



What we need?

The needs of our BTL families are many. So far, we have managed to make things work with the available resources. However, we are called Bigger Than Life, as we like to dream bigger than life. There are many more areas we feel we can help the children and their families and need financial assistance for the same.

We need to raise funds for...

- Children's Education
- Medication and Surgeries
- 'Support A Child' - A Year
- Regular Sessions & Learning Activities
- Employment for the parents (instead of begging).

Every contribution helps. Please visit our website - <http://www.biggerthanlife.in>
Our bank details are at the bottom of the page.

Most importantly, we need Volunteers to join BTL and its various projects which include English coaching, Counseling, Regular session leads, Medical cases support, and Talent identification for the kids and parents.

If you would like to be a part of the BTL family or need any information, please get in touch with Crichelle-9820788707/Sandeep-8082757343/Kris-9892719338/Arvind-9769436182.

You may also visit us on Facebook as "Bigger Than Life"



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 VOLUNTEER

BIGGER THAN LIFE

A MOVEMENT
A Move Which Is Meant For The Underprivileged!

Make a difference. Be A Volunteer Now!



Matthew 19:14 - "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

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Bigger Than Life

www.biggerthanlife.in
(Reg no. F - 45281)

Who are we?

Launched in April 2011, Bigger Than Life is a project started by a group of enthusiasts, a set of ordinary people who believe they can create extraordinary possibilities in the lives of underprivileged kids.

These kids are homeless, orphans or with a single parent, deprived of the basic necessity of life, which may not be food, clothing or shelter, but.... LOVE.



Vision

To remove the word Underprivileged from the dictionary of Mumbai.

Mission

To support and fulfill every need of every one in need.

What we do?

The BTL NGO has been involved in a number of projects to help those in need. Here are a few programs that we have organised and conducted -

One of our primary goals is to provide an opportunity for the kids to have access to a proper education. We are keen on ensuring each and every child gets to experience the joy of learning. We realize an education will also enable them to get off the streets and away from the environment they are living in.

- Over the years, we are proud and excited to have a number of our slum girls get admission in a prestigious English medium school. A few of kids have also been admitted in various boardings and shelters. They are doing extremely well in their studies and are looking forward to completing their education
- We have continued this momentum and are looking at getting the rest of the kids into schools as well, with a few more boys and girls securing admission in various schools across the city this year

EDUCATION



Healthy is Happy

With a mission to help the unprivileged, Bigger Than Life (BTL) started an official Medical Entity 'Healthy is Happy' (HIH) in May, 2012, wherein a Team of dedicated medical professionals and experts strive towards the common goal of "Working towards a World Without Weaknesses".

Due to the free Medical Camps conducted for the BTL slum families twice a year, we found that it was not just the bodily infirmities that needed healing, but also the socio-cultural beliefs and the emotional

trauma that came wedged with them.

As BTL moves from one location to another, uplifting the underprivileged, HIH follows the movement. The team works with the help of Certified Medical Volunteers from colleges throughout the city, not just to diagnose and treat the cases that are found, but also to counsel them in a way that their fears, tears and prejudices are wiped off.

Almost all the children come from broken homes where there is a lack of encouragement and attention towards their needs. These children are not supported to pursue education and are forced to beg by their parents who are mostly under the influence of alcohol and drugs. These situations sometimes become conducive for suicidal behavior in the child.

Our BTL Volunteers have stepped in to counsel these kids, providing them a listening ear and a hand of hope.

The children share their joys and sorrows with their new friends, further strengthening the bond between BTL and them. We also conduct Parental Counseling Seminars that help the parents deal with their addictions and situations.

These counseling sessions are conducted once a week and start with identifying the needs of each individual and catering to them accordingly. They are put through various rehabilitation and life skills development programs and the transformation is evident. BTL pays attention to even the smallest of issues, as everything starts small!



Counselling



Free coaching classes

While an education is important, we also found most of the kids were not on par with the rest of their classmates in terms of language and basic reading and writing skills. To help get them up to speed, we put these children into professional tuition classes to prepare them for the school syllabus requirements.

BTL Volunteers also conduct free English coaching classes daily for our school going kids. This has helped their confidence immensely with most now able to converse in English.

Regular Sessions

The BTL Team meets with the children across all locations regularly every week where we conduct various activities.

- We conducted a session where we found out what the kids wanted to be when they grew up. We got costumes together according to the careers and dressed them up. We took photos of them wearing the outfit, printed out the photos, framed them and gave it to each kid to serve as a motivation to dream big.
- We conduct sessions where we use skits to teach kids about the harmful effects of gutkha and other addictions.

We also teach them the importance of good dental and personal hygiene. We then distribute toothbrushes, soaps, and nail cutters.

- As the kids come from unstable environments with no guidance from their parents, they have unhealthy habits and aggressive behaviour. In order to educate them, we regularly conduct professional sessions on anger management, abuse control and moral living.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

- The BTL team also conducts regular donation drives for clothes, books, stationary items and other things the kids may need. So far we have been blessed with generous donors, but the needs are always increasing.
- We also raise funds and buy raincoats, warm clothes and footwear to help the BTL street families.
- BTL has helped in a few major operations of street children for hernias, cataract surgeries and many such cases.
- BTL supports a few families for their monthly ration and house rent.
- It is our conscious effort to make the families self-sustainable, so we encourage them by supporting them in their small time business of selling products on streets and small shops.
- The BTL team also takes the children for regular picnics and outings to build a better relationship with them.
- We also enhance their learning abilities by showing them value based movies, taking them to museums, exhibitions and other learning & educational events.

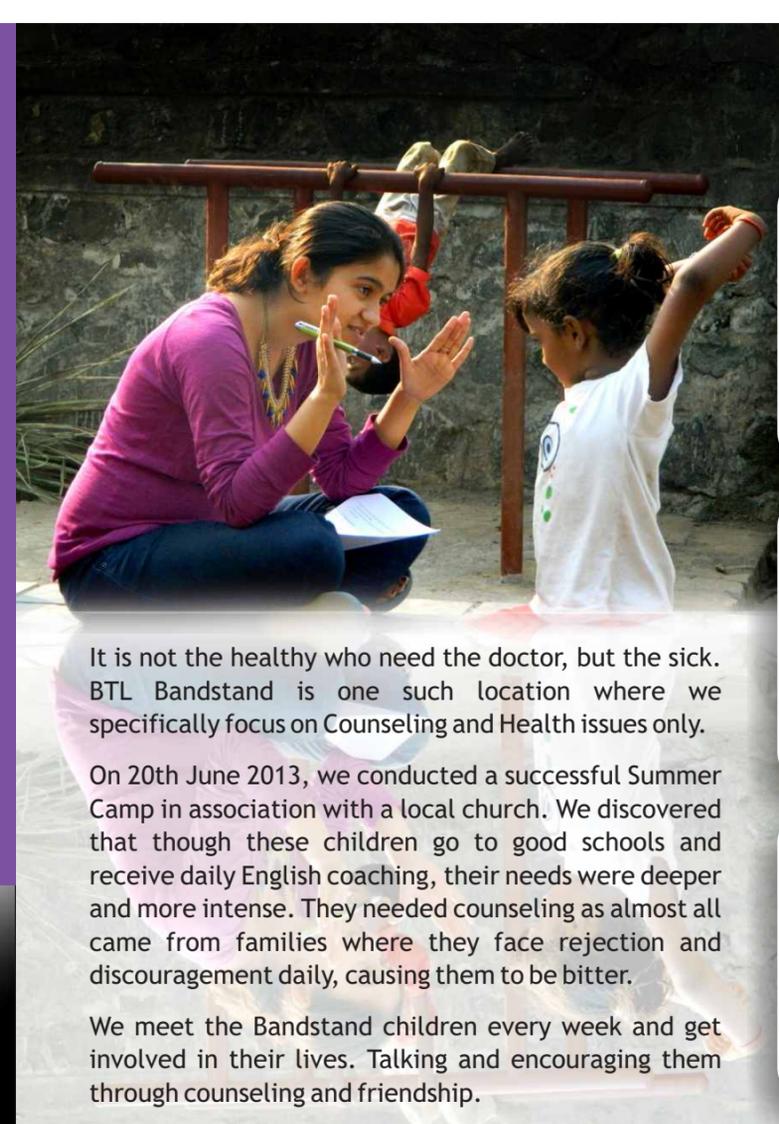




BTL Carters

Carter Road in Bandra was the first location of BTL. What started with 3 volunteers and a handful of kids has grown tremendously. We have tried to create a healthy atmosphere for the street and slum kids, imparting moral and social values. We meet them regularly and teach them through games, art/craft, movies, & various other activities. We cover topics like hygiene, life skills development, creative development, behavioral issues and preserving the environment. All these sessions help us develop a bond with these children and earn their friendship and trust as we train them to become better human beings.

Every session is different, Every session is beautiful. Come walk in!



It is not the healthy who need the doctor, but the sick. BTL Bandstand is one such location where we specifically focus on Counseling and Health issues only.

On 20th June 2013, we conducted a successful Summer Camp in association with a local church. We discovered that though these children go to good schools and receive daily English coaching, their needs were deeper and more intense. They needed counseling as almost all came from families where they face rejection and discouragement daily, causing them to be bitter.

We meet the Bandstand children every week and get involved in their lives. Talking and encouraging them through counseling and friendship.

BTL Bandstand



BTL Juhu

To take our mission to other parts of the city, BTL chose Juhu as its second branch.

Quickly growing into our biggest location, Juhu is steadily making an impact on the children and their families. By teaching values and building relationships with them, we have seen a tremendous growth in the lives of these children.

With a combination of passion and commitment shown by the extremely talented volunteers, BTL Juhu is all set to make a powerful impact on the community.

PS: The location is right on the beach, making it a very cool place to hang out & have fun with the kids. Come and join us!



BTL Kalina

On a Sunday afternoon in June, 2013, a couple of BTL volunteers entered a daunting looking locality in Kalina to meet a slum family who had recently shifted to this location. The volunteers were joyfully received by the couple along with their 5 kids.

Within a few visits, our volunteers found out that this place is full of alcoholics, murderers, thieves, rapists...scary enough for them to back out!!!

But the volunteers pressed on and started meeting the children every week in one small house. They took precautions entering the slums in the dark hours. They started teaching the young boys and girls some basic personal and social living skills as well as

moral values. Soon the children and their families became close friends with the volunteers leading to the start of BTL Kalina!

It may not be a very safe location, but we have faith that with the love we share, BTL Kalina is definitely in the transformation stages. We have already noticed the people there growing more accepting of us and what we do.

