



COMMIT2
CHANGE

2021-2022

Impact Report

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Letter from the Founders

Dear Friends,

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 academic year was our most impactful yet. In addition to educating and providing sponsorships to more underprivileged young women than ever, C2C added partners in Bangladesh and Nepal and achieved 100% graduation rates in some areas. We also took steps to reflect on our mission and the reasons why it is important to amplify our efforts.

Every. Year. Matters.

All research points to the power of girls' education. Education for young women raises wages, reduces maternal mortality and the risk for acquiring HIV-AIDS, and improves the health of children and nations. Education empowers young women to overcome discrimination by giving them greater awareness of their rights, and more confidence and freedom to make decisions that affect their lives, improve their health, and boost their work prospects. Each year has an impact on the young women we serve by creating more opportunities, more autonomy, and more choice.

At C2C, we are looking forward to a future focused on each girl and each year. We remain ever grateful to you and our C2C community for your staunch support as we advocate for abandoned girls in South Asia and transform their lives with education. While the past few years have been difficult, to say the least, we have hope because of our community and cannot wait to see what the future holds!

Sumana & Sejal



SUMANA SETTY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Setty'.



SEJAL GEHANI

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Gehani'.

“If you want to lift humanity, empower women. It is the most comprehensive, pervasive, high leverage investment you can make in human beings.

MELINDA GATES

Mission

C2C is dedicated to creating systemic change by empowering vulnerable, adolescent girls in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and around the world with education. Through our sponsorships and adaptive education and life-skills programming, we provide girls with the tools to fulfill their potential, catalyze positive change, and uplift their communities.

Vision

We envision a world where options are endless and anything is possible no matter one's gender, childhood circumstances, or other challenges. We commit to this change, one girl at a time.

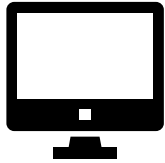


Our Partners



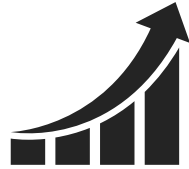
Our Impact

as of October 2022



100%

of C2C girls demonstrate proficiency in digital literacy after C2C Techlab classes



97%

of C2C girls advance to the next grade level



90%

of C2C girls graduate high school



99%

of C2C girls remain enrolled in school or college

6,500+
girls supported since inception

- 4,058 girls served in 2022 with STEM, English and life skills classes
- 3,200+ individuals served through COVID-19 initiatives
- 24,640 teaching and teacher training hours provided in the 2022 academic year
- 134 full tuition sponsorships provided in 2022, many of which include room and board support at rescue and residential homes
- 3,719 workbooks printed and distributed for English, Vedic Math and TechLab curriculums
- 126 computers fully upgraded at 5 partner centers, and 4 Virtual Classroom Tech Solutions installed at partner centers, enabling remote teaching at scale
- 10 NGO partners collaborations in 3 countries in South Asia with expansions into Bangladesh in 2021 and Nepal in 2022

A unique facet of C2C programs is the deep emphasis on life skills covering the 4C's
CONFIDENCE + COMMUNICATION + CRITICAL THINKING + CREATIVITY

From C2C year-end evaluations, we see that:

93%

of girls report an increase in creativity

93%

of girls report an increase in confidence

84%

of girls report an increase in critical thinking

91%

of girls report an increase in communication skills

Broadening Horizons

Supporting Underprivileged Girls in Nepal and Bangladesh

The expansion of C2C's work into Bangladesh and Nepal in 2021 and 2022 marks a significant milestone for the organization as we continue to spread our mission of empowering girls with education and life skills in South Asia. The partnership with Chattogram Balika Sadan, an orphanage in Bangladesh, has allowed C2C to serve girls from grades 1 to 10 and provide them with access to STEM and life-skills programs. In Nepal, C2C has partnered with a new organization, The Small World, to support girls in the foothills of Mount Everest with sponsorships and STEM classes beginning in 2022.

The partnerships are testament to the success of C2C's programs and the impact it has made in the lives of the girls it serves. The new partnerships will help to provide girls in these countries with access to quality education and the holistic support and tools they need to succeed in the modern world. This is just the beginning for these girls and we can't wait to see what they do next.



Program Highlights

Educate



Inspire



Empower



COVID-19 Support

As the devastating second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic hit India in March 2021, C2C staff, board, volunteers and supporters mobilized to fundraise for items deemed essential by partner centers, including support for an “oxygen langar” program in New Delhi. Thanks to the unwavering and generous help from so many, C2C raised funds for food, sanitation supplies, and equipment for mobile classes and counseling services. An additional 1,035 girls and their family members were supported through COVID-19 initiatives—3,200+ individuals in all.

English Vocals Program Initiated

C2C introduced the English vocals program in the 2021-2022 academic year in response to an urgent request from partner centers and as a supplement to the existing English language learning curriculum at two partner centers. The program was successfully piloted with 160 girls at CBS in Bangladesh. The English vocals program focuses on pronunciation, intonation, and voice production for speaking English, giving students the confidence to effectively communicate in a world where English is widely used. By learning to speak English, these girls have a powerful tool to express themselves, participate in discussions and debates, and succeed in a globalized world.

Diamond and Star Program

The Diamond and Star program paired high-achieving girls with one or more lower-achieving girls, with reward incentives offered for homework completion and test scores. We found a much higher engagement among both groups, with lower-achieving girls exhibiting a decrease in fear and anxiety and a marked increase in confidence. This confidence came through especially in writing, a key skill that the girls had almost forgotten during the pandemic. Through Diamond and Star, girls lacking self-confidence or dealing with anxiety issues have found both strength and support from their fellow students.



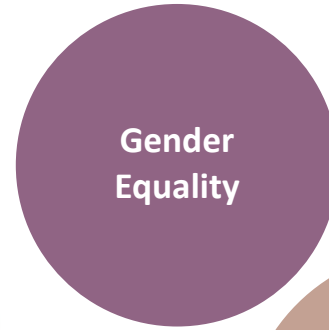
Sustainability



Impactful Change



United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



STEM & Empowerment

C2C empowers girls with the skills and knowledge necessary for a successful, fulfilling future. This year, to strengthen the C2C curriculums, we have expanded our programs to address current IT issues through cybersecurity seminars, teach hands-on tasks related to the anatomy of PC systems, and encourage creativity through gamification using Scratch. By combining tech programs with our life-skills training, we provide girls with the essential tools for gainful employment, personal safety and security, critical thinking, and overall well-being.

The Power of Her

One of C2C's main goals is to give girls the tools to reclaim their power of choice. We believe that having the ability to make decisions about their future strengthens all areas of girls' lives and identities. We witnessed this repeatedly through our programs this year, perhaps most obviously through a fellowship offering that many girls were offered but declined. After coming from circumstances in which they had little or no choice, these girls have learned through C2C's life-skills training and education how to think critically about decisions that directly impact their individual futures, and have developed confidence in their choices.

Student Spotlight

> ASHMITA <



“Drawing is my favorite hobby. I can draw happy things of my life to remember them.”

Ashmita is twelve years old and in the seventh grade at SPRJK Trust. She has a family of seven, including four sisters. Due to asthma, Ashmita’s father is unable to work, so her mother and sister support the family as, respectively, a maid and an airport worker booking taxis. The food rations covered by C2C and SPRJK Trust help the family with their daily needs.

Ashmita dreams of becoming an artist. “Drawing is my favorite hobby,” she says. “I can draw happy things of my life to remember them. I forget sometimes about these happy things, and drawing reminds me of the memories...Every time I draw, I forget about things around me, and I don’t like to focus a lot on sad things. I draw about happy memories like hugging and enjoying with family, and I want to spread this happiness to everyone with my drawings.”

She greatly appreciates the C2C programs like Vedic Maths and computers, which will “help us in life anywhere.” In Tech Lab, she learned Excel, which she then taught her mother how to use for her work. She also learned how to use computer tools so she can work on her drawings digitally.

Ashmita seeks to give back by being successful. “I always take part in drawing competitions and make my teachers proud when I win,” she says. “I feel proud of giving my school happiness because they make my family happy.”

Because of C2C’s programs, Ashmita is able to pursue her love of drawing and to continuously learn new hobbies and skills.

Student Spotlight

> RUPALI <

Rupali is a 15-year-old girl from a village in the Kumilla district of Bangladesh and has been living at the CBS orphanage since she was five years old.

At birth, Rupali and her younger sister were not welcomed by family members, including older siblings from their father's previous marriage. When Rupali was four, her father died. With no family support, Rupali's mother sent her daughter to the orphanage.

Rupali is now the first-ranked girl in her class ten, and all the teachers and students love her beautiful nature. Rupali has learned strength and empowerment from her difficult background. She says that she never received love from her extended family members, and that they still taunt her mother for educating a girl when they don't even have enough money for food.

But Rupali claims that every incident of teasing makes her even more determined to achieve her goal of self-dependence. She intends to be a teacher one day and to support her mother and sister with her earnings.

With knowledge from the English, counseling and computer classes through C2C, Rupali's confidence has grown. After the final school exams, she plans to return to her village and gain admission into a good college. She wants to complete her master's degree in English. She also plans to give private tuitions to younger girls in her village so that, like her, they can break free from their lives of poverty and prejudice.



Rupali wants to be a teacher one day and to support her mother and sister with her earnings.

Student Spotlight

> ANISHA <

“I want to surprise her (my mother) one day by having a high position. Because of C2C, I believe I can make this dream into truth.”



Fourteen-year-old Anisha has been attending SPRJK Trust since 1st standard. Her family of five, including her two siblings, lives in a single-room rowhouse. Anisha’s father is a driver, and her mother is a homemaker.

Anisha has aspirations for a corporate job. She says that C2C’s Tech Lab and Vedic Maths programs are preparing her for this goal. The C2C teachers help her focus and learn subjects like computers, which she uses to explore her hobbies as well as academics.

Anisha has faced many difficulties in her path to success at school. “I like to study,” she says, “but I was always afraid of school because I know many students come from big homes, and it is difficult to make friends. All the other students talk about games and films, and I cannot talk about these things.”

She credits C2C with helping her overcome these challenges. “After improving my knowledge with C2C, I can talk freely to my new friends, and they also help me,” she says. “I participate with them in activities, and we have a lot of fun. I never thought that I can talk to everyone so easily, and now I can start conversations too. I feel proud of this confidence.”

Anisha reports that her mother is also very proud of both her studies and her new friendships. “She always supports me with my singing and studying,” Anisha says. “I want to surprise her (my mother) one day by having a high position. Because of C2C, I believe I can make this dream into truth.”

Student Spotlight

> TINA <

Tina is a student of class IX at Seva Sadan School. Tina's mother died just after giving birth, and Tina was abandoned by her father because she was a girl. Tina's grandmother enrolled her in the Seva Sadan School so she could receive an education.

Tina struggles to find time for her studies due to chores and a lack of electricity. However, she prioritizes her education, recognizing that it can transform her life and her grandmothers.

Because of C2C's support and classes, Tina is now highly interested in computer science, and she recently developed an IT solution through the Youth4Goals program that she programs through her mobile phone. She intends to continue classes with C2C. Despite the hurdles in her life, Tina dreams of graduating high school and establishing a successful office career.



Tina struggles to find time for her studies due to chores and a lack of electricity. However, she prioritizes her education, recognizing that it can transform her life and her grandmothers.

Teacher Spotlight

> MS. TANUKA MUKHERJEE <

Ms. Tanuka Mukherjee is from Kolkata, known as the city of joy. She is an arts graduate and holds an advanced computer science diploma in systems management. After years of teaching in different schools, Tanuka worked at various NGOs, where she could fulfill her goal of mentoring underprivileged students. She was a counselor and handled school-related functions like fundraising, but teaching remained her passion.

In August 2021, Tanuka joined C2C and began teaching girls from Bangladesh. She teaches English and Computer Science and also serves as a counselor. “This is the place which fulfills all the criteria I love to work for,” she says, “An NGO, teaching, and counseling.” Tanuka understands that most of the C2C girls are first-generation

learners from underprivileged childhoods. As they often lack the confidence and conviction to change their lives, she uses teaching devices like dramatics, recitation, and debate. These devices foster C2C’s 4C’s creativity, confidence, communication, and critical thinking by promoting self-expression, persuasive skills, and analytical thinking.

She recalls the first time she was teaching in Bangladesh, when there was a “pin drop silence” as she started talking to the students in English. “Nobody was participating, and when I started talking in Bengali, their natural language, they were so relieved,” she says. “English was a nightmare for them, and they believed this could not be overcome. My maximum challenge was to remove that fear from their mind.” Tanuka allays the students’ fear of learning a new language by having them converse with each other in English. She reports that after a year and a half of taking classes, the students are good at reading, practicing “thoughts of the day” in assembly, and even performing dramas in English.

“I am amazed by their performances,” she says. “There are so many girls who are opening up, communicating nicely and breaking the fear of the English language...Every moment, they are moving forward one step further for a better future.”

At C2C, Tanuka is also responsible for creating the English curriculum along with worksheets for classes 1 to 12. In her computer classes, she focuses on teaching practical applications through games and





“This (work) is like witnessing a flower blooming day by day in front of your eyes. I am happy for them that they start believing in themselves.

animation. Additionally, she assists in training new C2C teachers. Tanuka also serves as a counselor for senior girls, an important part of her job that she also likes the most. Through one-on-one interactions, she learns more about the trauma and hardship the girls have experienced. With patience and compassion, she tries to alleviate their pain and help them discover the strength to move forward. She says that this role is as much a transformative experience for her as for the girls. “This is like witnessing a flower blooming day by day in front of your eyes,” she says. “I

am happy for them that they start believing in themselves, and I am sure they will come up with flying colors.”

Tanuka’s love for teaching and her students is reciprocated. The school’s headmistress told her the girls enjoy her C2C classes so much they never want to be absent, even if they are ill. Every day, Tanuka tries to be a window to the world for her students. She encourages them to emulate good manners, behavior and, above all, to find the resilience to stand up again after losing all hope.

Year in Review



International Day of the Girl

We were thrilled to celebrate the International Day of the Girl in October 2021 with a first for C2C—an Instagram Live interview. Hosted by C2C’s own board member, Dria Murphy, the interview with C2C student Bindu, who successfully obtained her master’s degree in Computer Science at a US university, was viewed by more than 1,000 people and served as a reminder of C2C’s mission and the power of education.



Guru Krupa Foundation Collaboration

After securing the first C2C grant in 2020, we were pleased to gain additional, generous support from the Guru Krupa Foundation in 2021 and 2022 to help address the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide STEM learning opportunities at our partner center, Muni Seva Ashram. Together with the Guru Krupa Foundation, we are changing lives in Gujarat by providing after-school training in the STEM & IT fields and teaching the girls to become independent thinkers by focusing on the 4Cs - confidence, creativity, critical thinking, communication.



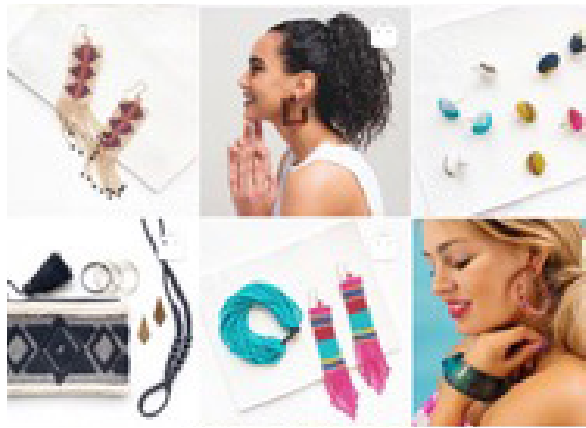
Diwali Celebration

While C2C did not hold an annual gala in 2021 due to the pandemic, a small group of C2C board members and close friends gathered in Chicago, IL, to celebrate Diwali in support of C2C. The gathering was a joyful event of friendship and togetherness, proving the continued strength of our community.



Break the Bias Campaign

C2C's first-ever social media campaign was launched in March 2022 to raise \$5K for workbooks for students enrolled in C2C's STEM programs. Under the theme of Break the Bias, C2C partners, staff, girls, and teachers came together to raise awareness and show their support. The successful campaign raised more than the goal amount, and the funds will go toward workbook expenses in the coming year.



INK+ALLOY Partnership

Initiated in 2019, C2C's partnership with corporate sponsor INK+ALLOY grew to new heights this year, with the company representing the largest single donor to C2C. A woman-owned company, INK+ALLOY was founded with the mission of empowering women to feel their best physically, mentally, and emotionally. INK+ALLOY works with artisan women throughout India making Commit2Change the ideal organization to sponsor. Proceeds from every purchase made from their site, or in various retailers across the country, go directly to Commit2Change.



Little Luxuries

Rounding out the year, teens in Chicago pledged to participate in our Little Luxuries campaign, where they will be foregoing little luxuries each month (like a Starbucks run or lunch with friends) and instead donating that money to help pay for a girl's education.



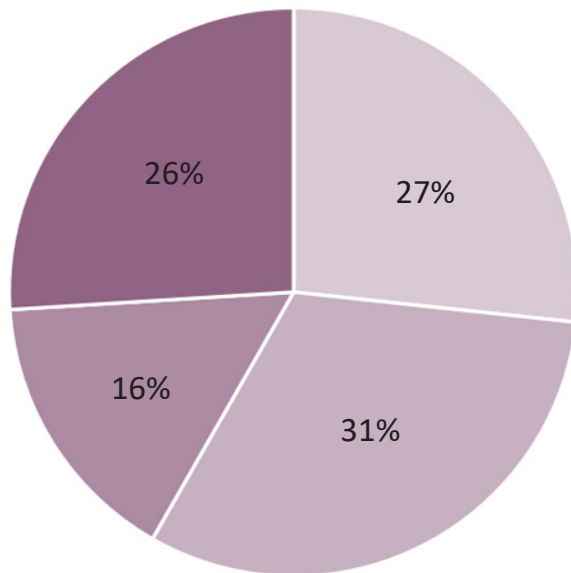
International Women's Day

This year, we celebrated International Women's Day with an IG LIVE interview featuring Gayathri. Orphaned at an early age, Gayathri has persevered to reach her goals. With support and education, she is now enrolled in a master's degree program at a US university.

Financials

EXPENSE CATEGORIES 2021

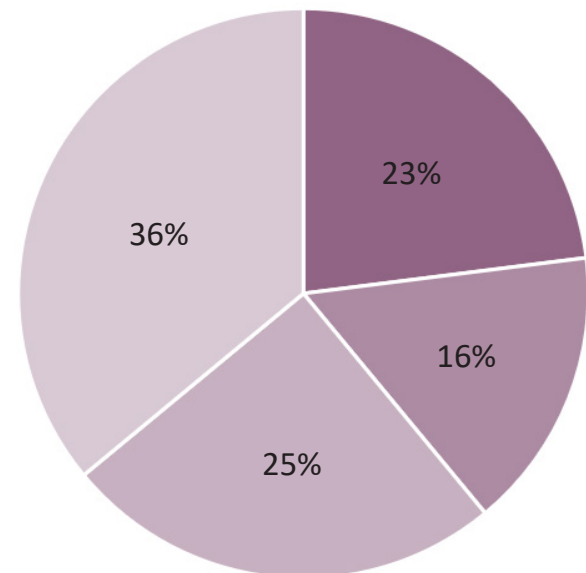
Total Expenses = \$223,608



- COVID-19 Initiatives
- Other Support
- STEM & Empowerment Programming
- Sponsorships

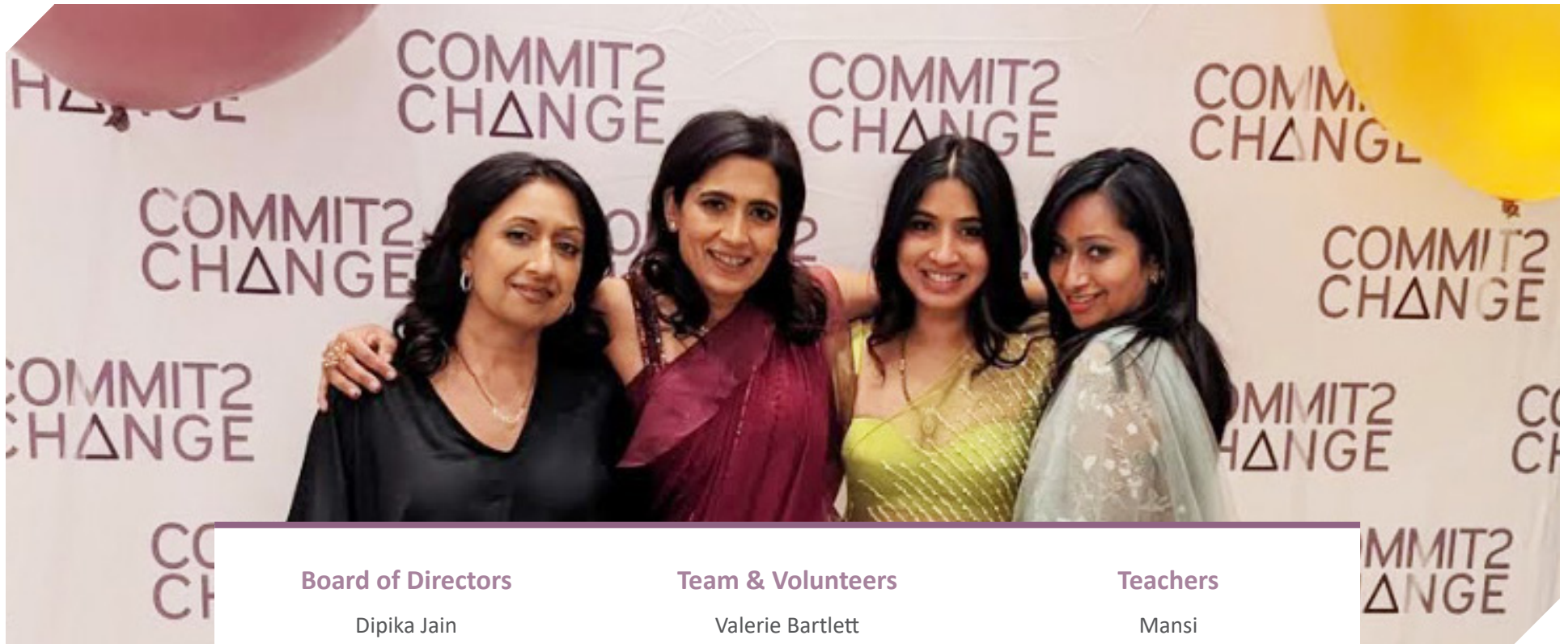
INCOME CATEGORIES 2021

Total Income - \$374,487



- Events
- Corporate Donors
- Foundations and Grants
- Direct Public Support

Leadership



Board of Directors

Dipika Jain
Dria Murphy
Madhavi Cherkuri
Mamta Kaushal
Noora Raj Brown
Shruti Ganguly
Sejal Gehani
Shabnam Mirza
Sumana Setty
Sonia Survanshi
Neil Vaswani

Team & Volunteers

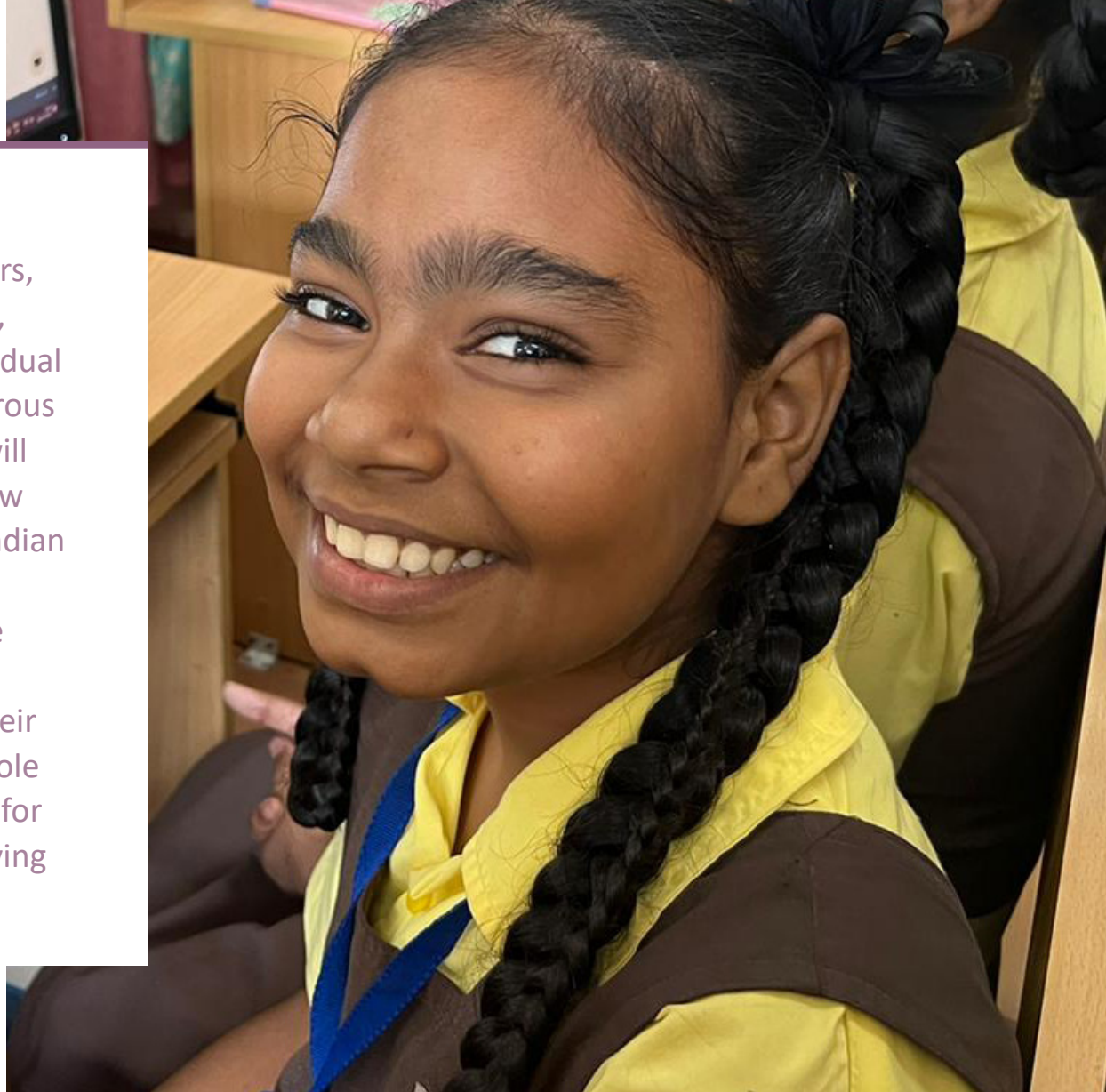
Valerie Bartlett
Fatima Colaco
Katie Eagan
Ace He
Brandon Proctor
Nina Roy
Kuber Sharma
Haley Springer
Joanne Tang

Teachers

Mansi
Jimmy
Maimoona
Tanuka
Amit
Dhanajay
Sapan
Jyoti
Mayank
Sneha
Bhakti
Trupti
Shivani

Thank You Supporters

We are so grateful to our corporate sponsors, board members, staff, volunteers, and individual donors for your generous support of C2C. We will continue to create new initiatives that help Indian and South Asian girls gain a comprehensive education and the freedom to pursue their dreams. With our whole hearts, we thank you for supporting and believing in our mission.





CONTACT

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CHANGE