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University Grants Commission

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

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**Sub: Call for participation in *Young Warriors – A youth led movement to combat COVID-19***

Respected Madam/Sir,

Our Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) collectively represent one of the largest academic networks anywhere in the world with millions of students enrolled across thousands of HEIs every year. It is our interface with a large and diverse student community that makes us an engine for social change and development. The ongoing COVID-19 crisis makes it imperative that we come together to inspire leadership skills in our youth and imbibe them with empathy to ensure that each student plays a pivotal role in our battle against this deadly virus at an individual, family and social level.

To engage the youth as active change makers in the battle against the devastating second wave of COVID-19, the University Grants Commission (UGC) is collaborating with the Ministry of Education (AICTE, CBSE), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, UNICEF -YuWaah, civil society organisations, UN agencies and the private sector consortium of over 1500+ partners, who have activated the #YoungWarrior movement. <http://yuwaah.org/youngwarrior>

All Vice-Chancellors and Principals are requested to encourage any student and/or teacher between the ages 18 and 30 years to join this movement to safeguard themselves, their families, communities, and the country. They can also encourage and engage younger peers of students and teachers to participate in the young warrior movement. There are essentially five tasks that are part of the Young Warrior Movement and young warriors will be eligible for a **UNICEF certificate on completion of tasks** (Platform is available in 12 languages):

1. **Vaccine Buddy** - To promote vaccination, understand registration process, do's & don'ts after vaccination
2. **Stress Buster** - To encourage talking an expert about mental health, promotes checking up on friends and family, focus on positive news
3. **Fake News Police** - To understand what misinformation is (related to COVID-19) and how to stop its spread
4. **Care Giver** - To capacitate care giving at home (including nutrition & COVID Appropriate Behaviour), proning, watching out for danger signs & hospitalization
5. **CAB Influencer** - To promote youth-led action to amplify and influence COVID-19 appropriate behaviours (CAB) of social distancing, masking and sanitising across their neighbourhoods and communities

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To join, young people can engage through the following ways:

- To register as Youth Ambassadors of the #YoungWarrior Movement. Youth Ambassadors of the #YoungWarrior Movement. Fill this Google Form - <https://forms.gle/JuRTQF6ktD78yBHq7> -
  - Undertake the following simple steps .
    1. **WhatsApp:** On WhatsApp: Type YWA & send to +91 96504 14141 - A technology-based chat-bot platform called **UReport**
    2. **Interactive voice response (IVR)- Missed Call:** Send a missed call to 0-8066019225. Remember to add the 0!
    3. **Facebook:** Join via this link through FB messenger <https://m.me/ureportindia/?ref=ywa>
    4. **Telegram:** Search for ureportindia. Press Start. Type 'YWA' and send.
- In addition, on Social Media** (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) - Take a pledge to become a young warrior by posting your message along with "I pledge to be a #youngwarrior" on social media, tagging 5 of your friends.

UGC along with UNICEF- YuWaah and partners also proposes to organise multiple online capacity building sessions during June- July 2021 on topics related to COVID appropriate behaviour, Vaccine hesitancy, home care prevention, reliable & verified information & knowledge etc. These sessions will also support young people become ambassadors of change within their family and communities. The details about the same will be shared from time to time.

Young People can showcase leadership skills by becoming youth ambassadors who can amplify verified information, impart knowledge and counsel youth during the time of crisis. Interested youth can not only access the already available knowledge (<http://prachicp.com/youngwarriors/>) but also take initiative to develop relevant and useful content and add to the knowledge library.

There is an excellent opportunity for young people to use social media as a tool for community therapy on a positive note of solidarity. We encourage young people to narrate true and encouraging COVID related stories in the form of videos or articles or social media content, which can be inspirational for others to learn from, follow and replicate. Key messages and positive stories of youth action will be promoted on social media through partners and influencers.

For any clarifications regarding the Young Warrior movement you may please click on the FAQs or contact Shri Puneet Mital, Corporate Partnerships – UNICEF, YuWaah, at [pmital@unicef.org](mailto:pmital@unicef.org) Mobile no- +91 9560068921

Look forward to seeing our young warriors taking a leading role to combat COVID-19.

With regards,

Yours sincerely



(Rajnish Jain)

To

The Vice Chancellors of all the Universities

The Principals of all the Colleges