



Foundation For
Equal Citizenship

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Introduction

Mission:

Empower marginalized communities through strategic partnerships, social design, technology, and innovation, fostering inclusive development and equal opportunities.

Vision:

Work towards a society where all citizens, especially those with low socio-economic status and belonging to minority groups, have equal opportunities, leading to an empowered, enlightened, and dignified life.

Values:

Inclusivity: Embrace diversity and ensure that every individual, regardless of background, has access to opportunities.

Empowerment: Enable individuals to take control of their lives through education, skill development, and community engagement.

Collaboration: Forge meaningful partnerships with non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations to maximize impact.

Sensitivity: Approach community development with cultural awareness and a deep understanding of social nuances.

NOTE FROM THE BOARD

"Through our projects Kadam, Roshni and Buniyaad, we support a child's education, growth and development from birth to adulthood, leading to better opportunities and health."



2023 was a very impactful year for FFEC. Two new projects - Roshni and Buniyaad in were initiated. FFEC team members participated in the prestigious Delhi Half Marathon organized by Vedanta. Our team members doubled this year and so did our outreach in the community.

Project Roshni's team exceeded the target goal of enrolling 90 children into schools by nearly 100% with 171 enrollments! This project was in partnership with Bucket List.

Project Buniyaad's objective is to reduce malnutrition amongst children by providing access to growth and monitoring up to the critical age of 3 (first 1000 days of life). In order to achieve this, the project aims to improve the health of women and girls of child bearing age by counseling and educating them about nutrition, child caring best practices and make them financially secure.

A health camp was attended by 185 women where pregnant women were given free counseling by doctors. Eye exams resulted in 6 elderly women undergoing free cataract surgeries.

We witnessed a surge in enrollments in our after-school remedial classes post Covid. 70 % of our student are girls. Online English and basic computer training classes in partnership with CLE Trust were quite popular amongst students with a demand for more in 2024.

This year also marked our first year of sponsoring students for a technical course. 8 students completed their diploma in Food Technology with an internship at Priya Gold, a food company.

We could not have made such strides without your support. Thank you! Together we shall continue to impact more lives and scale our efforts.

About:

Foundation for Equal Citizenship (FFEC), established in December 2015 and registered in New Delhi, India under Section 8 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013, operates in the Trilokpuri urban slum of Delhi. This area is characterized by families with low socio-economic status, predominantly engaged in occupations such as domestic helpers and street vendors, often accompanied by low literacy levels. Our dedicated focus on this minority group within Trilokpuri emphasizes the empowerment of women, children, and young people. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by these vulnerable segments of the population, FFEC aims to create positive and lasting change, contributing to a more equitable and enlightened society.

FFEC's unique approach involves youth and women leadership as active agents to improve their own community, fostering a sense of ownership and sustainability in the initiatives undertaken.

In contrast to specializing in a singular domain, such as education, health, livelihood, or skill development, our methodology prioritizes interventions based on community needs and impact assessments. We engage directly with the community, forging partnerships with non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations.

This holistic approach allows us to tailor our efforts to the specific requirements of the Trilokpuri community, ensuring that our initiatives are comprehensive and impactful. By understanding the diverse challenges faced by the residents, we aim to create sustainable change and contribute to the overall well-being of the community. Our commitment to inclusivity and collaboration drives us to work towards a future where all citizens, irrespective of their socio-economic status, have the opportunity to lead dignified and empowered lives.

Our ongoing initiatives align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on fostering inclusive and equitable quality education, facilitating lifelong learning opportunities for all. Additionally, we are committed to eradicating all forms of malnutrition, specifically targeting the reduction of stunting and wasting in children under 5 years old. Furthermore, our efforts extend to addressing the nutritional requirements of adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating women.



OVERVIEW 2023

**DIRECT
BENEFICIARIES** **500**

**INDIRECT
BENEFICIARIES** ***1000***

PARTNERS ***5***

HIGHLIGHTS

136 children secured their legal identity documents, ensuring their official recognition.

171 children successfully enrolled in school, opening doors to educational opportunities.

100 students joined remedial classes at Kadam Learning Centre, enhancing their academic skills.

40 students enrolled in computer classes and English spoken language courses, expanding their skill set.

Sponsored 8 food tech students for internships at a food tech company, providing real-industrial world experience.

Conducted capacity building for 10 young interns, focusing on professional skills for social development at the grassroots level.

20 young girls received life skills education, empowering them with essential life knowledge.



185 women benefited from essential health services during the camp, including eye examinations and hemoglobin blood tests.

Successfully performed cataract surgeries for 6 elderly women aged 50 and above, significantly improving their quality of life.

Provided invaluable medical guidance to 28 pregnant and lactating women through doctor's consultations, ensuring the well-being of both mothers and infants.

Launched the MindUp Centre dedicated to mother and child nutrition, furthering our commitment to holistic health and well-being.

70 young girls and women received nutrition-based education during their visit to the Mind Up center.

Participated in Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon 2023, spreading awareness among thousands of participants on critical social issues related to malnutrition, stunting, and wasting.



PROJECTS

A. Kadam : Empowering Lives through Education and Legal Identity

This year marked a significant expansion of Kadam as we collaborated with both Bucket List and CLE Trust to further enhance our efforts in enrolling children into schools and providing comprehensive support services.

Kadam Sub-Projects:

1. Project Roshni: Under the umbrella of Kadam, we launched the "Project Roshni" initiative, focusing on enrolling children aged 6-14 into formal education. The collaboration with Bucket List has been instrumental in achieving noteworthy milestones, such as securing legal identities for 136 children and successfully mainstreaming 171 students into schools within Trilokpuri. Additionally, our commitment to preventing dropouts includes conducting elementary classes, reinforcing foundational learning, and maintaining a 100% retention rate as of the end of December.

2. Remedial Classes (6-19 years): Complementing our efforts, the second sub-project within Kadam addresses the educational needs of older children and adolescents aged 6-19 through "Remedial Classes." These after-school sessions are designed to provide targeted support, where young educators from the community assist 100 students in mastering their subjects and succeeding in exams. By leveraging the expertise of local educators, we aim to bridge educational gaps and empower the youth to overcome academic challenges.



3. Computer and English Classes in Partnership with CLE Trust: In collaboration with CLE Trust, our strategic partnership has resulted in two distinct sub-projects: "Computer Classes" and "English Classes." The "Computer Classes" initiative aims to provide essential computer literacy and skills to a group of 20 students between the ages of 13 and 15. Simultaneously, the "English Classes" program is dedicated to offering language education to 20 students between the ages of 11 and 14 specifically focusing on English proficiency. Recognizing the paramount importance of both digital and language literacy in today's world, our commitment is to prepare these children comprehensively for the challenges and opportunities presented by the digital age. This ensures they are well-equipped for success in the modern, interconnected world.

The Kadam project, with its diversified sub-projects and strategic partnerships, stands as a testament to our commitment to education and empowerment. Through innovative approaches, community collaboration, and now digital literacy initiatives, we continue to pave the way for a brighter future for the children and adolescents we serve.



B. Zarriya: Empowering Youth through Skills Development

Zarriya stands as a guiding light for youth empowerment, focusing on the technical skills development of individuals aged 19-24 who are pursuing bachelor's degrees. This initiative not only equips them with valuable skills but also provides a pathway to practical application through experiential learning opportunities.

This year, FFEC sponsored 8 young students for a diploma degree at Jamia Hamdard University, covering their tuition fees, accommodation, and transportation expenses for exams and practicals. Additionally, FFEC has provided a conducive space for online classes. This educational support from FFEC enriches the interns' academic journey, facilitating a unique chance to intern at a leading food tech company through Project Zarriya. This initiative ensures that these young individuals gain real-world exposure and hands-on experience, bridging the gap between academic knowledge and practical application in the dynamic field of food technology.

Furthermore, FFEC extends its commitment to youth empowerment by offering opportunities for young individuals to actively participate as interns at the grassroots level, addressing crucial social issues. This year our program provides a platform for 10 interns to enhance their skills in communication and social media design, engage in research activities, contribute to project implementation, and interact with stakeholders from various government sectors.

C. Raah :Life Skills for Adolescents

In the pursuit of empowering the community, FFEC takes pride in the initiation of the Life Skills Programme for adolescent girls. This strategic endeavor aims to impart essential life skills to 20 adolescent girls, equipping them with the knowledge and capabilities necessary to navigate the challenges of adolescence and beyond.

Recognizing the transformative impact that life skills can have on personal development, emotional resilience, and social integration, this program holds paramount importance in fostering a generation of confident and empowered young women. By addressing critical areas such as communication, decision-making, self-confidence and emotional intelligence,

FFEC endeavors to contribute to the holistic development of these adolescent girls, enabling them to build a strong foundation for a brighter future. This initiative aligns with FFEC's commitment to creating sustainable positive change within the communities it serves.



Food Technology Interns outside Priya Gold factory

D. SEHAT: Better Health

In June 2023, FFEC collaborated with Sagar Trust and NFIW to organize a comprehensive Health Camp for women, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to community well-being.

Attended by 185 women, the camp provided essential health services, including eye examinations for all participants and hemoglobin blood tests. Notably, 6 elderly women aged 50 and above underwent successful cataract surgeries, a transformative intervention enhancing their quality of life.

In addition to this, 28 pregnant and lactating women received invaluable medical guidance through doctor's consultations, ensuring the well-being of both mothers and their infants. This impactful initiative reflects FFEC's dedication to addressing diverse health needs within the community, fostering a healthier and more resilient future for the women we serve.



E. Buniyaad: Fostering Health and Nutrition

In a continuous pursuit of improvement and learning from past endeavors, this year marked a targeted approach for Project Buniyaad with the objective of reducing malnutrition, stunting and wasting amongst children below 3 years.

Building upon the insights gained from the Sehat project and observation of the physical and mental development of some children at our Kadam learning centre over the years, we refined our efforts to specifically address the needs of girls and women at reproductive age, pregnant women, and lactating mothers to bring about behavioral changes so that their children are able to reach their maximum potential within the first 3 years since conception - the most critical years for development as defined by the World Health Organization.

Inspired by the successful "Mind Up" centres by Heights and Mind Foundation (HMF), which demonstrated effectiveness in Asian and African countries, Buniyaad was initiated to educate women about the significance of nutritious food and to monitor the height and weight of their children up to the age of 3 using their digital app.

Structured as a replication of the proven "Mind Up" model under the mentorship of HMF, Buniyaad leverages their expertise and successful track record. With the goal of making a meaningful impact on the health and nutrition landscape within our community, we embarked on this journey.

Guided by HMF, we conducted a comprehensive baseline survey within the community, engaging with 70 young girls and women (ages 15 - 45 years) to assess their knowledge levels and access to the POSHAN program. The findings exposed gaps in understanding, revealing prevalent misconceptions and partial knowledge about nutrition and dietary practices. To bridge this knowledge gap and dispel myths surrounding nutrition, etc Buniyaad initiated a series of workshops covering topics such as cleanliness, the importance of dietary food, crafting nutritious meals on a budget, maintaining a balanced diet, hydration practices, and specialized dietary needs for pregnant and lactating women. The workshops aimed to empower women with practical and accurate information.

Key Workshop Focus Areas:

- Understanding the significance of a balanced diet during pregnancy and post-delivery.
- Insights into the importance of three-colored foods for overall health.
- Addressing the causes of blood deficiency in the body and preventive measures.
- Promoting proper nutrition for children and emphasizing the care of both mother and child.

In addition, our newly renovated Women's Center, MindUp, now serves as a vibrant space with four dedicated corners: an open kitchen area for engaging cooking demonstrations, a private counseling room, a dedicated kid's play corner, and a versatile workshops/activities section complete with a TV. The center was inaugurated on December 16th, with the honorable presence of the local elected member of the Delhi Government. To acknowledge the commitment of the women attending our workshops, certificates and rewards were presented.



SUCCESS STORIES

Afreen, a 7-year-old who faced barriers to school admission due to incomplete legal documents held by her parents. Undeterred by scorching heat, FFEC's dedicated young community leaders took to the ground, identifying school dropouts. Through collaborative efforts with the Delhi government, they successfully facilitated the creation of family ID cards and birth certificates for 170 children, including Afreen, aged 5-9 years. As a result of their proactive intervention, these youngsters are now enrolled in schools, breaking down barriers to education and paving the way for a brighter future.

Anjum, a young individual challenging gender norms and breaking barriers in her community. In a context where girls' mobility outside the community is often restricted, Anjum's success story shines bright. With determination and the support of the FFEC team, she not only completed her internship with a food tech company but also navigated the challenges of negotiating with her parents to pursue this opportunity.

Understanding the significance of Anjum's internship, FFEC actively engaged with her family, emphasizing the importance of her professional growth. Through open communication and advocacy, the team successfully convinced her parents, ultimately gaining their support for Anjum's endeavors.

Additionally, FFEC took proactive measures to ensure Anjum's safety during her commute to the factory. By organizing and coordinating safe travel arrangements, the team demonstrated their commitment to creating an environment where young women like Anjum can pursue their aspirations without compromising their safety.

SUCCESS STORIES

Ruby, navigating the complexities of a low-income life with three kids and a husband in auto-driving, found solace and support in FFEC. Struggling to afford her child's essential injections, she joined FFEC as a community worker. The unique aspect was how FFEC recognized her need to balance family and work. The organization provided a space where Ruby could contribute meaningfully to the community while ensuring she had the time and flexibility to attend to her family's needs. This thoughtful approach not only eased her financial burden but empowered her to maintain a harmonious balance between her family and community work.

Aman faced an uphill battle with poor elementary skills and financial struggles that seemed overwhelming. After failing his 9th CBSE class exam, he lost interest in studies. With his father working as a rickshaw driver and six siblings to care for, supporting Aman's education was a challenge. FFEC's Kadam Learning Centre stepped in, providing the personalized support he needed. Despite the odds, Aman's skills improved, and his confidence surged with dedicated tutoring and access to resources. Today, he's flourishing academically, a testament to FFEC's commitment to empowering every child, regardless of their circumstances. Aman's journey highlights the transformative power of targeted support.

Nisa, an 8th grader, embarked on a transformative journey through computer classes. Initially unfamiliar with basic tasks like operating a laptop or using Microsoft Word and Excel, she felt limited. However, after attending these classes, her skills underwent a remarkable transformation. With patient guidance, she learned to proficiently operate a laptop, master Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Beyond technical proficiency, these classes boosted her confidence, enhancing her academic performance and personal growth.

MEET OUR TEAM



Asim Mirza
Director



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Ankita Rawat
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Shaheen
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Esha
Social Media Manager



Haseen Fatima
Educator & Field
Co-ordinator



Samreen
Technical Assistant



Al Sabha
Trainer



Muskaan
Training Translator



Nisha
Educator



Nisha Kumari
Documenter



Ruby
Community Mobiliser



Saba
Community Mobiliser

OUR PARTNERS



BUCKET LIST

Sagar Trust



HAMDARD VOCATIONAL KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

(Real Courses Leading To Real Careers)

(A CENTRE OF JAMIA HAMDARD)



All of this is made possible by your support !

In 2023, our outreach expanded, and our projects gained greater structure. This progress was made possible by the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers, and the new partnerships we cultivated.

Your support has been instrumental in our achievements, and we eagerly anticipate continuing our efforts to invest in the communities we serve for a brighter and more secure future.

For your convenience, here are our account details:

Account Details: Name – FOUNDATION FOR EQUAL CITIZENSHIP

Bank Name: Axis Bank

Branch: Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi

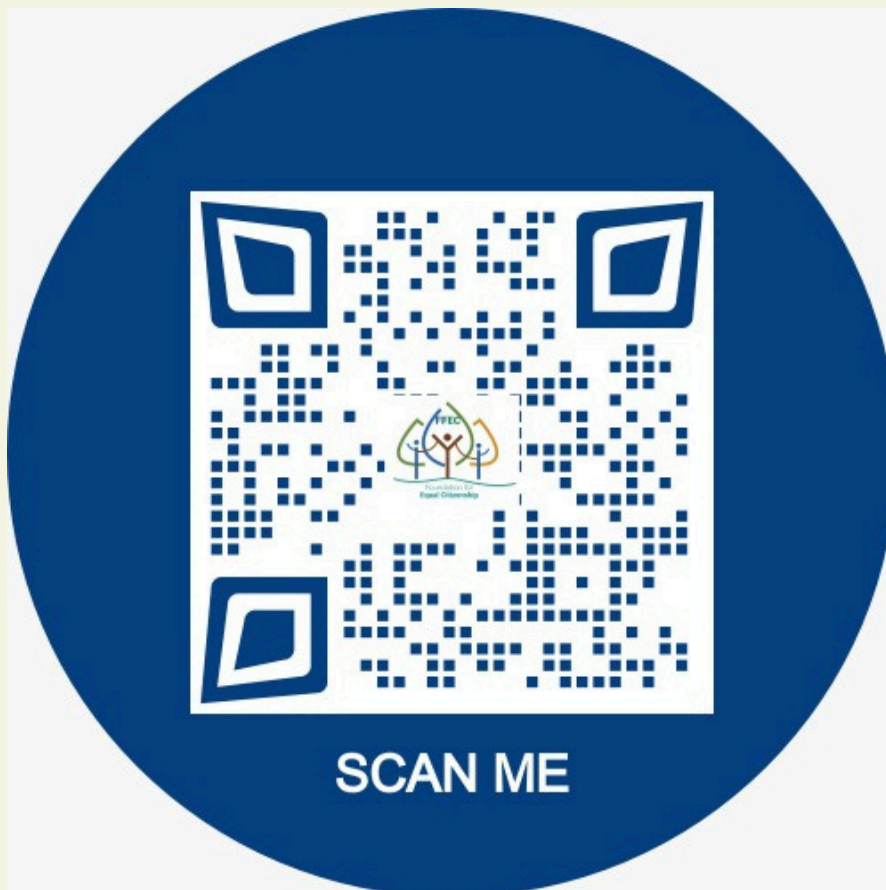
Account No – 915020061799917

IFSC CODE – UTIB0001358

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Thank you for your ongoing support. Annual reports are a vital aspect of our transparency and accountability to stakeholders and regulatory bodies, ensuring our commitment to fulfilling our mission.

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