

# ANNUAL REPORT

For the FY 2020-2021



**Clothes Box  
Foundation**

# About Clothes Box Foundation

At the heart of our foundation is the belief that every piece of clothing has inherent value and potential. Clothing is a basic necessity that should be accessible to all individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic status. It should not be a privilege reserved for a few but a resource that is available to everyone. For every piece of surplus fabric thrown away mindlessly there is an individual in dire need of this. To bridge this gap Clothes Box Foundation collects clothes from donors, sort it as per age, gender, cultural backgrounds and weather conditions and then distribute it to individuals and communities in need. **Completing five years Clothes Box Foundation has achieved a milestone of reaching over 2 million beneficiaries and 10,000+ donors.**

The vision behind starting Clothes Box Foundation was clear: to tackle the environmental crisis caused by textile waste. To multiply the impact ten folds Clothes Box Foundation is now repurposing clothes and giving them a new life. These serve a much larger purpose when transformed into utilities like blankets and bags distributed amongst the underprivileged. By repurposing discarded clothes and textiles into utilities we are contributing to reducing waste and extending the lifespan of materials. Rather than discarding items that are no longer in their original form or suitable for use, we are giving them a new purpose and preventing them from ending up in landfills. Thus contributing to a circular economy by reducing the demand for new resources and minimizing environmental impact. By embracing this approach, we can make a positive impact on the environment, promote mindful consumer behavior, and contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.



# A note from the Founder

I started Clothes Box Foundation with a vision to do something meaningful, something that can have a positive impact on people's lives. As simple as distributing clothes and blankets can make a significant difference in their lives. It is an extraordinary adventure, fueled by passion, creativity, and the unwavering support of our dedicated team and community. It is incredible to witness the smiles of children receiving clean clothes.

Clothes Box Foundation has found become more profound in its functions by transformation of discarded garments into functional pieces that defy the notion of waste. From collection to sorting and reshaping the fabric, each repurposed item tells a story of sustainability, and the power of collective action.

Clothes Box Foundation has a positive social and environmental impact. Through constant efforts, we have diverted countless garments from landfills, reduced the demand for new clothing production, and empowered individuals to make conscious choices in their fashion consumption. We have restored dignity by providing clean clothes within communities in need. None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our volunteers, partners, and generous donors. Your dedication and belief in our mission have been the driving force behind our success.

As we move forward, we are committed to reach the most remote locations where hope is dim, we want to spread more warmth and extend our hands as we distribute clean clothes and blankets. We are striving to deepen our impact, and continuing to push when the challenge seems impossible. Our journey is far from over, and there is still much work to be done. But with your continued support and collaboration, I am confident that we can create a world where repurposing clothes is the norm.

Sajan Veerr Abrol

*Founder and Chairman Trustee*

# Our milestones as we turn five!

**10,000+** donors

Over **2 million** beneficiaries

**300 KG** of textile waste diverted from the landfill

**7500 KG** of carbon savings

## We are grateful to our partners!

The H&M logo is displayed in a red, stylized, handwritten-style font.The ROYAL ENFIELD logo is displayed in a red, bold, sans-serif font, with 'ROYAL' stacked above 'ENFIELD'.The dunnhumby logo is displayed in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.

As we reflect on our journey, we are inspired by the meaningful milestones we have achieved together. The success of our joint initiatives, such as , is a testament to the power of collaboration and shared values. The support of our partners has not only benefited our organization but has also positively impacted the lives of countless individuals in our community.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the possibilities that lie before us. Your continued support is invaluable to us, and we are eager to explore new opportunities for collaboration. Together, we can continue to make a lasting difference and create a brighter future for our community.

# Covid-19 Relief Work

Economically disadvantaged communities were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Many individuals in these communities experienced job losses, reduced income, and difficulties accessing healthcare and essential services.

Migrant workers, especially those in low-wage sectors, faced heightened vulnerabilities, including inadequate living conditions, job losses, and limited access to healthcare and social support. India saw a wave of migrant workers travelling back to their lands, many by walking for thousands of miles in the heat. Relief came to many of them when Clothes Box Foundation with the help of volunteers distributed ration kits to them.

**1000+ ration kits were distributed to daily wage earners in many states of India.**

Underprivileged women faced their own unique challenges during the pandemic, including increased domestic burdens, loss of income based daily jobs, and a rise in gender-based violence. We supported them when the need was most, we distributed ration kits, masks, clothes, bedding and blankets.

Older adults and individuals with pre-existing health conditions were at higher risk of severe illness and mortality from COVID-19. Oxygen concentrators were kept for emergency need. Senior citizens in senior living care were left unheard but our volunteers distributed ration kits to 51 Senior citizens, at swami Vivekananda vidyashram in Savner- 40 kms for Nagpur.

Schools and universities worldwide had to implement remote learning and adjust to online education, causing disruptions to students' academic progress and social development. Lack of access to digital resources and technology further exacerbated educational inequalities.

**Clothes Box Foundation in collaboration with Micromax India distributed 200 tablets to children from very humble backgrounds who could not afford digital learning.**



**Clothes Box Foundation collaborated with Kosish to distribute ration kits comprising of dal, rice and soap.**



**Clothes Box Foundation collaborated with the Indian Army to distribute ration kits to daily wagers in Alwar, Rajasthan.**





During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a widespread shortage of masks, particularly medical-grade masks such as N95 respirators. The rapid spread of the virus and the recommendations by health authorities to wear masks contributed to a sudden surge in demand. Supply shortage and high prices of these masks meant a larger section of the society could not afford it. **Clothe Box Foundation made masks from fabric and distributed them to vegetable vendors, flower sellers, families in rurals and many more to curb the spreading of virus and secure their individual safety.**

In economically disadvantaged communities, individuals and families struggle to afford basic necessities, including bedding. Clothes Box Foundation donated sleeping rugs and blankets to community centers or organizations that serve low-income populations can make a significant difference in their lives. Distributing blankets in extreme cold climates is crucial to protecting vulnerable populations - homeless individuals, refugees, elderly people, low-income families, or those living in remote or marginalized communities from the harsh weather conditions. We are providing safety, dignity, and well-being of the individuals by giving them the blankets.



# Clothes Box Foundation and H&M come together to empower women and create a green impact!

As a new year approaches Clothes Box Foundation has joined hands with H&M to initiate a programme that produces sustainable utility items through upcycling discarded fabrics. By upcycling discarded fabric, we will divert it from landfills, reducing the amount of textile waste that ends up in our environment. By upcycling, we can contribute to a more sustainable and circular economy while creating unique and environmentally friendly products. Clothes Box Foundation has been outsourcing its repurposing through local tailors. It is time we start our own in house repurposing facility with industrial stitching machines and complete setup.

This project aims at tapping into the potential of rural women, giving them the opportunity to learn income generating skills and thus have a sustainable livelihood. This empowers them economically, enabling them to contribute to their households' income and become financially independent. Rural areas often suffer from high levels of poverty and limited employment opportunities. Skill development programs provide rural women with the tools they need to break the cycle of poverty. By enhancing their skills, they can access better job prospects, start their own businesses, or contribute to community development projects. This helps uplift their standard of living and reduces overall poverty levels in rural areas. Rural women, especially those from marginalized communities, often face discrimination and limited opportunities due to cultural, social, and economic factors. By providing them with skills and training, these programs enable women to overcome barriers, gain confidence, and actively participate in the workforce, thus reducing gender disparities.





# Together with Longewala

Longewala an iconic place where the battle between India and Pakistan was fought in the 1965 and 1971. At the Indo Pak Border, there are many isolated villages in Rajasthan where army has the sole access. Their only means of commuting and connecting with the rest of the world is through the Indian Army. This is an area cut off from the world and in need of support. They lack even the basic necessities of life, be it education, medicines, doctor's consultations or something as basic as clothes. This is a community which has been neglected and is unrecognised. In summers the heat is extreme as the temperature rises up to 50 degree Celsius and the communities live through it without any facilities.



It is these communities that need our attention and our support the most. This is where we as a foundation with the core function of distributing clothes could make a difference and show our support to the community where no one else could reach. It took a team of 34 individuals, 5 socially responsible corporate partners, a logistical effort of covering over 3,000KMS, coordinated efforts with the Indian Army, with upcycling and recycling of over 5 tons of waste fabric to impact 5,000 lives in and around Longewala, Rajasthan. To date we have touched 124 villages across India, where basic facilities of medicine, education and clothing are unavailable, where life is hard and shelter too weak to hold an entire family.



## **Legal**

Clothes Box Foundation is a Trust registered with Sub-Registrar, Gurgaon at Sr. No. 742 dated Book No. 1, Binder No. 13072 under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882.

Clothes Box Foundation is approved for tax exemptions u/s 12AA of Income Tax Act 1961.

All donations are exempt under section 80G of the I.T. Act 1961.

## **Registration number**

AABTC6258RF20213

## **Training Centre, Upcycling Unit and Office**

48-49 Ground Floor, Paras Trade Center, Gwal Pahari, Gurgaon - 122003

## **Contact Us**

info@clothesboxfoundation.org

+91 7838371356

## **Social Media**

Website: [www.clothesboxfoundation.org](http://www.clothesboxfoundation.org)

Facebook: Clothes Box Foundation

Instagram: @clothesboxfoundation

Twitter: @clothesboxfoundation