exploitation, Sparsha Trust built NisargaGrama (nature village) a state-of-the-art multi-dimensional development center for neglected, abused and exploited children. Started in October 2016, NisargaGrama can house about 300 children. At present, 133 children are staying in NisargaGrama, which offers them a safe place to live, study and progress.

Nisarga Grama's facilities include

- 5 dormitories, 2 libraries (one for younger children and one for older children), a large multi-functional dining hall, a playground and big backyard, a computer lab, science lab, multiple class rooms, an admin block and staff quarters
- Eco-friendly (Solar energy)
- In the school year 2018/2019 133 children were staying in Nisarga Grama (77 girls, 56 boys)
- 58 of them went to 3 different private schools, 65 to the local Government school and 8 visited different colleges

Impact/achievement

- 58 of the children were enrolled in 3 different private schools, 65 were enrolled to the local Government schools and 8 were referred to different colleges
- 8 children wrote their SSLC exams (3 English Medium, 5 Kannada Medium), 3 girls finished their 2nd PUC and will start their degree next year and one girl finished her first semester of B.COM



Supporters of Nisargagrama

- Walmart and Kennametal supported Nisargagrama for building new accommodation for the staff and different activities for the children
- New Horizon College,
- United way Bangalore
- Amruthanjan health care Ltd,
- Terrex India
- Persistent system (India)
- Volunteers from Israel, Germany and Austria supported us and gave new ideas concerning healthcare, hygiene and activities with children
- The Rotary Club (Platinum City) supported us during the Summer Camp (Eye check- ups, other activities)
- External Teachers supported our children with their studies especially for the SSLC exams
- After three years of continues effort we could able to get the support from MLA and local contractor to complete the access road of 1km to main road

Chinnara Thangudhama

Chinnara Thangudhama, which is an Open Shelter for Children Deprived of Care and Protection in Bangalore Urban Area was initiated on 4th December 2010 and was implemented till 2013 with the support of Department of Education. Since 2014, Sparsha Trust is managing this residential Centre for 40 boys between 14 years to 18 years with the support of individuals and organizations at Tindlu. The following activities took place in shelter during the year:

- identifying boys needing care & protection (aged 14 years and above)
- enrolling them into Chinnara Thangudhama (Urban deprived children center)
- counseling & guidance along with Bridge education
- enrolling the children into mainstream education system
- referrals to vocational colleges
- reuniting them with their families& encourage the families to take care of their children.
- networking with stakeholders for sustainability of the project, benefit for the beneficiaries and mobilizing support for various interventions.

Atharvi Charitable Trust organized tuitions and coaching classes for children studying in the 9th and 10th Std while New Horizon College provided partial support towards groceries. Infinite Computer Solutions is supporting the Centre, while its employees' volunteers engage with the children. During this year, 18 new children joined the center, while 11 school enrollments took place. At present, there are 40 children in the center.

Born Learning Programs Development of Model Anganwadi Centers (Early Child Care Centers)

Recognizing the need to have professionally maintained model Anganwadi centers, Sparsha Trust initially identified 10 Anganawadi centers with poor infrastructure in Sampangi Ramanagar Cluster in December 2017. With the support of United Way, Bangalore, Sparsha Trust transformed these Anganawadi Centers. They got upgradation in infrastructure such as repairing electricity connections, painting, creating proper spaces for learning, cooking and serving area, rest area etc.

Seeing the good response to the upgraded Anganawadi Centers, United Way came forward to support Sparsha Trust upgrade the infrastructure of 30 more Anganwadis in areas in Belanduru Urban, Belanduru Cluster and Hoodi . At present, around 680 children are spending their time in a meaningful manner. They have safe and comfortable atmosphere in these Centers. Altogether 507 children have been enrolled into school.

During the year, the Anganwadis provided additional early learning and playing materials to help children reach their milestones (cognitive, psychological, social, fine and motor skills). The community engagement process got strengthened through mothers' committee meetings, Bal Vikas Samiti (BVS) meetings and home visits. As a result, the children could have comprehensive childhood experience and prepared them in every way to join regular schooling.

Developing of Government schools into model schools: upgrading the educational system and infrastructure in Government schools

Up to 55% of India's 260 million school children attend government schools, according to 2015-16 education data. Although government schools are very important in ensuring education for children from low income groups across the country, they face various problems which include drop outs, especially among girls and lack of good quality education and learning methods/techniques. Sparsha Trust is working with the three Government Schools in Karnataka in order to upgrade the quality of education and infrastructure so that the children can learn in the best possible atmosphere and do their best. The Government schools are:

- Government Higher Primary school in Devalinganapalya, Hejjala, Bidadi, Ramnagar, Bangalore Rural – with support from Toyota Kirloskar Pvt Ltd.
- Government Higher Primary School at Bijjawara, Devanahalli with the support of Jai Shivshakti health and education and the village Alumni.
- Government Lower Primary School –Manchiganahalli with the support of Village Alumni



During the year, with the objective to improve the quality of teaching and learning, Sparsha Trust worked with each of these schools in different ways depending upon their need in the following ways:

- Infrastructure upgradation and expansion
- Initiating Smart Class
- Enhance Teaching skills & Methodology
- Introduction and strengthening of extra-curricular activities – arts, culture and sports
- Sessions on Health & Hygiene
- Improving the quality of education, through better understanding of subjects, especially English, Maths and Science
- Washing and drinking water supply upgradation
- Cluster level organization of Prathibha Kaaranji

Impact of the interventions across the different model schools

- Improved community engagement and school attendance by children
- increased participation by the parents
- children are participating in district level programs
- Improvement in English reading, writing and speaking
- School premises are well maintained
- Infrastructure facilities have improved (toilets, wash area, playground, compound wall, addition of classrooms)

Increase in student enrollment in the schools

- Government school in Hejjala: From 33 students to 45 students. Teachers strength increased from 2 teachers to 5, which includes 3 Sparsha teachers
- Government school in Bijjawara: From 50 children to 60 children.
- Government school in Manchiganahalli: From 18 children to 38 children. The student strength has increased in the Anganwadi from 8 to 18 children. There are 3 rooms in the school and 1 community hall in the area.

Alumni for Village Integrated Development(AVID)

Conceived and designed by Sparsha Trust, AVID is a unique program that gives the well-placed alumni of any village or town the opportunity to participate and support in the integrated development in their respective native place or village. In the pilot phase or pre-project implementation phase of AVID, the alumni of Mulbagal aimed to develop the only primary school of Manchiganahalli, Kolar District and Devanahalli, Bijjawara into a model school.

AVID in Manchiganahalli, Kolar District

The alumni, guided by Gopinath, Managing Trustee of Sparsha Trust, put in extensive work to improve the conditions of the schools, anganwadis, community hall and other village facilities. The school at Manchiganahalli even won an award at the District level as a best school. In Bijjawara, Devanahalli, Bangalore Rural District, the student's strength increased from 50 to 60 students and 18 to 40 at Manchiganahalli. The alumni are taking care of key expenses for the schools and certain development related activities of the village. Some of the activities during the year include:

- Setting up a library with 1500 books, computer lab and study room that is reaching out to the entire village children at Manchiganahalli.
- Integrated all village temples, developed the activities under one forum i.e. Manchiganahalli development. All the developmental work will be under this committee. The village Alumni also constructed the community marriage hall for the villagers.
- Providing fee support to each child to increase the enrolment in the school and increasing the number of classes.

Future Plans

- Getting approval from the Government to extend classes from 5th Standard to 7th Standard.
- To enroll an additional 80 – 100 children within a year.
- To increase the staff strength from 2 to 5
- Employing one English teacher, one computer usage teacher and one science teacher.

Work of AVID in Bijjawara, Devanahalli

With the support of Mr. Gopinath R, Managing Trustee of Sparsha Trust, who initiated AVID, (Alumni for Villages Integrated Development), Dr. Mahesh an alumni and native of Bijjawara and Mr. Ganesh of JSS (Jai Shiva Shakti) planned to develop the infrastructure of the village. As a first step, they raised funds to develop the local Government school and Anganwadi. Dr. Mahesh, who is working as a spinal surgeon at ?? raised about Rs. 4 lakhs from various alumni members to invest in the renovation and development of the village.

Youth Skills Development Program

Youth from poor family's lack opportunities for employment and for self-employment due to various reasons. They are on the look-out for a vocational course that is not only of interest to them but also supports them in getting and is also enhances employability. Sparsha Trust organizes employment and enterprise friendly vocational training programs at Bangalore and Mysore.

MYSORE Quest Centre

In partnership with Quest alliance, Sparsha Trust teaches relevant vocational skills to youth from poor families, which gives them needed opportunities for employment. We offer courses that are of interest to them and needed in the Life skill, English Basic & Advance, Career Development, workplace skill and Retail customer interaction. The program started in September 2018. During the year 88 students got trained in the 1st batch. The various courses have been received very well by the students. The courses include Fashion Design, hand-making jewelry class, appliance repair technician class. The students also participate in Spoken English and personality development classes and learn to operate the computer. There are regular interactions with the parents, and industry visits are organized for practical exposure.



STEP Centre

In partnership with Smile foundation, this program teaches relevant vocational skills to youth from poor families, which gives them needed opportunities for employment. Located at Yelahanka, these courses also integrate sessions on Life skill, Personality development, Retail management, basic English, Basic Computer and financial literacy. During the year, 83 students passed from the STEP center.

MAST Centre

In partnership with American India Foundation, this program teaches relevant vocational skills to youth from poor families. The MAST (Market Aligned Skills Training) course also has sessions on Basic English, Personality Development, workplace skill and financial literacy. Located in Mathikere, 63 students passed out from the courses last year

Our Esteem Supporters

Sparsha Trust is grateful to all its partners for their support in helping us to improve the lives of children and ensure their access to education. The support, extended by way of monetary assistance and guidance, is enabling us to provide them with basic amenities, care and protection. Over the years, as the association with various companies, government departments, individuals, forums and institutions are growing, we can reach out to more and more children and youth each year. It is not only the children, but also their families, who are benefitting from the multi-dimensional development services. Their support is having a significant impact on the society.

Corporate Supporters

Year 2009

Inner Wheel Club, Bangalore West

Inner Wheel Club Bangalore West, which was among the first to support us, is continuing to help us in one way or the other since 2009. The Club organizes annual events and exhibitions where many of Sparsha Trust's children's art and handicraft work are displayed. Apart from meeting the educational needs of the children, Inner Wheel Club also contributed towards the construction of NisargaGrama. Sparsha Trust was awarded with Inner Wheel Club's 'Kalasha' award in 2012 in recognition of its work with the children.

Kennametal Shared and Services India Ltd.

In 2009, two employees of Kennametal Shared and Services Ltd formed a group called 'Neralu', meaning shadow, with the aim to support Sparsha Trust in different ways. Now this group has grown to more than 150 volunteers who are engaging the children in different activities. The company's funding made it possible to construct a 50-bed capacity dormitory for girls at Nisargagrama. They continue to support in meeting the operational costs of Nisargagrama and engage in CSR activities.

Year 2012

Excalibur Foundation

Since 2012, Excalibur Foundation is providing art materials to the children that is helping them to create different art and craft forms. These creations are exhibited at many of the Sparsha Trust's annual events that are supported by the company. Excalibur also supported Nisargagrama's architect's expenditure. We proudly say that Excalibur Foundation is the back bone of Sparsha's activities.

Light a life, First American India

First American India supported Sparsha Trust in 2012 to setup the Shikshana Mitra I center at Sanjeevini Nagar, contributed to the partial construction of Nisargagrama and towards the running expenses for the 150 children staying there. It also provides us the space to exhibit our children's art and craft creations by conducting annual events.

Year 2013

Infinite Computer Solutions

Sparsha is running the ChinnaraThangu Dhama center with the support of Infinite Computer Solutions (India) Ltd Company since 2013. Their monetary support and providing of basic materials are helping us to improve the lives of the children in different ways. Sparsha Trust feels very motivated by the company's sincere and enthusiastic commitment. Since 2014, Infinite Computer Solutions is organizing an annual Golf tournament as a fund-raising activity for Sparsha Trust. This also helps in making the public aware about our programs.

Walmart Bangalore

After visiting all our centers in 2013, Walmart began its collaboration with Sparsha Trust. Since then, we are fortunate to be in strong partnership with Walmart. Each year, the company provides Sparsha Trust's children with clothes and basic educational accessories. From 2016 to 2018, through their CSR funding, they supported a part of the construction of NisargaGrama and upgrading of its facilities. The company's employees are extremely committed in their work as volunteers.

Year 2014

Canadian International School and Mallya Aditi International Student Counsel

Since 2014, these two International Schools are actively involved in helping Sparsha's children. Every month, they invite our children to their respective schools, where their students tutor our children on a one-to-one basis in art and craft and English reading. It is a multi-cultural enriching exchange between the children.

Year 2015

Sitaram Jindal Foundation

Sparsha Trust's association with Sitaram Jindal Foundation began in 2015 after a visit by its members. It partially funded the construction of Nisargagrama and is supporting some of the educational requirements of the children. Their support is very much needed to strengthen our activities.

Gokaldas Warehousing Corporation

Gokuldas Warehousing Corporation began to support Sparsha Trust's activities after visiting its centers in 2015. Mr. Rajendra Hinduja, its Managing Director, is an honorable advisory member to Sparsha Trust. The company played a major role in the completion of NisargaGram by providing financial assistance. At present, it is supporting in meeting its operational costs.

ChildLine India Foundation

In recognition of its capability to identify needy children and provide them with various services to improve their lives, the Government of India chose Sparsha Trust as an implementation partner in one of its projects called ChildLine 1098. ChildLine India Foundation has been collaborating with Sparsha Trust since 2015 and during this time, they set up a ChildLine 1098 Centre in four talukas of Bangalore Rural District - Hoskote, Devanahalli, Doddballapura, and Nelamangalla which is reaching out to the children in need of care and protection.

Jai Shivshakti Health and Educational Foundation

Jai Shivshakti Health and Educational Foundation began its association with Sparsha Trust in 2015 after a visit to our centers. In addition to providing financial assistance to set up NisargaGram, the Foundation is supporting us to address serious health issues of children and in the development of the model government school at Devanahalli since 2018.

America India Foundation

In collaboration with ADOBE software, America India Foundation supported Sparsha Trust to implement the very successful MAST (Market Aligned Skills Training) program from 2016 to 2018 in Bangalore. The program began with training 60 students a year and expanded to 3 Centers at Bangalore that trained more than 450 students a year. From October 2018, Sparsha Trust is implementing the MAST program at Mysore which proposes to train 300 students a year and develop a training cum production unit model. The areas of training include retail management, electrical skills and fashion designing.

Year 2016

Smile Foundation

Supporting Sparsha Trust since 2016, Smile Foundation is engaged in the capacity building or skills development of underprivileged youths through STeP (Smile's Twin E Learning Program) in the field of retail management, computer skills, spoken English and personality development. About 75% of the 120 youth trained each year have been placed by Sparsha Trust, who is running this Centre in Yelahanka.

NetScout

NetScout started associating with Sparsha Trust since 2014 after its team members visited our center at Sanjeevini Nagar. The children visit the office of NetScout every week, where they learn English, math and computers from the employees of the organization, free of cost. The high standard of teaching of the employees, who are volunteering, can be seen from the fact that three of the Centre's children are now studying in Rishi Valley School and are topping their respective classes. Since 2016,

they are supporting the running costs of the organization. In addition, Mr. Chittaranjan, the vice president of NetScout is a member of the core committee of MakkalaDhama project, a proposed multi-dimensional development residential center planned for completion by 2020.

Amrutanjan Health Care Pvt Ltd

Amruthanjan Health Care Pvt Ltd was introduced to us by one of our key associates Mr. G Raghavan, who is the CEO of Bhartiya City. Since 2013, Amruthanjan Health Care is engaging with our children in different ways. From two years, it is also meeting the education requirements of the children of Sparsha Trust.

Consaro

Mr. Brijesh, a manager with Consaro , initiated the company's volunteer engagement with Sparsha Trust, and is also directly involving in Sparsha's activities since the last four years along with his team members. The dedicated team of volunteers engages in the annual events of Joy of Learning and summer camp activities. Recently, they started providing small financial assistance to run Nisargagrama and another program.

Year 2018

Quest Alliance

After observing our activities in 2017, Quest Alliance started to support Sparsha Trust from Jan 2018 to upgrade the skills of youth in retail management, basic computer and digital marketing. Due to their support, Sparsha Trust can train 120 youth every year at the Quest Alliance Training center at Mathikere.

IBM support

IBM began its association with Sparsha Trust in 2013 when it initially supported its multi-dimensional development center for children. Then, again from 2018, its volunteering employees are upgrading its website and other digital media related work through its employee engagement activity. About 50 of IBM's volunteers are also associating with one of our mobile crèche centers located near Manyata Tech park with the objective to set it up and develop it with a nominal financial contribution.

United Way, Bangalore

In December 2017, after visiting our programs, United Way invited us to submit a proposal for the development of 10 Anganwadi centers for children below 6 years. After seeing the positive impact of our work on the children in these 10 Anganwadi Centers, United Way extended their support to the development of 40 Anganwadi Centers. This support has gone a long way towards improving the functioning of the Anganwadis, upgrading the infrastructure and enhancing the skills of the teachers through various training programs. Very committed to the issue of the children, the company is also meeting the needs of Nisargagrama.

Toyota Kirloskar

Having gone through our website, Toyota Kirloskar contacted Sparsha and discussed the developing of a Government school into a model school in 2017. Seeing the positive impact of the pilot phase of the project implementation, it extended its support to developing the model school at Devalinganapalya, Bidadi. Since 2017, thanks to their support, Sparsha Trust has been able to implement various interventions that engage the parents, community and various stakeholders in an integrated movement to develop the model school.

Terex India Private Limited

The present CFO of Terex Mr. Srikanth has supported Sparsha Trust in the past 9 years, guiding us and working on various activities. Through him, since 2018, the company is supporting the educational interventions of the children.

Association with the Government organizations and Departments

Department of Education

In the initial days of its functioning, Sparsha Trust worked with the Department of Education on the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan project whose aim was to get every child back to school. The association was from 2009 to 2014.

Department of Women and Child Welfare

From 2012, the Department of Women and Child Welfare, Karnataka and the Central Government supported to open shelters in urban and rural Bangalore Districts. Two open shelters were opened in Rajarajeshwari Nagar and the other in Hospete which reached out to about 120 kids every year. We organize educational bridge courses for the children to prepare them to eventually enroll into regular schools. Apart from providing care and protection, the programs also work on their personality development issues.

Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike

Sparsha is working with the BBMP (Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike) in providing shelter and care for homeless people. The shelter is at Murphy Town and nearly 70 people are using this facility every year.

Department of Labor

Sparsha is working with the Department of Labor to provide non-formal learning centers for the children of families working as construction laborer under the NCLP (National Child Labor Program).

ATARVI Charitable Trust

ATARVI Charitable Trust is supplying milk and nutritious food to the Sanjeevini Nagar shelter, through Sparsha Trust since the past five years. It is also providing tuition support to 8th Class studying students at the Tindlu boys shelter.

Food for Hunger

Food for Hunger is providing 375 kgs of rice each month to our shelter since the last 5 years and distributes blankets to the urban homeless people to keep warm every year.

Robinhood Team

Since November 2018, Robinhood team collects food from different sources and distributes to the children in our intervention areas.

Thank you!!

We are extremely happy and proud that we have experienced on more year of success in reaching and helping more and more children who were in greater need of care and protection. Our heartfelt thanks to all dedicated team members, Sparsha committee members, our valuable donors and volunteers who wholeheartedly contributed towards Sparsha's cause and made this year joyful for the Sparsha children.



THE END