



**THOUGHTSHOP  
FOUNDATION**  
thoughtshopfoundation.org

CONCISE  
ANNUAL REPORT

2122

## ABOUT

**THOUGHTSHOP FOUNDATION** uses design thinking to innovate tools and systems to transform lives of marginalized people and empower for social change.

### SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS: RESEARCH DESIGN & TRAINING

We develop communication strategies, pictorial games and tools. We use a process that covers field research, testing and training of field workers, ensuring that the process and tools contribute to lasting social change.

### OUTREACH: THE YOUTH RESOURCE CELLS (YRC) PROGRAMME

Holistic development of young people has been a consistent theme in our work.

Since 2007, our YRC model has been creating youth leaders who are invested in sustainable youth and community development.

## REGISTRATION INFO

WBSRA : SO074007 (93-94)

PAN : AAAAT3629F

TAN : CALTO1833G

12-A : AAAAT3629FE2011901

80-G : AAAAT3629FF2008301

DARPAN : WB/2018/0211526

FCRA : 147120928

CSR : CSR00003739

AUDITORS : M. GHOSH & CO

BANK : AXIS

IFSC : UTIB0000351

SWIFT : AXISINBB351

LOCATION : KOLKATA 700053

## 2021 - 22 AT A GLANCE



Thoughtshop Foundation continued its outreach in partnership with Youth Resource Cells (YRCs) in Kolkata and South 24 Paragnas. YRCs worked with 2000 children directly, and 15000 community members indirectly. [\[PHOTO 1\]](#)

In 2022 we dealt with the consequences of stress accumulated through the pandemic - economic distress, frayed relationships between parents and children. The impact of schools being closed for two years were apparent as we discovered that 48% children aged 6 to 13 years were at reading age 0. This led us to initiate a new remedial reading programme.

Partnerships with American Jewish World Service, Human Capability Foundation UK, DKA Austria continued. Lodha Charitable Trust came forward with additional support to run programmes.

### YRC OVERVIEW

YRCs work to empower children to respond to and prevent violence and harmful social norms. They enable children to envision and pursue life goals that are realistic and value based. YRCs serve as model safe spaces and resource hubs to create inclusive, violence free communities.

YRCs support young people over a period of 15 years, starting at age 6, to grow to their full potential. Children in groups of 15 -20 members meet for weekly sessions, covering a range of themes. Older adolescents and youth are trained as Mentors to run the sessions using games, songs and stories.

## TOP STORIES

### COLLECTIVES & LEADERSHIP

#### SUPPORT GROUPS & MENTOR TRAINING

Children were initially reached via regular phone calls and **Home Visits**. Groups gradually started physical sessions in August.

Weekly sessions exploring themes – **Goals & Aptitudes, Gender, Community, Empathy** – were held in 98 clusters.

**Leadership actions** to protect their own rights, and/or the rights of peers, were noted for 363 children, 914 times. During the same time **Warning signs** were flagged for 425 children.

Mentors and Leaders met online while COVID restrictions were in force.

YRC Federation team met weekly to strategize and respond to the COVID crisis.

12 TOTs (on COVID Awareness, Grief Counselling, Adverse Childhood Experiences, were were conducted with 32 Youth Mentors and 49 Child Mentors.

### PARENT INTERACTIONS

1329 parents from 776 families were reached through Home Visits, **Parent Child Bonding Events**. [\[PHOTO 3\]](#) These were targeted at families experiencing parent child conflicts, neglect and abuse.

Mothers' Support Groups that were on hold earlier during the pandemic were restarted during this period.



## HEALING & WELLBEING

### CRISIS INTERVENTION

1177 warning signs of adolescent risks were identified. 397 new cases were received by the Crisis Intervention Team. Top 3 issues handled were around Physical/Emotional/Sexual/Online Abuse (76); Intimate Partner Violence (24) and Child Marriage (24)

### FITNESS

11 girls and 6 boys continued their Karate training [PHOTO 4]. 13 Trainees received their Orange belts. They also conducted regular Fitness classes with children from their own YRCs.

## GENDER, SEXUALITY, IDENTITIES

### GIRL'S SAFETY NETWORK (GSN)

GSNs were set up for 133 at-risk adolescent girls aged 14-17. Weekly sessions exploring relationships, sexuality, risks and Healing Techniques were held. [PHOTO 5]

### BOYS TO MEN

4 Residential Camps were on Power, Masculinity & Sexuality were held with adolescent boys aged 14-17. [PHOTO 8]

## EDUCATION & LIVELIHOOD

### LET'S READ

A reading assessment was done with 868 children in the 6-13 age group [PHOTO 7]. 417 had zero reading level. A new Reading Guarantee Programme was conceived. Curriculum and Tools were developed. Mentor were identified and 5 Mentor TOTs were held during this period.

YRCs facilitated School Admissions for 16 children and Educational Support was organised for 6 children.

### CAREER CLINICS & LIVELIHOOD TRAINING

101 young people received Career Counselling support.

A Reunion Event was organized for the first Batch of Nursing Trainees to understand their challenges and achievements. 3 girls from Batch 1 moved to better jobs from Ispat Hospital to Tata Medical Hospital.

One girl joined the Emergency Technician Course at School for Skills. Three girls were motivated to pursue the 3 year full fledged GNM course.

17 girls completed their GDA (Nursing Assistant Course) [PHOTO 6]; 2 completed their Emergency Medical Technician Course, awaiting placement.

7 boys have completed their GDA theory classes and started internship at various hospitals

8 youth completed their Safety Officer Training at Srimati Techno. One boy got a job as a Safety officer at Tata Consultancy.

### HIGHER EDUCATION

10 youth leaders were inspired to pursue higher education - MSW course from IGNOU. These were mentors who made a decision to work in the Social Sector.



## YRC IMPACT STATS

members: girls & boys 2010

number of sessions 3911

parents reached 1329

children who took leadership actions 363

enrolled in Reading Guarantee Programme 865





## PEOPLE

Governing Body	
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Mira Kakkar
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Dr. Satadal Saha
<b>TREASURER</b>	Lipi Roychowdhury
<b>MEMBER</b>	Veena Lakhumalani
<b>MEMBER</b>	Jeeja Ghosh
<b>MEMBER</b>	Tridibesh Sanyal
<b>MEMBER</b>	Saira Stephanos
Team	
<b>LEADERSHIP &amp; DESIGN</b>	Himalini Varma Santayan Sengupta
<b>PROGRAMME</b>	Uma Singh Anjana Paul Shampa Halder Tehsina Bano Bandana Makhal Sangita Das Punam Sadhukha Moumita Das Pranay Dolai Azharuddin Sk Suman Shaw
<b>COUNSELLOR</b>	Sahana Nag
<b>GRAPHICS SUPPORT</b>	Sumita Roy Chowdhury
<b>ADMIN &amp; ACCOUNTS</b>	Ashalata Das Thankappan Piyali Sinha Roy Dilip Chakraborty
<b>OFFICE SUPPORT</b>	Sushila Devi Ramesh Shaw

## PARTNERS

TOOLKITS PARTNERS
Calcutta Rescue, Kolkata
Jal Seva, Delhi
SEEDS, Jharkhand
Barefoot College, Rajasthan
Oxfam Regional Platform, Delhi
Sukhibhava Foundation, Delhi
SUPPORTERS & DONORS
American Jewish World Service
Human Capability Foundation
DK - Austria
Lodha Charitable Trust
PCMC Trust
Madhushree Mallik, Abhimanyu Sinha, Shiv Aditya Sinha, Jyotsana Prasad, Mira Kakkar, Mona Mehta, Himalini Varma, Anuradha Mukherjee.

YOUTH RESOURCE CELLS
• ALOR SANDHAN • DRISHTIKON
• HASHI KUSHI HOI CHOI • KULDIYA
YUVA PROCHESHTA • NABADISHA
• ROSHNI • SWAPNO • UJAAN
• YOUTH VOICE




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