# 2020-21

# **Annual Report**



# **ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS**

**Registered Office** A-16, Geetanjali Enclave, Malviya Nagar New Delhi - 110017

> **Point of Contact** info@theypfoundation.org

> > Website theypfoundation.org









**@TheYPFoundation** 

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# A Note from the Executive Director

How do we summarise a year that changed the way we work, relate with each other, and live our lives completely? 2020 was a year of coping, adapting, and resilience. An unexpected pause, followed by a flurry of changes and actions, done without quite knowing how effective they would be, or how long they would last. We lived the dichotomy of keeping our work and aspirations alive, while accepting that many desires would be deferred to later, perhaps indefinitely. Tempering down, giving up on plans, and looking up while being locked down did not come easy - especially for a team of young people working with other adolescents and youth. As we reflect on what we accomplished in 2020, it feels like "we survived" should be enough of an annual report. However, looking back makes us marvel at a year when we not only survived, but grew individually and collectively with our friends, coworkers, and the communities with whom we work.

Reading reports of the work done may make it seem like it was business as usual. A listing of outcomes and outputs does not reveal the escalating stress of rising COVID numbers, experimental preventive and precautionary measures, and the widely spread panic and uncertainty that formed the backdrop for everything in 2020. Activity plans went hand in hand with crisis and backup planning to support colleagues, communities, and collaborators who had more urgent needs. We found ourselves planning furiously, albeit without knowing what situations we will encounter. We placed our hopes in the feminist approach to "build back better" by life-making and not material making. This meant prioritising people and not production, whether that was in crisis relief, leadership building, or systems strengthening.

In times of doubt, we turned to our core values and beliefs to aid us in moving forward. This primarily meant listening. We used the lockdown induced pause to reflect and listen to young people on the ground. We collaborated with young leaders across the country to get insights on how the pandemic affected diverse young people and their communities. What we heard directed what we did thereafter. We supported young people to lead crisis support provision in their communities in collaboration with our response efforts.

We geared our capacity building and youth engagement experience to enable young leaders to provide mental health and counselling support to adolescents and youth. Our ongoing interventions introduced new approaches to take up online and remote learning and engagement. We created resources, changed training modalities, and shifted research and policy dialogue and engagement to online platforms. This required urgent learning on not just digital skills and technology, but also on digital rights, safety, and issues of access and marginalisation that proscribe young people's use of the internet. We developed online courses and conducted remote training and research with attention to privacy, ability to engage, and the difficulty of taking up sensitive conversations in small crowded spaces that do not accord privacy to young people. And so it is with a sense of accomplishment, solidarity, and pride that we say we survived, we grew, and we did what we felt was most needed, in conversation with the young leaders, partners, and supporters connected with our work.

This is not just the story of our year. The extraordinary aspect of being able to cope, manage, and grow in 2020 was that we were all in this together. As we share the contribution we were able to make, we want to acknowledge our donors for their faith, flexibility, and investment in helping us learn, grow, and deal with ever emerging situations. We also want to celebrate our partners for the immense collaborative spirit with which they reached out to share the burden, and our team for finding the balance between caring for the self and working committedly towards creating a changed society. And most of all, we want to thank the many young people who gave us their trust and support, and invited us to join in the extraordinary leadership they demonstrated in their communities and work.

2020 has been a year of solidarity despite distancing. It has taught us the true meaning of "being in it together" and shown the discrepancies and fallouts when those in power do not allow this to happen. It has been a year of learning, change, and resilience, and we share our year with you with the hope of building back to better life-making in our futures.

Manak Matiyani

**Executive Director** 

# **About The YP Foundation**

The YP Foundation is a youth-led and youth focused organisation that facilitates young people's feminist and rights-based leadership on issues of health equity, gender justice, sexuality rights, and social justice. TYPF ensures that young people have the information, capacity, and opportunities to inform and lead the development and implementation of programmes and policies that impact their lives and are recognised as skilled and aware leaders of social change.

# **Strategies**

TYPF uses six key strategies for building young people's leadership, collectives, and ecosystems.

<u>Capacity building</u> – TYPF implements structured leadership and capacity building programmes that increase access to information, services and entitlements for other adolescents and youth through structured, peer led processes, on-ground campaigns, and policy engagement. TYPF also trains healthcare or other service providers including teachers, community members as well as other stakeholders to be more youth friendly and affirming in their work and better understand young people's issues and realities.

<u>Dialogue platforms</u> - TYPF brings together young people with the perspective, skills, and experience to represent young people's needs and issues at platforms - both on ground and online - where their voices are heard by other stakeholders.

<u>Network building</u> - TYPF builds collaborative and networked youth groups and movements to strengthen young people's voices as stakeholders. TYPF participates in networks as a youth organisation, and also seeds youth networks and builds their capacities and systems to become autonomous stakeholders in development work.

<u>Campaigns</u> - TYPF actively creates on-ground and online campaigns to amplify young people's realities and concerns and also to inform diverse stakeholders on relevant issues and perspectives.

Research and knowledge creation - TYPF co-creates data with young people and enables them to access and engage with data to effectively advocate for their own rights. TYPF also creates resources that enable young people to understand issues, build their perspectives, and adopt skills to engage with issues from a position of strength.

<u>Representing youth voices</u> - TYPF staff often represent youth and adolescent issues and the experience of on ground implementation in various national, regional, and international platforms.

# The Year in Numbers

11,033

adolescents, youth leaders, and community stakeholders reached through in-depth direct interventions

820

young people and community stakeholders connected through 15 dialogue platforms 2

regional and national youth networks with participation from 17 member organisations across 10 countries in Southeast Asia and 79 young people from 26 states and union territories in India

58

knowledge resources created across 6 thematic areas

600,000

people reached through 7 digital campaigns

# **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Capacity building is the biggest strategic pillar to realise TYPF's mission of young people's meaningful participation in decision making about their own lives. TYPF empowers young people by increasing their access to information and services, thereby enabling them to understand and realise their rights.

# **NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAINED: 11,033**

ISSUES ADDRESSED: COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION, DIGITAL SKILLS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, YOUTH FRIENDLY HEALTH SERVICES, ABORTION RIGHTS, YOUTH LED ADVOCACY

# **Capacity Building Actions**

#### Enabling youth to lead implementation of comprehensive sexuality education

TYPF trained 202 youth leaders across Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Delhi NCR to provide technically correct and stigma-free information and perspectives to adolescents through a structured comprehensive sexuality education programme. The youth leaders then implemented TYPF's CSE curriculum with more than 10,500 adolescents. Adolescent participants not only received information but also the ability to advocate for access to services and rights with peers, family members, community stakeholders, and state and national level policy makers. The sessions led to positive attitudinal shifts on topics of gender, sexuality, and health. Participants demonstrated greater comfort with topics of puberty attraction, and sexuality, increased knowledge of contraceptive methods and STIs, and greater acceptance of the identities of trans\* and gender nonconforming people.

#### Skilling for leadership

TYPF designed and implemented digital and technical skill building activities for 20 youth advocates across Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. These sessions enhanced their capacity to navigate internet based applications and enabled them to apply for jobs with specific technical skill requirements, and to acquire digital skills which they could apply to other aspects of their lives. As a result of the programme, many of the young women advocates also acquired greater access to technology.

#### <u>Collectivising girls and adolescent led community engagement</u>

TYPF implemented a six month fellowship with 12 adolescent girls who led community engagement process that addressed gender-based violence and discrimination, domestic violence, and menstrual health and hygiene. The fellowship capacitated them to understand these issues in depth and tackle them within their communities. It also created a space where they could share their experiences and support each other. Parallely, the participants mapped and distributed ration for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in their community.

#### **Enabling affirming youth engagement by frontline health workers**

TYPF conducted training sessions with 331 frontline health workers and field staff which resulted in positive attitudinal shifts around issues of premarital sex, access to contraceptives, and safe abortion. These sessions also capacitated the community stakeholders to navigate the new landscape on COVID-19 and understand the best practices to carry out their role and provide timely and accurate information to the young people with whom they work.

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#### <u>Auditing and enhancing sexual health service provision</u>

TYPF conducted a series of 20 capacity and knowledge building sessions for 10 youth advocates in Delhi and Varanasi which covered themes of contraception, safe abortion, menstruation, sexually transmitted diseases and disability. These sessions equipped the youth advocates to conduct audits of government and private health facilities and file RTIs to understand their functioning and shortcomings. These youth advocates were further supported to hold conversations with frontline health workers in public platforms called Aamna-Saamna to map out the challenges faced by young people in accessing SRH services. Based on the gaps that were identified by the youth advocates, TYPF trained 271 frontline health workers across the two cities to provide youth affirmative health services through 12 capacity building sessions. The sessions resulted in positive attitudinal shifts around issues of premarital sex, access to contraceptives and safe abortion, and a broader recognition of the role of ASHA workers in enabling young people to access health services.

#### Enhancing understanding of the impact of COVID on SRHR

TYPF hosted a series of online sessions facilitated by external speakers for four partner organisations across Uttar Pradesh and Bihar on COVID-19 and its impacts on SRHR, gender based violence, the public health system, and the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019. These sessions created a sharing space where staff from partner organisations could come together and express solidarity towards each other in testing times of the pandemic.

#### Designing digital solutions to remote learning

TYPF developed an 'Online Chaupal' to conduct training sessions for the field staff who implement TYPF's CSE modules on-ground in four districts of Rajasthan. The fully digital method enabled the organisation to build the capacities of 60 field staff on eight thematics of CSE and have nuanced discussions, while also ensuring that the schedule allowed the staff to cater to their increased household responsibilities in the lockdown.



# **CREATING DIALOGUE PLATFORMS**

TYPF envisions a world where young people are recognised as leaders and partners in their own development. Thus, creating platforms for dialogue, accountability seeking, and collaboration is a key strategy of the organisation's work on youth leadership development.

# NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED: 500+ YOUNG PEOPLE AND 320 STAKEHOLDERS FROM HEALTH SYSTEMS, NGOS, CSOS AND THE GOVERNMENT

ISSUES ADDRESSED: VIOLENCE AMONG OLDER ADOLESCENTS, ABORTION RIGHTS, GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON ADOLESCENT SRHR, COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

# **Dialogue Platforms**

#### Gender based violence among older adolescents

In May 2020, a group chat called 'Bois Locker Room' was made public. The chat showed male students from private schools in Delhi sharing photos of underage girls without their consent. TYPF hosted a series of four online sessions titled 'Locker Room Talks' in light of this incident to facilitate conversations around themes of sexuality, violence, intersectionality, and crime within online spaces. These conversations were held with thematic experts, development sector professionals, and young people to bring together their varied perspectives and were viewed by more than 5000 people.

#### Abortion law and practice in India

TYPF co-hosted a series of three online discussions about abortion laws in India in partnership with Jindal Global Law School's Centre for Health Law, Ethics and Technology. The series had over 150 attendees and critically analysed the historical criminalisation of abortion and the barriers faced by gender and sexually non conforming persons and persons living with disabilities in accessing safe abortion

#### Adolescent and youth access to SRHR services

TYPF organised <u>six state level youth-led multi stakeholder consultations</u> along with the Guttmacher Institute. The consultations reviewed existing information and national level NFHS data to understand the landscape of adolescents' access to SRH services, especially contraception, abortion, and childbirth related services. Around 200 adolescents and young people took part in the consultations along with 132 attendees that included CSOs representatives, UN agency representatives, and health system officials. The findings of these consultations were summarised in 6 state reports for public dissemination and supporting further advocacy efforts. Additionally, TYPF facilitated a community-based dialogue platform called Aamna-Saamna where 150 young people spoke about their needs and expectations regarding access to SRH services and further sought accountability from frontline health workers.

#### Comprehensive sexuality education

TYPF conducted an on-ground advocacy event to highlight the importance of CSE and push for the inclusion of TYPF's CSE curriculum in schools in Bodhgaya. The event was attended by more than 100 community members and five district level officers. TYPF also made a move to include field staff in developing the Kishore Mitra peer education model, which maximises the reach of CSE by enabling adolescent peer educators to implement the sessions in their own communities, and also strengthens youth leadership among the educators. Through this model, the field staff themselves deliberated on and developed the tools and guidelines required for the peer educators to disseminate key messages and learnings from the CSE sessions.







# **NETWORK BUILDING**

In 2020–21, TYPF initiated two youth networks: STEPS, a national network of youth leaders and advocates engaged on gender, health, and well being and SYAN, a South East Asia regional network of youth organisations active on issues of adolescent health and well being.

# NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED: 17 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS ACROSS 10 COUNTRIES IN ASIA AND 79 YOUNG PEOPLE IN INDIA

ISSUES ADDRESSED: ADOLESCENT HEALTH IN SOUTH EAST ASIA, MEANINGFUL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY MAKING

# **Networks**



Stepping Towards Enhancing Policy Structures (STEPS)
TYPF set up a policy working group of young advocates engaged on health, well being, and gender issues in 2018. The group established its identity and name as Stepping Towards Enhancing Policy Structures (STEPS), a pan-India network of adolescents and young people that aims to foreground meaningful youth engagement in national level policies and programmes around adolescent health and well-being. As the secretariat, TYPF builds the members' capacities and opportunities to take up meaningful and substantive roles in policy dialogues, feedback processes and implementation structures. During the lockdown, TYPF worked with STEPS members to facilitate relief and ration distribution in their communities. The STEPS members also collaborated to create the Youth Insight Report and participated in TYPF's project on phone-based psychosocial counselling through the Youth Care Network.



SOUTH-EAST ASIA YOUTH HEALTH ACTION NETWORK

#### South East Asia Youth Health Advocacy Network (SYAN)

TYPF established the South-East Asia
Youth Health Advocacy Network (SYAN)
with 10 member countries - Bangladesh,
Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Maldives,
Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and
Timor-Leste. SYAN builds the capacities of
adolescent and youth groups in the
South-East Asia region to undertake
effective advocacy and engagement and
strengthen youth-led efforts to advance
adolescent health and well-being
initiatives in their own countries. During
this year, the network's vision, mission,
and public presence were established
through convenings and participation in
regional policy processes.

# **CAMPAIGNS**

With the onset of COVID, TYPF utilised online platforms for awareness and engagement campaigns on COVID 19 related issues and concerns. The organisational website, newsletter, and social media platforms became channels to communicate with stakeholders to listen and address their concerns. Some of these campaigns were aimed directly at educating and informing the online audience, while some of them asked them to share their own stories and experiences in order to start conversations around taboo topics.

## **NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED: 600,000**

ISSUES ADDRESSED: EDUCATION, COVID RESPONSE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, MASCULINITIES, COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION, YOUTH FRIENDLY HEALTH SERVICES, SAFE ABORTION

# **Public Campaigns**

#### Safe abortion for everyone

TYPF regularly advocates for safe abortion by tackling stigma and misconceptions around abortion. In May 2020, for the International Day of Action for Women's Health, the campaign used statistics to shed light on the impact that COVID-19 will have on unintended pregnancies and abortions in India in the next few years, and to therefore demand for safe, affordable, and legal abortion to be recognised as a reproductive right. In September, for International Safe Abortion Day, TYPF used Instagram stories to simulate a game where the audience directed the character's choices on contraception and abortion. Over 1000 people engaged with the game and helped the character navigate her way to a safe abortion. In March 2021, when the MTP (Amendment) Bill 2020 was passed, TYPF released a statement discussing the merits and shortcomings of the new law, including its ambiguity, inaccessibility, and the exclusion of trans\* people from the provisions. The statement also called for the inclusion of abortion seekers in decisionmaking processes that impacted their lives. Additionally, the #MyFirstTime campaign comprised of young people's anecdotes on how they first heard about the word "abortion" - whether that was from a friend, family member, or in the media - and how it was always shrouded in stigma. The accounts highlighted how despite being an essential health service, abortion is treated as a taboo in most societies. TYPF also partnered with an artist to create 10 striking illustrations to #BreakTheTaboo around abortion and start conversations about the topic.

#### <u>Comprehensive sexuality education</u>

TYPF acknowledged the importance of comprehensive sexuality education and the need to #FillTheGap between the existing information that adolescents have and the accurate and comprehensive information they should ideally have about their bodies and rights. The campaign included testimonials from programme fellows who shared their experiences of implementing the curriculum with adolescents in a government school, a podcast with the adolescent participants where they shared their changed perceptions about topics of gender and sexuality, and a podcast with the team who developed the curriculum where they discussed the need to build a separate CSE curriculum specifically for younger adolescents. Three videos were also created to highlight the need for CSE and its impact. Through socia media, audiences also engaged in activities like the 'misinformed brown kid bingo' that addressed the myths and taboos around SRHR topics. TYPF also hosted a tweet chat with multiple organisations for cross learning on how we can #FillTheGap when it comes to CSE.

#### Youth-friendly health services

TYPF used public campaigns to advocate for youth-friendly health services by sharing youth advocates' demands from their healthcare providers. The advocates demanded for the inclusion of SRHR helplines, counsellors of various gender, and disabled-friendly infrastructure. Additionally, many young people online shared their experiences of facing barriers while accessing healthcare, including abortion stigma, body shaming, delayed and/or expensive services, long waiting times, uncomfortable questions around marriage, and differential treatment based on gender identity.

#### Education

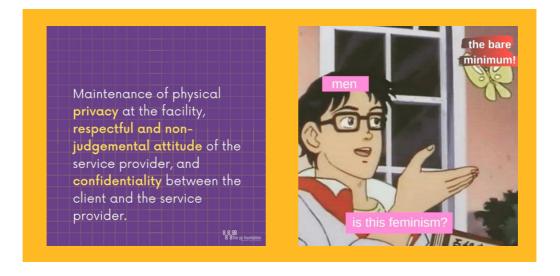
TYPF dissected the National Education Policy 2020 through videos, webinars, and articles. Through a series of animations, the campaign explained what the new NEP entails for people from marginalised sections of society, including concerns pertaining to the NEP's language provisions, an increase in digitisation, lack of reservation, access to resources, concerns about dropping out, and financial constraints. We also brought together students, educators, and government officials to have an online discussion about unpacking the NEP 2020 where they shared their concerns and discussed what would entail a meaningful implementation of the policy.

#### <u>International Men's Day</u>

TYPF commemorated International Men's Day as a day to #RaiseTheBar for men's behaviour and push for their meaningful participation in feminist movements. The campaign employed interactive strategies like using bingos, memes, and reels to engage with themes of masculinity and feminism. It further addressed topics of male privilege, toxic masculinity, and men's roles as effective allies to all genders, and encouraged men to go beyond doing the bare minimum in the fight against gender inequality.

#### 16 days of activism to End Gender Based Violence

TYPF observed the 16 Days of Activism, a global campaign on gender based violence prevention. Since this year's theme was 'violence at the workplace', TYPF highlighted the first-person narratives of women and trans\* people who had faced violence and discrimination in different workspaces, including domestic workers, healthcare workers, and sex workers. Between the International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women and Human Rights Day, the campaign also called to ratify Convention 190 of the International Labour Organisation, that details the need to eliminate violence and harassment in the world of work.



# RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CREATION

Research and knowledge creation are an important component of TYPF's work as a foundation for capacity building efforts and policy advocacy work. In 2020–21, TYPF created resources and training material for engaging with adolescents and stakeholders to improve knowledge and awareness about sexual and reproductive health, comprehensive sexuality education, and abortion rights and access. To supplement this, the organisation also conducted several research and evidence generation projects to create evidence based policy recommendations and advocate for improving adolescents' sexual and reproductive rights and access to health services.

#### **NUMBER OF KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES: 58**

ISSUES ADDRESSED: SAFE ABORTION, YOUTH FRIENDLY AND QUEER AFFIRMATIVE HEALTH SERVICES, COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

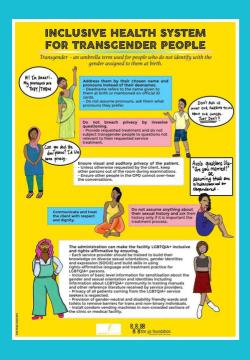
# **Resources and Publications**

#### **E-learning courses**

TYPF created training and course material for an e-learning course on abortion discourse and advocacy in English. The course material included 11 explainer videos, assignments, and reading lists which cover the basics of abortion, the laws and access to abortion services within the health systems in India, and a framework on abortion stigma.

#### IEC material on youth friendly health services

TYPF created <u>13 posters on youth-friendly health services</u> in both English and Hindi, covering topics such as access to safe abortion, mental health services, and SRH services. These posters were displayed in healthcare facilities to destigmatise sexual health information and provide accurate and comprehensive information to the readers.





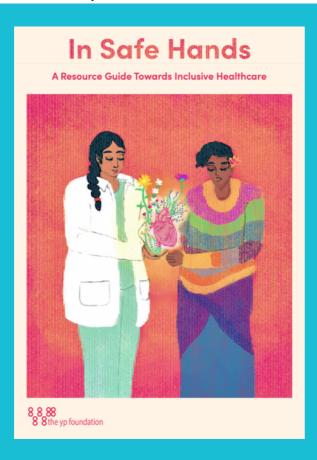


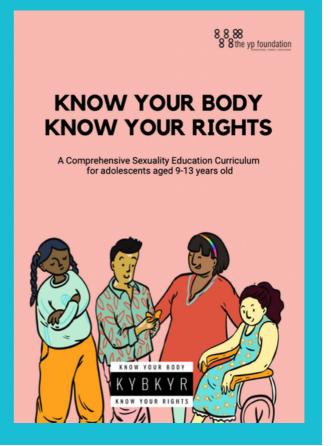
#### Research reports

TYPF contributed to a multi-site qualitative study after the first phase of lockdown to investigate the impact of COVID-19 on abortion services in India. This study emerged from a need to explore, understand, and document women's needs for, and experiences with, accessing time sensitive and highly stigmatised abortion services amidst the lockdown. This study culminated with the creation of a report titled 'Listening to Women'. TYPF also created six state-specific reports on the status of adolescent and youth SRHR that included literature about the issue and national level data from the National Family Health Survey. These reports were used to undertake evidence-based multi-stakeholder conversations in Assam, Odisha, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.

#### **Handbooks and toolkits**

TYPF published 'In Safe Hands', a resource guide on queer affirmative services for health care providers. The resource clarifies common questions and provides primary information to help medical service providers understand queer identities, and engage LGBTQ+ clients in a sensitive and affirming manner. TYPF developed a toolkit for implementing CSE for adolescents aged 9-13 years. The creation of a curriculum tailored for the needs of younger adolescents was required because existing curriculums for adolescents aged 14 and above failed to demonstrate the desired learning outcomes amongst the younger cohorts. The toolkit consists of both onground and online curriculums, 11 video resources, two podcasts on experiences of adolescents and facilitators, illustrated tools to be used during sessions, and interactive jamboards.





# REPRESENTING YOUTH VOICES

A key aspect of TYPF's work is to make sure young people's voices and concerns are adequately and effectively represented in diverse policy and programme dialogue platforms at all levels.

#### **NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED:**

ISSUES ADDRESSED: COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION, GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATION, EDUCATION, ADOLESCENT HEALTH, MEANINGFUL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

# Youth Representation

#### Participating in UN related processes

This year, TYPF's Executive Director presented a <u>statement on Comprehensive Sexuality Education</u> at a session organised by the Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at the Mexico Forum held within the Generation Equality and Beijing +25 youth forum. TYPF's Director of Programmes participated in the panel discussion for Menstrual Hygiene Day hosted by the United Nations Population Fund, Menstrual Health Alliance India, and Dasra. As one of the national gender youth advocates from India, the Director of Programmes also contributed to the Youth Accountability Framework which demanded greater accountability from international platforms such as the Generation Equality Forum in order to address gender based violence and discrimination.

#### Connecting young people with decision making platforms

In addition to spotlighting youth voices, TYPF also works actively to connect young leaders with platforms where they can represent their issues and interact directly with policy makers and other influential decision makers. One such youth leader is Shukti.



is an active member of our affiliated youth network STEPS. Shukti started her engagement with TYPF on adolescent health in 2019, when she was a 10th grade student. Since then, she has been a youth advocate at several platforms. This year, she interviewed the Union Health Secretary and sought national commitments on prioritising adolescent health during the pandemic. Shukti also spoke at several major national and international platforms including the Accountability Breakfast during the UN General Assembly in 2021. She has continued to champion adolescent mental health and meaningful youth participation through her school years and demonstrates the importance of actively including youth voices in decision making spaces.

SEZTA I D O A

Together, Shukti and other young leaders like Bhaumika Gupta associated with TYPF:

- Spoke at a multi-stakeholder webinar series highlighting adolescent health issues during the pandemic organised on the 25th of June 2020 by CommonHealth, SAHAJ, and TYPF.
- Spoke at a live webinar series conducted by PMNCH and WHO on 29th July 2020 and 13th October 2020.
- Spoke at a webinar organised by the International Association for Adolescent Health about adolescent health issues impacted by COVID-19 on 22nd October 2020.
- Moderated a consultation and authored a subsequent <u>article on the National Education Policy.</u>
- Spoke at the <u>Accountability Breakfast</u>, organised by PMNCH, The White Ribbon Alliance and Every Woman Every Child, around the UN General Assembly on 29th September 2020. She spoke alongside many dignitaries including the H.E. Zahle-Worke Zwede (President of Ethiopia), H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Nobel Laureate and Former President of Liberia), H.E. Helen Clark (Former Prime Minister of New Zealand).
- Spoke about meaningful adolescent engagement in a working group meeting on UN H6+ partners on 3rd November 2020.
- Interviewed the Union Health Secretary of India, Mr. Rajesh Bhushan, to seek India's commitment towards advancing adolescent health as part of its COVID-19 response. The <u>video</u> was featured during the PMNCH Global Summit on Adolescent Health - Lives in the Balance.
- Were moderators at a global toolkit launch by IAWG (International Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crisis) on 25th January 2021.
- Spoke at the Intergenerational Dialogue between Adolescents and the Feminist Movements and Leadership Action Coalition Leaders on 10th Feb 2021.



# **COVID Response**

On 31st December 2019, Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, China, reported a cluster of Pneumonia Cases in Hubei Province. Exactly a month later, WHO declared the identified novel Coronavirus a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. The first case in India was reported on the same day in Thrissur in Kerala. On the evening of 24th March 2020, following a 14-hour curfew, the Indian government declared a complete lockdown from the next day. Initially announced as a 21-day lockdown, the health emergency mandated its extension with changing regulation and systems till July 2020. The disruption was not only a health emergency but also a humanitarian crisis due to the suspension of income generation, uncertainty for migrants and global lack of systems for addressing the needs of daily wage and migrant labourers.

As the global COVID-19 pandemic reached India and the country faced an unprecedented situation of rising cases and a strict nationwide lockdown, TYPF initiated a multi-pronged approach to address the pandemic's various fallouts. The organisation responded to critical needs in the different communities it works with by providing basic food, medical, and sanitation supplies to see the communities through this period. TYPF distributed ration kits to 360 families in Delhi, Orissa, Kerala, Kashmir, and Uttar Pradesh along with 1000 sanitary kits in Orissa, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh and 600 PPE kits for the tea garden workers in Assam and adolescents from the Irula tribe in Pondicherry. TYPF also provided support (including medication) to 63 trans persons in Goa, 19 adolescents with disabilities, and 7 youth in Karnataka.

TYPF also understood the need not just for relief assistance but also for accessible information, psychosocial support, and robust information on how the pandemic has affected various aspects of young people's lives. To that effect, 19 young leaders were trained to provide phone-based counselling and psychosocial support to adolescents and youth dealing with mental and emotional stress, and to refer cases to qualified experts when required. The organisation also reached out to its adolescent and youth network spread across the country to understand the impact of the COVID-19 imposed lockdown on health, education, and the supply of food and other essential items. Data was also collected about COVID-19 information and awareness. A report was created with these findings along with key recommendations which the organisation used to inform its subsequent work with these communities. TYPF also curated an anthology of 32 written, audio, and visual stories - Youth Unlocked: A Vision to Build Back Better - that highlight the specific ways in which the pandemic affected young people from diverse contexts and backgrounds.

# **Institutional Strengthening**

COVID 19 related uncertainty and disruptions made 2020 a difficult year for institutional strengthening and process oriented work. The situation necessitated restructuring of organisational growth and development plans to prioritise care, supportive systems for our team and communities and constant adaptations and change.

#### **Adapting to change**

With the lockdown, there was an immediate and unplanned shift to remote work, often in programmes and functions that were not designed for online modalities. As remote engagement became long term, the organisation developed protocols and systems for online work. Communication systems, trackers, online convening tools, platforms, policies and guidelines that laid out the processes were developed to support staff maintain coherence and a sense of engagement with each other in the changed scenario. This included regular meetings, taking up personal, and supportive engagement with each other and bringing in care as an intentional aspect of team engagement. Regular informal check-ins, scheduled time for collective online activities and offering flexible modalities for work engagement during work days helped in operationalizing these aspects.

TYPF developed specific protocols for travel, working from home or from office, and for any on ground convening or training process. Instituting COVID leave, longer breaks in the work day, and building in a cognisance of diverse home situations and needs during work from home informed the organisational protocol.

#### Strategic Planning and Reflection

TYPF's plans to initiate strategic planning in March 2020 had to be deferred in the face of global and sectoral uncertainty with the pandemic. While the future planning was put on hold, TYPF was supported by a team of consultants from Phicus Social Solutions to take up systematic reflection and listening processes to understand staff needs and suggestions. The organisation held 8 internal reflection and planning sessions on issues ranging from building perspective on relevant focus areas to staff development, transition, learning systems, and sustainability. This enabled TYPF to use the pandemic induced pause for effective reflection towards growth and improvement. Some specific outcomes of the same included the development of a comprehensive grievance redress system, the institutionalisation of a quarterly instead of a six monthly review for more frequent team and implementation check-ins, and the initiation of the updation of key safeguarding policies and systems in terms of their applicability to participants, consultants, and other facilitators who engage with TYPF's programmes.

# **Behind the Scenes**

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## Collaborators

Action India
Asian Bridge India
Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion
Chintan
Commutiny Youth Collective
Feminist Approach to Technology
Jatan Sansthan
Josh
Pravah
Sweccha
Yeh Ek Soch Foundation
YUVA

# **Management**

<u>Executive Director</u> - Manak Matiyani <u>Director of Programmes</u> - Prabhleen Tuteja

# **Programmes**

Programme Officers
Logna Bezbaruah
Manasa Priya Vasudevan
Pallavi Agrawal
Rhea Chawla
Ruth Mohapatra
Shruti Arora
Souvik Pyne

#### **Programme Coordinators**

Aditi Mukherji Ananya Vajpeyi Anuj Gopal Dubey Avali Khare Harsh Chauhan Ipsa Agnani Nidhi Arya **Musheer Ahmad** Pragya Roy Riju Banerjee Sagar Sachdeva **Shannon Mathew** Shreya Mudgal Shruti Venkatesh **Sudipta Das** Vineeta Rana

#### **Programme Associates**

Aparna Manikandan Arzoo Garg Katyayni Sharma

#### **Finance**

Officer - Mohan Chand Associate - Ajay Piplia

# **Administration**

Basant Ram Ganesh Kumar

# **Financials**

# Audit Report, 2020-21

# THE YP FOUNDATION CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

revious Year	LIABLITIES		AMOUNT	Previous Year	ASSETS		AMOUNT
10,000.00	CORPUS		10,000.00		FIXED ASSETS		741100111
	Capital Fund-Fixed Assets Fixed assets as per contra (FC)		8,62,431.50	34,268.75	Indian A/c. As per Schedule '1' Foreign A/c.		29,277.9
24,792.00	Fixed Assets as Per Contra (Indian) Balance as per last B/S	24,792.00		8,57,554.50	As per Schedule '2'		8,62,431.5
	Add: Addition during the Year		24,792.00	2			
81,49,209.56	Capital Fund Balance as per last B/S Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	90,62,885.64 15,78,896.15	1,06,41,781.79	5			
(2,97,450.40) 44,03,831.00	Restricted Fund (Indian) Opening Balance Grant Received (incl. interest) Less-Utilization	37,92,549.60 33,02,973.00 23,05,415.00	47,90,107.60	006			
4,12,84,883.90	Restricted Fund (Foreign) Opening Balance Grant Received (incl. interest) Less-Utilization	3,99,11,414.36 2,76,66,956.16 3,33,37,131.00	3,42,41,239.52		CURRENT ASSETS: CLOSING BALANCES: Indian Account FC Account	1,10,46,272.04 3,75,09,521.93	4,85,55,793,97
5,36,59,196.10	Total Rs.		5,05,70,352.41	5,36,59,196.10	Total Rs.		4,94,47,503.4

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts - Schedule '3

(Authorised Signatory)

Place: Delhi Date: 1 6 OCT 2021 As per our report of even date
For Pinto M.P. & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn. No. 00600000

(Martin P. Pinto F.C.A)



