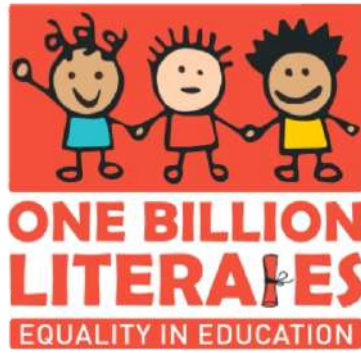


One Billion Literates Foundation



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020





NOTE FROM THE FOUNDER

It all began in July 2010, when I moved back to India after a gap of 12 years and went on to register a charitable organization. I had no experience in non-profit management, nor the nuances of it like raising funds, or even teaching. Fortunately, Mallikarjun Sundaram and Padhma Mallikarjun contributed 1 lakh and thus began the journey of OBLF, one of the most enriching experiences of my life.

I would visit Government Schools regularly and each time I did, I was greeted with big smiles and the children sang "Good morning Ma'am". The only way I could reciprocate this enthusiasm and communicate with them was through actions and by drawing pictures. But I had a strong will and I was on a mission to figure out how to instill the love of learning in underserved children.

I happened to meet Swapna, who lived close to one of the rural Government Schools and had a B.A degree. She was keen on working with me. Armed with an agreement we had signed with the State, Swapna and I went from one school to another in Anekal Taluk to speak with the Head teachers about our intentions of teaching English. We set up libraries and brought computers to the schools. I would read stories to children and Swapna would translate them in Kannada. During the course of the first 2 years of operation, dedicated volunteers like Mahadevan Padmanabhan, Nikesh Jain, and Jayashree Muralidharan helped the Organization grow. It was in September 2012 that I met Ruby Kamdin who eventually went on to run the Organization for 7 years. In 2014, we hired Mahesh Shetty as our Program Manager. I will be eternally grateful to both Ruby and Mahesh for their relentless efforts and commitments to our success.

As the years passed, many more women from the communities around the rural schools we worked with, joined forces. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the contribution of about 100 rural women whom we have trained over the years to teach in the schools.

Even though they had never gotten a chance to complete their formal education, they are the backbone of this foundation. These women, our 'coordinators' have not only shown remarkable courage by stepping out of their comfort zones but have also made a tremendous impact in the communities they live in. Their ability to overcome severe hurdles has amazed us all these years and has kept us moving forward.

I have always believed that in order to reap the benefits of India's unique demographics, we must encourage women, especially rural women to join the workforce. And it is imperative that the intersectionality of educating rural children and empowering rural women has to come together for rural communities to move forward. By engaging rural women to address the massive learning deficit within the mass schooling system, OBLF is striving to create an equitable platform and bridge the rural-urban divide. I am happy to report that we have impacted over 7000 lives to date.

The 10 beautiful years of OBLF would be incomplete without acknowledging the contributions of our Trustees, Nikesh Jain, Arvind Malhan, Aashu Calapa, Sangeeta Mahendran, Srinivas Katta, Rajan Narayanan, and Manosh Sengupta who have been an instrumental part of this journey. A big thank you to Aarti Mahadevan, the founder of Governance Counts for her help in forming our Board. And I hold each donation to this cause, very dear.

Each one of us put in a lot of work into translating our vision into a module for implementation. Now that the module was in place, we needed a leader equally passionate about the cause and capable of taking the foundation to the next level. I am deeply grateful to Anish Ramachandran who possesses several years of leadership experience in the corporate world for having taken on the mantle. I look forward to working with Anish and Team OBLF in the coming years as we embark on this journey to touch many more underserved lives.

With gratitude,
Anamika Majumder, Founder and Managing Trustee



INTRODUCING OUR NEW CEO (HON)

Anish Ramachandran joins us as our (Hon) CEO after more than twenty-five years in corporate leadership roles. He brings with him many years of leadership experience in different fields, a passion to better our under-privileged communities, and a thirst to inculcate in our children a moral compass we find so lacking today. Though Anish has joined us as (Hon.) CEO starting April, he has been closely engaged with OBLF and has been contributing full time to our cause for the last one year. He has used his extensive network by working on various fronts at the same time such as funding, pedagogy, marketing, fixing metrics for impact assessment, and so much more.

NOTE FROM THE CEO

- It is a huge privilege to be asked to provide leadership to a movement that has contributed so significantly to creating more educated and empowered rural communities. Over the last year, as I transitioned out of my corporate career of twenty-five years, I have had the good fortune of being associated very closely with the Foundation and its work. It has been a fascinating process of apprenticeship, learning and relearning of many things - not the least of which was to understand the mechanics of the development sector. So now, a year down the line, as I transition into helping lead this movement, I do so with a huge sense of humility and pride in equal measure. Humility because, I am in awe of the work done by the team at OBLF so far under Ruby's leadership; and pride because, it is indeed an honour to work alongside this team and be able to build on the very strong foundations that have been laid so far.

Warmly,
Anish Ramachandran

THE OBLF METHODOLOGY

FOUNDING PHILOSOPHY

The Foundation was set up on the belief that quality education is the absolute right of every person. Lack of access, infrastructure, resource constraints, or policy should never be a cause for denying anyone their fundamental right to pursue and fulfill their dreams. And in order to reap the benefits of India's unique demographics, we must encourage and empower women, especially rural women to join the workforce.

MISSION

One Billion Literates Foundation seeks to provide quality education to children from socio-economically weaker sections of the society in rural Bangalore. We leverage the power of the community based on our belief that the intersectionality of educating rural children and empowering rural women has to come together for rural communities to move forward. And by engaging rural women to address the massive learning deficit within the mass schooling system, We are striving to create an equitable platform and bridge the rural-urban divide.

We develop and create capacity in rural women to deliver impactful learning, create critical awareness about their role in the society and in the environment around them - thus enabling social and financial empowerment for this segment.

VISION

We enable rural communities - young children and women - to take informed decisions and lead meaningful productive lives by setting a strong foundation through education and capacity building.

OUR FOCUS

One Billion Literates Foundation has two equally important areas of reach and impact. The first has been towards curating high quality and research driven curriculum on English and basic Computer literacy. The second area of emphasis has been on socially empowering, capacitating, and creating employment for semi-educated women from these communities. This dualistic approach has created a sustainable model of gaining and imparting education through collective community action.



Sign MOU with the State Education Department

Build capacity in semi-educated rural women



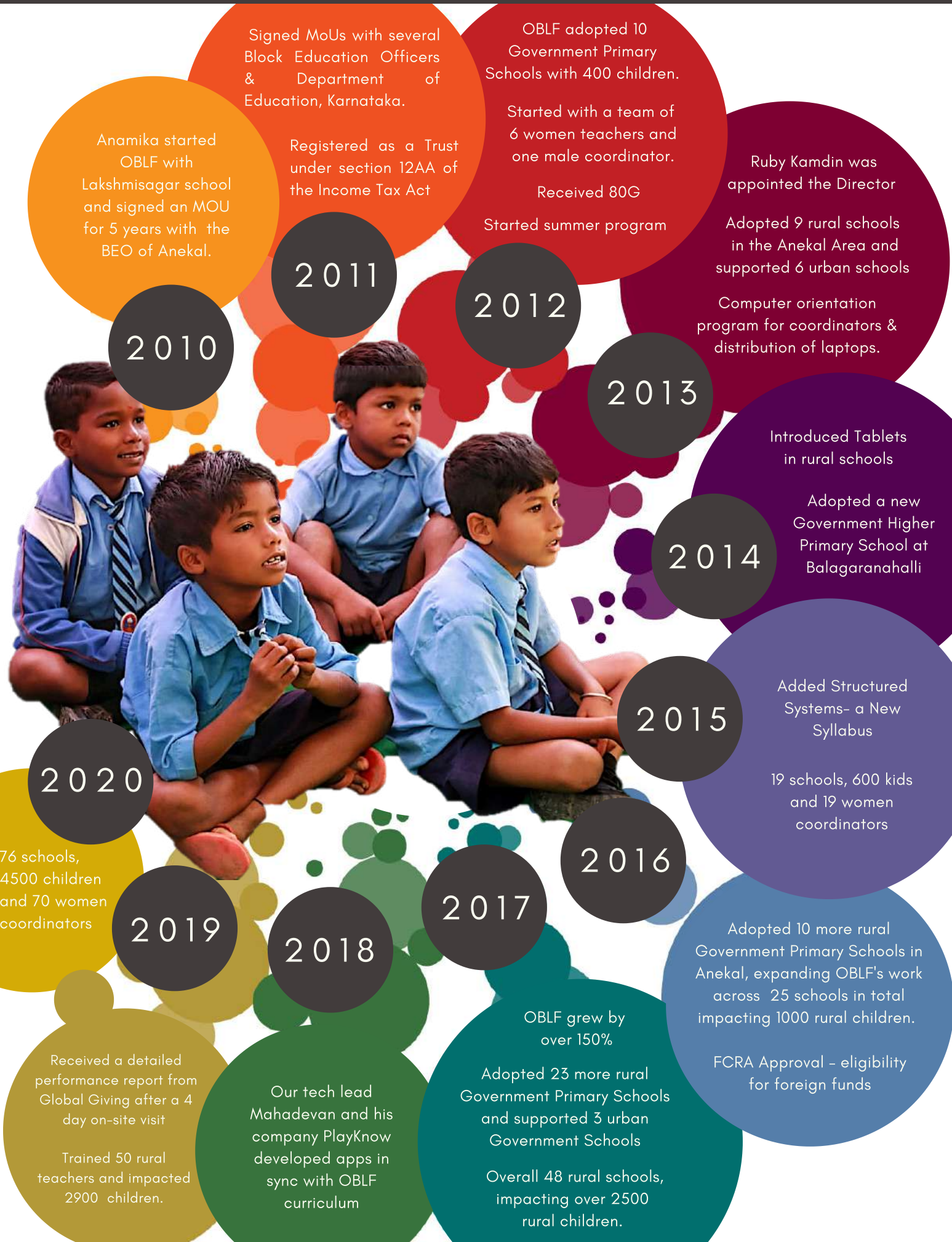
Adopt schools. Currently based in Anekal Taluk

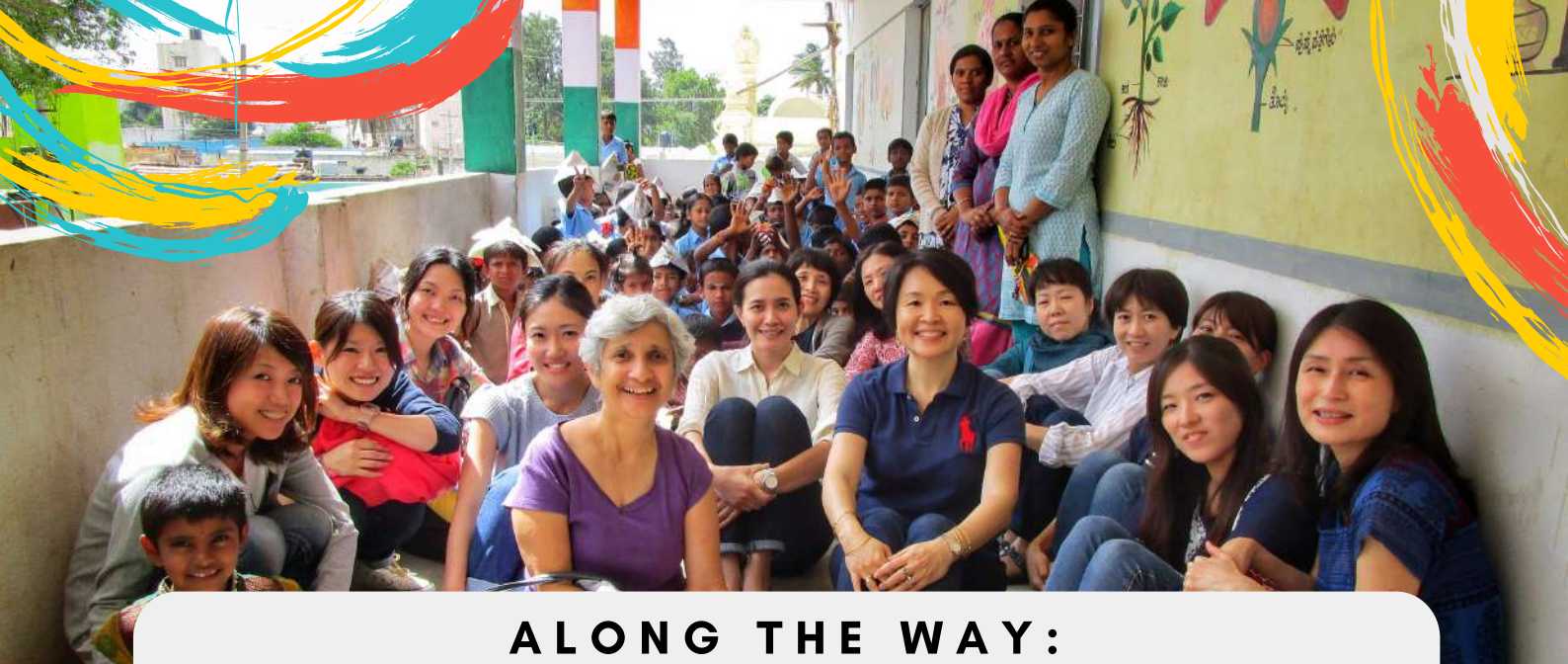


Teach primary school children in the adopted schools



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF OBLF





ALONG THE WAY: OUR VOLUNTEERS AND WELL-WISHERS

"We find delight and beauty in the happiness of children that makes the heart too big for the body."

- Ralf Waldo Emerson

On our 10-year journey, we encountered some wonderful people along the way, whose voluntary support and kindness in myriad ways, helped push our growth further. Nikesh Jain's support gave the courage to Anamika to go forward with her dreams. Mahadevan Padmanabhan continues to be the technical backbone of our Program to this day. While Ruby Kamdin, our Director, was kept busy giving structure and shape to our flagship rural program, Jayashree Muralidharan ploughed a lonely - but brave - furrow in the city schools that we worked with for many years. For years, Archana Negi, Sai Krishna Parlapalli, Tarun Ahuja Malik and our very own Nikesh and Mahadevan made weekly visits to our rural schools to give the much-needed guidance to our rural coordinators and interacted with the children of their designated schools. More recently, this past year Nisha Chacko and Preethi Madappa have also helped in starting this journey of guiding our rural coordinators via weekly visits. Kavitha Prasad with her story-telling background trained our coordinators every week for many years, and Simi Paknikar assisted our program in many different ways. While Vinitha Belliappa lent a creative hand to OBLF, Usha Kumar's interaction with our coordinators at various times, brought in another dimension to their lives.

Currently, our CEO Anish Ramachandran, along with Ruby Kamdin, Simi Paknikar and Anahita Pagdiwalla conducts the weekly training classes for our Coordinators. We acknowledge with immense gratitude the contribution of all these volunteers, along with that of many others like Prarthana Kaul, Meena Dave and Sunil, who gave their time and support to OBLF.



OUR PROGRAMS

HEADSTART

Headstart, our flagship program is a yearly hands on intervention that provides a comprehensive learning package in English literacy for primary school children studying in Government Schools across Bangalore. The curriculum employs the L-S-R-W model and has been designed in line with the CEFR Cambridge model. The sessions and teaching material seek to improve communicative skills and linguistic capabilities. The program has four proficiency levels - junior, junior high, middle and senior. Recognizing the variation in retention and learning levels of children, OBLF conducts an impact assessment for each child and groups them into one of these four levels accordingly.



CTRLALTLearn

This program introduces primary school children to basics of computer literacy. The sessions allow children to play with and learn from easy use software and applications. The applications are also centred on the OBLF curriculum and allow students to use speech recognition and text typing features to enable innovative learning experiences. This technology based intervention has been integrated into classrooms along with the Headstart program sessions conducted by the women coordinators.



KICKSTART

The kickstart program goes hand in hand with 'Headstart' the English literacy program and was curated to upskill and socially empower semi-educated women from rural Bangalore. This intervention capacitates women and equips them with pedagogical, professional and social skills, and an understanding of critical issues such as maternal health, safety, hygiene, sexual and reproductive health, gender issues, etc., important to them so that they can play an important role in the communities around them. OBLF employs these women to conduct OBLF's English and technological literacy programs in the schools we engage with. The women are mobilized from the community and undergo a 6 month period of rigorous training to transform them into skilled teachers.



EDVENTURE CAMP

This is a 5-week summer program carried out in the months of April and May to sustain and encourage creative and critical engagement with the primary school children OBLF works with, around the year. The purpose of the program is to allow children to revise their learnings from the English program while also learning new skills and hobbies. For the summer program sessions, OBLF invites and collaborates with a plethora of educators, artists, CSR corporates, etc., who curate and conduct special sessions on art, dance, drama, poetry, etc.



DAAN UTSAV: THE JOY OF GIVING

An annual and very important event for us is the 'Joy of Giving' week, or 'Daan Utsav' as it is known now. Daan Utsav is a festival of philanthropy that aims at engaging people through 'acts of giving' - money, time, resources and skills - spanning across the Corporate, NGO and Government sectors, schools, colleges and the general public. OBLF is a part of this endeavour and raises funds, resources and gifts for the primary school beneficiaries.





YEAR IN REVIEW: HIGHLIGHTS AND MILESTONES

DAAN UTSAV

Along with all of India, OBLF too celebrated the annual Daan Utsav, by bringing joy to the underprivileged rural children we serve. Individuals, associations, staff of various Corporates, all joined hands and donated generously for the distribution of toys / sweets to these children studying in rural government schools.

GOOGLE APP

We at OBLF always strive to be abreast of the latest in pedagogy. To this end, we partnered with Google, to roll out their AI using BOLO App in a few of our rural Government Primary Schools. We faced many challenges, especially around parent participation, which is essential for the success of the initiative. This of course will not deter us from trying to bring the latest to our rural kids.

TCS 10K

As in the past, this year too OBLF participated in the TCS World 10K. Over 60 runners represented OBLF at this event, which also gives us an opportunity to raise funds by being a Philanthropy partner to India Cares.

EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN

As we expand our program, we empower more and more women in rural areas. This year we trained and empowered 70 of them, as against 50 last year. These ladies not only receive an in-house, weekly training in English and Computers, but also get a chance to experience a world beyond their domain. OBLF partners with Corporates to enable these women to experience the "Corporate Culture". This year, our ladies were taken to Happiest Minds for a workshop on Motivation through Mindfulness, conducted by Sharon Andrew. Our ladies found the experience amazing! To enable our ladies to earn something extra in their spare time, and to make them more aware and responsible for the world around them, OBLF also enabled classes to teach them not just different types of embroidery, and how to make good use of waste material. A throw-ball competition saw our ladies get all 'sporty' and also fostered team spirit in them, making them understand the concept and importance of collaboration.

ENLARGING OUR FOOTPRINT

As we grow from strength to strength, we impact more and more lives. During the current year, we expanded our program by 50%, by running our program in 76 rural Government Primary Schools, impacting about 4,500 rural kids, as against 2,900 in the previous year.

COVID-19 DONATION DRIVE

Given the economic hardships of the rural poor during the lockdown due to the Covid-19 situation, the OBLF team decided to quickly pivot and focus exhaustively on relief and rehabilitation of migrant and non-migrant population and communities in the rural interior of Anekal Sub-division of Bangalore.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: COVID-19 RESPONSE DONATION & DISTRIBUTION DRIVE

OBLF has been operating in Anekal Taluk for the last ten years and has deep connections with the community via its rural women's training program, English language education program in schools, the summer program for these rural children and other community activities. So, our approach with driving COVID-19 relief activities has been to leverage our para-teachers to identify specific and targeted populations which have a dire need for help; that some of our para-teachers are also ASHA workers helps the cause, because they have a formal mandate by the Government to help in COVID-19 containment measures.



OUR APPROACH

OBLF has worked with village elders in villages where we have adopted schools as well as local police stations, seeing their understanding of the geography and the terrain to go deep interior into the villages to identify populations that are at risk, and those who are unable to get the benefit of other relief agencies (whether govt or CSO/NGO). Additionally OBLF is part of the NGO network set up by the Principal Secretary of Karnataka Panchayati Raj, Ms. Uma Mahadevan and get leads from other NGOs specific to populations in Anekal who need help. This helps in avoiding duplication of efforts. .



OUR SUPPLY CHAIN

We have worked with a wholesale vendor to give us preferential rates for bulk orders and have arranged for a transporter, who then picks up these kits which are then transported to a secure storage space.



OUR DISTRIBUTION MECHANISM

We have formed a team of four - who form the primary distribution team; between us we have two four-wheelers and two bikes. In a day, we typically do two loading/distribution drives. Once we get to a village where we have our para-teachers, they accompany us to point out specific locations or houses where we need to deliver kit(s). In some of the locations with narrow lanes, we transfer small loads to the bike and do the last mile delivery to the door-step; for the aged or the physically handicapped.



Duration:

Started on 4th April, 2020
- 10 weeks



Objective:

To provide relief for vulnerable populations.

How:

Distributing dry rations, hygiene kits, health and hygiene awareness sessions



Where:

Bangalore, urban and rural



Who:

Construction workers, daily wage contract labourers, slum dwellers, waste pickers



No of lives impacted:

35,000+



Amount of dry ration distributed:

60 T+

No of masks distributed:

20,000+



No of Donors and Supporters:

500+



Funds received:

40L+



A SNAPSHOT OF OBLF'S COVID-19 RELIEF WORK

OUR TEAM: NEW ADDITIONS & UPDATES

As with any other Organization, our team has been at the heart of our ability to do what we do, day in and day out. The complexities of delivering our unique mix of programs for rural communities - both children and women - are many; and it takes an equally unique, immensely dedicated, and incredibly committed set of individuals to carry off this work in the way that OBLF does.



Ruby Kamdin, a Chartered Accountant by training and profession, is the kind of leader every non-profit dreams of. It is her incredible passion, relentless drive, single-minded dedication to the cause, the ability to find a solution to the most intractable bureaucratic hurdles and her unending empathy for the under-privileged communities that has propelled OBLF for much of this decade. She is a force of nature and much of where OBLF is today can be traced back to her.

Mahesh Shetty is our Program Manager, who recently completed six years with OBLF and is without doubt the central pillar on whom this organization rests. His eye for detail, his organizational ability, and his ownership and commitment to OBLF's cause make him an invaluable part of this team.

Faiza Khan is a relatively new addition to the OBLF. She is a post-graduate in Gender Studies from The Tata Institute of Social Sciences. At OBLF, Faiza drives our Syllabus and Curriculum working closely with our Education Advisory Board, the Foundation's social media strategy, its volunteer efforts amongst many other things.

And even more recently, we have been fortunate to have **Kshama Mahesh** join us to volunteer her time, expertise and experience and help in our cause.

Mahadevan Padmanabhan has been one of our earlier volunteers and well-wishers and continues to be the back bone of our IT infrastructure, providing invaluable guidance and advice to us - and stepping in whenever needed to teach our Coordinators.

Prof Rajeevan and Mrs Geetha Rajeevan joined as our Education Advisors this past year, and their many decades of experience and expertise in teaching English and authoring books has been invaluable to OBLF. They are currently guiding our efforts to refine and adapt our syllabus and curriculum to be in line with established international standards of teaching and pedagogy. We are very grateful to them for their constant guidance.

Rathna, our Program Assistant was one of our early coordinators. After a few years, due to financial constraints, she had to leave OBLF to take up an office job, which her stint with OBLF had equipped her for. Her heart though was always with OBLF, and 3 years later, she re-joined OBLF, this time as Program Assistant.

Pramod Shankar - a branding and advertisement guru, an author, a playwright, a poet, a storyteller - has been guiding and helping our branding, social media and other sundry communication efforts. We love having him around, sharing his perspectives, and more so love the fact that he gives of himself so willingly and generously.

OPERATIONS

Impacted about 4,500 rural kids, as against 2,900 in the previous year.

21 new coordinators appointed.

Opened a second training center in Anekal.

Adopted 28 new schools in the last academic year.



CONTENT

Reviewed existing curriculum for revision. Began working on revising the content employing the L-S-R-W model so that it is in line with the CEFR Cambridge model.

Revision of teacher coordinator training and impact assessment in line with new curriculum.



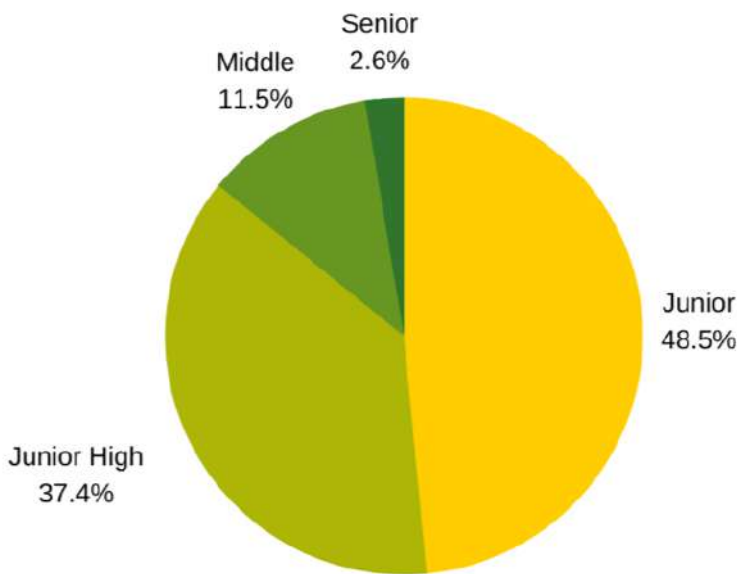
BRANDING & SOCIAL MEDIA

Reworking website and social media platforms – active across all platforms.

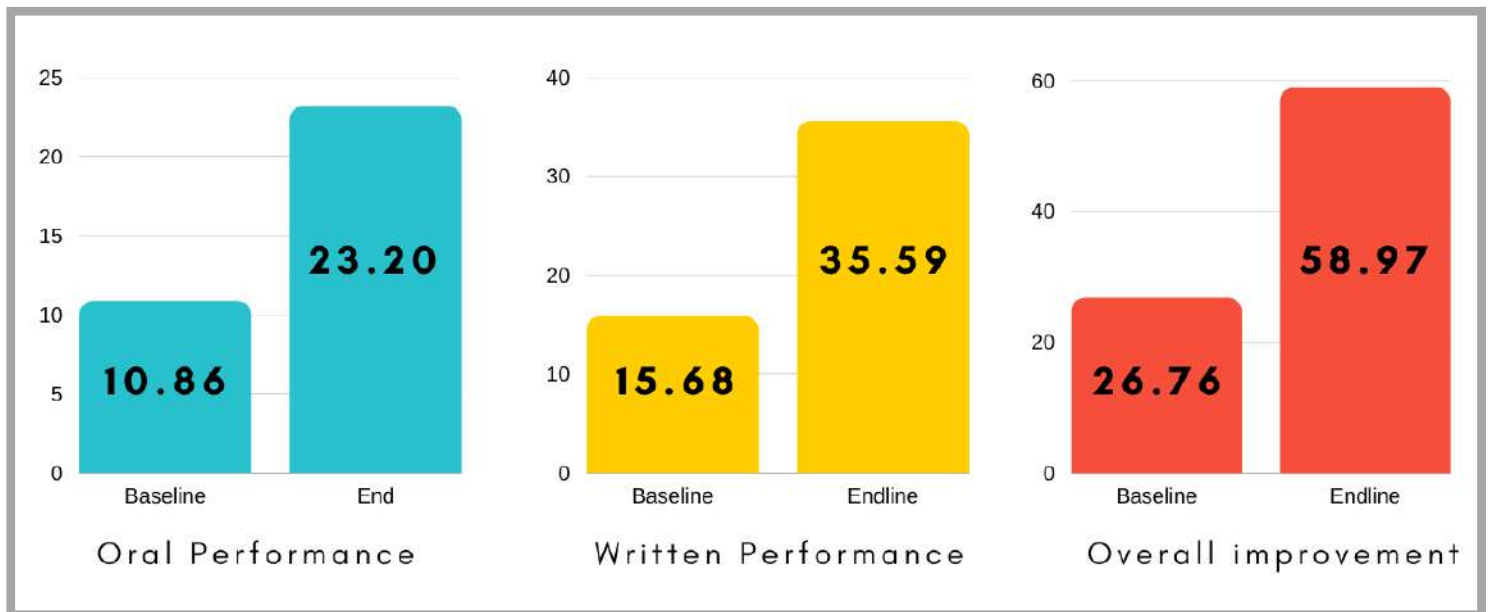
OUTREACH AND IMPACT (2019-2020)

There was a significant improvement in the children across all levels post the OBLF intervention. With an improvement percentage of **186.19%**, the average improvement in the students is almost three-fold of their initial performance.

The impact assessment results also confirmed a correlation between higher attendance and improved performance. However, while attendance was a key determinant, other factors such as teacher quality, infrastructure and environment, pedagogy and curriculum, class dynamics, health and wellbeing of the student, etc. also yielded improved results.



STUDENT POPULATION ACROSS LEVELS



In the baseline test taken at the beginning of the year, the average performance score of the students was **26.76** on 80, with 10.86 (on 40) in the oral assessment and 15.68 (on 40) in the written assessment.

However, the end year assessment results have shown a significant increase in the performance with an average overall score of **58.97** out of 80. The average score in the oral assessment increased to 23.20 (on 40) and the written score increased to 35.59 (on 40)

FINANCIALS



WE BANK WITH:

- Canara Bank, Cunningham Road Branch, Bangalore
- Account name: One Billion Literates Foundation
- Account no: 0431101203551
- FCRA Account no: 0431101206628
- IFSC Code: CNRB0000431

- Corporation Bank, Chandapura Branch, Hosur Road, Bangalore
- Account number: 520101256953467
- IFSC Code: CORP0001164

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31 2020

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (INR)	ASSETS	AMOUNT (INR)
General Fund+ Excess of Income Over Expenditure	112,74,486.04	Fixed Assets	6,57,939.09
		Corpus Investment	22,37,000.00
Corpus Fund	22,37,000.00	Other receivables	3,56,013.64
		Products	59,677.80
		Cash/Bank	102,00,855.51
TOTAL	135,11,486.04	TOTAL	135,11,486.04

FOUNDATION OFFICE:

- 72, Cunningham Apartments, 5, Edward Road, Bangalore 560052
- Tel: 9632600650

LEGAL:

- Registered Charitable Trust u/s 12AA
- FCRA Approved
- IT 80-G approved.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS:

- Philips Cherian & Associates,
- 2497, 17th Main, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore 560008.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31 2020

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (INR)	INCOME	AMOUNT (INR)
Opening value and Purchase of Products	78,284.75	Donations	1,15,40,620.36
Project Expenses	87,73,298.50	Interest	5,89,224.77
Management Expenses	61,331.50	Others	9,725.00
Events	90,000.00	Closing value of Products	59,677.80
Depreciation	2,98,469.20		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	28,97,863.98		
TOTAL	1,21,99,247.93	TOTAL	1,21,99,247.93

VOICES FROM THE GROUND

Rekha R, the daughter of a farm labourer and a student of Adigondanahalli government primary school is the only student from a Government School in Anekal Taluk to be selected in the Navodaya school, and credits her achievement to coaching classes she was fortunate to attend and the English language skills she was able to develop in OBLF classes.

- Rekha R, Adigondanahalli



Pavithra from Hale Chandapura Government Primary School where OBLF has been running its program for the last 9 years, was so enthused with English, that she left the Kannada medium school after her 6th grade, to join an English medium school. She is now in the 9th grade, and continuously scores over 85% overall, as well as in English. Pavithra enjoys the classes and loves participating in activities.

- Pavithra S, a student of Hale Chandapura



LETTERS TO OBLF

Dear OBLF,

I am delighted to share my experiences at OBLF. My time spent there has given me my independence and confidence. To me, this version of self is the most precious gift I can give back to my parents for all their hardwork and struggles to support and educate me. Due to social expectations and financial strains, completing my education was hard and I managed to study up to 12th standard in a Government School and college. However, it was my dad who dreamt that I would accomplish bigger things and reach higher places. And then I found OBLF and now my dreams and his have come true as continue to teach hundreds of children, encouraging them to become upstanding citizens of tomorrow. I am incredibly grateful to OBLF for the opportunity. Thank you Ruby Maam, for your warmth, kindness and guidance. Initially I was afraid of you and worried about keeping up with the lessons, but now I look forward to the weekly training sessions. I found my calling as a teacher. I found friends and a support system I can turn to in the other women coordinators. And I found a purpose to strive towards. And in the process, I have found myself. A hundred thanks to OBLF,

Yours faithfully
Sharmila, Teacher Coordinator

Dear OBLF,

I am Puttamma and hail from a small village called Kadajakkanahalli. My journey began with OBLF six years ago. Back then, I couldn't form a proper sentence in English and struggled with communication. However, I was able to build my English communicative skills at the training and even learnt what it meant to be a good teacher. I also learnt how to source information and work on a laptop. Before joining OBLF, I did not have a mobile, vehicle or even a bank account. But now, I have set up a bank account and bought my self a mobile phone. I even learnt how to drive and purchased a new scooter. I now save time, resources and energy. I feel like a new person- more confident and happy. OBLF vastly improved my confidence level and has become a safe space for me to explore and create. I have made a lot of friends and enjoy meeting them at our weekly trainings. I now teach my children and the neighbours' children and make informed decisions in the family. I would like to thank OBLF for the knowledge, opportunities and memories. Thank you,

Puttamma, Teacher Coordinator

I Joined OBLF Foundation before 2 years
I Thank to OBLF.

It gives me not only a job also full fill my childhood aim that is become a teacher.

It also help me to learning English & Computer, Improve my teaching skills. maintaining patience, time management. how to control children & how to attracted. Before I don't know all these. Before joining OBLF I know the english word but I can't speak because I am very shy I don't have confident but now I am talking english better than before joining OBLF.

I am very happy to teach Govt school children. Because I didn't get this benefit to learn when was I studying so they are not suffering any risk in future. like me so all this happens only for OBLF. Thank you so much

language is importance than qualification

Chaitra R

If I have any mistake forgive me. Sir

I am working in the OBLF nearly 10 years. when I joined the OBLF I learned how to speak in English and also I learned the grammar from Ruby ma'am and the other volunteers. still I am learning the grammar. what are the amount the OBLF is giving it helps me a lot. I learnt how to ride a scooter and I bought the scooter from the OBLF amount. I am very happy to doing this job.

Manju V

Hello Sir good evening, I have been working in OBLF since 2017. My concept is improve my English knowledge and inspire conversation with those around me. I learnt in OBLF English grammar, plenty of patience and confidence from Ruby madam. I need more improve myself. OBLF helps not only for me all rural women. I heartly thank you and Ruby madam for giving this opportunity for me.

Gaughthai N.

Veena S

I have been working in OBLF since 8 years as a Senior co-ordinator.

OBLF gives me a very good opportunity to learn "English". Before joined OBLF I was a house wife. but, now I am a "TEACHER"

I proud to say this. This is a very good platform to show my talents. I had a great interaction with the children & especially in the Summer Camps. I love to teach & spend time with them. In OBLF I got a great opportunity to anchor a programme which decrease the stage fear in me.

My husband also proud to feel about my work. now he is also encouraging me to do all works. So now I became a more confident to do any work.

In my Community also giving me a lot of respect & they are recognizing me. OBLF is very useful in getting the knowledge of English which improves my communication skills & also it helps me to teach English to my child. This is a respectful job as it does the social work to the public.

OBLF is a very great foundation. I hope many more children & co-ordinators get help by this foundation. Children will have a bright future from this OBLF.

Thanks to OBLF.

& A Very Special thanks to

"RUBY" madam & Anurika madam

Hi Sir, I am Pushpa M., staying in Athibele village. I have joined OBLF before three years. I am new to this teaching profession but Ruby mam's training made me as a satisfied teacher. She taught us lots of english grammar and improved our vocabulary skill. She told us that continuous reading, listening and trying to talk in english helps us to improve our english knowledge. I teach all children whole heartedly and teach them which I have learned from OBLF. Personally I am happy with by this job and thankful to OBLF who had given this wonderful opportunity.

I have been working in OBLF for more than 5 years. It was great working with OBLF. I have learnt many things by my trainers. They taught me how to build my self confidence and my individuality and equality in the society. After started working in OBLF as a co-ordinator now I can survive by my own without depending on others.

I am proud to teach students and improve their behaviour and even personal experience may also matters to turn a difficult student into a dedicated one. I can describe myself as friendly enthusiastic and respectful. As a teacher we can easily get respect from the students and the society.

Thanks to One Billion Literate Foundation for making my life meaningful

AS WE LOOK AHEAD

It is no secret that India's continued success and growth depends hugely on the development of our rural demography and both, civil society and the State must spare no effort to ensure this. This is where the role of an organization like One Billion Literates Foundation becomes critical. Given the consistent and demonstrable impact we have made over the last decade in the space of educating and empowering these rural communities, we believe this is also the right time to strongly consider extending our impact further into these same communities.

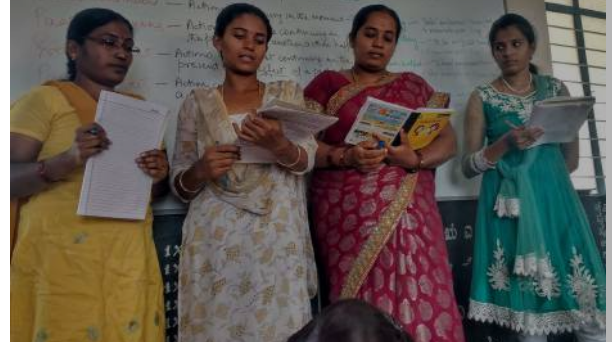
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

It is well-known and well-proven fact that high quality early education is the cornerstone upon which continued development of children rests; and absence of this may well result in children being on the backfoot right through their education. In rural areas this issue is further exacerbated because of the lack of access to good quality early education systems. Our belief is that this investment in early childhood education will enable the creation of more equal societies and communities as the next generation grows up to become model citizens of this country. One Billion Literates Foundation plans to address this space by piloting programs in collaboration with other civil society institutions which have core expertise in early childhood education. We are currently in the early stages of defining our plans and efforts to ensure this.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

OBLF's model has always been a unique one for having leveraged the power of the community - especially its women - to sustainably drive the education of children in rural communities. In the coming years, we plan to deepen this investment in the women of the communities that we are part of. This deepening investment speaks directly to our vision of empowering rural communities - and what better way to give power to our vision by investing even more deeply in creating capacity in the women we work with. We plan to do so by engaging in a multi-phased approach to their development which includes amongst other things a focus on developing skills to be better teachers and role models in the classroom, building awareness and skills to understand critical social, health and hygiene related issues in the community, and finally to build important professional skills that will be handy in any role in the professional sector.

I am excited about these plans and look ahead with a lot of confidence and hope that OBLF will be able to partner closely with all of its well-wishers in driving continued impact in the communities that it works with.





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