



Foundation For
Equal Citizenship

ANNUAL REPORT 2021





WHO WE ARE

Foundation for Equal Citizenship was established in December 2015 and is registered in New Delhi, India under Section 8 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013 (License Number 106090, CIN no U74900DL2015NPL288095) and is approved for 80g and 12a. 80G no is VIDE S.O.NO: NQ. CIT (E) | 2017-18/ DEL-FE27911-20072017/8769

We believe in taking a holistic approach for overall development and empowerment of any community since social, economic and environmental factors are interlinked. Instead of specializing in one area such as education, health, livelihood, resource management or skill development our approach is to prioritize interventions on a need and impact basis by first engaging with the community, then partnering with non-profit organizations, universities, and/or corporations that have the expertise and work in collaboration with them and the community.

Our focus is on women and youth as their empowerment can bring about sustainable change in their community.

NOTE FROM THE FOUNDER

**FFEC WAS FOUNDED WITH A
STRONG COMMITMENT
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE &
GRASSROOTS ENGAGEMENT TO
EMPOWER MARGINALIZED
COMMUNITIES.**

-Yasmeen Fatimah-



I had moved to the US for higher studies but always wanted to give back to the country and community I grew up in. In 2015 I took a break from my corporate career as a senior digital product strategist in the Silicon Valley, California and joined Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) as a consultant to help establish the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship(CIE) and improve JMI's on-campus placement record.

My one year at JMI brought me touch with youth from varied backgrounds of religion, class and caste. Since I was living on campus it gave me an opportunity to spend a lot of time with them at CIE, the Placement Centre and even after classes, hanging out around the guest houses or at Dr Tasneem Meenai's office of Student Welfare as students prepared posters for the Annual JMI Youth Festival Miraas.

This gave me an insight into the aspirations, dreams and concerns of young and dynamic Indians, particularly those from small towns of Northern India. When I moved to India I had thought of working with an existing organization but after discussions with a few organizations and advice and encouragement from people who knew about my passion for social justice, I decided to register a new one - I have been part of organizations and movements working on issues ranging from domestic violence to fundraising and peace in South Asia. Post 911 I joined organizations collaborating with student groups at Stanford University, UC Berkeley and many community colleges to organize events and bring awareness of the impact of ongoing wars.

FFEC started its first project on a rather ambitious note in Kaman, Mewat, rated as one of the most backward areas in India. I had come across Younus bhai at JMI whose taxi I often rented to travel to Al Hira Public School in Dasna, Ghaziabad that was founded by my father. On one of our drives he started talking about his village in Mewat and how underdeveloped it was and that it would greatly benefit from any intervention.

I took up his offer and soon his younger brother, Maqsood Khan, an ex-JMI graduate from Mass Communications arranged for a field trip to Kaman. After a few visits I decided to register FFEC as a non-profit organization under the Companies Act with Maqsood as a co-Director with the objective of building grassroots leadership in communities we work with so that they can take ownership and further empower their communities.

Thanks to Maqsood we were able to have meetings(chaupals) with the different sections of the community to understand and identify the most important issues for them. We met with members of panchayat, youth, older generation, women and visited schools, unmaintained and deserted health clinics, and farm fields with women working. Since lack of water was an important issue, we arranged for Aakar Foundation's team to visit and research **the possibility of developing check dams.**

After three months of frequent day trips and extensive field research, I took a step back and realized it was not practical or realistic to work in Mewat without first knowing and building the trust of the community. Due to lack of funds and human resources it was not possible to continue working there and I decided to return to Kaman after FFEC had gained some experience and had secured funds.

While chatting with domestic workers in the society I was living in, in Mayur Vihar, it occurred to me that all the sweepers, maids, electricians, plumbers came from **Trilokpuri**. They were from diverse religious, cultural and caste backgrounds. Trilokpuri with a population of two lakhs, spread across 36 blocks and 5 unauthorized areas(jhuggis), is like a mini-India with significant minority and migrant population from many different states. I began conducting focus groups with people living there, particularly women and decided to start work here.

We started by establishing our Children's Learning Center, **Kadam** in Block 32 near Ambedkar Camp(jhuggies) in summer of 2016 after a field research led by Asrar Jeelani with Kashif Abdullah and Arham Shamsi. Akbar, popularly known as Raja bhai who had just completed his Bachelor's degree became our first educator from the community. Many people from the community had suggested his name during the field survey as someone passionate about teaching kids. He has come a long way since then and now runs all operations on the ground.

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THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF KADAM IS TO OFFER KIDS A SAFE SPACE, WHERE THEY CAN LEARN TO THINK CRITICALLY, BE CREATIVE AND EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

The main objective of Kadam is to offer kids living in small homes a safe space, learn to think critically, be creative and express themselves. **Given Trilokpuri's history of communal violence inculcating tolerance, respect for other religions, educating about communal harmony and their rights as citizens have been important goals of FFEC.**

We also focus on strengthening reading skills and Mathematics. We found that most kids are unable to read which makes it difficult to understand any subject. Leadership workshops, training in spoken English and preparation for board and college exams are also activities we have been doing consistently. We hire all our educators from Trilokpuri since they are committed to their community's betterment and it helps in building young leaders.

Besides education, we have worked with women on projects ranging from helping Shahnaz set up her own sewing center, workshops with adolescent girls on feminine hygiene, nutrition and their rights by partnering with other organizations.

**WE HAVE WORKED WITH
WOMEN ON PROJECTS
RANGING FROM
HELPING SHAHNAZ SET
UP HER OWN SEWING
CENTER, WORKSHOPS
WITH GIRLS.**

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Our model is based largely on a needs basis and like many other organizations, **during the Covid lockdowns we distributed food, groceries and supported a community led kitchen with the help of volunteers from the community.** Each time we wrapped up our ration distribution program we heard requests for help with income generation since many of the daily wagers like waste pickers(kabaadiwalas), small shopkeepers, vegetable vendors, painters, rickshaw pullers lost their means of earning. It was to address these demands so that they could get back on their feet that we launched **an income generation program, Rozgaar.**

Engagement with young educators, college and university students for internships and fellowships prompted us to begin **webinar series** on topics of interest to youth. It was an idea suggested by a fellow, Arbab Ali and has been very successful. Our first series was on young women and we are currently having a three part **series on Climate Change.** We shall continue this initiative to discuss relevant issues and how we can collaborate with other established organizations.

FFEC continues to run on a string-shoe budget through personal donations. We could not have completed this 6 years journey without the hard work of our team on the ground, support of students from different colleges in Delhi, volunteers, advisors, well wishers, the local community, partner organizations and our donors.

We look for your continued support as we begin a new year with the hope of better health, freedom, peace and harmony!

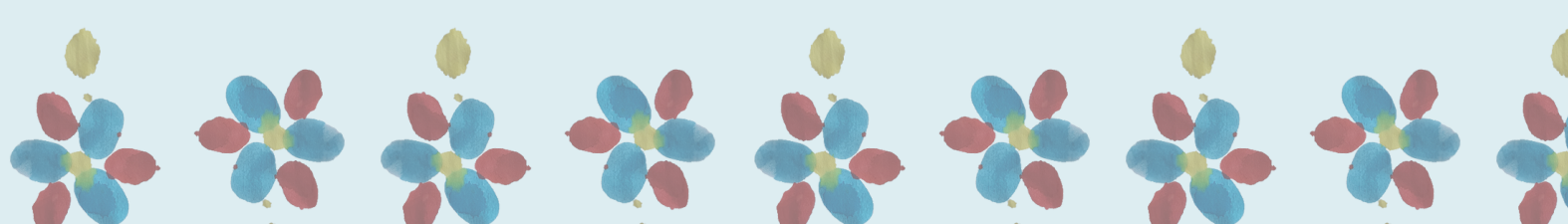
OVERVIEW

2021

**LIVES
IMPACTED** **300+**

**FUNDS
RAISED** **600K**

**NEW
PROJECTS** **6** 



OUR PROJECTS



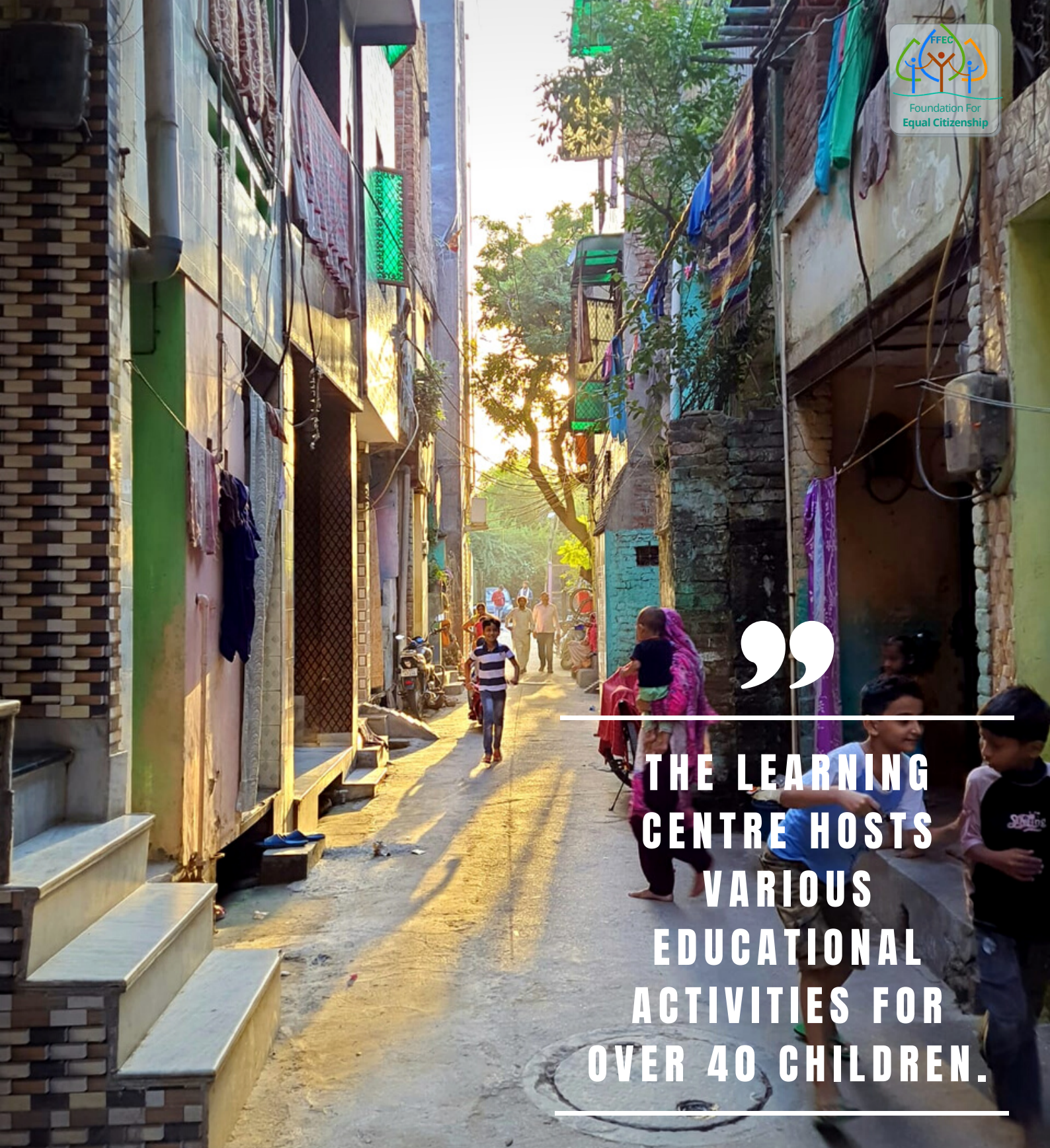
FOOD DISTRIBUTION

We were there when the community needed us the most. We distributed rations to almost 400 families with the help of around 25 community volunteers, Trilokpuri groups and Rahat foundation in over 6 rounds during the second wave of lockdown. We catered to homes of widows, or homes with no bread earner. The Kadam learning centre was converted into a distribution centre.

ROZGAAR

Pandemic came as a blow to the people who lost their means of livelihood. We believed that a little support from our end could help them stand on their feet. We provided microloans of around 50k to various individuals to sustain their businesses.





**THE LEARNING
CENTRE HOSTS
VARIOUS
EDUCATIONAL
ACTIVITIES FOR
OVER 40 CHILDREN.**

KADAM LEARNING CENTRE

We imparted reading and writing skills to the kids in the Trilokpuri slum. We conducted Maths classes for kids everyday which was divided into three sessions with 15-20 kids in each batch. We also re-started the coaching for 12th board exams and started coaching for 11th grade students.

SEHAT

We conducted workshops with women on health and nutrition. More than 100 women and young girls attended the sessions.



KAHANI

We believe in the power of creativity and imagination. Interactive sessions with kids were conducted where we imagined and created stories. There will be a weekly class of reading and storytelling.



Story Reading Session
"Akbar and Birbal"
WITH
Kavita Gussain
(Journalist)
Nov 1, 2021 at 3 PM
Foundation for Equal Citizenship

ART WORKSHOP

Children of age group 5-10 participated in this activity where they drew and painted. It was an engaging activity. The artwork made by the children are used on products by Simy's handmade which are put to sale.

The products are up for sale here: [FFEC Store](#)



FFEC WEBINAR SERIES

We conducted a 4 part series of webinars on women, Nari which covered topics like women in workspaces, social and political movements and technology. The main objective of the webinar was to discuss topics of relevance to youth and be an inspiration for others. This webinar series showcased young dynamic women in different areas, their challenges, journeys and discussed how to bring about change.

Watch here: [FFEC WEBINARS](#)

Nari : Women in Political Movements



24 OCTOBER 2021
7 PM IST, Sunday

JOIN ZOOM MEETING
Meeting ID: 294 367 2827
Passcode: JAxhd9

Facebook Live
[@FoundationForEqualCitizenship](#)



Kawalpreet Kaur
Lawyer and Activist, AISA
(Speaker)



Priyanka Shukla
Lawyer and Activist, AAP
(Speaker)



Yasmeen Fatimah
Founder, FFEC
(Moderator)

नारी • WOMEN IN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

FB Live from FFEC page



Navkiran Natt
Co-editor, Trolley Times
Speaker



Amreen Farooq
Founder, Aru
Speaker



Sadia Khanum
Director, Aaghaaz-e-Taleem
Speaker



Yasmeen Fatimah
Founder, FFEC
Moderator

Oct 10, 2021
7:00 PM IST

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 294 367 2827
Passcode: JAxhd9





FFEC Live Webinar on 'Experiences of Women in Workspace.'



Nikita Jain
Independent Journalist
Speaker



Simeen Anjum
Entrepreneur
Speaker



Huma Parvez
Urban Designer
Speaker

Sunday, 26th September at 7 PM
Google meet code: lfr-xdah-eqn
Live from Facebook - FoundationForEqualCitizenship



NARI: Women in Technology

Speakers



Sarah Masud
PhD Scholar, IIIT Delhi



Vidya Sridharan
IT Leader



Ananya Paul
PhD Candidate, UC Riverside

Moderator



Yasmeen Fatimah
Founder, FFEC

7 November, 2021
8 PM IST, Sunday



IMPACT STORIES



Amma Ji

Mothers are superheroes indeed and one stays among us. She is profoundly known as Ammaji, a widow who is 70yrs old and a mother of 2 sons. Unfortunately, she lost a son a while back who was the only bread earner in the family. The other son is 45 years old who used to be an auto driver but he lost his vision and is not keeping well. He is now dependent upon his mother. She used to sustain herself and her son by asking for support from her extended families and neighbourhood. But the pandemic came as a hit for her. We as an organisation supported her financially and also provided ration to their home.

We observed this issue in various homes where widows were finding it difficult to bring food to the table as their husbands were the bread earners of the family. Supply of ration helped them sustain themselves for sometime and currently we are working on projects which will provide them with sustainable livelihood.



Nazaakat

A waste picker from Trilokpuri. He is the only bread earner in his family. During the lockdown he lost his means of livelihood. The organisation helped him come back to his feet by granting him a small loan of Rs 10,000 to buy a rickshaw again to collect recyclable waste. Now he is able to earn his daily living and support his family.

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FFEC hired me as a physiotherapist for Alam about 7 months ago. He could not move his left arm or fingers due to nerves damaged in the shoulder from a serious injury more than a year ago. He needed help dressing up. Slowly with daily physiotherapy therapy his arm, wrist and fingers' movement started improving and his muscle strength is returning. He is much better mentally also and has started doing errands such as painting his home. He may not be able to do the work he was doing earlier of loading and unloading goods for an export company but can at least start something new.

-Rashid



Huma Parvez,
Volunteer

Working with FFEC has been the right additive to my professional journey so far. I have been working with the foundation for over 4 years now. In these years, my experience with FFEC not only broadened my horizon but also encouraged and supported me in my endeavours -big and small. In 2017, I conducted a papermachie workshop with the children at Kadam center in Trilokpuri, and most recently, in 2021, I was part of the panel for the webinar - Experiences of Women in Workplace, conducted by FFEC. Over these years, I have observed that the foundation has advanced its functions and dimensions, the impact of which is conspicuous.



Haseen Fatima,
Student

My name is Haseen Fatima, I am 18 years old. I am a resident of Trilokpuri. This year I took classes from FFEC and passed my 12th standard. I recently attended a session by Sonia ma'am which was on nutrition. I learnt a lot of things especially about diet of a woman. I am personally following her routine and also encouraging others around me to do the same. I have observed that this session impacted us in a very positive way and we are hoping to follow this in future as well.



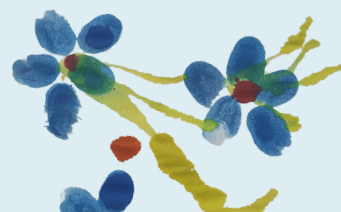
Riya,
Student

My name is Riya, I am a student of FFEC. Teachers here teach very well. Earlier I didn't have any interest in Maths and Science as I was not able to understand the subject very well. But after coming here I am able to understand the basics. I want to become a teacher after I grow up. My teacher guides me well about the future prospects and my goals.



Arpita,
Student

My name is Arpita. I live in Trilokpuri. I am studying in grade IX. Earlier I didn't use to know things. But after being a part of this organization I have started learning new things. They teach us very well. They engage us in a lot of activities. They were a great support in the lockdown. I am able to share my personal issues with them. They are a great support to me whenever I am stuck in life.



MEET THE TEAM

Meet our wonderful team which helps bring all our projects to reality!



Yasmeen Fatimah
Director



Asim Mirza
Director



Amitabh Pandey
Director



Maqsood Khan
Consultant
Digital Media



Akbar
Program Lead



Samreen
Educator



Ambreen Farooque
Educator



Shaheen
Community
Health Worker



Sonia Taneja
Nutritionist



Chanchal Goyal
Programs
Coordinator



Aba Noor
Social Media Manager



Arbab Ali
Programs Coordinator



Shoaib Khan
Programs Coordinator



Simeen Anjum
Graphic Designer



Shad Azmi
Web developer

”

I am Akbar, I have done my Masters from Jamia Milia Islamia University, Delhi. I became a part of FFEC in 2016. In the early days we started teaching children of age between 5-13 years who dropped out or were not able to continue with their education due to some personal constraints.

I have also supported youth in Trilokpuri for their education, who were needy or financially weak.

The main reason of me becoming a part of the organization was that my vision aligned well with the organization. We brought children of the community under the umbrella of the organization and imparted them education.

Our hard work paid off when these children topped their school. Today, they are studying in universities and also pursuing independent professional courses. Through the organization we want to see changes in the community. Children are moving out of the slums and achieving great things in their lives. But still there are a lot of improvements we would like to see in the field of education, health for which we are working and striving hard as an organization. And we believe we will reach the heights.

**AKBAR,
PROGRAM LEAD**



YOU HELP MAKE ALL THIS POSSIBLE!

We were able to accomplish a lot in 2021. Our team grew; new ideas and projects blended with ongoing projects. This report is an example of the collaborative effort of the dynamic young team! Many thanks to them for putting it together.

With your support, we look forward to continuing our work and continue investing in the communities we are invested in for a brighter and secure future.

Most jurisdictions require companies to prepare and disclose annual reports, and many require the annual report to be filed at the company's registry. Companies listed on a stock exchange are also required to report.

Rajesh Bansal, CEO, Reserve Bank Innovation Hub:

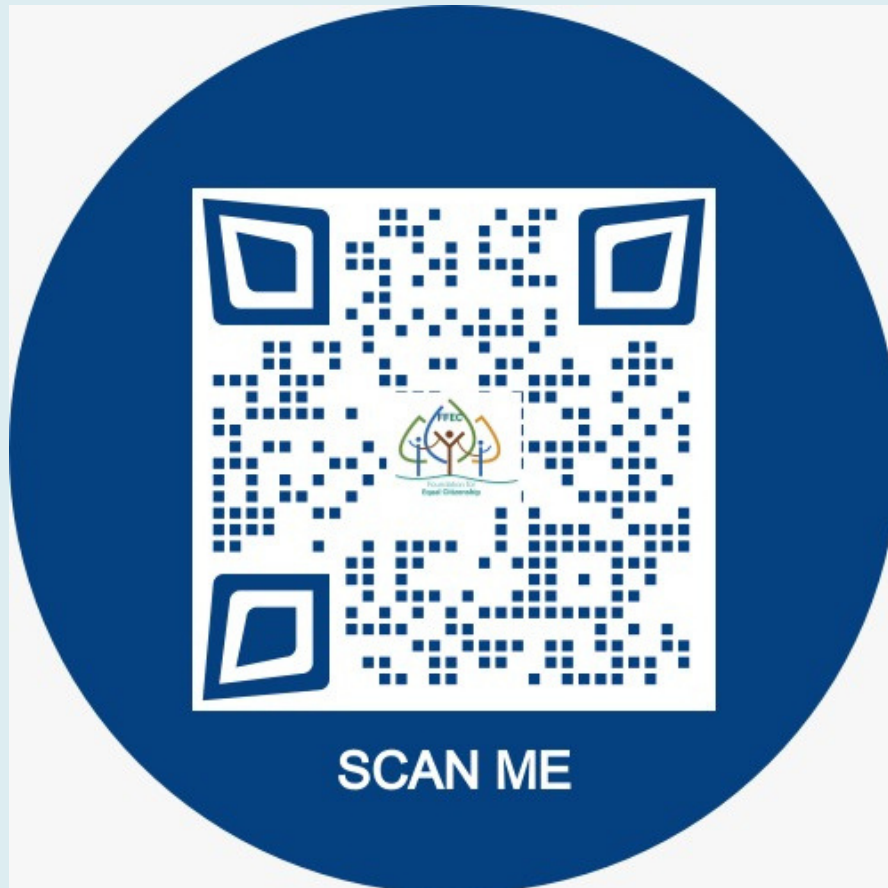
I found out about FFEC's work in Trilokpuri through a friend back in 2018. Observing their grassroots work with marginalized communities at their children's center my wife and I started supporting them. During the Covid lockdowns their work grew and we continued to support as they transitioned from ration distribution to small loans to people in the informal sector. Our best wishes to FFEC. Keep up your good work!

KID'S CORNER

We asked children at FFEC to describe their learning centre in one word. Here are some of the most interesting responses we got:



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