

Sankalp - Annual Report 2019-20



Dear Stakeholders,

We never imagined that we would have to face a Pandemic like COVID-19. A very unfamiliar situation... where the world has come to a halt and amidst our busy schedules and tight plans, we would be asked to stop and stay home to SURVIVE.

COVID is throwing challenges to all of us. On one hand, the Coronavirus is impartially infecting people, on the other, lockdown is taxing on diverse segments of people differently. It is posing challenges from the social, economic and psychological dimensions. Offices, educational institutions, formal and informal jobs, shopping, traveling and services have come to a halt.

While we all are firmly focusing on survival and dealing with COVID-19, several hidden impacts are cropping up amid the crisis. Its impact on vulnerable communities and children is shockingly high.

The government has temporarily closed educational institutions in an attempt to contain the spread of the [COVID-19 pandemic](#). Being less privileged children and lack of resources, they have lost opportunity to the continuity of education even through remote learning. Children suffering from thalassemia are battling for their lives due to the shortage of blood donors. Child abuse is on the rise. Childline in India has received 92,000 SOS calls from children asking for protection from abuse and violence and this is just in first 11 days of lockdown!! And needless to say that several cases might have gone and are going unreported. Farmers who have imagined good revenues are now struggling to sell their produce, wondering how to handle excess vegetables and perishables. Women in self-help groups engaged in economic activities, on-farm and off-farm are deeply affected. No more NREGS and other informal work for labour has further impacted their incomes.

Yet, COVID is teaching us a lot of lessons - hygiene, preventive health strategies, respecting nature, managing work from home, valuing human relations, understanding people from different perspectives, using resources economically and meaningfully. Despite whatever the situation, it is teaching us to fight back and stay mentally strong to deal with challenges and lay a pathway for restoration.

We are staying home just to survive! We all are looking forward to the grand reopening of a healthy world. Maybe we will all see more disciplined nations, new economies and unique opportunities. While healing and grabbing new opportunities, let us all commit that we will continue to hold hands of needy communities and be with them in their restoration journey.

We will continue to educate children and create safer communities for them, support thalassemia fighters, support our farmers and women and the needy communities. And with this spirit and trust, we present you with the annual report of Sankalp.

Happy reading
Team Sankalp

Sankalp, is a registered NGO, working since 2007 to promote girl child education and geriatric care. It is a humanitarian initiative of the associates of Sathguru Management Consultants to reach out and make a difference in society. Sankalp's initiatives are implemented under flagship banner of Siksha (Education), Jiva (Health) and Vivrithi (Development).



Sankalp Siksha

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

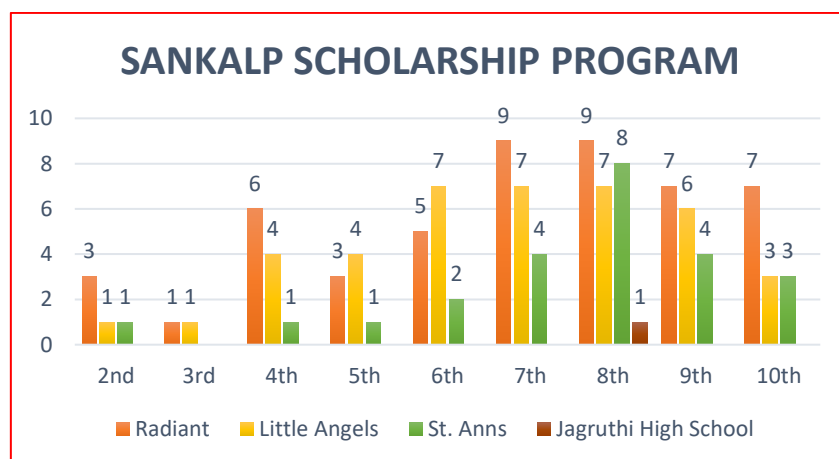
-Nelson Mandela

Sankalp continues to support girl children's education who are from lower-income groups. This helps in retaining children in schools and minimizing dropouts caused due to socio-economic reasons. This year Sankalp has supported 116 children from four schools in Hyderabad (see graph below) from grade 2 to grade 10. Home studies were conducted to identify the most deserving children. Sankalp supported children are from low-income neighborhoods namely, Chintal Basti, Yellamabanda and NTR Nagar, Hyderabad.



The supported children are of wage earners, single parents and domestic maids. In addition to school fees, we have provided children with notebooks and stationaries. We continue to counsel parents to create an enabling environment at home for children to focus on studies and reach their goals.

This year children's progress in academics could not be reported due to COVID -19 crisis and the schools were closed since mid-March 2020.



Project PANTS – An awareness program on child sexual abuse (CSA)

It is the children's right to have a safe environment. In continuation of our efforts to create a safe environment for children, Sankalp has introduced Project PANTS in a play-way method and has been reaching out to the children from private and government schools in Hyderabad. Sankalp has been implementing project PANTS since 2016.

This year, Sankalp has conducted refresher training for students, further reinforcing their understanding of child sexual abuse and personal safety.

The sessions refreshed children's memory on child sexual abuse especially on good touch-bad touch, good and bad secrets, trust circle and whom to approach and report incidences of abuse. The refresher focussed on reinforcing the importance of 3 'R's': Recognize, React and Report. During the year we have reached out to 750 students from all the grades of Little Angels School, Radiant High School and Sneha Sadan Children Home.

In the coming year, Sankalp plans to create awareness about CSA among 1500 children, 1000 parents and 50 teachers. Besides, Sankalp also has plans to create awareness on CSA to likeminded corporates in Hyderabad.



Sankalp Jiva

Sankalp annually organizes blood donation camps with a key purpose to support blood transfusions to children suffering from cancer and thalassemia. Thalassemia is a rare genetic blood disorder that is carried by more than 4% of the population. A child with Thalassemia needs a regular blood transfusion every 2-5 weeks throughout their life to survive. This year Sankalp organized a blood donation camp on 8th November 2019, in association with Aarohi blood bank. The employees of Sathguru and their family members and neighbouring corporates have enthusiastically participated in the camp and donated 59 units of blood which have benefited 177 children.



Sankalp Vivirithi

Sankalp as part of its endeavour to empower less privileged people, takes up initiatives to meet the immediate needs of people thereby they can regain and move on to reach their larger life goals. Sankalp organizes blankets to homeless in winter, donates medicines through health camps and groceries to needy communities. This year, Sankalp has taken up a unique initiative of reviving dreams of a child with special needs.

Reviving dreams of Durga Prasad

Hearing ability is critical to speech and language development, communication and learning. Hearing loss causes delays in the development of speech and language, and those delays then lead to learning problems, often resulting in poor school performance.

Durga Prasad, a 15-year-old student from class 10 is a child with hearing and speech difficulties. In addition to his hearing difficulties, he has a condition called tongue-tie which causes speech impairment and can be treated only when the hearing problem is sorted.

He has two siblings, Vishnu and Omlatha. Vishnu is mentally disabled since his childhood and needed more parental attention and medical care. Durga Prasad's parents are daily wage earners and in the process of catering to Vishnu, couldn't afford proper treatment for Durga Prasad.

Sankalp helped them in reaching out to the right institution - Ashray Akriti a school for hearing and speech impairment. Ashray Akriti provided the child with one hearing aid free of cost and gave treatment to improve his hearing. With the help from Sankalp and Ashray Akriti, Durgaprasad passed out 10th grade from Little Angles School, Yellmabanda, Hyderabad.

Further, Sankalp facilitated him to enroll in Sweakar and Uppakar a college for hearing and speech impairment in Secundrabad to pursue his 11th and 12th grades. As his parents could not afford to pay his fee, Sankalp as a special case financially supported Durga Prasad's education and enabled him to complete his grade 11. He is now all set to move on to grade 12. We hope to see Durga Prasad reach his fullest potential in education and career and break the cycle of poverty that his family is going through.



Thank you ...You have made a significant difference in the lives of girl children

Every year associates of Sathguru and several external donors contribute to support girl children to get access to education. Our donors strongly believe that supporting girl children's education can impact the social and economic wellbeing of children and their families. This year, our donors have contributed an amount of INR 4,99,415 to support the Sankalp's mission to empower girl children and enable them to make informed choices.

As a gesture of appreciation to their donors, Sankalp kids have immensely thanked their sponsors and acknowledged them with handmade greeting cards. Sankalp team facilitated the greeting cards drive and has ensured the cards reached the donors.



STAY HOME AND STAY SAFE

SANKALP

Plot No 54, Sagar Society
Road No. 2, Banjara Hills
Hyderabad - 500 034
Telangana, India