



VFF USA

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2021 MARCH 2022

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VICENTE FERRER FOUNDATION WORLDWIDE

A NOTE FROM MONCHO FERRER

DEAR FRIENDS.

The COVID-19 pandemic put the progress of the past decades at a standstill. It disrupted the economy and the lives of families and communities, especially those in vulnerable situations. It challenged the education of millions of children and widened the already existing gender gap. However, amidst all this, I am proud to say that we at VFF USA found the strength, support, solidarity, and motivation to keep working. To keep fighting for a better world, more than ever.

My father used to say, "I have faith in people and their capacity for action". This is a statement I grew up listening to and has been close to me, but these words acquired a special significance in the last couple of years.

During the second wave of COVID-19, we treated thousands of patients in RDT rural hospitals while fighting against the lack of oxygen and widespread fear, only to emerge victorious. RDT residential inclusive schools were reopened and we improved its curriculum to make IT knowledge an integral part of our children's education, so they are not left behind in a rapidly changing world. We extended our support and provided emergency relief to thousands of families affected by the floods in coastal Andhra

Pradesh and Tirupathi by the end of the year.

Our commitment towards building a gender-just world is unshaken. We strengthened our women's sanghams, set up special groups for single mothers to improve their self-esteem, and supported them to become active and respected agents of change in society. We improved the public infrastructures of the district and supported thousands of farmers to access water harvesting facilities, making cultivation of the land a viable option for living.

These are only the highlights of a year that has taught us that only if we work together and care enough for each other will we be able to fulfill our goal to eradicate poverty and suffering wherever that is.

Thank you all that stood by our side and believe that another world is possible. Nothing would have been possible without your solidarity, commitment and care.

With affection,



MONCHO FERRER,
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD,
VICENTE FERRER FOUNDATION USA

MISSION

Our mission is to empower rural communities to improve their living conditions. We work to empower the most marginalized members of society by removing barriers and breaking the cycle of poverty.



VALUES

The capacity of **everyone to help themselves and their community**. Efficient and accountable programs. Long-term solutions that strengthen communities.



A fair and caring society, based on equal opportunities. We Support the most vulnerable populations: women, children, and people with disabilities. We Guarantee sustainability through participatory and community-led programs. We Promote culturally sensitive and community-designed programs.

The Vicente Ferrer Foundation USA has no political or religious affiliation.





MEASURING OUR IMPACT: VFF USA KEY PROGRAM AREAS

COVID-19 RELIEF FUND | EDUCATION FOR TRANSFORMATION | COMMUNITY HEALTH | RURAL HOSPITALS | WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

2021 AT A GLANCE

Throughout the year, thanks to our generous donors, sponsors, and volunteers, VFF USA supported 20 key projects, benefiting over 34,551 people in rural India. Some of the larger projects included our COVID-19 relief efforts, securing oxygen supply for the RDT Bathalapalli Hospital and medical equipment for the RDT Kalyandurg Hospital, providing COVID-19 vaccination awareness, education support to rural children (bicycles, uniforms, and scholarships), nutritional support, and offering professional training programs for rural women. The number of sponsored children has increased, and we continued vital support to rural women through our women's empowerment initiative. We are proud to report that 844 donors have supported VFF USA's work this year.



SNAPSHOTS OF PROJECTS FUNDED BY YOU

3,900 People

COVID-19 Vaccination Awareness



15,400 Patients

Oxygen and Medical Equipment

Support for Education: Bicycles, Uniforms, Scholarships

542 Children



COVID-19 PPE and Hospital Equipment

12,738 Patients

593 Health workers



40 Women

Single Mothers Empowerment



Women

Tailoring Training for Rural Women



MISSION OXYGEN: A WAVE OF SOLIDARITY

The second wave of COVID-19 hit India in the spring of 2021 and revealed a severe shortage of beds, drugs, and mainly oxygen in Indian hospitals. VFF USA and the Rural Development Trust (RDT), our implementing partner in India, worked together to provide an immediate response to the new health crisis.

On April 20, 2021, the RDT Bathalapalli Hospital was reappointed as an exclusive

COVID-19 center by the government of Andhra Pradesh. With 450 professionals and the capacity to accommodate 300 people, RDT Bathalapalli Hospital came forward to support the local authorities in handling the rapid surge in the number of COVID-19 cases. In less than 24 hours, all the beds were occupied. For addressing the critical need for essential oxygen supplies, VFF USA

launched the "Mission Oxygen" campaign. Over 600 individuals, corporations, and foundations joined the campaign and helped us raise funds to provide **over**200 oxygen cylinders, oxygen refills, nine oxygen concentrators, medical materials, and protective equipment to support RDT efforts at the frontline and ensure continuous oxygen supply at RDT hospital.

200 people

with COVID-19 symptoms visited Bathalapalli Hospital daily



85% of the patients

admitted required an oxygen supply

\$208,821

were raised in the US "Mission Oxygen" campaign

2,607 COVID-19 patients

were treated within two months and a half



"The first wave was about uncertainty and supporting each other, but this second wave came like a tsunami that filled us all with fear and sadness. We worked hard to ensure that no one was left behind".

Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director of RDT Bathalapalli Hospital



"We were terrified at the beginning. It was tough, but in the middle of this, we searched for happiness and hope. Because if the world needs to move on, we have to go together as humans".

Lakshman, Social Worker





"We converted the entire hospital into a COVID-19 Centre overnight. This time the virus was spreading faster and with increasing severity. We prepared ourselves and gave our best to save as many lives as possible".

Dr. Lalitha, medical officer



"There, lying on the bed, I kept thinking about my family. How will they survive if I die? And if I survive but I am unable to work, my children won't have anything to eat."

Basha, COVID-19 patient. Admitted to BTP Hospital ICU for 45 days.



EDUCATION FOR TRANSFORMATION

We work to ensure that every child fulfills their potential by growing up in a safe and inclusive environment and having equal access to opportunities while addressing education inequalities.

Scholarships for higher education

Children's education was put at risk due to the coronavirus pandemic as schools suspended classes. When classes started again, not all students could go back to school. Many children lost their parents due to COVID-19 and couldn't afford to continue their education. In other cases, families just didn't have resources for their children's higher education. We aim to provide a financial boost to young people from impoverished communities, with a focus on girls to help them graduate and find employment in a technical field.

Thanks to generous donors, VFF USA provided scholarships to children who lost their parents due to COVID-19 so that they were able to continue with their higher education. VFF USA also provided scholarships to students belonging to families with very low economic resources.

Thanks to the scholarship the students were able to pursue 12th grade at Sri Chaitanya college located at Vijayawada with a specialization in mathematics.

Bikes for continuing education

The lack of proper public transportation creates a major challenge for the continuity of education of rural students, especially for girls living in remote villages. Our Bicycle projects improve attendance rates and academic performance among rural students.

In 2021, VFF USA provided bicycles to 150 students from the Bhupalapalli, Vijayawada, Yemmiganur, and Alur areas who were studying at local government high schools. The schools were located 2 to 4 miles from the children's native villages and most had to go to school on foot.

Child Sponsorship Transforms Children's Lives and Local Communities

VFF USA's child sponsorship program is an im-

pactful drive to provide holistic support to children from vulnerable rural communities in India so that children get access to quality education and can pursue their career goals. By sponsoring a child, one can be part of the child's life journey and can experience how their little contribution is helping a child to grow and thrive.

- The sponsorship program gives girls and boys access to education and health care.
- Children with disabilities receive additional benefits like prostheses and physiotherapy.
- The contribution goes to a direct fund that benefits the child, their family, and the community.
- Most importantly, the sponsorship provides the seed of change for the most disadvantaged rural communities because your support ensures their development and hope for a better future.

In 2021, 88 children were sponsored through VFF USA's Sponsor a Child program.

Paving the path to a bright future

"IT TAKES MUCH COURAGE AND STRENGTH TO LIVE AFTER ALL HOPE DIES. WHEN NO ONE WAS THERE, BOOKS WERE MY SOURCE OF HAPPINESS."

Yenugula lost his parents at a young age. Living with his grandmother and coping with things all alone, he still secured 556 out of 600 in grade 10 and aims to become an Indian Administrative officer. "School for everyone may be just for education but for me, it taught me a way of life. My headmistress helped me a lot by encouraging me in all the activities held at school and also recommended applying for getting a scholarship for the intermediate grades and I got it." He wishes to help other orphan kids in the future to grow strong.



Navya is the eldest of three sisters and considers herself the family's backbone. Navya wants to be an aerospace engineer. When asked why she said "APJ Abdul Kalam is my ideal; his journey motivates me to keep going. APJ went through so many challenges because of poverty, and so did I. Kalam's Wings of Fire is my favorite book, and I want to keep that fire intact to fight all challenges and reach my dream."

Navya also helps her sisters with their studies and inspires other classmates to follow their dreams.

Navya, a student at Sri Chaitanya College

Born in Medimalakalapenta, a deep forest village in Nallamala Forest, Nagalaksmi lost her parents at a very young age. Poverty and lack of hospitals in the vicinity motivated her to become a doctor, against all the odds. The lockdowns due to COVID-19 posed a threat to her dreams, as her brothers wanted her to get married. With determination, Nagalaksmi continued her education while attending online classes on top of the mountains in the deep forest.

"GIVING UP IS EASY, BUT I WANTED TO PURSUE MY DREAM OF BECOMING A DOCTOR. THE SCHOLARSHIP I RECEIVED IS HELPING TO MAKE IT A REALITY."

Nagalaksmi, Intermediate Student from Nallamala Forest





WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

VFF USA works to achieve a society free from gender discrimination and violence where women are guaranteed equal rights and can access equal opportunities and take their own decisions. Through financial assistance and awareness, we aim to challenge patriarchal values and break gender stereotypes.

Training Programs for Women

Millions of rural women in India have not finished even their high school education. These women often cannot find jobs and lack a voice in their families and in society, facing economic and independence challenges. We work to narrow the gender gap by creating access to training opportunities, economic resources, and income-generation activities.

VFF USA is supporting women's professional and technical skills training, such as tailoring and embroidery, and provides them with sewing machines so they can create their own small businesses and support their families. Thanks to several of VFF USA's generous donors, including Vcare Charitable Foundation, the Gondi Family, Bristol Myers Squibb, and others, fifty rural women completed this tailoring

training, allowing them to improve their living conditions and those of their communities.

Single Mothers' Social and Economic Integration

In rural India, widows are rejected by society due to various local superstitions. They are often perceived as inauspicious and are subjected to gender-based and culture-based discrimination. Many of them suffer abuse and exploitation by family members and are often subjected to discrimination in inheritance rights. Widows typically have no support from their parents or in-laws and they and their children face serious economic challenges. We work to improve the status of vulnerable single mothers both in the community and society and facilitate the process of their inclusion, integration, and empowerment.

VFF USA is providing access to adequate nutrition, health care, counseling, awareness, capacity building, and children's education to forty vulnerable single mothers, so they can overcome social barriers, meet their basic needs, and lead a life of dignity.

COURAGE AND DETERMINATION TO BEAT THE STIGMA

When my husband died seven years ago, I thought my life was over too, or at least that's what everyone made me believe," shares Padmavati, mother of two and widow since she was 24.

"Raising happy and healthy children was the only thing that kept me going for a few years until RDT showed me that there was more for me," she remembers.

"In the group sessions, I share my problems and fears with other women in the same situation. I also got economic support to buy a buffalo. With what I earn, my family and I have a decent living without relying on others."

"BEING A MOTHER IS NOT EASY, AND BEING A SINGLE MOTHER IS TWICE AS TOUGH, BUT TODAY I KNOW THAT I CAN DO THAT AND MUCH MORE".

PADMAVATI (32), SINGLE MOTHER, ANDHRA PRADESH



OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 to end poverty, reduce inequality and build more peaceful, prosperous societies by 2030.

Catalyzing positive community impact towards an equitable and prosperous future for people and the planet has been at the heart of VFF USA's work. Through our local partner in India, RDT, we have constantly been working to transform rural communities in India so that no one is left behind. Programs supported by VFF USA are aligned with global goals, and our program monitoring framework measures our commitment and progress toward SDGs.



























COVID-19 Vaccination Effort in the Srisailam area

The Chenchu indigenous community has lived for centuries in the depths of Nallamala Forest on the border between the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Despite their isolation, they were still vulnerable to COVID-19. Many people in the Chenchu community were hesitant about COVID-19 vaccination due to misinformation.

Thanks to Tanvi Kosuri's vaccination campaign, VFF USA, along with RDT, were able to promote awareness about COVID-19 preventive measures and the benefits of vaccination in numerous Chenchu villages and get people vaccinated.

Nutrition support to children, mothers, and vulnerable population

Bastion Life Foundation, one of our foundation partners, helped in addressing the nutritional needs of the Achampeta area, in the state of Telangana. In this area, the program has served a total of 1,260 people spread across 51 villages, who are members of the Chenchus aboriginal tribe and live mainly in the Nallamala forest. The program also provides health awareness workshops, close follow-ups, and iron supplements to reduce anemia cases among mothers.

"FEAR IS MUCH MORE HORRIBLE THAN DEATH, BUT RDT CLEARED ALL OUR DOUBTS AND DROVE US AWAY FROM OUR FEARS OR PHOBIAS. WE GOT VACCINATED, AND NOTHING HAPPENED. WE DID NOT GET EVEN FEVER OR BODY PAINS."

LAKSHMI, CHENCHU GOUVURAMMA

RURAL HOSPITALS

Thanks to the Entertainment Industry Foundation VFF USA was able to support the supply of oxygen at RDT Bathalapalli hospital to treat coronavirus-infected patients with severe symptoms and to provide essential protective materials to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among the hospital personnel. This oxygen supply provided immediate relief to all patients severely affected by COVID-19 and save lives.

VFF USA also, provided medical equipment for the new COVID-19 ward at RDT Kalyandurg Hospital, to reinforce the resources and capacity of the hospital to effectively treat coronavirus-infected patients as it continues to provide medical care for non-coronavirus patients, assuring safe and quality medical care to all patients.

DONORS' CORNER

In 2021, a majority of VFF USA public awareness outreach efforts and fundraising campaigns were focused on the emergency caused by the coronavirus pandemic in India. Hundreds of individuals and over thirty corporations have shown their commitment and passion in support of our efforts in India through the VFF USA COVID-19 Relief Fund.



Nitin Vijay-Martin, a sophomore at Cherokee High in Marlton, NJ, wanted to help patients hit by COVID-19 during the second wave. To support VFF USA's Mission Oxygen effort, Nitin created a GoFundMe page and encouraged his neighbors, friends, and family to support RDT Bathalapalli hospital.

Tanvi Kosuri, a Johns Hopkins University public health student,

started a campaign to support VFF USA's COVID-19 vaccination awareness effort for the Chenchu community. Tanvi realized it takes 45 minutes to go from the Srisailam area to the closest hospital, so she launched the **#WalkforNallamala** Initiative. Through her campaign, Tanvi and her team members raised funds to generate vaccine awareness among the Chenchu community.





Prem Gangalakunta's leadership and timely intervention helped so many covid patients in India at a critical time when many Indian hospitals were going through a severe shortage of oxygen cylinders. Prem sourced 5L and 10L concentrators in Texas and arranged their shipment to India. In addition, Prem started a crowdfunding campaign to engage more donors to support this effort. "I'm blessed to have the opportunity to be a small part of this effort," said Prem.

Telugu Association of North Texas (TANTEX) Dallas-Fort Worth donated \$14,001 to support VFF USA's Mission Oxygen campaign. The donation helped us to provide essential oxygen supplies and medical materials to the RDT Bathalapalli Hospital.

TELUGU ASSOCIATION OF NORTH TEXAS

VFF USA received powerful support in its fight against COVID-19 in India with a \$25,000 grant from #FirstRespondersFirst, an initiative cofounded by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Thrive Global, and the CAA Foundation. #FirstRespondersFirst is a fund of the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF). The grant ensured a continuous oxygen supply and provided essential protective materials to the health staff in the RDT hospitals.







Working Together to Save Lives

THANKING OUR DONORS

Adusumilli, Sandhva And Viiav Albers, Michael Alcala, Victor Aluru, Neel Alvarez, Jorge Anantapalli, Ayyappa Aradhva, Kerry Bancalari, Pilar Barbhuiya, Rezaul Batta, Ravi Kumar Beedupalli, Kavitha Beltran, Carolina Bolton, Nell Bonta, Paul Borrego, Maria Gabriela Bucklin, Michael Busillo, Joseph Cambero, Jose Carlos Campabadal, Cristina Casado, Iose Carlos Chakravadhanula, Dhaveji Challagulla, Lakshmoji Challam, Vishnu Charles, Vijay Chen. Lilv Chennakrishnaiah, Shilpa Chintaginjala, Balakrishna Cobo. Luis Carlos Colin Betancourt, Maria Alejandra Jhu-Representative, Kelly Community Foundation For Northern Virginia / Prasad Family Connelly, Timothy Dasari, Ananda Babu Del Moral, Maria Teresa del Pozo Garcia, Natalia Dickson, Benjamin Duggu, Radhika Durham, Robert

Erukala, Swetha Escalante. Iose Fernandez Anderson, Cora Fernandez Linares, Aleiandro Kudikala, Nitin Gaddam, Krishna Mohan Gaduputi, Venkatesh Gambhiraopet, Anuradha Gandham, Rakesh Gangalakunta, Prem Garikapati, Subramanyam Gattu. Naveen Gidaspov, Andrey Gindi, Swarupa Giraldo, Marina Gollapalli, Aruna Gomez-Valades. Braulio Gondi Family Gonuguntla, Satyendra Gudisi. Vannur Gudur, Madhu Gundarapu, Surendra Guyyala, Ravindra Herreros, Maria del Pilar Hertel, James Huhn, Richard Isbister, Andrew Jaklitsch, Vanessa Iarillo-Herrero, Pablo D limenez-Kenover, Estibaliz linkal. Suresh Ionnalagadda, Subbu Jurinek, Shilpa Kaluvai, Venkata Kanderi, Sunil Kapuganty, Ravi Kumar Karnati, Nikhita Kasireddy, Chandra Kaveripakam, Jagan Mohan Kenoyer, Margi

Khan, Vovalpad Kottala, Naveenkanth Krish, Ravi Kumar, Andrea Kumar, Esther Kumbum, Thirumala Kunnuru, Maruthi Kurusetty, Rajesh Lange, Marv Lashkarian, Navid Lieberman, Maury And Leslie Prince, Ruth Limave, Narendra los Angeles Ravalaseema Maddineni, Srinivasa Madigan, Paul Malapati, Venkat Malatpure, Mani Mandalapu, Chalapathi C Marquez Garcia, Carlos Martin Arranz, Cristina Martinez, Carmen Mccabe. Matt Mcconaughy, Jeffry Mccrorev, Tina Melige, Amarnath Menon, Priya Merchan, Sara Metikala, Sanjeeva Miller, Ashley Misra, Deepika Mohan Raiu, Chandra Morales, Carlos Mvneni, Gopinath Nagarimadugu, Suresh Nallathambi, Malar Navarro, Emilio Nicholas, Melinda

Palop, Maria Panga, Venkata Parel, Miriam Patel. Niravkumar Patel, Vishal Patil, Prathap Patil, Sudhakar Perillan, Lucia Peterson, Diana Poague, Emily Potente, Natalia Puiara, Dhavalkumar Puttha, Anantha Raavi, Kiran Ramchandani, Shirly Ranjan, Kumar Rayala, Sivaprasad Reavely, Lucia Rebollo, Alicia Reddy, Kiran Reddy, Mallika Reddy, Nagaratna Reddy, Vinod Reparaz, Natalia Rothschild, Iane Rowen, Chris Rubio Vinaras, Carolina Sahel, Sachin Sama, Ashwin Sancho, Victor Sangu, lavasri Saraf, Priyam Seethana And Cheemalavagupalli Family Sesmero, Marta Shoroff, Srikanth Shoroff, Srilatha Sierra, Aleiandra

Sola, luan Somagattu, Ramesh Srinivasan, Sundar Sullivan, Nora Tad. Mounika Talbot, Joseph Tantex Tatagari, Vijayasekhar Terrones, Carlos Thammineni, Manoi Thati Ganganna, Sreenath Thati, Prasanna Thippareddypalli, Rakeshchakravarthy Thyarala, Praveen Tierra Chica, Giordano Trabaudo, Jeff Ugarte, Maria Amparo Vaddi, Sudheer Vazquez, Hector Vcare Charitable Founda-Vega, Augusto Vemula, Sudheer Vidal. Ivis Vikram, Sai Vittalkar, Mamatha Volipireddykondareddygari, Srivani Wolf, Stefan Wolverton Foundation Yanamala, Sidda Yemme, Mallikarjuna Yenamaladoddi. Kalavathi

Young, Jennifer

Zaik, Brian

Zhang, Cong

Zhang, Lucia

FINANCIALS

APRIL 1, 2021-MARCH 31, 2022

\$683,882

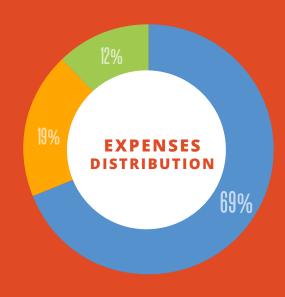
REVENUES AMOUNT

Contributions & Grants

TOTAL REVENUE \$683,882

EXPENSES AMOUNT \$411.319 **Programs** Administration \$116,149 \$70,700 **Fundarising**

TOTAL EXPENSES \$598,168



- **PROGRAMS**
- **ADM**INISTRATION
- FUNDRAISING

Check our **AUDITED FINANCIAL** STATEMENTS and 990 FORM at https://www.vffusa.org/transparency

CORPORATIONS



Foundation

Entertainment Industry























Otero, Jaime

Pallapothula, Chaitanya





































VICENTE FERRER FOUNDATION WORLDWIDE

People and their power of action are the basis of the comprehensive development program of the Vicente Ferrer Foundation. The communities of more than 3,800 villages are involved in the projects that the organization promotes and that guarantee them a decent life and future opportunities. We highlighted key data reflecting our work during the year. They are the results of a joint commitment and effective collaboration between the communities, the people, partnering institutions and companies, the volunteers, and the foundation's team.

RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

2,458

Houses built

361.200

Trees planted for reforestation

184,899

Fruit trees distributed to families

767

Rainwater harvesting structures built

1.486

Farm families granted access to irrigation systems

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

2.341

New women homeowners

44. 532

Women accessed financial resources

1.186

Young women scholarship holders for higher education

1.138

Bicycles distributed to female students

91,981

Women participated in the "sanghams" or selfhelp groups

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

665.756

Consultations in our hospital network

2,607

COVID-19 patients treated in Bathalapalli during the second wave

1.797

Awareness sessions on health and hygiene

7.048

Persons received Nutrition support

711

Volunteers trained in health care in villages

217,411

Gynecology and obstetrics consultations in RDT hospitals

THE POWER OF EDUCATION

1.230

Tutoring schools supported

3,319

Bicycles distributed to facilitate access to education

85%

Students who graduated from the Professional School of Foreign Language found a job

5.915

Higher education students supported through scholarships

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

5,648

mobility support devices manufactured

269

boys and girls in inclusive primary schools

663

scholarships for higher education

24,831

members of PWD self-help groups

4,637

Children with disabilities provided with educational and rehabilitation assistance

