

samiksha
FOUNDATION



A creative learning initiative for children with cancer and their
caregivers in Bengaluru, India

Fundraising Summary

2023

Mission:

Knowledge empowers and Happiness heals!

Samiksha Foundation provides **non-medical** support to children while they undergo treatment for cancer and other life-limiting conditions in oncology hospitals, increasing their happiness through learning and creative activity.

- Areas of action:
 - **Educational** support provided by trained teachers
 - **Spiritual** support through yoga and creative visualisation
 - **Creative** play and activity
- Focus: children and women from compromised socio-economic backgrounds of society in India affected by cancer
- Post-treatment, help the child return to school in the right grade with confidence and dignity, and support their higher education
- So far, we have provided formal education during treatment for **over 9300 children**, and awarded **over 360 scholarships** for continued education post-treatment

The pursuit of knowledge is key to their pursuit of happiness

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 **CARING**
for children
with cancer

Motivation

One of the most traumatic experiences that a family can face is the diagnosis of their child with a life-threatening illness.

One of the guiding principles of childhood cancer care is that the patients and their families should never feel as if they are alone in their difficult times.

Childhood cancer treatment has a **high success rate: nearly 76%**.

During treatment, children and their families miss out on both formal education and the supportive environment that school provides.

School is the anchor for most children, and this is denied during extended medical treatment.

Timeline

- 2008 Founded by Ar. Sandhya Sharad in Bengaluru, India
- 2009 Non-profit trust registered with 2 trustees
First learning centre at the Kapur Ward, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru
Dr. Manjari Bhatnagar joins as Director and Ms. Vidyavathi as the first teacher
- 2017 Original 2 trustees retire, 2 new trustees on board
- 2019 1 new learning centre at Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Center, Narayana Health City, Bengaluru
- 2020 Switch to Samiksha 2.0 hybrid learning model, launched Samiksha USky digital learning platform
- 2022 3 new learning centres at oncology hospitals in Bengaluru
- 2023 Ready to reopen the first learning centre at Kidwai Cancer Institute

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Education program: leave no child behind!

At Samiksha Foundation Learning Centres, children with cancer and similar life-limiting conditions continue formal education during treatment in the hospital ward.

- Tailored to each child
- 4 full-time teachers, 2 part-time teachers, centre coordinators, and volunteers across 4 learning centres
- Integrates art, storytelling, creative activities, play, audiovisual tools
- Hybrid: hands-on and remote teaching
- Samiksha-USky remote learning platform (samiksha.usky.in) for children to access at any time, from centres or mobile devices



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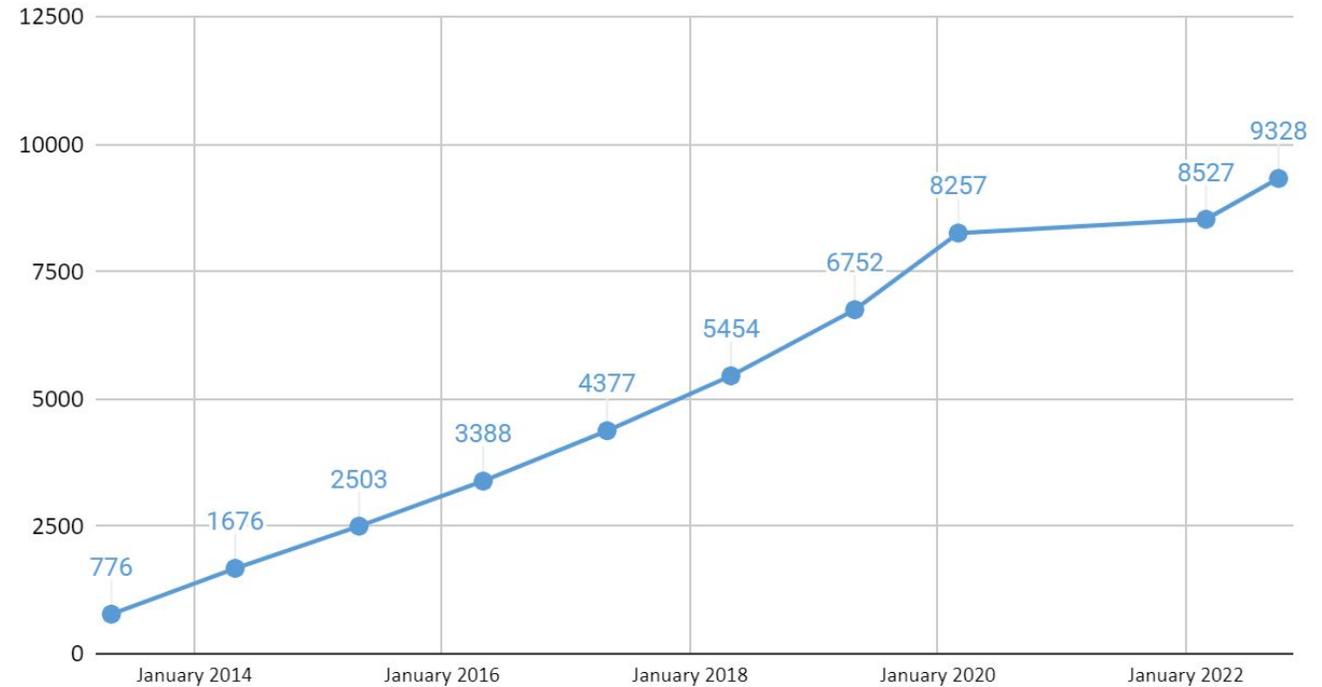
Impact: 10 years

Over 9300 students have benefited from the education program at the Samiksha Foundation Learning Centres since 2012:

- Lakshmi Children's Health Centre (May 2022-present)
- Sri Shankara Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (May 2022-present)
- Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health (April 2022-present)
- Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Center, Narayana Health City (April 2019-present)
- Kapur Ward, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology (2009-2019)

Many returned to the right grade upon discharge and continued their education.

Cumulative number of students



Board exam (2021-22)	Attended	Passed	Scored >75%
SSLC	11	9	3
II PUC	12	8	3

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Samiksha Scholarships Program

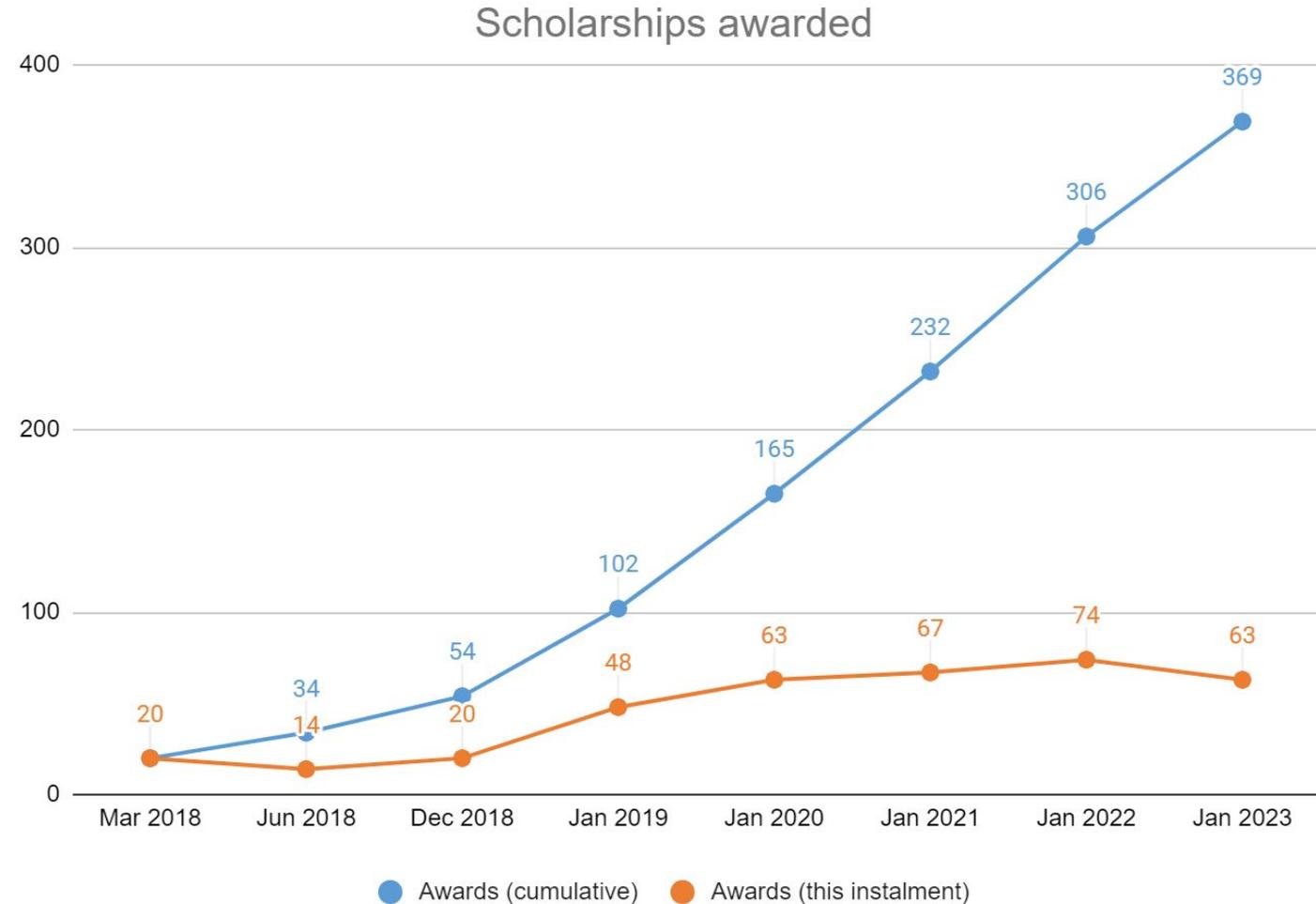
Unique financial aid program supporting the higher education of motivated young cancer survivors post-treatment.

Over 306 students have received awards, at a total value of **Rs 32,63,600**.

2022: Rs 10,35,000 awarded in total.

2023: Rs 8 lakh budgeted in total for 63 students.

Join us in Bengaluru or virtually for the next award event on 7 Jan 2023.



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Team Samiksha: Staff



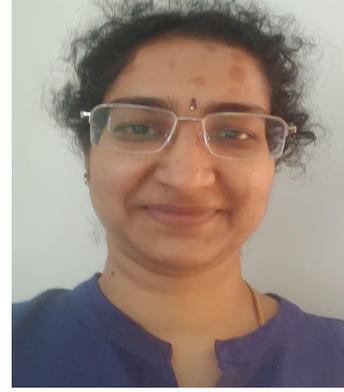
Ar. Sandhya Sharad
Founder & Trustee



Ms. Vijaya
Nanjundeswaran
*Founding Trustee &
Advisor*



Dr. Manjari Bhatnagar
Director



Ms. Ranjani Ramesh
Managing Trustee



Vi. Barnalee Sarkar
*Trustee & Cultural
Lead*



Ms. Valli Narasimha
*Education &
Volunteer
Coordinator*



Mr. Aditya Sharad
IT



Ms. Amrithkala Pai
*Accounts Manager
And Assitant
Teacher*



Ms. Vidyavathi B S
*Center Coordinator,
Teacher & Librarian*



Ms. Parvathi K B
*Center Coordinator,
Teacher & Librarian*



Mr. Poornesh H L
*Teacher & Center
Coordinator*



Ms. Ambika
Chandrashekar
Teacher & Storyteller



Mr. Rahul Papali
*Social Media &
Communication*

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Volunteers and resource partners

Dedicated team of regular volunteers:

Mr. Girish Jayaraju

Mr. Puneet K Reddy

Ms. Pamela Esther

Mr. Akshay R N

Ms. Aakanksha Jayasheela

Dr. Shailaja Raghuprasad

Ms. Gayathri R V

Craft Program: A **Thousand Cranes** (Ms. Ekta Poddar, Ms. Deepa Rajeev, Ms. Asha Ramjee)

Educational Technology Partner: **USky**

Pilot of the Samiksha-USky digital learning platform: **St. Judes for Life**, Mumbai

Yoga-Creative Visualisation (CV) Training: Swami Yogaratna and **Shankar Prasad Foundation**, Gokarna

Music: Shankar Mahadevan Academy through its **Nirvana Project**

Online Yoga-CV program: **Eka Foundation**

Formal Art program: **Ms Yugashri SA**

NGO consultations: Bangalore Effective Education Task Force - **BEETF**

Fundraising: Mallya Aditi International School organises the annual sports-based fundraiser event **BounceBack**

Student volunteers: Indus International School, Mallya Aditi International School, Christ University, NMKRV College, other local schools through CAS / SUPW

Externs from Novartis, Goodera, Tata Group

Adarsh Palm Retreat Foundation, Leukemia Crusaders

Plus a **rotating cohort of volunteers**, interns, and externs!

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Donors

We are grateful for the contributions of the many individuals and organisations that have donated to Samiksha Foundation, either directly or through donation matching.

Accel

Adobe

Apple

Arnt Studio 369

Asianet News Network

Bagmane Developers Pvt Ltd

Collage Shop India

Cyquent

Cytecancer Cancer Hospitals

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Visual Respiration

Wissen

...and many more individual donors!

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Support our mission: **volunteer**

We seek volunteers who are:

- Multilingual
 - Good writing skills in Kannada or English or both
 - Good reading skills in Kannada, English, Hindi, or Bengali
- Comfortable with technology
- Ready to teach both remotely and in-person at the hospital wards
- Comfortable reading and storytelling for children, in-person

samikshafoundation.org/volunteer

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The logo for 'CARING for children with cancer' features the word 'CARING' in a large, bold, yellow font with a small sun icon above the 'I'. Below it, the words 'for children with cancer' are written in a smaller, black font.

CARING
for children
with cancer

Support our mission: **donate**

- **Rs 8 lakh** funds **1 learning centre** for 1 year
- **Rs 32 lakh** funds **all 4 learning centres** for 1 year
- **Rs 12 lakh** funds **at least 60 scholarships** for 1 year
- **Rs 6.5 lakh** supports the infrastructure to open **1 new learning centre**

You can donate:

- Directly on our website: samikshafoundation.org/donate
- Through Benevity (for corporate matching): search for Samiksha Foundation
- Through donation portals: [Give.do](https://www.giveindia.org/), [Omprakash](https://www.omprakash.org/)

Samiksha Foundation is registered in India for CSR and for FCRA donations.

Donations from India are 80G tax-exempt (all platforms).

Donations from the US are 501(3)(c) tax-exempt (Benevity/Omprakash/Give.do).

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Contact us

Together, we can make a real difference to a child with cancer.

Dr. Manjari Bhatnagar (Director)
+91 9845198983 / manjari@samikshafoundation.org

Ar. Sandhya Sharad (Founder and Trustee)
+91 9845231106 / sandhya@samikshafoundation.org

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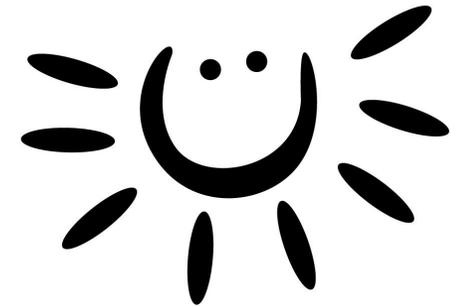
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[Twitter: @samikshatrust](https://twitter.com/samikshatrust)

Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer

#915, 3rd Floor (Essae Pride), 80 Feet Road, Koramangala 6th Block, Bengaluru 560095, India.



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