



shooting stars foundation

Educate | Empower | Enable

Monthly Newsletter

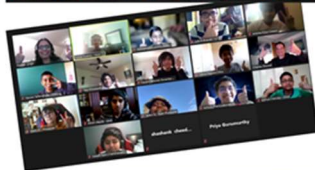
March - April 2021

March and April 2021 were very busy for Shooting Stars Foundation.

Several fundraising camps by youth officers, Scholar activities and scholar placement news filled the days with excitement. Enjoy our newsletter below!

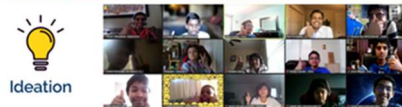
- Michigan camp, raised \$1025
- Texas camp, raised \$1450
- 3 Technology Webinars
- New Scholars Induction
- English classes for scholars
- Scholars graduation and job placement
- Donor Family Singaram
- Employee Kudo to Jay Fernando
- Volunteer Kudo to Usha Sarathy
- Officer Kudo to Ansh Gupta
- Upcoming Events
- Adopt A Scholar campaign

Fundraising Camps



Vishal Swamy Anish Manda

13 Participants
Money raised: \$1025



Michigan team raised \$1025 from our first Entrepreneurship Camp for Upper Elementary and Middle Schoolers. 13 students *nationwide* were mentored by 4 Top Notch Industry Leaders, in 15+ hours sessions, to create and pitch their products.

They presented their pitches to 3 amazing judges and received 5-stars from all of them, winning different awards. The camp was hosted by SSF Officers, the Dynamic Duo, Vishal Swamy, and Anish Manda, guided by [Priya Gurumurthy](#).

AMAZING JUDGES



In Texas, high schoolers **Krish, Shragvi, Iniya, Ayushi,** and **Anish**, led by **Sanjitha**, raised \$1450 for their Entrepreneurship Camp. 4 teams presented their 'products' to 2 industry leader judges, after being mentored by 5 experts in Ideation, Product Management, Marketing, Finance, and Pitching.



Technology Webinars

From February to April, Nebula Youth Camps successfully conducted 3 Webinars, led by SSF volunteers and officers, featuring leading industry experts.

Do you want to be part of our Webinar series? Be a speaker, organizer, host, or participant?

Contact us at nebula@sstarsfoundation.org.

Technology	Strategic	Experiences	Products	Leadership
5G	5G will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth
Cloud	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth
AI	AI will drive strategic growth	AI will drive strategic growth	AI will drive strategic growth	AI will drive strategic growth
IoT	IoT will drive strategic growth	IoT will drive strategic growth	IoT will drive strategic growth	IoT will drive strategic growth
Blockchain	Blockchain will drive strategic growth	Blockchain will drive strategic growth	Blockchain will drive strategic growth	Blockchain will drive strategic growth
Autonomous Vehicles	Autonomous Vehicles will drive strategic growth	Autonomous Vehicles will drive strategic growth	Autonomous Vehicles will drive strategic growth	Autonomous Vehicles will drive strategic growth
Edge Computing	Edge Computing will drive strategic growth	Edge Computing will drive strategic growth	Edge Computing will drive strategic growth	Edge Computing will drive strategic growth
AR/VR	AR/VR will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth	AR/VR will drive strategic growth
5G	5G will drive strategic growth	5G will drive strategic growth	5G will drive strategic growth	5G will drive strategic growth
Cloud	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth	Cloud will drive strategic growth

Augmented Reality, led by volunteer **Abhi Saxena**, featuring speakers **Dr. Irina Groysman (ZS)**, and **Rahul Avasthy**.

Investing, led by former SSF president, [Vaarun Ramanathan](#), featuring [Arun Chetty](#) (Intel Capital), [Shayne Veramallay](#) (CARBON Impact), and [David Erickson](#) (Wharton Finance).

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE
venture capital | private equity

Learn what technological developments investing is enabling for the future and how you can attract investors:

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE | FINTECH | AR/VR | SUSTAINABILITY

ARUN CHETTY
Managing Director
Intel Capital

SHAYNE VERAMALLAY
Founder & Managing Partner
@ CARBON Impact Holdings

DAVID ERICKSON
Senior Fellow & Lecturer
@ Wharton Finance

DATE: Saturday, March 6, 2021
TIME: 2 - 3 PM PST / 5 - 6 PM EST

Open to all middle, high school

LIVE Q&A



Ajjit:
Open your eyes!
Keep improving your communication skills.
Don't be afraid to negotiate for your advantage.

Nebula
Hosted by Sanat Singhal
21st Century (Venture) Podcast

Panel Series
Sunday, April 11, 2021
5 PM PST / 7 PM CST / 8 PM EST

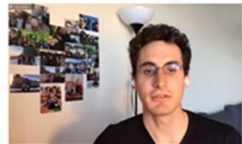
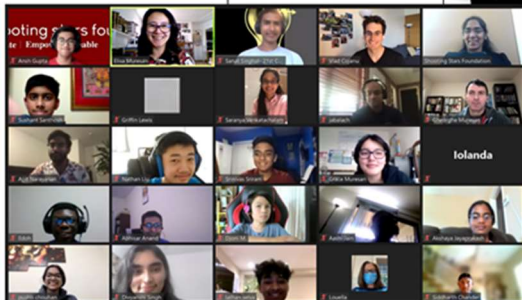
Professional Paths - How to Prepare from High School and Beyond

Vlad Cojanu
University of Waterloo
Software Engineer, Facebook

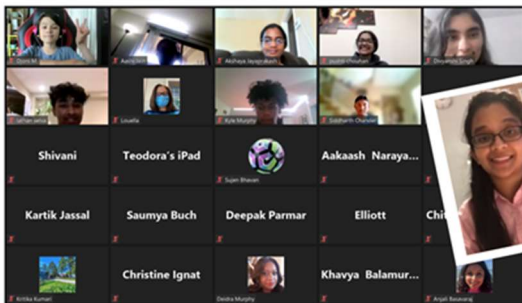
Saranya Venkatachalam
Duke University
Graduate Research Assistant
Statistics & Urban Planning

Ajjit Narayanan
Urban Institute
Associate Professor

Professional Path, led by [Ansh Gupta](#), hosted by [Sanat Singhal](#) (21st Century), and featuring SSF founder, [Ajjit Narayanan](#) (Urban Institute), [Dr. Saranya Venkatachalam](#) (Duke University), and [Vlad Cojanu](#) (Facebook).

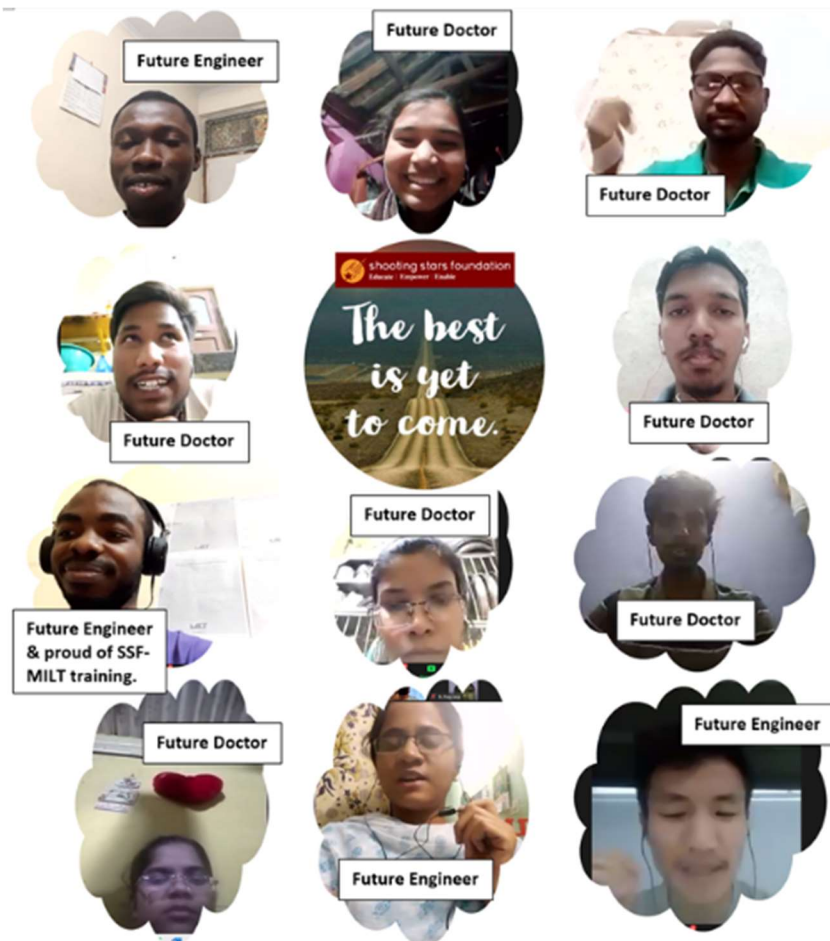
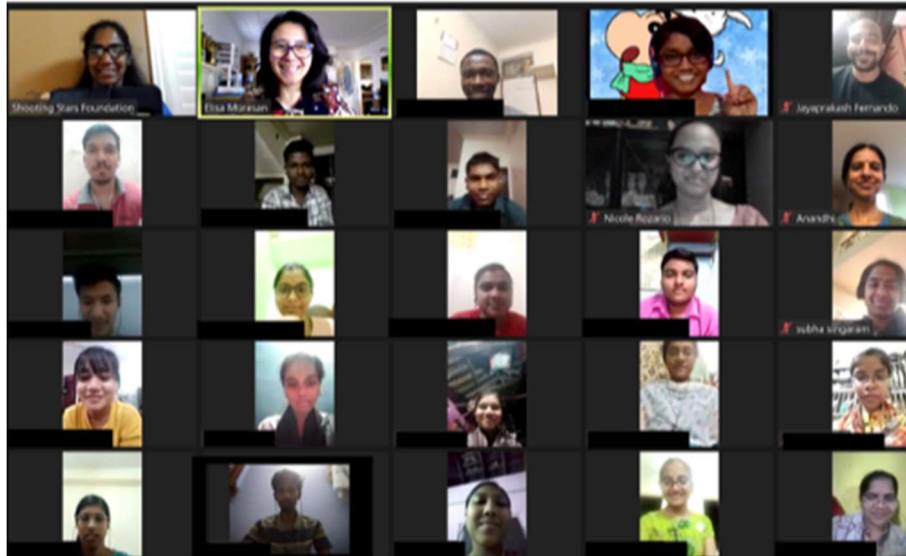


Vlad:
Take risk!
Hone in your self-learning skills and do competitions / pitching events.
Put more efforts to apply for scholarships.



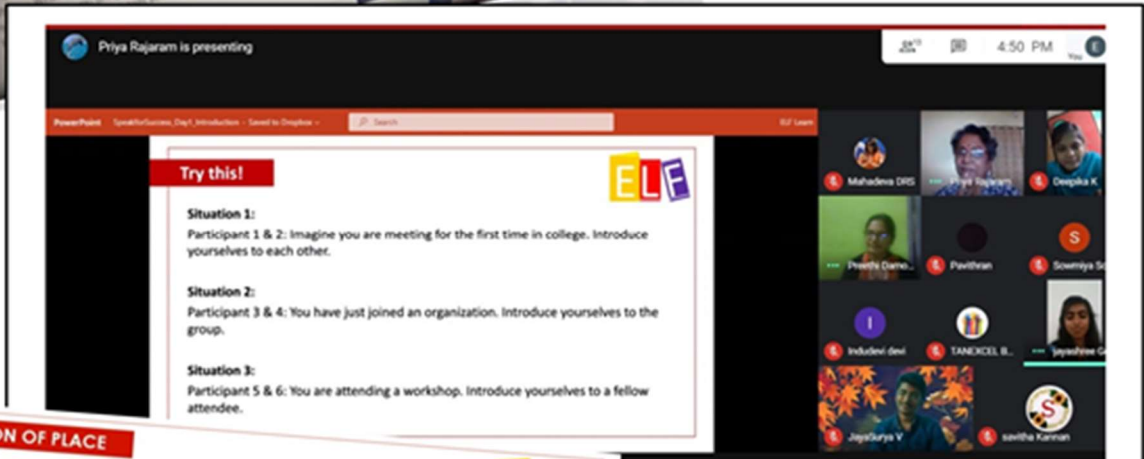
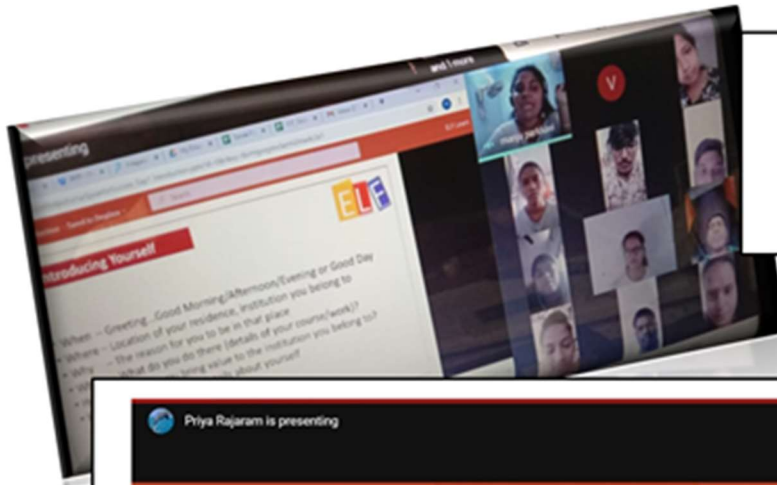
Saranya:
Start early!
Network early.
Go to service/field trips.
Don't delay in finding financial means for your college.

SSF Scholars Connect



The **24 New Scholars induction meeting** in March 2021 generated heartwarming sentiment and very positive feedback. **Neeru**, an employee said: "I am very happy to be part of SSF. Today, what I experienced means a lot. I feel inspired." **Students said:**

- ◆ "Really very excited and very interesting to see you all from various places..."
- ◆ "The commitments are very much inspiring..."
- ◆ "I will try to Make something different through SSF to change the world 🌍"



PREPOSITION OF PLACE

1. The chemist is _____ the post office and bank.
 2. The sports center is _____ the fruit shop.
 3. The bank is _____ to the chemist.
 (next, between, near)

Picture Description

ELF program is a very first kind of initiative by SSF to help our students develop their presentation and writing skills. **Thirty Seven** scholars from **SSF** and **Vanavil** participated in the 12-week, 24 sessions, program. The sessions were delivered through LIVE classes and SELF LEARNING workshops. Students actively participated with over 80% attendance in every session. They also showed significant improvement in their writing, speaking, and presentation skills.

Student like **Muthu Murugan**, who had a tough time to even speak a sentence in ENGLISH, was able to construct sentences and present himself in the best way he can. The program mainly focused on the students' Confidence, Speaking Skills, Sentence Construction, Grammar Understanding, and Presentation Skills.

Do you want to participate in future ELF programs? Watch out for announcements in your group chat, or email support@sstarsfoundation.org.

Scholars Spotlight



Shashi is an amazing kid who invented a light innovation and was interviewed on TV. He also attended our MILT self-confidence and motivation program in October 2020. He has been placed **at Samsung – as an Engineer Trainee** - his dream job.



PLACEMENT



“I will be thankful and obligated lifelong for what Shooting Stars and my donor did for me.”

-PRADEEP
B.E, EEE
Sri Krishna College , Coimbatore
Company placed : **HCL**
Position : **Systems Engineer**

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We are also celebrating the job placement of **Pradeep** as a **Systems Engineer at HCL**; and **Udhay adarshini** as a **Robotic Process Automation at VDart, Trichy**.

We are proud of you, **Shashi, Pradeep, and Udhaya!**

PLACEMENT

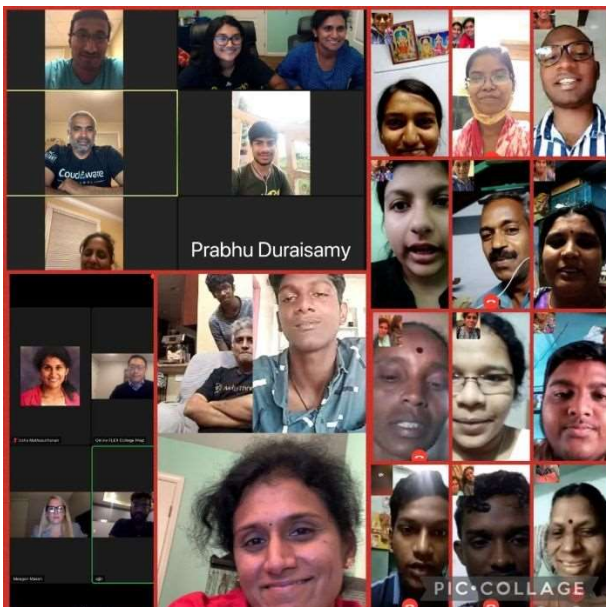


“With my father deceased completing my graduation seemed not possible . Thanks to Shooting Stars and Karthik Anna I will be able to look after my mother now. ”

-UDHAYADARSHINI
BCA
Holy Cross College . Trichy, India
Compan Placed : **VDart, Trichy**
Position : **Robotic Process Automation**
Donor : Karthik & Muthu , Google , San Jose

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Volunteer Kudo



Meet **Usha Sarathy**. She is a committed longtime volunteer! Over the past 3 years, Usha has personally completed about **75+** New Student approval interviews and Donor Connect calls – in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi with her daughters taking notes. Her older daughter Trisha (VP) ran several spring camps and Steamathons for the past 6 years. Her younger daughter, Neha, now runs Bollywood and Speech in Winter and Spring camps.

She also met with a few SSF scholars at Coimbatore, Her first scholar **Dr. Ravishankar** has now graduated and she has committed to sponsor another scholar – **Pushpa**. Thank you, Usha.

Donor Spotlight

An extremely heartwarming meeting between the donors **Mr. Singaram / Mrs. Vasugi** and their adopted scholars from **Vanavil**.

It was exciting to hear from their youngsters about all of their goals – from becoming a police officer, to fashion designing to statue making to art directing to joining the military to becoming a teacher / principal / software engineer to writing a book on tribal society !

The officers / volunteers / board of directors and donors were very much inspired by these first generation graduates !

Thank you

"You can dream it and achieve it too !"



YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE
THANK YOU.



The first teacher in the village married a smart, hard-working, and goal-oriented boy from a humble beginning... giving the gift of a lifetime: **College Education!** for a better future generation.

Thank you for your inspirational life story, **Mr. and Mrs. Singaram.**



HUGE THANK YOU to our donors **Mr. and Mrs. Singaram** (Parents of our CEO - **Latha Narayannan**, and Oregon volunteer leader **Subha Singaram**). They are sponsoring close to **45 students** from Shooting Stars.

Recently, we had 2 zoom meetups with them and their scholars . It was an emotional experience to hear about Mr Singaram's humble beginnings and his journey to where he is now. His story was relatable and inspiring to the scholars. Mrs. Singaram shared her dreams for their scholars and invited them all for a visit post-covid.

All the scholars promised they will make the Singaram family proud!

Employee Kudo

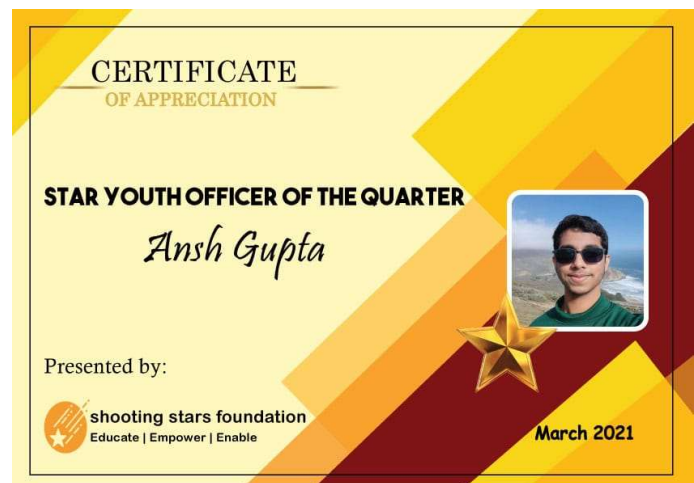
Jay Fernando has been awarded the STAR Employee of the Quarter - Q1 2021. Jay introduced the process of visiting home of the scholars, and this has been one of the most successful processes to make sure we sponsor the most eligible scholars.

Jay has been instrumental in ensuring SSF's continued pursuit of supporting student education. In the last 4 months, Jay has enabled ±101 donor payments to several students. In this process, Jay created a team of 55 volunteers who visited about 68 homes in Tamilnadu. Well done, Jay !



Officer Kudo

We would like to give a HUGE Shout Out to [Ansh Gupta](#), our **SSF High School President** – and award him the STAR High School Officer of the Quarter – Q1 2021. Since Ansh joined SSF in 2019, he's dedicated close to 600 hours to SSF! He helped various **backend** work, **led** several camps, and **managed** the entire organization from a youth officers perspective! In 2020 alone, along with other team members, he raised at least **\$30,000** for SSF! He also donated the prize money he got from hacking, to **sponsor** one of SSF scholars, **Bharat**, a 3rd year B.Tech Aerospace Engineering at IIT Madras, Chennai. Great work, Ansh.



Upcoming Events



let's code

starhacks

FREE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ONLINE HACKATHON

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (CODING EXPERIENCE NOT NEEDED)

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021 | 9AM-9PM EST | ONLINE

Requirements: Laptop and Good Internet Connection

Cybersecurity workshops Website workshops

Certificates and Prizes \$1000+ Mentoring by experts

Registration closes April 19 - Limited spots
Register here: www.starhacks.org/

STEAM-A=THON

May 15 2021

ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

Have fun solving exciting engineering problems through hands-on projects.



JEOPARDY CHALLENGE

Answer questions about math, science, current issues, and more through a jeopardy game.



NEWS FLASH CHALLENGE

Explore interesting issues in the world and present the information through a creative video.



A great way to spend your spring break!

More info and registration at <https://shooting-stars-foundation.org/steam-a-thon>

Text 503-307-0641 if you have any questions!

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NEX

Nebula Entrepreneurship Experience

Giving tomorrow's business leaders a head start!

What is NEX?

The Nebula Entrepreneurship Experience (NEX) is a 4-week online summer camp for high schoolers. With a team of fellow co-founders, you'll learn how to develop your own tech startup! Grasp essential entrepreneurial concepts from industry-leading mentors in Google, Uber, Amazon, etc. while coding a mobile app prototype of your product.

NEX's Exciting Curriculum!

Ideation
How do you come up with feasible & effective solutions to real problems?

Marketing
Conceptualize your ideal customer and learn how to appeal to them!

Product Management
What are the key features your product / service should have?

Finance
Learn the basics of seed-funding a startup and deciding its valuation.

Pitching
Learn how to compellingly pitch your idea to investors & gain funding.

Code an App Prototype!
NEX has dedicated tech mentors to guide you through building an app to show off your product!

Sessions:
June 16th - July 11th
June 22nd - July 18th
June 30th - July 26th
July 7th - July 31st

Meeting Hrs:
Wed through Sun
4 - 6 PM PST

Eligibility:
8th - 12th Grade

\$449 Early Bird (Until May 1st)
\$499 Regular Price

"I was so impressed by the depth of the program and the quality of the mentorship. The program was an excellent blend of technical programming and business understanding" - Yen, Parent

Start your application! nebulayouthcamps.org/NEX

Contact Us nebula@sstarsfoundation.org

More Ways to Support SSF



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ADOPT A SCHOLAR

You can make a difference

- ✓ Motivated Medical/Engineering/Nursing Scholars
- ✓ Deserving Low Income Families
- ✓ First Time Graduates
- ✓ Top Performers
- ✓ Mentor & Connect Periodically
- ✓ Celebrate upliftment with graduation

400 scholars worldwide

15 states in India



COMMIT
CHOOSE
CONNECT
CELEBRATE

By enabling access to education for one generation, we can empower them to break the cycle of poverty

shooting-stars-foundation.org
Avail corporate donation matches, volunteer grants & tax deductions

60 Scholars Need your Support

We are looking for generous Donors to adopt our new batch of scholars! Despite all the challenges, the year 2020 was very impactful with 180 wonderful donors adopting 200 students. This year 2021, we have many new verified and approved students who need our help and support to pursue college education and uplift their families from poverty.

\$799 yr per student

\$399 with corporate match

Please consider adopting one of them - through donations or donation matching at employer or volunteer hour grants, it is \$799 per scholar which is \$399 with match. Your donations are tax deductible which makes it only about \$300 per effectively

For \$300 you can change the life of one scholar and their family!

Language	Degree	#Available
Bengali	Medical	1
Hindi	Engineering	8
Hindi	Medical	2
Marathi	Engineering	3
Marathi	Medical	4
Kannada	Engineering	12
Kannada	Medical	4
Telugu	Engineering	10
Telugu	Medical	5
Tamil	Engineering	8
Tamil	Medical	5

Email : support@sstarsfoundation.org Text : 510-410-2887



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Sponsor a Student
Change a generation

