## INDIA CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REPORT



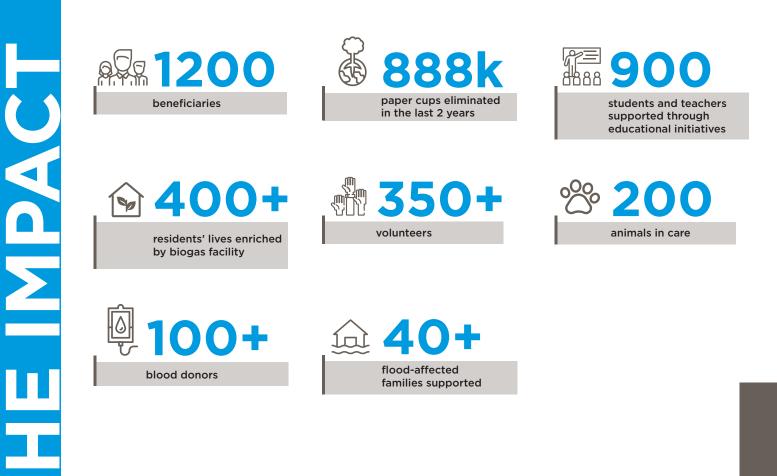
# 2018

WILL PROTECT THEM ALWAYS

# INTRODUCTION

At the heart of Meredith India is the spirit of giving back to the community. Meredith India takes immense pride in supporting and nurturing communities through various initiatives. This endeavour is spearheaded by a Corporate Social Responsibility Committee - a team of Meredith employees - that designs and implements support activities across diverse areas of need.

In 2018, the committee has built meaningful partnerships with not-for-profit organizations working in four key areas viz. Education, Health, Society, and Environment. The NGOs and institutions are chosen after a discerning audit and vetting process conducted by the committee members themselves, to ensure we successfully reach out to those in need.



Since 2017, Meredith India's CSR committee has focused on providing education to underprivileged children. The initiative is designed to support orphans, disabled children, street children, and children in conflict with the law. In addition, the initiative also helps feed underserved children.

Meredith India partnered with **Jyothi Higher Primary School**, Bangalore, to support primary, secondary and higher education, as well as to equip students with vocational skills.



Through a stream of projects, Meredith India has:

- Provided supplemental curricular learning through Saturday Learning Sessions and initiated English communication classes
- Encouraged students to participate in extra-curricular activities by organizing cultural events and sports tournaments focusing on upliftment of rural sports like Kho-Kho & Kabaddi
- Renovated school washrooms, donated study equipment, and helped add light fixtures to build a healthy and hygienic learning environment
- Fostered a reward system by providing scholarships and financial assistance to meritorious students across curricular and extra-curricular domains

Meredith India has executed similar projects at **Sumanahalli School**, a free-education institution run by Sumanahalli Society for nearly 400 children from the most marginalized sections of the society. In addition, Meredith India has also partnered with The **Akshaya Patra Foundation**, a not-for-profit organization that strives to eliminate classroom hunger by implementing the Mid-day Meal Scheme in government schools and government-aided schools. Through this partnership, Meredith India has successfully eliminated hunger amongst countless children and enabled them to focus on education.

S S S S C E T S





Through a close association with Little Sisters of the Poor, a charitable organization that works in service of the elderly, poor, and sick; Meredith India donated fowler cots, water purifiers, medicines, and other items that are vital to the residents' health and well-being.

cots, water purifiers, medicines, and other items that are vital to the residents' health and well-being. Meredith India also organized visits to the organization, where employees volunteered to spend time with the residents.

In association with **Home of Hope**, a home for the dying and destitute, Meredith India donated essentials for the residents' immediate needs. In addition, several other initiatives were implemented to better the living conditions of the residents.

Some of the other initiatives focused on upliftment of individuals included clothes donation drives, books, stationery collection for students, and shoe distributions at partner schools. Initiatives were also deployed to support rescue-and-rehabilitation efforts during the Kerala and Kodagu floods. Funds and essentials were collected through an internal campaign and the same were sent to affected regions.



# HEALTH

With the motive to promote preventive healthcare among the underprivileged, Meredith India focused on several initiatives in the domain of health.

#### In 2018, Meredith India partnered with three NGOs viz. **Sumanahalli Society**, **Samartham Trust for the Disabled**, and the **Indian Red Cross**.

In partnership with Sumanahalli Society, Meredith India focused on supporting people suffering from Leprosy, HIV/AIDS, and physical disabilities. Volunteers from Meredith India paid regular visits to the society to understand the needs of the residents and subsequently, design and deploy activities for them.

In association with the Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, Meredith India organised periodic visits, timely aid in the form of medicines, clothing and groceries as well as in-office events where the organization, along with other NGOs, put up handcrafted wares for sale. All proceeds raised through these sales were donated in aid of residents in each of the organizations.

With support of the Indian Red Cross - a voluntary humanitarian organization providing disaster relief - Meredith India organized a blood donation camp. Through this initiative, over a 100 employees donated blood towards use during medical emergencies.







A host of initiatives formulated by the Meredith India CSR committee focused on helping build a cleaner and greener environment for all.

In Q1 of 2018, Meredith India initiated a campaign to build a bio-gas plant at **Sumanahalli Society**. The initiative was identified and driven by Meredith India CSR to help turn the premises into a green household and eliminate reliance on wood-fuel to prepare meals for its 400+ residents. The key challenges included an imminent fuel shortage and the Society's financial encumbrance to opt for an LPG connection.

Meredith India employees also renounced the use of disposable cups, as part of a **'Go Green'** initiative launched in early 2017. By switching to reusable ceramic mugs, the employees helped eliminate the use of approximately





888,000 cups annually. In addition, employees also helped plant medicinal plants and saplings in premises of partner NGOs, in an attempt to enable residents to resort of home remedies for minor ailments.

Meredith India also conducted a voluntary drive at **CARE (Charlie's Animal Rescue Center)**, a shelter and home to several injured and abandoned animals. Committee members and employees actively participated in activities such as pet grooming, feeding, and enhancement of the campus by painting the walls and fences.





# TESTIMONIALS

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In our journey, we found a wonderful company like Time Inc. (now Meredith India) and who have been associated with us for the last 3 years. Their continuous support and contribution have been very important and valuable, especially their sponsorship and volunteer participation in our Walkathon. Their support for procuring digital tablets towards upskilling initiatives for the visually impaired was of great help.

Mahantesh, Founder & Managing Trustee, Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled

You must know that we always have you in our prayers, especially for every one of our sponsors and benefactors; we never forget them. We pray every single day; we wish you success in all that you do, good health for you and your family. And of course, our special prayers for your company - may it grow and flourish.

#### Sr. Carmel, Little Sisters of the Poor

It is heartening to see how the Meredith India CSR team has grown over the last couple of years to become a major conduit for our teams to choose volunteering options that give back to the community and positively impact people's lives. I feel, the group and the movement has served as a beacon reinforcing the moral compass of the entire organization and reminding us of our duty to our society. We look with pride at the varied initiatives that the CSR teams have accomplished in the last year through their tireless dedication. There is no end to CSR and I wish the entire team the very best as they set even higher targets to helping those less fortunate.

#### Aldrin Luiz

As a CSR member, I have realized that the more effort we take towards the betterment of our society, the more we receive in terms of learning. Making a difference in someone's life is a great thing. We should also know how to apply it on a daily basis & make it a part of our lives. I await the opportunity to participate in more activities that can improve the lives of underprivileged children.

#### Shagun Garg

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CSR has given me an opportunity to contribute to the society in whatever way possible. I am happy to have contributed to enabling students to make their future stable, thus leading to a better society. Things like preventive healthcare, safer and greener environment, enabling children and women to have equal status in the society are some of the key areas that we should look forward to support.

#### Gyana Ranjan Barik

While we can always donate/offer funds, it is always more fulfilling to take out some time and be a part of these initiatives. I'm grateful that we were able to help Akshaya Patra with a part of their cooking. It is said - feeding a child is not charity, it is a social responsibility. It was also great fun to spend time in the schools, to be welcomed by the sweet songs of the children, to serve meals to them and to eat with them. The memories of that day can never be replaced with anything better.

I have contributed in CSR for two years now and every time we finish an event that is planned, we

beyond words and to be able to touch someone's

life through your own small way is a great feeling.

Thank you CSR team for making me a part of the

team and giving me an opportunity to do my bit.

experience a level of satisfaction that can't be

explained. The joy on the faces we witness is

Nikhita Habib

#### Sarika Suresh



#### TO KNOW MORE, CONTACT US AT:



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