



another year of taking education beyond the classroom...

Project KHEL 2017-18

CORE VALUES

FOREWORD FROM FOUNDER	02
WORK PHILOSOPHIES	04
APPROACH	05
CORE VALUES	06
SANTOSH'S JOURNEY	07
MILESTONES	10
HIGHLIGHTS	12
MEDIA FEATURES	13
TESTIMONIALS	14
FINANCIALS	16

02.



Foreword from our Founder

Akshai Abraham

The last year saw a lot of ups and downs for us as an organization. There were some great moments that gave us more resolve to deal with the setbacks - which the year had its fair share of.

Some of the highlights included

- A group of 5 our children from slum and shelter homes performing exceedingly well at an MUN amongst children from premier schools of Lucknow
- Our team members getting selected for prestigious fellowships:
 - I was selected as an Acumen Regional Fellow which really helped me gain new perspectives on the personal and professional fronts.
 - Angana was selected as one of the 22 Rise Up Youth Champions from India, Pakistan, Ethiopia and the US, for her innovative work in the sexual and reproductive health domain.
- We won several awards and recognition of our work in form of invitations to speak on panels, coverage in online media and so on.
- Our Ultimate Frisbee teams have been performing well and the next year will see two of our teams playing at the Nationals!



Amongst all of this, our team had been performing well and we were seeing great results in our core programme, but then we lost a few team members and had to go back to training new staff which is always a setback in terms of seeing results from our work. However, we are eager to jump into the new year with a new team and looking to recruit more, stabilise and scale by the end of 2018-19.

Financially, we were struggling for a large part of the year but then our crowdfunding campaign toward the end of the year was successful and once again we saw a large number of our online supporters donate in small amounts which added up to a significant total. We also finally got our first large single donation from a corporate sponsor! So the next year should see us be able to consolidate - building organization capacities in terms of more managerial positions, finally getting a finance and admin person, moving to a bigger office with a bigger team - exciting times ahead for Project KHEL!

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank all of our supporters - both donors and partners - for their unfailing support. No matter how small the donation or how 'insignificant' the comment or the connection from a supporter - it all adds up and we would not be what we are today without this kind of support we have received from all over the world!

Regards,
Akshai

04.

WORK PHILOSOPHIES

VISION

Thought leaders in the alternate education space

MISSION

Reimagining education, by leveraging the 'power of play' and principles of 'safe spaces' and 'gender sensitivity' for the holistic development of children, to create secure adults (for a better tomorrow).

WORK PHILOSOPHIES

At Project KHEL, we deliberate and consciously choose each task that we do, keeping our children at the center of each decision. We don't do what is easy, or comfortable, or safe.

We do what it takes - continually evaluating, strategizing and innovating as an organization; and every day challenging our individual selves to be a better version today than what we were yesterday - in order to serve our children in the very best way we can.

05.

APPROACH

Tell me and I
forget, teach
me and I may
remember,
involve me and
I learn.

- Benjamin Franklin



ENGAGE

We engage with children through games and activities



DO

We believe in experiential education, using play and activities to simulate real life situations



REFLECT

After each activity we facilitate a reflective debrief discussion



TRANSFORM

Takeaways from these discussions lead to transformative change in behavior



CORE VALUES

1. **Child Centric** – Almost all our decisions are made by keeping children at the center and the rules and norms created in the organization are done so with the child at the center.
2. **Culture of ownership** – Team members are given opportunities to work on their own ideas and value is placed upon their opinions/perspectives.
3. **Push boundaries (personal + organizational)** – Team members work beyond the call of their duty and we as an organization work towards responding to the need of the children/community it is working in rather than sticking to a set goal since the beginning of the operations.
4. **Strong work ethic** - Importance is placed on punctuality in deliverables, both in words and action and on responsive and responsible communication along with appreciation of the same.
5. **Solution oriented** – We aim at creating space for the team to implement proposed solutions and show tolerance to failure of the same, thus using experiential learning for the growth of our team along with our children.



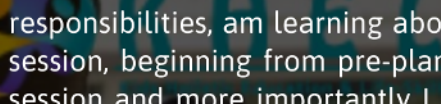
07.

“ My journey with Project KHEL started way back in 2013, while I was at a shelter home. At that time some ‘didi’ and ‘bhaiya’ would come to Gharonda to play with us I did not like playing with them much. Slowly I began gaining interest in their sessions but only on the days that some super energetic activity was scheduled. It was only eventually that I realized that while playing I was learning as well, things like team work, problem solving, how to behave with others and so on. As I began responding to the programme along with our peers, we were constantly being challenged, that encouraged us to try different activities, build a stronger sense of trust among ourselves, solve problems together and also develop empathy for people different than us, gain gender sensitivity, understand the many aspects of child labor and much more. I had began valuing the discussions we had during these sessions, which led me to get interested in facilitating these sessions too.

After a couple of opportunities to represent Project KHEL at different occasions, I finally joined as a youth leader in the second half of 2016. My journey since then has been slow but steady. On my first day I got stuck in multiple situations, most often just not being able to communicate to the children what I had in mind. As I began being scheduled for more and more sessions, I began growing both as a facilitator and a person. I did often find myself in a situation where handling children barely a couple of years younger than me problematic, but didi bhaiya were always supportive and encouraging. I was given the space to make mistakes and experiment what worked for me and not merely copy what my seniors were doing in their sessions.

As I turned 18, continued to perform better, became more confident in leading my sessions nad giving feedback constructively to my colleagues, most of who are older than me, I was offered to join as a full-time team member while continuing my studies in a long-distance format. I am now being given newer

08.



responsibilities, am learning about all the hard work that goes into planning a session, beginning from pre-planning for sessions, time management within a session and more importantly I am learning to be responsible for myself and become a professional.

At Project KHEL, everyone is considered an equal without any discrimination. I feel free to try and learn new things and bhaiya and didi are there to correct me. Currently, I am learning to use Photoshop and all of Microsoft Office tools, while studying in class 12 and also doing sessions and the additional work given to me at work. In the near future, I want to establish my own business and I am hopeful that all my learning from Project KHEL, before, during and after sessions will help me thrive.”

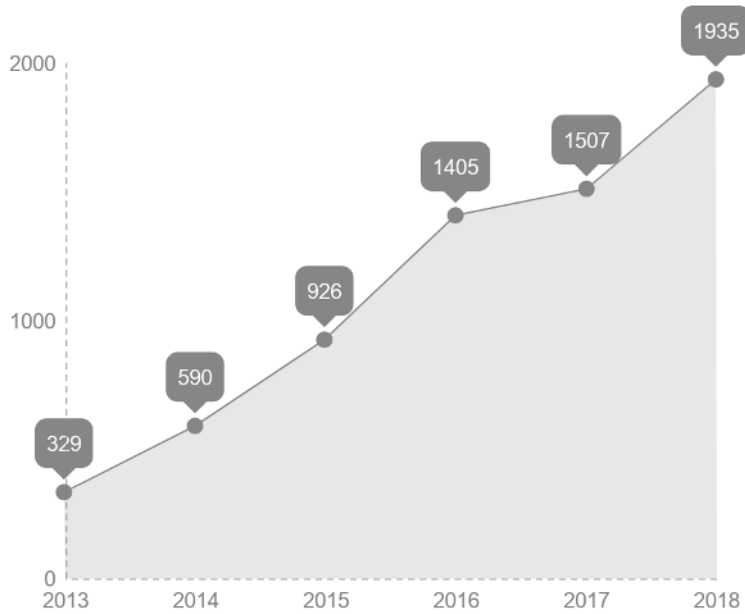
- Santosh Kumar,
Facilitator



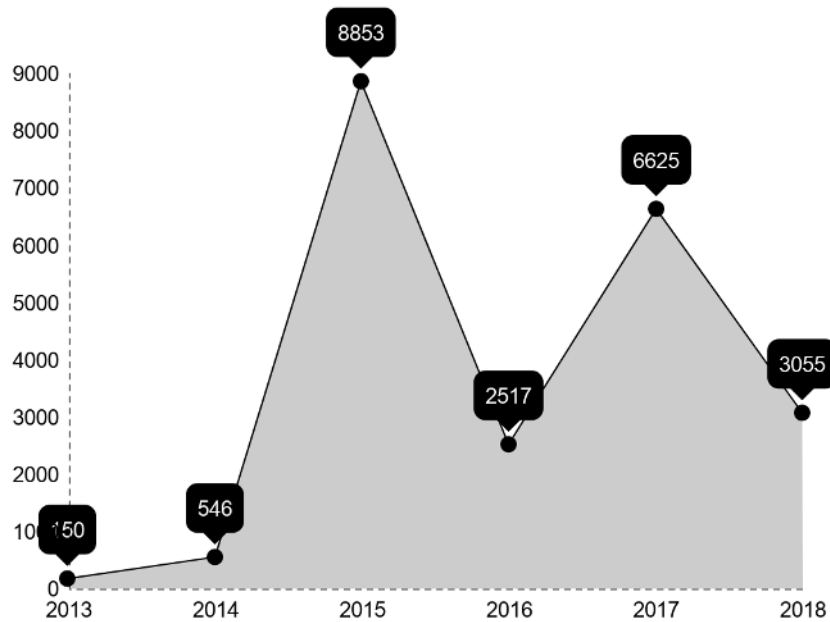
09.

REGULAR INTERVENTIONS

OUTREACH



WORKSHOP based INTERVENTIONS



10.

MILESTONES



Shraddha and Uttam,
awarded with
Special Mentions
certificate at
Revolution Model
United Nations 2017



Organized Lucknow's
first Ultimate
Frisbee tournament,
LUO 2017.



Organised the 6th
edition of the Global
Peace Games for
Children and Youth.



AwadhKHELadis
participated in the
Ahmedabad Ultimate
Open 2018, emerging
as 2nd runner up as
per Spirit rankings.



Angana, our
Executive Director,
got selected as a
Youth Champion
Fellow by Rise Up



Akshai, our
Founder, won the
Teacher Warrior
Award 2017 at
SchooNews Global
Educators Fest.

11.

MILESTONES



Akshai was invited to attend the Townhall India, an event by the Obama Foundation.



Received the Integrity Pledge certification by the Central Vigilance Commission.



Akshai, our Founder, was presented with the Accor Local Hero award.



Awarded with the prestigious 'Advanced Level-GuideStar India Gold' for 3rd year in a row.



Akshai was felicitated with the Piyush Vaghela Community Appreciation Award.



Angana was awarded on Women's Day, 2018 with Bhoomika Award by Eastern Masalas.

12.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two of our Ultimate Frisbee teams, Udda Kebabs and Awadh KHELadis participated in the Ashoka Ultimate Championship 2017
- We hosted a delegation from the New Zealand High Commission to interact with our children.
- 3 Social Action Projects in slum settlements was implemented by our summer interns and Youth Leaders.
- 5 children participated in Revolution Model United Nations 2017
- Tweetathon with Hidden-Pockets to celebrate Global Menstrual Health Day
- Celebrated Pratham Books' StoryWeaver's 'One Day One Story' with narration of stories
- Session on Understanding Consent with Hidden Pockets Collective's founder, Jasmine Jahan
- Celebrated the DaanUtsav - Joy of Giving Week by becoming street hawkers for an evening
- Met and spoke to Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi briefly about our work.
- Renowned Actress Plabita Borthakur lent a voice of support for our open discussion based programme Teen Talks
- Our children attended 'The Peace Dialogues', organized by AIESEC Lucknow
- Partnered with Ehsaas, for their annual Walkathon to support Child Rights.
- Our founder, Akshai Abraham, spoke at the 1st National UPAl Conference at Bangalore.
- We organized a Picnic for our children at the Microlit Cricket Grounds.

13.

MEDIA FEATURES



Featured under stories of change-makers by Grin News



Featured in the list of NGOs working in Lucknow by MFreek.



Akshai's story featured in Reader's Digest's January 2018 edition



Angana was featured in the Family Planning Voices portal.



Participation of children in the RMUN was featured by The Hindustan Times, Lucknow



Akshai's interview featured on Government of India's Startup Hub.



FACILITATOR

"After our sessions at a particular local school, the principal called our youth leader, Ishrar and me to the office to wish us Teachers Day. She wished Ishrar specifically saying that '**you were once a student at our school and are now giving back the knowledge and skills to kids.**'"

The happiness and pride that I saw Ishrar's eyes made me feel really good. I realized how slowly and steadily we (our intervention) help individuals to achieve higher goals."

- Maaz Hassan

TEACHER

"I was not able to understand your methodology of work, but now I realise it's worth and am trying to convince every teacher/principal to try this. I love the work Project KHEL does. I have seen the changes in the children because of Made in Maidaan sessions and I love the method and how responsible every Project KHEL member is. I sometimes sit and watch the sessions and it is amazing to see how the girls are becoming confident slowly and that is what will help the girls as they enter life after school."

- Mrs. Reeta Tandon



FACILITATOR

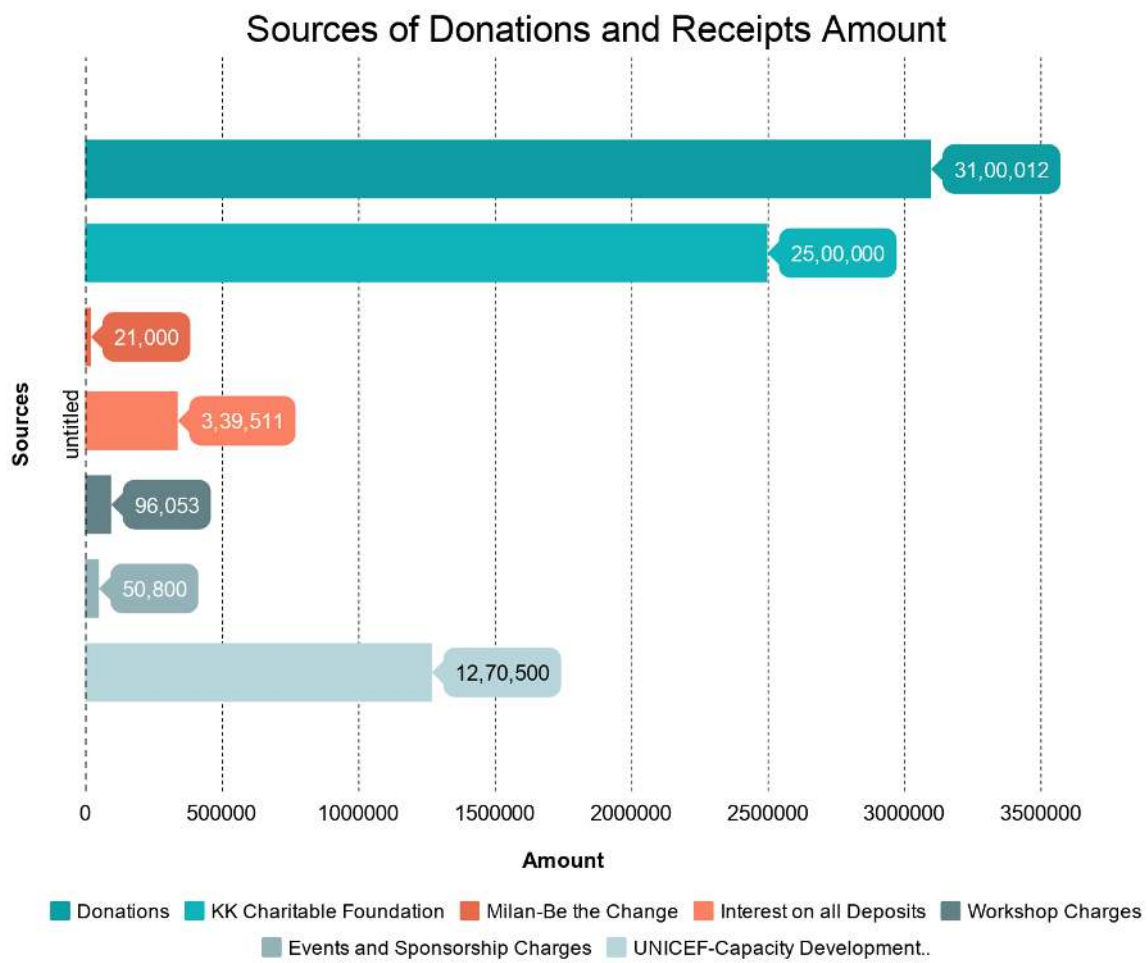
"With you, the children play and learn. They have learnt how to read and are also able to talk a little in English. Most importantly they do not waste their time roaming around, they have learnt how to keep clean and behave nicely. This programme should definitely be taken to other kids as most people just come to give us things but you all actually care about our kids and invest your time with them."

– Parent from Vineet Khand

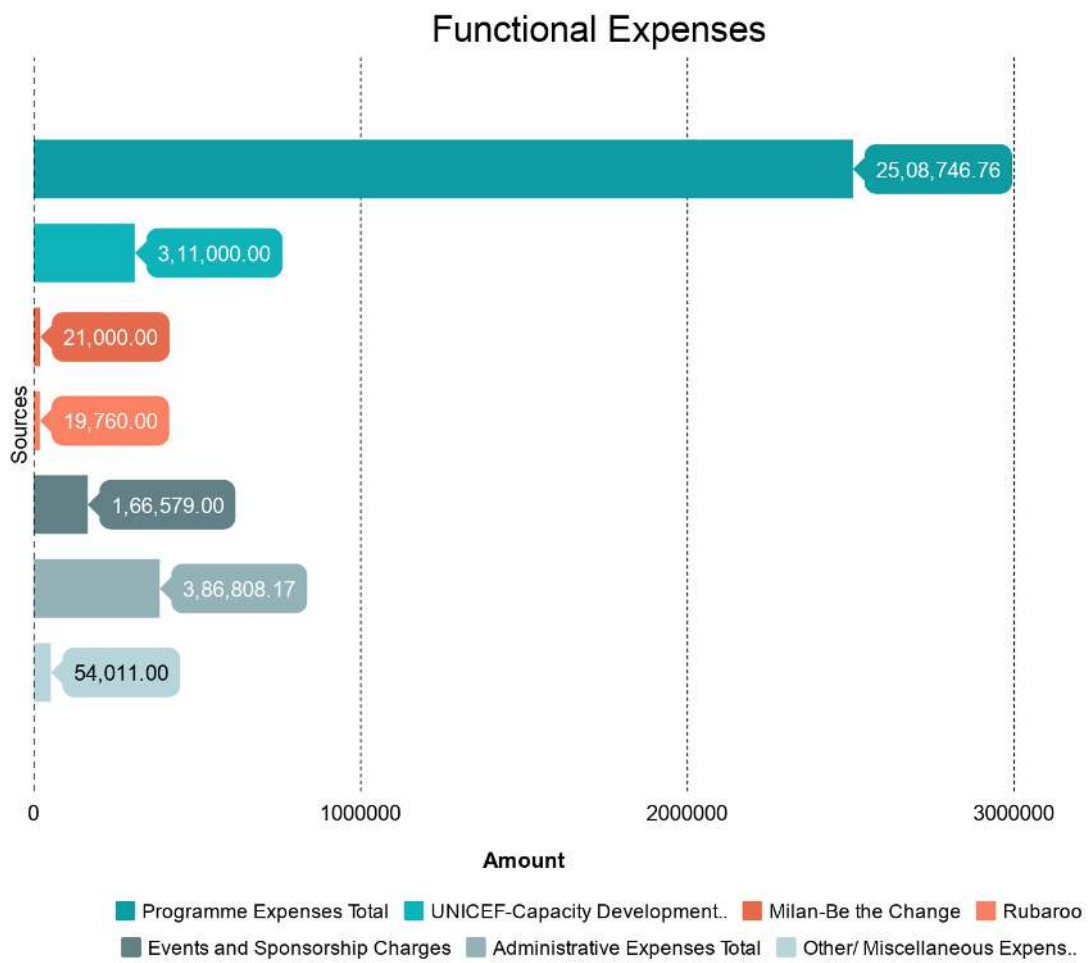
TEACHER

"I was not able to understand your methodology of work, but now I realise it's worth and am trying to convince every teacher/principal to try this. I love the work Project KHEL does. I have seen the changes in the children because of Made in Madaan sessions and I love the method and how responsible every Project KHEL member is. I sometimes sit and watch the sessions and it is amazing to see how the girls are becoming confident slowly and that is what will help the girls as they enter life after school."

- Mrs. Reeta Tandon



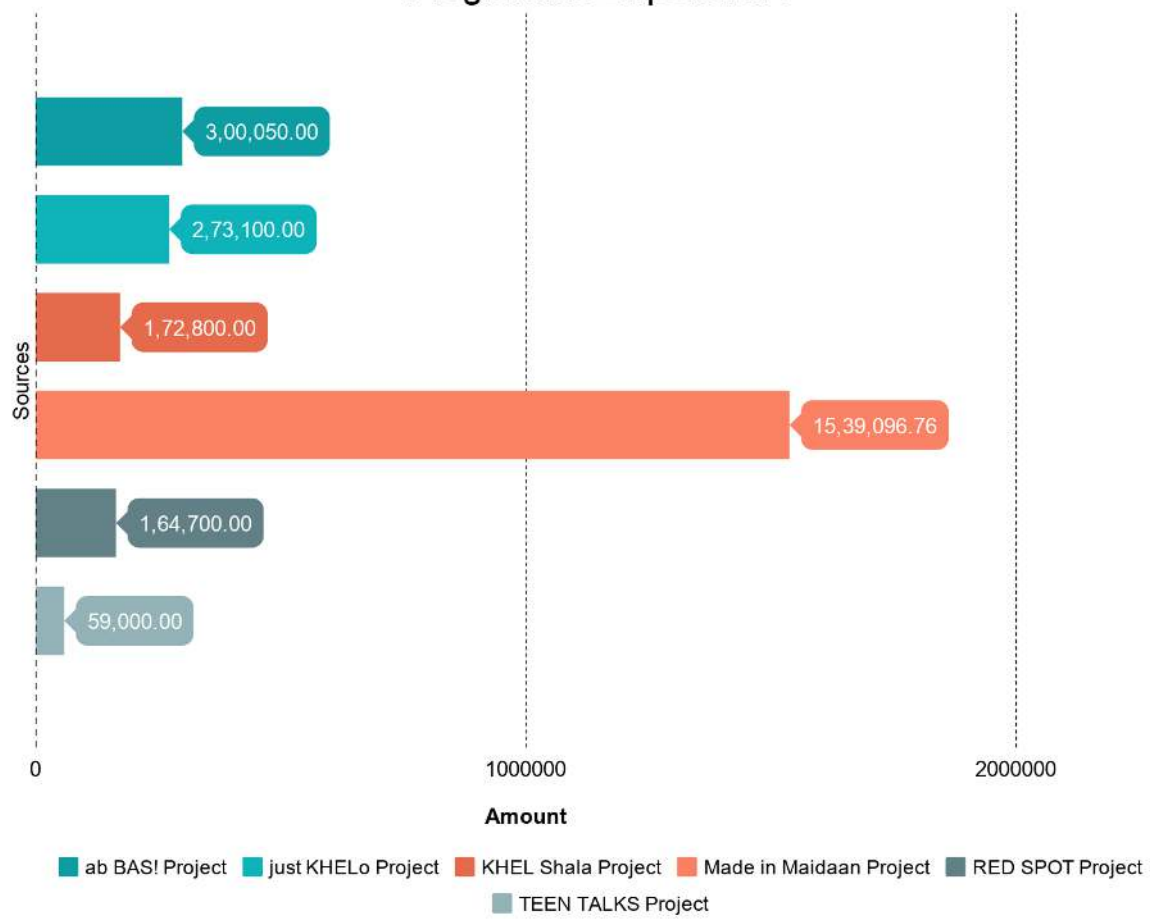
TOTAL: Rs. 7377876.7



TOTAL: Rs. 3467904.93



Programme Expenditure



TOTAL: Rs. 25,08,746.76