



White Lotus Charitable Trust - Annual Report (2021-22)

Potential is everywhere, whether rich or poor, opportunity is all that stands between these children and a better life.

White Lotus Trust is dedicated to providing education and training, reducing inequality and cycles of poverty.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME NOTE	3
BLOSSOM BUS - HARYANA, RAJASTHAN & TAMIL NADU	6
New CSR partnership with Nissan Motors India Pvt. Ltd	6
BLOSSOM BUS Metrics 2021-22 at a glance	7
BLOSSOM BUS - Dashboard (KPI's)	7
BLOSSOM BUS summary - Impact, Outcomes, Challenges	8
Academic Outcomes	8
Gendered Imapcts - BLOSSOM BUS graduates reach for their dreams	9
WHITE LOTUS - KAPADIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION tertiary scholars	12
KHUSHBU - A Kapadia Scholars story of deep commitment to further education	14
ASHA - Village based women and children's health project	16
Formation of Adolescent Groups	16
Community meetings with women	17
Hand Wash Days (HWD)	18
Meetings with Anganwadi Workers by Supervisors	19
ANM visits to villages	19
ASHA METRIC DASHBOARD	20
White Lotus developing social business for rural women's job creation	21
EDUCATION QUALITY ADDITION PROJECT (EQU+)	23
Project time-line of return to normal classes:	24
Extra-curricular activities and events	24
Case Study - Vanya Kumar	26
YOUNG WOMEN'S - SKILL TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (STEP)	28
STEP graduate - Kiran Kumar	31
Starting social programs in the hilly tribal areas of Jharkand near Hazaribagh	32
Responding to the 2nd wave of COVID - April to September 2021	34
Provision of emergency rations by way of cooked food and dry rations to families in desperate need	34
Provision of education support materials to children and youth to ensure they and their families remain in school and connected to their studies.	34
Provision of Education support kits - narrative detail	35
Keshavati and Pappu - daily wage labor received dry rations during Covid.	36
White Lotus developing social business for rural women's job creation	37

WELCOME NOTE

Dear donors, friends & White Lotus Trust community

2021 was again a challenging year for everyone due to the Covid 19 epidemic and which as always, disproportionally impacts on communities living in poverty and then too, more so where women and children are concerned. After a very hopeful start and many months of working toward normality, Schools and communities were closed again in late April 2021 for several months and causing limited interruption to children's education and social programs up until January 2022. Even so, we had learned a lot and were well prepared to respond during the first wave of Covid so the second wave did not seem as difficult. We again provided emergency rations, fresh food to the most vulnerable of communities of daily wage laborers and educational kits for children during school closures while our community-based teachers again gave their all, braving Covid to provide children daily classes in small groups, in their homes and villages so they could keep up with their studies and remain in school.

By midyear the epidemic was waning, schools and communities reopened and work began again in earnest, so many exciting and high points followed that I only have room in this letter for some of them. Blossom Bus funding from Nissan Motors India PVT LTD allowed us to add two hundred riders and we kept almost 700 girls in school and up with their studies, severely impacted by the epidemic over the course of two academic years.

We initiated and secured funding for a women's village-based employment project in Tamil Nadu in response to the devastation wrought on rural livelihoods by the epidemic and another in Haryana to produce affordable menstrual pads that would also encourage their use in our rural women and children's health project.

We secured funding for programs that will serve around 900 girls and young women from ten tribal villages highly vulnerable to trafficking including a computer centre, bicycles from our Lotus Pedals Project and uniforms for ten girl's football teams!! In addition to the huge number of young women we are now mentoring through a number of cross cutting projects, we are very excited to have added another 11 rural women's youth groups to the ten already established in 2020-21! Some 525 village girls under mentorship through the ASHA project and now actively engaged in helping to improve women and children's health services and becoming a force to be reckoned with in their own villages!

We offer our profound thanks to our donors, supporters and tireless volunteers and field workers for their extraordinary contribution and for making all that we have done this year possible and hope you will enjoy reading our annual report roundup.

With very best wishes, from the entire team at White Lotus Trust.



#nissancares #peoplefirst

DASHBOARD METRICS – PAN INDIA PROJECTS

PROJECT	DIRECT IMPACT	GEOGRAPHIES
ASHA - Rural women & children's health project	16,560	Kaman Block, Bharatpur District (Rajasthan)
BLOSSOM BUS - access to education	689	Palwal District (Haryana), Mewat of Rajasthan, Vellore District (Tamil Nadu)
EQU+ - access to education after school	318	North West Delhi - Slum and Low-income communities
Skills Training for Employment	152	North West Delhi, Low Income Communities
Tertiary Scholars	70	Delhi, Haryana, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu
Lotus Pedals - access to education-transport	45	Hazaribagh area (Jharkhand)
Girls Football - empowerment / inclusion	120	Tribal Villages, Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand
Covid Response - nutrition and education kits	2255	Delhi, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu
TOTAL	20,209	

BLOSSOM BUS - HARYANA, RAJASTHAN & TAMIL NADU

New CSR partnership with Nissan Motors India Pvt. Ltd

It was a very exciting year for White Lotus Trust and communities served by Blossom Bus as we signed an Agreement with Nissan Motors India PVT LTD to carry an additional TWO HUNDRED! Blossom Bus students, one hundred at Haryana and another one hundred at Tamil Nadu. Covid impacted on our efforts to transport our students during some months but all in all, students fared tremendously well academically in both the year 10 and 12 boards as well as grade exams at their schools. The one hundred students at Haryana attend Hathin Girls Senior Secondary School and those at Tamil Nadu attend the Garden of Peace School at Kaniyambadi village not far from Vellore.



BLOSSOM BUS Metrics 2021-22 at a glance

1. The project at Haryana/Rajasthan served 589 girls, 7 routes, 24 villages, 2 - 10 km's from home to school, Classes 6-12
2. At Tamil Nadu Nissan supported 100 students travelling from 2 to 12 kms from 15 villages, Classes KG to 6.

BLOSSOM BUS – Dashboard (KPI's)

METRIC	NUMBER
Number of children served	698
Number passed 10 and 12 board exams	137
% Passed board exams	100
Number of villages in coverage area	39



Blossom Bus ushering in a gendered change to education for almost 700 children in 2021

BLOSSOM BUS summary - Impact, Outcomes, Challenges

COVID IMPACTS - Schools at Haryana were closed through the first Quarter from 23rd April 2021 and until the Government announced opening of schools from 15th of July. Buses began to ply on two routes from August 1. At that point our students were attending schools on 50% rotation basis and until till October 1 when the Haryana government opened schools to all the students and which have been attending classes on a daily basis since then and until January 12th. Buses carried students to schools for vaccination a full four days after that and up to 16th January when schools at Haryana closed for winter break until February first 2022.

Schools across Tamil Nadu were closed from April until August due to Covid. GoP school, in conformance with Covid regulation, allowed students to attend at half strength on a rotation basis from August until the beginning of November. Reopening of schools was delayed for all of November due to Diwali holiday followed by a series of cyclones and torrential rain that held up the project until December. Once schools opened, only around 50% of a total of 174 GoP students attended classes and then too, on a rotation basis in conformance with Covid regulations. Some 30% of students, mainly children of migrant labor, returned to their villages from May and started gradually returning in October. Diwali holiday and a series of cyclones and torrential rain kept schools closed in TN until December and after which Blossom Bus ran at 70% student strength, and to 100% by January and through to March 31.

Academic Outcomes

All girls studying in grade 10 and 12, traveling on Blossom Bus in Rajasthan have passed Board exams held in 2022. Kusum coming from village Nangla Bhattaki secured 588 out of 600 (98%) marks securing third position in the state in grade 10 exams. Kusum comes from a farmer family, travels on Blossom Bus to attend school for last two years, has a dream of appearing in the competition for Indian Administrative Services (IAS) Her father is a farmer and cannot afford to send her to school after grade eight to a High School three kilometers away. "I was about to drop out of school after grade eight like many girls in villages, Blossom Bus is a blessing for many girls like me to pursue their dream of higher education" says Kusum. Kusum's sister Ekta is also traveling on Blossom Bus for two years, appeared in board exams of grade 10 and secured 84% marks which is considered distinction. Kusum and her sister Ekta requested White Lotus Trust to continue Blossom Bus for the benefit of girls from poor families and extend the transport to college at Kaman also.



The most outstanding academic achievement of the year was Kusum from Rajasthan

Gendered Imapcts - BLOSSOM BUS graduates reach for their dreams

A high percentage of BB riders have been graduating high school every year with excellent marks and 40 of them, the maximum number we've been able to transport, go on to college. While families have been letting their girls attend college due to having safe transport, they've been far less inclined to send them away from home, such that it rarely happened. Now however a significant % of parents seem to be opening up to the idea of sending their girls to study in the hostels of educational institutions, even beyond their concerns about the safety of girls and the risk of losing face over their girl child's behavior and it may be as much due to family economics as anything else.



Priya and Komal below take the Nissan supported Blossom Bus to school from Rinka village near Hathin.
Studying here with one of her three, female siblings.

Girls are often the best academic performers and most likely to succeed when it comes to investing in higher education and they are demanding their right to further studies. Komal and Priya from Rindka village overcame tremendous hardships getting to school early in their education until they were picked up by Blossom Bus. Now in year 11 and 12 respectively, Komal is planning to follow in the footsteps of her aunt to study Medicine, While Priya has her heart set on pursuing a B.Ed. at teachers college.



Komal from Rindka village told us she is extremely thankful to Lotus Outreach for supporting girls education.

WHITE LOTUS - KAPADIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION tertiary scholars



Summary of 46 scholars (2021-2022)

The year began with 46 scholars studying in various colleges, few enrolled into regular program and most through School of Open Learning. Indira Gandhi National Open University and Delhi University (SOL) are the only major learning platform in Delhi. Rani Kumari a new recipient was added to the program this June 2021 making it a total of 47. The 12 Blossom Bus girls completed their 2nd year and now in their final year programs. Another good news is that Zafrin who dropped out earlier in the year called and informed about her plans of finishing her graduation. She further mentioned about how she was able to convince her in laws to resume her studies. There was sense of strong determination in her voice. Below given is a summary of information with respect to their studies and situations.

1. Indira Gandhi National Open University: The six students are continuously given assignments and the assessment is further based on individual submissions. All the students are promoted to their next levels.
2. Delhi University (School of Open Learning): The 3rd year students finished their exams.
3. All 12 Palwal Girls (Blossom Bus) are pursuing their final year of their bachelor program and physically attending college.
4. Tenzin Pema the nursing student; passed her first year exam and is in her 2nd year of nursing.
5. Arzoo has finished her level-3 in Korean Language and as of now she has been suggested by her language instructor to work on some topic before they start their level-4.
6. The two students from Aditi Mahavidyalaya have successfully finished their final year.
7. Zafrin who dropped out earlier this year decided resume her studies. She sat and passed her 3rd year exams in January 2022.
8. Three students from the second batch and one from the first batch discontinued their studies due to various reasons.
9. Naveen Singh; pursuing B.Sc. 2nd year, regrettably passed away on 4th June this year.
10. Rani Kumari sister of Pooja Kumari from the first batch was added to the scholarship program in June. She is now enrolled in the 2nd year program.

KHUSHBU - A Kapadia Scholars story of deep commitment to further education



It was time to wrap up the year's work with the scholars so calls were made to all recipients. Before I could call Khushbu I received a call from her on 21st of October asking me, "Ma'am will I get scholarship money this year too?" Twenty-year-old Khushbu lives with her parents and 3 other siblings in a small village Bhanguri, Palwal. She like many other girls in the program is first generation in her family to go to college. Her father Bansilal is a tailor earning a daily wage on average of Rs. 400 a day and mother Babli is a homemaker. Khushbu is the eldest child in the family. Her sister Aarti (18) recently enrolled in Bachelor program at Ambedkar College Nuh, Palwal.

Khushbu's other sister Shashi (15) is in grade 11 at a Govt. girl's high school and is also a Blossom Bus-rider. Gaurav (13) is the youngest and studies at Govt. school in the village. It is often assumed that people living in villages are able to live off their farmland but in Khushbu's case they are landless. Bansilal was jobless for months since the Pandemic and

when the life became normal it took a while for him to find work again. During that phase the family experienced deep financial difficulties. When it was time to follow up with Khushbu's studies I received a call from Khushbu, "Ma'am will I be getting scholarship money this year too." I reminded her about our policy to pay her fee first and get reimbursed on presenting the fee receipt.

As a reply to this Khushbu said, "I am getting married in February 2022 and my father is running around to borrow money for my marriage but refuses to pay for my college. My in-laws have agreed to follow up with my further studies but if I'm not able to finish my bachelor's degree I can't do my masters." I asked her for some time to discuss and get back. I also spoke to her father asking him to commit on bringing her back home for her final exams and he replied, "I will be the happiest if my daughter finishes her degree but I can't afford it. I have borrowed money every year to pay her fee. This year the scholarship money Khushbu received from your organization, I paid the entire amount back to the person I borrowed. It was a blessing for us."

Later I started getting calls day and night. Khushbu was desperate and would have done anything to pay her fee. We made local enquiries that confirmed her situation as well a letter from her father stating his promise to help his daughter finish her final exams. Khushbu's sincerity and willingness to finish her degree and realize her dreams of further studies convinced us we should release funds to her as a special case.

ASHA - VILLAGE BASED WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROJECT

Formation of Adolescent Groups



Building capacity in adolescent girls to work on village based primary health issues

Adolescent Youth Groups (AYG) have now been formed at 21 villages with 25 girls in each group on average. The most important outcome of this activity is that the girls have a platform now where they can discuss their very personal problem which was a taboo till now. The girls are feeling comfortable and speak openly about the problems they face during menstruation and how to deal with it. The girls have now access to sanitary pads when needed, for free. It seems that these girls were waiting for some opportunity to speak and act, which they have

now and want to take advantage of this situation. They are visiting Anganwadi and help the workers in their daily work.

One group leader has even worked with the Sarpanch for disbursement of grant for construction of toilets at home, by the government. One adolescent group even wants to intervene in the matter of teacher shortage in their school and asked us about how can White Lotus Trust help in approaching the school authorities so that their school may have sufficient teachers in the school for all subjects. The groups have shown their eagerness to continue with these training/meetings so that they can learn more about solutions to their problems and then become the social activists for the village. The meetings conducted with the groups were held in schools and the proceedings of the meetings are signed by some school principals also. A few school principals were not comfortable with the meeting also as they thought that it may expose the gaps they have in their system.

Community meetings with women

Since these meetings are being conducted in collaboration with Anganwadi workers and at the Anganwadi center, the workers are aware that the community is now more aware about their children's and women's right to sufficient nutrition even during Covid time and the nutrition is distributed to all eligible beneficiaries at their doorstep every month. The ANM and ASHA are visiting every village and serving the pregnant women, lactating mothers and children for vaccination and other required medication during Covid restrictions. All women were given Covid vaccine too.

More women visit the Anganwadi center now during the visit of ANM and go through the routine checkup voluntarily due to awareness given through community meetings. There is a change in behaviour of women and more than 70% women now use sanitary pads in the villages we are covering. This percentage was below 40%, a year ago. Now these women are asking for regular supply of sanitary pads and those that can afford them are ready to buy them. The schools and Anganwadi have also started procuring sanitary pads from government supply and are distributing to the women and adolescents at schools also. The change happened due to awareness building of community is that 100% eligible women and children were given nutrition and other services by Anganwadi and ANM even during Covid period.

Hand Wash Days (HWD)

During the course of 2021-22 we conducted 24 HWDs in schools to raise awareness and knowledge with respect to hygiene through a hand washing campaign delivered to some 7,735



students. The objective of the activity is to make hand wash with soap before eating food, a habit. For this we conducted these Hand Wash Days before the students are served midday meals and are also provided with a soap cake to take home. The activity is appreciated by all schools and many schools have confirmed that they are now keeping a soap bar at the school for students to wash hands with soap before eating meals at school and confirmed that students use soap for hand wash before eating food at school. We are told by most of the students during interaction that they now keep a soap bar at home and wash hands with soap after using toilet and before eating food. The Campaign is therefore ensuring handwashing as a habit

both at school and at home. Once a soap bar given by White Lotus to a student during Hand Wash Day, reached their home, it becomes easy to use it as it is readily available and it becomes a habit after some days and the family starts buying and using soap for hand wash as it is not a costly affair even for villagers. The villagers are also motivated by the students to use soap as this is also taught to the students by White Lotus representatives that using soap for hand wash will reduce your expenditure on medicines and doctor visits as this small practice can prevent many diseases.

Meetings with Anganwadi Workers by Supervisors

We had found that in spite of weighing scales being provided by White Lotus Trust, many Anganwadi were still not doing growth monitoring of children due to lack of capacity of workers. When Anganwadi Supervisors told us they lacked time to build capacity in workers we asked them to conduct separate meetings for capacity building and include White Lotus to assist. Our presence in 74 Anganwadi over the course of the year contributed significantly to ensuring Supervisors not only verify attendance and distribution of nutrition allocated by the government, but also build capacity in Anganwadi workers to perform better and maintain records of all activities they are supposed to perform, especially growth monitoring and which is needed to identify malnutrition and stunting which is highly prevalent in the target area.

ANM visits to villages



Visits by Accredited Nurse Midwives (ANM) were limited during Covid restrictions and increased once things normalized and during which times community participation was quite good. ANM assisted with Covid vaccination and to provide regular checkups to pregnant and lactating women.

ASHA METRIC DASHBOARD

ACTIVITY	NUMBER
No. of villages worked in	51
No. of Anganwadi served	74
No. of Children served at Anganwadi	5920
Pregnant and lactating mothers served	740
Adolescent girls served	525
No. of community meetings	36
No. of women served at community meetings	900
Hand Wash Days in schools	24
No. of children served by hand-wash days	7735
No. of supervisor meetings	4
No. of Anganwadi attending supervisor meetings	93
No. of ANM meetings with pregnant and lactating mothers	8
No. of pregnant and lactating mothers attended	163
Total population served directly	16,560

ASHA project provides equipment such as weighing scales and helps mobilize communities to attend ANM meetings. White Lotus provided awareness about prevention of diseases, child and mother mortality through regular check up by ANM and institutional deliveries of children and which ANM's don't have time to do while they focus on the work of vaccination and immunization.

White Lotus developing social business for rural women's job creation

There is currently no single definition of “social business”, but the most prominent one is that offered by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus. He defines social business as a business » which objective is to solve social, economic and environmental issues affecting humanity: hunger, homelessness, illness, pollution, ignorance”. Social businesses can provide the poorer populations with access to funds, goods, and services they could not otherwise afford, as well as facilitate their access to work. Social business is also attractive to start-up capital and donors that want to support an idea that will be able to pay for itself. A Major advantage our village-based Pad making units is its potential to support rural-based job creation for women.



A village woman in training to make biodegradable pads for the ASHA Sanitary pads, women's social enterprise project attached to the ASHA program.

1. On Jan 4th 2022 we installed a sanitary pad making machine with capacity to produce 5000 pads on monthly basis. Three village women were trained by the project for

employment and to produce good quality, locally made and environmentally safe sanitary pads for the women in the villages.

2. 950 packets of six pads each were distributed to 950 adolescent girls and women in 39 villages from April 2021 to December 2021.

EDUCATION QUALITY ADDITION PROJECT (EQU+)



During the second wave of the pandemic, EQU+ community-based teachers worked harder than ever to ensure children in our care were provided classes both online and offline and on a daily basis in order to keep up with their studies. The project continued to run smoothly throughout the year to provide attenuated education to some 260 children of low-income families at Rohini and Bawana resettlement colonies. Students that would have otherwise lost two full years of schooling with nothing to show for it

Project time-line of return to normal classes:

At the beginning of July, students that had earlier gone back to their villages began rejoining classes again. From July until October, students were taught in both offline and online mode until normal offline physical classes were resumed from October. Students were of course delighted to return to attending physical classes and it seemed we might see the end of disruptions due to Covid-19. The emergence of the Omicron variant however forced us to revert to offline classes again in January 2022 and after which, physical classes resumed in February and until the end of the program in March.

Extra-curricular activities and events



Learn through play at EQU+ Education Centre 2 - F-Block, Bawana low income resettlement colony.

- On 15th August our EQU+ teachers arranged Independence Day celebrations for the children. Children eagerly took part in the flag hoisting ceremony and enjoyed refreshments provided to all our students and teachers. In October both the centers under your support were provided indoor games like Carom, Chess and Lodu as well as craftwork materials.
- In November we set up library in the F Block center at Bawana in partnership with a partner NGO (Food 4 Thought Foundation) that provided many interesting story books for the children.
- As a token of our appreciation we provided our team of teachers and the supervisor with a short trip to a hill stations at Mussoorie for 3 nights and 4 days. For many teachers it was their first trip out of Delhi ever and which made the whole experience.

Case Study – Vanya Kumar

“I am passionate about acting and dancing. I want to become a famous actress and love to dress up.”



From right: EQU+ Student Vanya, teacher-Shilpi and student Rakhi

Vanya lives in Rohini JJ colony with her family father mother and her two other siblings. Vanya's father Rajiv Kumar is working in a travel agency and mother Usha Devi is a home maker. Vanya comes from a relatively financial stable family. Her sister Aaradhaya age 14 is in class 6 is also studying in our evening classes and younger sister Ishani is in grade 3. She loves to sing and crazy about dancing and acting and looks forward to Saturday fun activity day to sing, dance and much more.

Vanya passed her grade 8th from a Govt. Girls middle school and waiting for admission in 9th grade. She enrolled with us in December 2021. She was struggling and needed help with her

studies. Our volunteer teacher Shilpi not only helped with all her problems but also guided her towards her dream of acting. Shilpi informed her about the “Schools of Specialized Excellence” an initiative of Delhi Government to give opportunities to students from under privileged sector.

There are only four Performing and Visual Arts schools in entire Delhi state. Shilpi was with her at every step. Vanya sat the aptitude test and passed it with good scores. She is now enrolled in Performing and Visual Arts school where for the first two years grade 9 & 10 will focused on her holistic education at the same time allow her to choose her path.

YOUNG WOMEN'S - SKILL TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (STEP)



In training at Rohini STEP center



A delighted STEP graduate with her certificate at Rohini Centre

On March 13, 2022 we completed the final training for 153 young Indian women and girls in six batches at three centers in accord with the proposal sent to you back in 2020. Project implementation was of course severely impacted by three waves of Covid and it's taken around two years to complete a program that should have taken one year with the most recent lockdown in January 2022 due to the Omicron strain of Covid.

We designed the course to serve between seventy-five and ninety trainees in three centers. Applications for the first training batches were so high we had to create a cut-off for women older than 25 ninety-two students and total of the second batch was sixty-one. We had less applicants in the second half of the year as the economy has opened up and many young women that would have otherwise taken up training opportunities like this, were desperate to take up paid employment to support and build up family resources diminished due to Covid and lockdowns.

The course is extremely practical and designed to teach the students various patterns and fashion dress designing in a comprehensive manner. By learning different types of patterns, any of the students will be able to stylishly design their own clothing according to the latest trends. After completing this course, the students have the knowledge and most have set up a small, home-based businesses though they are also qualified for employment in tailoring units and garment factories.



We successfully completed this project despite many difficulties due to the epidemic. We followed up in January 2022 with an employment survey of students from the first batch and found many of these students have started their small tailoring business in their neighborhood. Looking at the success of this project we are confident to run it further and refine it as we go. Our students from the first and the second batch are requesting to start advance training in tailoring and we have identified some advanced machines that will enable trainees to craft sophisticated and highly marketable designs. Meanwhile we offer our sincere thanks to you on behalf of the trainees for this life changing opportunity and hope you enjoy this short update. It will be great if you can continue funding this important project in 2022.

STEP graduate - Kiran Kumar

"I was told to give up my schooling to look after my twin brothers and I wish I could go to school again. "



Kiran is an eighteen-year-old, hard-working girl living with her parents along with 5 siblings in Bawana JJ colony, Delhi. Her parents migrated from a small village called Hathras in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Kiran's father Sujant Singh delivers gas bottles and earns around US\$130 a month. Her mother Kamlesh worked in a light bulb manufacturing factory. She lost her job during the first lockdown in March 2020 and struggling to find work till date.

At the age of 12 while Kiran was studying in grade 7 her mother gave birth to her twin brothers. With the twin babies it became difficult to manage home and work as a result Kiran being the only girl child old enough to take up the responsibilities of the new born and the household duties was forced to leave school. Kiran was disappointed yet had no say in the situation. In June 2021 Kiran came to know

about the tailoring program through a friend and requested to join the next upcoming batch in July. "I am now working to establish my tailoring as a source of income. So far I have stitched clothes for my mother and myself and which saved us on having to buy clothes. I now look forward to getting paying customers."

Starting social programs in the hilly tribal areas of Jharkand near Hazaribagh



Girl's football- giving voice to the aspirations of tribal girls in the State of Jharkand

The state of Jharkhand in north east India has many hilly and forest areas and some 32 tribes comprising 70% of the population. Due to low levels of education and social development, tribal populations have suffered a high prevalence of trafficking for labor and sex exploitation over the course of decades. During a personal facilitated by NSVK, a well know grass roots development NGO working there, we visited families in the area told us many of their children that had gone to far off cities for work had never been heard of again. Girls are particularly vulnerable as they lack education with a 55% rural literacy rate and are more likely targeted by traffickers. We were inspired to begin working in partnership with NSVK in the Panchayats of Gurhat and Pauta as they had identified some 900 young and adolescent girls as vulnerable or out of school and in need of various interventions to improve access to education for them.

Over the course of 2021 we provided 148 bicycles and education kits to as many out of school and vulnerable to drop out girls in this group. The education kits were provided as part of our Covid relief project during the 2nd wave of the epidemic in early 2021. We also developed a proposal and received a pledge for funding support from Lotus Outreach Germany and Lotus Outreach International this year to establish a computer center to serve 900 girls from ten villages of Pauta and Gurhat and will start implementation in 2022.



Tribal girls from villages at Pauta and Gurhet travel long distances to reach school. (front left) Our Lotus Pedals recipient taking her brother to school on her bike.

Responding to the 2nd wave of COVID - April to September 2021

During March and April 2021 Covid infections and mortalities began to rise dramatically and the nation went into lockdown on April 17th for the second year running. At the beginning of May our staff on the ground in Delhi slums advised us migrant workers hadn't received salaries for two weeks and would soon not be able to feed their families so we contacted DACF with a proposal to provide emergency food and rations for 100 families. During May and July, we managed to provide support to 262 families and spent less than planned as we bought supplies ourselves at wholesale prices and had them delivered in huge quantities to the slum areas for distribution.

We were also acutely aware of the need to keep school going children and their families engaged in education and decided to provide a kit of educational materials as physical support as well as added encouragement for children and families to focus on studies during the time schools were otherwise closed.

Provision of emergency rations by way of cooked food and dry rations to families in desperate need

Between May and July 1370 persons provided emergency food supplies

- 262 ration kits were provided to 1310 people
- 12 families, some 60 people received cooked meals for a little more than a month

Provision of education support materials to children and youth to ensure they and their families remain in school and connected to their studies.

Between May and September 2021 885 children were provided education support kits

- 306 children being served by the EQU+ project at Delhi
- 296 children being served by Buddha Smiles, Tamil Nadu
- 180 children at Garden of Peace school at Tamil Nadu
- 103 Lotus Pedals girls at high risk of drop out and trafficking in the State of Jharkand.

Total of children and members of poor, migrant and daily wage labor families served:
 $885+1370=2,255$

Provision of Education support kits - narrative detail

During this 2nd phase of Covid we took extra care to ensure children remained connected to education during school closures by providing materials such as worksheets, storybooks, math tables and art resources. Between May and September 2021, we were able to provide education kits to materials 885 students attending after school programs in Delhi, the Vellore area of Tamil Nadu and Gumla District of Jharkand. All programs are run by White Lotus Trust and/or trusted partners and employ community-based teachers to work directly with the children to ensure the resources are well utilized and benefit their education as per their need. This intervention will keep children in school, assisted in keeping them engaged in schoolwork and kept their parents engaged with the idea of the importance of education.



Bhawari Devi, a young mother of 4 small children, pictured with a Lotus Outreach emergency ration kit. Her husband works as brick-kiln labor. They had to sell their home to stay afloat and LO food relief was a life saver.

Keshavati and Pappu - daily wage labor received dry rations during Covid.

“My name is Keshvati. my family lives in a rented room in B-160, JJ Colony Rohini, Sector-24. I work as a house maid in many houses and my husband Pappu irons clothes. Due to corona we both lost our jobs. We have two children, elder son Pankaj 18 years works in a factory and



younger daughter Priyanka 16 years stays at home and does household chores, my husband and I are handicapped and both walk with limp. My family suffered a lot since the Covid-19 and now facing financial problems. We are unable to pay our rent and feed the family. White lotus volunteers came to our house to assess our situation and later my family was given a month's ration. We are very happy and thankful for the help my family received.”



11 of 103 tribal girls receiving education materials in the village at Jharkand.

White Lotus developing social business for rural women's job creation

There is currently no single definition of “social business”, but the most prominent one is that offered by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus. He defines social business as a business » which objective is to solve social, economic and environmental issues affecting humanity: hunger, homelessness, illness, pollution, ignorance,...”. Social businesses can provide the poorer populations with access to funds, goods, and services they could not otherwise afford, as well as facilitate their access to work. Social business is also attractive to start-up capital and donors that want to support an idea that will be able to pay for itself. A Major advantage our village-based Pad and Oil making units is rural-based job creation for women.



A village woman in training to make biodegradable pads for the ASHA Sanitary pads, women's social enterprise

Thank You!