

One Billion Literates 2018-19

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts – Winston Churchill



April 2019

[ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19]

One Billion Literates Foundation, 72 Cunningham Apartments, 5 Edward Road, Bangalore - 52

2018-19

During the year, OBLF continued to run its program of teaching basic English language & Computer skills in **48 rural government primary schools** in the Anekal Taluk of Bangalore District, **impacting about 2900 rural children.**

We **provide financial and intellectual independence to over 50 rural women**, by training and employing them as our Coordinators to impart the above skills.

In October, 2018, we received a **detailed Evaluation Report** on OBLF from **Global Giving**, after an **in-depth evaluation over 4 full days**, on the working of our organization. Their representative, Adam Cross, did on-site visits and held discussions with all the stake holders, including the beneficiaries, the staff, the management and the Trustees. Detailed discussions with him also provided us with insights into our own strengths, and the areas where we need to improve. Here are some comments from the Global Giving Report –

“OBLF has a highly effective model for improving educational outcomes amongst students at government schools. The organisation’s grassroots approach, training rural women to work in their local communities, combined with the custom-made syllabus and innovative teaching methods, enables it to create lasting impact.”

“OBLF’s strengths lie in its innovative teaching programme, strong board of trustees and close networks of supporters, amongst other things. A number of feedback loops are also embedded across the organisation enabling staff to continuously improve their work, and an open culture facilitates an adaptive approach to meeting local need. The organisation has strong internal processes, with good financial management, investment in training and robust governance practices in place.”

“The key to its growth lies largely in overcoming the challenge of recruiting additional coordinators.”

At the year-end, OBLF received 4 badges from Global Giving, including “Top-ranked organisation”.

Remembering Rajan Narayanan



Rajan Narayanan with OBLF kids



Rajan with fellow Trustees

Rajan was an integral part of OBLF for over 5 years, after joining it in its infancy. As our Trustee, he used his vast experience in the social sector and great influence in the Corporate sector, to help our nascent organisation find its feet, and gave us confidence and encouragement to pursue dreams which at times seemed improbable. We remember his passion for the cause of all down-trodden, his kindness towards all under-privileged and his commitment to humanity. His passing left a void no other can fill.

Rajan Narayanan passed away on 11th August, 2018

We miss you Rajan!



2019-20

We plan to expand our program yet again and in **2019-20**, aim to run our program in **60 rural government primary schools**, impacting at least **4000 rural children and 70 rural ladies**.



OBLF Impact

- As in the past, we conducted a baseline assessment at the beginning of the academic year, to gauge the existing English language skills of the children. At the end of the year, assessments were conducted again, and a comparison of both these assessments indicates that **98% of our rural school children showed an improvement in their English knowledge levels.**
- The Assessment results show that **50% children scored over 60% marks at the year-end**, as against **only 4% at the beginning of the year.**
- While **50% of the OBLF children** scored > 60%, **only 28% of Non-OBLF** children scored >60%.

We impact each individual life that we touch

 <p><i>Aditya K B</i></p>	<p>Aditya, a student of GHPS Hale Chandapura, was a part of the OBLF English language program. Though he studied in the Kannada Medium up to Std VII, thanks to the English language skills he acquired from OBLF, he successfully transited to the English medium in Std VIII, and scored 95% overall and 84% in English.</p>
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 <p><i>Munirathna C</i></p>	<p>We also make a positive impact on the rural ladies whom we train and employ to impart the English language & computer skills to the children. Thanks to the self – confidence and the English that she learnt, Rathna was able to get an office job which she needed due to financial constraints. However, OBLF is such a close-knit family, that 4 years later, having gained a lot of office experience, she is back with us as Program Assistant.</p>
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Current Year's Activities

1. Scholarships



Since the last 2 years OBLF has been awarding scholarships to a few children who have excelled in English and were competent enough to join English medium institutions.

2. Training Room



With expansion plans for the next academic year getting ready, we needed more space to train our new rural Coordinators. We built a portable, temporary room on the terrace of our Lead Coordinator Swapna's house at Lakshmisagara village, just behind the government school where we have our regular weekly training classes. We are grateful to Swapna for the use of her terrace space.

3. Baseline Assessments – July 2018



As in the past, we conducted a baseline assessment at the beginning of the academic year, to gauge the existing English language skills of each child, and started teaching them at the level at which they were.

4. Coordinators' Training



Ms. Usha Kumar, ex-Dean HRD, Mt. Carmel college, once again took conducted a few training sessions with our Coordinators. We are truly grateful to her for her continued support.



In October 2018, Khushboo Gupta conducted a workshop for 2 batches of Coordinators on Self-Development, which was highly appreciated and enjoyed by our rural ladies. Our sincere thanks to Khushboo

5. Prize Distribution Function – August 2018



On 4th August, 2018, OBLF had its annual function to distribute cash and book prizes to the merit children of all our schools, at Lakshmisagara school.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranked Seniors got Rs.2,500/-, Rs.1,500/- and Rs.500/- whereas to the Middle level & Juniors, we gave Rs.1,000/- to the 1st ranked children. All the children also received interesting English story books.



As in the past, our children as well as our rural Coordinators put up a grand show of English songs, rhymes and skits.

We are grateful to the Head Mistress and SDMC members of Lakshmisagara school for



permitting OBLF to use their premises for this function as well as our weekly training and other sessions.

6. Site Evaluation Global Giving –September 2018



In early September, Adam Cross, a representative of Global Giving, did an in-depth site visit evaluation of OBLF over 4 whole days. He interacted with all the stake holders, and at the end of it gave a detailed report and suggestions for the way forward.

7. Coordination Committee – October 2018



In keeping with the suggestions made by Global Giving, we formed a Coordination Committee of Trustees, Rural Coordinators & Management. The results of the brain-storming session were astounding, and resulted in OBLF getting many new rural ladies as Coordinators for the next year.

8. Daan Utsav – October 2018



During the Daan Utsav from 2nd to 8th October, 2018, the **employees of the Red Bus Line Co., NIIT & TaeguTec** once again very enthusiastically fulfilled the wishes of a large number of our kids that were put up on the Wish Tree.

Employees of Intuit India also fulfilled the wishes of about 250 of our kids in 5 different village schools, by buying them exotic gifts.

Also fulfilling many of OBLF's as well as kids' wishes were the generous **employees of Happiest Minds**. We thank the employees of all these companies for their generosity, and their Managements for organizing these events.



9. BEO – HM Meet – November 2018



In November 2018, the BEO of Anekal Taluk had a meeting with all of his 200+ HMs of the government primary schools. He made OBLF a special invitee at this meet and introduced us to all



the HMs, urging them to cooperate with OBLF in running its program, since in his opinion, it hugely benefited the kids. He also very kindly permitted our Director to address the gathering, explaining our program.

10. Children's Day – November 2018



On 14th November 2018, we celebrated Children's Day by screening some children's films at 2 of our schools. We transported children from some of our nearby schools, so a large number of children could enjoy the films. The fun the kids had was very apparent on their faces.

11. Training of new Coordinators – December 2018



Consequent to the Coordination Committee meeting, we got many new ideas from our Coordinators, to access new rural ladies to join our program. We met many self-help groups, Stree Shakti groups etc and got as many as 30 new ladies starting to train with us for the



next academic year. We were fortunate enough to get 2 excellent volunteers – Simi & Anahita – to train them, and also got a training room at the Attibele school. We are grateful to all those who supported us.

12.Reappointment of the Trustees – January 2019

All our Board members, whose term expired in January 2019, were reappointed. Our Board of Trustees has six members, consisting of

S.No	Name	Gender	Age	Position in Board	Occupation	Total amount paid by OBLF
1	Anamika Majumder	F	45	Managing Trustee	Software Engineer	--
2	Aashu Calapa	M	51	Trustee	Partner, Social Ventures India	--
3	Arvind Malhan	M	46	Trustee	Partner, New Silk Route	--
4	Manosh Sengupta	M	60	Trustee	Founder <i>brand-@itude</i>	--
5	Sangeeta Mahendran	F	52	Trustee	Founder, Antraprerna	--
6	Srinivas Katta	M	46	Trustee	Senior Partner, IndusLaw	--

13. Year-end Assessments – February 2019



In February 2019, we had the year-end Assessments – written and oral - for all our over 2900 children, in to gauge the impact of our intervention.

The results indicate that 98% of our rural children improved their knowledge of the English language.



14. Summer Program – April / May 2019



We love to keep the children engaged during the holidays. Our Annual Summer Program commenced on 11th April, 2019. Like last year, this year too we are conducting our Program at 3 centres – Chandapura, Attibele and Indalvadi Government Primary schools, to enable children from all our far flung schools to attend the same. Children from most of our 48 rural schools gather daily for 3 hours of fun-filled learning – through games, songs, rhymes, activities, story-telling etc.



This of course would not be possible



without proper transportation. **The children and OBLF are indeed grateful to the Management of Suprajit Engineering Limited, TaeguTec India P. Ltd., Shetron Ltd., and Head Start School, for assisting the children with transportation, to reach the Summer Program daily, and on time.**

Our Gratitude

We are grateful to all our donors, supporters, mentors, volunteers and well-wishers. Thanks to their continued support, we are able to provide our children the quality of education they deserve – and need – to live a life of dignity, and hope for a better future.

Anamika Majumder
Founder & Managing Trustee

Ruby Kamdin
Director



People

Director: Ruby Kamdin (Volunteer)

Program Manager (Rural): Mahesh Shetty

Technology: Mahadevan (Volunteer)

Trainers (Volunteers): Ruby Kamdin, Kavitha Prasad, Simi Paknikar, Anahita Pagdiwalla

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



Financials

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31 2019

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT(INR)	ASSETS	AMOUNT(INR)
General Fund+ Excess of Income Over Expenditure	83,76,622.06	Fixed Assets	3,61,912.29
Corpus Fund	22,37,000.00	Corpus Investment	22,37,000.00
		Other receivables	2,70,318.87
		Products	78,284.75
		Cash/Bank	76,66,106.15
TOTAL	106,13,622.06		106,13,622.06

CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31 2019

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (INR)	INCOME	AMOUNT (INR)
Opening value and Purchase of Products	89,528.35	Donations	87,85,879.50
Project Expenses	59,45,329.00	Interest	4,82,537.52
Management Expenses	46,963.81	Others	4,780.00
Events	20,200.00		
Depreciation	2,26,139.93	Closing value of Products	78,284.75
Excess of Income over Expenditure	30,23,320.68		
TOTAL	93,51,481.77	TOTAL	93,51,481.77

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

For more information: www.onebillionliterates.org www.facebook.com/onebillionliterates
<http://www.youtube.com/user/oblvideo>

We are supported by, and are grateful to –



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We also thank Samvit Technologies for their continued technical support.