

Angel Xpress Foundation



Here's what we noticed around us

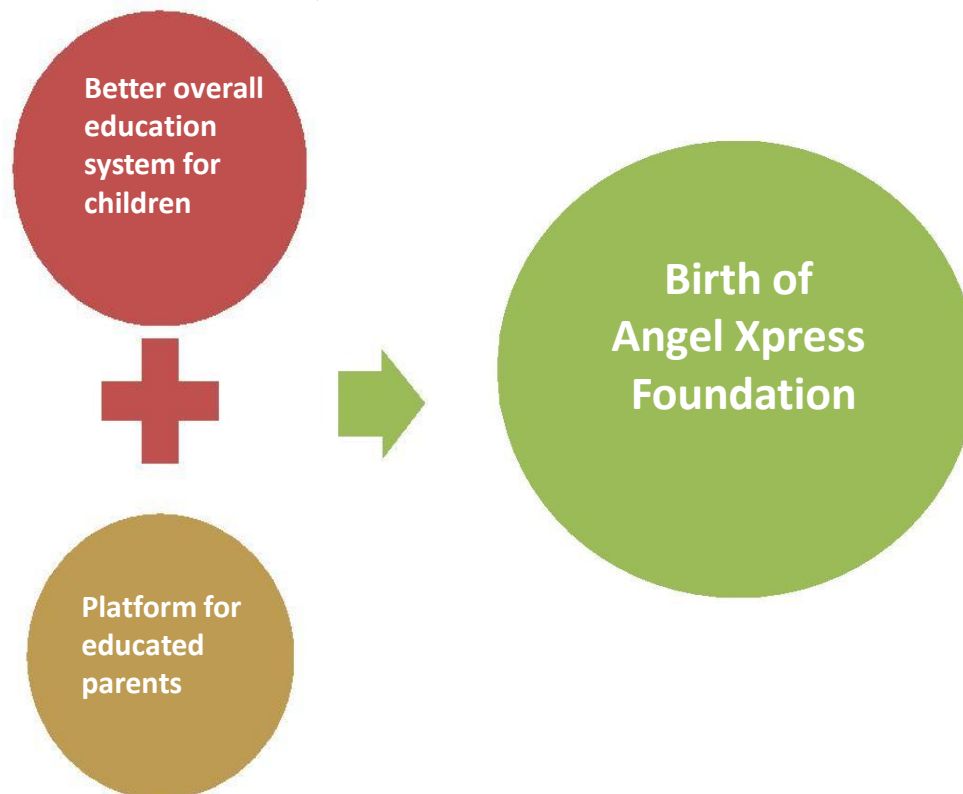
- Of the 13 million people residing in Mumbai nearly 40% - 60% live in slum areas.
- Of these only 4.5 lacs underprivileged children attend the free municipal school system.
- An alarming number of less than 50% of the children attending the public school system acquire any amount of literacy.
- Less than 10% of children enrolled in above schools clear their Class X boards.
- Of the free public schools in Mumbai, 1300 are vernacular. There are less than 100 English Medium schools.
- With the poor turning aspirational for their children, no English being taught in vernacular medium schools explains the sharp decline of enrolment in these schools.



What we also saw

- ***Mission of Angel Xpress Foundation***

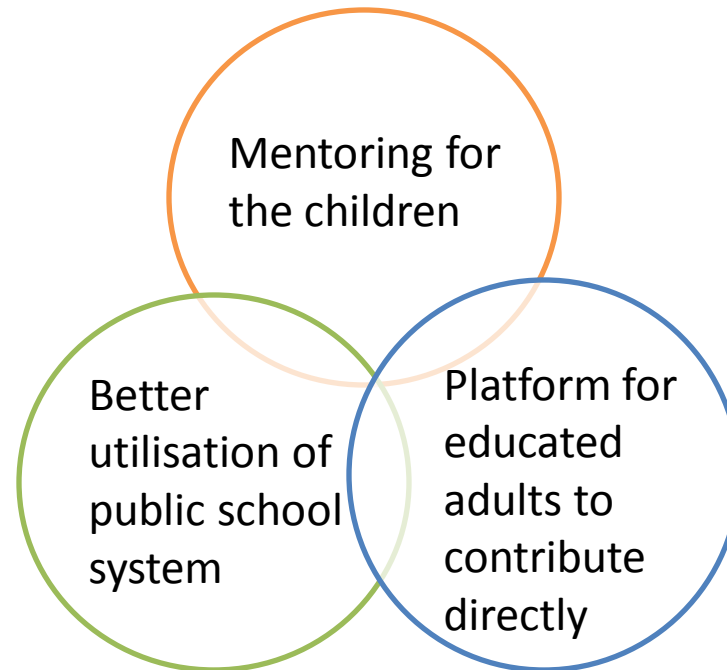
We realized that children who were first generation learners needed educated adults to mentor them so they could create a better future for themselves on the other hand we found we were able to reach out to a large number of educated adults who are willing to spare time and resources to make a direct contribution for the betterment of society.



So where do we fit in?

- ***Vision of Angel Xpress Foundation***

At AXF, we believe that every child deserves education and opportunities and that through redistribution of resources, a more efficient and homogenous society can be created.



- ***Philosophy of ANGEL Xpress***

Redistribute and create social change. In a scenario where slums coexist in close proximity to high-rises across Mumbai, the solution for us was simple: create opportunities for interaction and exchange through community programs designed to help children with the help of their more educated and affluent neighbors.

How will we achieve this?

- **At Our Learning Centers**

We have set up learning centres in conveniently located parks and promenades across Mumbai. Besides free tutoring in English and Math, children receive value education, civic sense, extra-curricular classes, essential items through redistribution and improved exposure through treats and sponsored outings organized by donors on special occasions.

- **In Vernacular Schools**

The children currently attending the vernacular medium schools acquire a more complete education by the introduction of English lessons in such schools by appointing competent teachers. This will also help reverse the trend of dropping enrolments in vernacular medium schools.



How are we doing it?

WHERE

- Bandra
- Juhu
- Santacruz
- BMC Schools

WHAT

- 7 batches
- 600+ students in centres, 1700 in schools
- 75 regular volunteers supporting centres
- 12 teachers appointed in BMC schools, 5 at centres

HOW

- At centres - Math, English, extra curricular activities; redistribution of clothes, toys, food.
- At schools - English lessons for all students in vernacular medium municipal schools.



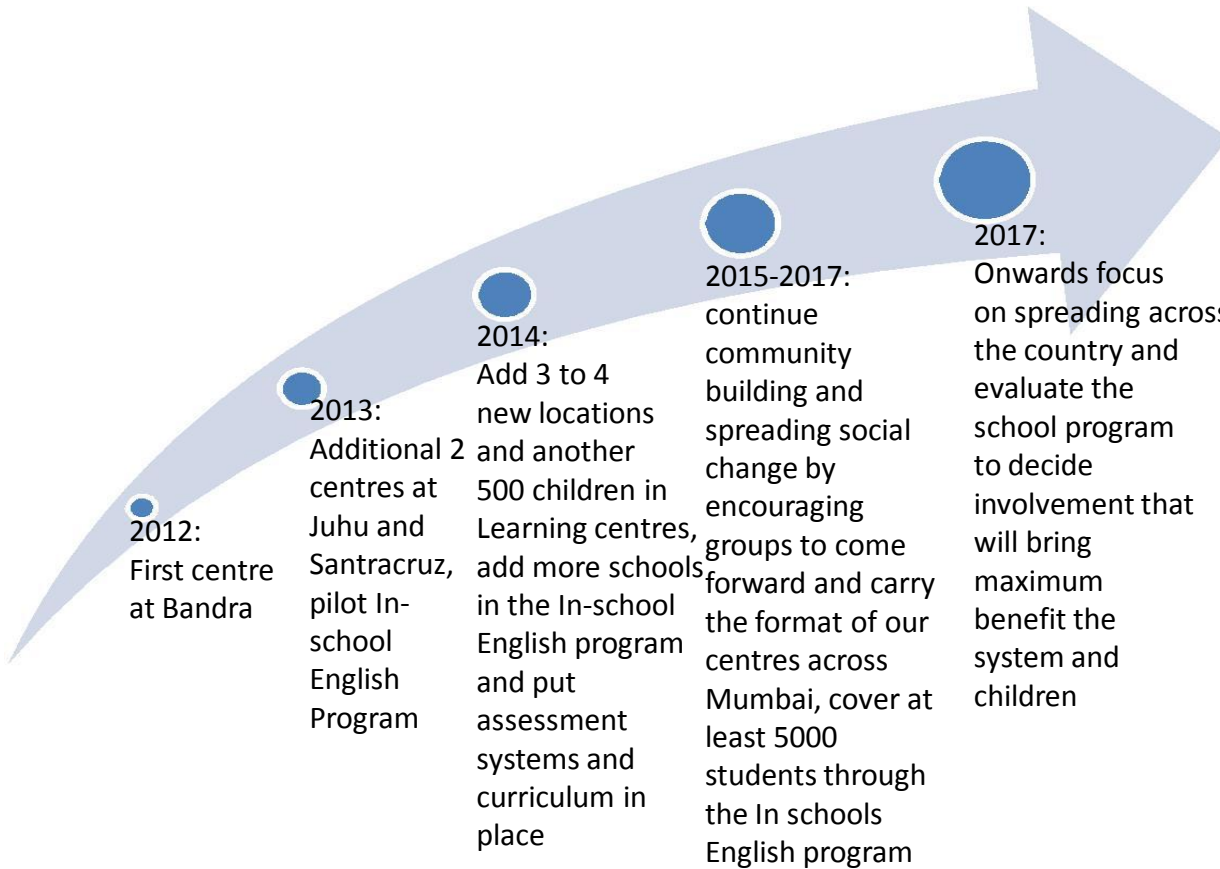
Our Story

In January 2012, Anubha Sharma, a financial services professional on a sabbatical posted a Facebook request for clothes for the children she was teaching at a street school. This generated 3000 calls from willing contributors in a week– highlighting a huge opportunity between the needy and the generous givers. She decided to become a channel for willing resources to reach the right recipients.



Beenaa Advani co-founder, a businesswoman engaged in running Euro kids outlets for over 10 years, Beenaa decided to give up commercial pursuits and devote herself to this cause after coming in contact with Anubha in early 2012.

Road Ahead



Get Involved

- **Sponsor a child** – Rs. 5500/- lend your support to our plan that sees us building 10 learning centers and covering 30 schools in our In-school English program thereby covering a total of 6000 children a year by march 2015.
- **Sponsor a meal for a batch** – For a mere Rs. 500/- you could sponsor bananas or biscuits for a batch, sign up for one day a week for a month or longer or come yourself and feed them something more sumptuous once in a while.
- **Donate** - New and old (in good condition) clothes, shoes and toys.
- **Sponsor trips to** - Museums, amusement parks, picnics, movies and malls to create unforgettable experiences.
- **Invite us** - To speak to your teachers/parents/employees and tell them about how they can contribute to Angel Xpress.
- **Donate your time** – Come and teach at one of our centers, a mere 2 hours a week can work wonders for a child who has no support.



Volunteer Support

- Our social involvement program has the potential to help millions of children and create social change. Become an evangelist for our cause - Mention us at every given opportunity and generate support in any way you can, in form of volunteers, donors or supporters
- Visit a conveniently located Angel Xpress learning centre to teach, feed, play, mentor or contribute in some way for our children. Thus guiding children from slums to grow up with improved abilities, skills, vision and values.
<http://tinyurl.com/pwbzjbo>
- Just 2 hours / week can bring a radical change in the future and childhood experience of a child deprived of opportunities. You can Teach English, Math, Art, Craft, Dance, etc.
- Jamnabai Narsee School, Kangaroo Kids, Euro Kids parents all support us by volunteering their time and sharing their talent. Students of St Xaviers, National College, Bandra, Welingkar colleges volunteer regularly for their social projects.



Media and Awards

CITY

HAVE CONSCIENCE, WILL SERVE

Many have talked about 'making a difference', of bringing about uplift of the underprivileged, but few actually walk the talk. What is it that makes these people over their lucrative, cushy jobs?

Autoshuk Shukla finds out

DNA

Bandstand promenade for slumkids

learn't to write sentences in English, solve sums, and many other things.

KAJAL JOGINDER SINGH, a slum dweller

HT Cafe

Snapping young minds

Youngsters come together in an initiative to educate slum kids, urge people to join them

Priyanka Jain

pryanka.jain@hindustantimes.com

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Bandstand promenade for slumkids

Neha Shende
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MUMBAI: Bandra residents, along with a non-government organisation (NGO), have taken the initiative to provide coaching to underprivileged children.

Anubha Sharma, a financial services professional and Beema Advani, director of Eurokids, Santacruz, started Angel Xpress Foundation, an NGO that aims to work for education for slum children. They then approached the Bandra Bandstand Residents Trust (BBRT), which has been maintaining the promenade for the last 12 years.

"Smokers and drunks are usually occupied the area. Now when their children are coming

here for the classes, the nearby slum residents treat the area with care," said Robin Nath, secretary, BBRT.

"All this started at Carter Road where I joined a group of people who were teaching underprivileged children. I sent out a message to my friends asking them to volunteer as teachers and donate food, stationery, and money. I got almost 2000 calls within four days!" said Sharma. Advani joined the

cause and they started the NGO. They got the area spruced up and have got an electric meter installed for lighting.

The classes, which started on May 1, are held from Monday to Saturday from 5:30 pm to 7 pm. "There are around 40 children presently. If they show promise, we are looking to sponsor their college education," said Advani.

"I learnt to write sentences in English, solve sums, and many other things," said Kajal Joginder Singh, 10. "They told us so many things on Mothers' Day. I made a card for my mum, she liked it a lot," said Kashinath Totat, 12. The children are given snacks, milk, fruits and sandwiches after class, donated by the volunteers or nearby residents.

HT Cafe

Snapping young minds

Youngsters come together in an initiative to educate slum kids, urge people to join them

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pryanka.jain@hindustantimes.com

What started as a way of reaching out to others during Anubha Sharma's self-imposed break from work has now turned out to be her life's purpose. The financial services professional has decided to devote full time in building a non-profit organisation to help underprivileged kids.

Sharma along with other volunteers teaches 40-45 slum kids on weekdays and about 90 kids every Sunday at the Carter Road promenade. She says, "Bandra resident KJ Singh started the initiative when he saw children of workers hanging around construction sites while their parents worked. During one of my morning walks, I spotted them and decided to join them."

Along with kids with no access to education, children from municipal schools also go for extra tuitions. "Despite

schooling, some of the kids do not even know how to write alphabets, so we help them with that," says Sharma.

"A friend once organised a party for slum kids in July. There, I met some women who run 'The Friday Kitchen' and feed almost 200 slum children. I was really inspired by them," she says, adding that while she, we can build our nation, instead of complaining about the sad state of affairs in our country."

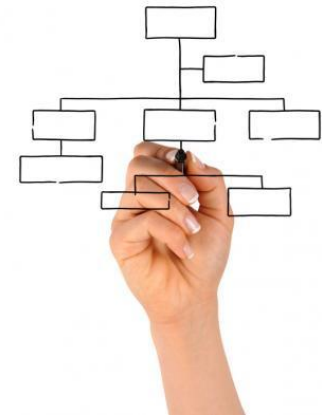
Sharma regularly posts updates on social networking sites when clothes, books or volunteers are required. She says, "People from as far as Africa, China, Dubai, Delhi and Kolkata have reached out to us to provide clothes, books and food for the kids."

Next on Sharma's agenda are evening coaching classes, from 7 pm to 8 pm, at Euro Kids, Santa Cruz. Says Sharma, "We plan to start weekend workshops on dance, art, craft and vocational training."



Recently Anubha Sharma was awarded the Vocational Excellence Award by Rotary Club of Bombay Airport for establishing Angel Xpress Foundation

Organization Structure



Core Team

- **Anubha Sharma**, *Founder & CEO*: Ex-financial Services Professional
- **Beenaa Advani**, *Co-Founder & COO*: Education Professional

Teaching and Development

- **Aparna Kanda**, *Recruiting monitory and volunteer support, policy framing for centres*: Has an LLM in International Human Rights Law and Masters in Economics
- **Akhila Das Blah**, *Syllabus Development & Volunteer Training*: Educationist
- **Avani Dalal**, *heads Juhu venture and Curriculum Development*: An electronic engineer by qualification, a freelance graphic designer and an animator
- **Meghna Patel**, *manages Santacruz morning classes*: Graphic designer, entrepreneur
- **Meenaal Sata**, *manages Santacruz evening class, Masters in finance, has worked abroad for a tax firm.*
- **Debika Mukhija Ajmani**, *manages juhu afternoon batch and helps with fund raising – A chartered accountant, has worked with KPMG and FCB Ulka in India and Abroad.*

Specialists

- **Payal Kumar**, *Special Projects*: Ex-advertising professional and a wedding photographer
- **Gunjan Pai and Tejas Datta**, *Communication Consultants*
- **Amit Ratanpal**, *Networking & Project Advisor*: Director, Kaizen Education Fund
- **Sampada Chaudhari**, *Networking & strategies*: Independent business consultant



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