# **Kolkata Trust for Human Development**

## **Annual Report**

## 2021-2022



Registered under Public Charitable Trust Act 1950 (GoI) and under Income Tax Act 1956 for 12AA and 80G.

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## Annual Report for the Financial Year 2021-2022

**VISION** : Kolkata Trust for Human Development has a vision to contribute for better living on Earth by improving life components of children in a just, equitable and sustainable form as a commitment for future generations of human society and Mother Earth.

**<u>MISSION</u>** : Our mission statement is to facilitate permanent and positive changes in social behavior towards children in aspects of education, health, nutrition and security for children under socio-economically marginal population in India and also to sensitize every section of society on sustainable living with respect to nature and environmental factors.

<u>ABOUT THE TRUST</u>: Kolkata Trust for Human Development (hereon referred to as "KTfHD") is a non-profit initiative by few professionals from different walks of the society who came together to render their professional expertise, service, time and emotion in improving life situations of socio-economically marginal section and also to advocate for social changes in order to secure a just and equitable living for all cast, creed, sect and religion of our country.

The organisation is registered under Public Charitable Trust Act 1950 (GOI) in December 2014 while formulation and services started from end of 2013. KTfHD also got registered under Income Tax Act 1956 for 12AA and 80G in November, 2015.

Since 2015 onwards KTfHD is working towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals under Agenda 2030, focusing on SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being SDG 4: Quality Education SDG 5: Gender Equity SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG 13: Climate Action SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

KTfHD has successfully implemented a creche project named "Mother and Child Welfare Centre (MCWC)" in the Khalpara Slums of Kolkata (ward no. 107 of Kolkata Municipality) for children aged 1-6 years from November 2015 till March 2020 with financial support from the development NGO Indienhilfe e.V. Herrsching, Germany (IH) for a brief period (from August 2018 to December 2019) under FCRA prior permission.

KTfHD has also been active since 2015 up to now, to support the on-going activities in relation to the town twinning partnership between Herrsching Municipality (a community near Munich in Germany) and Chatra Gram Panchayat, Baduria Block, North 24Parganas, W.B, India, which was initiated with the active support and assistance from Indienhilfe e.V. Herrsching from the year 1996 onwards.

The financial year 2021-22 saw the uncertainties caused by Corona pandemic globally with different variants of the virus causing havoc during the year, hampering normal life of people. In these testing times, KTfHD tried to support the vulnerable communities as much as possible and through networking with other like-minded NGOs. They worked with the aim of helping the people in distress and for their development.

### Achievements:

- Intensive community work both through online and offline modes, maintaining all safety protocols to give guidance to the parents in the community to maintain proper hygiene for all in the family.
- ✓ Dissemination of knowledge about Covid-19 vaccine and bursting all myths associated with it.
- ✓ Give basic online education support to the children so that they remain engaged productively during school and ICDS closure.
- ✓ Successful organization of online awareness generation platform and meetings with like-minded NGOs.
- Supporting town-twinning activities by participating in various community meetings related to the construction of a drinking water plant under the "Safe Drinking Water Project" in Chatra GP.

The list of activities that were taken up in the reporting financial year were as follows:

<u>Activity 1:</u> Spreading awareness in the community - Awareness was spread among the people in the community of Khalpara Slums of Kolkata and behind ruby hospital to maintain hygiene such as using masks, washing hands frequently, maintaining social and physical distance, etc., in order to combat the spreading of Corona virus. Awareness was spread about Covid-19 vaccine through home visits. The community members were motivated to get vaccinated and myths and fears surrounding the vaccine were cleared. Linkage with nearby government institutions and information about vaccination camps were shared with the community in order to get the vaccines free of cost. Most of the communication have been conducted though phone calls and home visits (by maintaining Covid protocols). This year mass gathering has been avoided by KTfHD.

<u>Activity 2:</u> Guidance to the mothers - The mothers in the community were provided with guidance by the community volunteers under KTfHD for taking care of their children in appropriate manner during the Covid crisis, in terms of maintaining hygiene and trying to eat nutritious food.

<u>Activity 3:</u> Up-gradation of the website — The page called 'Covid 19 Resource Network' which was developed in the KTfHD website, <u>www.ktfhd.org</u>, aiming to create a knowledge sharing platform in FY20-21 was updated with further relevant information. Through this network platform KTfHD wanted to facilitate mutual sharing of information and ideas with other likeminded NGOs, so that they can contribute to make the lives of the poorest, especially the children, more bearable in the difficult times of Corona pandemic. Another objective of the page was also to act as an online learning platform for the children with the guidance of the facilitators. A new section named "Guiding parents, mothers and other adults" was added under this page giving further information on how parents and mothers can keep the children engaged more productively during the closure of school and when the children remained captivated at home.



**Guiding parents/mother/other adults-** In child safety-net parents/mother or direct caregiver has the crucial role. The proper role of the parent is to provide encouragement, support, and access to activities that enable the child to master key developmental tasks. A parent is their child's first teacher and should remain their best teacher throughout life. This is quite essential to understand the difficulties of parents during this lock-down period for giving appropriate attention to the child at home, between managing "work for home" (household work) and "work from home"(office work). Probably this is extra challenging for the mothers/parents who do not have proper income and food security. Keeping this understanding in mind, we have intended to gather some ideas in this platform which can assist the parents and other adults to take care of their children and to work towards their development in an appropriate way through our initiative.

<u>Activity 5:</u> Organized and conducted online awareness generation meetings - Several meetings were conducted with likeminded organizations to generate and spread awareness to combat with the widespread of the deadly virus.

<u>Activity 6:</u> Online learning guidance – KTfHD continued to provide online learning guidance to the children, when the number of covid cases were high and strict restrictions were imposed on maintaining social isolation. Many worksheets were developed for this purpose and shared online for the children to do writing work. During the time when the restrictions were relaxed, community volunteer went to each children's home and interacted with them and gave them work in their copies, maintaining all safety measures.

<u>Activity 7:</u> Town- twinning activities: Since October 1995, Indienhilfe e.V., Herrsching Germany (IH) is accompanying the "Town twinning" programme between Herrsching Municipality (a town near Munich in Germany) and Chatra Gram Panchayat, Baduria Block, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. KTfHD has been actively supporting the initiative through its capacity and understanding. KTfHD actively participated as an important stakeholder of "Safe Drinking Water Project (SDWP)" project for some selected villages of Chatra Gram Panchayet, under adelphi research gGmbH, Berlin, which is financed by IH. This initiation was aimed for providing arsenic contamination mitigating solutions for Chatra's neediest inhabitants and possibly in the long term, even on Panchayat (municipal) level. KTfHD members participated in various community meetings related to the construction of a drinking water plant under this project.

<u>Activity 8:</u> Fund raising - Along with other activities fund raising has always been an important activity for KTfHD. For the purpose different potential donors, mainly individuals, were approached for funds to run development activities under KTfHD. It is worthwhile to mention that the pandemic had caused so much uncertainty that getting donations had become difficult but nevertheless, the Trustees were able to collect the required funds from friends and families who came forward to support a noble cause.

#### Brief about the Trust

The office of Kolkata Trust for Human Development has been functioning at C/22 Nabapally, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Rajdanga, Kolkata 700107 with the members of the Board of Trustees of KTfHD, supporters of KTfHD (mainly the old project staff) and the Community Mobilizer cum Office Assistant whose job profile has been restricted with the changed mode of KTfHD's functioning. All members jointly contributed towards regular advocacy programme, organising Capacity-Building training, online awareness generation, fund-raising, updating the website etc.

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