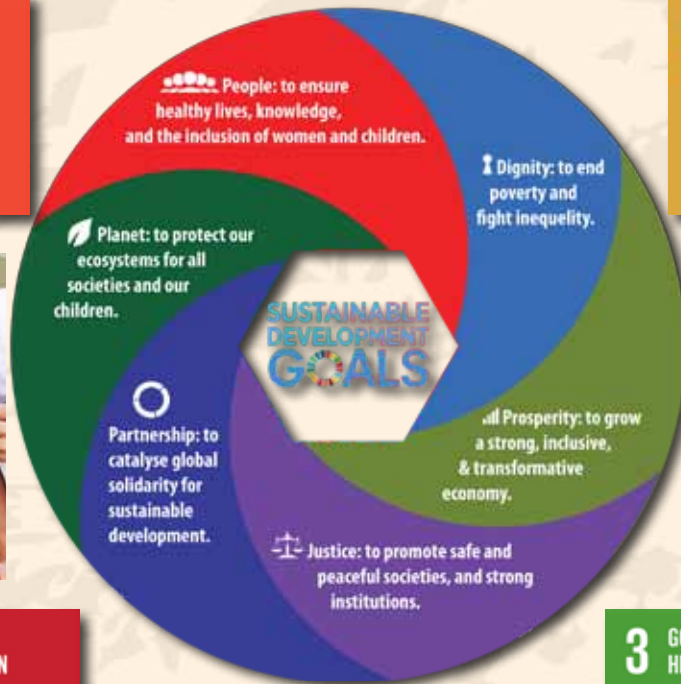




JUSTICE • KINDNESS •
HUMILITY



Annual Report 2018



Vision:

To empower each child and young person fulfill his/her highest potential, to live and work with dignity, hope and compassion

Mission:

Investing in Lives of underprivileged children and young people with compassion through holistic care, education and developing vocational skills.





Sam Rajshekhar

Dear Friends of YuvaLok Foundation,

Twenty-five years ago we responded to God's call "to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly before Him" (Micah 6:8). Half a mile from our home there were children and youth living on the streets and in slums in desperate poverty. They were growing up without access to decent education, health care or nutrition. These were kids whom most people would ignore. We could not sit by complacently watching the immensity of injustice and poverty around us. We had to respond to the needs of our community with compassion. We found that, in order to treat people justly and with loving-kindness, we must act with godly humility. I am humbled with gratitude to God for sustaining us these past 25 jubilant years!

We are amazed when we think how from the initial 4 students in 1993 we have increased to 1515 boys and girls in 8 schools across the state. Added to this number are the 30 young women trained at the "Threads of Life" tailoring and sewing institutes each year. We are excited to introduce an additional vocational training program, the "Wellness Clinic," for young women aspiring to be beauticians. On an invitation from community leaders in the rural area of Chikmagalur District, 250 kilometers west of Bangalore, we

are setting up the 'Threads of Life' program for their women this year.

Please take time to review this Annual Report, where we not only present to you our updates but also gratefully acknowledge our donors who faithfully and graciously continue to support YuvaLok Foundation. Specifically, I'd like to recognize the YuvaLok-Child & Pharos Foundation in the Netherlands, the Target Corporation, MTCF & Logos Builders from the USA, Timpany Foundation in India, and a number of institutional and individual donors from various parts of the world. A big thanks to the Bethesda youth for leading the weekly Leadership Development Program for our senior students.

Every year, we grow not only in numbers, but in the quality of our services and in our outreach to surrounding communities. The appointment of Ms Reena George as Headmistress of the YuvaLok Hennur School and a fresh group of qualified teachers has brought a positive change in the way we fulfill our responsibilities toward the students. We are pleased to say that, this year, the State Department of Education granted us permission to impart educational instruction in English. You will be delighted to know that we had the best performance ever of the graduating high school students in their final exams.

Impressed by our work and dedication a number of organizations in the city, namely, Home of Hope (Auto Raja), Dream India Network, ACCEPT, and Grace Home who could not find a school to YuvaLok enrolled a total of 140 kids with us. This certainly has raised our running costs, but again, it was a desperate situation where we could not turn them away.

I am personally grateful to you for your encouragement and commitment to sharing with us. Your support has helped us to increase enrollment and improve the quality of education with more qualified staff. In keeping with our calling and mission we continue to serve the poorest of the poor with nutritious food and other benefits. Without YuvaLok these children would not have attended school and perhaps been lost in the sea of poverty. Thank you for joining our mission and making an impact on the families who need your help.

On behalf of the YuvaLok Foundation Board, Advisory Council, Staff members and students, thank you for helping us to make 2017-18 such a successful year. You will be happy to know that your support has made a positive life-changing difference in the lives of the students and their families and walking humbly with God, we will press on and be good stewards of your generosity.

Yours for justice to the poor,

Sam Rajshekhar

Founder & Executive Director
YuvaLok Foundation



25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO SOCIETY

Sam & Beulah Rajshekhar

Excerpts from an interview with Sam and Beulah Rajshekhar, Founders of YuvaLok Foundation on completing 25 years of service among the rag pickers, child labourers, street children, slum children, underprivileged urban and rural children, tribal children and women.



Tell us a bit about your career, background, and the path that led you to serve the underprivileged children and women through education, nutrition, and sustainable skills

Sam: It was in 1969 while I was in college that my desire to work among young people began. Some of my friends were into drugs and other habits that would have eventually destroyed them. I wanted to do something about it. Thus, with the help of a few other college friends who shared a similar concern, we started a youth club wherein everyone could enjoy some crowd-breakers, games, music, discussions, talks, and seminars on value education. I later joined a leading youth organization in the country and served for 20 years, helping and counseling youth on High School and College campuses.

Toward the end of those 20 years, my attention was drawn to homeless young people on the streets and slums of our towns and cities. As far as I could see nothing was being done to help or serve them. It was then in the year 1991 that my wife and I started inviting such youth to our home. Many of them came from broken or dysfunctional families. Without proper homes to live in and clothed in dirty rags, they literally survived on thrown away food found in the bins. They were full of cuts and bruises which was caused

by picking trash from the bins full of glass bottles, cans, and plastic hardware. Sadly, they did not even have the privilege of going to school. In my findings in 1988, only 50% of children in India were attending school.

Our immediate solution to this dilemma and challenge was to get them off the streets by giving them space to hang out in a clean environment, food to eat, and basic education. In 1993 the first four boys who came to our home began to bring their friends along, and within the first month there were 25 boys and girls dropping into our home. Gradually, this drop-in center evolved into a High School. Today, the 540 students who come to the YuvaLok Hennur School come from the poorest of the poor communities living within a 10-km radius. In addition, 900 boys and girls attend seven other schools in Bangalore, Chamrajnagar, and Shivamoga Districts partnered by the YuvaLok Foundation. We also run two Tailoring Institutes and a Beautician Course for needy young women. On completion of the course, these women are able to get decent employment in garment factories or earn a living from their homes with the help of a brand new sewing machine we gift to each of them. All the beneficiaries receive porridge for breakfast and mid-day meals, school uniforms, and healthcare.

What has been the impact of your service to society at large?

Beulah: Though it is impossible to gauge the full impact of our work, we have seen some results that satisfy us. Firstly, the very first group of boys and girls are success stories today. They have made a mark around the places they lived in

the slum. They are first generation learners and have made sure their children are getting educated. They haven't gone back to work as maidservants, daily wage earners, etc. The education we gave them has provided a bright future. They live healthy lives due to enhanced healthcare they and their families received at YuvaLok. The holistic education imparted helps them to be unselfish, honest, hygienic, neat, devout, hardworking, and respectful to people.



What is the overall aim of YuvaLok?

Sam: Our overall aim is to provide holistic care to every child, which includes nutrition, healthcare, and education, and to develop their intellect, talents, values, work, and social skills so they have hope for a bright future and grow up to live in dignity.

What is your ambition for YuvaLok in the next 5 years (or for the future)?

Sam: My ambition is to see excellence in every sphere of service that we offer, which will bring about transformation in the lives of young people and impact the whole society. I have also been considering adding the two-year Pre-University Course for students completing High School. By the time students complete this course they will be mature enough to decide on further studies and a profession that best

suits their interests, talents and skills. Another wish I have is setting up a Teacher Training Institute that will help prospective teachers be creative and innovative in their approach to education. Insisting on high marks in academics rather than overall wholistic development of a child is unacceptable. I would like to see the approach to teaching and instruction relevant to current happenings in the world around us.



Could you share with us any story that motivated you both to go on when the going was tough?

Beulah: For a certain period of time, the funds were low, our morale was low and we were discouraged. We could not provide the daily mid-day meals as usual. We thought the children would stop coming to school. On the contrary, they did not miss out a single day but brought food that they could and shared with those who were not able to. One of the older boys who had completed schooling contributed a small sum of money that he could spare. These kinds of responses motivated us to press on.

You have strived for women's empowerment among the less privileged and for the safety of the girl child. In your experience, what were some of the challenges you faced in this mission?

Beulah: I believe women's empowerment begins with education. That is being done in YuvaLok for the girl child. Unfortunately most women have not had that opportunity. The sewing unit called "Threads of Life" provides an option for ladies to move forward. The real challenges we have faced are with young mothers, most of them unwed or abandoned. Many mothers have crossed hurdles to put their children



to school. Obstacles like alcoholic husbands, poverty and abuse have caused innumerable difficulties.

One mother moved to Bangalore from Chennai to escape her abusive husband, but he was able to locate her and followed her here. As YuvaLok Staff we gave all the support she needed. In another instance a grandmother was harassed by her son-in-law. With our support she fought all odds and put her grandchildren in school.

What is your message for young social entrepreneurs who are aspiring to live out their vision?

Sam: I have always told prospective social entrepreneurs when they see a situation around them don't wait for another day but act, react and respond stat! If you wish to serve the poor, pinch your pockets first and get your hands and feet dirty. Don't wait for someone to donate or worry about what others will think of you.



Is there a sense of satisfaction when you both look back at 25 years of service to society, especially the downtrodden? Could you share your experience?

Sam: When we look back in time to 25 years ago, we are overwhelmed by the progress the organization has made. Never in our wildest dreams did we visualize that there will be more than one school functioning. Today, we are in eight locations. Our sense of satisfaction comes from seeing hundreds of children being educated and finding their place under the sun.

It's 25 years now, how do you see YuvaLok today?

Sam: I am convinced that YuvaLok would not have come this far if we did not have a great Board of Management that's deeply involved in the work; a fantastic leadership team, a wonderful group of staff & volunteers and generous and faithful supporters & donors.

The strength of YuvaLok is in its leadership team comprising Shobha Louis, Trustee & Finance Director; D. P. Daniel, General Manager - Operations; A.S. Murali, Administrator and James Andrews, Manager-Logistics. I am indeed thankful to God for them.

25 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS



A REPORT ON YUVALOK SCHOOLS

YuvaLok is here to meet the dreams and aspirations of children and parents who otherwise think that they just cannot afford quality education. Our open door approach often gives us the privilege to hear amazing stories of distress which through YuvaLok's intervention turns to hope.



Lakshmi

The power of Education:

A smile is worth a million words

Lakshmi comes to school each day with a big smile on her face. Ask this 6-year-old and she will be happy to tell you how proud she is to wear her uniform and carry her school bag to school. She loves school days and is eagerly waiting for her younger brother to join the school and experience this wonderful journey. Here is an insight into Lakshmi's journey to YuvaLok

Lakshmi's family hailed from a rural village in Uttar Pradesh. Her father Ramu used to sell potted plants in a push cart on the rough streets of the city to earn a living. At times, Lakshmi and her mother, Kalpee, used to accompany him along the sunny roads, as they would pass by YuvaLok School. It was on one such day that a staff from the school stopped the cart and asked Ramu why the little girl was working instead of going to school. For which he replied, "My earnings can barely meet

the daily basic needs of the family so how could I send her to school." The staff then counseled Lakshmi's parents, who were indeed excited that their daughter could attend school. The following day, Lakshmi was not only welcomed into the school but was also given extra attention in order to keep up the same pace as the other students in the first year. In addition, Lakshmi's mother was offered a support staff job at YuvaLok to help the family pull through its economic struggle; and her father was given a role of maintaining a small garden in the school premises, which he does cheerfully out of gratis. Although Kalpee was very reluctant to work along with others at first, she heeded to the advice of how this job would help her to provide for her family. Today, she is an empowered woman in her own way and loves her new found job. After the recently concluded term exam, Lakshmi's teachers told us that she is an above average student and a quick learner. The joy at studying in YuvaLok and the positive remarks by her teachers is what is behind the big smile on Lakshmi's face each day.



Lakshmi with her mother and brother

Chasing dreams

Since Shekar's father left his mother, he was left with no choice but to live with his grandmother. His mother never had time to take care of 8-year-old Shekar and his two siblings as her work as a domestic maid in four houses kept her busy. Their grandmother would keep an eye on them while they played on the unpaved streets the entire day. One day, Shekar happened to notice his neighbor go to YuvaLok High School and this immediately got him interested in school. However, when he shared his thoughts with his grandmother she sadly had to tell him that it was not possible, as they did not have sufficient income. Shekar never gave up. His adamant stand and relentless cry instigated his grandmother to enquire about the school from the neighbors. The following day, Shekar's grandmother was overjoyed by the fact that she could enroll her grandson to school without having to worry about paying up for his education. Today when you ask Shekar

what he wants to do, he very emphatically says, "I want to finish my schooling at YuvaLok and then study to become a Police Inspector. I want to bring justice to the people in my area. Often I see fights and hear of murders and people treating each other badly. As



Mr. Wally Larson Sr. inducting the school captain

a Police Inspector, I can bring about that change." These are the dreams we would like to help chase at YuvaLok and not deprive the child because of circumstances or inequality.

Leading the way forward

During admission at our school in **Chamrajnagar**, a young mother of one of our students pleaded, "Please admit my

second daughter Sandhya in your school. I don't want her to be at home and ruin her life. Educate her like my first daughter but I can't contribute in any way for her education". It was unfortunate that this mother of three, lost her husband to a sudden heart attack a year ago, leaving her to fend for herself. Chamrajnagar being a rural area had remote job opportunities. However, from never being a wage earner she took to doing odd jobs, the young mother earned whatever she could which was just sufficient to feed her family. Focused and determined to do well, 6-year-old Sandhya, just a few weeks after joining the school, was told by her teachers that she was a promising child. Her only desire was to study well and get a respectable job so that her mother wouldn't have to struggle. Couple of years later, Sandhya had the opportunity to apply to the Navodaya School, a scheme run by the Central Government to provide education to talented students from rural India wherein they can complete their higher studies at government expense. Sandhya qualified and today she is on her way to success and is ever so grateful to YuvaLok and St. Peter's Education Society for showing and helping her the way forward.

Invest in lives

Many stakeholders help in YuvaLok's journey of bringing about transformation through education in the lives of our





beneficiaries. We have donors, corporate companies, volunteers, institutions, parents, and students who contribute in various ways to keep the wheels of YuvaLok running and staying invested in these precious lives.

We currently have over 1,500 students in eight of our branches. We look back with thanksgiving to God for all His providence in meeting the needs of our beneficiaries. Even during hard times, YuvaLok looks up to God the provider for all its needs. We can testify that God has been good and provided at the right time all our needs through various donors and volunteers. We express our thankfulness and gratefulness to God Almighty.

YuvaLok School - Hennur and Kannur

The YuvaLok Schools at Hennur and Kannur in Bangalore provide education and nutrition to children coming from 13 different mercy homes, including Home of Hope (Auto Raja), Dream India Network, Accept Society, Grace Home, Jireh Home, Anugraha Trust, Jeevan Jyothi, Engage, and few others. Most of these children hail from different parts of the country besides hundreds of children from different localities within an 8-kilometer radius of the school. Their parents work in low-wage jobs like painters, construction laborers, tailors, auto and cab drivers, steel bar

benders, daily laborers, farmers, etc. Some of these children come from dysfunctional homes where their mothers are mostly housemaids, construction laborers or daily wage workers. This inclusiveness is the hallmark of YuvaLok etched at its core value to not shun anyone seeking help or support while it is within our means to give. With limited resources, we stretch ourselves to the maximum with a team of dedicated teachers and staff who go all out to **Invest in Lives** of these precious children, youth, and women.

This year, we welcomed Ms. Reena George as the new principal of YuvaLok's Hennur and Kannur schools. With a heart for the community, she brings with her 26 years of rich experience especially serving children from the economically weak community. This academic year, we have witnessed progress and change both with the students and teachers. Having got the required permission to change over the medium of instruction from Kannada to English, we have been able to implement the same with gradual progress. The change over wasn't that easy initially but as the months rolled by, the students started to get familiar with the new requirements and responded positively. During the year, workshops and varied activities were conducted for teachers and students to help them communicate better in English and improve the students' comprehension.



Ms. Reena George

We have a set of hard-working and committed teachers who go the extra mile in educating their students and the dividends of that effort come to the fore with the results that our students bring. In order to further encourage our teachers in their service, various workshops were conducted for their professional enrichment. Mr. Paul Hammond of PiXL (UK), conducted half-yearly workshops for our teachers in Bangalore and Chamrajnagar. This workshop focused on the students and how to improve their academic grades. This unique program helps the teachers to improve their skill in 'focused' teaching and has proved beneficial especially for the students of standard ten. Other workshops include 'Being Productive', 'Art of student counselling', 'disciplining the

millennial students', 'Goal setting and achieving them', 'English Communication', 'identifying the four different learners', and 'Child Safety – Child Protection Policy'. This year we had the introduction of Bridge course, Remedial classes and Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) implementation.

While four teachers resigned, five new teachers were recruited. All the new teachers had an orientation session and they were quick to understand the work culture of YuvaLok and embraced the vision. The Headmistress and the team at YuvaLok, especially the Hennur branch, put in a lot of effort in the students of class10 and this time the results were remarkable. Overall, 27 students appeared for the board exams this year. Muskan Kousar, whose story was featured in our

previous annual report, was the school topper, scoring 83%. The second school topper was Ephron Manoj PS with 82%. While 12 of our students scored first class, the rest scored above average to average except two students who have been unsuccessful. Most of them are on their way



Muskan

to higher studies with dreams and aspiration that they would like to chase and be that somebody of influence and change. We are confident that the teachings they have received over the years, moral values imbibed and the good character they have built up at YuvaLok will help them keep their heads held high. We wish them the best in all their future endeavors.

Cultural celebrations and events

Hong Kong-based activist Ms. Shristi Bakshi, who embarked on a 3800-kilometer journey by foot from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to mobilize communities to make the country safer for girls and women, visited our school and delivered a talk to the students and teachers. Our students not only had a great time interacting with her but were also inspired by her.



Furthermore, VIVA network conducted a drumming workshop by famous drummer Grego Borlai of Spain for our high school students. Pragathi Telefilms screened a film for the students highlighting the need for conservation of the environment.

To recognize and celebrate leadership qualities among students, the Investiture ceremony was conducted. This event saw the induction of new captains, prefects, and deputy leaders over the student body.

Other campus celebrations included a vibrant Independence Day celebration, Teacher's Day celebration which was organized by the students of class10, Kannada Rajyotsava, and Children's Day. The celebrations were a mixture of competitions as well as fun and entertaining performances put together by the teachers. The competitions for students included coloring, mental maths, drawing, art and craft skills, quiz, kho-kho and kabaddi. Our students won many prizes at inter school and inter NGO events.

Leadership Development

The impact of the **leadership development** class is noteworthy. Students from different classes have testified the impact it has on their lives, both with outlook on life and in daily living. We are grateful to 'Bethesda' for sending a team of three dedicated staff to talk to our children and encourage them to build their self-worth and self-esteem.

Marnix Gymnasium is a team of 12 students and 2 teachers from the Netherlands who faithfully visit us each year during the month of February to volunteer their services in academics and sports. While they spend about 10 days with our students they too learn a lot about our culture and habits. We appreciate the effort the students take to have fundraising activities to support their travel and stay in India and also for the donation they make to our students' educational needs each year.

Safety is our priority

Safety of each and every child is of utmost importance at all our YuvaLok Schools. At the Hennur School, we have a Child Safety Council who meet once in six months to review the safety measures and issues on child safety. This committee corresponds to the requirement of the child safety council specified by the government. The committee, which consists of the school principal, a teacher, and six students, has been doing very good work in observation, awareness and seeing that safety measures are in place.

Non-academic activities

Innovation Lab was conducted for YuvaLok High School students between Aug-Jan. The Lab was the brainchild of Mr. Vijay Nazareth, who currently resides in the US. The primary goal of the lab was to equip students to develop critical thinking skills.

The students were divided into teams and trained in two phases. In phase 1, the students were trained in analyzing a social problem deeply and evaluating existing solutions in the market. The activities involved Internet research, studying data, evaluating, and scoring different available solutions and presenting a final paper.

In Phase 2, students had come up with their own idea/solution to the Phase 1 problem. They had to compare their solution with available solutions. Finally, they had to recommend a solution to the social problem by applying critical thinking skills. Umesh, a student of class 10, says: "I enjoyed my extra hours I spent at the innovation lab. Initially, I thought it was of no academic use but soon I got to know how much I can benefit from it and took it seriously. It has helped me in problem solving and also enabled me to develop the art of critical thinking."



Nutrition

We are grateful to God for 'Anna Vahini', a YuvaLok's Nutrition Program. Since it started in 2007, we have been able to provide nutritious meals to children, even during hard times. YuvaLok continues to provide students a glass of nutritious multi-grain organic porridge before their morning class and hot fortified lunch at noon each school day, meeting 2/3rd of the child's daily nutritional need. Protein in the form of egg is provided once a week and on special days meat, to children who like it. The whole dietary plan has been prepared, taking into consideration the children's background, existing nutritional intake, medical issues, attention span, reasons for falling ill and so on. Our dietitian has taken all these factors into consideration before recommending dietary requirements for our children. The impact is clearly seen in the first few months with our Class 1 students who join us each year. At the beginning of school, many are

malnourished and lack immunity, but within few months we see a healthy change in them. We are grateful to MTCF and YuvaLok Child, Netherlands for supporting us in this program.



Target India (C S R)

Target Corp. has been our long-term partner who has been investing in the lives of the underprivileged children in the areas of education and nutrition. The YuvaLok board, Management, Staff, and students are grateful to Target for their International Grant Program and the hundreds of man hours they volunteer with our two schools at Hennur and Kannur. From painting our compound walls and the area where our children have their lunch to arranging sports and health camps, classroom activities, donating cycles and teachers training program, they have been supportive the entire year. A big thank you to all the Target volunteers who took time off from their busy schedule to come over to YuvaLok and spend quality time helping us.



Health

Health Camps were conducted for our students, parents, and for the community at Hennur and Kannur, sponsored by Target India in partnership with Help Age India. Over 1,500 individuals benefited from this program. Rajiv Gandhi Dental Institute and Ambedkar Dental College organized dental camps on two separate occasions. Those students who needed dental care were given treatment and followed-up. Eye checkups were conducted for all our students and free spectacles were given to students who had vision problems.



Thank You

Many to be thanked - the children who are our direct beneficiaries, young people in our schools and programs, teachers, non-teaching staff, drivers, cooks, project leaders, donors, companies, supporters, board members and volunteers. We cannot thank you enough. Most importantly, we thank God for His marvelous grace in empowering us and providing all our needs and resources.

REPORT ON YUVALOK SCHOOLS IN CHAMRAJNAGAR

The year began on a sad note. The founder of Prasad Educational Society (PES) in Chamrajnagar, Pr. Francis Prasad passed away on 22 April 2017. Pr. Prasad (61 yrs) was a man with a vision and passion for the transformation of the lives of poor and helpless people within the rural area of Chamrajnagar District in Karnataka State. He, along with his wife Nirmala, started Prasad Educational Society in 1996 to meet the educational needs of the children. In a span of one year, they established four primary schools and later on a special school for the tribal children in different parts of Chamrajnagar District. Through Pr. Prasad's intervention, hundreds of children had the opportunity of being educated upto the primary level and have made onward progress academically.

In the year 2009, YuvaLok began its partnership with Prasad Educational Society (PES) with a view to improve the capacity and management of the existing schools and to add the much needed infrastructure. In our journey with PES we have



Pr. Francis Prasad

had the privilege of working with Pr. Prasad and show our appreciation and respect for his unparalleled dedicated service to humanity, especially to the people of Chamrajnagar Dist. YuvaLok is continuing the work begun by Pr. Prasad. As a tribute, we will reach out to numerous underprivileged children who need education. Pr. Francis Prasad has left behind a legacy etched into the minds of his beneficiaries and the community at large. The stories they share will be a testimony to a great social entrepreneur.

With the vision before us and our mission in hand, the team was back to work. At the four schools and at the tribal school many parents had sought admission but the infrastructure had to limit the intake. YuvaLok has provided strategic support in scaling the progress in these five schools by providing quality education, nutrition, resources and infrastructure which has resulted in marked progress. This academic year, we invested in the lives of 537 children out of which 42 were tribal children.

Chamrajnagar is known for its perennial drought condition. Rainfall is scanty and agriculture, the main occupation, is affected. This has resulted in poverty and debt as opportunities for earning a living is on the decline. At such a time as this, YuvaLok has stepped in to provide quality education for the children of Chamrajnagar.



Academic Achievements:

- We had a smooth transition to English medium.
- The mid day meal program was expanded to meet the needs of not just children but also some of the elderly in the local community.
- The children won many awards at the inter-school sports meet and have kept the flag of YuvaLok flying high in Chamrajnagar Dist.
- 15 students from among the four schools were selected to JNV Residential school, (Naodaya CBSE SCHOOL) a government sponsored program till the 12th Grade.
- Our Nagavalli School grabbed the overall championship in Prathibha Karanji conducted by State Government for the development of the student in co-circular activities.

On public demand, the management is planning to increase the student intake in the coming year so as to provide more opportunities for the local communities in Chamrajnagar,

- **St. Peter Higher Primary School- Nagavalli**
- **Nirmala Higher Primary School Chatipura**
- **Nirmala Higher Primary School Kudlur**
- **Little Star Nursery & Primary School –Gulipura**
- **Tribal School- K Gudi**

GRACE PUBLIC SCHOOL, AT BOMMANAKATTE, BHADRAVATHI - KARNATAKA



YuvaLok is proud to partner with Grace Public School and meet the educational needs of the rural poor of Bommanakatte. About 270 Kms from Bangalore, this school has a special outreach to a tribal community called HakiPiki. With over 250 children on their rolls, Grace Public School provides quality education. In order to meet the community's need, it plans to improve the infrastructure and intake of students. Keeping the mission of education and equipping society with skills, YuvaLok will invest in the lives of these children and give them an opportunity to realize their dreams.

SUSTAINABLE SKILLS IN TAILORING AND BEAUTICIANS COURSE

At the 'Threads of Life' Vocational Training Centre in Hennur and Kannur, the women are given holistic training for twelve months in tailoring, beautician skills, spoken English, computers, numeracy, health and hygiene, life skills and awareness of women's rights. At the end of the training, all the successful graduates can be certain of a job with a decent salary to support themselves and their families. At YuvaLok, we believe that transformation in communities is quick when women are empowered socially and economically. Women are keen to see their children attend school and do not want them to go through the misery that they did. We at YuvaLok make that dream come true by offering them training in sustainable skills which leads to employment.

This year, along with tailoring, we introduced the beauticians course at the YuvaLok Wellness Center



at Hennur. All 32 trainees opted for this course. The beauticians course was open for outsiders who made use of the opportunity for training. Each year, YuvaLok has the privilege of reaching out to women, some who are in distress, from broken homes, and are physically abused and abandoned by their husbands. A year with us brings healing to their broken hearts and dispels fears of survival in their respective communities. We invest in their lives by creating self-worth in each woman and giving them tailoring or beautician skills so that they can take on the world. The sewing machine given free to each successful graduate is indeed a catalyst to their dreams of being a social entrepreneur in their own rights.

Soon we will be starting another tailoring training center in Chikmagalur Dist on the request made by the local leaders of Bhavikere. This center will cater to the needs of the rural women who want to be trained in skills that will help them earn a livelihood.

Latha (name changed), twenty-three years old, cannot remember going to school. She was always made to understand that her life is to take care of her husband and children and to remain within the four walls of her dingy house. Frustrated at seeing her children struggle as her alcoholic husband hardly gave her enough money for food and maintenance, she was on the lookout for any job so that she could provide for her children. Living close by to the YuvaLok tailoring center at Kannur, she heard about the free course in tailoring. As she was illiterate, she thought she would not be given



a chance. To her surprise, she was warmly welcomed to the training. She was shocked to learn that her nutrition while training would be taken care of. Latha somehow convinced her husband and started the course.

Latha proved to be a success in both the tailoring and beautician course. Her life has been transformed completely in this past year. She has a renewed reason to live and proudly knows her worth. She vows to change her family from its state of poverty to a respectable home and commits to helping other women who are going through a similar kind of situation. Today, Latha earns Rs. 150 to 300 a day from the sewing machine given to her by YuvaLok and wants to establish her own tailoring shop soon. Latha's inspiring story is one from illiteracy and hopelessness to entrepreneurship and forward-thinking.

There are many stories of success which YuvaLok has supported. These women can now live their lives with hope and dignity. At the YuvaLok Vocational Training Centre we are engaged in 'Creating Success Stories' through holistic sustainable interventions.



Shobha Louis
Finance Director

THANKS AND APPRECIATION 2017-18

YuvaLok is privileged to have friends and supporters from India and abroad.

This work would not have been possible without the goodwill and generous contributions we received through the year. You have indeed helped us in building a bridge to success for our students. Your contributions will not only equip our students with the means to achieve great things but will also make the global community a better place.

As we count our blessings through the Annual Report 2018 we offer our deepest gratitude to the following corporations, institutions and individuals for standing by us and blessing us with their gifts.

A special thanks to all our individual donors in India and overseas.

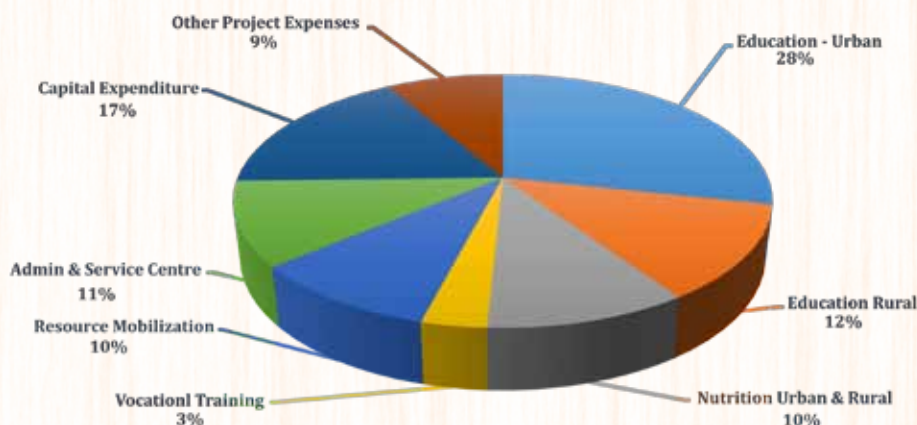
Your support has been the backbone of our survival year after year.

Sincere thanks and appreciation for your partnership.

Corporate Companies and Organisations:

- MTCF, USA
- TARGET Corporation
- Denver Leadership Foundation, USA
- YuvaLok Child, The Netherlands
- Marnix Gymnasium, The Netherlands
- Timpany Foundation, Bangalore, India
- Pharus Trust, The Netherlands
- St. Michael's School, Bangalore, India
- Bethany High, Bangalore, India
- KSSS, India
- Logos. Builders, USA

Project Expenses 2017 - 18





Dr. Ken Gnanakan, educator, environmentalist and theologian, Chief Guest at our Std X Graduation addressing the students



Gergo Borlai, world famous drummer performing for our students



Ephron, receiving Aademic award at the Graduation day



Staff Conference 2017



Target Corp's gift- 5 bicycles for our students



Target Executives from Minneapolis, USA visiting YuvaLok along with Ms Samitha M of Target India



Students homeward bound



Children's dining area getting a coat of paint from Target corp Volunteers.



At the Staff Conference



Tailoring graduates along with their sewing machines gifted by YuvaLok



James Andrews, Manager-Logistics with Yuvalok support staff



2 Economically weak students doing their professional course presented with refurbished laptops from YuvaLok



Ms. Nel Antonides of YuvaLok Child taking a training session for YuvaLok Staff



Tailoring and Beautician Trainees Graduation



Graduating students of standard X with their teachers

OUR PARTNERS

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USA

AKID
Australia



**TIMPANY
FOUNDATION**



**Bethesda
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**Prasad
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Trust**



**Denver
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Foundation**

**St. Michael's
School**
Hennur, Bangalore

Parents of
YuvaLok
Students

**GRACE
TRUST**

**Wholeness
International**
UK

Friends from
MAASSLUIS
Netherlands



Our Special thanks to:

M/s R. Ramakrishnan & Co. Chartered Accountants, Bangalore
Photography: Ms Lan Hoang Phan, Earlham Uni.



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YuvaLok Foundation is 12A, 80G, FCRA-compliant organization and your contributions are fully tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.