

## ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

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**The YP Foundation (TYPF)** is a youth run and led organization that supports and enables young people to create programmes and influence policies in the areas of gender, sexuality, health, education, the arts & governance.

The organization promotes, protects and advances young people's human rights by building leadership, and strengthening youth led initiatives and movements. Founded in 2002, TYPF has worked directly with 5,000 young people to set up over 200 projects in India over the last 8 years, reaching out to 300,000 adolescents and young people between 3-28 years of age.

- *Our Vision* is of a world where young people's human rights are realized, their leadership skills are enhanced and they are recognized as powerful change makers and equal stakeholders in society.
- *Our Mission* is to promote, protect and advance young people's human rights by building leadership and strengthening youth led initiatives and movements.
- *Our Goal* is to support and enable young people to create programmes and influence policies in the areas of gender, sexuality, health, education, the arts & governance.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

We believe in empowering young people's access to information, services and rights such that they can build collective platforms to challenge and develop their leadership potential. We empower young people by supporting their work through three key focus areas, namely:

- **Awareness and Advocacy:** Young people's work with Gender, Sexuality, Health & Rights, Peer Pressure and Mental Health, Life Skills and Education, Healthcare and Governance and Accountability (focussing on the implementation of The Right to Information Act in India).
- **Community Based Partnerships:** TYPF works primarily in the National Capital Region (NCR) and works with youth led groups with partnerships at national, regional and international levels. We have collaborated with youth groups and young activists from 13 states across India, including Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Bengal, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Kashmir, Nagaland, Gujarat and Bihar. TYPF has supported 250 slum and street children across two locations in New Delhi and partners with Today's Youth Asia in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **Communication & Skills Development:** TYPF trains young people to develop their communication and technical skills, and skill to work with film, literature and to build and support platforms for independent music in India.

Through our 3 focus areas, TYPF **engages young people to develop projects through 6 programmatic divisions** that work with:

1. Empowering Street Children (With Health & Hygiene Awareness, Life Skills & Education)
2. Addressing Mental Health Issues & Developing Life Skills with Adolescents
3. Awareness & Advocacy on HIV & AIDS, Gender, Sexuality, Health and Rights
4. The Right to Information Act, Governance & Citizenship
5. Promoting, Protecting and Sustaining Independent Music
6. Encouraging Human Rights through Film

## **DEVELOPING YOUTH LED GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY**

TYPF's focus over the next two years is to increase young people's engagement with human rights work and to create stronger, more inclusive and practical social impact through the following programmes. In 2010, the organization undertook its first 3-year strategic planning process, with inputs from our partners and donors. The YP Foundation is run by a team of 15 staff members, who work full-time and part-time, between 16-26 years of age. TYPF staff work with volunteers to develop institutional capacities to fundraise; monitor, evaluate and assess institutional goals; coordinate media and press relationships; monitor finances, due diligence and administration and oversee the content development and on-ground execution of programmes.

## **PROGRAMME DIVISIONS**

Our focus is to build accountability and leadership amongst young people, enhancing partnerships between young people and youth led/focused groups. Our programmes engage over 300 volunteers from across India each year. TYPF was developed by young people who have worked together as staff and volunteers from an *idea* to an *institution* over the past eight years. Our work has been made possible by the solidarity, support and encouragement of individuals, communities and organizations who have believed in our vision.

## **BLENDING SPECTRUM: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PEER BASED COUNSELING**

"I have a dream of going to school, learning new things, and becoming an airplane driver".  
- *Khurshid, 10 years, Ummeed Home for Boys, Center for Equity Studies*

"I want help in English and math's as I like school and I want to be there as I want to be a teacher."  
- *Nandini, 7 years, Nizamuddin Basti*

"I draw and colour, we make a train to the basin station and wash our hands. I have learnt that by washing one's face, hands and body and keeping myself clean I won't get diseases. I now throw garbage into the dustbin and we make sure the area around where we live is clean. I play lots of games and colour drawings that talk to us about hygiene."  
- *Rakesh, 8 years, Uma Pandey Rainbow Home for Children, Center for Equity Studies*

"You have been an amazing platform to find out where we stand and to develop our skills, be it leadership or communicative. I can say for myself as well as for some of the people that I came across this wonderful journey where we may be a small part of the YP, but the YP has and will always be a big part of our lives."  
- *Vineet Recrival, 21 years, Volunteer*

## **Life Skills, Education & Health for Street and Slum Children**

**Blending Spectrum** is a community programme that engages young people as peer educators to work with urban street and slum children in Delhi to promote child rights and learning opportunities as part of the same. Founded in 2006 by 17 year old Manka Bajaj, the project increases sensitivity and promotes a better connect and understanding between street and slum children and the urban youth.

The programme is designed to increase children's knowledge of primary health and hygiene education, supporting their transition into formal education and developing Life Skills that are complementary to the same. Using a range of interactive learning exercises, arts and sports, the project through a Life Skills Education curriculum helps develop children's critical thinking; inter-personal and comprehension skills, strengthening their abilities to negotiate challenges in their daily lives. Blending Spectrum works in two locations across the NCR, with a community living in the Nizamuddin Basti and at the Ummeed Home for Boys. The Ummeed Home for Boys in Qutab Institutional Area is part of the Dil Se Campaign, run by our partner the Center for Equity Studies. The two communities have a total strength of 155 children. Across 2010 - 2011, Blending Spectrum conducts two programmes at the Nizamuddin Basti and one at The Ummeed Home for Boys.

At the Nizammudin Basti, Blending Spectrum works with 50 boys and girls between the age of 3 to 14 years, implementing a *Life Skills Education and Arts Programme and Hygiene, Health and Nutrition Awareness classes*. The project also conducts *Academic Classes* providing assistance to children who have transitioned into formal education, in order to support their academic progress and personal development in school.

At the Ummeed Home for Boys, Blending Spectrum currently conducts a Digital Storytelling programme in partnership with Adobe Youth Voices and the Global Fund for Children. The project trains 25 children and young people between 11 and 20 years of age with 14 peer educators on using film as a medium of personal expression. In 2011, the children and peer educators will produce 8 digital stories together. Blending Spectrum has successfully worked with 80 peer educators and 305 children, assisting 110 children to enrol in schools with a zero percent drop out rate since its inception in 2007.

### Donors & Partners

Blending Spectrum has been supported by the Global Fund for Children, Cascade Enterprises, IDEA Cellular and Individual Donors in the past. In 2010, the programme partners with the NGO Dream A Dream (DAD) as Curriculum Development Partners and is supported by the Global Fund for Children.

### **KNOW YOUR BODY, KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! UNDERSTANDING SEXUALITY, GENDER, HEALTH, RIGHTS AND HIV/AIDS**

"KYBKYP enables young people to access information and services on issues of sexuality, gender, health and reproductive rights by spreading awareness through peer education, advocacy campaigns and capacity building programs. In light of sexuality not being openly discussed, this is one of the few programs across India that encourages young people to understand their own bodies, identities and orientations, lobbying for Sexuality Education to be accessible."

- *Kamiya Kumar, 24 years, Staff Member & Ex Peer Educator*

"There is something fundamentally incorrect, with health and policy systems, with governments that put the idea of shame, silence and taboo into a young child's mind by virtue of the lack of education they give him or her on basic issues regarding their body, rights, sexuality and health. Young people need to be trusted. We do not lack the ability to comprehend information given to us and can be trusted to exercise informed decision making, on the premise that unbiased information is given to us."

- *Ishita Chaudhry, 26 years, Founder & CEO*

'**Know Your Body, Know Your Rights' (KYBKYP)** is a programme that addresses young people's need for Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and their increasing lack of access to information regarding their health and rights. The programme trains young people as peer educators to address issues of Sexuality, Gender, Health, Rights and HIV/AIDS through peer-to-peer workshops and programmes in their own communities. Peer Educators are trained over a period of 4-6 months and in addition to being trained develop independent research case studies, produce short films and literature and conduct awareness campaigns in communities that engage decision makers, civil society and young people, advocating for increasing young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education as well as youth friendly health services.

- The programme comprises of an **NCR Peer Education Programme** that trains over 500 young people annually from across the NCR on Gender, Sexuality, Health and Rights, as well as conducts peer-to-peer workshops in communities.
- A **National Capacity Building Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme**, that trains 30 young trainers and peer educators a year, who are implementing CSE or Youth Friendly Health Services related work across 8 states in India.
- The project has reached out to over 1,500 young people across 5 states in India through its workshops and has also expanded nationally, to host **The Project 19 Annual Festival** (with the Center for Human Progress) that has brought together over 600 marginalized rural and urban youth together in Delhi to lobby and articulate their collective rights to their sexual reproductive rights and health.

- **The Know Your Body, Know Your Rights – National Online Campaign for Comprehensive Sexuality Education**, one of India's first youth led campaigns launched in 2010 with support from UNESCO, the MacArthur Foundation and CREA. The campaign enables young people to articulate and address their need for and ability to access Comprehensive Sexuality Education in India. The aim of the campaign is to address the lack of young people's response to and garner feedback from young people across India, on the latest draft of the Adolescence Education Programme (AEP)<sup>1</sup>, released by NCERT, UNFPA and UNESCO in 2010.

### Donors & Partners

Project 19: Know Your Body, Know Your Rights has been supported by NACO, UNDP, UNAIDS, UNICEF, The Ford Foundation, PFI, The Packard Foundation, TARSHI, Punj Lloyd and Moser Baer. In 2010 the MacArthur Foundation, IPPF and the International Women's Health Coalition have supported programme activities.

### VOICES: THE SCHOOL PROJECT – ADDRESSING LIFE SKILLS AND MENTAL HEALTH

"I was reluctant to do anything. This habit left me today."  
- 13-year-old boy, Bluebells School International

"I like these sessions. Because I enjoyed a lot & learnt more about communication in which I learnt how to speak properly & about listening, interacting & eye contact etc. I feel that we are equal."  
- Sangeeta, 20 years, The Ranjan Project

"(VOICES) taught me to stand for my self and my opinions and voice them out. Also, to respect my thoughts and myself. All this I knew subconsciously prior to the workshops but wasn't really practicing it in all spheres of life." "(It) has taught me A LOT. From standing for myself, my thoughts and opinions to respecting and voicing them. It has liberated them."  
- Anonymous, Peer Educators, VOICES 2009 – 2010

**VOICES – The School Project** is a peer education programme develops stronger life skills and encourages informed decision-making in school going adolescents, addressing mental health issues that continue to grow in importance in urban schools. VOICES conducts a yearlong module, training peer educators on a range of issues including identity, depression, bullying, substance abuse and eating disorders linked to peer pressure, stereotyping and the influence of appearances during adolescence. Peer Educators conduct a three-part workshop module with school going adolescents, working in cohesion with the school administration and counseling/support services.

VOICES provides a safe space for adolescents to express and formulate their attitudes on issues relevant to them, encouraging informed opinions. The programme writes a Recommendations Report that is provided to each school at the end of the process, to suggest further, self-sustaining steps the school can engage in, to continue an open dialogue. The programme was established to empower adolescents to effectively cope with the challenges and pressures of daily life, owing to the increasing levels of violence, substance abuse and peer pressure that exists in urban city schools. VOICES has worked with The Ranjan Project, Springdales School, The Shri Ram School, Sanskriti School, DPS RK Puram, Bluebells School International and Vasant Valley School in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR). The programme has trained over 200 peer educators and reached out to 1,000 students since its inception in 2004. VOICES is in the process of developing a strategic plan for the next three years and will resume programming in 2012.

### Donors & Partners

VOICES has been supported by Bluebells School International, DELL and Milkfood in the past.

<sup>1</sup> The Adolescent Education Programme was one of the key policy initiatives of NACP II. Ministry of HRD and NACO collaborated to develop this school-based programme that is implemented across 144,409 secondary and senior secondary schools with the objective of reaching out to about 33 million students within two years. AEP is implemented by the Department of Education in collaboration with the State AIDS Prevention and Control Societies.

## **THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION PROGRAMME: CITIZENSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND THE RTI ACT**

"The RTI Act has become a solution to my day to day questions on the way the country runs. Just by acquiring awareness on how to use the RTI Act, I feel empowered as a citizen to proactively engage in governance issues."

- Ankita Sharma, 22 years, Peer Educator

"I was there at the policy forum. I was really disappointed after the discussion was over with the fact that the person who was threatened for filing an RTI could not get justice. But now I read, his issue became public and the officials are arrested. Good job YP."

- Arjun, Participant, Intergenerational RTI Policy Forum

The Right to Information Branch develops young people's engagement with legislative processes, increasing their awareness on laws and policies in India and its application to our daily lives. 'What Does Your Vote Want?' is a non-political, non-partisan project both initiated and run by young people in 2008 that aims at sensitizing young voters, by giving them relevant and necessary information regarding the Indian Electoral System. Leading up to the 14<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha Elections, the project successfully registered more than 4000 people in Delhi and Raipur, Chhattisgarh across 2008 - 2009.

As a part of the project, young people train as peer educators to conduct open forum workshops, panel discussions, 'meet your leader' accountability sessions and organize other methods of community advocacy, focusing on governance, where a key focus is the RTI Act and its application in India. In 2009-10, the project conducted six workshops across the NCR and hosted two intergenerational policy forums on the RTI Act between young people and key policy makers, reaching out to more than 800 young people. In partnership with Sony, The YP Foundation released a music album, 'Say Something' featuring renowned international artists such as John Mayer, U2, Michael Jackson, Pentagram and others in 2009 that promotes the 'What Does Your Vote Want?' campaign across India.

In 2010 - 2011, The RTI Branch is training the entire team of 150 peer educators working across the organization's programmes, so as to enable an institutional use and knowledge of the Act to advocate for issues of education, gender, sexuality, arts, health and rights that young people are working with at a governance level. The RTI Branch has also been part of the core committee that co-organized the National Youth Consultation in December 2010 to draft an approach paper for the 12<sup>th</sup> 5 Year Plan for the Planning Commission of India. The team worked with 64 NGOs from across the country, addressing 12 challenge areas including the decentralization of information and services and health services for young people.

### **Partners & Donors**

The project has partnered with UNDP, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) and worked with the Central Information Commission, National Campaign for People's Right to Information, American Embassy, Channel V, Governance Now, Live Mint, Students for Promotion of International Law (SPIL) and Radio Mirchi.

## **THE BUTTERFLY PROJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH FILM AND LITERATURE**

"The most incredible aspect for me is that you get the resources and confidence to not only learn film making but also understand how film can act as an advocate and educator. The project provides you with opportunities to empower yourself and others around you to highlight ground realities by using films as a tool to advocate for young people's human rights. Every effort pays off if you can empower people with the medium to advocate for their rights and highlight personal experiences and joy."

- Rachit Sai Barak, 19 years, Coordinator

**The Butterfly Project** is a film and literature programme founded in 2006 that works to promote human rights by enabling technical training and platforms for young people to work in communities with their peers. The project features:

- **The Bridge**, an independent magazine series run by young people, featuring the voices of young people from across the globe working with Human Rights issues that they are personally committed to. The Bridge is edited, designed, produced and funded by young people. 6 editions have been released since 2004.
- **The Film Series**, an annual film festival that encourages amateur and professional filmmakers to share short films on social issues. Last year, over 500 people attended the film festival over 2 days where 12 movies were screened from all over the country.
- **Digital Storytelling**: With support from the Global Fund for Children, Adobe Youth Voices and the Center for Digital Media and Storytelling, The Butterfly Project trains young people to create and share their own digital media stories.

In 2010-2011, the project expands its Digital Storytelling programme through Adobe Youth Voices programme in partnership with Blending Spectrum. The project aims to provide a forum where young people and urban street children can address issues of identity, human rights, child rights and discrimination through film. The project aims at encouraging different communities of adolescents and young people to interact and explore questions of inclusivity, child rights and access to public spaces.

### **Donors & Partners**

The Nishit Saran Foundation, PSBT, Tehelka, Kriti Film Club, India Habitat Center and Center for Digital Media and Storytelling have supported The Butterfly Project in the past. In 2010, the Global Fund for Children and Adobe Youth Voices support the programme.

### **SILHOUETTE – ENABLING THE ARTS**

"I began working because I felt it was important for people to recognize the need to support artists and protect and promote their rights. Two years down the line, the program has strengthened my leadership, managerial and technical skills, as well as given me the opportunity to work directly with artists and young professionals from across the country."  
*- Angarika Guha, 20 years, Coordinator*

"The independent music community in India requires 3 very important aspects of it to develop in order for it to acquire the status of an Industry, namely - education, promotion & exhibition. Currently, there are innumerable people/organizations focusing on developing the promotion and exhibition parts of the independent music industry, Silhouette however is focusing on both education and discussion and in my opinion is the front-runner in that area. Programmes like The Open House Series will be instrumental in shaping the growth of the music community into a vibrant music industry."  
*- Girish Talwar, Director, Only Much Louder*

Silhouette was established in 2005 with the aim of supporting young people's work in the performing and visual arts. By connecting amateur, upcoming and established artists through collaborative projects across India, Silhouette aims at providing young people an independent arts platform where they can express their creativity, vision and talent and interact with new audiences. Silhouette aims at enabling a dynamic environment that supports artistic endeavors and challenges existing moulds to expand the outreach of the arts.

Silhouette develops and promotes three programme portfolios, working through the trio spaces of dialogue 'The Open House Series', performance 'Impromptu' and Arts Management. Programmes are offered at no expense to young people and provide a critical opportunity for youth from diverse parts of the country to access information, technical skills and platforms to develop and hone their craft.

In 2010 – 2011, Silhouette’s focus is primarily on promoting knowledge and building capacity amongst young artists to promote, protect and produce Independent Music.

### **OVERVIEW - The Open House Series in 2010-2011**

The Open House Series is an interactive, multi year workshop series for interested, upcoming and established young artistes that explore information, ideas and models that protect promote and publish Independent Music in India. The Open House Series brings together professional musicians, amateur artists, music enthusiasts, students, media representatives and members of the community to disseminate existing knowledge, create new avenues of collaboration and build capacity on opportunities for upcoming artists in independent music.

The Open House Series in 2010 - 2011 will be a 5-month series, bringing together over 600 young people, consisting of 20 capacity building workshops and public forums. The series will culminate in 2011 with The Open House Festival, a 3-day music festival, showcasing new music and collaborative performances from artists across the country. Research and information from the series will be made available online. The series encourages an exchange of resources between existing artist networks and an upcoming generation of artists across different age groups, experience levels and musical styles. The programme will undergo a 2-month evaluation in 2011, and begin its second programmatic cycle in 2011 – 2012.

### **The Open House Festival**

The 3-Day Music Festival will be the culmination of the five-month series comprising of clinics and forums with a music festival featuring young artists from across the country. As part of this festival, the selected artists will get a chance to:

- Be part of interactive workshops with industry professionals from across the country.
- Share performance space with musicians from across genres through musical collaborations.
- Have their music featured on a compilation album, which will be released at the festival.
- Develop, display and sell their merchandise.

### **Partners & Donors**

Rosmerta Technology, DLF, Reliance, Power Grid Corporation, British Council Soundpad, Videocon, American Center and the India Habitat Center have funded Silhouette in the past. Underscore Records, Bridge Music Academy, Only Much Louder, Hard Rock Cafe and The India Habitat Centre are currently supporting the project. Artist support includes Them Clones, The Raghu Dixit Project, Swarathma, Vishal Dadlani, Uday Benegal and Shubha Mudgal.

## **INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

The YP Foundation supports and partners with a range of youth activists and youth led organizations. In 2009-2011, we are proud to support the work of the following organizations:

### **Music Basti**

"I find myself confronted constantly with the dilemma of not knowing what is enough, when to stop. I started Music Basti as a collective – to collaborate and create music to make a difference and to change people's lives. Is it enough? Truthfully, sometimes even I really don't think so. But it changes people's lives – and that is what matters, and continues to matter.

This piece will never be a cohesive one. Its timeline swings back and forth to reveal an outstanding relationship that is important to me personally and professionally. I still value my commitment to TYPF in the time and capacity I can offer, and work with assisting their projects and teams when possible. TYPF and its Founder have consistently supported my programs, events and mission from the inception of Music Basti. I admire organizations that are carried by individuals with a vision and a perspective for change, and those who are armed with perseverance, because this work is far more often not easy than it is effortless – TYPF is one such organization."

*– Faith Gonsalves, 22 years Founder, Music Basti*

**Music Basti** is a music education and awareness program that works with 'street children', to motivate children to enjoy learning and develop skills as well as attitudes. A youth led program, it networks with, motivates and sensitizes the artist and music community on issues relevant the protection and promotion of the rights of children. The aim is to develop a music programme that promotes creativity in children and encourages their right to expression, to equip them to enjoy childhood and learning. The methodology focuses on participatory learning with the themes of togetherness, cooperation, harmony and common good. These are integral to cope with issues in their personal lives and make impacting change to social structures they are immersed in.

Music Basti's mission in the concrete is to strengthen the voices of children, while raising awareness also on social global causes, such as control and management of natural resources, food sufficiency, gender equity, sustainable environment, health and education. Music Basti project is a part of Integrated Development Education Association (IDEA). Partners include The YP Foundation, Dil Se Campaign - Center for Equity Studies, Bridge Music Academy, Project Ahimsa, EFICOR, Gibson Foundation, Radio Mirchi 98.3fm, Furtados Music India, and collaborations include American Center, Hard Rock Cafe, The Music Room (New York), University of Birmingham (UK), Study India Programme, Indian Youth Climate Network, CRY, iCONGO, Plan India, and others. To know more visit: [www.musicbasti.org](http://www.musicbasti.org)

### **Vikalp: A Youth Forum for Social Change**

Vikalp was conceptualized by UNESCO and The YP Foundation with support from UNFPA in 2009 as a practical dialogue space where young working activists could come together to reflect on best practices, address challenges, share resources and develop inclusive strategies for promoting youth leadership and movements across India. The forum brought together 32 young activists from Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Delhi who work with youth communities on sexuality and gender, education, disability and HIV/AIDS. As an outcome, TYPF partnered with UNESCO and made available small grants to support youth led programmes. The grants have supported building organizational sustainability, collective youth leadership and the scaling and implementation of local projects in the communities our grantees work in.

Meet our Vikalp Grantees!

### Umesh Kumar Sanodiya in Bhopal

“Young people are the key in the fight against AIDS.  
By giving them the support they need we can empower them to protect themselves against the virus.  
By giving them honest and straightforward information we can break the circle of silence across all society.  
Many young people do not go to school so they need to be reached through community programmes.”  
- Umesh Kumar Sanodiya, 28 years, Bhopal

Umesh Kumar Sanodiya is currently pursuing a Masters in Social Work from Bhopal University and has been a volunteer at the Family Planning Association India, JIGYASA Youth Centre, Bhopal since 2008. The Regional Technical Center of FPA India runs 'JIGYASA' a Multi Purpose Youth Friendly Center that has focused on adolescent reproductive and sexual health issues since its inception in 2003. Umesh's project focuses on working with young people in slum communities in Bhopal to empower them to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS, with a vision to reduce stigma and discrimination as well.

20 slum areas of Bhopal were selected on the basis of low literacy rates, poverty, high crime rates, high level aggression and violence, social isolation, unemployment, poor child-parental communication, high rates of unprotected sexual activity and lack of awareness and accessibility to health services. Over the course of 4 months volunteers received issue-based training and they conducted peer facilitation workshops on the above-mentioned issues. As a means towards sustainability, Umesh's project will be integrated with JIGYASA's Multi Purpose Youth Friendly Centre run by FPA India. All 20 volunteers and peer educators have taken membership in the JIGYASA governing council so as to provide continued support to the communities the project worked in.

### Prabal Bhardwaj in Maharashtra

Prabal Bhardwaj is the founder of 'Media 4 Change' and Editor-in-Chief of the 'SLAP' Newsletter. His project works towards creating social change within the media, and drawing a link between the media, social/citizen sector, the average citizen and young people. Prabal is a graduate in Media and has worked with Hindustan Times as a journalist for over two years in India.

### Shoba Narayan in Chennai

Shoba Narayanan is a teacher at Olcott Memorial High School in Chennai. She designed and undertook a Youth Photography Program spanning over three months, which encouraged young students from underprivileged backgrounds to explore their identity, community and rights with a vision to enable young people to bring about change in their communities. The program culminated in a mobile exhibition of student photography portfolios. Olcott Memorial High School provides education to underprivileged children.

### **SUPPORT OUR WORK**

TYPF has been recognized at multiple national, regional and international forums. We are the recipient of The SMILE Fellowship by the NGO Pravah (2006), The Student Citizen Karamveer Puruskaar – the National Award for Social Justice and Action (2007), The Seen and Heard International Award – British Telecom and the UK Youth Parliament (2008), Pepsi MTV Youth Icon of India Nominee 2008 and The Change Looms Award for Social Entrepreneurship (2008) from The Ashoka Foundation. Our founder is also the first Indian to receive the Young Achievers Award (2009) from the President of Nepal.

TYPF believes in the synergies of working together and our work has received support and recognition from young people, youth organizations, donors, governments, companies, organizations and community stakeholders alike. We are currently supported by the Global Fund for Children, Washington DC, the International Women's Health Coalition, New York and the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

Our programme partners have included UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, UNODC, The Ford Foundation, The Government of Nagaland, The MacArthur Foundation, The American Embassy - New Delhi, British Council, The Ashoka Foundation, IPPF, The Packard Foundation, Pravah, CHRI, TARSHI, CREA, Students for the Promotion of International Law and the Indian Youth Climate Network amongst others.

**You** can support our work in the following ways:

- By contributing to an issue/programme you feel strongly about as a donor and engaging creatively with the process and impact of that project.
- Volunteer your time, skill and interest with any branch in a project of your choice.

### **CONTACT US**

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#### **Is Comprehensive Sexuality Education Necessary? Young people need to speak up!**

*A rights-based approach to Sexuality Education seeks to equip young people with age appropriate information that is relevant to their lived realities and gives them the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to acquire essential life skills and develop positive attitudes. It views 'sexuality' holistically and within the context of emotional and social development and young people's right to access accurate information. Additionally, sexuality education creates a space for a young person to clarify their own values about these issues and make choices that reflect these values, rather than being influenced by peers or other external factors. Young people need these skills in order to navigate the constantly shifting boundaries between cultural acceptability and sexual taboos<sup>2</sup>.*

The [Know Your Body, Know Your Rights](#) campaign encourages young people as well as stakeholders from across the country to submit their opinions and thoughts on the need for sexuality education; as well as their experiences, recommendations and feedback on the Adolescence Education Programme. These stakeholders include civil society, the educational and medical community, parents, teachers, donors, civil society organizations, practitioners and peer educators involved with implementing sexuality education for young people. **As a culmination to the campaign, TYPF and UNESCO will collate the responses, comments and opinions into a public report that will be circulated and shared with key stakeholders** including young people, school teachers and educators, curriculum setters and policy makers including the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), and educationists, UN agencies addressing the AEP and implementing sexuality education in India.

[Speak up and share](#) why and how sexuality education is relevant to your life and your peers.

<sup>2</sup> Inputs: IPPF Framework for CSE, Jan 2010.