

DEEP GRIHA SOCIETY



“Empowerment of the marginalised through capacity building and sustainable rural and urban development programmes”

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 22



Table of Contents

DIRECTOR'S NOTE.....	3
CITY OF CHILD.....	4
AADHAR KENDRA.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
TECH SMART CENTERS.....	11
DEEP GRIHA ACADEMY.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
DISHA.....	18
INCOME GENERATION PROGRAMME.....	19
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	22



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

2021-2022, second year in a row where the financial year began in lockdown, only this time we had had some experience with lockdowns. Lessons from the first lockdown ensured that we had pathways in place to continue to reach out to the communities we work with. Through it all, we are extremely grateful to members of staff that live in the community and through whom, we were able to get support to people who needed it, in time. Without a doubt we are grateful for partners, supporters, in short, you, for being through it all with us.

The rest of the year saw more and more members of the team coming into office on a flexible schedule to begin with, and with a lot of precautions in place. Deep Griha was able to organise multiple vaccination awareness drives through the months for the team as well as for the community. The team was very happy to be back at the office and to see each other in person, even if it was for a few hours a day.

The middle of the second lockdown had us collaborating with the local Gurudwara and we distributed daily meals at both Tadiwala road and Ramtekdi communities. Once the lockdown was lifted the Gurudwara returned to preparing food and distributing the same on their premises as per policy. During the distribution of ready meals, the team spoke to individuals for their stories, how they managed before the meals were made available and it was evident that it was a service we would need to continue.

This year saw more women from the community to come forward and join the Income Generation Programme. Whether it was the sudden job loss or the realisation that a supplementary income would be useful in times of need, the numbers have grown.

Thank you.
Ashlesha Onawale



CITY OF CHILD

Objective 1

To provide a safe and secure environment for boys from vulnerable family situations.

Objective 2

To ensure access to regular health check-ups and counselling for overall healthcare and provide a balanced nutritious diet that is age appropriate.

Objective 3

To provide access to education.

Objective 4

To ensure overall development of the children

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

24

New Admissions

42

Number of Children

23

Individual Child Development Plans

ACTIVITIES

Safe and secure environment

Initially the number of students at CoC was low, due to another year that started with a lockdown. Fewer students and two housemothers with the rest of the team making sure that the students were positively engaged in various activities.

Through the year, the number of students grew, as we welcomed students who had previously been part of another

organisation. The number of students by the end of the year was 42. The students with us continued to have a safe space with access to awareness sessions and some online counselling.

2. Education

Most of this year, the schools continued to remain closed. Some students had online lessons, and for those who did not the CoC



team collaborated with other NGOs to ensure that learning continued all the same. Lessons on reading and writing Marathi with Door Step School, to build the foundation of all students, sessions on Child Right's with Pratyek, and online awareness sessions on various topics continued as well. The students spent a lot of time outdoors and on the farm, a fun way to learn about nature, agriculture and other life skills. As this was the second year of lockdown effects, the students were beginning to show signs of strain and counselling sessions helped.

3. Healthcare

Considering COVID was the biggest worry, we were glad that COVID had not reached the children. The children at the centre continued to have access to nutritious meals every day. One health check-up through the AFMC (Armed Forces Medical College) team was also conducted. Sessions on mental health were conducted for the children to provide holistic healthcare at CoC.

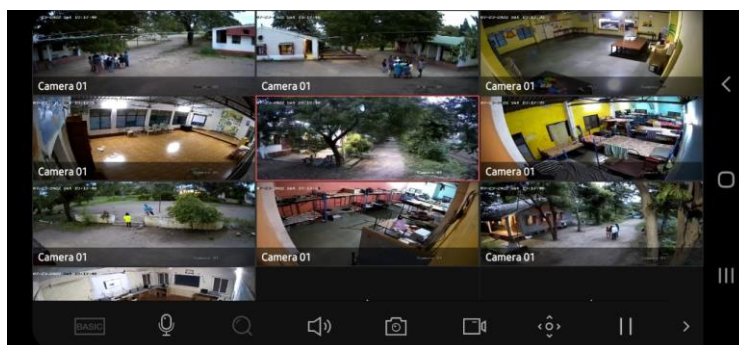
4. Overall Development

As regular schools were not open, the students were engaged in many other

activities through the year. We had the computer center open although we have had trouble finding a teacher for the rural centre. The children were able to use the same for their online classes and that was very helpful. We had limitations on resource persons from outside visiting due to restrictions in place, which led to activities being led by my team members. We had children participating in Agriculture work, they supported the team with repairs and maintenance as well. Great ways to learn about growing food and honing vocational skills.

This year again, we had students, volunteers and interns engage with students remotely for fun activities, games, and online quizzes. Movies, sports, cooking, and even sewing, the children spent time doing varied activities.

This year we were able to install 10 CCTV cameras at the City of Child, an essential requirement as per the regulations for a residential facility for young children. All common space and play areas are covered through this. It is a relief as we were questioned about the same during inspections.



Stories of Achievements



Laxman has been at the City of Child since 2010 and was enrolled in Preschool at Deep Griha Academy. Laxman is a confident young boy, and he speaks very well. He has shown a lot of initiative, loves to learn and often looked after younger boys at CoC. He would ensure that they completed their homework. He learnt about responsible waste disposal and took on the task of implementing the same at CoC. He would collect all the leaves and other garden waste and dispose it appropriately.



Ms. Suvarna has been at City of Child as a housemother since 2013. She came to CoC with her son who was only 10 years old. Suvarna developed a loving relationship with the children at CoC over the years and it is evident in how much the children love her. Suvarna also plays a supervisory role in the kitchen. She is responsible for monitoring the health and well being of the children. She has been learning how to use the computer and a tab as well. She is consistently learning and incorporates what she has learnt in her work.



AADHAR KENDRA

Objective 1

To provide the participating children with an opportunity to pursue their education and to encourage parents to support their education.

Objective 2

To ensure that the children are healthy and their nutritional and healthcare needs are being met.

Objective 3

To create access to non-academic activities conducted during the year that promote general well-being.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

216
Number of
Children
sponsored

237
Number of
Children enrolled

93
Number of
Children who
received lunch

ACTIVITIES

1. Education

The effect of the pandemic continued to linger in the current financial year with majority of classes still being conducted online. It was only by the second half of the financial year that classes resumed in person. A lot of students found it difficult to return to school and many preferred to work rather than return to school. Deep Griha's social workers had to visit student homes multiple times to encourage students and their parents to ensure that students returned to school and attended regularly.

2.a. Health and Nutrition

In continuation with the previous financial year, daily meals at the Deep Griha centres were replaced by grocery kits for families. However, with the situation improving in the last quarter of the financial year, the team resumed serving lunch at all centres.

2.b. Counselling Session

Like other activities, counselling sessions continued to be conducted online or via phone calls. The counsellors and field workers stayed in regular contact with the participants to ensure the students' well-being.

2.c. Awareness Session

The topics covered included COVID 19 awareness, emotions and self-care, and suicide prevention.

3.a. Non-academic activities

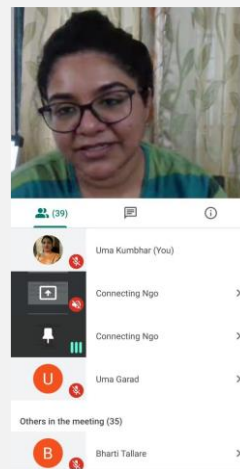
Special sessions were conducted by some of our partner organizations on topics such as – 'Love and Friendship' by Mrs. Shubhangi Despande from Parivartan Manasmitra organization, where the difference between love and attraction was explained and the pitfalls of social media. While many of the students remained silent during the sessions, during one-on-one sessions both boys and girls asked many questions at the personal level.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES



Grocery Distribution

Due to the nature of the pandemic, special attention was paid in ensuring that students and their families received groceries on a regular basis.



Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

A session on “Mental health and Suicide Prevention” was for all children in association with Connecting NGO through Google Meet.

Stories of Achievements



Bharti

As with many children during the pandemic, Bharti struggled with the side effects of the pandemic, resulting in aggression and a loss of interest at school. The counsellors worked closely with Bharti and her parents to understand the underlying issues and bridge the communication gap that had developed. The counsellors were able to be there for Bharti in the way that she needed at the point.



Latika

Ms. Latika has been with Deep Griha since the early 90s, and her current position is - Field Worker for Aadhar Kendra. Ms. Raibole was affected by COVID in the first lockdown itself and went through a challenging time with her family. She is grateful because it also brought her extended family closer together. At work, Ms. Raibole went from an old-style button phone that could only make calls, to operating a tab and recording all her work online. The fact that Latika will retire in a year's time has not stopped her from continuing to learn.



TECH SMART CENTERS

The goal of the programme is to facilitate economic empowerment for young people, particularly young women. This is done through job placements after the participants have acquired basic computer skills, and communication skills in English.

Objective 1

To connect with young people who have only attained basic education and are unable to find employment.

Objective 2

To provide training that is industry specific and ensures the students build on their employable skillset.

Objective 3

Offer adequate databases for job placements with tips and guidelines on how to face job interviews that will help them secure employment soon after they complete their Tech Smart course.

Objective 4

To build on their communication skills with a focus on English language development.

Activities

1. Mobilisation

Mobilisation continued to be a challenge again this year, specifically for the Ramtekdi centre towards the last quarter. Between the fear of stepping out or the urgency of a job, it was not easy to get students to sign up for a four-month course. Even so, the teams managed to mobilise over a thousand young people through the year, and the goal was to train 480 in both centres.

2. Training

Since this year started in a lockdown too, classes were conducted online to begin with and then moved offline later in the year. We were able to train 437 young people through the year and prepared them for work.

3. Placements

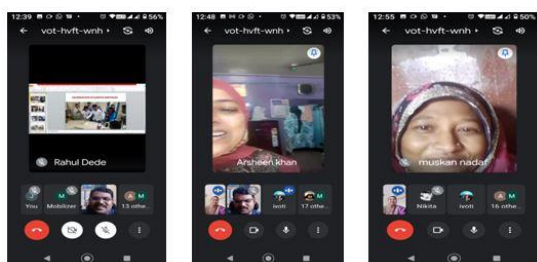
Since we prepared students primarily for retail jobs, placements suffered a great deal in the year. With most establishments

having been shut down for the beginning of the year. We were able to achieve placement rates of over 60%. The challenges through the year highlighted that we needed to move out of the Ramtekdi centre to a new location.

4. English Language Development

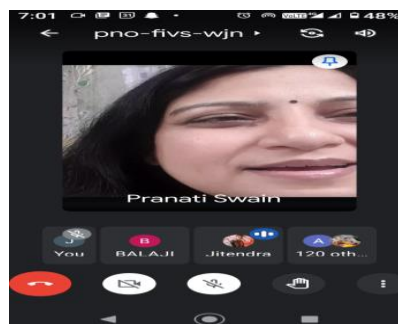
Language training is an essential aspect as we prepare students for work. A good command over the English language leads to better job opportunities for the students. Apart from covering the modules and grammar the teacher used various activities to help develop spoken language skills.

Special Events



Parent Teacher Meeting

We had increased interaction with parents to ensure that they were on board for their children to sign up for the course as well as to answer any queries or fears they may have about their children going out to work after the course. The interaction helped with trust building and a stronger relationship with the parents.



COVID Awareness

-Dr Praniti Swain from the Indian Armed Forces spoke to the students from Batches 1,2 and 3 along with all the staff on COVID Awareness. Since at the beginning of the year the country was still in lockdown mode, it was important to get correct information out to everyone on how to better protect themselves and their families.

Key Performance Indicators

70%

Placement rate Gultekdi

437

Number of students
trained

60%

Placement rate Ramtekdi

Stories of Achievements



Ayeshanbi

Ayeshanbi, who tragically lost her husband earlier this year, was faced with the need to secure a job to provide for her two children. Thanks to the guidance and assistance provided by the Tech SMART Centre team, she exhibited unwavering determination and dedication towards excelling in the course, honing her English language proficiency and computer literacy skills. Throughout her time with us, Ayeshanbi blossomed and thrived. As a result, she has successfully completed the program and secured a job, allowing her to stand on her own feet and provide for her family.



Payal

Payal was unable to continue her education due to her family's financial situation. However, with the efforts of the Tech SMART team, Payal enrolled for the course, which increased her confidence levels. She participated in various activities and developed her personality. Currently, she has a job with a retail store with a decent salary. She has also enrolled in college to pursue her education, which she believes is essential for her future. The positive impact of skill development program helped Payal to not only overcome financial barriers but also inspired her to continue her education at the same time.



DEEP GRIHA ACADEMY

Objective 1

To provide quality English medium education through child-centred methodology for children between 3-16 years of age.

Objective 2

To ensure relevant education that focuses on holistic development is imparted to children at the school.

Objective 3

To provide vocational and agriculture training for young people.

Objective 4

To build local capacity through training for teachers at Deep Griha Academy.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

333
Number of Students

200
Number of Boys

133
Number of Girls

93
Number of staff trainings



ACTIVITIES

1. Methodology

This year there were multiple lockdowns across the state which hampered the full reopening of the school. However, teachers were able to quickly revert to online teaching due to the set up during the initial lockdowns. In the last quarter, the school reopened for a second time but all grades could come to school. During the first in-person parent teacher conference, parents were highly appreciative of the efforts put in by the teachers during the lockdowns as teachers had gone out of their way to stay in touch with students who were unable to attend online classes. The teachers also had to ensure that parents followed up with their children and everyone was on the same page.

2. Holistic Development

While the teachers continued with their adapted teaching methods that they developed for remote learning, once school resumed, they went back to their in-person teaching methods. Extracurricular activities such as Karate, Yoga, etc resumed

3. Vocational and Agricultural Studies

With regular school restarting at different points in the financial year, teachers of Vocational and Agricultural studies could revert to their pre-COVID in-person teaching techniques and methods.

4. Teacher Training and Development

This financial year, training focused on team building and the implementation of the Career Framework for DGA teachers. Multiple sessions were conducted by an experienced expat HR volunteer – Annelise Huyssteen specifically for the admin team and the teachers. With the Career Framework in place for teachers, the first review was conducted in the fourth quarter. Teachers have set goals for themselves and the school is providing support in the form of training, review, and one-on-one meetings as part of the feedback process.

5. COVID 19

In the month of April as a result of the second wave sweeping through the community, DGA was again called upon to respond to the situation by the local authorities. In collaboration with local government authorities the school was transformed into a COVID centre, yet again, to provide free treatment to those in need.

Special Events



Session on Teacher's Career Framework

Through this framework, teachers have a clear timeline and goals set out for them to achieve. These goals are to help teachers grow in their careers and to align compensation with their performance.



GGU International Leadership Camp

10 girls applied for this camp and were selected through a video interview. Deep Griha Academy was selected as the India Hub. The girls interacted with power mentors from professionals such as a Scientist, a Medical Doctor, an Environmentalist, a Film Maker, and Lawyer. They also learnt about Leadership skills, pitching an issue, diversity and inclusion and project management.

Stories of Achievements



Saniya

Saniya, who enrolled in DGA during her pre-primary years, has now progressed to grade 6. Her parents, who are shepherds, face time constraints in monitoring Saniya's progress. Initially, Saniya exhibited reticent behavior and was not actively engaged in class. However, with the concerted efforts of the teachers and strategic implementation of inclusive teaching practices, Saniya gradually gained confidence and became more expressive in the classroom. These positive developments were observed over time, and presently, the teachers are delighted with Saniya's progress, as she is effectively interacting with her peers and enjoys school and learning.



Prajakta

Prajakta was selected for the Girls Gearing Up International Leadership Camp for which DGA is the India Hub. Here, Prajakta had a chance to interact with participants from Germany and Malawi and virtually meet female power mentors from different careers. As a result of the camp, Prajakta learnt Leadership and communication skills and developed self-confidence. Prajakta now mentors other girls for the camp scheduled for next year and strives to apply all her learnings in class and in personal life.



DISHA

Deep Griha's Integrated Service for HIV and AIDS, means direction in Hindi and Marathi.

Objective 1

To conduct HIV awareness sessions in hitherto un-targeted communities in Pune and surrounding villages.

Objective 2

To assist people living with HIV to have a more fulfilled, happy and complete life through counselling and matrimonial events.

Activities

1. Awareness: The first half of the year saw online awareness sessions with a move to offline awareness sessions over time. The awareness sessions were not limited to HIV, we talked about COVID care for individuals living with HIV as well as information about vaccination.

2. COVID support

The clients received continued support through ready meals or grocery parcels as required by individuals. A survey conducted provided the information required to find out the best way to support individuals affected by HIV.

3. Healthcare

General health check-ups were provided for clients and their families as during COVID access to healthcare for any other issues had suffered greatly. Online counselling was also provided for over 30 clients. 180 home visits were made for critical cases, to provide the family with the support that they needed.

Key Performance Indicators

372

Grocery parcels
distributed

267

Attendance for health
check-up camps

180

Home Visits



INCOME GENERATION PROGRAMME

The programme aims to improve the socio-economic status of the women in financially deprived communities of Pune.

Objective 1

To improve the educational level amongst women living in the targeted communities.

Objective 2

To improve financial security of women in the targeted communities.

Activities

1. Mask making

The financial year started with COVID on the rise again. The demand for masks that had dropped was on the rise again although women made 2547 masks this year compared to last year when the numbers were over 4000.

2. Meal Orders

With options for skill building still being low, the women came together to use skills they already had and focused on tiffin services. This activity was possible only later in the year and the women provided

4997 meals. The women were paid for the food preparation and were able to contribute to the family income.

3. Other Orders

After a long break, in the month of March community women made quilted cards to meet the order from a local company. The women also received orders to sew custom quilts from sarees.

Special Events

Financial Literacy Training

A college in Delhi conducted online financial literacy training for the women in enrolled with IGP. 50 women learnt how to better manage their finances. Learnt about apps used for transfer of money. They learnt about the importance of saving money.

Story of Achievement



Shreelata

Shreelata first came to us and enrolled with the IGP in 2018 to learn sewing. The women in the programme were making cloth bags at the time, and she was inspired to work hard to get to their level of sewing. Shreelata was extremely shy when she started with us and learning a new skill, making her first product and selling it gave her a new confidence. She has started her own little business in the community now.

Collaborations

Senior Citizens Programme

In collaboration with SCHOOL - Society for Community Health Oriented Operational Links, Deep Griha has started work with individuals from the community over the age of 60. This Senior Citizen programme brings better healthcare access to individuals who need it through virtual clinics, access to physiotherapy, health camps, vaccination drives and provision of essential including but not limited to walking aids, diapers, medication, and grocery as well. Counselling sessions, home visits, monitoring of health is a big part of the activities. Almost 10,000 home visits have been conducted through the year.

DOTs (Directly Observed Therapy)

Under this initiative the Government provides medication to be distributed to clients with Tuberculosis in the community. The average number of patients through the month ranges from 30 to 45, we had a maximum of 10 clients with MDR at a time, others were mainly in Category 1. Deep Griha is a distribution point for the Tadiwala road community.

Gestational Diabetes Study

Deep Griha Society participated in a mixed methods research study with Weill Cornell Medicine, titled 'A community health worker -led programme to improve access to gestational diabetes screening in urban slums of Pune, India.' We worked in the Tadiwala road and Yerawada communities of Pune for the study.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Everything that we have been able to achieve over this year would not have been possible without the support of many individuals, organisations, and corporate offices. We may not be able to include everyone in this list, but we would not be here if it was not for each one of you.

All the donors and sponsors. Our partner organisations

All the volunteers and interns who have invaluable contributed to our various projects.

Deep Griha USA

Friends of Deep Griha UK

First Community Church

BNY Mellon

ECF – Equal Community Foundation

EXL

Institute For Study Abroad

Nursing Colleges

Sahara Aalhad

SANGAM (International Guild Centre)

SCHOOL (Society of Community Health Oriented Operational Links)

Tech-Mahindra Foundation

Weill Cornell Medicine

WNS

KPCL



Would you like to be a part of our journey?

This is how you can.....

- Be an ambassador for Deep Griha Society
- Sponsor a child
- Adopt a project
- Donate to a program
- Make a Deep Griha wish come true
- Help us organise a fundraising event
- Volunteer with us

For more information, please write to us at info@deepgriha.org or ashlesha.onawale@deepgriha.org