



SOCH



SOCH
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

ABOUT US

The Soch Foundation, registered as a trust on 26 February 2018, has been set up to work with children with specific learning disabilities, in the lower socio-economic strata. The Foundation is self funded and does not currently rely on any public/ Government funding.

It is inspired by the life and achievements of Nivedita Chander, known to all of us as Sonu. It is from her name **SONU CHANDER** that the name of our foundation **SOCH** is derived. Sonu, a trained special needs educator, started working with children with learning disabilities and continued from there, to work with children with mental and physical disabilities too.

Learning disability is a neurological condition that interferes with an individual's ability to store, process and produce information. It affects the ability to understand or use spoken or written language, do mathematical calculations or direct attention. It is a lifelong condition & in some people, several overlapping learning disabilities may be apparent while others may have a single, isolated learning problem.

These difficulties extend to schoolwork and can impede learning to read or write, or to do math. It may affect life at school or work, daily routines and family life.

In the past three years the SOCH foundation has focused on working with children with learning disability in New Delhi and subsequently it hopes to widen its scope of work to embrace children with any form of disability, in the lower socio-economic strata.

The Foundation essentially supports students with learning disability in the Government / public school system in India. Our initiative hopes to create equal opportunities for differently abled children, leading to inclusion in the true sense of the word.



THE BEGINNING

OBJECTIVES

- To work with students who have Learning Disability in the schools run by the Government.
- To provide learning support to students identified with learning disabilities, in the economically weaker sections of society.
- To create an ecosystem that fosters inclusive education.
- To provide financial and other support to differently abled students from the disadvantaged sections of society, to enable and empower them to complete higher education.

In October - November 2017, the Foundation began with creating assessment & remediation material in the local language, as most of the resources available, were in English. This was done in collaborations with the owners of the IPR of the tests and a group of M.Sc students from the Delhi University, who worked with us to create and validate the material.

In December 2017, the Foundation got a sanction for working in 10 schools run by the Delhi government. The intervention started on 1st April 2018 and a five member team with specializations in early education, special education and social work set out to work in 2 schools each. By Oct 2018, we had 19 schools and in April 2019 we were working a total of 25 schools.

Our work spoke for itself & the Directorate of Education sanctioned us complete Zones, thus allowing us to decide the number of schools we would intervene in. Quality of service and thorough mentoring are cornerstones of the Foundation and to ensure that, we made the choice of not exceeding 25 schools for at least 2 years.

The Municipal Corporation also responsible for primary education in Delhi, allocated the Foundation the Najafgarh Zone in Sept 2019. Here we selected 2 schools for a pilot project. We are thus currently working in 23 schools of the Delhi Govt. and 2 schools run by the MCD, taking the total to 25 schools. In August 2021, we were also allocated the Central Zone. However due to the pandemic related school closure, work could not begin in this zone.

OUR PROCESS

Each educator of the Foundation is assigned two schools, which they visit every alternate day, to work with students at an individual level.

The first step is assessment. This helps to profile the child's capabilities and challenges. It forms the base line for the academic interventions that are planned by the educators.

A screening and testing process is initiated using the specially created tools, materials and other resources. The Educator starts with classroom observations, followed by behavior checklists and conversations with the child's teachers.

Once a student is identified as an "at risk" student for Learning Disability, an individual education plan is created and shared with the mainstream teachers. However it is the educator from the Foundation who conducts the regular sessions and works with the student on an one-on-one basis. They constantly keep the concerned teacher, the school special educator and the head of school informed of the progress made by the students. These plans are shared with not only the teachers but with the parents as well, thus making them partners in the process.

Apart from the direct work with the student, it is the responsibility of the educators to work closely with the parents, conduct awareness and sensitization workshops for the school staff and ensure holistic well being of the students. For this they support the student when there are various school events such as Sports Day, Annual Day, cultural events and other school competitions.



WHERE WE ARE AT TODAY

Having started with 161 students in 2018 we were supporting 449 students by March 2020. The Pandemic took its toll on each one of us and schools the world over were impacted when teaching and learning moved online. This was not very effective for students who did not have access to technology. For those who had learning concerns, trying to work on a small gadget such as a phone, proved to be even more challenging.

The SOCH team did it's best and rose to the challenge. Initially we created small groups to continue online remediation. Some educators made WhatsApp groups and worked with the students via those, others reached out to students individually through WhatsApp or phone calls. They set work, corrected it and also revised earlier concepts. The team created short audio visual stories and rhymes to support academic learning. These delightful clips were aimed at vocabulary enhancement and comprehension building. These were stories written and created by the SOCH team.

While we are able to support some of our students, like for everyone else, the problems of migrant movement, internet connectivity and non availability of mobile numbers have been a barrier for us as well. Due to these constraints the number of students that we were able to support was well below the numbers that we would have liked too.

In the second phase of the pandemic we designed and distributed workbooks to the students. This was to support the mainstream teachers in all our schools. Individual copies were given to the students who were supported by the Foundation and multiple sets were given to each class teacher in not only the schools where SOCH has a presence but also to the schools in the Najafgarh and Central Zones of the South Delhi Municipal Corporation.

In September 2021, once the schools opened, even though in a limited capacity, we were given special permission to bring our students in to school, strictly for one-on-one work, with written parental consent and following Covid protocols.

In the last quarter of 2021, the SDMC requested us to conduct sensitization workshops on the importance of Inclusive Education.

From 161
students to
449 in 2
years

From 10 to 25
schools of
the Delhi
Govt.

Additional
Schools in 2
zones of
SDMC

WHERE WE ARE AT TODAY..... CONT

BUILDING AN ECOSYSTEM OF INCLUSION

One of the objectives of the Foundation is to create an ecosystem that fosters inclusive education. This model of education can only be successful if we accept and understand difference and diversity while attending to the needs of the students. Students are placed in a regular classroom, with modifications in the teaching methods and curriculum, as per the need.

This ecosystem can only be successfully created if all stakeholders are committed to it. Thus, building sensitivity and understanding towards inclusion needs the support of Parents, Teachers and Heads of Schools.

The second phase of the pandemic provide an opportunity for the Soch Foundation to collaborate with PEEPUL and the South Delhi Municipal Corporation, to conduct multiple workshops towards the same end.

In the last quarter of 2021, the SDMC requested us to conduct sensitization workshops on the importance of Inclusive Education. This was done for all principals, school inspectors and teachers. Over 3 months we conducted several workshops which saw more than 3000 participants.

The workshops covered topics such as Understanding Disability and Inclusive Education, An overview of the RPWD Act as well as some case studies to list out effective strategies.

Soch team
grew from 5
members
to 11

Online
remediation
during the
pandemic

Creation and
distribution
of remedial
workbooks

Creation of
audio visual
teaching aids

Capacity
building
workshops for all
teacher of SDMC

Workshops on
inclusion for all
school heads
under SDMC

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE PANDEMIC

1.	Begumpur MMTC/STC Colony
2.	Sultanpur SKV
3.	INA Colony
4.	Gautampuri
5.	Fatehpur Beri
6.	Aya Nagar
7.	Moti Bagh 1 SKV
8.	Ghitorni
9.	Chirag Dilli SKV
10.	Block A- Sister Nivedita- SKV
11.	Chhattarpur Acharya Tulsi SBV
12.	R.K.Puram Sector 2
13.	Mehrauli Ramanujan
14.	Mehrauli SKV -2
15.	Moti Bagh II SV, Nanak Pura
16.	Babarpur
17.	Dr Ambedkar Nagar, Sector IV No 1
18.	Vasant Vihar
19.	Naraina SKV
20.	Jose Marti, R.K.Puram
21.	Georgi Stoikov-SKV
22.	Andrews Ganj
23.	Naraina, 1 st Shift - SBV
24.	Ghonda No.2
25.	Brahmapuri

Given here is a list of 25 schools , whose students are being supported during the pandemic by way of :

- Online classes
- Whatsapp calls
- Workbooks
- Educational Videos
- In person sessions, when possible.

We also supported schools in the Najafgarh & Central Delhi Zones of the Municipal Corporation.



Trustees

Chandan Dua
Smita Vats
Suhail Chander

Team Leads

Shivani
Ambita Verdi



SOCH FOUNDATION

Address : E 21 Jangpura Extension, 4th floor, New Delhi 110014

Website : www.soch.foundation

email : contact@soch.foundation

Donations made to SOCH Foundation are exempted from tax under 80G.

SOCH 



- February 2018** SOCH Foundation is registered.
- April 2018** Started work in 10 schools run by the Delhi government.
- October 2018** Number of schools went up to 19
- April 2019** Number of Schools where SOCH worked was 25.
- September 2019** Allocated the Najafgarh Zone by SDMC. In this zone we selected 2 schools as a pilot project.
- April 2020** Started online remediation work due to pandemic related school closure.
- September 2020** Creation of Audio & Video teaching aids.
- January 2021** Remedial workbooks created & distributed in all our schools.
- August 2021** Central Zone was added to the existing Najafgarh Zone of SDMC.
- Oct to Dec 2021** Conducted sensitization workshops for SDMC School Principals and teachers. We covered approx 800 principals and over 2500 teachers.

