

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Spreeha Foundation

empowering people - transforming lives



[spreeha.org](http://spreeha.org)

Sprezha envisions people  
**empowered**  
to permanently break the cycle of  
poverty

Sprezha touched **44,074** lives  
in 2021

Sprezha meets 9 United Nations  
Sustainable Development Goals





Dear Friend,

2021 was a year of hope and recovery, thanks to the advancement of healthcare and the dedication of the health workers around the world. At Spreeha, our communities in Bangladesh experienced the same hope and recovery, although the first half of 2021 remained as challenging as the year before. Due to the second wave of COVID-19, Bangladesh went through multiple lockdowns affecting many of our programs.

The social impacts of the pandemic was profound in our communities, especially among young girls as the risk of early marriage increased. Malnutrition among children also increased by approximately 18% during the pandemic.

Continuing our adaptive and innovative approaches to tackle social problems, we started new areas of services such as telehealth services and Youth Clubs in remote areas. We put more focus on Adolescent Girls Club with social and health awareness to prevent early marriage, and children's health to prevent malnutrition.

At the same time, we maintained all our existing healthcare, education, and skills training programs. Our chapters in Boston, Dallas, and Seattle have been vigilant in serving local communities.

We are delighted to report that one of our education program participants, Limon Ali has been admitted to a prestigious public medical school. He dreamt to be a doctor when he was in eighth grade, and now he is on the path to reach his dream – this is possible because of your belief in Spreeha!

My heartiest thanks to you for empowering people and transforming lives!  
Best,

Ferdouse Oneza  
Chief Executive Officer



Healthcare



Education



Skills Training



Economic

Opportunities

1

# 24 million

people still living below the poverty line. Total population in Bangladesh: 166 million

UN Data 2021

# 64% of THE (Total Health Expenditure)

is out of pocket expenditure and no health insurance program exists.

Health Care Financing Strategy 2012-2032. Bangladesh Govt.

# Only about 20%

of the total workforce are formal paid employees and the rest are engaged in informal, unpaid, or agriculture work.

UNDP Bangladesh quarterly report 2018





# 2021 Highlights

44,074

Total lives served

24,781

persons served in  
healthcare

4,956

Students and  
community members  
served

13,600

COVID Response

3



Second Year

# COVID Response of the Pandemic

## Challenges

- 2nd Wave of Covid-19
- Lockdowns
- Progga schools closed
- Spreeha Community Resource Centers closed
- Omicron brought a significantly higher number of lung diseases

## Mitigation and Adaptation

- Teachers and Community Workers went door to door to bring school to our students' homes
- Online platforms to coordinate meeting with Progga Club facilitators
- Telehealth
- Raised healthcare awareness and services door to door

Last Summer, one of Spreeha's communities in Satkhira, in the southern part of Bangladesh was hit hard by Cyclone Yaas. Spreeha provided 12,800 meals to 400 families in this remote community.

# Second Year of the Pandemic

Spreeha in partnership with BIN (BUETian Investment Network) distributed food and hygiene materials to low income families in the Rayerbazar and Mirpur area.

The packages were distributed to 130 families in Rayerbazar and 70 families in Mirpur.

Size of the food and hygiene material distribution pack was designed according to the family size and their need for balanced nutrition.

- Food supply
- Hygiene materials
- Essential drugs
- Door to door awareness and counseling
- Online doctor helpline



## Emergency Support for

- 800 persons
- 12,800 meals to 400 families

# Impact Healthcare

## Healthcare Components

- Preventive Healthcare
- Maternal and Child Healthcare
- Malnutrition Screening
- Primary Healthcare
- Pharmacy and Laboratory
- Family Planning Program
- Events
- Partnership

In 2021, the Healthcare program served a total of

# 24,781 persons



288 Pregnant mothers registered for ANC



136 Postnatal mothers cared



136 Neonates cared



15,861 Patients treated



623 Fertile couples received family planning counselling



1,288 Children screened for malnutrition



6,449 Awareness outreach



Mother-child healthcare makes underprivileged pregnant mothers aware of the importance of antenatal and postnatal checkups during pregnancy. No maternal deaths were reported among these cases. One still birth case was reported in the month of February.

Spreeha also provided malnutrition screening for under-five-years old children at their homes. There was a rising trend of malnutrition cases during the pandemic. Spreeha is closely monitoring this along with food and nutrition capsules distribution.



## Shaheda's Actions to Prevent Her Son's Asthma

Yasin had an acute Asthma problem ever since he was a baby. He was sick most days without being able to play outside. Spending 10 days per month at the hospital wasn't uncommon. In 2015, he started going to Spreeha's education program and a teacher referred him to Spreeha clinic. Shaheda immediately took him there and counseled the doctor about his struggle with Asthma. According to Dr. Nusrat's supervision, he was put under medication and Nebulizer treatment – which he was prescribed to be inhaled at least two to three and sometimes, four times daily. His treatment at Spreeha continued for 4 long years and slowly things started to change. It was first noticed when he was found playing outside with no issues of sneezing or breathing. Yasin's condition has improved drastically since.

“ I wish I had found Spreeha earlier – as I have wasted enough time and money behind services that didn't bring me any sustainable cure”

# Impact Education

Journey of Hope  
Education



During the pandemic, Spreeha brought schools to our students' homes. Maintaining the safety measures, teachers & community workers went door to door with school supplies and engaged students in pre- and after school activities.

Shams & Nasreen Scholarship Award of Spreeha has been designed to help students to sustain in multiple levels of education. It provides support for admission and tuition fees, books, supplies, and equipment related expenses. A total of twelve students received the scholarship in 2021.

## Education Components

- Preschool program for children 3-5 years
- After school program for children 6+ years
- Scholarship program
- Education counselling and awareness
- Clubs: Drawing, Cultural, Book Reading and Kid's Club.

In 2021, the Education Program served a total of

# 4,976 persons



180 Children in Pre-school



240 Children in After-school



12 Scholarship Awards



3,380 Awareness Outreach

# 8

## Dancing in the slum – Rabbi's story



“ I love dancing –  
it's hard to  
express how  
good it makes  
me feel!”

Rabbi once observed Spreeha's after-school program's dance class from a distance and was very excited about it. The teacher encouraged Rabbi to sign up for the class. He was the only boy in the entire class. In a community like Rayer Bazar, a boy's passion for dance is often frowned upon or ridiculed. But Rabbi was not dissuaded by what others thought.

He mentioned how friendly and supportive other students of the class were and how comfortable everybody made him feel while dancing altogether. Besides dancing, Rabbi is known for his many other talents since he joined Spreeha in 2018. He likes many forms of art from crafts to music to dance.

Spreeha makes sure that Rabbi and children like him get the chance to nurture their creative sides and live their passion in a safe and secure environment.

# Impact Skills Training



120 Adolescent Girls' Club Program



33 Progga planning meetings with head-teachers and teaches



15 Training of Trainer for Progga teachers



90 Number of attendees knowledge sharing session

Adolescent Girls' Club Program in Rayerbazar, and outside of Dhaka, reopened after an extended closure.

## Progga

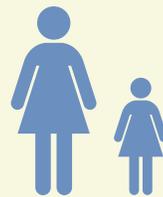
Progga is a creative leadership program empowering adolescents with essential life skills that bring forth their leadership qualities from within. Through the club, young girls and boys engage in activities promoting self-definition, confidence and thus enabling them to transform societies as active participants. Progga is operating in remote locations. Spreeha completed the following milestones in 2021:

- Opportunities to participate
- Organized Teachers' Training (ToT)
- Organized knowledge sharing session with members, teachers, and parents at Progga school's in Nilphamari, Shatkhira and Kurigram districts.

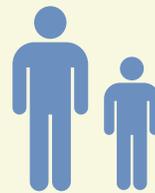
# Support for Rohingya Refugees

Spreeha organized a health camp at Camp 12, Kutupalong Rohingya Camp on December, 2021. The health camp provided doctor consultation, diabetic test, safe medicine, consultations on child health and women health.

**Total of 572  
patients**



305 female



267 male



# Finances 2021

	2020	2021
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>292,646</b>	<b>297,808</b>
Event Ticket Sales	0	0
Grants	15,033	14,659
Individual and Business Contributions	260,613*	276,598
Restricted - operating	12,000	0
Sponsorship	5,000	6,550
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>285,308</b>	<b>238,427</b>
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	<b>232,129</b>	<b>196,866</b>
Global	192,933*	151,166
Local	7,876	13,350
Program support in HQ	31,320	32,350
<b>FUNDRAISING** (COSTS)</b>	<b>12,075</b>	<b>6,470</b>
<b>COMMUNICATION AND NETWORKING</b>	<b>12,1332</b>	<b>11,198</b>
Advertising , membership & Promotion	2,723	1,443
Donor outreach picnic	0	0
Business Registration Fees	213	50
Staff time	9,396	9,705
Travel	0	0
<b>MANAGEMENT /ADMIN / ACCOUNTING</b>	<b>28,772</b>	<b>25,404</b>
Facilities rent, parking, utilities	2,675	3,000
Accounting Services	4,078	4,150
Management Staff	15,660	16,175
Banking, Software fees and office expenses	6,359	2,079
Insurance	0	0
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>7,338</b>	<b>57,870**</b>

\*Includes \$11,614 donated directly in Bangladesh

\*\*This amount is carried over to next year's budget



# Highlights and Community Outreach

Last year during our fundraiser, we heard from Limon's mother, Momena. Limon attended Spreeha's program for adolescents called "Ichcheghuri" (my wishes), a program to energize kids in the slum area with their dreams and aspirations. Spreeha opened the door of dreams for him through Shams and Nasreen Scholarship.

Limon got admission to one of the prestigious public medical schools, Faridpur Medical College.

“

I want to study till I finish my higher education as my dream is to become a doctor and serve people of our country free of cost!”

# Serving Local Communities



## Spreeha Youth Club

The intent of the Spreeha Kid's/Youth Club is to engage children in various youth activities. Youth Club members helped raise funds in 2021.



## Spreeha Kitchen

Thanks to our community members for serving **1,250** meals in 2021.



## Spreeha Pathshala

**40** Students were enrolled throughout last year to learn Bengali language and culture.

# Community Partnership Outreach &

## Community Knowledge Share

We had two Community Knowledge Share Sessions: one in February on COVID Vaccine and another one in April on Mental Health.



## Spreeha in the Park

The Annual Summer Picnic 2021 was held in August after a year long hiatus due to the Pandemic at Newcastle Beach Park!



## Workshops with IOM

Spreeha partnered with the IOM - UN Migration Agency to raise awareness on safer shelter among Bangladeshi diaspora members in the USA, and our community members in the disaster-prone areas of Bangladesh.

## Partnership with Rangpur Zilla School Oxygen Bank, Bangladesh

Spreeha partnered to distribute five Oxygen cylinders to underserved patients in Rangpur, Bangladesh



## Partnership with the University of Newcastle, Australia on UN Sustainable Development Goals

We shared our stories with the University of Newcastle, Australia on UN Sustainable Development Goals! Spreeha implements multiple SDGs that are important towards Spreeha's mission and SDGs #1 goal of No Poverty.

# Volunteer

Share your passion by getting involved with Spreeha. The majority of our organization is volunteer-run. We need help from individuals from all sorts of backgrounds. Opportunities are available no matter how much or how little time you can commit. We fit your skills, interest, and schedule. We also have virtual volunteer opportunities available. Every minute counts! If you are interested, please feel free to contact us at [volunteer@spreeha.org](mailto:volunteer@spreeha.org)

A big shout out to the **63** Spreeha volunteers.  
**1,645** hours volunteers donated!



### **Start a new chapter**

Spread your leadership and passion with others in your area by setting up a new Spreeha chapter in your area. Please contact us and we can support you throughout the process.

### **Spread the word**

You know your friends and family best, so use your own words - tell them why you are involved in Spreeha and what it means to you. The more people who know about us, the more good we can do in the world. Help us get the word out to your friends and loved ones!

### **Donate**

Many companies have giving campaigns or matching donations. Check with your employer to see how you can include Spreeha in your organization's philanthropy. Spreeha is also a Zakat-approved charity. You can donate via Facebook or webpage at [spreeha.org](http://spreeha.org).

### **Key Partners**

BRAC: Curriculum and content support for adolescent girls' club; BUETian Investment Network (BIN): COVID emergency response food program; Extend The Day: Solar powered lights among the Rohingya Community; Gana Unnayan Kendra: Rohingya refugee healthcare partner; Global Giving: Donation platform and onsite visit; Global Washington: Feature on Global WA newsletter and social media; The International Organization for Migration (IOM): Raise awareness about disaster management; Lake Washington United Methodist Church in Kirkland; Spreeha Kitchen partnership; Microsoft: Selection as Microsoft YouthSpark partner, also Microsoft partnership for "Diagnostics for Goods" program; Tasveer: Promotion on mutual topics; UNDP: Kusholi, the skilled training partnership; University of Newcastle; University of Washington Law, Societies, and Justice Department.

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