

金繕い

BROKEN YET BEAUTIFUL

KINTSUGI

Annual Report 2022



WHAT IS KINTSUGI?

Kintsugi, is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery using paint that is mixed with Gold, Silver or Platinum. When the process is finished the resulting piece is more unique and usually more valuable than the original.

YuvaLok's theme this year, reflects on the work that we have carried out to fix broken pieces into golden works of art.

BEAUTY IN BROKENNESS



Kintsugi is the art of repairing something that has been broken with gold, the understanding that the object is more beautiful because it has been broken. This technique is called Kintsugi in Japan. Humanly speaking, most of us face some serious moments of brokenness in our lives, whether it's from the choices we make or circumstances beyond our control. Our lives are not just physically but emotionally broken. There are times where our inner-being is completely shattered. Our brokenness is ground to dust and we don't know how things could ever be restored. I am sure you are aware that the communities we work with experience brokenness in their lives.

One of the examples we saw first-hand is when we visited a shanty early this year. Women sitting on piles of fragmented glass and segregating them with bare hands according to colour and quality. This was surrounded by nauseating garbage of plastic cans and thrown away food. A greater eye-sore was watching their three to ten year old boys and girls walking bare foot through this trash. Like the art of "Kintsugi", with God's help, YuvaLok Foundation in its 28th year, continues to repair the brokenness in the lives of children and the community to make them more beautiful.

The shattered glass motivated us to begin this new project, "YuvaLok Almon Centre" in Hegdenagar, North Bangalore for children of migrant labourers from North East India. Further, in partnership with Ecogram we run the "Threads of Life" tailoring classes for young women at Tharahunise village, Northwest Bangalore.

We were able to construct a new school building with a proper playground that will accommodate 1000 boys and girls from grades 1 to 10, at Nagavalli, Chamarajanagar District.

Our vision and mission, as always is investing in lives and GIVING HOPE TO THE BROKEN and HOPELESS by empowering them to fulfil their highest potential. We are able to accomplish this because of God's bountiful blessings through Pharos Foundation through YuvaLok-Child Netherlands, Shared Hope, Scotland, Logos Builders, Movement Mortgage, Missionering Institute, USA. TARGET, Prione, APPARIO, Flatworld Solutions for investing in lives with their Corporate Social Responsibility through YuvaLok. The support of scores of friends across the Globe through Gerard Meester, Paulyn Woodburn and Alice Khoong.

A big thanks to all for standing by us. Your heart-warming gesture will take us a long way to help transform our society. It's a long, hard fight which needs people like you to bring Kintsugi - Beauty in Brokenness.

Our warmest regards to you all.

Sam Rajshekhar
Executive Director
YuvaLok Foundation





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RENEWING CLASSROOMS... YUVALOK HIGH SCHOOL, HENNUR

The Covid lockdown was a very tough time for our kids. Unlike others in the city, our students had no access to computers or laptops for online classes. Mobile phones & Whatsapp were the only medium of instruction between teachers & students. However, a bigger challenge arose when the students returned to offline classes in September 2021.

1. Empty Minds - The students had forgotten everything they learnt in the past few years.
2. Lack of Interest - It almost seemed they had no interest in education anymore.
3. Fear of exams - The few who wanted to study were beginning to have anxiety about their exams.
4. Carefree Parents - Even they began to take it lightly hoping that the Board would not let anyone fail that season.
5. Lack of attendance - Many of them were not ready to come back to school.





Progressive classes: We introduced progressive classes and worked with students that needed extra help.

Model Papers: The teachers began to collect model papers, question banks & other study material for the students.

WhatsApp study Groups: These groups were regularly updated with work sheets, study material, revision material and much more



Dattayojana; The government of Karnataka introduced a concept which initiated groups of weak students headed by one bright student. These groups of 6 were asked to study certain portions of each subject overseen by the bright student in the group. The bright one would monitor the session by also clearing doubts of the rest.



Whether it was online or offline, our faculty rose to the occasion to ensure that the students are well prepared to face their board exams. Our students had no luxury of tuitions or parents who could monitor their academics. It was in the boundaries of the school where they were trained to break barriers of life and move ahead with a great purpose for themselves.



ARMY OF DAUGHTERS

The United Nation states that an estimated 2,000 female fetuses are illegally aborted every day in India. Komala, an Alumna of YuvaLok High School, has a dream to eradicate this social evil because she has eight sisters in her family. Komala, who is now pursuing her 2nd PUC was born in Bengaluru to Nepali immigrants. Her parents were never opposed to having daughters despite having a backlash from their relatives. However, when the numbers grew to nine girls, they were unclear as how to move forward. Komala's father who used to work as a security guard before the pandemic says he had no option but to get his first four daughters married off due to poor financial conditions.



Komala's perspective about her life changed when she met a group of volunteers from Target at YuvaLok. After she interacted with them, she was encouraged by the team at Target to pursue her education seriously so that she could be absorbed by the company in the years to come. This sparked a new aim in Komala's life which has now led her to dream of working for a corporate someday.

Komala now goes to college in the morning & works as a housemaid in the evening earning Rs.3000 every month. Komala's two other sisters also study at YuvaLok Foundation. Her mother is grateful that YuvaLok Foundation has given a chance for her girls to study. She says that YuvaLok also helped them during the Pandemic by donating ration kits every month during their struggle.

Both her parents remain unemployed since the pandemic broke out. This leaves the family of 11 without any means of livelihood. Her youngest sister may have Down Syndrome which the family is not even aware of nor do they have the money to manage the condition. But the spirited Komala is not deterred by such adversities. She wants to finish her education, be a successful woman & save her family from poverty.

YuvaLok Foundation continues to support Komala & her family in all their endeavors.



DELIVERING MILK & MARKS

Students are often encouraged to wake up early in the morning to study. Thirteen year old Pavan diligently wakes up at 5 am to do something else. He has to collect milk from the supplier and deliver it to about 25 homes in his locality. His brother Balaji delivers newspapers in the same locality while the youngest brother Jeevan is confused about whether he should pursue the same job.

The three musketeers of the family studying in YuvaLok High school, are touted to be the first generation of literate boys in their family. While the downside of living in poverty might discourage a few, the three brothers seem to have taken life as a challenge.

Pavan who is about to enter his 10th Grade is academically very strong. When you listen to him speak on stage he could easily pass off as a student of an international school. His proficiency in science is excellent & he regularly scores top marks in the subject. It is no wonder that he wants to pursue MBBS & become a pediatrician.

Balaji, his younger brother is also good at studies. He often helps his older brother in his daily chores. He is a regular in school and often participates in all the academic activities. He is widely regarded as one of the most helpful students on campus. Jeevan who is the youngest of them all seems to be in the right hands. His brothers are constantly motivating him to excel in academics. It looks like he too will come out with flying colors in everything he does.



The eldest daughter of the family is also an Alumna of YuvaLok High school and is currently pursuing her Bachelors in Nutrition.

YuvaLok High School is constantly working with the three musketeers Pavan, Balaji & Jeevan to mold them into successful youngsters for the future. We are confident that we can produce wonders with the boys & will help yet another family break the bondage of poverty.



Corporate Social Responsibility – Partnerships

Realising Digital Dreams

As India braces itself to a Digitally empowered India, the race can only be completed by bridging the digital divide. To make that happen M/s Appario Retail Pvt Ltd through its CSR initiative, reached out to the students of YuvaLok Foundation.

Through its flagship program “Realizing Digital Dreams” Appario Retail Pvt Ltd has come forward to empower our high school students and teachers with laptops and tablets and set up a digital library and replace our old admin computers with the latest.

It was a special feeling for our students and teachers to receive laptops and tabs from the core team of Appario Retail. In all 57 laptops, 95 tablets and 7 Desktops were donated to YuvaLok.

CEO Mr. Amandeep Logan addressed the students advising them to use technology to their advantage and break the shackles of adversities in their lives.

Mr. Sharath Narahari, CFO, was grateful to YuvaLok Foundation for having given Appario an opportunity to help students in their endeavors to succeed. Ms. Himani Singh, Legal Counsel and CS reiterated Appario's commitment to the less privileged in the education space and encouraged the management and staff to continue the good work being done.



Target Corporation continues to partner with YuvaLok Foundation investing in the education and nutrition space for the students of YuvaLok High School Hennur and Kannur. In spite of the pandemic, their staff volunteered from different locations and conducted online programs for our students and teachers.

PRIONE

Prione Business has played a key role in the areas of education and Nutrition. They have supported in part the ongoing work at YuvaLok High School Hennur and Kannur.



Flatworld Solutions our partner in the area of nutrition has been supporting the Anna Vahini Program for the students of YuvaLok.

REBUILDING HOPE, Kannur, Bengaluru

The pandemic forced kids to stay indoors. In the absence of students, YuvaLok Foundation turned things around at Kannur. The school was remodelled and brought in a fresh look to the building. Walls were restructured, painted and a full renovation was undertaken.

Meanwhile YuvaLok continued to donate dry ration kits to the parents of YuvaLok Kindergarten. This was of great help to the parents who used the ration kits to run their homes during the entire period of the lockdown. The teachers at YuvaLok Kindergarten were constantly in touch with the parents about the progress of their little ones. Regular worksheets, study material & homework was sent through Whatsapp to the parents. Since most of the parents do not fall in the literate group, they also spoke to parents on how to go about helping their wards in keeping in touch with academics.



SHARING LOVE, HOPE & FOOD, Annavahini, Bengaluru

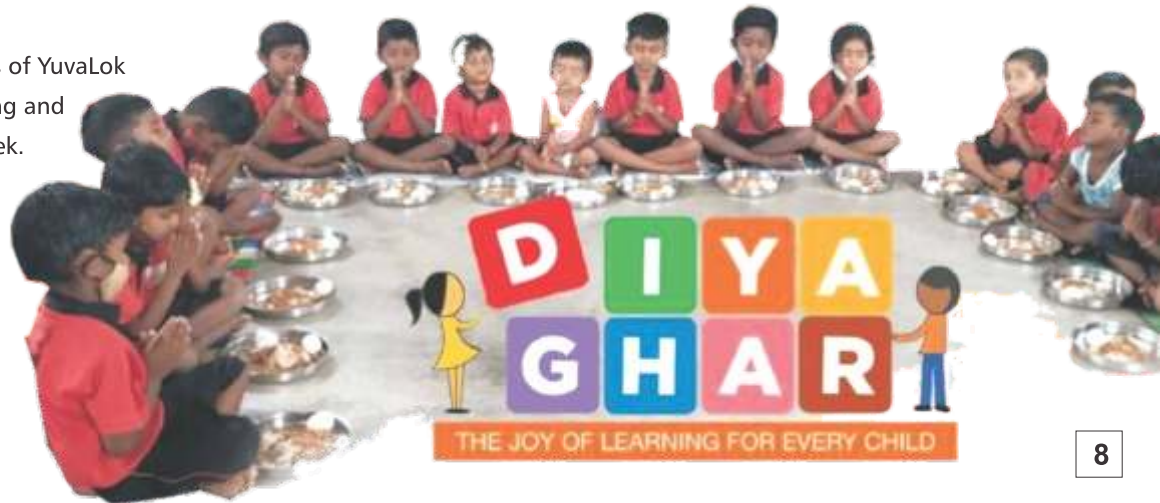
YuvaLok Foundation has been at the forefront of nutrition. We ensure that the kids who study at our school receive two wholesome meals bridging their nutritional gap. Annavahini, has been reaching a new level of achievement every year. Annavahini is now supporting neighboring NGO's and their nutritional demands as well.



Meet our new partner DiyaGhar. DiyaGhar is also working towards educating under privileged kids from the migrant communities. They serve kids who hardly manage a single meal a day.

Annavahini cooks over 1000 meals every day for the students of YuvaLok High school. This includes a Nutritious Porridge in the morning and a lunch consisting of Rice & Sambhar with an egg once a week. The same food cooked everyday also goes to DiyaGhar. DiyaGhar is now able to feed more kids than ever before.

YuvaLok Foundation is honored to support fellow NGOs like DiyaGhar. We wish to see our kitchen hustle and bustle to prepare more meals for kids and reduce hunger in the next generation of India.



WOMEN LOOK TO YOUTUBE FOR TAILORING LESSONS

Learning has gone digital and the women of 'Threads of Life' at YuvaLok Foundation are not behind. The girls at TOL have now incorporated YouTube into their learning module and are designing gowns beyond their capabilities.

This year has been exciting for the women as they took to YouTube to enhance their learning. Program head Divya says that the management had previously installed computers for the girls to learn from the internet. "The facilities were always there. This year, the girls took special interest in trying different designs. Hence, they started looking up on YouTube and things took off from there" she said. With YouTube entering the scene, the girls this year added some really cool designs to their kitty.

The TOL women started learning to sew gowns from various YouTube channels. It was impressive to see the variety they were attempting which included traditional, western & even designer gowns.

The management at YuvaLok Foundation were mighty impressed with the effort and have now decided to include YouTube lessons as a part of the curriculum for the TOL girls. Even the women who graduated this year expressed their desire to further improve on their computer skills during their tailoring program.

Every year the graduating girls from the 'Threads of Life' program receive an industry ready tailoring machine. This year, we are sure that we will see many more designs churned out from YouTube by the graduated girls from the TOL program.



IMMIGRATING FROM MISERY TO HOPE- ALMON CENTER

When the Covid Pandemic broke out, the immigrants from North East India went from being jobless to hopeless. Their homes shifted from tents to slums. Two Meals became one & they turned hopeless.

It was at this time that YuvaLok Foundation entered the valley of death and sparked a sense of comfort for them.

The entire immigrant community were given monthly ration kits, covid kits & other aid for survival. Every time YuvaLok Foundation conducted their ration distribution, kids would assemble with the parents with a smile on their faces & uncertainty in their eyes. This led to the birth of the YuvaLok Foundation Almon center. A center where the kids of these immigrant workers could come, play, learn, eat & fulfill everything they wanted to do as kids.



YuvaLok Foundation rented a place nearby, setup play area, books, school requirements & started inviting these kids to learn immediately. Within no time, Almon center was flooded with over 50 kids. These kids also received mid-day meals every day and an occasional sweet treat once in a while. One of the teachers who are appointed to monitor YuvaLok Almon center said, "Initially it was very tough to get these kids to school. They are not used to this kind of a routine. They are now beginning to enjoy academic classes. We are hoping we can continue to keep their learning momentum".

Almon center is also looking at improving the lives of the parents of these kids. Many of them are seriously interested in adult literacy classes and other vocational skills. YuvaLok is doing everything that they can to rehabilitate the families into better living. While the pandemic continues, YuvaLok strives to improve the conditions of these immigrants from misery to hope.



X-RAY INTO THE LIFE OF A TOBACCO WORKER

Suhail Pasha, a 4th Std boy studying at St. Peter School in Nagavalli is at times smelling of Tobacco. Fortunately, he is not a user of Nicotine. However, he visits a tobacco factory regularly. His mother Gulnaz Babu, is tirelessly rolling Bidi's for a living. He is already exposed to the hazards of Tobacco at a young age.

Being an unorganized sector, workers are paid a daily wage of Rs.100 that is just enough for a single meal. At four months of age, the sudden demise of his father Imran Pasha further deteriorated their living conditions. His mother focused all her energies into putting food on the table.

Suhail was picked up by the management of St.Peter School. The faculty at St.Peter school closely monitors the progress of Suhail as learning stops once he exits the school building. After a lot of hard work, the faculty is seeing promising results in Suhail's academics.

Gulnaz Babu wants to quit working at the tobacco factory someday. She is also grateful to YuvaLok Foundation who is managing St. Peter School for the unending support to her son's education. YuvaLok Foundation wishes to see Suhail continue his academics & pass out with flying colors. We will always support such students to break the curse of poverty.



BLESSINGS FROM YUVALOK CHILD, THE NETHERLANDS

YuvaLok Child Netherlands has been an integral part of our efforts at Chamrajnagar. Ever since we took over St. Peter School, we have received unrelenting support from our partners in Netherlands. Our heartfelt 'thank you' to the YuvaLok-Child Committee, under the Chairmanship of Engel Antonides for graciously investing their time and effort in promoting our work among their friends in the Netherlands. Their concern for the children of disadvantaged communities in Karnataka State and raising support for them is a huge motivation for us to continue serving enthusiastically. Our sincere gratitude to Pharos Foundation for joining hands with YuvaLok-Child and trusting us with their generous financial grant.



Untouched by Common Cold, Hakki Pikki community is now struggling with COVID

Ludiya & Rosa are not your average primary school girls. Unlike others, they are often spotted playing in the lush green forests of Bhadravathi. While the forest is home to dangerous wildlife, these kids can be considered as the modern day 'Mowgli'

Ludiya & Rosa hail from the Hakki Pikki community. The girls belong to the current generation of the tribe who consider formal education for their children as a necessity. Though they were admitted to Grace School supported by YuvaLok Foundation a few years ago, the Covid pandemic put a complete full stop to their education.

The faculty of Grace Public School started a rehabilitation program for Ludiya & Rosa. All their families received dry ration kits during covid. The teachers also helped the students with recorded lessons & Whatsapp worksheets. A series of extra classes were also conducted after the lockdown was lifted. Such efforts helped revive students like Ludiya & Rosa.



The Hakki Pikki community might have left the forest, but it seems like the forest will not leave them. Ludiya & Rosa still live in tents close to the forests in Bhadravathi. These young girls also hunt small animals & birds which they sell for money. Their parents have slowly started participating in jobs in nearby towns. While the situation is slowly returning to normal, children from the community have also returned to school.

YuvaLok Foundation continues to work with Grace School in rehabilitating the members of the Hakki Pikki community. We aim to see more kids from the community going to school than remaining in the forests.

HOW YuvaLok is hitting the 'MIDDLE' wicket for farmers in Kamagere, Karnataka

Despite India being an agricultural nation, the farming industry is highly unorganized. YuvaLok realized the true plight of the farmers when the students of the farmer community expressed the undesirable conditions of their families in Kamagere, Karnataka. Low income, farmer suicides, unimaginable debt, the list is endless. This situation enabled YuvaLok Foundation to start the YuvaLok Agricultural Training Institute in Kamagere. During the last 12 months, the management of YuvaLok regularly held meetings with local farmers about the core issues they were facing. With the help of experts from the field of Agro science, YuvaLok insisted on farmer friendly methods like natural farming. While the farmers have shown great interest in the same, YuvaLok has begun talks with the experts to begin a co-operative society where farmers sell to a governing body using natural farming methods eliminating the need of middle men. Every quarter an expert is conducting workshops, training & motivational talks to the farmers. It seems like there might be bright days ahead for the farmer community in Kamagere. YuvaLok wishes to make the farmer great again with this initiative.



EMPOWERING LEADERS TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT

After the lockdown for the last two years, not everything is going right for community leaders in Karnataka. Several community leaders in rural areas and towns of Bengaluru lost their means of livelihood. While these leaders earlier served as counsellors and spiritual guides to their community, the pandemic kept everyone far from each other thus taking away any means of income for them. YuvaLok Foundation came across these leaders during the dry ration kit distribution drive, took this as an opportunity and setup a meeting with such leaders to help them become self-sufficient. Over 50 leaders were in attendance for the meeting which was presided by top entrepreneurs, businessmen & financial trainers from Bengaluru city. The meeting saw our experts training the leaders in topics such as small cottage business, Financial management, alternative careers, Government subsidised business schemes and more. YuvaLok Foundation will continue to conduct workshops & conferences in the days ahead to further help the community leaders pick themselves up. YuvaLok aims to empower these leaders to become self-sufficient which will in turn help them to pursue their spiritual counseling without hurdles.



PROJECT EXPENSES 2021 - 2022



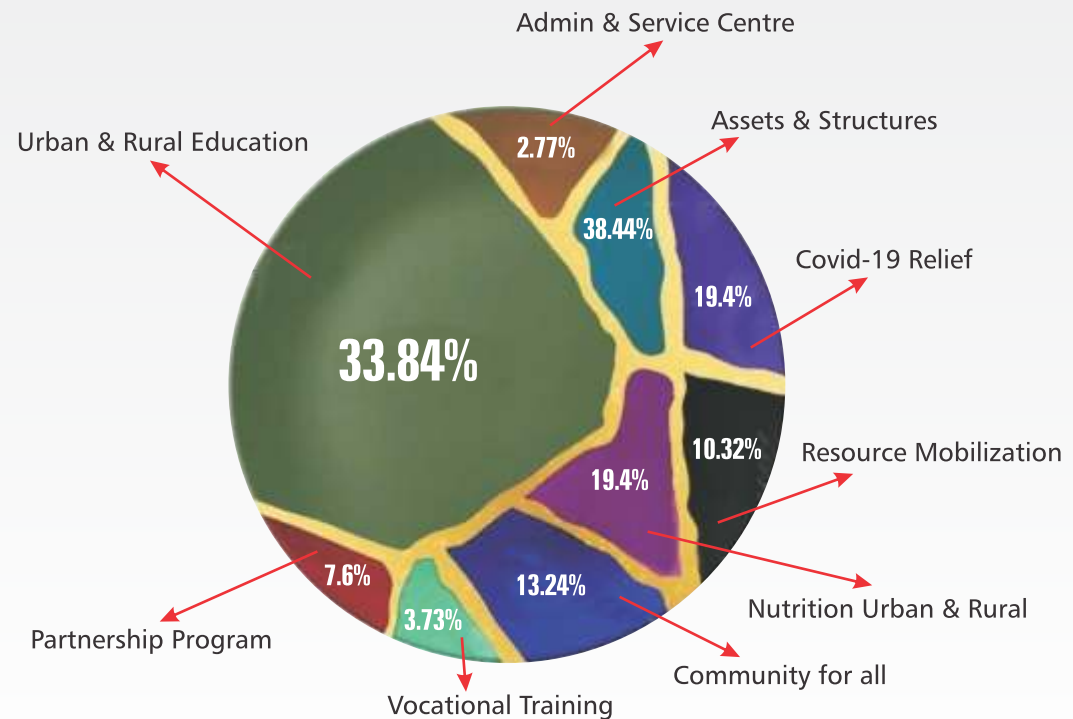
Dear Friends of YuvaLok,

It's because of you and your gracious support, we were able to accomplish all that you read and see in this report. Most of you have been with us for several years now. We honour your journey with us which has been a great encouragement and support all these years.

The transition after the passing away of Murali our Finance Manager has not been easy, but we are grateful that his Assistant, Blesson Philip stepped up and excelled in fulfilling the task given to him. The evidence is seen in the audited Annual Statement of Accounts for 2021-22. We are thankful to Oswald Smith, Internal Auditor for ensuring our accounts are in order. Our Chartered Accountants M/s R. Ramakrishnan & Co; as always, have followed the statutory requirements laid by the Government under the Income Tax Regulations, the Departments of Finance and Home Affairs. We sincerely acknowledge their work and express our thanks to them.

Friends, you played a great role in seeing us through in all our activities and programs during the year. We thank you so much. We will cherish your continued support and friendship. We will be happy to send a copy of the Annual Statement of Accounts to donors and supporters, on request.

Shobha Louis
Director - Finance



GALLERY





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