

CHRONICLES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER || Oct - Dec 2022

Contents

Leadership Insight

We Made a Mark

Nurturing the Ecosystem of a
Biological Park through a promising
Watershed Programme

A Brand New Anganwadi Centre
in Malligurki

Education

Rural Rising

Environment

Health

Volunteering

Partner Story

Team & More



Dear Readers,

New Year Greetings to you and your loved ones.

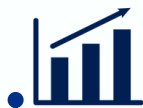
Recalling humankind's greatest crisis in the last two years, good or bad, at least we are in control of the situation. Through experience, as an organisation, we are rapidly evolving. We have identified a few areas to focus on this year:



Rajesh Krishnan
CEO



Reaching out to 'Aspirational Districts'



Scaling up funding opportunities to accelerate our interventions



Looking at everything from the lens of how we are contributing to the larger environmental goals



Having clarity on the social contributions in terms of tangible data



Like always, not compromising on compliance and transparency in all the governance systems and with adequate evidence and documents

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that **United Way Bengaluru** is a global brand with a local heart. This newsletter briefly presents our efforts to contribute positively to local communities in Q3 (Oct-Dec). Once again, wishing you a healthy and happy year ahead.

Best Wishes,
Rajesh Krishnan



We outgrew our old office space - and have an additional new space to accommodate a big team!

In **2008**, we started out as a two member team working out of one room and a desktop which was donated. Today, we are a 100+ member team.



We are excited, grateful and humbled for this milestone. We thank each of our teammates, our board members, our corporate partners that have supported us through this transformative journey. The only thing that remains unchanged is our commitment towards bringing about lasting and measurable change in the lives of local communities.

Triple Celebration



Hitting 10K
LinkedIn Followers



Recognised with the
GuideStar India
Platinum Certification



Renewal of the
ISO Certification

We take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We are also very proud of our team members who are the change-makers!

Nurturing the ecosystem of a Biological Park through a promising Watershed Programme

The World Economic Forum (WEF), in its Global Risks Report 2022, cited biodiversity loss as one of the top three most severe global risks society faces.

Located 22 km from the city of Bengaluru, Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBBP), spread over an area of 731.88 ha, is home to more than 2300 animals, birds and reptiles belonging to over 100 indigenous species. The park significantly conserves rich floral and faunal diversity, helps in massive carbon sequestration and also as a wildlife corridor for elephants which connects BR Hills and Sathyamangalam Forest. About 3 lakh litres of water is consumed daily for the sustenance of the ecosystem of this park. Unfortunately, due to drought in the last few years and bore wells, lakes running dry across Bengaluru, the biological park runs into a water crisis during summers.

Last year, United Way Bengaluru and FAI launched a watershed programme at the Bengaluru Bannerghatta Biodiversity Park to address the issue. Interventions undertaken include restoring a series of lakes constituting Butterfly Garden Pond, Channamma kere, Deepakkanna kere, Gowdana kere, and Benakana kere; soil and moisture conservation; and enhancement of the ecosystem through well-planned plantation drives.



Lakes have been strengthened by adding water conservation structures and techniques such as stone pitching, construction of new check dams, renovation of the damaged infrastructure, de-silting the water bodies and setting rainwater harvesting units to recharge a borewell.

Around two-thousand saplings of indigenous species have been planted so far, helping attract more butterflies and inviting rare species of birds, reptiles and insects. Varieties of aquatic plants and animals are observed in healthy lakes because of the watershed intervention. The plantation activities and other conservation activities will help to control the soil erosion of 1.83 tonnes cubic metres annually and 27.44 tonnes cubic metres in the next fifteen years the next 15 years. This intervention will help to conserve 7.1 crore litres of water annually and will meet the water needs of the park, and provide drinking to animals, even during summer.



This intervention has been supported by the BBBP administration and UWBe's CSR partner FAI from the start, showing a united effort to conserve Karnataka's most famous biological park, thus contributing to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG- 15) - Life on Land!

A BRAND NEW ANGANWADI CENTRE IN MALLIGURKI

Mittermari Gram Panchayat, Bagepalli Taluk, Chikkaballapur District



The fear of a collapsing building, especially during the rainy season, became a nightmare for the teacher of Malligurki Anganwadi Centre, who had to run her Anganwadi Centre (AWC) at a rented place for the last fifteen years. The challenges of the AWC were many. The place was too small to accommodate even fifteen students, no space for children to play or for cooking mid-day meals, leaking roofs and the absence of a toilet, were some of the many issues.

"Due to the space constraint, I would take the class under a tree. But this was difficult during the rainy season.", said Shivamma, Anganwadi Worker.

When Shivamma's hope turned to despair, United Way Bengaluru's and CSR partner Flowserve's support was a dream come true for her and the children of Malligurki Anganwadi Centre. Under the 'Rural Rising' program, a new Anganwadi Centre was constructed. It was strengthened with facilities to make it a conducive learning and development space for children. Facilities provided included a spacious classroom painted and beautified with mural art, a kitchen with selves, a store room and a child-friendly toilet. The centre building and classroom were also equipped with resources like boards, lights, electricity, an anti-skid floor, and a ramp.

"This Anganwadi Centre is my pride, and I feel good working here. Children's enrollment has increased in this new centre as parents are happy to send their children to this kind of centre which is safe, appealing and appropriate for children's development." says the Anganwadi Worker.

"In Shivamma's words, she is very satisfied as she has the "freedom" to organise different learning activities for children and parents. They celebrated occasions like Independence Day and Children's Day at their campus for the first time. It was impossible to conduct these events in the previous centre. Organising the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programs related to supplementary nutrition and immunisation of children and other ICDS beneficiaries like adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women was challenging. This new centre has become an active place for conducting many such programs like 'Seemantham' baby shower programs for community women; 'Poshan Abhiyan' program to address nutrition among children, adolescent girls and women etc.



United Way Bengaluru's intervention towards strengthening the AWC is a significant step towards building a robust early childhood care and development foundation that will consequently impact young children's growth, development and learning.

Creating Conducive Learning Spaces

In collaboration with our CSR Partner, United Way Bengaluru created two conducive learning spaces at Bengaluru's Gunjur Palya School. The focus was on equipping the classrooms with appropriate infrastructure to aid the learning and development of children and infuse excitement among them. These new classrooms are being accessed by 150 students. Twenty-five NTT DATA Services volunteers also painted the school walls with beautiful mural art. The school looks vibrant and welcoming.



Accessed by 150 students



Mural art on walls with 25 volunteers

STEM Labs Where innovation begins



Children's Day Celebration at Anganwadi Centres



The Anganwadi Centres under our Born Learning Campaign initiative were filled with joy and giggles on Children's Day. Many activities and games were organised at Anganwadi Centres across different locations in Bengaluru.

Isn't it imperative to expose students to a learning environment that helps them to think innovatively and creatively? United Way Bengaluru has inaugurated two STEM Labs with the support of CSR Partner Pratt & Whitney at the Government Model Public School in NGO'S Colony and Krishnananda Nagar Karnataka Public School in Bengaluru. These labs are benefitting over 1000 students across two schools.

Another STEM Lab will be set up in the vicinity, which can be accessed even by students from other schools in the neighbourhood.

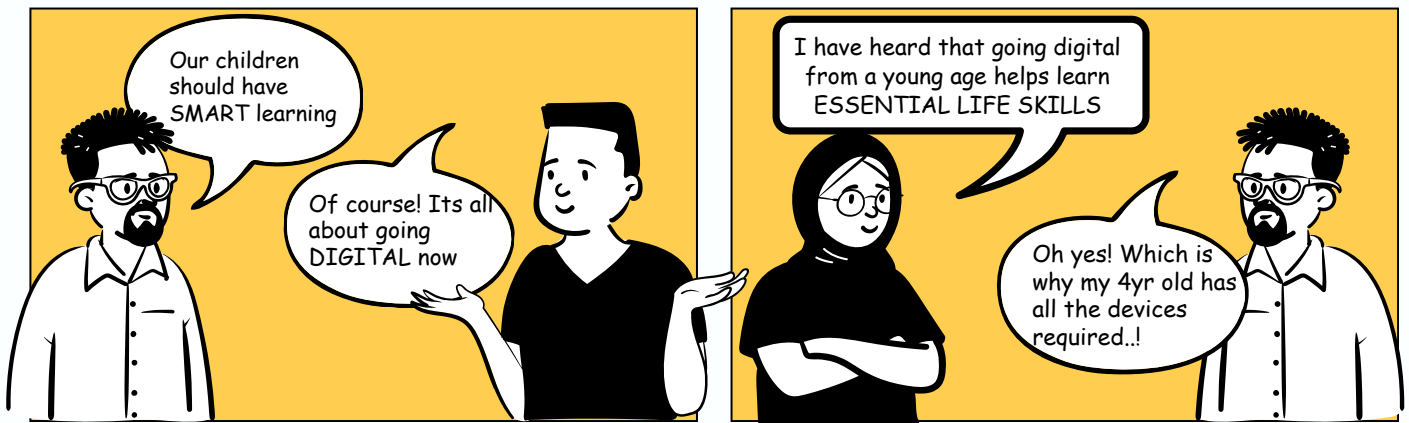
Giving wings to dreams through scholarship

Transitioning from a rural education system to pursue careers in an urban environment can be a daunting experience, especially when you have to do it alone. We have always wondered, "How I wish someone had told me what it takes."



This is precisely what the team at Zebra Technologies did! They personally engaged with scholarship applicants to understand their backgrounds, interests and aspirations as part of the scholarship screening process under the 'Rural Rising' scholarship intervention. This intervention provided scholarships to 54 undergrad students. They will benefit from the scholarship throughout the course. Apart from academic courses, mentoring sessions such as personality development, computer sessions, and skilling sessions are also provided to them.

LIFE SKILLS



By UWBe Marcomm

Program kickstarts at Thimmaravuthanahalli Village

A Rural Rising project has been kickstarted at Thimmaravuthanahalli village in kolar in collaboration with CSR Partner Applied Materials, Gram Panchayat and the local community.

The intervention aims at empowering women through alternative means to support livelihood. The Milch cows given to the beneficiaries will also help other beneficiaries in a long-term scalable process since these cows have delivered calves that will be given to other needy beneficiaries.



The activities undertaken under the interventions include

Construction of a new
Anganwadi



Beneficiaries
100 children
50-80 mother groups

Installation of 5 RO units



Beneficiaries
5000 people

Distribution of cattle



Beneficiaries
17 PWDs

Installation of 85 solar lights
and 6 blinkers



Beneficiaries
Thimmaravuthanahalli
Village Residents

Every Steps Counts - A walk together advocating Child Rights

According to the Global Childhood Report 2019, every 1 in 5 children in India is out of school; around 11.8% of children are engaged in work; 15.2 % girls in the age group of 15-19 years is married in India

United Way Bengaluru and the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) launched the Child Rights Advocacy Campaign across Government Schools in Chikkaballapur, Karnataka, to raise awareness of Child Rights. The campaign's objective was to raise awareness among children and parents about child rights, make homes, schools and communities safe spaces for children and protect children from child abuse, violence and discrimination through awareness sessions, rally and community skit show.

The month-long awareness sessions culminated with a rally at Mitterari Village in Bagepalli taluk, Chikkaballapur, participated by more than 100 students, parents, teachers, government officials, members of Gram Panchayat and the team from United Way Bengaluru. As the next steps forward, UWBe will roll out school initiatives such as setting up Grievance Boxes, forming a Youth Parliament and ensuring representation of children's voices in School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs).

Lakes are life's mirrors



This rather plain image of a patch of forest might not get a second look. But if you do decide to pause and look, you will find that this is a highly pertinent picture in our city's story with two facts tied to it:

1. This is **NOT** a patch of forest
2. This is **A LAKE**

When United Way Bengaluru's team arrived for an initial assessment, they assumed they were being led through a patch of forest to the lake. But, to their surprise, the community members informed them that they were standing in the middle of a lake!

Under United Way Bengaluru's 'Wake The Lake' campaign, 40 such lakes have been rejuvenated, which turned invisible or degraded due to the city's rapid urbanization.

Did You Know?

The purpose of Energy Conservation, as the name implies, is to conserve energy. We have a certain amount of energy available to us, which we consume faster than ever before. As per an estimate by the Bureau, programs for efficient energy use have helped India save about 28 million tonnes of oil equivalent energy in 2019-20 (this amount of energy could light about 185 crores of 20W LED bulbs 24X7 for a year).

National
ENERGY
Conservation Day

United Way
United Way Bengaluru

Installed **1049** Solar Street Lights
as part of their Sustainable Energy Initiative
with our **CSR** partners.

1049 solar street lights will help reduce
498.275 KGs of
CO₂
EVERYDAY

ALTERNATIVE SOURCES

☎ : 080 - 40906345 / 25258363 🌐 : www.uwbengaluru.org

Strengthening hospitals for unforeseen emergencies



Sringeri Taluk hospital did not have an oxygen plant. Patients needing oxygen had to travel to neighbouring cities like Chikamangaluru and Shimoga, kilometres away from Sringeri Taluk. An oxygen plant has been set up in collaboration with the Assist International and Caterpillar Foundation. This initiative will benefit the hospital that caters to 48,000 community members from 64 Villages.

Additionally, three more oxygen plants, of 500LPM capacity each, have been set up with the support of Assist International and Caterpillar Foundation. Two plants in Rabakavi Banahatti General Hospital and General Hospital in Bagalkot District can cater to more than two lakh people. Another plant at Sindagi Taluk General Hospital in Vijayapura District can potentially cater to over four lakh community members.

Making community healthcare convenient, affordable, clean

Primary Health Centres (PHCs) have been highly overburdened since the onset of Covid and the subsequent increase in cases. United Way Bengaluru, with the support from CSR Partner Bosch Global Software Technologies, refurbished and upgraded five PHCs - Siddapura, Koramangala, Madiwala, Audugodi, and Wilson Garden in Bengaluru. These PHCs have been upgraded with facilities such as furniture, medical equipment, construction multi purpose halls, toilet blocks, mural art, yoga sessions, community awareness session and capacity building training for frontline workers.



Additionally, two multipurpose halls have been constructed to conduct informative workshops on prenatal, pediatric, and adolescent health counselling. Around 1,97,000 community members are benefitted through this intervention.

7-Eleven's first volunteer effort in India

A plantation drive was organised in collaboration with the 7-Eleven Global Solution Center to boost biodiversity and raise awareness among the younger generation. Volunteers planted saplings of different varieties, including Pink Trumpet (*Tabebuia rosea*), Aden Apple, Jackfruit Kadu Badami, and Terminalia Catappa Nerale. Volunteers were given a briefing on about the types of saplings before the plantation activity, and a small quiz was organised to get them started. The event concluded with a high spirit; volunteers were given saplings to make the day memorable.



The earth turns green when your hands turn brown



This feeling resonated across the ecstatic Flowserve team at BEL Cricket Ground, Bengaluru. An internal cricket match where seed balls predominated over cricket balls! We appreciate the efforts of every volunteer who helped make this remarkable fusion of sport and nature possible. The event was planned as part of the internal cricket competition at Flowserve. Over **3500 seed balls** were prepared by more than **100 volunteers**, along with their families and children

Caring for our care givers - the elderly community

As many as **250 enthusiastic volunteers** from Flowserve Corporation participated in a paper bag-making activity. They made more than **1250 paper bags**. Apart from increasing awareness and decreasing plastic waste in the community, paper bags were given to Nightingales Medical Trust (NMT) for fundraising. The money raised by Nightingales Medical Trust (NMT) from selling these paper bags to street vendors will assist the income of the elderly at NMT.



Paws for the Cause

One fine day Charlies Animal Rescue Centre (CARE) got a call at their helpline regarding an injured dog. The team immediately arrived at the spot and rescued the dog. His leg was completely smashed, and he had multiple fractures for which he required major orthopaedic surgery. Immediate attention was paid, and the treatment was done on time. The surgery involved procedures such as inserting stainless steel plates and screws to position the fracture. The surgery cost was about Rs.25,000/-. Post-surgery care was for over three weeks and involved laser therapy and physiotherapy, costing over Rs.15,000/-.



The dog was named Blacky. Blacky is an Indie breed and about three years old. His recovery was quick, and soon he started walking again. The timely surgery helped. Blacky got lucky, but every day CARE deals with several such cases where animals are injured after being hit by vehicles on the road or suffer from illnesses, burns and wounds etc.

Like Blacky, there are over 150 animals taken care of by the organization every month. CARE runs a rescue program for the animals living on the streets of Bengaluru. CARE is also home to many dogs, cats, rabbits, ducks, hens, pigs, guinea pigs, tortoises, birds and terrapins.

With the aid from Deloitte, United Way Bengaluru has supported CARE for over five years and has aided in the rescue and treatment of animals and vaccination of all the staff of the Centre.



UWBe Champ



Sanjeeva Raju

Assistant Manager
Finance and Accounts

With **20 years** of work experience, Sanjeeva's contribution to the finance department makes him an asset to the organization.

A thorough gentleman, who never forgets to carry his smile, even in the most unfavourable circumstances. His attitude and simple way of explaining complex numbers make it easy for team members to approach him. He is responsive and strives to complete his work with perfection and on time. During the pandemic, he worked relentlessly and catered to the needs of every team member working in the field. He is a great team player who gets along with everyone easily because of his open and positive communication, collaborative behaviour, and good listening skills.

And, of course, Sanjeeva gets the best homemade 'sambaar', which is generously shared with everyone at the lunch table.

FIRESIDE CHAT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

On **United Nations Day**, October 24, 2022, we were delighted to have our colleague Lokesh Gujjarappa discuss three key questions related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the impact sector.



- How should **NGOs** understand SDGs?
- How should SDGs be reported in terms of data?
- How does **United Way Bengaluru** interpret SDGs?



Lokesh Gujjarappa

Specialist M&E & Process
Excellence from UWBe

To listen to the discussion:
<https://fb.watch/j1m7oRKnCx/>

Every community has a plethora of serious, unique, and multifaceted issues – from environment and health to income and education. To truly overcome these challenges and make a worthwhile difference, we must bring together everyone involved – everyone with a common interest and purpose, to work on a solution for a better Bengaluru. And we do just that.

Started in 2008, we are a registered (FCRA, 12A and 80G compliant) not-for-profit organization that works with communities to take local action for global impact. We partner with stakeholders from the Govt., civic bodies and local communities, listen to their concerns, identify the problems, and empower them to tackle these challenges head on. But we don't stop there – we ensure our efforts reap long-term returns by staying connected with the communities.

And that's how we bring visible, lasting change.

VISION



United Way envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability, and healthy lives.

MISSION



United Way seeks to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities around the world to advance the common good.

LIVE UNITED®

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

United Way Bengaluru

Building No. 5, 3rd Floor, Crimson Court,
Jeevan Bima Nagar Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage,
DOS Colony, Jeevan Bima Nagar,
Bengaluru, Karnataka 560075

Find us on

