



NOTE FROM THE CEO

17.6.2021

Dream a Dream is humbled to be supported by Mackenzie Scott among 286 global empowering organisations that the world needs to hear

Dream a Dream was started over 20 years ago, because eleven 20-something-year-olds saw a different future for the children of India. A future of dignity and respect, filled with love and compassion. We are proud that over the years we have supported over a million children to overcome the impact of adversity and thrive in a fast-changing world, by developing their life skills. We thank the over 10,000 young people who enroll in our program every year, the 9828 teachers who choose to attend our training, and the education officials in the 5 states of Delhi, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Telangana and Uttarakhand for the opportunities they provided us to work with over 1 million children. We are forever indebted to all our supporters and donors who have walked this journey thus far with us.

As we planned for our future, especially in the backdrop of the devastating COVID crisis, we knew we had to stay even more determinedly on the path to re-imagine the purpose of education to ensure that every child in our country will thrive, especially those that are most vulnerable and most marginalized. But the biggest learning we have had is that the endeavor for equity, dignity and inclusion is not a one-way street. We must also have the humility to acknowledge the innate intelligence, wisdom and resilience of marginalized communities and the privileged amongst us have to be willing to cede our power.

The concept of ceding power to seed it, is a difficult one for anyone. I myself, being a heterosexual, cis-gendered, upper-caste, woman in India, try to learn something everyday on how to cede my privilege. And while I am still struggling to achieve that to any level of satisfaction for myself or within the organization, it would be naive to say we are already doing it for our children. Yet, it is the only endeavor worth pursuing, and that is what we commit to do with the support provided by Mackenzie Scott. We commit to give every child the opportunity to thrive and create a world for themselves on the values of dignity, respect and love. We commit to recognizing their innate abilities and power. And we commit to seed power, by ceding it.

With this renewed commitment, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Mackenzie Scott, Dan Jewett and all the researchers and advisors who made this happen and for giving us the opportunity to get some sleep. At least for a few hours.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suchetha".

Suchetha Bhat
CEO, Dream a Dream



[Dream a Dream](#) is an internationally recognised NGO based in Bangalore, India that supports young people from vulnerable backgrounds to overcome adversity and flourish in the 21st century through a creative life skills approach and advocate for a world where every child can thrive. More details can be found here: www.dreamadream.org

If you would like to join this movement, we invite you to please make a donation [here](#).

The announcement by Mackenzie Scott is available [here](#).