

ANNUAL REPORT
2020-21

YUVA Urban Initiatives



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<https://www.yuiindia.org/>

CONTENTS



03

CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

04

ABOUT US

- YUVA Urban Initiatives
 - Mission and Objectives
 - Focus Areas
-

06

INTERVENTIONS

- COVID-Response
 - Child Protection and Rights
 - Community Empowerment
-

18

ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

- Board of Directors
 - About the Staff
 - Financial Information
 - Internal Committees
-

24

LOOKING AHEAD



'I am happy to share that in the past year our work expanded in communities beyond the skilling programmes to include people's access to legal entitlements, welfare schemes and to expand their understanding of rights.'

Chairperson's Address

The past year has been unforgettable on so many counts. From the health implications of the pandemic to the humanitarian crisis, millions of job losses to growth of hunger and poverty. Decades of progress have been lost, and we are still uncovering newer vulnerabilities and challenges.

And yet when I look back on a year full of shocks, I am heartened by the role our teams played in addressing this crisis. From the start, even prior to the nation-wide lockdown, their close understanding of ground challenges helped them respond to the growing calls for support. Although they have always worked on field, in close contact with people, they dynamically reoriented to a hybrid mode of work, following all regulations to ensure that they could keep supporting the emerging needs. Moreover, the response was always aligned to community-identified requirements, it was often led by the community themselves, and the focus remained on keeping people's dignity at the core of all the work.

Apart from the immediate response to people's needs for food, medicines, transportation and other requirements due to the sudden onslaught of COVID-19, the teams also continued their project-related work in communities.

I am happy to share that in the past year our work expanded in communities beyond the skilling programmes to include people's access to legal entitlements, welfare schemes and to expand their understanding of rights. These steps at the grassroots level are significant in paving the way for the urban poor to stake their claim over the city as rightful citizens and exercise their rights in a democracy.

At the close of the year, we are aware of the many challenges that still remain. Child protection has taken a hit during the pandemic, with an increase in cases of abuse across cities. Children's lack of access to education is a rising concern. And many issues remain unresolved at the community level too. As we recommit to addressing all the challenges in the coming year, I would like to thank all our partners, donors and well-wishers for continuing to support us through a very difficult time. I am confident that our persevering efforts will lead to social transformation.

In solidarity
Helen Joseph

About Us

YUVA Urban Initiatives

Set up in 2007 in Mumbai, India, YUVA Urban Initiatives aims to address the growing challenges and inequalities arising out of rapid urbanisation. Given the rise in informal settlements (*bastis*) in cities, coupled with inadequate living conditions, lack of livelihood opportunities, limited awareness of

and access to healthcare, YUVA Urban Initiatives adopts an integrated approach to drive change in every aspect.

YUVA Urban Initiatives is a Section 8 Company. It draws inspiration from and is nurtured by the non-profit Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA).




Mission & Objectives

YUVA Urban Initiatives has two key missions:

- To create cities that are just, equitable and sustainable; and
- To make them a better place for the poor by enabling access to human rights

In particular, YUVA Urban Initiatives aims to uphold the rights of the most vulnerable groups in large cities. Rooted in our belief in empowerment, we seek to build the capacities of urban poor communities to address issues related to the quality of their living conditions and livelihoods. With access to healthcare services still highly inequitable, we endeavour to enable access to aid and medical facilities for the urban poor.



Focus Areas

At YUVA Urban Initiatives, our programmes focus on the following two areas.

Tackling Vulnerabilities

The urban poor endure harsh and unjust living conditions in cities where they migrate for work and a better life. Yet, their needs are often unheard and they remain misrepresented on many mainstream forums. Our work focuses on developing people's agency by empowering them and encouraging their active participation in decision making. We help develop people's rights awareness and encourage the formation of local collectives, which can help people take forward their demands in their own voices.

By helping address issues of insecurity and vulnerability stemming from inadequate and insecure housing (experienced by about 40 per cent of the city's population) and informality of livelihoods (experienced by nearly 90 per cent of the city's working population), we aim to support the urban poor to claim their rightful place in the city.

We also focus on children and youth empowerment, as their conscientisation and development is critical to drive change in society.

YUVA Urban Initiatives is committed to the realisation of Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11—Sustainable Cities and Communities. The organisation aims to empower people and develop their engagement in city-building efforts with ownership.

Strategic Support

With our decades long experience of working on urban issues, we frequently take up consulting assignments, offering strategic support to other organisations in the sector.

In the past, we have supported Child Rights and You (CRY), to develop their urban child rights programming strategy. Along with a team of consultants, we have also conducted strategy review and development on a UNICEF project for children in urban Bhopal.

Interventions

COVID-19 Response



Our rapid assessment in mid-March 2020 across 34 communities in 4 cities of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) where we work helped us identify growing vulnerabilities with the spread of the pandemic in India.

Over the next few weeks we reached out to individuals and families most in need, providing 6,020 monthly ration kits in total. Among the households we reached out to were those comprising senior citizens, differently abled persons, women headed households, and families with children in adivasipadas.

Impact overview

- **6,020 monthly ration kits** provided
- **Prioritised reaching most vulnerable** individuals and families first
- **7 self-help groups** supported for continuing their businesses

YUVA Urban Initiatives was also a part of the Milkar multiplier partnership, bringing together the local government, non-profits, citizens and corporate partners to ensure food security for vulnerable communities. Via this network, we provided monthly ration kits to households in P-North and K-East wards.

With cyclone Nisarga and other natural disasters wreaking havoc in people's lives, we tried to address emerging unexpected needs as well. We distributed kits with the community's support and after verifying their needs.

The Childline team also kept receiving distress calls related to children's nutritional needs, about children separated from their families, and more. The team members handled cases within their zones and referred others for partner support. Counselling support was also provided to many children in lockdown and medicines were provided to a government shelter home for victims of sexual abuse.

Given the backdrop of the pandemic and considering that vulnerable children are prone to

disease in the absence of secure habitats, the Childline teams kept health, hygiene and safety at the centre of all their interactions with children. Community level engagements also focused on building people's awareness on the pandemic, and encouraging them to take all safety precautions in their daily lives. 7 self-help groups running catering and tailoring businesses were provided livelihood support by providing them materials for their business (such as sewing machines and utensils).



Child Protection and Rights

YUVA Urban Initiatives has been an implementation partner of Childline India Foundation since 2008-09, responding to emergency calls for children in distress via the 24*7 toll-free helpline. Through three contact centres (City Childline, Dadar Railway Childline and Navi Mumbai Childline), our teams respond to emergency calls requiring both direct and indirect intervention like requests for shelter and medical help, acting on missing persons complaints, addressing children's need for emotional support and guidance, counselling, and so on.

While child rescue and rehabilitation remains the core focus of the work, the teams are invested in the holistic development of children—frequently organising sessions for children's right to study, play, and enjoy a safe and violence-free environment. The teams also participated in and led campaigns and collaborated in networks to promote child rights and protection in every way.







The Work of Childline Teams Across Centres

Emergency rescue and rehabilitation of children

City Childline

The bulk of calls received by the City Childline team related to supporting children from abuse. This has been a disturbing trend, reported country-wide. The team worked with other network organisations to address these cases at speed.

The team also focused on open houses and outreach activities, to keep taking the work of Childline to newer places and encourage people to report cases of children in distress.

Railway Childline

Apart from working on child rescue and rehabilitation cases, the team was also invested in child development via a range of activities with children on platforms 6 and 7 of Dadar Railway Central Line and in neighbouring communities.

Sessions were hosted to increase awareness about Childline services and child rights, and on good touch and bad touch. The team members

also conducted informal learning classes with the children, helping them learn to read and write and improve their general knowledge. Children were engaged in diverse ways via storytelling sessions, film screenings, yoga sessions and puppet shows. Health camps were also organised so the communities could avail of basic health services (checking of blood pressure, diabetes, etc.) and sessions on nutrition were conducted with the children. With the constant interactions, the trust in our work has grown, and we have noticed that many of the children are more confident and articulate about their needs.

Navi Mumbai Childline

The team followed up on child rescue and rehabilitation cases. In addition, they participated in and led a variety of campaigns, focused on children's nutrition, safety and protection. Outreach activities in different areas helped the team further awareness about the work of Childline and encourage more people to report cases of children in distress.

Impact in Numbers: Calls Handled

In the year of the pandemic, we saw cases against children rise. Many were related to abuse, child marriage, nutritional requirements, and more.



City Childline

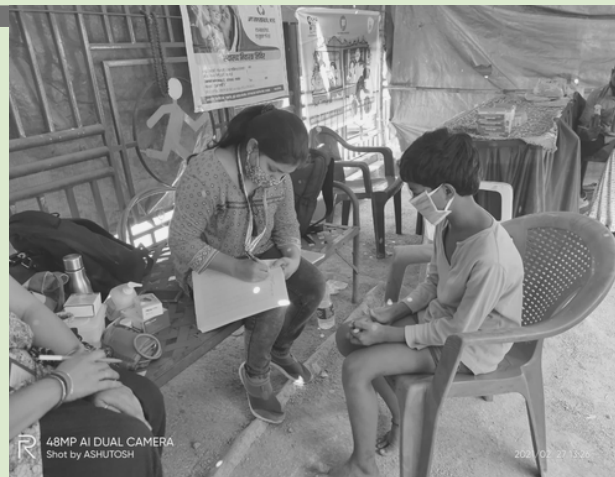
460 total calls received. Among them:

- **142** on protection from abuse
- **99** for COVID-19 support
- **77** for shelter needs
- **28** for sponsorship
- **28** for emotional support and guidance

Railway Childline

102 total calls received. Among them:

- **72** on runaway children
- **17** on lost children
- **9** on protection from abuse
- **2** on shelter needs



Navi Mumbai Childline

253 total calls received. Among them:

- **103** on protection from abuse
- **86** for COVID-19 support
- **18** for emotional support and guidance
- **15** on shelter needs

Stories of Change



Rescuing Avani from abuse

Avani*, a 16-year-old girl, was being physically and mentally abused by her father. When the Childline team was alerted about the case, they took Avani and her mother Gauri* in confidence, and guided them about the legal steps that they could take for redressal. Gauri and Avani recorded their statements and the police filed an FIR under the POCSO Act.

On the same day, the police arrested Vinod*, the girl's father, and placed him in custody. Two weeks later, Gauri called the

Childline staff to share that Vinod had placed his bail application in the sessions court.

The staff immediately reached the police station and submitted an application to cancel Vinod's bail. On knowing the case details, the session court dismissed Vinod's bail application. In the meantime, the Childline team has been in touch with Avani and extended counselling support to her. Avani is currently recovering from the trauma and the team remains in touch with her.



Preventing Saloni's child marriage

The Childline team received a call from Akansha*, the tuition teacher of 17-year-old Saloni*. Akansha had overheard Saloni's friends talking about her marriage in a few days. She did not have any more details about Saloni as such. The team kept in touch with her and three days later Akansha shared that Saloni's parents were taking her to Latur for her marriage. The team coordinated with the local Childline team, who were able to meet the child and her parents, produce them before the Child Welfare Committee, and take a bond in written from the parents that they would not commit to child marriage. The team's quick action helped them succeed on this case, and they also learnt more about working with district partners.

**names masked to protect identities*

Campaigns and Advocacy

Across the year, the Childline teams participated in and led a variety of campaigns and advocacy efforts. Outlined are some of the prominent initiatives:

- As part of the **Childline Se Dosti** campaign, the Childline team met Mumbai District Collector Milind Borikar, to place the demand for an active allied system for children in need and victims of violence and abuse.
- The team participated in the **Shoshan Se Azaadi** and **My Ward My CPC** campaigns, demanding safer communities for children.
- The team also met officials from the District Child and Women Development Department of Mumbai Suburban district and District Child Protection Unit members to **know more about schemes for children in need of care and protection.**
- As part of their campaign to **improve children's nutrition**, the teams not only held sessions with children and community members, but also anganwadi sevikas.
- **Network meetings** also took place with the police for better application of the Juvenile Justice Act, and with the Suburban Child Welfare Committee to help children in need of care and protection access legal support and other assistance needed. The team also attended a workshop with the Labour Commission, Maharashtra, other Childline partners and stakeholders to better address cases related to working children whom they rescue and seek to rehabilitate.



Community Empowerment



In numbers

- **7** urban resource centres
- **3,560** outreach
- **1,793** legal entitlements facilitated
- **237** welfare schemes facilitated
- **90** adolescent girls trained as beauty entrepreneurs and **64** restart businesses
- **34** awareness sessions (rights and schemes)
- **6** health camps

Our work in communities focuses on helping people understand their human and constitutional rights, and help them access legal entitlements (such as ration cards, voter ID cards, etc), so that their identity in the city can be legalised, they can exercise their rights as citizens, apply for and avail government welfare schemes. We have also been running a skilling course for adolescent girls, especially those who are restricted to their homes, to not only help in their economic empowerment but also contribute to their self and social development.

Especially in context of the pandemic and how it has made marginalised groups more vulnerable, our teams worked with the community to create their legal entitlements, so that they could access ration via the Public Distribution System, invest in the future of their girl child by opting for Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, open Jan Dhan (zero balance) bank accounts and opt for government insurance schemes. As the government's welfare mandate has also continued to shrink over the years, we believe these connections are important to reinforce the government's social obligations to the people.

In 2020-21, in partnership with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai we received permission to run a shelter for the urban homeless under the National Urban Livelihoods Mission, Shelter for Urban Homeless component. We have been finalising the formalities to open this shelter soon for women and children in Mumbai's M-East ward.

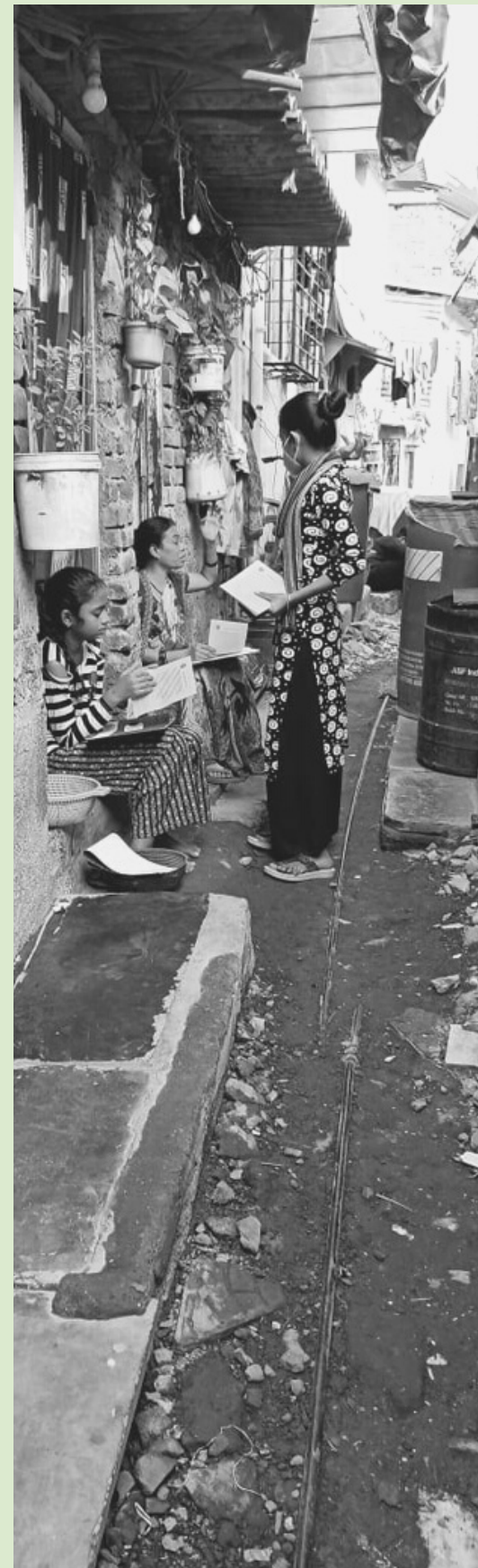
Why this support is crucial

In many cases, people's access to welfare is restricted as they may be unaware of schemes or processes (including eligibility criteria and basic documentation needed) to access these. Additionally, their lack of documentation restricts access. Moreover, marginalised groups often end up paying large amounts of money to agents to complete this documentation and are forced to spend a lot of time in follow-ups thereafter with the government authorities, with many giving up midway due to these reasons.

Our work addresses all these barriers with the availability of information to community members, facilitating their application process if they are keen to opt for schemes, and helping them save money and time as they pay only the government mandated fees and our teams are in touch with authorities to reduce any governmental delays. With application processes going digital due to the pandemic, we were also able to support many community members who otherwise did not have the resources or the literacy to complete the process on their own.

Overcoming barriers in skilling

The programme on skilling young women, with an entrepreneurship component added (encouraging them to become beauty entrepreneurs) was affected due to the pandemic spread. Many of the students of the programme from prior batches had set up salons which were closed due to the lockdown. Post an assessment of the situation, online business development trainings were conducted, and existing skills of the programme alumni were also assessed to help them develop parallel businesses. Although some members could not remain connected due to the virtual nature of the programme, attempts were made to connect with all and support them in the best way possible.





Stories of Change

Bridging the gap between community needs and government services

The basti of Ambedkar Nagar in Malad East, Mumbai, has existed for over 30 years. It is situated on Forest Department land, falling under the jurisdiction of the Central Government. The people living here are migrant workers engaged in the informal sector. Their homes are made of temporary material such as bamboo and plastic.

While the settlement was established decades ago, the people still continue to struggle for access to basic services. They pay higher charges to access electricity; water is available only once every 3-4 days and that too at a higher rate. But one of the biggest challenges is that the people in the settlement are not connected to the government postal system. This means that official documents or legal IDs sent by the government post do not reach the people. When we questioned the post office, they mentioned that as the house numbers in the settlement are not well demarcated, it is difficult to reach the people.

To overcome this problem, we wrote a letter to the local post office, but our application was rejected. The team continued to build pressure for this demand, with online and offline advocacy. Multiple meetings took place with the authorities and finally they offered verbal assurance that post boxes be set up in every settlement and the people be responsible to ensure that these boxes are secure.

The team also kept building rapport with the postal authorities and, for the first time since the settlement came into being, the postal authorities started visiting the community to share about the government's saving schemes.

While the postal connectivity challenge has still not been resolved, the increasing interactions between the community and postal officials have built confidence, and the team hopes to be able to address the postal challenge in the coming weeks.



Helping families access ration

Keshav Saravade, a construction worker, has been living in Sathe Nagar, Mankhurd, for the past 15 years. He is the only income earner in his family of 7 members. For the past 5 years, the family has been trying to reapply for their ration card which they lost when their house was getting repaired. Despite visiting the ration office multiple times they were unable to understand the process for application. They were asked to file a report at the police station but had been dismissed by the officials there. Agents were charging a high fee for this service, so the family had given up.

However, repeated lockdowns and loss of income had made it a precarious time for the family.

When Keshav visited our urban resource centre, we explained the process for ration application and eligible documents. Discovering that two of their children did not have an Aadhaar card, we facilitated the application process for this. We also visited the police station with Keshav, and helped him obtain the needed report. Currently their application is in process and the family is hopeful of receiving it soon.



Encouraging business recovery

Vidhika Gaikwad had just started her salon in January 2021, after a long struggle to do this since she completed a beautician course in 2016. She had attended a 5-day training by YUVA Urban Initiatives and was keen to take her business to the next level. However, with the lockdown she was forced to halt her business. Once she started attending the online sessions though, she felt she could grasp many small technicalities which also gave her more confidence. While she had restarted the business with about 10% of her earlier revenue, post the sessions she saw her revenue moving up 60-70% compared to her business pre-lockdown. Vidhika felt thankful for all the learnings and is hoping to recover her business in the months ahead.

Organisational Details

Board of Directors

Details of Board of Directors as of March 2021

Name	Gender	Position in Board
Nisreen Zafar Ebrahim	Female	Director
Helen Anthappa Joseph	Female	Director
Lata Narayan	Female	Director
Nalini Shekar	Female	Director

No remuneration was paid to any board member during 2020-21. No board member has any blood relation with another board member or with any of the staff members.

The 2020- 21 board meeting was held on 11 November 2020.

About the Staff

YUVA Urban Initiatives offers an accepting, inclusive space for individuals, helping them develop their capacities and flexibly work to further the organisation's objectives. Transparent reporting and accounting systems are followed, to build trust in the process and help employees contribute better.

Everyone is a leader here, charting their concrete path of growth with the support of their team members and others. The organisation is conscious of maintaining diversity in its profile.

No international travel was taken up by any staff, volunteer, Board Member at the expense of the organisation in the last financial year.

Financial Information

YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES CIN: U85310MH2007NPL296526 BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2021			
Particulars	Note No	As at 31st March 2021	As at 31st March 2020
I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
(1) Shareholder's Funds			
(a) Share Capital	3	1,00,000	1,00,000
(b) Reserves and Surplus	4	7,75,859	13,23,297
(2) Non-Current Liabilities			
(b) Other Long term liabilities	5	2,39,700	17,61,948
(3) Current Liabilities			
(a) Other current liabilities	6	56,738	1,76,148
(b) Earmarked Funds	7	18,97,051	(9,25,414)
Total		30,69,349	24,35,979
II. Assets			
(1) Non-current assets			
(a) Property, Plant & Equipments			
(i) Tangible assets	8	111	92
(2) Current assets			
(a) Cash and Bank balances	9	24,91,833	19,89,710
(b) Short-term loans and advances	10	1,58,803	1,44,456
(c) Other Current Assets	11	4,18,600	3,01,720
Total		30,69,349	24,35,979

Significant accounting policies

2

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE
FOR C N K & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
ICAI Registration No. 101961 W/W-100036

FOR AND ON THE BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES

Suresh Agaskar
Partner
Membership No: 110321



Place : Mumbai
Date: 29 NOV 2021

L. Narayan
Lata Narayan
Director
DIN: 01037356








Place : Mumbai
Date: 29 NOV 2021

Helen Joseph
Director
DIN: 00394309

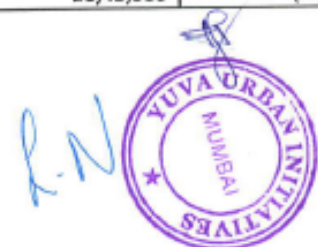
Place : Mumbai
Date: 29 NOV 2021

Financial Information

YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES CIN: U85310MH2007NPL296526 STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2021			
Particulars	Note No	For the year ended March 31, 2021	For the year ended March 31, 2020
Income:			
Donations & Community Contributions	12	18,35,492	4,70,476
Other Income	13	1,66,439	79,480
		20,01,931	5,49,956
Expenses:			
Other expenses	14	26,44,968	7,24,448
		26,44,968	7,24,448
Surplus/(Deficit) before tax		(6,43,037)	(1,74,492)
Tax expense:			
Current tax			-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		(6,43,037)	(1,74,492)
Significant accounting policies		2	
The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.			
AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE FOR C N K & Associates LLP Chartered Accountants ICAI Registration No. 101961 W/W-100036		FOR AND ON THE BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES	
 Suresh Agaskar Partner Membership No: 110321 Place : Mumbai Date: 29 NOV 2021		 Lata Narayan Director DIN: 01037356 Place : Mumbai Date: 29 NOV 2021	
			
		 Helen Joseph Director DIN: 00394309 Place : Mumbai Date: 29 NOV 2021	

Financial Information

YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES			
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021			
19. Earmarked Funds			
SR.NO.	PARTICULARS	IN RUPEES	
		AMOUNT	AMOUNT
1	SDG REVIEW & LEAVE ON ONE BEHIND REPORT ON CHILDREN'S COMMUNITIES Opening Balance as on 01.04.2020 Add : Grant received from "SAVE THE CHILDREN" Less : Expenses (-) Transferred to Income & Expenditure A/c	(2,99,837) 3,66,000 66,163 66,163	 -
2	CHILDLINE Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from "CHILDLINE INDIA FOUNDATION" Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	5,27,320 6,70,820 6,091 12,04,231 13,63,235	 (1,59,004)
3	CHILDLINE NAVI MUMBAI Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from "CHILDLINE INDIA FOUNDATION" Add : Interest Less : Expenses	(3,36,404) 13,04,901 17,872 9,86,369 10,89,142	 (1,02,773)
4	Skill Training to train women, set up 2 Community Resource Centres for Youth & Enhance the Skills of beauty Preneur Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add: Grant Received : "GODREJ CONSUMER PRODUCTS LIMITED" Less : Expenses (-) Transferred to Income & Expenditure A/c	84,09,770 31,04,205 1,15,13,975 1,15,13,712 263 263	 -
5	CHILD HELP DESK-DADAR Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from "CHILDLINE INDIA FOUNDATION" Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	4,98,804 9,31,911 17,282 14,47,997 15,66,352	 (1,18,355)
6	PROVIDING CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from "RAILWAY CHILDREN INDIA" Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	8,08,061 13,17,066 21,25,127 21,45,359	 (20,232)



Financial Information

7	CACR- CITIZEN ASSOCIATION FOR CHILD RIGHTS-Unicef SHG Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from CITIZEN ASSOCIATION FOR CHILD RIGHTS Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	- 2,00,000 - 2,00,000 -	- 2,00,000 -	2,00,000
8	COVID RELIEF WORK Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from GODREJ/KOTAK Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	- 1,41,64,120 - 1,41,64,120 1,42,11,490	- 1,41,64,120 -	(47,370)
9	NO CHILD EVER HAS TO LIVE ON STREETS-RCI Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from RAILWAY CHILDREN INDIA Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	- 5,00,000 1,967 5,01,967 5,83,427	- 5,00,000 1,967 5,01,967 5,83,427	(81,460)
10	URBAN RESOURCE CENTRE(URC)-GODREJ - 20-21 Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from GODREJ CONSUMER PRODUCT LIMITED Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	- 40,57,170 - 40,57,170 18,30,825	- 40,57,170 -	22,26,345
10	Working with Construction Workers and other Informal Workers-TIDF Opening Balance as on 01.04.2019 Add : Grant received from United Way of Mumbai Add : Interest credited to Project Less : Expenses	- - - - 100	- - - -	(100)
TOTAL Rs.				18,97,051

Opening balance	96,07,714
(+)Grant	2,66,16,193
(+) Interest	43,212
Total	3,62,67,119
(-)Expenses	3,43,03,642
(-) Transferred to Income & Expenditure A/c	66,426
Net Amount	18,97,051

FOR AND ON THE BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES

L. Narayan
Lata Narayan
Director
DIN: 01037356



Place : Mumbai
Date: 29/11/21

Helen Joseph
Helen Joseph
Director
DIN: 00394309



Place : Mumbai
Date: 29/11/21



Internal Committees

Internal Committee

YUVA Urban Initiatives' Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Committee, while drawing from The Sexual Harassment of Women in the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, applies this policy to women, other genders and men who are employees, volunteers, interns, and consultants of the organisation.

The Internal Committee (IC) is a gender-neutral investigative committee with an external member who is a lawyer. Over the year, training sessions are held to ensure the setup of an enabling environment, and prevent instances of sexual harassment.

In 2020–21, 1 awareness programme was conducted for employees. No complaints were received across the year.

Child Protection Committee

Yuva Urban Initiatives is committed to the safety and development of children, and all employees, volunteers, interns, and consultants of the organisation are bound to comply with the organisation's Child Protection Policy. The Child Protection Committee aims to ensure regular training of the staff, to ensure safe and enabling spaces for children, and to see that this policy is upheld.

In 2020–21, 1 awareness programme was conducted for employees. No complaints were received across the year.

Looking Ahead

In 2020, we felt we had seen the worst of the pandemic. And yet, by March 2021, COVID-cases have been on the rise again in India and uncertainty has increased all around. Marginalised populations in cities, already weakened immeasurably by the pandemic in 2020, are again on the brink of further marginalisation and injustice.

We will continue to work with our communities, and to rescue children from unfortunate situations to rehabilitate them and offer the best support we can. Our work in communities will continue to help each individual access their rights in the city, and to help strengthen collectives to ensure that the city is a more sustainable and inclusive space for everyone.

To address the challenges of the past year, our teams kept agility at the core of their work. They have stayed strong, and kept adapting to the changing needs. In the coming year as well, we will continue to focus on constant learning and adaptability as we take ahead our work.

As we enter the next year, we are cautious yet optimistic that our struggles for social transformation will help us gain more rights for people, and we will make a mark to reduce inequality and injustice. We would like to thank all our donors, well-wishers and community members for their trust and support and look forward to doing more together.



About YUVA Urban Initiatives

YUVA Urban Initiatives is a non-profit organisation that seeks to confront the myriad challenges and inequalities that have mushroomed with the rapid and unplanned development of urban spaces, and intervene with a holistic and integrated approach to change.



YUVA Urban Initiatives
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