

OUR FOOTPRINTS...

HUNGER WARRIORS (Arushi, Anoushka, Janhavi and Jaidev)

We, the Hunger Warriors is a passionate and dedicated team of students from Global Indian International School (GIIS Singapore) working unanimously towards SDG-2-Zero Hunger, SDG-4-Quality Education, SDG-13-Climate Action, and SDG-17-Partnership to achieve the goals.

Being empathetic is putting yourself in someone else's shoes and feeling the pain that they are going through. The alarming suicides of debt-ridden farmers with no aid from government, NGOs in Maharashtra, India was indeed heart-wrenching and with drought on one hand and Covid on the other, only added endless woes to their existing grim situation, where mere words of assurance would not sympathize, but they needed a concrete sustainable solution to impart education to their children, to get away from the vicious circle of poverty and unemployment at nature's behest.

Our Sustainable Solution:

With a continuous dialogue with the founder of Snehwan, NGO near Pune, India, who came from a similar background and faced similar adversities in childhood, being a software engineer he left his well-paid job, in the US to return and nurture 180 underprivileged children. We realized, '*If there is one investment a country should make, it should be in its children.*' By taking the support of community partners or generous donors we can break the cycle of luck and lack of opportunities for the underprivileged sections of society. In this digital world, where we spend most of our time on sophisticated devices in virtual universes, a virtual school that provides education to the underprivileged could create a world of difference for the needy. But their need was a dedicated container classroom to conduct smooth learning process, irrespective of seasons, to experiment sustainable solutions, or simply conduct a yoga, music class to rejuvenate positivity and give a ray of hope to the sons of soil.

Self-doubt crept in, which put us on the back foot. We thought hard about how to gather donors, and how to save every penny to donate to this noble cause by giving up travel in our vacations or by donating our scholarship. Until it dawned to us that their need was a container classroom and not merely digital school as we initially thought. Once we understood the lacunae between their requirements and our understanding, a host of questions filled our minds, how to deliver a durable and safe classroom within a short time span with Covid in, but we managed to prove our mettle and make it in the world of education.

Success is subjective and it is an iterative process. At the end of the day, it is how well you feel within. To us that was success! It is something that brought a contagious smile to the underprivileged kids. With detailed contemplation to GSL's feedback, we channelized our sustainable solution in facilitating the need of an hour by providing an eco-friendly, well-equipped classroom with good ventilation, durability, safety, and quality checked which facilitates smooth learning journey for these underprivileged children and in the long run uplift their families, community and give back positively to the society with a multiplier effect. (Testimonials, interview, videos enclosed)

Impact

We showed a spectacular surge in the funds raised which doubled to Singapore \$15000 in 2021-2022 from \$8000 in year 2019-2020 & \$6230 in 2020-2021 respectively. Average people impacted per day grew two and a half times from 153 (combined in 2019-2020 & 2020-2021) to 368 (2021-2022). (Graphs enclosed in Video)

→ We conducted two donation drives in our school - 'Books donation drive' with an NGO, 'Books Beyond Borders that shared it with the local libraries and underprivileged kids affected by natural

disasters in Asia. Also, a 'Essentials donation drive' to aid the migrant workers by donating to an NGO, 'Mad About Giving' in Singapore.

- We served multiple food donations in India by generous donors to celebrate birthdays in old age homes by Sai Annadanam and in Singapore we supported food feasts through temple donations and a mega food donation drive to migrant workers with Krishna Meals during Deepavali 2021. (photos & videos enclosed)
- An invite to present in the 'Youth Climate conclave 2022' amongst the selected 1900 attendees on the importance of using indigenously developed Drones in delivering essentials or medicines during natural disasters without affecting the flora and fauna garnered much appraisal as it provided employment opportunities in developing countries by addressing Climate Action and raised the awareness levels from 25% (2020-21) to 85% (2021-22).
- *During Covid, we aided heirloom weavers of Patan and through generous donors also continued supporting needy Covid patients selflessly. (View Annexures I, II)*
- Motivated peers to give back by nurturing nature in Singapore through tie-ups with N-Parks by planting trees to combat global warming consecutively from 2019 till date generating 13520 pounds of oxygen purifying the environment.
- *Tie-ups and partnerships with local NGOs like Snehwan and Mad About Giving strengthened our belief 'Think Global, Act Local' and to take the initiative to make a difference by connecting in local language, by developing digital games, creatively presented the Green Model and art works and giving virtual lessons to the needy children.*

Today Hunger Warriors is not just a name, it is an identity, and it could not have been possible without GIIS, our Principal, Ms Melissa Maria, teachers, parents, and stakeholders for supporting us. We are honoured and privileged with Gold by Jane Goodall Foundation for Roots and Shoots in 2021-22. (Photo enclosed). Two of our teammates were awarded 'Country winner 2022' in the Green Olympiad organised by TERI which facilitates global green initiatives internationally. GSL believed in our diligent efforts and encouraged us with UN's Impact Commendation Award for 2019-20 & 2020-21 making our every endeavour a humbling experience.

Our selfless action with rigorous follow up's, as advocates of a conscious shift in what we buy and eat taught us,

Now more than ever

Food a crucial need

Today our endeavour

Plants a young seed!

This seed will soon grow

Into a bountiful tree

Providing a future that'll glow

With smiles and happiness free!

To the world, a ray of hope

This is the Tree of Life

In a hunger-free world

Where a man has no strife!

