

## Ashoka Young Changemakers | Detailed Application Form

This Detailed Application Form is for collecting all necessary information about you, your work, and your ideas for co-leading the Everyone a Changemaker movement. This will be the primary document that all interviewers and panellists will refer to for information on your candidacy. Please have a conversation with the team if you have any queries regarding this application or the selection criteria.

**Note:** Alongside filling this form, you are also required to send us the parent/guardian consent form.

BASIC DETAILS	
Name	Arjun Pandey
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	03/06/2003
Address (with Zip/Postal code)	C-36, Mayfair Gardens, New Delhi, 110016

YOUR CHANGEMAKING EXPERIENCE	
Name of your initiative	Kicking Gender Boundaries
What is the problem or issue you are addressing? Why do you care about it? How has it affected you?	<p>For centuries the mainstream in Indian society has been covered with a cloud of transphobia that has worsened to such an extent that trans* community has been segregated from all walks of life. We use sports to solve two problems: inclusion in the mainstream and inclusion in sports. My motivation behind this initiative is equal opportunity, a motive under which I also run a start-up. One day, I dressed up as a transwoman and went to play at the local ground only to be met with utmost harassment and embarrassment. The traumatic experience combined with my fervour for diversity led me to kickstart a program that provides equal opportunities everywhere. Over the process of our programs, I have also gone through a huge learning curve. Not only did I experience a lot of problems at the grassroots but the barriers and the restrictions that hold the trans* community from truly showing their potential. The process of helping those around me, has taught me a lot as well.</p>

What did you do about it? Describe the solution you created to solve the problem	Being a sports fanatic, I started Kicking Gender Boundaries to use football as a medium to prove the thought of equality to the population. Under Kicking Gender Boundaries, we undertake various program. For starters, we organised India's first ever all-gender inclusive match in Jaipur wherein we sponsored 9 trans* players from all across the country. Further, we also secured a partnership with Bhaichung Bhutia Football Schools to provide interested trans* players free of cost training, licensing and coaching throughout all their centres. This segment of Kicking Gender Boundaries focuses on permanent growth and focused development. Side by side, we also organise sensitisation workshops for coaches, players, and staff of the Bhaichung Bhutia Football Schools. We curated verticals of the program to ensure that no stone is left unturned and Kicking Gender Boundaries is able to create holistic growth at the grassroots.
Where does your work happen? (the localities, city, state)	We primarily work in Jaipur and Delhi, but are networks of centres is all across the country in cities like Bangalore, Chandigarh, Mumbai and many more.
When did you begin working on your initiative? (DD/MM/YYYY)	We started our work at the end of May in 2019.
Who have you involved? What does your team look like and who does what?	Ever since the inception of Kicking Gender Boundaries, we have managed to grow our team by securing agreements and partnerships with other organizations. Firstly, we partnered with the Keshav Suri Foundation, one of the leading NGOs in India, to work with us on promoting inclusivity in sports. Today, we work closely with them in all our initiatives. Next, we also brought in the Bhaichung Bhutia Football Schools as partners to pool in their widespread resources and work with us in making Kicking Gender Boundaries even more successful. Recently we also partnered with Aarohan NGO in Delhi to expand our grassroots growth.
Who has provided you with guidance or support in launching/growing your initiative?	The Keshav Suri Foundation has been of immense help of us. They have mentored and coached us through the process and have been instrumental throughout the journey. My mentors from school Mr.

	<p>Ayush and Aakriti Periwal have also had extremely invaluable inputs to the program and have wholeheartedly supported us and given all the resources they can.</p>
<p>What is different today because of your initiative? Please describe the impact you have been able to create.</p>	<p>According to me, with Kicking Gender Boundaries we have been able to stimulate the trans* community in terms of following their passions. By providing safe spaces to play and enjoy sports, we have engraved confidence that the trans* community can also be incorporated into the sports mainstream. Another huge impact we have had is sensitise sporting spaces around us by organising workshops for sporting staff and coaches. Furthermore, we recently started an ambassador program which entailed a partnership with 17NGOs nationwide. Under the program we are working towards mobilising sports in states across India and making our cause known to a wider audience. Overall through workshops and our various programs, our impact numbers stand at 2,000 people nationwide.</p>
<p>What impact do you hope to see in the next 3 years and how do you want to measure it?</p>	<p>Within the next 3 years, I hope to have a solid impact on India. I would want that Kicking Gender Boundaries becomes famous and well-known in households across India. To be more specific, using our training program in 3 years I envision creating a well-respected and competitive trans* football team of India. Further, I would have liked to hold more and more exhibition matches in cities across India. The targets would be Bangalore, Chandigarh, Mumbai and more. Lastly, another goal I have is to expand the sensitisation part of our programs. I believe knowledge and information can be integral in promotion of inclusivity. I wish to rope in more and more organisations to partner with us and take strides forwards towards tackling this cause.</p>

#### LOOKING AHEAD

What have you learned through your changemaking experience of launching your own initiative?	I think the entire experience has brought within me a lot of empathy and sense of purpose. It has empowered me with the confidence to help others and work towards a goal that I am extremely passionate about. Over the past year, my changemaking experience has made me encounter people with all walks of life and has empowered me with the sense of sympathy and empathy.
Through the process of launching and leading your own initiative, do you feel you have greater power to solve problems you are witnessing/experiencing in your day to day life? Please explain.	Definitely, when I started I never would have imagined hosting India's first-ever all gender inclusive match or securing partnerships with NGOs and organisations working throughout the country. Every step of the way, I got to know about unique ways I can expand my initiative and opportunities I can utilise to make an impact. I never had an idea how some basic networking and outreach can help Kicking Gender Boundaries grow so much today.
Why are you interested in being part of this movement?	The global changemakers movement interests me for two reasons. One, I want to share my story of taking an initiative with the entire world so as to inspire everyone to grow and impact. Reading other teenager stories and social initiatives always had a profound impact on me, and I believe Kicking Gender Boundaries's story can help thousands others like me to kickstart their journey. Second, the Ashoka Mission of Everyone a Changemaker is something I closely stand by. In this ever evolving, it is imperative that all of us step up and take charge. In a bid to promote this mission I would love to be a part of this movement. Ashoka can also provide a great launchpad for Kicking Gender Boundaries. I strongly believe that we can use the unifying power of support to achieve a diverse and inclusive society and Ashoka's platform can help me reach greater heights with Kicking Gender Boundaries.
What are some specific ideas you have to help your peers have a similar experience of tackling the problems they care about?	Narrating a story is key. I think a great way to inspire others would be to tie-up with schools to publish podcasts and host talks of young social changemakers like to inspire them into pursuing something they are passionate about.

Please share some specific ideas (if any) you would like to champion towards the *Everyone a Changemaker* movement.

I would firstly like to introduce a Changemaker day program in my school which is in Jaipur. Secondly, I would also like to organise a drive of awareness amongst underprivileged school kids to champion the idea of Everyone a Changemaker where it's needed the most. This could possibly be a joint effort where we can educate kids about initiative they can take and how they can use Ashoka's platform to scale greater heights