

The Global Dream Program

DEVI Sansthan 2018 Annual Report



Dignity, Education, Vision International is a non-profit organization serving underprivileged populations since 1992. The aim of DEVI is to be a catalyst in creating replicable models of change. In the past it has collaborated with donors and NGOs to initiate changes in diverse fields like education, income generation, skills development, entrepreneurship, health care and awareness building campaigns. Global Dream is a project of DEVI Sansthan to bring literacy to the people of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, and beyond. It is focussing on women's empowerment through literacy skills. We are currently involved in numerous projects, outlined in this report:

1. Global Dream Literacy Labs
2. Collaborations for spreading literacy
3. Saksharta se Swacchta: Partnership with NSS.
4. School Program
5. Income Generation
6. Government Partnerships

Why Literacy?

Literacy is the first stepping-stone to formal education and a path to freedom for many. The positive benefits of literacy are numerous – a Cambridge study in India found that a mere 4% increase in literacy rate would have the same positive effect on reducing child mortality as a 25% reduction in the poverty rate. And literacy has been found to be the only significant predictor of public health on the state level. Sadly, over 25,00,00,000 illiterate adults, nearly 40% of the global total, are in India. And there is no program for the lakhs of Indian children aged 6-14 who are currently out of school.

Benefits of literacy:

1. Counters Fear
2. Better Informed Citizens
3. Boosts Self-esteem
4. More Continued Learning by Adults
5. Lower Infant and Child Mortality Rates
6. More Impact of Family Planning Programs
7. Lower Levels of Malnutrition and Other Health Problems
8. Reduction in Corruption
9. More Children Mainstreamed into Schools

Why Global Dream?

Global Dream is the product of years of trial and error based on international research. This research shows that a student-directed program based on increasing the student's thinking time supplemented with immediate feedback and positive reinforcement is the ideal way to accelerate a student's learning curve. By implementing this research, the Global Dream Toolkits perform far faster than other existing primers and curricula. An average person can begin to read within 2-3 months with a single 15 minutes teaching session per day.

Advantages of Global Dream learning program

- **Simple** steps that build on learner's already existing ability to speak in their language.
- **Learner-driven** so that thinking time, and therefore cognitive benefit, is maximised.
- **Positive reinforcement** that develops learning strategies into habits.
- **Immediate** sense of achievement that keeps them *motivated*. Nurtures intrinsic motivation.
- **Creates** a sense of self-worth, dignity and hope.

Background



Dignity, Education, Vision International is a non-profit organization serving the underprivileged populations since 1992. The aim of DEVI is to be a catalyst in creating replicable models of change. In the past it has collaborated with donors and NGOs to initiate changes in diverse fields like education, income generation, skills development, health care and awareness building campaigns. Today DEVI is focused on teacher training and empowerment, the improvement of government schools, and literacy.

A driving goal of DEVI's projects has been to create capacity within poor communities for people to be responsible for their own change. One way in which DEVI has done this is via the facilitation of Awareness Generation Camps, where villagers collaborated to identify specific needs in the community (lack of schools, lack of jobs, improvement in health care access, etc.). They then worked with DEVI to help those needs be met in a sustainable manner. In certain villages SHGs have been created to achieve participation of women in community activities and strengthen the knowledge base. DEVI has developed community-based health resources, including the training of women as Trained Birth Attendants and Community Health Workers, medical treatment and referral services, the provision of counseling and guidance to couples to decrease TFR and increase CPR, and the undertaking of mass health education programs and health camps.

Recently, DEVI has focused solely on education. In 2000, DEVI developed the child-centered 'Sumporn Nai Shiksha (SNS)' or 'All-encompassing New Education (ANewEd), a curriculum for schools working for the underprivileged. This was conceptualized for a first step towards an education that addresses both intellectual needs and the human/social perspective. The curriculum has been revised and improved over the years. Other education projects undertaken by DEVI have included the provision of non-formal education to out-of-school girl children and the support of village libraries in Lucknow and Sultanpur Districts.

DEVI aims not for a service-provider mindset, but to help the community develop its own resources so that it can itself be an agent of change. To that end, DEVI has been working in the areas of advocacy and government policy. DEVI is partnering with the government to survey illiterate populations and train government teachers on techniques for imparting literacy.

History

- Field tested with school children and volunteers in local slums.



- Large-scale pilot with thousands of schoolchildren. Such is the power and the ease of using the Global Dream Toolkits that even a school-going child can be trained to teach an illiterate person to read. Thousands of children of more than 158 schools of Lucknow, Kanpur and Barabanki participated in the “Each one teach one” campaign.



- Encouraged by this overwhelming response, DEVI gained the moral support of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Chief Secretary of UP, Mr. Alok Ranjan, along with Mr. G.B. Pattanaik, Chairperson of India Literacy Board, Lucknow are the Co-Chairpersons of the Global Dream People’s Movement for Literacy.



Activities

1. Global Dream Literacy Labs

Global Dream Labs offer the hope to bring underprivileged learners and their mentors under one roof. These labs bring mentors into one-on-one and small group teaching encounters with illiterate children, teenagers, and adults in a learning-friendly environment. Through these labs, over 250 previously illiterate adults and children have learned to read and hundreds of others are receiving enrichment in their literary and academic skills.

Global Dream labs have been operating in the following locations in Lucknow:

Mumfuli Mandi



Nai Basti



Jawahar Nagar



CIS Indira Nagar



2. Collaborations for Spreading Literacy

Talks and events were held promoting literacy and service learning to thousands of children and adults in Lucknow, Kanpur, Hyderabad, Gorakhpur, Bangalore, Coimbatore and Chennai. Some events brought in participants from across India enthusiastic to try using the Global Dream Program to serve their own communities.

These events prepared the soil for an expansion in our literacy lab efforts. At every event DEVI asked administrators and students to commit to spreading literacy in their communities. They followed up with training sessions where prepared to be master trainers, while students were taught how to use the program to teach illiterate persons themselves.

Over several years, DEVI has met and collaborated with numerous organizations in order to develop new outlets for expanding the literacy mission. These organizations have provided funding, volunteers, advocacy, and in some cases even set up their own literacy labs!

- Samarth Foundation
- Sarthak Foundation
- MS Education
- OXFAM
- Rotary India Literacy Mission
- Swayam Foundation
- Navjyoti Delhi
- School Ke Baad Schools (SKBS) Delhi & Gurgaon
- Sankalp initiative of the Department of Pensions and Pensioners' Welfare
- Pace Foundation Lucknow
- Lucknow Management Association
- Read Alliance



3. Saksharta se Swacchta: Partnership with NSS

In July 2018, a new program was launched in partnership with the National Service Scheme (NSS). Colleges with NSS Units affiliated to Lucknow University were asked to adopt a nearby slum or village area in which to teach literacy using the global dream program. Saksharta se Swacchta is designed to not only help the people of marginalised communities, but also benefit the university students themselves through building skills and confidence.



So far trainings have been conducted in 9 colleges, with over 600 students participating. 2 colleges – Mahaveer Prasad Girls Degree College and Chandra Bhanu AG PG college – have already started teaching in their adopted area, with more colleges to follow in early 2019.



4. School Program

The school-based “Each one teach at least one” summer teaching program continued in 2018. This year around 50 schools participated in the program, where they received a Global Dream toolkit and instructions to identify and teach at least one illiterate learner during their summer break. Students who were most successful in completing the program were felicitated at the 10th Annual Education Leadership Conference.

DEVI is working to spread a message of service and education across India through partnership with numerous educational institutions, including:

- City Montessori School
- City International School
- KK School
- Haque Education & Research Foundation
- Inner Wheel Club
- MS Education
- Huda Schools
- Shri Shakti International school.
- Lucknow Academy
- Emma Thompson School



5. Income generation

DEVI has run a program in Karauni village, in which hundreds of women have become literate. We have now moved on to also providing vocational training in various skills: tailoring, art & crafts etc. This is empowering women to earn a livelihood through selling their products, including at various conferences like the Ed leadership event.

6. Government Partnerships

Survey

In 2015 DEVI collaborated with the District-level government of Lucknow to conduct a ground-breaking home-to-home survey of 11 majhras of Lucknow totaling nearly 4,00,000 households. Through 2018 DEVI continued to analyze the results of this survey and promote the results in the name of increasing literacy in Uttar Pradesh's capital city. We look forward to releasing the results through a published report, book or journal articles, hopefully in early 2019.

DIET Delhi

In October, we conducted trainings for a Daryaganj DIET in Delhi. Pre-service teachers were trained in activity-based learning, including how to 'jugaad' activities with very few external resources. We are hoping to continue partnering with DIETs around the country, to contribute to pre-service teacher trainings.

UP primary schools

Through a collaboration with the Director of the BSA, DEVI Sansthan is looking to expand upon last year's teacher training pilot program with a much larger and more rigorous randomised control trial. Over 100 schools will take part in the project, which will train teachers to use the Global Dream program in their classes and provide them with materials such that they may advance the literacy of students at their schools. Half of the schools will be trained in the Global Dream program while the other half will maintain their regular program as a control group, such that the exact impact of Global Dream on the literacy of students may be evaluated. If the program is successful, the Global Dream program will then be instituted in more schools across Lucknow and beyond. We are currently engaged in discussions with the Government of UP to decide how to take this project forward.

What Comes Next?

In 2019, DEVI will continue to move forward in all of its literacy projects. There is a specific hope to develop a training video for the Global Dream program, and to increase the number of master trainers for the program. Experimentation will continue to be done in the slum-based literacy labs to find ways to further the practical education and love of learning among the students.

In addition to these continued efforts, DEVI will be focusing on several major new initiatives in the coming year:

New Global Dream Literacy Labs

Global Dream has been expanding the promotion of literacy labs in high-need areas across India. Partners have been found and literacy labs have begun in Kanpur, Gorakhpur, Kolkata, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and Coimbatore, as well as other cities in Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. The DEVI team is working to inspire local groups to tackle illiteracy, train master teachers who will direct the ongoing training of mentors, and help local groups to monitor their literacy efforts. The aim is not simply to increase the number of labs, but to inspire people to serve their communities and develop a spirit for learning and sharing the blessings they have in life.

Partnership with Teach for India

We are hoping to partner with the NGO Teach for India, to help them expand and improve their after-school adult literacy programs in Mumbai. We will conduct a visit and training there in November-December 2018, and look forward to continue working with them in 2019.

Year-round Lucknow schools program

Building on the success of previous year's summer schools program, but also learning from the feedback we've received from participants – that there is not enough time in the summer holidays to make someone fully literate – we are looking to expand our program in 2019 to continue during the school year. We also look to provide greater training and ongoing support to participating schools.

Financial report

| All figures in Rs | | FY2017-18 | FY2016-17 |
|------------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Opening Balance | | 16,19,408 | 14,76,633 |
| Income | Donation | 10,74,860 | 3,81,051 |
| | DEVI School fees | 4,69,850 | 4,55,225 |
| | Interest & Miscellaneous | 96,646 | 1,52,901 |
| | Total Income | 16,41,356 | 9,89,177 |
| Expenditure | Salaries | 5,55,110 | 4,39,730 |
| | Printing Learning Materials | 5,53,105 | 2,89,739 |
| | Repair and Maintenance | 2,77,000 | 56,400 |
| | Office Expense, Bank charges & Depreciation | 49,261 | 60,533 |
| | Total Expenditure | 14,34,476 | 8,46,402 |
| Closing Balance | | 18,26,288 | 16,19,408 |