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At the heart of Meredith India is the spirit of giving back to the community. Meredith India takes immense pride in supporting and nurturing communities through various initiatives. This endeavor is spearheaded by a Corporate Social Responsibility Committee - a team of Meredith employees - that designs and implements support activities across diverse areas of need.

During the financial year 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020, the committee continued to maintain meaningful partnerships with not-for-profit organizations and provide direct support working in four key areas viz. Education, Health, Society, and Environment namely Home of Hope, Little Sisters of the Poor, Bethany Educational Society, Sumanahalli School and Society, and Blessed Claire special School. We partnered with NGOs and institutions after due diligence by the CSR committee, to ensure we reach out to the deprived at the right time.

“Giving back to the community with our time and effort to help the less privileged was and always will be the greatest contribution we as human beings could do for our society and country.”

PRANOY GEORGE JACOB
The Meredith India CSR committee has been intensively working towards providing education to underprivileged children. Meredith India continues to provide support through direct programs and partnering with Blessed Claire, Bethany Educational Society, and School at Sumanahalli Society to support primary, secondary and higher education.

- Provided education supplies to students at Bethany Educational Society. We also set up a computer laboratory for students by reusing Meredith India Laptops.
- Supported Blessed Claire, an institution for differently abled children, with educational materials.
- Aided the school at Sumanahalli Society to begin construction of 4 classrooms to accommodate 200+ students and completed renovation of washrooms. The school building was painted and the school was provided with LED lighting.
- At Blessed Claire, we had Christmas celebrations with a special lunch with children and supported the special needs children with basic amenities and educational supplies.
- On children’s day we visited Bethany institution engaging with children with knowledge sharing sessions and entertaining performances and thereon supporting the children with education supporting supplies.

“We celebrated Christmas with the kids over at Blessed Care. The kids were really happy as we along with the other CSR members sang Carols for them and distributed chocolates and gifts to them. I was amazed to see the kind of program they have conducted for us despite having so many difficulties. They have performed such an amazing welcome dance for us.”

VERONICA BARNES
In association with Little Sisters of the Poor, Cheshire Disability Trust, CUPA, Home of Hope and Sumanahalli Society and other programs, the Meredith India CSR team focused on doing its bit by giving back to society.

- At CUPA, a shelter and home to several injured and abandoned animals, Meredith India volunteers actively participated in activities such as bathing, pet grooming and feeding animals in this shelter under the guidance of CUPA representatives.
- At Home of Hope, home for the destitute, we supported the shelter with essentials, food supplies and assisted them in having a better standard of living.
- Supported Sumanahalli Leprosy Society with used office drawers for residents to store medicines and personal needs.
- At Little Sisters of the Poor we supported senior residents with essentials and food supplies, shawls, mosquito nets and marked an important date at the senior citizen’s home by organizing 100th birthday celebration of a senior resident.
- The CSR team came together to support the people in times of crisis faced by various states due to natural disasters:
  - Families in Karnataka and Odisha were provided with medicines, carpets, solar lamps and asbestos sheets for shelter as relief activities in the flood-affected parts of the state(s).

“It was a wonderful experience at Little Sisters of the Poor. We got an opportunity to spend time there with them. I learned a lesson… no matter how many hurdles you have, life is still beautiful. Live each moment of it. The love and blessing they showered on us… no words for that.”

HEENA PANDIT
As good health plays a pivotal role in the well-being of individuals in the society, health has been an integral part of CSR committee’s efforts and contributions. Meredith India continuously supports associated NGOs through direct programs by providing medical support in the form of medicines, consultations, health checks and blood donation drives.

- Visited and supported senior citizens at Little Sisters of the Poor with food and essential medicines.
- Conducted health checks including blood tests, vision tests, ear examinations, blood pressure tests at Home of Hope for all senior citizen residents to screen for diabetes, liver function, thyroid issues, kidney issues and lipid issues. This helps them pro-actively identify any health-related symptoms and treat them accordingly.
- On account of WORLD HEALTH DAY - Meredith organized a blood donation camp for employees; we had 50 donors.
- Doctor consultations and medical expenses were sponsored by Meredith India for children with disabilities at Blessed Claire.

“I participated in the Blood Donation drive conducted by Meredith. It was the first time I had ever donated blood and it was a nice experience. Through your event it was possible for me to make a contribution which can help someone in need. I thank the CSR teams for all the efforts they put in to conducting these events.”

NAVEEN GOWDA
Meredith India takes steps to make sustainable use of resources, maintains ecological balance and takes proactive steps to minimize waste generation and preserve the environment.

- A waste segregation awareness session was conducted at the office to educate employees on these practices for work and home.
- Organized sapling plantation and water purifier installation at Bethany Educational Society.
- Continue to support the “go green” campaign; provided solar lamps at the new block in Home of Hope.
- At the school in Sumanahalli Society – a campus cleanup program was initiated, the school campus was thoroughly cleaned by our Meredith volunteers, and a sapling plantation Drive with the school children turned the campus into a beautiful and safe area for the children.
- Planted medicinal saplings at Little Sisters of the Poor, which will help the senior citizens residing at the home.

“The sapling plantation drive at Sumanahalli Society was organized extremely well, and it went amazing throughout. It was very helpful for the children who are all studying over there. They were so happy and I must say that I had a great time by having healthy conversation with them. I feel proud about our organization and blessed to be a part of that event.”

MOHANA KUMARA
CSR SHOWCASE

An interactive and inclusive social responsibility showcase event was organized by Meredith India CSR at our office, where partner NGOs were invited to talk about their collaboration and experience with Meredith India. Our partner NGOs in attendance were Jyothi Institutions, Little Sisters of the Poor - Home for the Aged, Sumanahalli LRTC, New Ark Mission of India and Cheshire Homes India Bangalore. They walked our employees through all the incredible work being done and shared a high-level roadmap for the future. The successfully organized event ended with a session on sign language by representatives from Cheshire Disability Trust.

“The work done by the Committee is laudable and every event had its own emotion and story. Visiting LSP helped me understand that no matter what, it's never too late to find happiness, even in small things! CUPA reminded me that love doesn't need to be biased and the dog will always be my loyal companion. Sapling plantation at Sumanahalli school helped me to get in touch with my love for nature and the kids that help to keep the child inside me alive. I extend gratitude to the CSR committee for letting me be a part of such great events. I hope to be a part of another even soon!”

ESHITA KARAN
“On behalf of New Ark Mission of India and all its residents, I (Rebeca) am really obliged for organising the medical camp in our organisation on 3rd and 4th of July 2019. The blood check up camp was conducted successfully and all that clinical data has been very useful for us for diagnosis and further treatment for our residents. Once again, Many thanks and blessings from the Almighty for serving the poor and needy in our home.”

NEW ARK MISSION OF INDIA, HOME OF HOPE

“There is an eternal sunshine in a grateful heart. We the management of Sumanahalli Society, SET Staff, inmates of Ave Maria, teaching faculty and students of St. Joseph’s Convent High School are grateful and privileged to enumerate the good and generous services of the Meredith India. We sincerely and gratefully appreciate and acknowledge your best services and innovative initiatives taken with keen interest to help and uplift the poor and the needy society particularly the leprosy patients, HIV affected and under privileged students in and around Sumanahalli.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all your generosity, love, service and good relationship built among us. Promising to pray for you ever we hope your good work to Sumanahalli Society and St. Joseph’s Convent High School may continue in the future as well with still brighter plans and envisages from your esteemed company.”

FR. VALENTINE ANTHONY RAJ, CMF, DIRECTOR, SUMANAHALLI SOCIETY

“We Little Sisters of the Poor are sincerely grateful to all our dear friends at Meredith India for your timely help towards our elderly home needs during the year. God Bless your team for the joy brought during the birthday parties. Your songs and dances gladdened the hearts of our residents. May God Bless your families and in all that you undertake for the good of our elderly poor.”

SR. MARIA GOUTTI, LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR
“I have had the good fortune to attend quite a few events, like Little Sisters of Poor, Jyothi school, Sumanahalli, Kerala flood relief to name a few. Words cannot express the experience and just the sheer feeling of being in the midst of the less fortunate and victims of circumstances. It’s in these moments that one feels so blessed at the same time humbled and thankful for what one has. Giving back to society is a selfless act and our CSR Team has risen to this time and time again. I would do it again and again just to see the joy, the gratitude, that sparkle in someone eyes, the love and…….. that smile! A few hours a month can actually bring so much compassion and make a difference to someone’s life. That is what giving back and sharing has taught me.”

RIYAZ AFTAB, VP, MEREDITH INDIA

“The Indian Government has made it mandatory to spend a portion of our income towards social causes. It would have been very simple for us to just donate that money to an approved organization and comply with the law of the land. However, the team at Meredith India saw this differently. They do not see this as a task thrust upon them. They saw it as an opportunity to serve, give back to the society, help persons less fortunate. For us it is not just about spending funds, but making time and being there for the people we want to serve and making a difference for them. The team has not limited itself to sourcing material and equipment but also actually spending time and displaying the passion to serve the cause.

It is amazing to see a team that is so self-driven for a cause where there is no material return but one that gives inner satisfaction. This team is holding the flag high for Meredith India and is also encouraging others to join their efforts. Kudos to them.”

NAUSHAD, VP FINANCE, MEREDITH INDIA

“The Meredith India CSR team is a truly inspiring team doing great work for the humanity in general and underprivileged section of the society in particular. I was fortunate to be part of the CSR event in Sumanahalli school where the Meredith India CSR team had executed the construction of a new block with 4 classrooms and another event at the Little Sisters of the Poor for whom medicine and food were contributed and medicinal saplings were planted on the campus. The passion that the entire CSR team brings to such events is truly heartening. My respect to the Meredith India CSR team for the initiatives taken over the year and passionately executed.”

SUDHISH RAMAKRISHNA, VP OPERATIONS, MEREDITH INDIA

“The sapling plantation at Sumanahalli school was a great nature-friendly cause and we had a great time interacting with school kids and teachers. Thanks to Meredith India CSR team.”

VIKRAM I TAGI, MEREDITH INDIA
TESTIMONIALS

“I attended Children’s day at Jyothi School and Christmas celebration at Blessed Clare in 2019. It was truly an inspiring visit. It amazes me what the Meredith India CSR team does to make such a difference to the society. It was a pleasure to interact with the students; whose smile and spark in the eyes felt so warm. Giving gifts to the kids; singing and dancing along with them and feeding the little ones felt so special. I am blessed to be part of a team which is solely dedicated to reaching out to the disadvantaged section of the society and helping in every possible way. Wishing all the best to all the people/team associated with this noble cause.”

VIVEK ALPHONSO, MEREDITH INDIA

“In the society we don’t only live with human beings but also with animals and plants. As how we protect and help the mankind, it is our prime duty to take care of the living beings who need our help to survive and have better life. CUPA is an organization which takes care of the abandoned animals and treats them with ailments and shelter. It was an opportunity provided to us to visit there and see the various ways they try to provide help to the dogs. They pick them from streets and give them a better place and conditions to live. We had fun in helping them to take bath and feed them. We understood how animals behave on various conditions and how to take care of them with love.”

SUROJEET SETH, MEREDITH INDIA

“It was my first time ever meeting so many varieties of adorable four-legged beauties and it was wonderful. And not only a fun and enjoyable experience, but it also gave me endless knowledge and awareness of what goes on “behind the scenes”. I learned so much and now have immense respect for the kind and compassionate volunteers who work there. I try to share my experience with my friends and families and frequently find myself advising them to adopt one. If there ever be such a visit again, I will definitely be there.”

MARIA SHERPA, MEREDITH INDIA

“A dog is the only living thing on earth that loves you more than itself.” This quote couldn’t be more true. Look into a dog’s eyes and your heart melts right away. So when people abandon or injure a dog it is heart breaking to know that human beings can badly treat an animal which has so much love to give. CUPA, an animal shelter and rehabilitation center in Bangalore, rescues and rehabilitates these abandoned and ill-treated dogs and helps give them a second chance at life. I was one of the many people from our company who visited the center and I was amazed looking at the work the people at CUPA perform. We got to bathe, feed and spend time with the dogs to give back to them what they have an unending supply of - Unconditional Love.”

ARNOLD KNIGHT, MEREDITH INDIA