

SHADES OF MUSKURAHAT

Annual Report 2017-18



muSkurahat
Foundation



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Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.

— Henry James



AN OVERVIEW



There is always going to be a sky to look at and a ground to stand but where we stand and how we see the sky is what matters. Irrespective of the fact that we all share the same sky and ground, breathe in the same air and receive the same sunlight, some remain trampled and crumpled upon while the others get to fly their dreams in the bright blue sky. Muskurahat, as the name suggests, aims to bring about a smile on each person who dreams and wishes to fly.

We understand that, through years of trial and error, the society is biased and blinded by the social-economic system and consists of a set of unannounced undeclared set of laws that are expected to be followed but we also forget the fact that the society is no one but us and it becomes our rightful duty to break through these social norms and help others for a better future.

Here at Muskurahat, we hold opinion that every child irrespective of this biased system of education, has the basic right to quality education and deserves better opportunities to exploit his or her own potential. We believe that education is not embedded in thick books or closed in four walls but it is the overall development of a child to explore the talent and uniqueness

that lies in him.

We do not regard that there is a right age and time to bring about a change and welcome everyone who is ready to volunteer. We, mainly consist of youth who are motivated, dedicated, enthusiastic and devoted to bring about a change in the society. We have tried to spread awareness about various issues, in the most possible creative and innovative way, in the society to touch the lives of children in the most backward parts of Mumbai by providing them informal education and making them socially aware all with smile on their faces. The social problems that have been tackled include menstrual hygiene, gender equality and biased education. We have tried to bring about a change in the society by starting with the children who will bloom on to become the pillars that hold important virtues in the upcoming/future world. We aim to serve the children a platform to not only find their talent but to inculcate basic human rights and broaden their mind to a wider perspective about the world.

OUR MISSION

Our sole mission and purpose is to create a common platform for children, women and all sections of the society who suffer the various consequences of a narrow minded and a negatively influenced society. We aim at equality and equity for all by breaking taboos and orthodox philosophy amongst the narrow minded, even in the deepest roots of the society. Every time we bring about a mile on a child's face, we move one pace towards our mission.



OUR VISION

We wish and hope to see every child's soul happy and contented with a 'Muskurahat' on their faces. We aim to see a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection and education.



OUR CORE VALUES

Leadership

: We strive to continually sharpen our vision for every child's better life and to provide the leadership to make it happen.

Integrity

: We are dedicated to building and creating a better society for each and everyone through independent governance, objectivity and honesty.

Permanence

: We are committed to building a permanent endowment to address today's needs for a better tomorrow

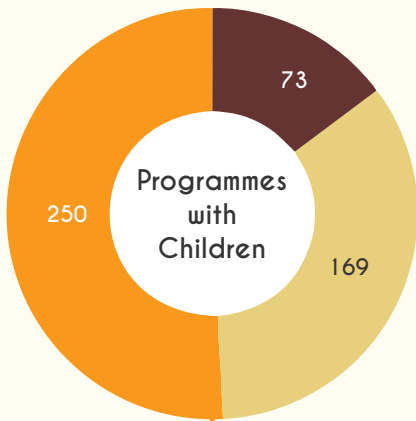
Collaboration

: We believe that the best results are attained from a good cooperation and collaboration.

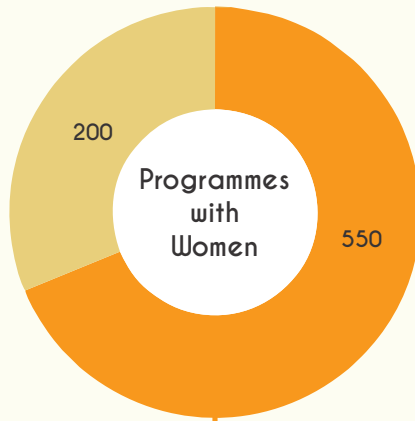
Accessibility

: We seek different perspectives when identifying the needs of the society and diverse ways to address them in the possible best way.

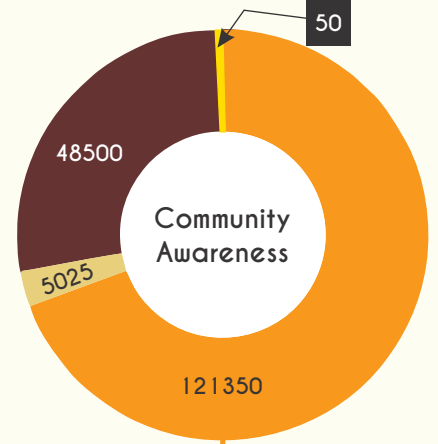
TOTAL BENEFICIARIES



Total: 492



Total: 750



Total: 174925

- KEYtaab
- Muskurahat Anganwadi Project
- Street Children

- Menstrual Hygiene Awareness
- Women Empowerment Project

- Masika Mahotsav
- Vastradhaan
- Being Women
- Senior Citizen





WHAT WE DO


The real beauty of discovery does not lie in seeking landscapes but in a new set of eyes. It's always about the perspective how we see about the unmet human needs.

We understand that our society is divided into fragments but we also understand that it started from us and it's time to end it now. If now then when?

We at Muskurahat try our best to fill up the cracks that we created once. We make an attempt to create a scenario where children are not deprived of their education which is needed for their overall development.

We make an effort to see that every child changes his or her perspective about the society to a positive and a non-biased society. Let the change be the amount of the sugar added in our day to day cup of coffees or the size of the moon.





“Tender hearts and inquisitive minds like theirs – that keep us grounded: forever.”

MUSKURAHAT ANGANWADI PROJECT

Traversing through Mumbai, one can easily remark how diverse and astoundingly colorful the slums of Mumbai are. Filled with shades of various castes and creeds, our slums are in the grave need of community development. Community development will ensure a sense of unity among slum dweller, thus gradually helping them to empower themselves.

That is exactly what we aim to do through our 'Anganwadi Project'. We wish to weave a path towards a united community of slum dwellers, mainly through children - the root of any community. Our volunteers engage themselves with the children through various activities - book reading sessions and fun experiences like extempore form a important part of them. These can easily inculcate good values and simultaneously educate them about various social topics.

One of the most unique and defining features of this project is that it goes to the households of these children - it travels to their 'Angans', literally. This allows them to explore, grow and learn in the vicinity of their households. Unlike traditional teaching methods in which one teacher teaches a class of more than 50 students, we believe in giving an intimate and personal learning experience to our kids. One volunteer for every 3-4 kids, is the methodology we work on. The children range from 3-16 years of age and are categorized into three levels based on their age and associated learning abilities - beginner, mediator and expert. The 'Anganwadi Project' currently operates in the Asalpha Slums, more famously known as the 'Positano of Mumbai', located in Ghatkopar, Mumbai.



Ganesh Maidan



The first branch of the Anganwadi project operates in the 'Ganesh Maidan', which is an open-air ground situated in the arms of the Asalpha Slums. There are 70 children who attend these sessions regularly, which take place on Sundays for 2 hours. A blend of laughter, love and fun allows them not only to enjoy their Sunday but also to widen their knowledge on various political and national issues.



Baudh Vihar

Another branch of the Anganwadi project operates in the peaceful campus of a Gautam Buddha temple, again situated very close to the Asalpha Slums. This temple called Baudh Vihar, caters to the development of around 80-100 kids, again through a blend of educational and extracurricular techniques. Through interactive news reading sessions, these kids are currently well informed about several social topics like personal hygiene, sexual habits, the difference between good touch and bad touch, etc.





In the alms of Mumbai, one could easily find hundreds of children - fun loving and joyful. But an eternal worry haunting anyone looking at them is their future. This is especially true for those children who either don't have the love and guidance of their parents or have been given up by parents due to several reasons. Through our KEYtaab initiative, we aim to develop the lives of these children - socially and morally.

Through KEYtaab we interact with children from shelter homes and orphanages spread across parts of the city. Beaming with a heart full of dreams and bustling with positivity - these children are inquisitive and are in the quest for the right door to their success.

That is exactly what we wish to do through KEYtaab. We give these children a world beyond their academics. We ensure thorough moral and social development of these children, along with celebrating several other occasions with them.

Snehasadan

Currently KEYtaab operates in Snehsadan, a orphanage based in Andheri - Chakala, Mumbai. This orphanage houses 20 boys, all of whom are curious and extremely willing to learn. These boys belong to different age groups, between 6-22 years. Apart from focusing on their social and moral development, we celebrate their birthdays, take the out for trips, and celebrate festivities and all other special events with them. We ensure that these children know, that they're very special to us and to this world.



Udaan Welfare Foundation

Udaan Welfare is a non-profit organisation based in Thane, where the KEYtaab initiative cast its enthralling magic for a span of six months. The organisation houses a bunch of around 30-40 enthusiastic kids. By imparting knowledge and social skills and celebrating various occasions with these kids, we not only gave them their key to success but also gifted them a bag of memories for a lifetime.



PROGRAMMES WITH SENIOR CITIZENS



Among the young dwindling minds of Mumbai, the presence of senior citizens is usually taken for granted. Their innocent minds and fragile hearts, are for some reason deemed to be a burden and thus they find themselves in the company of several other senior citizens in an Old Age Home. We at Muskurahat Foundation believe in spreading smiles and gifting memories as souvenirs for a lifetime, through our programmes and initiatives. Through our programmes with senior citizens we not only interact and befriend them, but also ensure that they are content at heart and are enjoying their time with us. We conduct sessions with them every week which include fun-filled experiences like games, musical and dance event, picnics, etc - that give them an opportunity to enjoy life more. Our main aim is to instill feelings of worthiness and let them know, that they are in fact an important part of the society.



PROGRAMMES WITH WOMEN



Echoing voices, nationwide campaigns and alarming questions have finally initiated a dialogue on the pressing issue of 'healthy menstrual practices'. People have begun to talk about 'periods' and are striving hard to break the taboo associated with menstruation. In such a scenario, we thought it to be of utmost importance to promote not only healthy and hygienic menstrual practices through the use of sanitary napkins, but to actually encourage women to make sustainable menstrual choices. Through our initiative of 'Sustainable Menstruation' we aim to encourage women to use menstrual caps and cloth pads rather than traditional sanitary napkins, to prevent menstrual flow. Sanitary Napkins contain plastic elements, which make it unsafe for our environment and society in the large run, thus making it an unsustainable choice. This initiative is aimed at both rural and urban women, between the age groups of 13-50 years. Our aim is to make these women realize that their choices regarding menstruation must not only be healthy and hygienic but essentially sustainable.



MASIKA MOHATSAV

Dusk till dawn, we're haunted by stereotypes and taboos surrounding menstruation that force us to think, question and act. Appalled by the ignorance and in a quest to drive women towards more healthy and sustainable menstruation practices, we at Muskurahat Foundation along with Mues launched an unconventional and exclusive festival – Masika Mahotsav. Celebrated on the World Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28th, the festival was in collaboration with Rotaract Club and Kishanchand Chellaram College, Mumbai.

In a country, where women bleed every month, are inflicted with unbearable pain every month and are yet forbidden to talk about their bleeding and pain – Masika Mohatsav was a ray of hope. Through marches, art programmes and so much more, we aimed to not only raise awareness about the subject in general but also hoped that people can talk about 'periods' and use the words 'menstruation' without any guilt, shame or fear.

The whole point of Masika Mohatsav, was thus to normalize the conversation surrounding periods and menstruation – to make these words common, usable and thereby accepting them as a part of the society.

Masika Mohatsav was a blend of two events – a chalkart programme and a backathon – both unique and extremely unconventional in their message and approach. An enthralling support from the city has definitely inspired us to initiate more efforts in the direction of 'Sustainable Menstruation'.



Back - a - thon

Our aim behind Masika Mahotsav was to break, push behind the prevalent stereotypes surrounding periods and menstruation as a process. Back - a - thon, as a rally was aimed at pushing 'back' stereotypes in an attempt to construct a more progressive and open-minded society. Participants carried banners with inspiring words, and echoes slogans throughout the rally - all in an attempt to craft a better society. The rally began from Hotel Intercontinental and went all the way to Hindu Gymkhana (Marine Drive).



Chalk Art Project

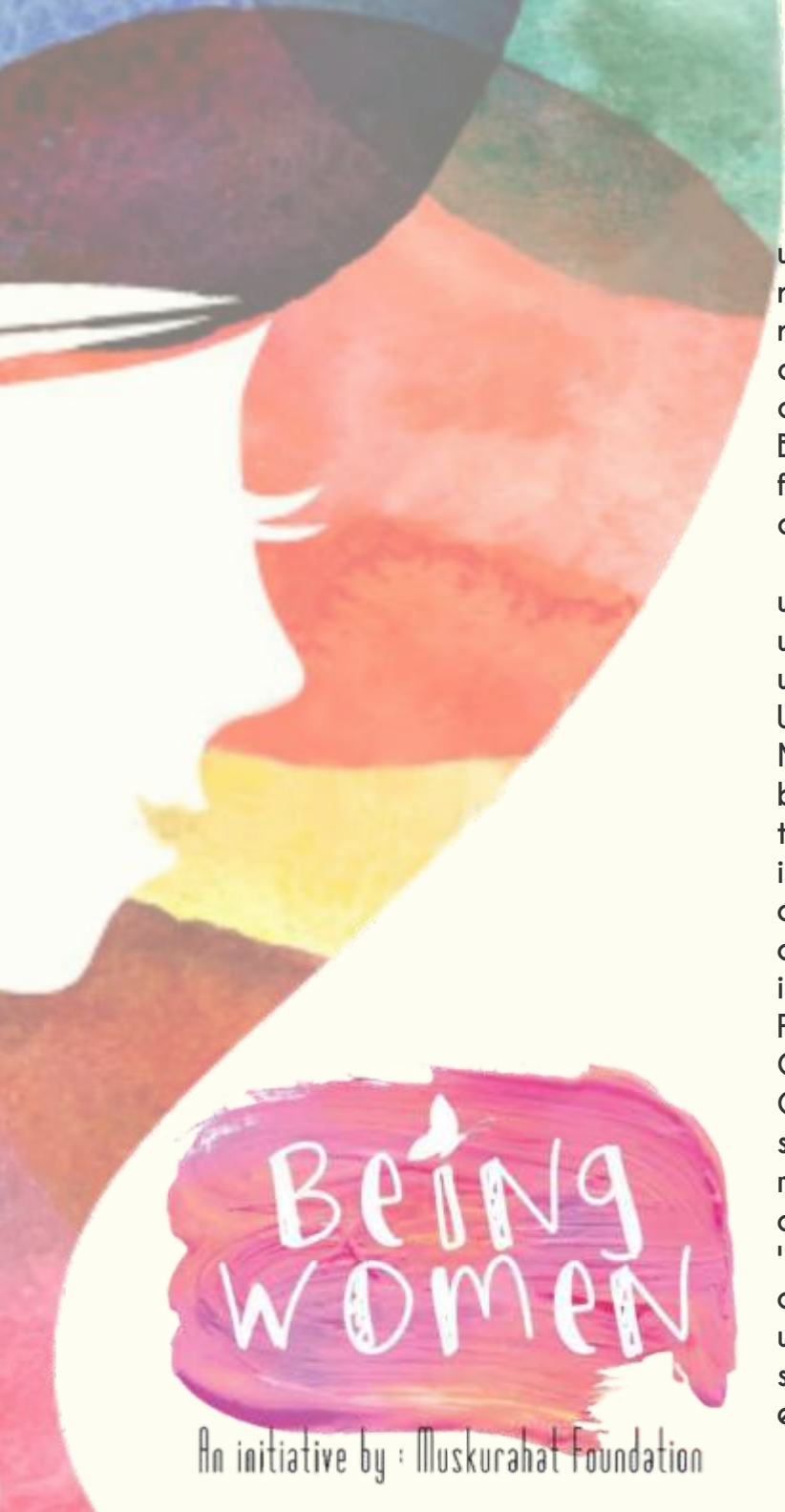
Inspiring paintings across the stretch of Marine Drive, using chalks were an attempt to grab the attention of on-lookers - thus spread the message to a wider group of people instantly. Most of the paintings, had a sanitary napkin drawn, with pro-menstruation messages inserted within them. Seeing a sanitary napkin drawn in a public place, was thus the first step towards breaking taboos. Moreover, reading pro-menstruation messages within them would raise questions and instigate a much needed debate in the direction of 'Sustainable Menstruation.'

PROJECT VASTRADHAN

For over 7000,000 Rohingyas, their life was in a state of bewilderment and question in August 2017. Struck by devastation and bloodshed, these people were forced to flee their native lands and homes and sought refuge in neighbouring Bangladesh. A plight like never before, inflicting immense grief and overwhelming pain was visible on the faces of these refugees. They began their journey to Bangladesh – by sea or foot – and were all set to reach their destination, via the Indian Subcontinent. A blooming issue under the UNHCR, the Rohingyas Refugee problem

soon began to receive worldwide attention. We, at Muskuruhath Foundation along with 23 other youth clubs, began a one of its kind 'Cloth Donation' campaign, to aid these refugees with adequate clothing facilities. By the end of 'Project Vastradaan', we had successfully collected over 15,000 clothes, that with the aid of Red Crescent Society were directly supplied to the camps of these refugees. Project Vastradaan, was not only successful in numerical terms, but was also instrumental in delivering smiles across Indian borders, to these Rohnigyan Refugees.





An initiative by : Muskurahat Foundation

BEING WOMEN

Dotting, strong and inexplicable - our women are warriors. They dawn on them multiple responsibilities and effortlessly portray diverse roles on a daily basis. They begin from being a daughter, grow into being a girlfriend, a wife and then slowly crawl into the mould of a mother. But women, we believe are not restricted by the four walls of a house - they're free spirited and are meant to fly.

For our Women's day event for 2018, we wanted some unconventional and acclaimed women to inspire other women - all across the world - throughout the day. Through 'Being Woman', an extremely innovative initiative by Muskurahat Foundation, we called on 9 beautiful, strong and inspiring women to go live through Facebook and talk about 9 different issues. Unlike the traditional talk shows, our concept was not time bound - our speakers could talk to the content of their hearts and inspire audiences "only" by going live on Facebook. The notable speakers were - Saloni Chopra, Rashi Mal, Simran Oberoi, Snehal Chaudhari, Nisha Gupta among others. They spoke on issues like feminism, entrepreneurship, menstruation, struggles of a transgender, and other important women centric issues. Through 'Being Women' we wished to widen and challenge the conventional notions of thinking, while also systematically dismantling stereotypes and laying foundations for a more equal society for our women.

SPEAKERS

International Women's Day
8th March 2018
Thursday

muskurahat



Live on: <http://www.facebook.com/muskurahat.org>



Simran Oberoi Mullraw
Founder - Genderful
Non-Binary Community



Raazgi Gausia Halori
Senior Producer - Red FM



Saloni Chopra
Public Figure, Feminist



Rashi Mal
Public Figure



Ami Savia
Entrepreneur & Social
Media Expert



Amruta Alpesh Sani
Transgender Activist



Snehal Choudhari
Founder - Kulte Foundation



Nisha Gupta
Indian Paralympics Athlete

CROWD FUNDING

Joy of Giving Week

One of our major crowd funding activities for all these years has been the 'Joy of Giving Week' that takes place in October every year. The main idea behind this initiative is to raise funds and spread more and more smiles - every year. A culmination of around 5-10 fundraising activities, Joy of Giving has always carried a healing touch with it. With designated walls for the wishes of unprivileged children (Hopes and Dreams), a series of canvas paintings aimed at raising funds for the unprivileged (Paint for a Cause), numerous donations made in kind (Wall of Happiness) and several other events - the joy of giving was not only a huge success but was also able to spread smiles, which is the founding aim of Muskurahat Foundation.



Muskurahat Bake Sale

Another huge crowd funding initiative by Muskurahat Foundation is its highly successful 'Muskurahat Charity Bake and Sale' programme. What began as a small part of the 'Joy of Giving' initiative soon became extremely popular as a separate event also. Through the simple sale of freshly baked cupcakes at several flea markets, college festivals and other such locations - we've been able to raise sufficient funds that have all been donated for good causes.

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT



For any organization to grow and flourish, it is extremely necessary to ensure that all people associated with it are motivated and satisfied. Our Volunteer Engagement initiatives are thus aimed at promoting a degree of understanding among all our volunteers and gradually weaving them all to a large family - the Muskurahat Family. Our two major initiatives in this direction were - a trek and an award ceremony. An adventurous and fun-filled trek to Zenith Falls, Khopoli was organised by us this year. What remains in our minds of that trip is laughter, jokes and love. With spreading smiles, we at Muskurahat Foundation believe in inspiring and pursuing our young volunteers to work better. The best way to ensure the actualization of their talents and potentials we felt was an award ceremony - thus encouraging positive behaviour and providing a platform to appreciate all those who've put in tons of efforts for our organisation.



TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

DISCLOSURE

Registration	Registration Date	Registration No.	Valid Till Date	State
Registered as Society	18-08-2017	F/33974/Thane	PERMANENT	MAHARASHTRA
Registered as Trust	18-06-2016	MAH/1029/16/Thane	PERMANENT	MAHARASHTRA
12A	06-10-2017	INS./49850	PERMANENT	MAHARASHTRA
80G	APPLIED			
PAN	18-06-2016	AAEAMM7620B	PERMANENT	MAHARASHTRA





Eyes with stories to tell
and hearts with fluttering dreams-
our women are beautiful in all ways.

TEAM MEMBERS AND MAIN BANKERS

Team Members

Total Number of Muskurahat Team Members	No. Of Persons
Regular Full Time Staff	2
Regular Part Time Staff	8
Work From Home Interns	70
On-feild Interns	5
Managing Team	7
Consultant	1
Volunteers	108
Total	201



Main Banker

Name of the Banker- State Bank of India

Address- 16, Sativali Rd, Phase 2, Golani Naka, Vasai East, Vasai, Maharashtra 401208

Account Number- 62498199084

IFSC Code- SBIN0021682

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Our family will be incomplete if we do not count in the extended members, who have been generous enough to contribute selflessly, and ensure that we keep moving closer to our goals. Dear Donors, thank you for your kindness and humble donations. You indeed make up an important part of the Muskurahat Family.

AnnuAadhya Shah
Aahan Gupta
Abhi Kumar
Abhishek
Ajay Pillai
Ajay Prakash Pandey
Ajith Kumar
AkanshaShrivastava
AksarKalchuri
Amit Trivedi
AnandPoojara
Anil Thakrar
Anmol Gupta
Archit Banerjee
Arjun Shalu
Arti
Ashwin Patel
Asth
Munjali Basant
Bhargav
Bhavesh Chaudhary
Bhavik Gupta
BinayaMohanty
Bindu
Deepa Swain
Dhanya M Nair
Dr. Manjiri Joshi
Fr. Shiju Thomas
Gangadhar
Garbita Mitra
Gaurav Laddha
Gauravroy Choudhury
Girish
Gopi
Gulshan

January Tripathy
Jyoti Sharma
Kanupriya
Ketan
Malathi
Malivai R
Manoj V S
Mohammad Ayaan
N Chandrashekhar
Nainika
Nazneen
Neena Sarangal
Niket
Nikita Agrawal
Niti Jaiswal
Pankaj Sharma
Payal Munjal
Persis Irani
Pousali Ghosh
Rakesh Patnaik
Rinku
Ronak Jain
Ruby Taneja
Saji Joseph
Sanhita Athalye
Saurav Malpani
Shailja Jain
Shakir Sayyed
Shilpi Jain
Shruti
Shruti Singh
Sridevi Dronavalli
SubratMohanty
Swapnil Kothe
Anonymous = 50



VOLUNTEERS

Muskurahat Foundation is indeed a large family that grows with every step taken ahead. The unending support from our volunteers is what, has kept us going. Dear Muskurahat family, THANK YOU for another memorable, productive and beautiful year.

Aakash Walavalkar	Jitu Roy	Mitusha	Poonam Patel
Abhishek Agrawal	Joanne Dsilva	Mohaddada Syed	Prachi Shah
Aditya Mewati	Johann Joseph	Mohak Beswal	Pradnya Pandit
Aiman Shaikh	Kamlesh Pai	Mohd Salim	Prajwal Vaman
Aishwarya Deshmukh	Kapil Parwal	Mrudang S Wagh	Pranav Mendiratta
Aishwarya Pureti	Kartik Panchal	Mugdha	Pratik Jain
Akshaya Dixit	Kedar	Mangesh Gaonkar	Pratik Karkera
Aman Hemant Nahar	Keshav Kabra	Muhammad Gufran	Pratik Warekar
Amruthkala Bhat	Ketaki Phadke	Munavar Mujawar	Pratuesh Kanabar
Anjum Khan	Ketki Baisane	Natalia Valladares	Pratyusha
Ankita Chavan	Kinjal	Nazia Parveen	Bhattacharya
Ankita Suvarna	Kinnari Kelshikar	Nikunj Patel	Prerna Gogri
Ansari Kaniz Fatima	Kiran Gautam	Nishma Singhal	Prince Prajapati
Kalim	Kiriyanthan Joy	Nishtha Gadia	Prithviraj Maurya
Anshul C Kandalkar	George Kishore	Niti Patel	Priyanka Dilip Bali
Anuja	Karan Parwani	Nivedita Mendon	Priyanka Gajendra
Aparajita Singhania	Komal Shivdas Gurav	Nupur Chauhan	Jain
Apoorva Deshmukh	Krina Shah	OnkarJadhav	Priyanka Manghnani
Archita Gupta	Krish Saraf	Palak Barot	Priyanka Tibdewal
Ashrita Karar	Krishi	Palak Davda	Purva Kishor Bavaskar
Ashutosh Singh	Krishna Shetty	Palak Jain	Rachana Talekar
Ayush Khandelwal	Kuldeep Patolia	Rupesh Agale	Raghav Khakholia
Bhavana Joshi	Lata G Salian	Palak Upadhyay	Ragini Bagrodia
Bhumin Kamlesh Shah	Leesha Ramrakhiany	Panchami Baleri	Rahhel Kadri
Darshana Jain	Loretta Rodrigues	Pankaj Kumar	Rahul
Disha Manoj Mantry	Madhura Deshpande	Pankti Parekh	Rahul Ramesh
Disha Parmar	Prince Rajnath	Parita Rushabh Shah	Bhadarka
Dishank H Sanghavi	Prajapati	Parth Amin	Rahul T. Desai
Divya Mehta	Maeghal Jain	Patel Harshkumar	Rajeev Kandiyal
Edna Eric Vaz	Mahesh Kute	Jagdishbhai	Rakesh Patel
Fairy D'monte	Mahjabin Mansury	Pavan Chaudhari	Rasika Vasant
Fatema	Manasi Pai	Pavitra Sapaliga	Gawand
Gopal Khandelwal	Manav Khandhar	Payal Sirsate	Rasika Waskar
Hetal Bhanushali	Manish Eknath	PinaazMultani	Riddhi Agarwal
Palak Thakkar	Waghmare	Pinki Chauhan	Riddhi Barfiwala
Hirina Moolchandani	Mansi Bhosle	Pinki Chauhan	Riddhi Kelshikar
Hitanshu Dave	Maulika Memane	Pooja Garad	Rishabh Banerjee
Isha Maru	Mayur Darade	Pooja Jha	Ritika
Janvi	Mili Surti	Pooja Parab	Riya Bhadra
Jatin Anand	Minal Gupta	Pooja Tiwari	Riya Bharat Zaveri
Jheel Rathod	Mitesh Mistry	Pooja Todi	Riya Kurian
Jill Kakadiya	Mitesh Solanki	Pooja Yadav	Ruben Joseph

VOLUNTEERS

Ruchi Jaiswal
Ruchira Rananavare
Ruchira Thakkar
Rukaiya Khan
Ruksar Sayyed
Sachin Chauhan
Sairaj Parle
Sakshi Ghosh
Sakshi Jalan
Samay Gada
Samidha Tamhankar
Sandeep Chokkar
Sandeep Pandey
Sangeeta Patel
Sanika Biwalkar
Sapna Jaya Poojari
Shivani Saraf
Shreemaayi Passary

Shrenee Doshi
ShreyDoshi
Shreya Jadhav
Shubham Katakwar
ShwetaleeGadekar
Siddhesh Thorat
Siddhi
SmitaSoni
Srushti Khedekar
Swetank Yadav
Tanya Bajaj
Tejaswini Gupta
Umesh Yadav
Uttam Kumar
V Venkataramanan
Vaishnavi
Vinie Shah
Zil Shah



GET INVOLVED



- Follow us on Facebook. Visit. Volunteer. Raise funds. Donate. Be a part of our community.
- We are pleased to accept monetary donations by cheque, paytm or by credit card as well as in-kind donations of new goods.
- Your contribution will help us change lives, build stronger communities and make a lasting change in Mumbai.



Muskurahat Foundation.

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