



WWW.CLOWNSWITHOUTBORDERS.ORG

“ **IF YOU ARE**
LAUGHING
YOU ARE HEALING ”



We believe **laughter** is a **universal human emotion** that binds people together. It **transcends cast, religion, belief system** and any **political boundaries**. Our mission is to **spread laughter per kilometre** in this country, and beyond any political boundry.

mission.

vision.

Clowns Without Borders India's goal is to provide **psycho - social aid** to **children and adults** who are living under **stressful situations** with the **help of clown performances**, in simple words, just to **make them laugh and reduce their stress.**



why laughter?

When our body goes under **tremendous tension/stress**, whether it be emotional or physical, our body can **release** tension/stress in only **three possible ways**.



**we can laugh
out loud**

But it is **socially not accepted** to **laugh out loud alone**. We always need a **group to laugh together** with.



we can cry

But it is **socially not accepted** to **cry together** in a group, unless we are **witnessing a performance**.



**we can get
violent**

If we don't get to **laugh or cry together**, the **stress/tension will explode** in the form of **violence**. **Violence** is more **infectious** than any other virus. If **not nipped** in the bud, we **create** a very **violent society**.

therefore,
we make people laugh

1 | Clowns Without Borders



Clowns Without Borders makes people laugh. We give people a cathartic experience and emotionally cleanse the stressful communities through live performances. We give them hope, and a chance to dream a better future. Our aim is to create a harmonic society which can dream together, have hope and faith in the democratic values.

know more about our projects!

PROJECT Katha-rsis

क'थासिस्

noun

personal stories [क'था] of performers creating a Cathartic experience

what?

We are **working with marginalized communities** so they can **express the wrongdoings, oppression and inequality** they have experienced, through their personal stories with Clowning Techniques.

how?

Rupesh has created a **roadmap** using his experience from directing 'THWF'. He has **conducted a workshop** for the employed artists who will be assigned to **create the shows with the children of sex workers.**

why?

While making '**That's How We Feel**' with the **children of sex workers**, we realized that when the **clowning techniques** and rules are mixed with their **personal stories and experiences**, it creates a powerful experience for the audiences.

goal?

To create an **easy working method for the trainers.**
To **sensitize the mainstream population** with the problems **marginalized communities** are facing and **bridge the gap** between the unfair social structure, through laughter.
To give **courage and confidence** to our participants so they can fearlessly speak their minds.
To shed light on the existence of the marginalized communities and get **the media and the government to acknowledge them.**

PROJECT AAWaC Do

आवाज़ दो

Verb

giving a voice [आवाज़] to the girls from the AAWC centres in Kamatipura

what?

Continuing our **regular trainings** with **27 girls** in **two AAWC centers** in Kamatipura. Which is focused on making the clown performances based on their **own experiences** using THWF model. These shows will be **showcased in December** for their mothers and other women in the **red-light district**.

why?

The girls have been **inspired** after watching 'That's How We Feel' performance done by other AAWC girls. They are looking forward to getting an **opportunity** to **tell their stories and be a part of a show as well**.

how?

We have been **conducting online sessions** with the girls during the lockdown. Kalyan has resumed the **in-person training and getting the girls ready for their debut on stage**.

PROJECT We-Shesh

विशेष

noun

the outstanding [शेष] among the crowd are the unique [विशेष] ones we help nurture

what?

Empowering one of the **long-term participant Shraddha** as a **trainer** and a **theatre director**. We met Shraddha first time when we did first CUG tour in India in Dec 2012. She was just **8 years old**, sitting in the first row of the audience at AAWC. After that we interacted with her in every show we performed. When we **started our training** at AAWC, she was the first one to engage and take up the responsibility of the group. She has **performed the lead characters** in all the productions we made with the girls so far. She has **travelled to Poland and Sweden** with CUG project as well.

how?

First year: We are looking at making her an **assistant** to Kalyan in the **weekly classes** and she will be given an opportunity to be the **assistant director** for the shows. **Rupesh** will **mentor** her in techniques of **direction**.

Second year: We are looking at making her **direct one of the shows** under the mentorship of Rupesh.

Third Year: We are looking at **Employing** her as one of the trainers and give her an opportunity to **direct both the shows** which the AAWC girls perform annually for their mothers.

why?

We are engaging her in **bigger responsibilities** and educating her to be **a leader**. Eventually we are looking at making her a **trainer** and **director** who can **teach girls** in **AAWC centres** and **direct their shows**. We are looking at paying her a **stipend** for the first **two years** as an **assistant** and eventually employing her to **direct shows** in her third year.

goal?

To **empower the subject to be a leader** emerging from the community.

PROJECT **Poori-Fication**

पूरी -फिकेटीऑन

noun

the play on the word purification, as everything [पूरी] that they do helps them emotionally cleanse and purify themselves from within, giving them hope

what?

We are looking to start **training minor age** girls **rescued** from engaging in sex trade and trafficking or **children of sex workers** at another NGO. These girls live in a very stressful situation, as their family do not accept them back and the government doesn't know what to do. Since they are minors they can't start their life on their own, so they feel stuck in a limbo. We have identified the NGO's and they have shown some interest after knowing about our work with AAWC.

how?

We have **gained enough experience and trust in the community** while working with children of sex workers. Now, we feel we are **ready to expand and work** with the minor age girls who has been **trafficked and rescued from the sex trade**. They live under the protection policy of rescue centers established by the government. Most of the times the detention centers are run by NGO's. These girls need laughter in their lives the most. Our idea is to **start the clowning training** with them and see if we can make a clown performance based on their experiences at the end of the year using THWF model. If we are successful, we **want to tour with the show** in other NGO's as well.

goal?

To **reduce the tension/stress** in their lives through clowning.
To **give them hope** so they dream about their future.

PROJECT Expo-Sure

इक्स्पोशर

noun

giving the children exposure to the audiences from all walks of life

what?

We are continuing with **shows of 'That's How We Feel'** in Theatres and NGO's. The girls are eagerly waiting to **go on stage** again. We are also looking to **expand to perform the show online** so as to **connect with our funders** in Sweden and reach out to audiences out of India.

how?

The theatres are opening in the country and things are beginning to get normal. The vaccination program is in full swing in India, so our guess is by the end of this year, we will be able to do our first set of shows. We will aim at **20-30 shows, 5 in theatres, 5 online and 10-20 in schools and NGO's.**

goal?

To **sensitize the mainstream society** towards the upbringing in the Red-light District.
To **educate and inspire other girls** in similar situation.
To **sensitize and inspire other children** in **privileged** schools.

believe in laughter.

Where resources are scarce, make laughter abundant.

CONNECT WITH US

info@clownswithoutbordersindia.org



www.clownswithoutbordersindia.org