

UWBe Insights

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | APRIL - JUNE 2025

Content Table

Leadership Insight

Cover Story

Climate Action

Education

Integrated Rural development

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Volunteering

People & Culture

Communications

About Us



Leadership Insight





Dear Readers,

As we begin a new financial year, we look forward to a focus on team capacity building and strengthening our partnerships. Our team is growing, and we welcome the new members to the organisation. We look forward to diving deeper into the community connections that we build through our interventions.

We also celebrated 17 years at United Way Bengaluru on 30th June 2025. With time, we have evolved into a team that has a deep understanding of the development sector ecosystem. From the revival of Kaikondrahalli Lake under our 'Wake the Lake' initiative to the launch of diverse campaigns across five thematic areas, our journey has been driven by a disciplined culture and a shared commitment to creating real, lasting impact. We take a moment to recognize and celebrate some of our exceptional team members whose dedication and drive embody our values.



Rajesh Krishnan CEO, United Way Bengaluru

I joined United Way Bengaluru on 21st July 2016, and it has been over 8 enriching years in the system. The diversity of projects and interventions I have been part of has brought depth and purpose to my journey. I am deeply grateful to the Board for their continued support and guidance. For Gen Z, the development sector is a sunrise sector, offering a phenomenal opportunity to build meaningful careers and contribute to transforming lives-



COVER STORY



Donor highlight - our journey with HCL



This year, we enter our 7th year of impact with HCL as a partner. Our collective efforts have contributed towards the creation of overall safe & conducive spaces for children, where early learning engagement initiatives and building blocks shape their future with better decision making and intellectual skills.



We began with implementing the 'Born Learning' program, refurbishing Anganwadis and conducting training sessions towards growth and development of children during the first 1000 days, as well as ECCD training.

Currently working with 45 centers in the city, we have gone deeper into strengthening ICDS, working with close to 800 Anganwadi Workers (AWW) to make them community enablers.

Our efforts have also focused on health and nutrition by organizing health camps, raising awareness about maternal health, and establishing kitchen gardens both in Anganwadi Centres (AWC) and at the individual household level.

Reached over

15,000+ community members in 6 years



CLIMATE ACTION



Wake the Lake

Several lakes that were rejuvenated last year are brimming with the recent rains, are now full and thriving - Nimbekaipura, Baiyyappanahalli, Kanekallu, and Andakkanakere lakes



Kanekallu

Nimbekaipura



Baiyyappanahalli



Andakkanakere





EDUCATION FOR ALL



From Doorsteps to Dreams: Usha's ECCE Journey

Usha, an Anganwadi Helper working at the Ambedkarnagara Anganwadi Centre, Bengaluru, has shown unwavering dedication in serving the children and families of her community. Situated in an informal settlement, the Anganwadi Center caters to 10 children. Many parents in the community neglected the importance of sending their children to the Anganwadis regularly and on time.

One particular case that stands out is that of a mother who had consistently refused to send her child to the center due to personal reasons. Usha, along with the Anganwadi Worker, noticed the prolonged absence and decided to take action. Through persistent home visits and repeated efforts to counsel the mother, they emphasized the critical role of Early Childhood Care and Education in the child's overall development. They explained how regular attendance at the Anganwadi could help lay a strong foundation for the child's future learning and health.





Due to their consistent engagement, the mother eventually understood the importance of ECCE and began sending her child to the center regularly from May. Usha's efforts do not stop at a single case. Every day, she and the AWW conduct house visits to ensure that all enrolled children attend the Anganwadi Centres. They actively involve community members in awareness sessions and work tirelessly to ensure participation. Usha also plays a key role in encouraging pregnant women and lactating mothers to attend regular Mothers' Meetings, where they receive crucial information on nutrition, health, and childcare practices. Through her commitment, Usha has become a vital pillar of support in the Ambedkarnagara community. Her dedication is a testament to the impact that grassroots workers can have when they approach their duties with passion and a deep sense of responsibility.



INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Wheels of Change: Women Driving Livelihood Progress

Bagepalli Block in Karnataka faced significant challenges in delivering healthcare services to its widely scattered and remote villages. Poor transportation infrastructure and vast geographical distances often leave communities, especially vulnerable groups like pregnant women, infants, and the elderly without timely access to essential medical care.

Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are further constrained by limited mobility, high operational costs, and inadequate human resources. These factors hinder door-to-door outreach, particularly for services such as immunizations, maternal care, and disease screenings. To address these gaps, electric bikes (E-bikes) have been introduced across 9 PHCs in Bagepalli Taluk namely Margankunte, G. Maddepalli, Billur, Chakavelu, Sivapura, Pathpalya, Joolpalya, Mittemari, and Chelur. These PHCs collectively serve a population spread across 402 habitations (229 villages and 174 hamlets) in Bagepalli Taluka.





E-bikes provide a sustainable and efficient mobility solution:

- Enables quick and reliable access to hard-to-reach villages
- Improves the reach of immunization programs for children and pregnant women
- Supports regular antenatal and postnatal care, awareness drives, and health check-ups
- Strengthens outreach for disease screening and monitoring, including tuberculosis, malaria, and noncommunicable diseases

"Earlier, reaching distant villages was a major challenge for us. Many of the villages do not have proper bus facilities, and I had to walk long distances to deliver medicines or attend to patients. It was physically exhausting and time-consuming. With the E-bike, I can now travel to these remote locations much faster and with less effort.."

- PHC worker'



INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT



29 e-bikes provided to PHCs in Chikkaballapura

29

E-bikes were distributed at the DC Office, Chikkaballapura, for Primary Health Centers to address the issue of last-mile connectivity.

These were provided in collaboration with Labcorp and Marvell.





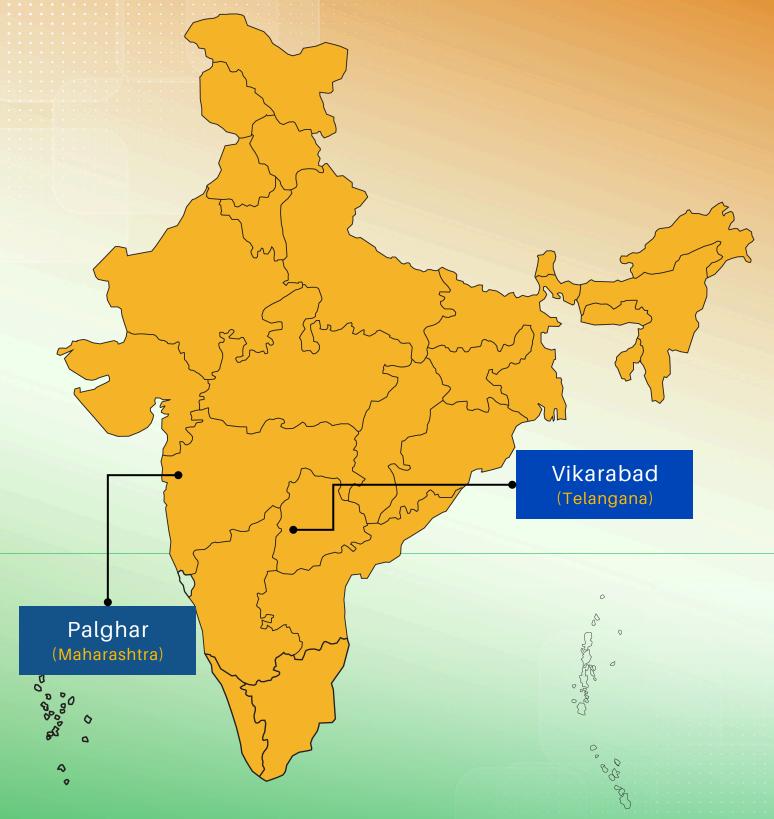
The 'e-bikes' initiative aims to improve mobility for healthcare workers, ensuring timely and efficient delivery of medical services in rural areas. The event marked a significant step towards sustainable healthcare solutions, promoting eco-friendly transportation. The presence of key stakeholders underscored the collective commitment to strengthening healthcare access and outreach across the Chikkaballapura district through innovative interventions.





Earlier, many of these villages were difficult to access due to long distances and a lack of reliable transportation. This often delayed the timely delivery of medicines and healthcare support. Understanding this challenge, the PHC in-charge reached out to the teams at United Way Bengaluru and Labcorp with a request for support. Responding swiftly and positively, both organizations came together to distribute 20 E-bikes to the women healthcare workers.

EXPANSION: Palghar & Vikarabad



The new quarter brings an opportunity to expand our work into new locations. In the last quarter, we conducted initial meetings with government stakeholders to understand the needs of the communities in Palghar, Maharashtra and Vikarabad, Telangana.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



e-autos distributed to People with Disabilities (PwDs) across Bengaluru with CSR support from GE Aerospace, Fivetran, State Street, Continental, NTT Data, and Delivery Health.





World Environment Day

To celebrate World Environment Day on 5th June, corporate volunteers from multiple of our partner organizations came together to participate in various events across multiple locations. The events highlighted the importance of taking active steps towards protecting the environment and contributed to raising awareness about beating plastic pollution, as per the 2025 WED theme.













Aligning Action with Impact: Our Volunteering & ESG Journey



unteers fron

Alstom Applied Materials Caterpillar Commonwealth Bank of Mediatek **Australia Collins Aerospace Delta Empower GE Aerospace**

GE Healthcare

Kenvue **LM Wind Power Morgan Stanley Mphasis Open Text Parexel Pratt & Whitney**

Harro Hoefliger

Salesforce **Swiss Re Target UiPath Ujjivan Small Finance Bank UL India Wells Fargo** Wesco



PEOPLE & CULTURE



Formation Day & Rewards and Recognition

UWBe celebrated its 17th Formation Day on June 30th, with the team coming together to reflect on the years gone by, and recognising the contributions of members for Q4 and the Annual year 2024-25 of the organization.

17 Years of UWBe















Sriram joined United Way of Bengaluru in 2021 as Director-Projects. He comes with a strong background and experience in project design, management and implementation of over 20 years. As part of the senior leadership team, he lays great emphasis on the impact focus of the projects with clear definitions and documentation. He has contributed to strengthening the project planning, design by bringing in a clear focus on impact-aligned frameworks and setting up systems for monitoring, evaluation and assessments. He believes in keeping up to date with the new developments in the sector and is now focusing on concepts like Social Return on Investment studies and value-added evaluation methods.



Sriram Ananthanarayanan

Recently, Sriram took over as the Director for Partnerships and Impact and is focusing on fostering effective partnerships with academic institutions and other like-minded organisations to strengthen the projects of United Way of Bengaluru. Sriram has been instrumental in UWBe receiving many awards and accolades over the years. Sriram has represented UWBe in various forums as a speaker and participated in many panel discussions, giving widespread visibility and networking for the organization.

Internship Program

As we have continued to build our internship program, we have had the chance to work with interns bringing in various different perspectives and skills to strengthen our existing programs. Some of our current internship projects include:

- BSc Economics, Mathematics, and Statistics students conducted a data-backed analysis of STEM labs across government schools, evaluating how STEM exposure influenced students to pursue related careers, and if it impacted girls' enrollment in secondary and higher education.
- BSc Economics, Mathematics, and Statistics students developed a working empirical model to estimate annual silt deposition in percolation wells constructed under the One Billion Drops campaign, helping to plan for optimal desilting frequencies and ensure long-term functionality of percolation wells.
- An International Relations & Global Studies student is working on documenting and developing sustainability practices for the organization, advocating for project synergy, accountability, and transparency. This aims to improve the longevity of our interventions by tying in community engagement and reinforcing local economies in the projects.

Communications

UNITED WAY

"This day is a powerful reminder that the time to act is now - our environment needs us more than ever. Every step we take, no matter how small, contributes to a larger movement of change. At UWBe, we believe in creating lasting environmental impact through strong partnerships, driven by passion and guided by purpose. From rejuvenating 85 lakes to conserving 1,088 million litres of water annually through 8,500+ rainwater harvesting wells, our initiatives aim to create sustainable change at scale. Let us remember that environmental protection is everyone's responsibility - every small act counts. Together, we can make every World Environment Day a milestone in our journey towards sustainability."



Mr Rajesh Krishnan CEO, United Way Bengaluru

CSRBOX



1st 1000 Days: United Way Bengaluru's Born Learning Campaign Lays Foundation for a Brighter Future

by UNITED WAY BENGALURU

The first 1,000 days of a child's life—from conception to their second birthday—are widely recognized as the most critical period for a child's physical, cognitive, and emotional development. United Way Bengaluru (UWBe) has championed this vital cause through its flagship initiative, the Born Learning Campaign (BLC).

More than just a program, "1st 1000 Days" is a nationwide movement under BLC, built on the belief that early childhood care not only shapes individual lives but also defines the future of our society. In alignment with key government frameworks such as the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICOS), Poshan 2.0, Saksham Angamwadi, and the Aspirational Districts Program, the campaign is transforming how communities nurture their youngest members.

With over 20 lakh lives touched and 11,000+ Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) impacted across Bengaluru, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra, the campaign's targeted nterventions enzare every child gets a fair start in life:

- Maternal Health & Nutrition: Hygiene awareness, exclusive breastfeeding education, and
- immunization drives.

 Community Education: Engaging parents—especially mothers—in their child's growth through regular health and nutrition meetings.

 Frontline Worker Training: Empowering Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Helpers (AWHs) with Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) best practices.

 Tangible Health Support: Distribution of nutrition kits, neonatal kits, and essential teaching-learning materials to improve care environments.

Too little or too much: Ten commandments for Bengaluru's water woes





United Way Bengaluru partners with Marvell



Publication: VISHWAVAARDHI

Edition:

Page: 02

ಸುಲಭ ಚಲನೆ ಮತು ಸಂಚಾರಕೆ ನೆರವಾಗುವ ಸಾಧನಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ 'ದಿವ್ಯಾಂಗ

ವೇ



DH

B'luru takes innovative steps towards a greener tomorrow

BENGALURU, DHNS

On the occasion of World Earth Day (April 22), green initiatives in Bengaluru showcase what long-term, sustained environmental actions can achieve.

From significantly reducing plastic waste to reviving dying waterbodies, several efforts across the city are quietly reshaping its ecological future.

Transforming plastic

waste DrinkPrime, a Bengaluru-based startup, aims to curb the plastic burden of urban hydration. Many households in the city

rely on up to 15 water cans a month — each a 20-litre plastic container weighing around 1 kg. Typically, each can is reused only up to 10 times. With over 2.5 lakh subscribers now using Drink-Prime, the company estimates it is saving around 7.5 lakh kilo-

grams of plastic every month.

The startup's model integrates maintenance within the



An insect cafe set up by EY Global Delivery Services (GDS).

subscription — reclaiming used filters and purifiers, refurbish-ing them through ultrasonic cleaning, and placing them back into circulation. This reduces manufacturing demand and supports a closed-loop, circular

Restoringurban

ecosystems
Meanwhile, United Way's Wake
the Lake initiative has rejuvenated 80 lakes around Bengaluru in recent years. The programme focused on clearing garbage and pollut-

ants and replenishing aquatic ecosystems.

Complementing this is the One Billion Drops cam-paign, which focuses on rain-water conservation in urban areas. By setting up over 8,200 rainwater harvesting wells, the campaign has successfully diverted and stored more than 10.4 million litres of water that would have otherwise evaporated or been lost in runoffs.

21 insect cafes

EY Global Delivery Services (GDS), in collaboration with Bhumi and supported by Vibhinna India Foundation, has built 21 insect cafes across Cubbon Park, Lalbagh Botanical Gar-den, and Doddasaagare Botanical Garden.

Insect cafes — nesting grounds for pollinators — are constructed from upcycled wood, bamboo, and mud. They aim to facilitate insect pollination and promote biodiversity.



Communications



2 repos

Cheering with Purpose Parents Inspiring a Lifelong Passion for Sports

EnablersofChange

: United Way Bengaluru, we believe in the immense strength of partnerships, ...mor



You and 149 others









About Us

United Way Bengaluru (UWBe) is a part of United Way Worldwide, the largest NGO network of over 1,100 chapters in 36 countries. Since 2008, UWBe has been dedicated to working in underserved locations and marginalized communities. Over 17 years, the organization's reach extended beyond Karnataka to fifteen other states, with a special focus on remote areas and aspirational districts. United Way Bengaluru works in five key areas: Climate Action, Education for All, Integrated Rural Development, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) and Volunteering. Aligned with its mission, the organization brings together unified efforts from CSR partners, civic bodies and local communities to work collaboratively towards solutions. The organization carries a global image with a 'local heart' committed to creating meaningful change in the lives of the local communities.

VISION



United Way Bengaluru envisions a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability, and healthy lives.

MISSION



United Way Bengaluru seeks to improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities around the world to advance the common good.











GENDHER





Flagship Campaigns

United Way Bengaluru

Building No. 5, 3rd Floor, Crimson Court, Jeevan Bima Nagar Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560075 www.uwbengaluru.org

Follow us on





