

Care Foundation

Care for the Planet and Care for the Humanity



Catalyst for Awareness, Renewal and Empowerment

Annual report 2022-23



Message from the President

Dear Friends,

CARE Foundation's 2nd year has been its most exciting yet! Over the past twelve months, our team has



reached out to women, children youth and the elderly. Together, we're making small strides to make standup the vulnerable sections of the society.

Women around the world are dynamic leaders and powerful advocates of change. But space for their leadership and broader social and political participation remains constrained. It helps provide women with opportunities to cultivate skills. **CARE** staff acted with dedication and vision engaging themselves in relentless advocacy. It was hard work, but, together, we prevailed, we have seen progress on many fronts. We have come a long way in a century, but we still have far to go. Despite progress, women still live under the burden of discrimination. They are paid less than men for the same work. They are rarely afforded an equal role. Millions of women and girls face abuse in what should be the sanctuary of their own homes. **CARE** is guided by the fundamental conviction that investing in women is not just the right thing but the sensible thing to do. Women are the breadwinners who can help their families, communities and countries out of poverty. They are the mothers who can feed their children and the leaders who will educate the next generation. Women are the police and the peacemakers who can help forge peace and stability. **CARE** supports more than those women who are most marginalized by lack of economic and other opportunities. That is why we are dedicated to working in the places where the need is greatest and the benefits of prosperity and education have not yet been broadly shared. I firmly believe in a future where women are free to lead and contribute to their societies, and where girls can grow up safe, healthy, educated and strong. **CARE** pledges in every way possible to strive hard to end discrimination against women and that fully value and protect women. Accelerate, activate and advance gender parity.

This annual report showcases the progress and potential of women. I thank all individuals who are working with and alongside us. Together we can achieve equality between women and men in this 21st century.

Gracy Sebastian

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gracy Sebastian'.

President

The early FY 2022 was a continuation of COVID-19, with increased severity of the



disease and its ramifications in so many other areas of human existence. The world survived, demonstrating some exemplary evidence of empathy, care, and concern by many of us toward our fellow beings. Those unprecedented times have, more

than ever before, tested the spirit of humanity and kindness amongst all of us. As the level of suffering increased, so did the determination and tenacity to overcome the crises.

We all witnessed the selfless assistance of people from all walks of life to serve the needy and resourceless—be it providing rations, offering health assistance, or reaching out to families in far-flung areas. This seems like an opportune time to reflect on our experiences from the last year and the learning that will illustrate our further journey. However, these times, perhaps, will be remembered as moments in history for all they did to test concision, innovative spirit, and brevity.



It was a setback for global humanity, Amongst those who suffered the most, a large portion were home maker women. At such times, when the questions of basic health and food were prominent.

Learning for survival

Long-term lockdown, the closure of educational institutions, mobility restrictions, and the risk to lives were all overwhelming. As a result, as evidence began to accumulate, it was clear that many many families were stuck down. We adapted, strategized, and continued to explore ways to ensure them financial sustainability, be it through initiatives like skill training, awareness, or engaging community volunteers in the learning process.

Momentum was slow but was instrumental in gaining traction. A few volunteers responded with enthusiasm, be it through their participation in

some of by bringing in volunteers to contribute to the learning processes. Though it had its obvious limitations, it still kept open a window of opportunity for continued work with enthusiastic young mothers. This period also helped us understand our communities better—their predicament, agony, and struggle going beyond to enrich our capacity building intervention. There were extreme distresses.

However, even during those times, the families saw "learning for survival" as an



escape route for them to a better life. Our volunteers remained our constant source of strength, understanding, adapting, and responding to the needs.

The distressed women gradually became the strong pillar of support for the families. Their children were able to resume their schooling. Their housing and medical expenses were met. Their families were able to have minimum two decent full meals.

With a view to contributing to the implementation of Agenda 2022-23 and of all its Sustainable Development Goals .we are committed to taking concrete actions, as appropriate in line with Guiding Principles, and thereby determined to achieve



gender equality and human rights for women and girls, and to enable women and girls to realize their full potential to (i) actively engage in society and to take control of their own destiny, (ii) contribute to and benefit from sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and quality of life at home, in the community, and in all spheres of society and (iii) fully and effectively participate in all phases of

the peace building continuum, from conflict prevention to resolution and ultimately reconciliation. We also remain committed to preventing and responding to all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls as they are pervasive barriers in realizing their full potentials.



The women gained confident and aware of their own potentialities. And bold enough to venture into new horizons.



We asked ourselves – why would a mother abandon or abort her own child? With the passage of time, we have come to realize that it is not mothers who want to abandon their babies, but they often have no choice in the matter.

We realized that when a woman has her own income, she has more power over herself and her family.

This led us to having our first livelihood training program in 2023.

We soon realized that having livelihood training was not enough. Women who came were being ostracized by communities and prevented from exploring financial independence. There were others who could not even imagine a life beyond the one they had.



One of our main focus areas is skill development programmes to increase the income-generating potential of women.

We have developed curriculum and master trainers across Fashion Design and Tailoring, Hand and Machine Embroidery and Handicraft Training.

Towards the end of the year, the physical functioning of units across our geography began. By the end of FY2022-23 CARE Foundation stretched out its wings to **9 units with 5 Vocational training centers two production centers and two health care outreach centers.**