Spark-A-Change



Annual Report 2016-17





We exist to ensure transformational change in school-going children of low-income background by providing them with knowledge, values, skills, and support through joyous, positive experiences from interaction with well-intentioned, educated adults to help them succeed.



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Founders' Note



Avani Dalal



Nirmala Venkatesan

Hello,

We are proud and excited to present the first annual report of Spark-A-Change Foundation.

Our vision is to work towards an India where every child is educated and receives access to equal opportunities for a better future. Two years into this initiative, the sheer talent and progress shown by our students continues to surprise and overwhelm us.

This year has been extremely hectic and fulfilling. In keeping with our belief in benefits of robust processes and curricula, six months of hard work and our first in-house English and Math workbooks were ready to use. The first independent student assessments and volunteer feedback sessions were held in March. Over the coming year, we will conduct multiple assessments which will help us evaluate student progress quantitatively to further enhance our curriculum.

One of the most important events of the year was INDRADHANUSH, our first annual day event. A day of thanksgiving, to our sponsors, supporters, volunteers, parents. The Rotary Hall at Juhu was packed to capacity, reverberating with enthusiasm and applause as our students performed on stage in full costume.

Experiential learning forms an important part of SAC activities. Several corporate engagement activities and events to this end were organised for our students this year like 'the human chain for water conservation', 'Aashayein' a JNAA-CASCADE event, Juhu Marathon, Sports Day, 'Masterchef' at Thompson Reuters, visit to bank, multiple movie screenings, visits to museums, 'Mumbai Heritage Walk' and many more such.

This year, we partnered with technical institutes to offer 50 of our senior students training on how to work with computers. In the coming year, we hope to double that number. We are also looking at tie-ups for intensive coaching for 9th and 10th graders and to impart hands-on science education, to improve critical thinking skills, which is bound to excite and inspire our students.

Lastly, we want to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers and donors without whose love and support none of this would have been possible. We look to the future with great anticipation and hope that this will be the first of many annual reports!

Cheers,

Avani and Nirmala, Founder Trustees, Team Spark-A-Change



The Program

The Spark-A-Change program is primarily designed to supplement school education in English and Math.

We provide a two-sided platform, bringing together motivated students and enthusiastic, skilled volunteers and applying a curriculum tailored to lead our students down the path to a well-rounded education.

The Students

Eager to learn Low-income background Looking for exposure and opportunities



The Volunteers

Experienced and educated Robust screening process Mentorship model



Program Details: Curricular

The focus of the curricular part of the program is to ensure that English speaking, reading, comprehension and writing skills, together with age-appropriate number skills are adequately developed.



Conducive learning environment



Practical application of concepts to real world scenarios



Interaction with experienced and motivated volunteer teachers



Evolving academic program



Program Details: Co-curricular

The focus of the co-curricular part of the program is to work towards the development of a well-rounded personality through value education, activities and experiences.



Regular art & craft sessions



Sports and teamwork Cricket & Football teams



Skill & personality development



Field trips to museums, movies, etc



Challenges and Impact

Only **45.2%** of Class VIII students could read simple sentences in English





290 Children currently enrolled

Only **14%** of Indian graduates are considered job-ready





50 Students given computer training



92% Student retention rate

Source: https://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2016/07/rote-learning-indian-education-method-to-improve/ http://www.educationtimes.com/article/27/2014122220141219163218953d78ba3cf/Workwise.html http://img.asercentre.org/docs/Publications/ASER%20Reports/ASER%202016/aser_2016.pdf







Changes that we Sparked



PRACHI

After winning the gold medal in the solo dance category in an inter NGO competition, Prachi received a 3 month scholarship at the Irfan dance academy. Her continued excellence during the training period led to a renewal of the scholarship.

ASHISH

Ashish has always been passionate about music. Spark-A-Change sponsored his enrollment in Sangeet Mahavidyalaya. He has made the most of this opportunity, and he recently participated in the auditions for Indian Idol!





SURAJ

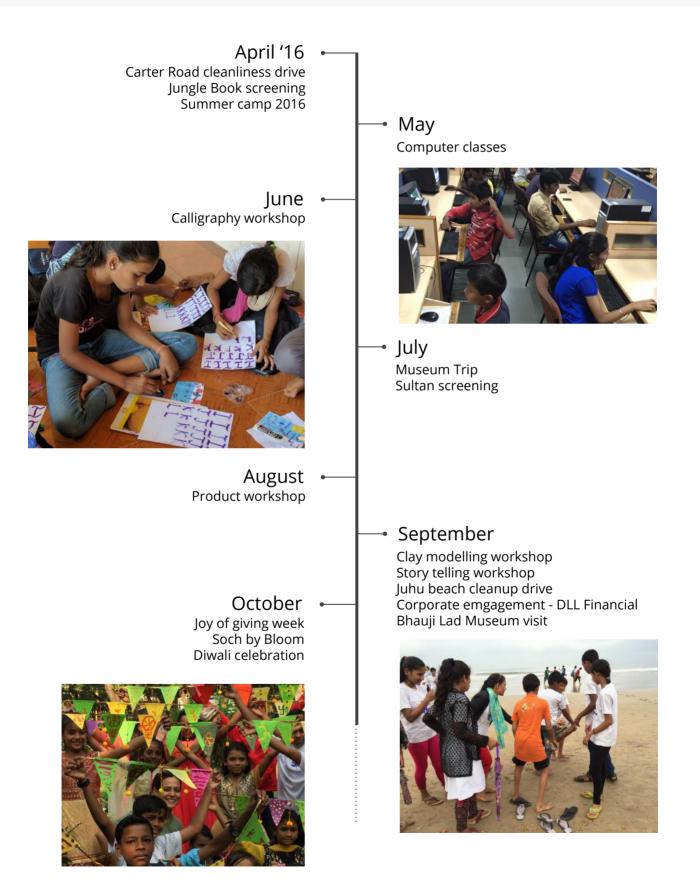
Suraj had to leave school and go to work at a garage to support his family. He never lost the desire to learn. He joined the Spark-A-Change program last year and has just written his 10th standard exams. He has completed a basic computer course and gained proficiency in hardware repair.

AKASH

Akash joined SAC as a student, and was mentored by us through his 10th standard examinations. Today, he is back with us as a volunteer English teacher! Akash believes in giving back to the SAC and wants to help others succeed academically.



Activity Calendar





Activity Calendar

November Children's day - Rotaract Club, Goregaon Shopping festival - Rotaract Club, Mumbai Airport

February Dance performance at Lokhandwala Sports day and eye camp



April IPL match - Education for All Open air bus trip Summer camp 2017



• January '17 Makar Sankranti



March Indradhanush - Annual day MasterChef - Thomson Reuters Outdoor sports and activities day







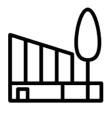
Spotlight - Indradhanush 2017



INDRADHANUSH 2017, our 1st Annual Day, was the culmination of a month of long planning, practice, excitement, anxiety, sound, music, lights and action. A proud moment indeed when our kids put up a splendid performance before a full audience!



The Year Ahead



New Centers Goregaon | Juhu (2nd center)

Given the enthusiastic response from the participants and parents of our program, we plan to expand to help more children across Mumbai

Oale

Dabc

Hiring

We plan on hiring full-time staff for center management, social media, fundraising, etc.



Science Curriculum

Teaching science in a fun and relatable way by partnering with experts who will conduct classes and organise workshops



Balance Sheet

IDS & LIABILITIES 5 FUND nd is per last Balance Sheet ing the year Liabilities	(RS.) 15,000	6-17 (RS.) 15,000 Nil	2015-16 (RS.)	PROPERTY & ASSETS Immovable Properties Balance as per Last B/s Add: During the year Less : Sales	2016- (RS.) - - -	(RS.)
5 FUND nd 15 per last Balance Sheet ing the year	15,000	15,000	(((3.)	Immovable Properties Balance as per Last B/s Add: During the year Less : Sales	-	(1.3.)
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		0.382=0				
Liabilities		0.382=0				
Liabilities		N12		Movable Properties		
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				Less: Depreciation	1 12	Nil
		0 9		Conference (Conference)		
E & EXPENDITURE				0 9/26201	1 1	
NT		5,93,055		Loans & Advances	1 1	
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ss:Deficit/ (Surplus)	3,38,273		5,000	To Others		7
				Income Outstanding		Nil
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				Cash & Bank Balances	1 1	
			18,504	Cash balance	53,890	
32			2,46,278	Bank balance	2,98,165	
				Fixed deposits	2,50,000	6,02,05
		6,08,055	2,69,782			6,08,05
		rt Attached	rt Attached	18,504 2,46,278 6,08,055 2,69,782 rt Attached	Income Outstanding I	Income Outstanding Cash & Bank Balances 18,504 2,46,278 Bank balance 53,890 2,46,278 Bank balance 53,890 2,98,165 2,50,000 at Attached



Income & Expenditure

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P.Y			OUNT FOR T	THE YEAR 2015-16	ENDING 31ST MARCH, 2017	201	C 48
(RS.)	Expenditures	(RS.)	(RS.)	(RS.)	Incomes	(RS.)	6-17 (RS.)
	To Expenditure in respect of Properties Rent Expenditure towards specific To Establishment Expenses Audit Fees Audit Fees Atma Partnership Fees Salary - Watchman Core Team Meeting Expenses Repairs and Maintenance Trademark Registration Fees Bank Charges To Expenditure on the object of the Trust	8,550 12,500 7,500 2,745 7,500 5,988 1,125	Nil 45,908	1,537 - 3,40,650 3,92,405	By Interest (accrued) (realised) Saving Bank Account Fixed deposits Loans Securities By Donations Juhu Center Lokhandwala Center Other donation By Income From other sources By Transfer from Reserves	21,134 - - 2,05,600 3,40,901 4,75,500	21,13
4,02,672	Educational	6,58,955	6,58,955				
2,46,455.00	To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		3,38,273				
8,06,592			10,43,135	8,06,592			10,43,13



Core Team



Avani Dalal

An Electronic Engineer, a graphic designer, an animator and a passionate social worker wedded to the cause of SAC. Avani brings her creative expertise and intuitive understanding of children to enhance various facets of teaching methodologies.



Nirmala Venkatesan

A Chartered Accountant to a homemaker & a mother who found her calling in the SAC cause. Nirmala firmly believes that meaningful literacy with equal opportunities for every child is the only way to achieve national progress. She takes charge of finance, compliance, systems and process development for SAC.



Ameesha currently takes responsibility for development and delivery of the English curriculum and teacher training modules at SAC.



Gauri Gupta

Gauri started with SAC as a volunteer and has played a pivotal role in planning community events. Her expertise on Public Relations and Corporate Connects also serves a larger cause at SAC.

Ameesha Adatia



Payal takes charge of book-keeping, accounting processes, budgeting and internal audit.

Maithili Agasti

Maithili has been one of our earliest volunteers and a passionate campaigner for the SAC cause. She is involved with fund-raising, Public relations and community events for SAC.



Payal Choksi Thanawala

Our Supporters

A big THANK YOU to all our supporters. None of what we have managed to do so far would have been possible without your support.

*Donors who have made a contribution > Rs. 5000 listed in alphabetical order Anand Menon Anuj Shah c/o Rajnikant Parikh Archana Uppal Aruna Gopalkrishna Nayak Ashish Chakravarti Ashlesha Mitkar Mithe Bindu Mehta Chanya Kaur Deepak Jain Dr Aditi Mohla Khan Durga Devi N Murjani G.M.Syntex Pvt. Ltd. Hraaya Patel IWC bombay west J.D.Gopinathan Jasmine D'Souza Jayshree Ujwal Jajoo Kamladevi Welfare Foundation Kanchan Jain Lina Arun Tolia Mala Wadhwani Malini Pai Manoj Jain Meenakshi Kher Monisha Thadani Niklesh Malkani Poonam Dalal Pranay Gandhi Pranay Vidya Charity Group **Punit Anand** R K Polymer Industries Pvt Ltd Rachita Wadhwa **Reach Out Foundation Ritu Singh** Sangeeta Jha Sangeeta Khetan Sant Sagar Builders and Developers Pvt Ltd Shailesh Shirwadkar Sharmeen Merchant Sheela Nand Merani Shetu Parekh Shikha Jain Shivani Budhraja Sumit Pal **Tasneem Siddique** Vythieswara Subramanian Yashasvi Galvankar



Get involved



Sponsor

Computer classes @ Rs. 2000/ child Snacks for a day for 100 kids @ Rs. 1500 Stationery kit @ Rs. 5000 for 100 kids Science camp @ Rs. 5000 pm for 25 kids Intensive coaching @ Rs. 10000 per child

Volunteer

To teach 2-3 hours weekly To conduct an art, craft, dance, music, science or story session Celebrate special days with us



Donate

All donations made to our foundation are eligible for deductions under section 80G and go directly towards supporting and improving our facilities and capabilities.



Information

Trust information

Trust registration number: E31084 PAN: AAPTS1938Q 80G certificate number: CIT(E)/80G/1184/2016-17 12A registration number: 47759/19.10.2015

Registered office

1202, Raheja Classique - 5, New Link Road, Andheri West, Mumbai - 53

Bankers

Account name: SPARK-A-CHANGE FOUNDATION Bank: HDFC Bank Branch: Lokhandwala Account type: Savings Account number: 50100100619860

Statutory auditors

Firm name: Pankaj A. Kothari & Co. Address: Off No. 01, Ground Floor, Meghalaya Building, Station Road, Kalwa (W), Thane - 400065 Partner name: Pankaj A. Kothari





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