



SHAKTI FOUNDATION

*an insight...*

# SHAKTI FOUNDATION

Shakti Foundation is a registered not-for-profit entity started by a group of like-minded socially conscious citizens to provide **shakti** (energy) to people and children to inspire them to overcome obstacles in their lives. Shakti focuses on alternative livelihoods, financial inclusion, waste management, remedial education and caring for children with special needs.

Shakti was born in **2010**. It was conceived a few years before that when we realized that there were almost no integrated setups providing services-occupational therapy, speech therapy, special education etc. to **children with special needs**. A group of dedicated professionals providing these services under a single roof was a boon to the children, while providing a platform to the therapists.

We also came face to face with the omnipresent, yet invisible **waste-pickers**, a neglected community. We started working at providing them with alternative means of livelihoods, besides helping their children with their **education**. We were confronted with the perennial problem of **waste management**, and its impact on the environment, which necessitated our foray into that sector.

We have initiated providing program management and research services and support to corporates in designing and implementing **CSR programs**. Having closely engaged with communities and their problems at the **grass-root** level, and with corporates and **donors** and their compliance requirements, we have an understanding of the language spoken in villages and slums as well as in board rooms. As such we are able to present feasible solutions that are both practical and impactful.

Anurag Kashyap  
(Director)

December 2021



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# THEMATIC AREAS

## Health

Children with special needs

**Shakti Kids** provides occupational therapy, speech therapy, special education etc. to children with special needs to provide them with skills necessary to become independent. A team of dedicated and qualified therapists provide a host of therapies and provide counseling services to young parents who are struggling to cope up with the special needs of their children.

Children belonging to economically weaker families are provided free therapy. A monitoring mechanism has been put in place to track the progress of the children and change/modify the treatment protocols in case required. Infrastructure is constantly being upgraded to meet the requirements and needs of the children.

Children belonging to economically weaker families are provided free therapy by Shakti Foundation.





### Remedial/Bridge Education

#### I-DREAM

The I-dream program helps 120 underprivileged girls complete high school and blossom into socially responsible, independent and mature adults. This holistic approach goes a long way towards prevention of child sexual abuse, early child marriage, access to Govt. schemes, financial inclusion, providing health and nutrition support and imparting life skills.

#### PANCHI

The Panchi education program provides educational support to more than 200 enrolled children in Ghazipur. The program works with out-of-school children and brings them to the educational level of their peers before mainstreaming them into government schools. It also improves the academic performance of children already in-school through supplementary tutoring.



Shakti Foundation is running bridge education programs to help underprivileged children, from urban slum communities in Delhi gain access to quality education support, life skills and extracurricular activities.

## NUTRITION

To ensure that children under our care do not sleep hungry, we provide meals to children under our various programs. We provide daily lunch in our Panchi Centre and Idream centres where we provide remedial education to 300 students in partnership with **Zomato India's Feeding India Initiative**.



## SPORTS

To enable children to experience the joys of sports, Shakti Foundation trains slum-children in self-defense and other sports. This program was established to provide opportunities to slum children to learn and explore sports. We provide training to young girls in self defence and also provide training in sports like Kho-Kho, Soccer, Volleyball, and Kabaddi.



## E-SHIKSHA

Along with **Digital Empowerment Foundation**, Shakti Foundation started a digital literacy drive in the urban slums to digitally empower women and girls from the slums. We provide an environment to girls and women where they can learn to use information and communication technologies gain the skillset to establish themselves in the digital marketplace. We provide these young women with computers, tablets, projectors and UPS systems so that they can gain on-hand experience on these technologies. As a result of our intervention women in our centres have functional knowledge of MS Office, and have some form of financial literacy.



## Livelihoods

Through our programs like Gulmeher, we aim to train erstwhile waste-pickers in handicrafts and provide them with alternative livelihood development. Gulmeher (literally, "blessings of the flowers", [www.gulmeher.com](http://www.gulmeher.com)), is a collective of erstwhile waste-pickers and other disadvantaged women in Ghazipur, which is one of Delhi's oldest landfills.

The Gulmeher initiative was born out of a desire to improve the livelihoods and quality of life of the 350 waste-picker households in the slum, focused on initiating alternative income generation. The collective has incorporated Gulmeher Green Producers Company (GGPC), with women waste-pickers as shareholders.



Gulmeher women preparing Natural Holi colors using Flower petals and vegetables





### SUI-DHAAGA UNIT

It serves as a training centre where women are taught the basics of stitching and then employed to work. It made and distributed over 100,000 cloth masks for frontline workers during the peak of COVID-19.



### THAILA UNIT

Women make paper bags (with brown paper or newspaper), which are then marketed to corporate clients like Relay, Fab India etc. Gulmeher has a capacity of making upto 25000 bags per month.



### PHOOL PATI UNIT

The evolution of Gulmeher artists has seen them progress rapidly from making simple greeting cards with recycled paper and waste flower petals to intricate portraits, eco-friendly stationery, handcrafted boxes and bags, earthen diyas and natural colors.

### ZERO WASTE PROJECT

A decentralized model of waste management was implemented in Ghazipur which houses nearly 1000 households. The program developed sustainable livelihoods for informal waste workers, improved social parameters and educated households towards segregating the waste at the household level.

### FINANCIAL INCLUSION CENTRE

To provide a safe way for the women to manage their income, a Consumer Service Point was started in partnership with SBI, where residents can open their bank accounts and deposit, withdraw or transfer their money.



An Eco-friendly Soy-wax earthen diya decorated intricately using pressed Flower petals.

### Community surveys & research

Shakti Foundation has recently forayed into the space of community surveys and research and advisory services. Shakti completed a complex assignment of surveying 50 urban slums in Delhi with regards to water, sanitation and waste management. This project was for Japanese International Cooperation

Agency (JICA), through **India Water Foundation**. Following the primary survey, some of the identified interventions e.g. community toilets, waste collection and segregation, drinking water solutions etc. will be implemented through various agencies.

### Skilling/ Training

Apart from the livelihood programs which result in the trainees being absorbed into Gulmeher, some skill-based training programs have been started in 2021. Two stitching centres have been started in urban slums in Ghazipur and Moti Bagh where 60 women from disadvantaged families were provided training, certified



by NSDC (National Skill Development Corporation). Following the training, some participants sought formal employment opportunities, while some chose to be self-employed. Stipends were provided to all participants. Micro-entrepreneurship training workshops are also being provided for motivated front-line workers.

# Relief

Though disaster response is not a focus area, Shakti Foundation has stepped forward when the need arose to provide relief in the areas affected by natural as well as man-made disasters throughout India.

### COVID-19 FIRST WAVE, March-May 2020

As the pandemic began to unfold in March 2020, Shakti Foundation was confronted with the spectre of hungry, job-less migrant labourers and waste-pickers who had lost their means of livelihood, almost overnight. With help from donors and partners, Shakti raised more than Rs. 30 lakhs and was able to provide food rations to more than 6000 families residing in urban slums of Delhi.

### COVID-19, SECOND WAVE, April-June 2021

In the ten weeks that we ran this campaign, we raised Rs. 1.34 cr, deployed more than 300 cylinders, 400 concentrators and 1400 Asha kits along with oximeters, thermometers, masks and gloves. More than the money raised, it was the number of lives we managed to touch, and hopefully, save.

### AMPHAN CYCLONE RELIEF, May 2020

Super Cyclonic Storm Amphan caused widespread damage in Eastern India, specifically West Bengal, Odisha and Bangladesh in May 2020. Through the efforts of local volunteers, dry rations and essential supplies were distributed to over 240 vulnerable families affected by the Amphan Cyclone.



Asha kits distribution at Kalsi, Dehradun



# PARTNERS & DONORS

The success of any team is dependent on its members, partners and supporters. We have been backed by a strong team and partners on the ground, with whom we have developed a relationship of trust and respect over the years. The energy, integrity and the humanistic connect that our partners bring with them are invaluable assets when it comes to social interventions. The partners all go well

beyond the call of duty when it comes to delivering on the ground.

We are humbled with the support that we have received from our donors and benefactors, who trusted us. While it is difficult to thank each of our valued donors, we hope we have been able to live upto the expectations of the people and organizations, who believed in us.

## PARTNERS



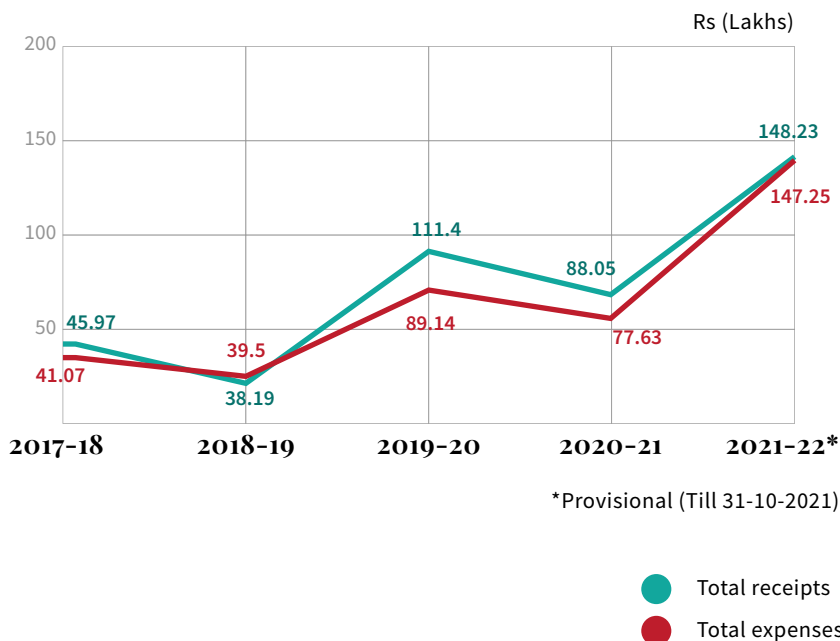
## DONORS



# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

While the warm fuzzy feeling of smiles on faces and impacts on the ground are our driving force, we are aware that cold hard numbers are what will keep the kitchen

fires burning. Over the last four years we have quadrupled our fundraising efforts, as also the expenditure on various social interventions.



# IMPACTS/OUTCOMES

## Health

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- More than **90,000** sessions (occupational therapy, speech therapy, special education, yoga) held over eleven years
- More than **600** children made independent for activities of daily needs
- More than **100** children from disadvantaged families provided free treatment

## Education

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- More than **1000** children from waste-picker families enrolled in various education programs
- **4 learning centres** currently functioning in urban slums in Delhi
- More than **200** out-of-school children mainstreamed into formal schools
- Libraries established at **3 centres** to improve reading levels and comprehension
- Digital literacy centres established at 4 centres: More than **2000** children and young adults made digitally literate
- Nutritious mid-day meals provided to more than **300** children daily
- Daily sports classes, including self defence for girls being provided

## Waste Management

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- **72 tons** of solid waste collected in six months
- **38 tons** of solid waste avoided the landfill fate
- **16 tons** wet-waste converted to 1.1 tons of compost,
- **14 tons** of dry waste recycled and reused.



## Livelihoods

- Helped establish and currently supporting Gulmeher, a women waste-pickers' collective
- Gulmeher achieved sales of almost Rs. 4 cr over the last eight years
- Loyal corporate customer base built for Gulmeher as an environment friendly brand
- Trained more than **200** women waste-pickers in different handicraft skills
- Wages and salaries of more than Rs. 2 cr earned by workers and staff of Gulmeher
- More than **50** women waste-pickers off the landfill
- SBI Customer Service Point operating for six years-More than **3500** bank accounts opened

## Skilling

**60** women from underprivileged families trained in stitching

## Relief work

- Covid-19, First Wave, March-May 2020: More than Rs. 30 lakhs raised and **6000** families provided dry rations
- Amphan Cyclone, May 2020: Dry rations and essential supplies distributed to **240** vulnerable families
- Covid-19, Second Wave, April-June 2021: More than Rs. **1.34 Cr** raised (in cash and kind) from 217 donors

### Locations reached

Locations Reached **167**

Villages Reached **10,997**

Population Reached **60,05,371**

<b>Devices distributed</b>	<b>438</b> Oxygen Concentrators	<b>302</b> Oxygen Cylinders
<b>1,397</b> Asha Shakti Kits	<b>85</b> Flow-meters	<b>1,486</b> Oxi-meters
<b>1,101</b> Thermometers	<b>45,300</b> Gloves	<b>22,650</b> Masks

## Heroes Of Swachh India: Story Of A Delhi NGO 'Gulmeher' That Has Transformed The Lives Of Women From Ghazipur Landfill Area

On the Independence Day special, we look at the journey of an NGO Gulmeher and how it has changed lives of waste pickers of Ghazipur by giving them an alternate livelihood opportunity

Written By **Anisha Dhatia** | Edited By **Sonia Bhaskar** | August 14, 2019



### 'Gulmeher' Is Transforming The Lives Of Waste-Pickers By Training Them To Become Skilled Artisans



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IBW Post

July 12, 2019



## O<sub>2</sub> concentrators handed over to Asha workers

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**DHARAMSALA, MAY 16** Shakti Foundation has distributed oxygen generators, concentrators, flow meters, oximeters and cloth masks among Asha workers deployed on Covid duty in the Palampur area.

Anurag Kashyap, director of the NGO that was set up in 2010, said with the support of other organisations, healthcare professionals and administrators, the foundation had been working for the deployment of concentrators, oximeters and other equipment in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

"We plan to distribute 200 more concentrators in the next four-six weeks. These will be made available to government-run facilities in remote locations, PHCs and



Members of an NGO provide supplies in Kangra on Sunday.

and establish oxygen generator plants to cater to the requirement of hospitals without depending upon the external supply of oxygen via cylinders.

### चिड़गांव में आशा वर्कर्स को बांटीं प्रोटेक्टिव किट्स

रोहड़। सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्र चिड़गांव में कोविड-19 की तीसरी लहर को मद्देनजर रखते हुए स्वास्थ्य खंड में कार्यरत आशा कार्यकर्ताओं को प्रोटेक्टिव किट वितरित की गई। बीएमओ चिड़गांव अभिशेक रियालव ने बताया कि इस किट में आशा वर्कर्स की सुरक्षा के लिए पल्स आक्सीमीटर डिजिटल थर्मामीटर, सेनेटाइजर, एपैल गलाउज, थ्री लेयर मास्क व शोल्डर बैग आदि वस्तुओं को शक्ति संस्था दिल्ली की ओर से प्रदान की गई है। उन्होंने आशा कार्यकर्ताओं की प्रशंसा करते हुए तीसरी लहर में कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर चलने के लिए प्रेरित किया। वहीं उन्होंने सरकार से भी आशा कार्यकर्ताओं के लिए नीति बनाने के लिए भी अपना समर्थन दिया है, जिससे वे अपने परिवार का भरण पोषण कर सकें।

## आशा व आंगनबाड़ी वर्करों के जज्बे को सलाम : डेजी ठाकुर

### शानेधार में शक्ति फाउंडेशन द्वारा आशा वर्करों को किया सम्मानित

कुमारसैन, 16 जुलाई (संजी): कोटाहड़ उपतहसील की ग्राम पंचायत शानेधार के सत्यानंद स्टीक्स कृषक सामुदायिक केंद्र में शुक्रवार को शक्ति फाउंडेशन दिल्ली द्वारा एक कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर शक्ति फाउंडेशन दिल्ली के कोटाहड़ उपतहसील की विभिन्न पंचायतों की आशा वर्करों को कोरोना किट वेट कर कोरोना काल में उनकी सेवाओं के लिए उन्हें सम्मानित किया गया। कार्यक्रम में मुख्यातिथि महिला आयोग की अध्यक्ष डेजी ठाकुर ने आशा वर्करों को कोरोना किट प्रदान की। इस अवसर पर एस.डी.एम. कुमारसैन गुंजीत सिंह चौध, शक्ति फाउंडेशन दिल्ली के डायरेक्टर अनुराग कश्यप व जिल्ह सत्यम अवधौत सिंह विशेष रूप से मौजूद रहे। इससे पूर्व शक्ति फाउंडेशन के डायरेक्टर अनुराग कश्यप व स्थानीय लोगों ने मुख्यातिथि



कुमारसैन : शानेधार में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में मुख्यातिथि डेजी ठाकुर, आशा वर्करें तथा अन्य समूहिक चित्र में व (दाएं) कोरोना किट प्रदान करती डेजी ठाकुर। (संजी)

डेजी ठाकुर का यहां पहुंचने पर स्वागत किया। अनुराग कश्यप ने बताया कि शक्ति फाउंडेशन द्वारा इससे पूर्व जिला शिमला के विभिन्न ब्लॉक में ऑक्सीजन कंसेंटर भी प्रदान किए गए, जबकि आज कोरोना काल में सबसे अधिक योगदान देने वाली आशा वर्करों को संस्था द्वारा कोरोना किट प्रदान की गई।

मुख्यातिथि डेजी ठाकुर ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि आशा वर्करों ने कोरोना काल में उत्कृष्ट सेवाएं प्रदान की हैं व महामारी के इस दौर में उन्होंने गांव-गांव जाकर लोगों की सेवा की है। एस.डी.एम. गुंजीत सिंह चौध ने शक्ति फाउंडेशन की टीम का अभार जताया व कहा कि पिछले महीने कुमारसैन स्वास्थ्य

खंड के विभिन्न अस्पतालों के लिए संस्था द्वारा 17 ऑक्सीजन कंसेंटर भी प्रदान किए गए हैं। ग्राम पंचायत शानेधार के प्रधान संदीप शर्मा ने इस अवसर पर कहा कि आशा वर्कर व आंगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा प्रसार से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कार्य करती हैं उसमें अनुरूप उनके बहुत कम वेतन मिलता

है। उन्होंने मांग उठाई कि आशा वर्करों व आंगनबाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं का वेतन बढ़ाया जाए। कार्यक्रम में नायब तहसीलदार कोटाहड़ अनिल राणा, उपप्रधान शानेधार पंचायत मीतल बिजय, शक्ति फाउंडेशन के सत्यम भूप्रद ठाकुर, विभिन्न पंचायतों की आशा वर्कर व स्थानीय लोग भी मौजूद रहे।

# PEOPLE BEHIND SHAKTI

## MANAGING COMMITTEE



**Ms. Vibha Puri Das, IAS (retd)**  
(President) retired as Secretary Government of India, in the Ministries of Human Resource Development, and Tribal Affairs.



**Mr. Balbir Singh**  
(Executive Member) is the Additional Solicitor General, Government of India, and was one of the youngest Senior Council, Supreme Court of India



**Ms. Dipika Kashyap**  
(Secretary) is currently heading strategy and operations (Asia-Pacific region) for RedHat, an IBM company



**Mr. Harsh Vardhan Bassi**  
(Executive Member) is the Managing Director of Pioneer Embroideries Ltd and the founder of Beeline Sourcing



**Mr. Ajaipreet Singh Takhar**  
(Treasurer) an entrepreneur with interests in Telecom, Warehousing and FMCG



**Mr. Sandeep Bajaj**  
(Executive Member) an advocate and is practicing in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and various High Courts and Law Tribunals



**Mr. Rajan Kashyap, IAS (retd)**  
(Vice President) served as the Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab and served as Chief Secretary to the Government of Punjab



**Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sood**  
(Executive Member) is an epidemiologist and public health professional in govt. sector-based at Dharamshala



**Mr. Rajeev Ahal**  
(Executive Member) is currently leading the Natural Resources Management group in GIZ, an international development agency



**Mr. Anurag Kashyap**  
(Director) has more than 25 years of experience in the corporate sector and is now leading a team of dedicated social sector professionals



### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### Mr. Osama Manzar

A global leader on the mission of eradicating information poverty from India using digital tools through Digital Empowerment Foundation, an organization he founded

#### Mr. Pradeep Singh, IAS (Retd)

served as Advisor - Infrastructure Development to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. He was the CEO - Mohali Campus, and Deputy Dean of the Indian School of Business.

#### Dr. Rajat Chauhan

A trained sports medicine & a musculo-skeletal expert and is the founder, creator of La Ultra – The High, the highest ultra-marathon in the world

#### Mr. Arun Nagpal

Co-Founder and Managing Director of Mrida, a Social Business Venture that he set up with two other co-founders in 2014

#### Ms. Tahira Kashyap Khurrana

an award-winning author, film-maker and an educationalist with interests in drama and script-writing

#### Mr. Mukul Gupta

Currently Executive Director at JP Morgan Chase Company in New York

#### Maj. Gen. (retd) Neeraj Bali

A former infantry officer who served three tenures in Kashmir



We are very proud of our dedicated team of professionals, teachers and therapists who are the backbone of the organization and whose tireless efforts are responsible for the growth of Shakti.

# GOING FORWARD

## SHAKTI KIDS

We plan to enhance the type of therapies provided to children-we will be adding yoga, sports, which are very appropriate for children on the autism spectrum. Some additional interventions are also proposed to be introduced-modules on Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) are being prepared, socialization amongst children with special needs, group activities etc. We will undertake awareness building workshops and outreach programs to reach under served communities and also extend to vocational education for special children. We are also considering starting a couple of satellite centres in NCR and possibly in Chandigarh/Kolkata.

## GULMEHER

The endeavor is for Gulmeher to become self-sustainable and replicate such programs elsewhere in the country. We will be adding more verticals under Gulmeher to increase revenue streams, and also target overseas markets for niche products.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

We plan to foray into the field of segregation and collection, besides plastic waste management, partnering with waste-pickers, ensuring appropriate value sharing.

## EDUCATION

We propose to deepen our engagement with children in urban slums as well as rural areas and expose them to alternative skills like computer coding, design, foreign languages and extra curricular activities apart from academic support.



## SKILLING

We plan to enhance our footprint in the space of skills-based training as well as entrepreneurship training for youth and women in urban areas.

## RESEARCH & SURVEYS

We propose to undertake community surveys and research assignments in different development sectors for subsequent implementation.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## Donations in cash

- Rs. 8000: Alternative livelihood generation for one waste picker woman for one month at Gulmeher
- Rs. 6000: Rehabilitation of one child with special needs for one month (20 sessions) at Shakti Kids
- Rs. 3000: Education & Mid-day meal for one child for one month at iDream/Panchi

## Donations in kind

- Donate new or used (working condition) laptops, smartphones, printers, fridge, scanners
- Donate new or used stationery items, notebooks, clothes, toys, bags
- Newspapers

## Volunteer

Shakti Foundation provides an innovative platform where Volunteers/Interns can commit their time and skills to ensure positive impact to communities. Please visit our website for options in education, livelihoods, waste management, documentation and children with special needs.

## Advise/ Guide/Connect

We welcome inputs and advice from socially conscious citizens willing to lend a hand. Do connect us with your friends and family

### Bank Details

Account Name: **Shakti Foundation**  
Savings Account no: **50210028219962**  
Bank: **Bandhan Bank**, Vasant Kunj,  
New Delhi  
IFSC: **BDBL0001778**

**Donations are exempt under section  
80G of the IT Act 1961**

## CONTACT US



### Shakti Foundation

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