

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

**TB
a!ert
INDIA**

for a future without tuberculosis





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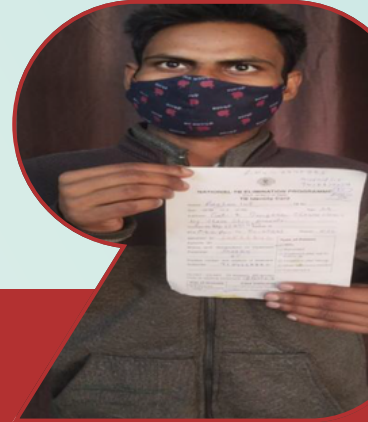
TB ALERT INDIA

ABOUT US

TB Alert India (TBAI), headquartered in Hyderabad, is a non-profit organization with a vision to eliminate TB in India. It has established a significant presence in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, and Haryana. In 2021-22, TBAI expanded into new territories like Punjab and West Bengal through the JEET project, and into Gujarat and Rajasthan with Johnson & Johnson-supported projects. These initiatives, including Pre-Treatment Evaluation and Sample Collection, are designed to support the National TB Elimination Program. TBAI's efforts are focused on mobilizing and linking local communities with healthcare providers, both in the formal and informal sectors, to strengthen the fight against TB across various Indian states.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE

As Chief executive of TBAI my dedication to eradicating TB is unwavering. Our journey, fueled by determination, innovation, and collaboration, has set us on a path towards a TB-free India. Supported by our committed team, engaged communities, and strong partnerships, we've made significant progress. The resilience of those we serve and the dedication of healthcare providers continue to inspire me daily. Together, we're not just combating TB; we're nurturing a healthier future for our nation. This mission requires every ounce of our collective energy and unity. Let's bolster our efforts, embracing each challenge as an opportunity to advance closer to our goal. Our shared vision for a TB-free future is within reach, and I am confident that with persistence and solidarity, we will achieve it.



Roshan Lal's Path to Tuberculosis Diagnosis and Treatment

Roshan Lal's story, emerging from Mukundpur, is a compelling saga of resilience and hope. Diagnosed at 28 with Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis, Roshan faced the grim realities of false negatives and a silent, internal threat. The journey took a turn at Rajan Babu TB Hospital, where a correct diagnosis heralded a tough yet transformative fight against TB. Supported unwaveringly by the TB Awareness Initiative (TBAI) and Shobha Madam's compassionate care, Roshan navigated his treatment's complexities, finding both solace and strength. His path to recovery, marked by challenges and milestones, inspired him to champion TB awareness. Motivated by a profound desire to make a meaningful difference, he engaged communities and advocated for TB care, emerging not merely as a survivor but as a passionate advocate for the cause. Roshan's experience, embodying resilience and informed action, shines as a beacon of hope. It highlights the critical need for accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and the significant role of patient advocacy in combating Tuberculosis on a global scale. Through his advocacy, Roshan has become a symbol of hope and a testament to the power of resilience, underscoring the importance of community support, medical care, and the indomitable spirit of those fighting TB. His story is a powerful reminder of the transformative impact of personal commitment and advocacy in the global battle against Tuberculosis.



Comprehensive Tuberculosis Care: A Case Study of Mrs. Reena

In Jogi Mohalla, Burari Village, 45-year-old Mrs. Reena's journey with Tuberculosis (TB) unfolds as a testament to the transformative impact of timely detection, dedicated care, and the power of community health education. Identified during a TB awareness campaign at a local Mohalla Clinic due to her persistent symptoms and high-risk status, Mrs. Reena's story began. At the DOT center, a meticulous diagnostic process involving sputum microscopy and NAAT unveiled her TB status, underscoring the vital importance of accurate diagnostics. Her treatment journey commenced with urgency at Rajan Babu TB Hospital, complemented by vigilant monitoring at the DOT center and extended care that embraced her family, safeguarding community health through proactive testing. Mrs. Reena received extensive counseling, aimed at ensuring treatment adherence and nurturing a supportive recovery environment, which was pivotal in her healing process. Expressing profound gratitude, she highlighted the exceptional care and the coordinator's unwavering commitment to patient well-being and effective treatment management. Mrs. Reena's narrative encapsulates the essence of early symptom recognition, the indispensability of precise diagnosis, and the comprehensive care approach essential for successful TB treatment. Her experience illuminates the path for effective TB management and community health education, serving as a beacon of hope and a blueprint for tackling TB within communities.



Khushi's Inspiring Journey: Conquering Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis

At just 12 years old, Khushi from Tomar Colony embarked on a formidable journey against Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB), showcasing the critical importance of early detection, accurate diagnosis, and the indomitable power of family support in combating TB. Her ordeal began during a proactive community health visit that flagged her persistent fever, weight loss, and cough, leading to immediate TB screening. The diagnosis of MDR-TB, confirmed through advanced tests like CBNAAT and LPA which were facilitated at the DOT center, highlighted the necessity of precise diagnostic measures. With her treatment underway, the focus extended to her family, who underwent testing to ensure their health and ability to provide unwavering support for Khushi. Throughout this challenging period, Khushi and her family benefited from comprehensive counseling, emphasizing treatment adherence and fostering a supportive recovery environment at home. Khushi's journey of recovery was significantly buoyed by the dedication and support of the DOT Center team, particularly Laxmi Rautela, whose commitment to her well-being left a lasting impact. Expressing deep gratitude for the care and support received, Khushi's story stands as a beacon of hope and a powerful reminder of the effectiveness of early intervention, the precision of diagnosis, and the crucial role of family support in the successful management of TB. Her story not only highlights the resilience of the human spirit but also underscores the collective effort required to tackle such a formidable health challenge.



Swapna - The Journey of a Health Worker at a Private Hospital

Swapna, a committed health worker at a private hospital, embarked on a formidable journey when she began experiencing symptoms of Tuberculosis (TB) such as weight loss, cough, and fever. Despite initial self-medication efforts, her condition deteriorated, leading to a diagnosis that confirmed lung involvement at Patancheru TU, casting shadows over her future. However, the intervention of a BtB coordinator and TBHV at this critical juncture became a turning point. Their counseling, focusing on positive thinking techniques, not only provided Swapna with much-needed emotional support but also fostered a deep sense of connection and hope. This robust support system played a crucial role in her health improvement journey. Encouraged and uplifted by their dedication, Swapna navigated through her treatment with resilience and determination, ultimately completing it successfully. Today, she stands as a testament to the power of positivity and support, enjoying good health and a renewed zest for life. Swapna's recovery story highlights the immense impact that a nurturing and encouraging environment can have on overcoming health challenges like TB. Her experience underscores the significance of dedicated healthcare workers and the remarkable potential of positive reinforcement in the healing process, offering hope and inspiration to others facing similar battles.



Sumaiya A 13-Year-Old Student's Triumph Over TB in Hyderabad

Sumaiya, a spirited 13-year-old from Hyderabad, emerged victorious in her battle against brain TB, diagnosed in September 2021. Her story is a vivid testament to the strength of the human spirit, underlining the critical role of determination and support in overcoming the challenges of TB. Despite grappling with severe side effects, such as frequent vomiting, Sumaiya's unwavering resolve and perseverance shone through. Her journey towards recovery was significantly bolstered by the dedicated guidance of the BtB team and the constant, loving support of her parents. Triumphantly, she completed a rigorous six-month treatment regimen, not only regaining her weight and health but also becoming a beacon of hope and resilience. Motivated by her experiences and armed with effective communication skills, Sumaiya took a proactive step towards community education. She completed a TB Champion online course and began sharing her journey to enlighten others, especially school children, about TB, embodying the role of a young educator and advocate. Sumaiya's transformation from a patient to a TB Champion underscores her incredible courage and determination. Her contributions to raising TB awareness and her active engagement in the fight against TB in her community highlight the profound impact individuals can have in changing perceptions and fostering a collective effort against the disease. Sumaiya's narrative is not just a story of medical recovery; it's a powerful reminder of the potential within each individual to face adversities with strength and to make a meaningful difference in the world around them.



A 63-Year-Old Woman's TB Journey in Hyderabad

In Hyderabad, a 63-year-old woman navigating the arduous journey of chemotherapy for breast cancer encountered an additional hurdle: a diagnosis of pulmonary TB. Her narrative is a profound illustration of resilience, underscoring the pivotal roles of support, education, and community engagement in battling TB. Initially, the stigma surrounding TB and concerns about her reputation led to her hesitation in seeking treatment. However, through the relentless encouragement of a TBAI coordinator, she overcame her fears and embraced the path to recovery. Her education journey began with her brother, a retired IPS officer, as they delved into the complexities of TB infection and treatment through informative IEC materials. This enlightenment highlighted the advantages of modern TB management, including shorter regimens and IGRA testing, marking the first steps towards empowerment and action. The proactive testing of seven household contacts, with five testing IGRA positive yet asymptomatic, showcased the importance of early detection. They embarked on a 3HP shorter regimen, witnessing no adverse effects, and now stand on the cusp of a successful treatment outcome. This tale not only charts the woman's battle against breast cancer and pulmonary TB but also casts a spotlight on the transformative power of education, the efficacy of community-wide health initiatives, and the indispensable support from healthcare professionals in navigating complex health challenges. Her journey epitomizes the essence of fighting TB with strength, informed decision-making, and collective effort, serving as a beacon of hope and a call to action for communities far and wide.



Ms. M.S.S. Vani's TB Elimination Journey

Ms. M.S.S. Vani, a Grade III Village Secretary from Indrakaran Gram Panchayat in Sangareddy district, became a beacon of proactive leadership and change in the battle against TB from January to March 2022. Her story is a testament to the significant impact of dedicated individuals in the elimination of TB. Vani's engagement with the cause began earnestly in February when she attended a sensitization meeting on TB. Her enthusiastic participation and the insights she shared highlighted the critical role that Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) can play in achieving TB-free communities. Fueled by the inspiration from these meetings and a Centre Stage Discussion in Hyderabad, Vani initiated TB screening activities in her village, a collaboration that saw her working closely with the Sarpanch and even establishing a donation box to aid TB patients financially. Her vision is ambitious yet straightforward: to transform her village into the state's first TB-free village, a goal that underscores her commitment and the potential of grassroots leadership in tackling health challenges. Ms. Vani's journey from participation to action embodies the essence of proactive leadership in public health. It serves as an inspiring example of how dedication, coupled with a clear vision for change, can mobilize communities towards significant health milestones, driving the collective effort needed to forge a path to a TB-free future.



Shreeshakthi TLF's Impact in the Fight Against TB

The Shreeshakthi Thrift and Lending Foundation (TLF), with its formidable network of 44 SLFs (Self-Help Groups), 1308 SHG groups, and approximately 13,000 dedicated members, stands out as a formidable ally in the Breaking The Barriers (BTB) project. Highlighted as the Case Story of the Month, their narrative showcases the transformative role grassroots organizations can play in elevating TB awareness and effecting significant community impact. Through their involvement in the BTB project, the Shreeshakthi TLF managed to exponentially raise TB awareness, touching the lives of around 13,000 individuals directly and over 30,000 members of the community indirectly. This concerted effort led to the identification of 190 individuals displaying symptoms of TB, out of which 20 were diagnosed positive and subsequently began crucial treatment. Before joining the BTB project, TB discussions were not a focal point for the TLF. Nevertheless, a series of awareness programs and meetings successfully integrated TB awareness into their ongoing agenda, heralding a pivotal change in community health awareness. Leaders within the organization, like Ms. Kusuma, embody the commitment and zeal driving this change, demonstrating what unwavering dedication to a cause can achieve. The journey of the Shreeshakthi TLF underscores the immense potential of community engagement and grassroots mobilization in combatting TB. It stands as a beacon of hope and a powerful reminder of the impact collective action and dedication can have in the fight against TB, inspiring similar organizations to harness the power of community for health and well-being.



Ashok's Journey: Overcoming TB and Inspiring Change

In August 2022, Jannu Ashok, an auto driver, became the focus of our Case Story of the Month, tracing his path from dismissing serious TB symptoms to achieving recovery and becoming a source of inspiration. His journey unveils the crucial impact of support and education in overcoming TB. Initially, Ashok's encounter with TB began with fever and weight loss, symptoms he chose to overlook, risking severe consequences. This negligence was halted by his wife's concern, leading to a diagnosis of TB at MGM Hospital, a revelation that plunged him into despair. The introduction of Radhika, a committed BtB community coordinator, and an Asha worker, alongside meeting Ravinder, a TB survivor and peer counselor, marked the turning point in Ashok's battle against TB. Empowered by their support and armed with essential knowledge on TB management, Ashok dedicated himself to his treatment, tracking his progress with a TB calendar and engaging in hospital meetings. His disciplined approach bore fruit, culminating in a successful recovery and a renewed zest for life. Today, Ashok is a testament to the power of perseverance, grateful for the lifeline extended by his supporters. He is now driven by a mission to motivate others facing TB, highlighting the importance of seeking treatment and maintaining hope. Ashok's story shines as a beacon of hope, emphasizing that with the right support and determination, victory over TB is not just a possibility but a reality.



Md. Basheer: The 45-Year-Old Auto Driver's Contribution

Md. Basheer, a 45-year-old auto driver from MH Nagar in Warangal, personifies the immense impact of community engagement in propagating TB awareness. His narrative unfolds as a beacon of how individual commitment can catalyze widespread positive change. Identified by the Breaking the Barriers team as a pivotal figure, Basheer's respect and influence within the community and the CITU auto union positioned him perfectly to champion TB awareness efforts. Embracing this role, Basheer immersed himself in TB education, actively facilitating testing referrals, and absorbing training to become a knowledgeable advocate. His innovative "Health Auto" initiative stands out, transforming his daily routes into educational journeys, where he informs symptomatic passengers about TB, thereby extending his reach beyond conventional boundaries. But Basheer's influence didn't end with his passengers; he inspired his fellow auto drivers to join the movement, effectively amplifying the campaign's reach and impact. Through his actions, Basheer has not only served as a health guide but has also become a driving force in community advocacy, demonstrating the profound effect of dedicated individuals in health initiatives. His journey underscores the pivotal role of community involvement in health awareness, serving as a powerful testament to the ripple effect of positive change initiated by one individual's dedication to a cause.



Sukhvir Singh's Endeavor to Eliminate Tuberculosis

Sukhvir Singh, a stalwart participant of the JEET 2.0 program since December 2021, has become a pivotal figure in the fight against latent tuberculosis in Ludhiana, Punjab. His narrative is a compelling testament to how individual resolve and ingenuity can significantly influence public health endeavors. Starting with scant resources, Sukhvir's inventive mindset led him to acquire a weighing machine, a seemingly simple addition that revolutionized the accuracy of TB medication dosages. This tool has not only optimized treatment efficacy but also solidified patient trust and comfort, symbolizing Sukhvir's profound dedication to their health and recovery journey. His impact, however, stretches far beyond TB treatment. Sukhvir has taken up the mantle to combat malnutrition and undernourishment within his community, showcasing his holistic view of health advocacy. Through his endeavors, Sukhvir Singh illustrates the incredible potential of individual initiatives in public health missions. His resourceful approach and unwavering commitment to community well-being stand as a beacon of inspiration, highlighting the profound difference one person's dedication can make in the face of public health challenges. Sukhvir's journey underscores the transformative power of individual effort and dedication in achieving significant public health milestones, offering a powerful reminder of the positive change that can arise from committed personal initiative.

TBAI'S LATEST INITIATIVES

IMPACTED THE LIVES OF OVER

2,70,000

INDIVIDUALS, CREATING A
SIGNIFICANT WAVE OF
POSITIVE CHANGE.

TB Alert India (TBAI) has been a dynamic force in the fight against TB, extending its influence into new territories like Punjab, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Rajasthan. This expansion, part of the JEET and J&J supported projects, aligns with the broader goals of the National TB Elimination Program. Focusing on community engagement and collaboration with private healthcare providers, TBAI's approach is multifaceted, targeting both patient care and comorbidity conditions.

The organization's strategy is deeply rooted in the four pillars of the National TB Strategic Plan: Detect, Treat, Prevent, Build. By raising awareness, improving health-seeking behaviors, and enhancing TB case detection and treatment outcomes, TBAI's efforts are not just about combating TB but also about building a sustainable model of health improvement. Their close coordination with NTEP officials and other stakeholders underlines a commitment to a collaborative approach in addressing this public health challenge.



ACTIVE INDIAN STATES IN THE TBAI NETWORK

Delhi

(6 Districts)

Haryana

(4 Districts)

Punjab

(5 Districts)

Andhra Pradesh

(4 Districts)

Telangana

(9 Districts)

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JEET 2.0 (PMTPT)



DONOR AGENCY DETAILS

FIND India as PR through GFATM funding
William J Clinton Foundation as through
GFATM funding

TARGET GROUP

Treating Household TB Contacts
Focus On Pulmonary DSTB Families



Key Activities

- Counsel index TB patients on TB Preventive Therapy (TPT).
- Screen household contacts of TB patients for infection.
- Support TB infection testing in designated districts.
- Facilitate X-ray testing for contacts in treat model districts.
- Initiate TPT for eligible contacts based on medical evaluations.
- Conduct training and CMEs for healthcare providers on project protocols.



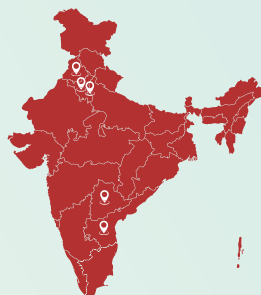
Key Results

- Operations in non-PPSA districts commenced in July 2021, and in PPSA districts from October 2021.
- All districts, except Mahabubnagar, follow the Treat Only model; Mahabubnagar employs the Test & Treat model.
- Launched operations in Hissar, Haryana in July 2021, expanding to Delhi and other Haryana districts like Gurgaon, Rohtak, and Faridabad from October 2021.
- Delhi operates under the Treat Only model, while Haryana, including Hissar and other project districts, has adopted the Test & Treat model statewide.



Key Stakeholders

- NTEP personnel at various levels (TU, District, State).
- Healthcare providers from both public and private sectors.
- Associations and chapters of private healthcare providers.
- Facilities specializing in IGRA and Chest X-Ray (CXR) under private empanelment.



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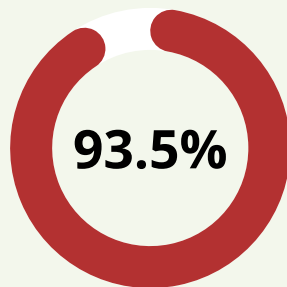
JEET 2.0 (PMTPT)

HARYANA & DELHI



85407/85598 eligible
HHCs screened for
TB symptoms

NON PPSA



191022 / 204350 eligible
HHCs screened for
TB symptoms

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BTB (Breaking the Barriers)

IMPLEMENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH KHPT

TARGET GROUP

Community engagement initiative for accelerated TB elimination in India. Focus on developing and scaling behavior change models.

Key Activities

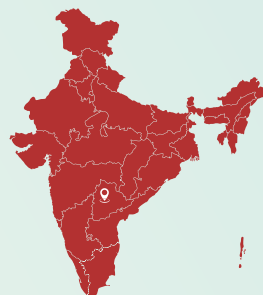
- Develop and implement behavior change strategies tailored to each vulnerable group.
- Utilize community structures to support TB patients, addressing needs and behaviors.
- Collect evidence from these strategies for wider application and learning across states.

Key Results

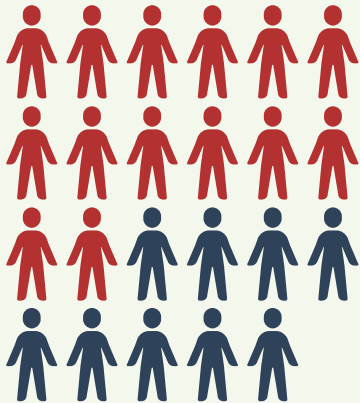
- Engaged 1,370 community structures for TB elimination, targeting vulnerable groups.
- Implemented 9 Behavior Change Solutions since December 2021, with impact assessment planned for the end of 2022.

Key Stakeholders

- Local community structures and key opinion leaders (KOLs) etc.,
- TB Champions
- NTEP staff and officials and other allied departments
- Other NGOs, and CBOs working on TB



230 TB champions were identified, and among them, 140 who received training are actively involved in providing support services to TB patients



Patient Care Support Groups

91



Patient Care Support Group Meetings

1521



Patients provided with treatment adherence, and psychosocial support.

6820

1



SCREENING

CS's have screened 1.75 million individuals from high-risk groups for tuberculosis

2

REFERRED

20,847 individuals showing symptoms similar to tuberculosis have been referred by CSs.



3



TESTING

Out of those referred by CSs, 19,589 individuals were tested.

4

DIAGNOSED

2326 were diagnosed with TB out of the tested individuals.



5



TREATMENT

Treatment has begun for 2311 individuals out of the diagnosed ones.

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PPSA- (Patient Provider Support Agency)

DONOR AGENCY DETAILS

Janssen, Johnsons & Johnson Pvt. Ltd.

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Fromal Private Providers, and NTEP staff engagement to increase new TB case detection and notification from private providers.



Key Activities

- Private provider engagement for new TB case detection and notification.
- Treatment follow-up and support to TB patients



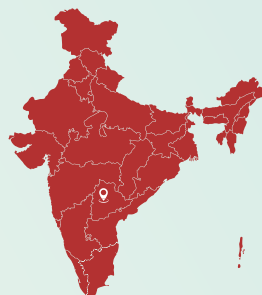
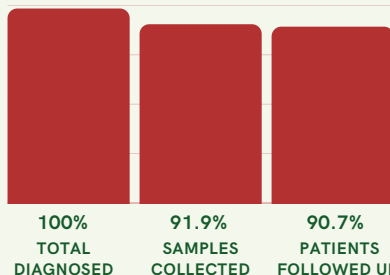
Key Stakeholders

- NTEP staff and private providers



Key Results

- 3936 new TB patients diagnosed and notified from project engaged private providers through Hub and Spoke model.
- 3318 samples collected by project staff for microbiological testing of TB at Govt. CBNAAT facilities.
- 3569 TB patients were followed-up and provided treatment adherence and counselling support by Treatment Coordinators.



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Build in Community Response to address Health Issues



DONOR AGENCY DETAILS

Coromandel International Ltd,
Vishakapatnam unit

TARGET GROUP

Community initiative to address comprehensive health aspects of TB, COVID 19, DM, BP and Women and Adolescent girl's health and seasonal diseases



Key Activities

- Community awareness activities
- Hand wash demos sessions
- Focus Group Discussions on the diseases mentioned earlier
- Identify and refer the symptomatic individuals for treatment and care support services at health facilities.



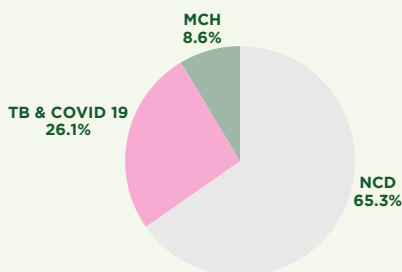
Key Stakeholders

- the local community structure Empowerment groups such Women Self Help Groups, School committees for community response
- Community level front line health workers
- Govt. health facilities

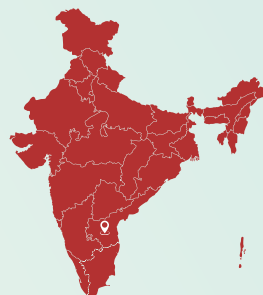


Key Results

- 3500 people reached with education session on Non-Communicable Diseases
- 1400 people reached with information on TB and COVID 19
- 160 people with MCH aspects and hand wash demo classes.
- 300 students from high school on good touch bad touch sessions organized with support from school teachers.



5360 LIVES ENHANCED BY TBAI





CONTACT US

TB Alert India

Flat No. 301, H No. 10-2-191,
Binjrajka Residency, West Marredpally, Secunderabad,
Telangana 500026, India.

✉ info@tbalertindia.org ☎ +91-40-27803499

THANK YOU