



Ekam
FOUNDATION
MUMBAI

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

"There can be no
keener revelation of a
society's soul than the
way in which it treats
its children."

– Nelson Mandela

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Founder's Note

Dear Friends



We are currently in one of the most excruciating and challenging times of a lifetime. The pandemic has put more families at risk not just from a public health perspective but a domino effect of adverse financial and economic circumstances across the globe. As we continue to navigate ourselves through this very difficult phase, the need to stay focused on the health and wellbeing of children stays pertinent and relevant.

I am very proud to say that our teams continued to work remotely and connecting with families, hospitals and schools and were in constant touch to meet the demands on the ground. Due to the COVID 19, we have seen opportunities to reconsider our intervention models, re-train our staff and evaluate new opportunities to serve the society.

Under our Surgery Support Programme, we continue to support children across hospitals and I am proud to share that this year, we have extended our reach to build our presence in other parts of the country. Through our collaboration with Indian Institute of Management, Vishakhapatnam, we have been able to extend our surgery support programmes to families coming from Odissa, Andhra Pradesh and North East. In financial year 2019-20, we have supported over 260 children across Mumbai, Pune, Vishakapatnam, Guwahati and Kolkata through a network of over 30 hospitals. Our School Health Programme, as visioned completed its coverage of children across 933 municipal schools and 49 low end private schools with our nutrition and healthy eating habits sessions successfully, well before the lockdown. We have now taken the time to digitally transform the content and cover the programme in smaller groups to children digitally.

For a deeper insight into access, affordability and knowledge of nutritious food in the community we also conducted a baseline survey with 2200 children followed by one month long intervention concluding with an endline survey.

During the FY 19-20, we launched Ekam Education Fund identifying a new need of supporting children with academic interests to complete their education and pursue their dreams. In the aftermath of the COVID, this programme has assumed larger importance due to the financial and economic adversity faced by the lower middle income communities. Further, this has helped us to work with Low End Private (LEP) schools with their other hard and soft infrastructure development needs. In the FY 19-20, we completed due diligence of 25 children supporting them in their academic fees for year 2020-21.

As I steer through the challenges of the pandemic, I only see a greater need for us to build and grow our presence as the Third pillar in the society – supporting the efforts of the government and private sector in meeting the social needs of the country. Our partnership and collaborations with hospitals and schools has only grown stronger in the last one year and we look forward to continue to deepen our intervention and improve health and well being outcomes of more children in need in the years to come.

I thank you for your support as donors, partners, medical fraternity and schools' network who continue to inspire us to do more and better. I look forward to your continued patronage and support in the coming year.

Stay safe and wishes for good health and wellbeing from the entire Ekam team

Ameeta Chatterjee
Trustee and Managing Director
Ekam Foundation Mumbai

Vision Mission Values

VISION

To reduce child morbidity and mortality rates and contribute to health and wellness of children in schools and communities.

MISSION

To work for better quality health, education and wellbeing of every child irrespective of their economic status, race and religious background. We endeavor to complement the existing public and private health care system so as to ensure high quality, comprehensive, continuous healthcare for every infant, child, and adolescent in a timely and accessible manner

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Every child has right to a happy and healthy childhood. By gifting a life, you gift a child the ability to experience life, a chance to be happy and to succeed in life. No child should be denied quality healthcare because of their financial background. A healthy child grows up to become meaningful and productive member of society in future. Ekam Foundation Mumbai works as a complement to the existing public and private education system to assist underprivileged children with their wellbeing needs.

OUR VALUES

- Integrity and accountability for all our actions
- Empathy, compassion and equality in action irrespective of age, gender, race, religion, language, social status and economic background
- Collaborative approach with all our external stakeholders
- Transparency and utmost professionalism in fund utilization



ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Who We Are

Ekam Foundation Mumbai Mumbai is a registered charitable trust under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950. Since its inception in 2014 Ekam Foundation Mumbai Mumbai has focused its work in the area of improving child healthcare outcomes in underprivileged sections of the society. To address the above, we have three key programmes (a) **Surgery Support Programme(SSP)** which provides affordable, immediate relief and medical intervention to critical health issues, (b) **School Health Programme** (SHP) which addresses long term preventive healthcare outcomes through health & hygiene awareness workshops in schools and (c) **Ekam Education Fund** provides scholarships to deserving students from marginalized children, especially girls.

Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) chartered by the United Nations, Good Health and Well-being come in the top three in the 2015 Resolution. Under this goal, universal health coverage proposes to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under five. Further, goals like Clean & Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation are stated as the precursor to achieving many other SDG targets as they protect people from diseases and enable them to be productive economically. Under goal Zero Hunger thrust is on improved nutrition, stressing how under-nutrition caused wasting of 47 million children worldwide in 2019. According to UNICEF, the COVID19 led pandemic could further risk lives of 6.7 million children due to wasting in 2020. Chronic malnutrition stunts children's brain and physical development. The SDGs, also known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to health and well-being of people in general, and children in particular.

Ekam Foundation Mumbai Mumbai believes that through its holistic approach encompassing both long term preventive healthcare, and, immediate tertiary health benefits, it can address issues of quality healthcare, health and overall wellbeing of every child irrespective of their economic status, race and religious background.



OUR MILESTONES

2013

Initiated Surgery Support Programme in Maharashtra



2015

Nurse Training Program



2016

Launched School Health Programme in Mumbai



2017

Began Operations in Kolkata for outreach in
East Indian Regions



2018

Partnered with Student Council of IIM
Vishakapatnam for support in Southern India



2019

Launched Ekam Education Fund (Scholarships)



Our Journey

In 2013 we began our work with a small team of 6 highly committed and passionate social workers. We set up our first community office in Govandi, one of the most underserved settlements in Mumbai. Our experience in the field highlighted the huge need for neo-natal care to save children born with high risk. In one year's time our patient support work grew manifold, guiding and counselling marginalized families.

In 2013 we began with support to 100 children and by our 6th year in 2019 so far we have reached out to more than 2000 children for critical life saving medical aid. In 2014, we conducted a Nurse Training Programme for improved nursing practice as some of the doctors and nurses showed interest in training for the Neonatal Resuscitation Program - First Golden Minutes (NARP). And in this context, the Ekam Foundation Mumbai team supported Ber Jerbai Wadia Hospital and LTMG Hospital. Accordingly, basic NRP for Nurses and advanced NRP for Doctors was launched in 2014. This training was especially for doctors and nurses in Mumbai and Pune hospitals. The training was conducted under the aegis of IAP (Indian Academy of Pediatrics).

By 2015-16, our reach grew stronger with support to children from rural and tribal areas of Maharashtra. In 2017, we began operations in Kolkata for wider outreach in West Bengal, followed by Assam and other East Indian Regions in 2019. In 2018, we partnered with the student council of IIM Visakapatnam to support children in hospitals in the city and its adjoining areas. In our 6th year now, we are a team of 20 and growing. In this financial year we have also launched Ekam Education Fund (Scholarship Programme) keeping in view of the wellbeing of children, and especially girls.

Meet the Team

Our Trustees



AMEETA CHATTERJEE



DR. VASANTHA NAIR



AMEETA KHANNA

Our Advisory Board



SID KHANNA



NISHI VASUDEVA



SOUMENDRA LAHIRI



DEEPA VARDARAJAN

Senior Management Volunteer Team



DHRITISHA LAHIRI

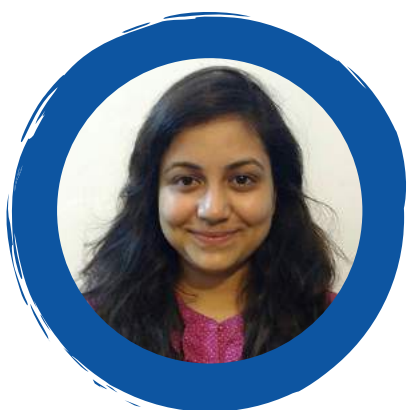


SHREEJA NAMBIAR



SOMENATH CHATTERJEE

Programme Team



SARA HASAN

Program Head



MONIDEEPA CHOWDHURY

Senior Program Associate



PRIYA SHINDE

Senior Program Associate



KANTIGEETA POL

Patient Welfare Officer



DEEPIKA SHAH

Accountant



SAMEER MAKANDAR

Program Associate



PRASHANT BHOSALE

Program Associate



AMIT JHADAV

Program Associate



VAISHALI KADBE

Program Associate

ASHWINI DHERE
Program Assistant



SHAILENDRA
JANAWLEKAR
Research Assistant



SANJEEV KUMAR

Program Assistant



NAMRATA DHOBALE

Program Assistant



PRITEE KEER

Program Associate



RUKHMINI MANE

Program Assistant



ANANT TANDEL

Office Assistant

OUR PROGRAMMES



Surgery Support Program

Ekam Foundation Mumbai was started with the idea of providing access to safe, affordable and timely surgical support to less privileged children. Under this programme, our team of social workers provide financial and emotional support for timely medical intervention to children from some of the most underserved communities. The thrust of the programme is to arrange subsidized elective surgeries for a variety of medical conditions to ensure positive health outcomes, such as congenital heart diseases, cancer, orthopaedic, ophthalmic, ENT, heart ailments, liver and bone marrow transplants and other life saving procedures through a network of both public and private hospitals.

Most parents from economically weaker sections find themselves at crossroads when their limited financial resources need to be spared for their children's healthcare. This is true for both acute conditions that need immediate attention and chronic diseases where expensive prolonged treatment and care are needed. Most often parents come to the end of their resources in the process of treating the ailing child. Also, in such challenging times it can be hard for the caregivers to deal with complex structures of large hospitals and overwhelming medical jargon. It is here that Ekam Foundation Mumbai steps in to provide necessary medical aid and emotional support for families to wade through the difficult medical journeys of their children. In 2019- 2020 we have provided financial and psycho-social support to 263 children and their families for timely and accessible medical treatment. Out of these children 97% of them underwent successful medical intervention and have recovered and rehabilitated. We continue to follow up with their parents, especially in the aftermath of COVID 19, as majority of them being daily wagers, small farm labour, domestic workers, drivers etc. have been further pushed to the margins.



The Need

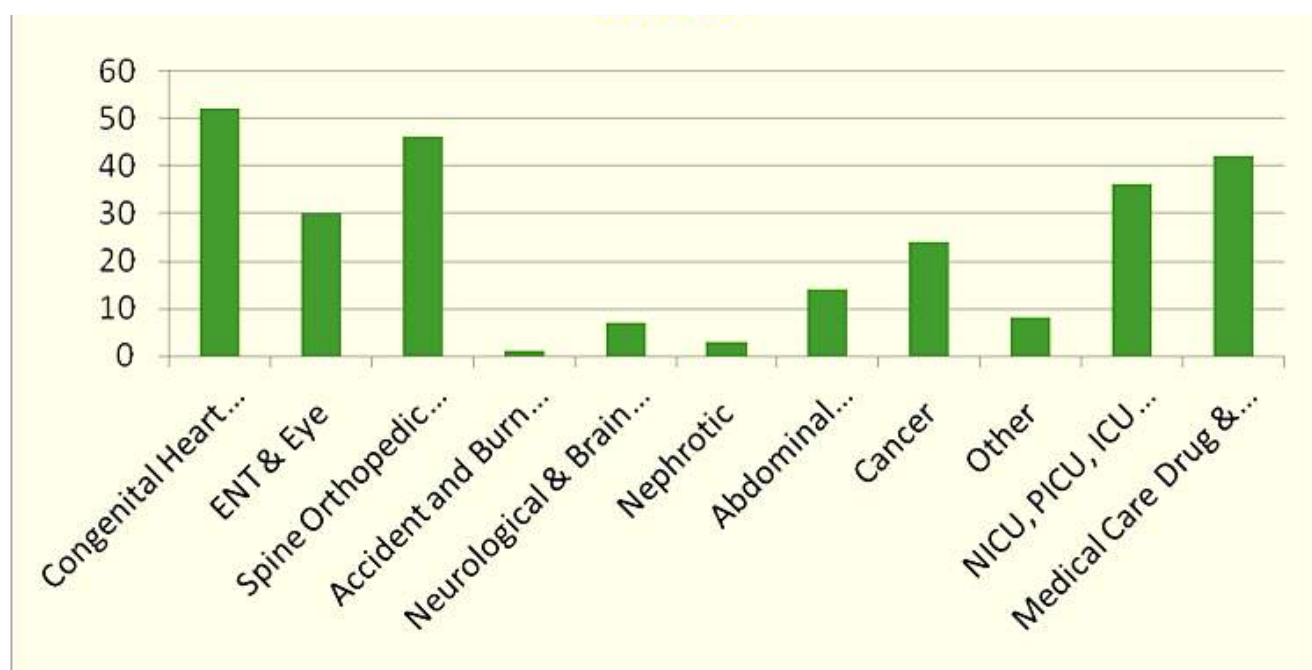
The National Health Profile (2017) published by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence states that about a quarter of all rural households, and one in five urban families in India, are forced into debt or sale of assets to meet hospitalization costs. There is a wide gap between the demand and supply of secondary and tertiary Public Healthcare. For example, in the city of Mumbai Public Healthcare infrastructure was planned in the 1950s and 70s when the city population was about half of the present one. At the same time suburbs and satellite cities like Thane and Navi Mumbai have grown faster than the island city of Mumbai. However public healthcare infrastructure has failed to keep the same pace and the inability to improve human capital places a constraint on economic growth. In the city of Mumbai where around 50% of the population lives in slums, private healthcare is unaffordable for the majority of the population. Consequently, families sometimes have to forgo essential, and otherwise expensive, treatment that can restore the quality of their child's life.

Each year India loses more than 1 million babies under the age of 1 year. Greater than 95% of these deaths can be prevented with access to good healthcare. It is therefore imperative to provide the vulnerable children with access to quality and timely healthcare.

Project Details

Ekam Foundation Mumbai has propagated its helpline number to the key stakeholders like Community Development Officers, Doctors, Health workers, Medical Officers, Anganwadi-Sevika and School Teachers. On identifying children needing hospitalization and surgery support from under-privileged background, they get referred to the Ekam helpline. Ekam Foundation Mumbai also gets referrals from its partnership with other NGOs, who identify cases at grass root level and refer it to Ekam Foundation Mumbai for financial assistance from rural areas. Helpline acts as guidance and counselling center. Ekam Foundation Mumbai runs due diligence to verify economic back ground of the family and medical history of the child and prescribed line of treatment and cost.

Surgery Support Programme 2019-2020



Beneficiary Approval Process

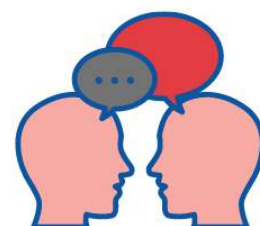
The Patient Welfare Officer mans the 24/7 dedicated helpline, which acts as the guidance and counseling centre for the children and their families in need.



The Patient Welfare Officer looks into the socio-economic status and the medical history of the applicant.



The medical history of the child is communicated to the Medical Director.



Parents are requested to contribute in whatever small amount they can; they are also advised to seek part funding from other NGO's, while Ekam acts as a last mile funder by making available the remaining amount for the treatment. In rare instances, Ekam Foundation Mumbai may support the entire cost of the treatment depending on the treatment cost and family's economic position.



The Medical Director and Medical Committee members assess the history of the ailing child, his/her socio-economic status and approve Ekam Foundation Mumbai's financial support.



After seeking approval from the National Medical Director, the Patient Welfare Officer hands over an acknowledgement letter to the treating hospital.



Post-surgery/treatment, availing one-month credit period, Ekam Foundation Mumbai makes payment to the hospital directly. No payment is made to the beneficiary's family. The hospital is requested to acknowledge receipt of payments for maintaining audit trail.



Testimonials

"Our sincere thanks for your support and cooperation in the form of monetary donation for our patient, even in COVID times and are very cognizant of your efforts taken to mobilize funding under your programme that has relieved financial stress of these families"- **Dr. Kunal Punamiya, Head- Medical Services, Fortis, Mulund**

"The sessions by Ekam Foundation Mumbai on nutrition and safe drinking water have been very engaging for our children and helps them retain the messages through fun methods of storytelling". - **Greta Ceasar D'Cruz, Teacher, Ketki Pada Municipal Marathi School, Dahisar**

"The Patient Welfare team at Ekam Foundation Mumbai is very sensitive towards the children and their families in need during the challenging medical and financial crisis. My deepest gratitude to the entire team working so hard even during the toughest times in a pandemic and ensuring that every deserving patient receives help."- **Riddhi Shah, Medical Social Worker, Surya Children's Medicare, SantaCruz**

"We found that your organization is very prompt in responding to the appeals and giving generous donations. We found your team is really very helpful and easy to approach for everyone irrespective of age, gender, religion, caste etc."- **Jyoti Pillay , Senior Medical Social Worker, KEM Hospital, Pune**

"The kind gesture and valued support of yours will definitely help us to go ahead with our mission of serving children with disabilities. Your one-on one-interaction, digital presentation was very interesting and helpful for our children"- **Ms. Anushree Vyas, Co-ordinator, Gurukul Centre for Special Children**

Our Network of Hospitals

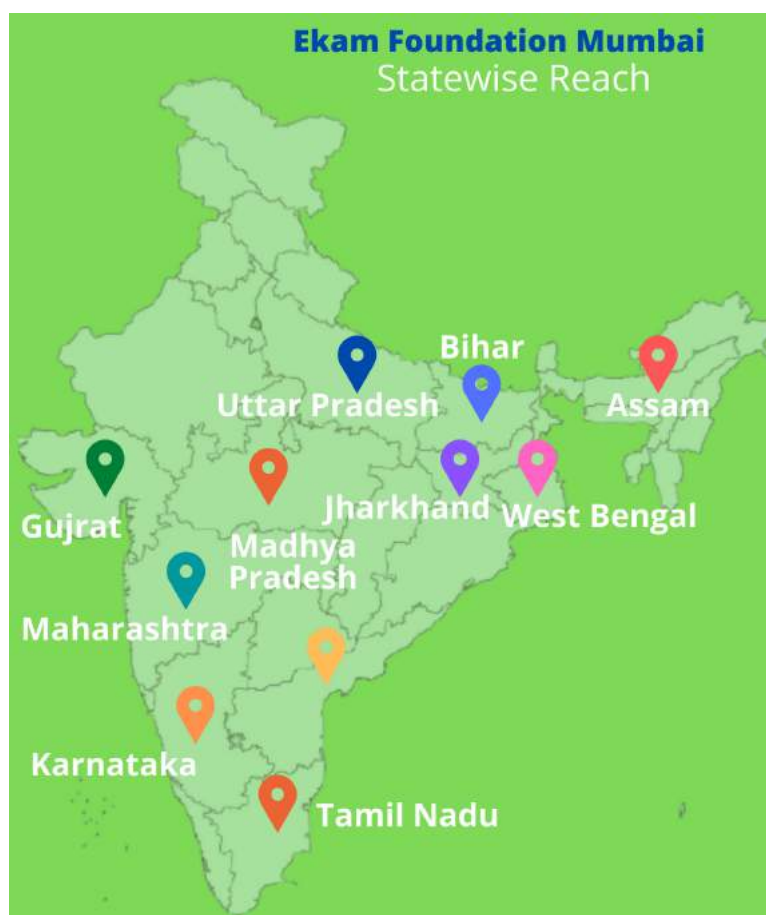
Sr. No	Hospitals	City
1	ACE Children's Hospital	Dombivali
2	AMRI Hospitals	Kolkata
3	Asian Institute of Medical Sciences Pvt Ltd	Mumbai
4	Bai Jerbai Wadia hospital For Children	Mumbai
5	Balaji Heart Hospital & Research Centre	Mumbai
6	Bharati Hospital & Research Centre	Pune
7	Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital	Pune
8	Dr. Bedekar Hospital for women & Children	Mumbai
9	Dr. Indu's Newborn and Childcare Centre	Mumbai
10	Fortis Hospital	Mumbai
11	HCG EKO Cancer Centre	Kolkata
12	Institute of Child Health	Kolkata
13	Institute of Neuroscience	Kolkata
14	K J Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre	Mumbai
15	KB Haji Bachooali Charitable ophthalmic and ENT Hospital	Mumbai
16	KEM Hospital - Pune	Pune
17	Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital	Mumbai
18	KPC Medical College & Hospital	Kolkata
19	L T M G Hospital	Mumbai
20	Laxmana Multi Speciality Hospital	Madurai
21	Makunda Christian Leprosy & General Hospital	Assam
22	MCGM - CTC - PHO - BMT Centre	Mumbai
23	Motherhood women & children's hospital	Mumbai
24	NH Mazumdar Shaw Medical Center	Bangalore
25	NH Narayan Institute of Cardiac Sciences	Bangalore
26	NH Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences	Kolkata
27	Queens NRI Hospital	Visakhapatna
28	SRCC Children's Hospital	Mumbai
29	Surya Children's Hospital	Mumbai
30	Surya Mother & Child Care Hospital	Pune
31	Tata Memorial Centre	Mumbai
32	The Mission Hospital	Durgapur

Quantum of Support

Quantum of support depends on nature of illness, cost of the treatment, family economic background and other resources available at disposal. Generally, Ekam Foundation Mumbai partly supports the expenses of child, however in exceptional cases Ekam Foundation Mumbai can support 100% cost of the treatment depending on the need and resources available.

Present Locations

Our beneficiaries come from various parts of the country. From November 2017, Ekam Foundation Mumbai started its operations in Kolkata, West Bengal, and its catchment areas. In 2018-19, we expanded our operations to Assam and Visakapatnam, thereby reaching out to more children in parts of northeast and southern cities of India.



Target Population

Children aged 0-18 years belonging to underprivileged section of society.

Stories of Strength



Nine year old Afshin (name changed) was suffering from LE Phaco IOL (Eye ailment) since birth. As per their friends suggestion her worried parents admitted her in Bachooali Hospital.

Her parents wanted the best for her but did not have the means to fund the treatment. With support of Ekam Foundation Mumbai Afshin's eye surgery was done successfully. She is back to her studies and has aspirations of becoming a teacher.



Farhan (name changed) was born with congenital heart disease; he was taken to one of the prominent government hospitals for treatment in Mumbai. Due to long waiting period the doctors referred him to a private hospital. Though the treatment cost was much higher his parents did not want to take a chance.

Finally, with the support of referral of doctors and fund collection from various NGOs including Ekam Foundation Mumbai Farhan was successfully operated. He is 2 years old now and feels much better than before.



A Rikshaw Puller's 9 year old son Sundar (name changed) was born with a major heart defect, but due to lack of knowledge and awareness the child was taken to the right doctor quite late. Finally it was detected as a major congenital heart problem which required ROSS Open heart surgery, a complicated one.

All hospitals do not have the facility for such complicated paediatric cardiac surgery. Senior surgeons at Mission Hospital, Durgapur assured them that he would get the best treatment.

Even after their assurance it took a very long time for Sundar's father to raise some money, appealing to people door to door. But the surgery could not be delayed any more. By a wonderful stroke of luck he came into contact with Ekam Foundation Mumbai, who stood by him to see that he did not fail in his mission to get his son operated timely.

With the much needed financial and emotional support soon he was able to get his child admitted at The Mission Hospital Durgapur. With a sum of Rs.45,000/- from Ekam Foundation Mumbai and contributions from some other kind donors, the surgery was performed very successfully. The parents expressed their heartfelt gratitude and went home with the child recovered and safe.



When Mrinal (name changed) was 5 months old she was often getting sick with cold, breathlessness and blackening in fingernails etc. for which her parents did necessary investigations suggested by the doctor. It was then found that she was suffering from a congenital heart defect. So without wasting time, the doctor performed her first surgery at the age of 7 months. Then after consultation with Dr. Swati Garekar, they found that Mrinal required another heart surgery (Tricuspid Atresia s/p BD Glenn).

The total cost of the treatment was huge. So it was impossible for the parents to collect the entire amount, but they didn't give up hope. They applied to trusts that help less privileged children.

Ekam Mumbai promptly supported them to make it possible. After the successful surgery the baby's parents went back to their house (Panvel) happily with the child.



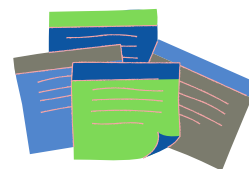
Three year old Zain (name changed) means the world to his mother. She is always by his side to give him the best care for his recovery.

Zain had developed constant fever in late 2019 and doctors raised an alarm, he also lost a lot of weight.




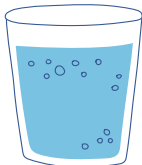

At CTC Borivali Hospital he was diagnosed with Leukemia. As the parents were absorbing this shocking information and chalking out plans to raise the humungous cost of Rs. 5,00,000 for his treatment, the lockdown was announced.

Though the parents faced huge difficulty in travelling to hospital for follow ups, organizations like Ekam Mumbai stepped in for financial and social support. Zidan underwent several chemotherapy cycles and responded well to the treatment. He is much better and spends his time at home watching cartoons.

School Health Programme



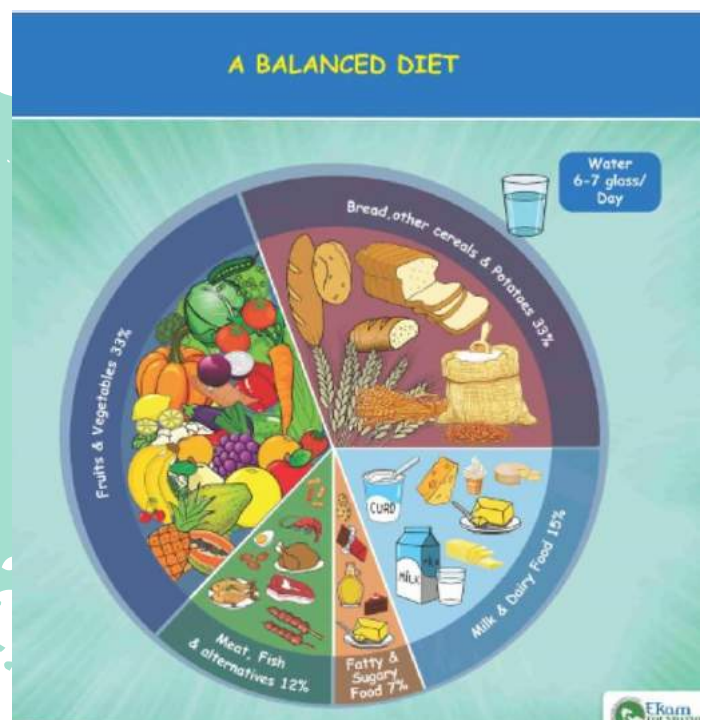
Ekam Foundation Mumbai initiated its School Health Programme, an awareness program focusing on Health and Hygiene among the primary schools of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), with the sole intention to bring about a behavioural change among the children and thereby bringing down morbidity and mortality on account of common communicable diseases and to promote overall health. In the past, team Ekam Foundation Mumbai has covered the following topics through this programme (a) hand washing and personal hygiene, (b) toilet etiquette and sanitation, (c) oral health, (d) safe drinking water and (e) Healthy Eating Habits

Theme	Academic Year	Students Reached
	2015-16 Handwashing & Personal Hygiene	1,10,000
	2016-17 Toilet & Sanitation	1,30,000
	2017-18 Oral Health	1,65,000
	2018-19 Safe Drinking Water	1,75,000
	2019-20 Safe Drinking Water	1,04,400

In 2019- 2020 we conducted year long workshops on Healthy Eating Habits, in continuum of health and hygiene topics covered over 4 years. In the fifth year we focussed on nutrition and dietary practices. Research shows that despite the resources, often, lack of awareness leads to under nutrition that undermines the survival, growth and development of children, and diminishes the strength and capacity of a community. Therefore, it deemed appropriate to spread awareness on nutrition and balanced diet following our earlier programmes on drinking water, hand hygiene and sanitation. School is an important platform, offering an efficient and effective way to reach many children, and through them, their families and community members.

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn"

– Benjamin Franklin



Ekam Foundation Mumbai creates its own Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material which include 35-40 minutes digital presentation and other collaterals like posters, standees, book labels, badges etc. The presentation comprises of an interesting story which revolves around central characters that children can relate to. Our team of facilitators work with the lens of child friendly methods focusing on meaningful conversations and long lasting impact.

Interactive sessions and animated delivery of the story help in demonstrating messages well. Book labels are distributed to children with messages, facts and motivational slogans focusing on behaviour change on relevant themes. A couple of badges with similar message are also handed over to the most active and responsive students to encourage participation and create interest. Posters are put up on the school walls for easy recall of the same messages for the children. Ekam Foundation Mumbai also creates a short animation video of 7 to 10 minutes on previous year's message and runs it at the end of the session to repeat and reinforce the messages.

The SHP Programme caters to primary schools run by Municipal Corporation of greater Mumbai and Thane Municipal Corporation. For greater outreach we also run our programme in low end private or budget schools. All the collaterals are made in-house with the help of professional agencies. Every year Ekam Foundation Mumbai does research on new topic and finalizes the content. Content gets weighed by experts on subject matter and child friendliness. The core message is woven around the story so that children can relate to it. Well thought out characters like Anandididi, The SHP Programme caters to primary schools run by Municipal Corporation of greater Mumbai and Thane Municipal Corporation. For greater outreach we also run our programme in low end private or budget schools.

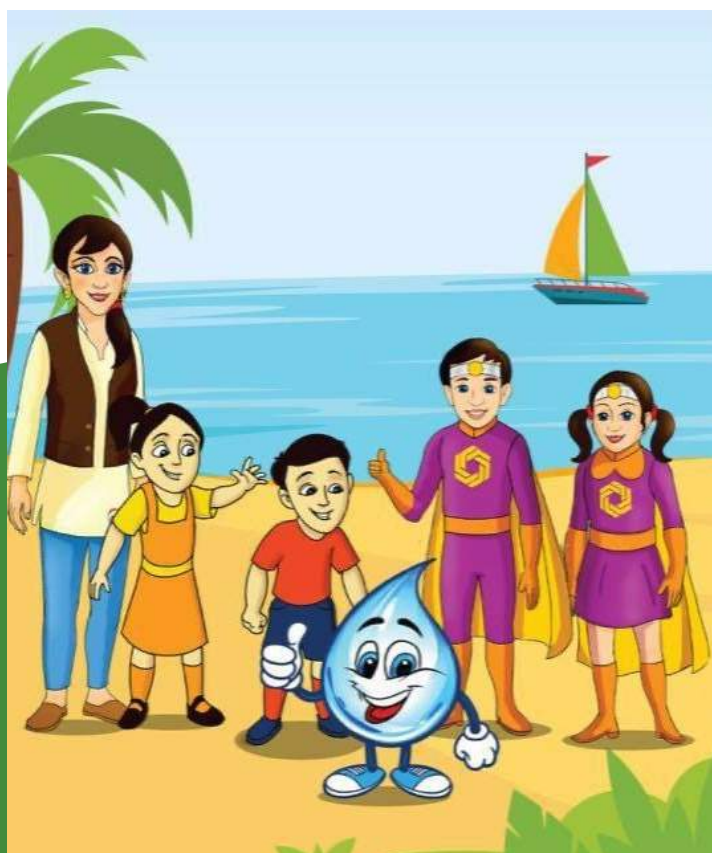
All the collaterals are made in-house with the help of professional agencies. Every year Ekam Foundation Mumbai does research on new topic and finalizes the content. Content gets weighed by experts on subject matter and child friendliness. The core message is woven around the story so that children can relate to it. Well thought out characters like Anandididi, superkids, and couple of school children are kept constant over the years so children remember them and connect with them easily.

Programme Highlights

- The SHP Programme benefits from commendable support of government authorities and as well as the targeted schools. This could be achieved with a history of gaining their trust and delivering impact through rigorous programme campaigns; the institutions involved are at their cooperative best.
- Teachers have commended the sessions as interactive, enjoyable and that it ensures learning in a fun and engaging way. The children particularly enjoy the use of Super kids in the presentation and in the animation video.
- Moreover, the giveaways distributed during and after the session ensure effective participation and learning throughout the programme segment.

The fruition of the School Health Programme lies in continuous reinforcement of the messages imparted through conducting each module of the programme, and, discussing their dos and don'ts with the children at length.

This way we get to test the knowledge, attitude and practices followed as regard to the current year's topic. Our team encourages the children to volunteer from each class sharing their comprehensive understanding of the topic in discussion.





Testimonials from Our Little Change Makers

Meeran (name changed) has been attending our sessions regularly. He studies in class 5th now and is 11 years old. Meeran and his younger brother are raised by their mother alone. Meeran's father left them when his younger brother was born. Their mother works as a domestic help and make ends meet.



"It is difficult to study at home as we do not have any electricity but I love going to school and the sessions by Ekam are filled with fun and new information. I try to practice all the healthy habits taught in these sessions. To begin with I have made a point to not eat street food and appreciate my mother's home cooked delicious meals. I want to make my mother feel proud of me, she works very hard. We do not have a ration card due to constant shifting after my parents separated."

"We have to buy filtered water every alternate day. The drains in my area are poorly maintained and there is high risk of spread of infection. It is everyday nightmare to queue outside the community toilets but we try to follow as much precautions as there is no other option. Sometimes if I feel sick my mother takes me to the nearest Health post, however it does not have regular and efficient services"- 11 year old Meeran, a resident of Malvani in Mumbai

Rizwana (name changed) lives with her 4 siblings and parents in one of the most vulnerable settlements in Mumbai. Her father works as an auto driver and earn around Rs. 5000-6000 per month. Both her parents are HIV positive and therefore a major portion of their earning goes in treatment. With the support Rizawana's school they received ration when the lockdown was announced in March 2020.

"Our area is not safe, lanes are poorly lit and the problem of substance abuse is huge. Very often you will hear girls dropping out of school as they feel highly unsafe walking to school. As my parents struggle to provide us with education and healthy life, we try to act responsible and minimize the risks as much as possible. I have attended Ekam Foundation Mumbai's sessions on health and hygiene, it helps me escape the boredom of my routine and I learn a lot of new things on how simply small changes in eating habits and precautions can go a long way in protecting us. In spite of all odds I always participate enthusiastically in all the school events. I like to attend school regularly as I find that is the place for me, my path to opportunities in future, as I wish to stand on my feet soon and support my family." - 13 year old Rizwana, studying in a low end private school in Malvani, Mumbai



Awareness Leads to Sustainable Action

In 2018-19 **Sanitation First UK** supported Ekam Foundation Mumbai Mumbai to set up Bio-toilets in schools for water conservation and reducing risk of contamination. Ekam Foundation Mumbai identified Al Falah school in Malvani, one of the largest slum settlements in Mumbai which faces huge shortage of safe water for cleaning and drinking.

School staff and children were trained by a team from Pondicherry who have experience in successfully installing and running Bio toilets in their communities. Under the expertise and financial support of Sanitation First UK the school set up its first Bio toilets.



Alongside the training sessions construction of the new bio toilets began in the school. Earlier the toilets that were used posed a huge risk to health as maintaining cleanliness was not possible with serious shortage of water. The new bio toilets require minimal water, mainly for washing after use. These composting toilets use natural process of decomposition and evaporation to recycle human waste. The waste consists of 90% water that evaporates and goes back to the atmosphere through the vent system. Natural decomposition of the remaining solid is converted into useful fertilizing soil. More than 1000 children at the school have been using these bio toilets.



Health Awareness Sessions Sanitation & Hygiene



Al Falah School Awareness led to Sustainable Action



Before



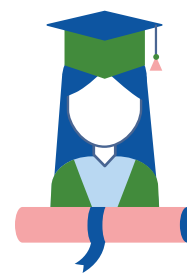
After



Outcome: More than 2000 students are using Eco friendly toilets in a community with scarce water supply



Ekam Education Fund



According to the Ministry of Human Resources and Development 6.2 million children are out of school in India. There is also a wide gender gap within the ambit of Right to Education (ACT), as the school dropout rate continues to be higher for girls compared to boys. Traditional norms and socio-economic boundaries set for girls put greater responsibilities of household chores or sibling care on them, thereby leading to their higher dropout rate.

Keeping in view of the wellbeing of children, and especially girls or children with disabilities we started Ekam Education Fund in 2019 to help underprivileged children access good quality education in institution and schools that provide value based education across country.

Low End Private (LEP) or 'Budget School' is the term coined for those projected as responding to the growing demand of poor families for good quality private English medium education. There has been a significant growth of the private sector in elementary education in India in recent times. According to the Indian Human Development Survey (IHDS) carried out in 2005, as many as 51 per cent of children in urban areas and 21 per cent in rural areas were enrolled in private unaided schools. Further as per IHDS report 15 per cent of enrolment of children aged 6-14 years in the lowest income quartile, as compared to 52 per cent in the top quintile, in private unaided schools. Also, there is a serious dearth of public schools for secondary level education in highly populated settlements.

These LEP schools charge low tuition fees, and hence meet the demand from poorest of families for private, good quality education. Location of these schools is usually convenient, closer to the marginalized settlements and hence easily accessible to children, especially girls.

These children are often first generation learners. The vast majority of low income parents aspire to send their children to English medium schools so as to secure a middle-class job. This underlines the need to serve the vast children population studying in these schools. Therefore, Ekam Foundation Mumbai targets low end private schools, which cater to children from low end income group of the society. These schools typically charge fees between Rs 500 a month to Rs. 1500 a month but most parents working as daily wagers cannot even afford that.

In the aftermath of COVID19 restrictions they are further marginalized and millions of children, especially girls have been at risk of dropout. Ekam Foundation Mumbai supports education fees of under privileged children studying in standard 6th to 12th under this programme and guides them through the completion of their academics. After thorough evaluation in 2019-20, we identified 25 (16 girls and 9 boys) adolescent students who have received Ekam Education Fund (Scholarships) for the academic year 2020-2021.





Mini (name changed) is studying in 5th std. in Ideal English School at Malwani, Malad (W). Her parents have been separated since eight years. Her father has been alcoholic and abused his family. Later, he moved to Karnataka and cut all ties with Mini and her mother. Since last eight years Mini and her mother have been staying with the grandparents. Her Grandfather works as a security guard and draws a small salary to sustain the family. Thankfully, in the pandemic he did not lose his job unlike his peers. Mini's mother is not educated enough and tries help the family with her tailoring work. Mini has been under weight since birth but the family tries to give their best for her health and education.

"I wish to be a karate champion but I had to drop out of my karate classes because we could not pay the fees. When I grow up I want to become a doctor so that I can save many lives. Mom tells me I will have to study very hard for that but I will do it"- 10 year old Mini

“To educate girls is to reduce poverty.”

- Kofi Annan



Heena (name changed) aspires to be an air hostess; she is one of the brightest students of her class.

She is the first among all her sisters who has not yet dropped out of school due to family's cultural pressures.

As the lockdown was announced in March 2020, her family had to bear shocking news. Heena's father met with an accident and was bed ridden for few months.

Her first thought was of quitting school and not add further financial burden on her family. Fortunately, her school's management team connected her with our team and she was selected for the Ekam Education Fund Scholarship.

Heena has continued her studies and is regular with her online classes. She also wishes to spread awareness on menstrual hygiene among her peers. Heena feels she is fortunate that in these rough times when many of her batchmates returned to their hometowns or villages with no means to pay the fees, she is safe and able to continue school.

Monitoring and Evaluation

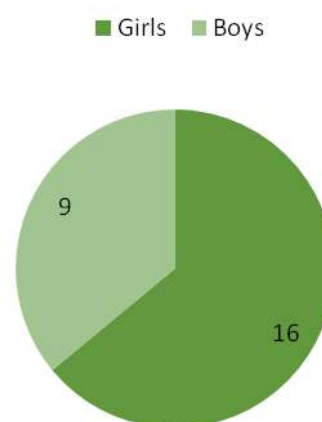
We maintain a robust and ethical system of data collection for our beneficiaries across programmes and any research that we conduct. For our Surgery Support Programme we have developed control sheets to monitor medical journey of each child. From the time of admission to follow ups with the hospitals and finally to successful recoveries, each patient is assigned a social worker from our team for constant psycho-social support.

Any delay in the process is automatically raised by our patient welfare officers internally or with external stakeholders at the hospitals. We develop monthly budget and outreach trackers along with qualitative reports for all our programmes. As we intend to further automate our processes we will soon be developing a data tabulation app for efficient data collection and analysis for our programmes.

State Wise Patient Support

Patient Support			
State	M	F	Total
Maharashtra	95	89	184
Andhrapradesh	1	1	2
Assam	0	2	2
Bihar	2	1	3
Gujarat	1	0	1
Jharkhand	0	1	1
Karnataka	1	0	1
Madhyapradesh	2	0	2
Tamilnadu	2	0	2
Uttarpradesh	3	2	5
Westbengal	43	17	60
Total	150	113	263

Ekam Education Scholars



Our Champions

Amit Chandra - A Guiding light

Amit has been Ekam Mumbai supporter since inception. He and his team have been like a guiding light in the world of Philanthropy. Not only does he spend time understanding and improving our intervention models, but also understand the need for capacity building and developing an organization vision. We are blessed to have him as our mentor in the years to come



Dilip Piramal- A Guardian Angel

Dilip has been a constant source of encouragement given he has seen us grow from a 4 member team to a 25 member team. He has a compassionate ear to our needs and a generous heart. We are proud of his support and continue to seek his advice in the coming years.



Roohi Jaikishan Omerbhoy - A Celebrity with a Conscious Heart

Roohi has been supporting us through her many talents and events for last five years. She blends her creative talents, business events with giving back to the society effortlessly. Her innovative ideas through the 'One Amazing Shop' help us raise awareness and fundraise for the cause.



Sharmeen Basu- A Champion of Children's Well-being

Sharmeen, lives in London but her heart and mind are always working for the children of Ekam in Mumbai. She is an angel in demand and supports all our activities and champions our cause in all forums in India and abroad. We are blessed to have her as one of our champion.



Smriti Chandwani - A Healing Hand

Smriti based out of Delhi is always available for the Ekam causes. If needed, she actively engages with patient and their families in case there is a need to understand the management of underlying health concerns post-surgical intervention. She is also available at all event to support in many ways.



Suvalaxmi Chakraborty- A Professional par excellence

Suvalaxmi's professionalism and kind heart blend beautifully for all at Ekam. Her presence at our office brings cheer but underneath the smiling face, we have a professional hard at work to achieve our calendar events. No event is complete without her touch of energy, professionalism and drive.



The Year In Highlights

- 97% of Children supported by Ekam Foundation Mumbai in FY 2019-20 underwent successful treatment, have recovered and rehabilitated.
- Our network of hospitals has grown from 16 hospitals in 2018 to 32 public and private hospitals in 2019-20
- Ekam Swimathon 2019 was held in the summer with participation of over 250 children and their parents and we raised substantial fund of Rs. 2,60,650/- for the cause of Girls's Education
- Ekam Foundation Mumbai participated in One Amazing Shop Fundraiser 2019 and raised Rs. 1,35,000
- We continuously conduct capacity building workshops for our team. In 2019-20 all members attended training on advanced excel and it has definitely helped them in improved documentation.



Way Forward

We live in unprecedented times and as the year 2019-20 ended we were faced with new challenges posed by COVID 19. Our team at Ekam Foundation Mumbai soon adapted itself to the 'new normal' of work from home and ensures that none of our beneficiaries suffer due to lack of resources in these rough times. Though it has been overwhelming to balance safety measures and yet continue our timely support to children, we have only emerged more resilient. It is unfortunate and extremely heartbreaking, that two children whom we had supported did not survive due to the travel restrictions during lockdown. They could not reach Mumbai on time for their follow ups with the hospitals. We adapt all our programmes in the light of this pandemic and subsequent restriction on meeting people. Our Surgery Support programme will continue across all our locations virtually, in close collaboration with hospitals and other stakeholders.

Our Ekam Education Fund (Scholarships) will continue its support to many more adolescent girls in 2020-21 as there has been a high risk of dropout due to extreme financial losses. Further, as experts predict 20% of girls will drop-out of schools in India by next financial year. In efforts of transforming the classrooms, taking them to the online world has had its gendered impact. Despite the use of internet penetrating remotest corners of the country there is wide gap in access for women and men. According to a study by Oxfam, 80% parents feel that the online classes during the lockdown have failed, especially for the marginalized communities. Some students have been luckier than others who can get access to the sole smart phone in the family. We will continue to monitor and guide the students who have received our scholarships, going forward we will also be conducting life skills and leadership modules with them. Some of them are already part of our SHP programmes and will become peer leaders in their communities on child health and nutrition.

Our Donors

ATE Chandra Foundation
TCS Foundation
Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Compnay
H.T. Parekh Foundation
Sachin Tendulkar Foundation
Hindustan Colas Private Limited
Sunteck Welfare Foundation
Ameeta Chatterjee
Tata AIG General Insurance
JM Financial Foundation
Starteck Finance Limited
ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
Vaidyanathan Vembu
Soumendra Nath Lahiri
Idea Shop Web And Media Private Limited
D B Corp Ltd
Nalin Mansukhlal Shah
Suvalaxmi Chakraborty
Madan Lal Thukral
Sudha Mohan Kamat

**List of Donors for contribution of Rs. 50,000 and above*

Financials

Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2020

Liabilities	2019-20	2018-19	Assets	2019-20	2018-19
Corpus Fund	1.90	1.90	Fixed Assets		
Restricted Fund	221.75		Loans and Advances	2.27	5.15
Loans & Duties	1.78	1.80	Sundry Debtors		
Sundry Creditors			Deposits	34.5	56.50
Outstanding Expenses	5.55	13.79	Cash & Bank	242.99	66.17
Capital Fund	48.77	110.32	Total Assets	279.76	127.82
Excess of income over Expenditure					
Total Liabilities	279.76	127.82			

Income & Expenditure Account For the year ended 31st March 2020

Income	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Donation	352.55	451.29	101.29
Other Income	5.66	4.00	6.27
Excess of Expenditure over Income trs to capital fund		0.12	
Total Income	358.21	455.41	107.56
Expenditure			
Donation Expenses			
Medical Expenses (Surgery Support)	244.44	330.64	12.44
Admin Expenses	47.86	52.97	2.4
Educational Expenses (SHP)	42.24	71.23	3.5
Other Charitable Objects (Event)	-	-	2.15
Audit Fees	0.59	0.57	0.29
Excess of income over Expenditure trs to Capital Fund	23.08		86.78
Total Expenses	358.21	455.41	107.56

Note: Admin cost (Employee Cost, Rent and other office expenses) under 12% of amount received.

C A S & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

FORM NO. 10 B
(See Rule 17B)

Audit Report Under Section 12A (b) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.
In the case of Charitable or religious trusts or Institution.

We have examined the Balance Sheet of **Ekam Foundation Mumbai Trust**, as at March 31, 2020 and the Income and Expenditure account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the said trust.

We have obtained all the information and explanation which to be best of our knowledge and beliefs were necessary for the purposes of the audit. In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the above named trust visited by us so far as appears from our examination of books, and proper returns adequate for the purposes of audit have been received by us.

In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to information given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view -

1. In the case of the Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the above named Trust as at March 31, 2020 and
2. In the Case of Income & Expenditure account, of the Income during its accounting year ending on March 31, 2020.

The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.

For C A S & Co.
Chartered Accountant
Firm's Reg. No. 111075W

SAJJAN
KANODIA

Digitally signed by
SAJJAN KANODIA
Date: 2020.10.03
13:29:06 +05'30'



Sajjan Kanodia
Partner
Membership No.: 048047

UDIN : 20048047AAABIJ9136

Place: Mumbai
Date : 28th September, 2020

ANNEXURE		
Statement of Particulars		
I Application of Income for Charitable or religious purposes		
1	Amount of income of the previous year applied to charitable or religious purposes in India during the year.	3,35,13,150
2	Whether the trust/ institution* has exercised the option under clause(2) of the Explanation to section 11 (1)? If so the details of the amount of income deemed to have been applied to charitable or religious purposes in India during the previous year.	No
3	Amount of income Accumulated or set apart/ finally set apart application to charitable or religious purposes, to the extent it does not exceed 15 percent of the income derived from property held under trust* wholly for such purpose	23,08,795
4	Amount of Income eligible for exemption under section 11 (1) (c): (Give details)	NIL
5	Amount of Income in addition to the amount referred to in item 3 above, accumulated or set apart for specified purposes under section 11 (12).	NIL
6	Whether the amount of income mentioned in item 5 above has been invested or deposited in the manner laid down in section 11 (2) (b)? If so, the details thereof.	Not Applicable
7	Whether any part of the income in respect of which an option was exercised under clause (2) of the Explanations to section 11 (1) in any earlier year is deemed to be income of the previous year under section 11 (1B) ? If so, the details thereof.	Nil
8	Whether during the pervious year any part of income accumulated or set apart for specified purposes under section 11 (2) in any earlier year	
	a. Has been applied for purposes other than charitable or religious purposes or has ceased to be accumulated or set apart for application thereto or	No
	b Has ceased to remain invested in any security referred to in section 11 (b) (1) or deposited in any account referred to in section 11 (2) (b) (ii) or 11 (2) (b) (iii), or	No
	c Has not been utilised for purposes for which it was accumulated or set apart during the period for which it was to be accumulated or set apart or in the year immediately following the expiry thereof? If so, details thereof.	No
II Application or use of income or property for the benefit of person referred to in section 13 (3)		
1	Whether any part of the Income or property of the Trust/Institution was lent, or continues to be lent, in the previous year to any person referred to in section 13 (3) (here in after referred to in this Annexure rate of interest charged and the nature of security if any)	Not Applicable
2	Whether any land, building or other property of the * trust/institution was made, or continued to be made available for the use of any such person during the previous year? /if so, give details of the property and the amount of rent or compensation charged if any.	Not Applicable

ANNEXURE

Statement of Particulars

- 3 Whether any payment was made to any such person during the previous year by way of salary allowance or otherwise? If so, give details. Yes

Sr No	Details	Amount
1	Dr. Vasantha Nair-Payment made towards professional services	3,93,250

- 4 Whether the services of the* trust/institution were made available to any such person during the previous year? If so, give details thereof together with remuneration or compensation received, if any. Not Applicable

- 5 Whether any shares, security or other property was purchased by or on behalf of the * trust / institution during the previous year from any such person? If so, give details thereof together with the consideration paid. Not Applicable

- 6 Whether any share, security or other property was sold by on behalf of the * trust/ institution during the previous year to any such person? If so, give details thereof together with the consideration received. Not Applicable

- 7 Whether any income or property of the * trust /institution was diverted during the previous year in favour of any such person? If so, give details thereof together with the amount of income or value of property so diverted. Not Applicable

- 8 Whether any income or property of the * trust / institution was used or applied during the previous year for the benefit of any such person in any other matter? If so, give details. Not Applicable

- III Investments held at any time during the year(s) in concerns in which persons referred top in section 13 (3) have a substantial interest.

Sr.	Name & Address of the concern	Whether the concern is a company no and class of	Nominal value of the investment	Income from Investment	Whether the amount exceed concern during the previous year
1	2	3	4	5	6
Not Applicable					

For CAS & Co.

Chartered Accountants

F. R. N. : 111075W

SAJJAN
KANODIA

Sajjan Kanodia

Partner

M. No. : 048047

UDIN : 20048047AAABIJ9136

Place : Mumbai

Date : 28th September, 2020



Compliance and Accountability



We successfully completed the Compliance Complete Certificate Programme with CAP (Center for Advancement of Philanthropy) and were awarded the CAP certificate for the same.



Ekam Foundation Mumbai was awarded Gold Certificate for transparency by Guidestar India in 2019-20

www.ekamfoundationmumbai.org



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