BHUMI

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

CHANGE TODAY ... CHANGE TOMORROW
Dear Friends,

Thank you for travelling with us to make 2017-2018 yet another outstanding year for Bhumi. Our passionate young volunteers and employees have strived to expand our outreach while continuously strengthening our programmes.

Comprehensive education in language, STEAM, arts and sports was provided to children from over 274 shelter homes, 25 urban slum communities, and 17 government and low-income private schools.

Despite some difficult times, Bhumi is stronger than ever due to our continually expanding community that comes together to improve our programmes, to offer resources, and talent in support of our important mission.

Our ongoing goal is to bridge the inequalities in society by improving the standards of education and encouraging the youth to volunteer their time for the nation’s progress.
A few other programme highlights include:

40
cities volunteered for education and civic welfare

490
children provided scholarships to pursue education

7,823
children’s wishes fulfilled

2,74,231
volunteering hours clocked

We invite you to follow our work on social media and through the ‘Bhumi Mirror’, our monthly newsletter. You could also support the education of a child, volunteer at an event, or enable newer opportunities by connecting your institution/corporate.

Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of Bhumi. We are looking forward to much more in 2018-2019!

Vaishnavi Srinivasan
August 15, 2018
ABOUT US

Vision: Helping build a more influential, equal and socially conscious society since 2006.

Mission: Bhumi drives social change by fostering an environment where young adults & children learn, lead and thrive.
Bhumi bridges the gaps in formal education and opportunities by providing under-privileged children language and STEAM education, life-skills support and scholarships for higher education:
- through volunteers during weekends at orphanages
- through teachers during the week at low-income private and government schools
- through community youth every evening at after-school community centres in urban slums

Bhumi provides a platform for volunteers to take up causes linked to the Sustainable Development Goals. There are one-off and regular volunteering activities towards animal welfare, road safety, disability, environment, health etc.
The interventions from Bhumi, jointly delivered and managed by volunteers, not only provide a platform for them to contribute to society but also to hone their skills and explore various interests. The teaching, learning opportunity has created a skilling opportunity for the volunteers, who not only get to manage various projects but also work in various specialised areas like HR, CSR, training, communications, event management, marketing etc.

Bhumi invests in the leadership development of the volunteers doing several city, regional and national level workshops each year. This helps not just in personal but organisational growth too. Volunteers participate in the workshops organised by Bhumi to take up leadership roles within the organisation and to learn various aspects of leadership development.
Starting off with a handful of volunteers, we have engaged close to 18,015 volunteers this year and have clocked an estimated 1.66 million volunteering hours cumulatively since 2006. If one engaged volunteer can change the life trajectory of five children – the social, economic and environmental returns on our society are immense.

Bhumi also recruits the best of potential to manage programmes, operations and other administrative work, and currently has full-time employees in Chennai, Bengaluru, Kolkata and Mumbai, and Pune.

Estimated volunteer hours clocked: 2,742,31
Ignite is Bhumi’s education programme for under-privileged children.

**Ignite at Shelter Homes:** Delivered during the weekends by over 1,800 trained volunteers of Bhumi, the programme comprises English, Mathematics, Science, Robotics, Computers, mentoring, arts, sports and life skills support. The programme impacted 16,238 children from 274 shelter homes in 2017–2018.

**Ignite at Community Centers:** Delivered by trained community volunteers from within the community in a small adult–child ratio, the programme bridges inequities faced by children living in such environment and emphases on modelling good behaviors. The programme is ongoing at 25 centres across Chennai and impacted 868 children in 2017–2018.

**Ignite at Schools:** Focuses on bringing social–emotional development, digital literacy into the school (government & low cost private) schedule. 1,956 children and 53 teachers from 17 schools across Chennai, and Kanchipuram districts were part of the programme in 2017–2018.
A strong future orientation and life skills to ensure future success

Reduced drop out from school

Increased opportunities for college and future employment

Financial and social stability

Engagement in their community’s civic life
The change in skill levels is gauged through a Baseline Assessment administered at the beginning of the year, followed up by a year-end assessment. This is diagnostic in nature, and helps the facilitation team in identifying the learning needs of each child and create individualized plans (if needed).

For example: The Baseline Assessment for Mathematics looks for children’s current learning levels or skills in number identification, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fraction, integers and measurements.

For language, the baseline is a combination of both oral and written. The structure is similar to ASER’s, with four questions primarily from reading fluency and will help identify the children’s skills in letter recognition, reading of words, reading of sentences, reading and comprehension of story. The other quantitative parameters will be gauged from data collected before, during and after the programme year.
Our children, mostly from vulnerable communities, have minimal exposure to art, literature and sports. However, have inherent talent that needs a platform to experience, and some time to hone.

A one of its kind initiative, Nakshatra is Bhumi’s inter-centre annual talent festival to unleash the creative potential of children. Nakshatra provides a platform for our beneficiaries to showcase their extracurricular capabilities.
The events include a wide array of arts (like Clay Modelling, Face Painting, Rangoli), literary (like Adzap, Quiz, Story Writing), cultural (like Singing, Dancing, Skit) and sports (like track & field events, indoor sports, football).

**Cities:** Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Pune, New Delhi
An individual volunteering for a social cause has its benefits; but when a community volunteers, the impact is much deeper and wider. Through ‘Catalyse’, Bhumi has been mobilising communities to address civic challenges by volunteering their time and effort.

Promoting volunteerism, activating citizens, and incubating innovative projects make it possible for citizens to join Bhumi’s virtuous cycle at multiple places. From short term to long-term opportunities, our civic projects span a variety of causes linked to the Sustainable Development Goals.
This year, **11,865** volunteers clocked **59,843** hours of volunteering across:
- Animal welfare
- Education
- Disability
- Environment
- Health
- Road Safety
- Swachh Bharat
“There are very few experiences in life that give you mixed feelings of heartbreaks, memories and a lifetime of learning. For me, it’s volunteering with Bhumi. When I figured that I love teaching but did not have the guts to quit my IT job, the least I could do was to volunteer. Since then, gates of new opportunities have opened for me and I have transformed into a different person. I love what am doing, and often plunge deeper when I see how my work is making a difference in these children’s lives.”

– Ms Ishwarya (Volunteer, Bhumi)

“Bhumi, a young organisation energised by a motivated team of volunteers, has embarked on a noble vision of building an equitable and a socially conscious society. Their unique model brings out the leadership qualities in their volunteers and at the same time fills the gap that our present society has unfortunately created in terms of teaching and social inclusiveness.”

– Mr V.N. Vijayaraghavan
(Managing Director, IM Gears Pvt. Ltd.)

“Except one little girl, every child in my classroom participates in activities. She was very shy and hesitant. Bhumi’s life skills classes have brought about a huge change in her, and she now participates enthusiastically in all classes. As a teacher I felt helpless and unhappy that I couldn’t help this one child. I am very thankful and grateful to Bhumi for giving this curriculum and transforming students’ lives dramatically.”

– Ms Priyadarshini
(Teacher, Chennai Middle School, MMDA-1)
“I was apprehensive when I attended the first workshop and wasn’t sure if the children would be involved. After several classes of life skills, when children were asked to thank the one person who has been their pillar of strength, many children came forward to recount and share their memories and gratitude. My moment of pride and joy, however, was when a physically challenged child, who is withdrawn and mostly quiet otherwise, shared his story voluntarily. I was touched to see this transformation.”

- Ms Jaya (Teacher, Children’s Garden Higher Secondary School)

“My experiences of volunteering with Bhumi at a shelter home motivated me to pursue a fulltime career with the organisation. This has helped me understand the depth of the challenges that persist in our society and start working on these rather be a passive commenter. It has also helped me acquire leadership skills and broaden my perspectives. Greater joy hath no man than this, a person who is working to bring joy in other’s life.”

- Mr Satheesh Ravi (Employee, Bhumi)
## FINANCIALS

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<th>Expenditure</th>
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Full Audit report is available at www.bhumi.ngo/legal
HELP US GROW

• Rs.1,000 will help us educate a child for a year
• Rs.3,000 will help us train 50 new volunteer teachers
• Rs.13,000 will help us get a new computer for our children

Become ‘Friends of Bhumi’ – Contribute every month through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) or ACH. Details on www.bhumi.ngo/donate

Be our knowledge partner - share your corporate-management expertise and provide pro-bono consulting

Engage employees/students in team volunteering opportunities through the volunteers.org platform

Donate used computers/laptops/tablet PCs to help scale our technology driven educational projects.

Help with scaling and increasing impact in your region by partnering with us for your CSR initiatives.