Walkathon supporting “Cricket for the Blind” a big success

Samarthanam joins hands with Citi Foundation to empower youth with disabilities

Samarthanam School staff receive various Awards

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We have reached the end of the year and I am glad to close the year with an amazing event like Walkathon. The 12th Bengaluru Walkathon, organized every year, holds high significance at Samarthanam and this year we walked to support ‘Cricket for the Blind.’ As we step into the New Year our first mega event is T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind 2017. We have chosen to close 2016 and greet 2017 with cricket for the blind, an initiative which was affectionately nurtured by Samarthanam. We are glad to receive mammoth support and encouragement from every person and public across various sectors. As we move on with the preparations for the 2nd T20 World Cup, scheduled from 29th January to 12th February 2017 the energy that is going into the groundwork is huge. I am thankful for the support and relentless hardwork Samarthanam and CABI team is displaying towards making the event successful. I am happy to hear that Government and associated personnel have offered to support the event and the bringing together of various necessities for the tournament. The support from corporates, fellow organizations, followers and other firms, as always, is extremely commendable and I am glad that cricket for the blind is garnering such mammoth encouragement.

While Cricket for the Blind was always fostered at Samarthanam, we believe that cricket for women is also equally important and needs nourishment as well. Hence Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), the cricketing wing of Samarthanam, launched its women’s wing to encourage women cricket aspirants to take up the sport and be a part of the Blind Cricket.

Sports and education go hand in hand at Samarthanam. Our kids portray amazing potential be it studies, games and other extra curricular activities. The interest and brilliance demonstrated is admirable and this New Year I wish all the children are bestowed with lots of success, good health and happiness. On the same road, to provide livelihood and employment opportunities to many young aspirants out there Samarthanam Delhi centre was set up this quarter, with support from Citi Foundation and inaugurated by CEO of NASSCOM Foundation. My immense gratitude to Citi Foundation for the generous support extended for training the youth with disabilities under the programme “Amita- Empowering Youth with Disabilities.” Their support was essential and pivotal in taking the initiative to the final stage. By end of the program, 450 youth will be skilled as per industry trends.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Amway who is providing support for the setting up of Samarthanam Digital Libraries in all capital cities of South India. Their help would pave way to the taking of Digital Libraries to every person with visual disability and making book reading a hassle-free practice. Samarthanam’s cultural interest takes the name of Sunadha who excel in arts and dance, be it any stage. The troupe has taken their excellent dance performances across borders many times. Sunadha is dedicated towards taking the troupe’s talent to a wider audience and as part of the effort the dancers have travelled all the way to USA and are portraying magnificent performances. I am proud of the artists from Sunadha who display abilities beyond expectations and receive admiration for their cultural prowess. I wish them all the good for their future programmes.

As all goes well, I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation to my team at Samarthanam and CABI for take the organization successfully to the end of another year. The journey has been long and productive and I wish to go along many more years together. This January, I invite each and every cricket enthusiast out there to come join us in the 2nd T20 World Cup for the Blind. The World Cup launching ceremony is being held on 29th January 2017 at New Delhi and the cricket fervor is building with each passing day. The Tournament would close by 12th February with a grand closing ceremony in Bangalore. Join us to be a part of the cricket journey all along! Let us convey our support to the Indian blind cricket team. Come aboard and enjoy the game!
Events at Samarthanam

Kannada Rajyotsava Utsav

Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with much gusto by each and every one at Samarthanam HSR premises on 5th November 2016. The event was to commemorate the State formation and express utmost gratitude to the Government of Karnataka who has been supporting the organization all through. The Guests who were part of the event included Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam, Vimala Hiremath, Sripathi and Raghavendra. Students from Samarthanam High School, Primary School and JP Nagar have put on stage the history of the State, the importance of the occasion and the regional culture through their song and dance programmes. Samarthanam North Karnataka also celebrated the occasion at their respective centres where everyone participated with lots of enthusiasm.

International World Disability Day

Samarthanam, being in the fore front of empowering people with different ability it is imperative to commemorate the world disability day. The occasion serves as a platform for the entire Samarthanam family to exhibit their talents and convey support.

Samarthanam North Karnataka Centres organized Graduation Day on the World Disabled Day where the Ballari Centre program was inaugurated by N.Suryanarayana Reddy, Ex.MLA, Ballari; Vasanthi Savanur, Trustee, Samarthanam; Sudha, Yoga teacher; Somanath, State Awardee; Haribabu, teacher and Abdul Saleem . Students have actively participated in the sports competitions held on the day and received various prizes. Dharwad center in association with District Disabled Welfare Office organized District level Chess Competition for visually impaired students on 9th December 2016. Amaranth (DDWO, Dharwad) was the Chief Guest for the function. Students from Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, Chikkenakoppa Blind NGO, Amar Snehi NGO Navanagar, Anthakarna Foundation participated in the event.
Samarthanam LRC at Ananthapur organized a rally to mark the World Disability Day and was flagged off by Sri Krishnadevaraya University (SKU) Rector Sridhar, SKU Registrar AV Ramana, JNTUH Vice Chancellor MMM Sarcar, Inner wheel club members, NSS students from SSBN college, Dr Akbar Khan Eye Specialist, RDT cricket team, District Rotary Governor and school children. Skill development AP Head PVK Srinivas initiated the rally along with more than 300 members marking the World Disability Day. The event was conducted by Samarthanam Trust Bangalore and Ananthapur where Project lead Mounesh, Bhargava, Placement officer Shafi Ulla with Pothanna and Venkatesh initiated the event with a motivating message of “you are also able to live in society equal to normal.”

**Samarthanam 12th Bengaluru Walkathon - An astounding success**

The 12th edition of Samarthanam Bengaluru Walkathon 2016 organized with the theme, “I support Cricket for the Blind... Do you?” was held at Kittur Rani Chennamma Stadium on 10th Dec 2016. The objective was to support cricket for the visually impaired and promote the upcoming 2nd T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind 2017.

The event was launched by Shri Mahantesh G.K, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam trust for the Disabled & President of Cricket association for the Blind in India and Mr. Ramalinga Reddy, Minister Transport, Govt. of Karnataka. Other guests included Vijayakumar, MLA Jayanagar, Nagaraju, BBMP Corporator Byrasandra ward, Vasanth Kumar, Executive Director, Lifestyle International, Indumati Netimi CFO, Time Inc, India and Srikanata S Narayan, Vice President & Head, Ciber India.

As part of Walkathon 2016, a Blind Cricket demo match was played by the Indian Blind cricket team players and wheelchair distribution programme was also held. Around 10,000 people including disabled persons, politicians, corporate heads, corporates, NGOs, schools, students and public participated in the walkathon making it a remarkable event. Cricket for the blind is a great platform to encourage visually impaired players and to witness such solidarity among people to convey their support is appreciable. Samarthanam is thankful to all the participants who have joined hands for Walkathon 2016.
SAMARTHANAM

News Corner

Citi Foundation Funds Samarthanam LRC at Delhi

Under the programme “Amita- Empowering Youth with Disabilities” Citi Foundation supports Samarthanam by funding its LRC initiative by donating Rs 2.8 crore. Under the 2016 India Innovation Grant Program, Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, aims to enable 600 underprivileged mostly disabled youth through a vocational skills program and facilitating higher education for program participants. This program is a blended direct service and capacity building program. Samarthanam Delhi Centre was set up and inaugurated by NASSCOM Foundation CEO to put the program into action.

Samarthanam will deliver a vocational skills training component to youth participants, which will include: mobilization, training, placement, and post- placement support. The program will also focus on facilitating higher education for employability, targeting 150 differently abled and underprivileged students. Samarthanam also aims to build its’ capacity through training, hiring key talent and leveraging technology to further strengthen the implementation of this youth empowerment program.

Citi Foundation funds will be used for direct service program implementation in vocational skills training and higher education, as well as to support building the capacity of Samarthanam. By end of the program, 450 youth will be skilled in trades as per industry trends. Citi staff will be engaged in various capacities, including as mentors and to deliver soft skills/life skills classes.

Samarthanam School staff honored with various Awards

Geetha K., the Principal of Primary School and Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities and Karabasappa, Special Educator at Samarthanam were awarded with the Basava Rathna National Award on 4th December 2016. The award was received from Sri. Basaveshwara Karmaveera Kalaa Sahiyya Samskruthi Vedike (Kandgal Hanumantharaya Ranga Mandira) Vijayapura.

Geetha K was also honoured with Rashotreeya Shikshana Rathna National award on 11th Dec 2016 and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam National Award was presented to Karabasappa on 12th Dec 2016. Both the awards were organized by Bharat Ratna Vishweshwaraiah Engineering Prathishtaana Trust in collaboration with Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka.

It was a moment of pride for Samarthanam as Geetha and Karabasappa were honored and felicitated with the awards. Samarthanam extends heartfelt congratulations to them and appreciates the good work by Samarthanam School staff who pour in complete efforts for the kids education and taking them onto the right path for a bright future.
SAMARTHANAM

Schools

Samarthanam Schools impart valuable education to kids from various backgrounds and children with disabilities, along with maneuvering their future in the right direction. The progress is appreciable and largely evident in the outcome as we see these kids excel in both academics and extracurricular activities.

Activities at Samarthanam Schools

• Primary School children and the kids from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities enjoyed the play on “Cindrella” organised by Organisation Theatre on 1st Oct 2016
• Gandhi Jayanthi was organised on 2nd Oct 2016 where the children performed various cultural programmes excellently.
• KRJS I Grade College organised a programme on 2nd October 2016 by name “Smile 2016” a cultural and sports extravaganza. A group of over 500 children representing 10 institutions took part in the programme and the winners are:
  1. Shiva Reddy from 7th std won first prize in Sack Race and second in Running Race 50 meters
  2. Mary Agnes from 7th std won first prize in Running Race 100 and 50 meters and Drawing and third in Pick-n-Speak
  3. Bharathi from 7th std won second prize in Running Race 100 meters
  4. Shambhavi from 7th std won third prize in Running Race 50 meters
  5. Umadevi from 7th std won first prize in Lemon-n-Spoon
  6. Sudeep (6th std), Shiva Reddy (7th std), Nikhil (5th std) and Prabhath Kumar (6th std) won first prize in 4X100 meters relay
  7. Bharathi (7th std), Sanjana (5th std), Mary Agnes (7th std) and Shambhavi (7th std) won first prize in 4X100 meters relay
• AMBA Training Programme organized at Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities was attended by Nikita NL, Sowmya Tanaji and Rajeshwari (Sowmya’s mother) along with Narayana Swamy from 3rd to 8th Oct 2016.
• General/ Medical Checkup was conducted for the children from Primary and Special School through a video conference organized.
• Fifteen children from Primary School visited Microsoft and eagerly participated in activities like Drawing, Music, Dance and also watched the movie on “Chintu” on 21st Oct 2016.
• Public TV visited Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities and Primary School for a video coverage on the kids cultural programmes and telecasted the same on 27th Oct 2016
• As part of Vocational Training unit (ID School children) produced Paper covers & Deepawali greeting cards which earned Rs.1300 in the month of Oct.
• An awareness programme as part of the Diwali celebration was organized for students from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disability during which the kids made a rangoli, lighted diyas and crackers with lots of fun along with Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam.

• Karumbaiah from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities received “Excellence Award” on 6th Nov 2016 for the drawing competition conducted by Novo Nordisk.

• Kumar C from 9th Standard won third prize (Rs. 1,000/- cash) in a Drawing Competition held by “Fund a Child in India” on 13th Nov 2016.

• In connection with Children’s Day Sports Meet was organized for primary school children on 14th Nov 2016. The kids have bagged several prizes in various sports arranged as part of Children’s Day celebration. The winners include:

  1. Sharanabasava, Lakshmana and Manoj Gowda from 1st standard got first, second and third prizes in Frog Race respectively
  2. Vijayalakshmi, Bhagyashree and Eeranna from 3rd standard got first, second and third prizes in Ball to the Bucket respectively
  3. Keerthi, Dyamavva and Ayyamma from 3rd standard got first, second and third prizes respectively in Hitting the Mud Pot
  4. Bheemabai from 4th std, Ningavva and Kavitha from 5th std received first, second and third prizes in Musical Chair
  5. Shivasharana, Mallikarjuna and Santhosh from 4th std for first three prizes in Pain Jump
  6. Daneshwari, Renuka H and Bharathi from 7th std received first, second and third prizes in Senior Debate
  7. Ambamma, Chandrashekhar and Vishwaraj from 6th std got first, second and third prizes in Quiz competition

• The Sports meet organized for kids from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities have winners in the following order:

  1. Chandan Gowda, Paanduranga and Ganesh from Senior Category won first, second and third prizes in Running Race
  2. Harish, Shashaank and Haakesh from Sub-Senior Junior Boys Category won first, second and third prizes in Running Race
  3. Monica N., Vibha and Bhanu Priya from Sub-Senior Junior Girls Category won first, second and third prizes in Running Race
  4. Shyam, Praveen P and Chandan T from Junior Category won first, second and third prizes in Running Race
  5. Tarun Gowda, Raakesh and Nagaraj from Junior Category won first, second and third prizes in Ball to the Bucket
  6. Pragathi from Sub-Junior Category and Vithya from Junior Category won first and second prizes in Ball to the Bucket

• Samarthanam Primary School and Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities welcomed Debasis Ghosh, Head of Corporate Affairs, Citi India, to the premises where he interacted with the kids.
• Children from Primary School performed cultural activities at Kormangala facilitated by Vimala Hiremath on the occasion of Kannada Rajyotsava.
• On World Disability Day, Department of Disabled Welfare organized a few programmes for children with disability. A drawing competition was held on 29th Nov 2016, March-past at Kanteerava Stadium on 1st Dec 2016, and a programme on 3rd Dec 2016 and all the events saw enthusiastic participation from the kids.
• Department of Disabled Welfare also organized March Past and Sports Meet for kids from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities on 1st Dec 2016. The winners from Sports Meet that is Running race include Nanjunda, Periya Swamy and Shyam from Sub Junior Boys Category who won first, second and third prizes; Ganesh G, Babajan G Umachagi and Srikanth from Junior Boys Category won first, second and third prizes; Varun R from Senior Boys and Monica J, Preethi and Nikhita NL from Senior Girls won prizes as well.
• Vibha Ghatge, from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities performed a solo dance at Karnataka Sachivalaya in a cultural programme organized by Department for Disability Welfare.
• World Disabled Sports day competition organized at Kanteerava Stadium by Govt. of Karnataka on 1st Dec 2016 saw the participation of differently abled students from High School who have won 6 prizes including:
  1. Abishek C - 10th std (MR Student)- 1st Prize in Running Race
  2. Bharath B M- 10th std (MR Student)- 2nd Prize in Running Race
  3. Anjani L- 8th std OPH- 1st prize in Slow walk
  4. Suhas M- 9th std OPH -3rd prize in Slow walk and 1st prize in Shot-put
  5. Ramesh- 10th std VI -2nd Prize in Book Balancing Race
• Children from Samarthanam Schools participated in a drawing competition at Saakar Aakar Fine Arts – 6th Annual Art Exhibition ‘To Share is to Care’ programme at Amphitheatre in UB City, Bengaluru on 4th Dec 2016. The winners from Primary School include Vishwaraj from 6th std, Kiran Kumar from 7th std and Prabhath Kumar from 6th std who have won first, second and third prizes. High School winners were Anjani L (OPH) of 8th Standard and Ravi of 10th Standard (Hearing Impaired), won 1st and 2nd prizes respectively.
• A group of 20 students from Primary School visited SanDisk on 13th Dec 2016 and participated in drawing competition and other cultural programmes.
• As part of an educational tour, children from 5th, 6th and 7th standards visited Horanaadu, Sringeri, Udupi, Malpe, Kollur and Murudeshwar from 26th to 28th Dec 2016.
• An educational school tour was organized from 21st to 25th Dec 2016 where 48 high school students and 9 staff went on a tour to Dandeli, Syntheri Rock, Supa Dam, Rabindranatha Tagore Beach, War Museum, Gokarna, Om Beach, Murudeshwara, Anegudde and St. Mary’s Islands in Karnataka.
• A mobile Dental Check-up was organized on 29th and 30th of Dec 2016 by KMYF headed by Dr. Sandeep for the children and staff of Primary and ID school who were provided with a free screening and suggested treatment as well.
• In appreciation of the academic performance of four high school students, Santhosh Kumar Rao Charitable Trust sponsored merit scholarship of Rs.2000 for each student during the academic year 2016-17.
Volunteering Activities at Samarthanam Schools

- Thirty children of 12th standard from Delhi Public School, Bengaluru, visited the Samarthanam Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities to collect information about the children as part of their academic work on 3rd Oct 2016.
- Senior leaders from “VM Ware USA” visited the premises for an interaction with the children of Primary and Special School.
- Volunteers from GKN Aerospace conducted drawing competitions on 22nd October and also distributed prizes to the kids from primary.
- An “Eco Therapy” Programme was organised by Bangalore University for kids from Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities on 22nd Oct. 19th Nov and 17th Dec 2016.
- The Director of “Prasara Bharathi” interacted with students of Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities on 24 Oct 2016.
- CIBER volunteering team conducted few life skills activities involving self introduction hygiene, name plating, nature drawing, dancing and yoga of meditation on 22nd & 23rd Oct 2016.
- Sixteen Volunteers from VM Ware visited Primary School on 26th Oct to interact with the kids and conducted educational activities like mental Maths, spoken English along with refreshments for the children.
- Dr. Bharathi and her team from Novo Nordisk conducted a sensitization session for teachers on Diabetes on the occasion of “World Diabetes Day” on 2nd Nov 2016. A drawing competition was also conducted for the primary children with the theme ‘Super hero’ on 3rd Nov 2016.
- SKF’s Global technical center in India conducted various cultural programmes (song and dance) on 4th Nov for 25 children from Primary School as part of the Rajyotsava Celebration.
- Novo Nordisk organized a Diabetes Screening Camp for the staff and parents at Samarthanam on World Diabetes Day. A sensitization program was also conducted for staff on diabetes and the Primary and Special School children participated in a walkathon as well along with staff and parents.
- Treebo, a five-star hotel, organized cultural activities like drawing, painting, magic show, aiming game and so on as part of edutainment for kids with hearing and orthopedic disabilities from Primary School and Special School kids on 13th Nov 2016.
- Around 10 Experts from Indian Institute of Psychology & Research organized Children’s Day activities on 18th Nov 2016 for the kids from the Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities.
- Dr. Aruna along with a group of six children organized a Health Awareness Camp for the primary school children on 19th Nov 2016.
• Suganthi, a Research Scholar from Juniper Networks visited Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities and conducted ‘Pulse Check’ for the kids and staff as part of academic work.
• A group of 30 volunteers from Deloitte India, as part of their CSR activity, visited Primary School on 25th Nov 2016 to organize academic activities like Quiz, Pick-n-Speak, Dance, Musical Chairs and other outdoor games. Deloitte also presented the students from High School with an opportunity to improve their knowledge through the activities conducted on 25th Nov 2016 including teaching of maths, science diagrams, fun activities, quiz, talent show, collage and painting with prizes.
• NTT Data Specialists, Neeraj Jaitley, Senior Officer along with 30 volunteers visited the primary school premises for an interaction with the kids on 9th Dec 2016. They have also organized activities like Quiz, General Knowledge, Spoken English, Awareness on Dental Hygiene and other recreational activities like Chess, Musical Chair and Antakshari.
• Priyanka from Art of Living organized Satsang for the primary children on 25th Dec 2016.
• SnapDeal distributed stationery to the primary school kids on 29th Dec 2016.

Teachers partake in seminars/trainings
• Aruna SK, Special Teacher, Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities attended a Training Programme on “Counseling of Adolescents” from 3rd to 7th Oct 2016.
• Savithramma, Special Teacher, Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities attended a Training on “Managing Puberty and Menstruation in girls with special needs” conducted by ASHA on 19th Oct 2016.
• AMBA Awareness Training Programme was given to the teachers of Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities on 25th Oct 2016.
• ANZ organized an exhibition/stall for displaying the teaching and learning material used by the staff for teaching the children at Samarthanam Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities. Aruna, Special Teacher, participated in the programme held at Hotel Park Plaza on 18th and 19th Nov 2016.
• Geetha K, Principal, Primary School and Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities attended a national seminar on “Emerging Trends in Inclusion and Habituation for PwIDs” organized by NIMHANS on 14th Dec 2016.
• Srinivas Reddy, Head Master, Special School for Children with Intellectual Disabilities attended a one day training on “MIS Developed under Nirmaya in collaboration with the Dept. of ED & SC” organized at Seva-in-Action, Kormangala on 15th Dec 2016.
Higher Education

- Correspondence (10th and PUC II) students went on trip to Bannerghatta Tulip Resort on 21st Dec 2016.
- The sports eminence of Samarthanam was carried all the way to Delhi where higher education students won laurels in various sports competitions. A group of 12 students participated in National Sports (IBSA) held at Delhi. Among the 6 girls who participated, 4 have won prizes. Jayalakshmi won a silver in 200 meter and a gold in long jump. Nethravathi won a gold in short put and broke the IBSA record with the 5.63 meter javelin throw. She also won prizes in running and long jump. Narasamma won 3rd prize (B1 category) in 800m running and Renuka won 3rd prize (B2) in 800m running.

North Kamataka

American India Foundation visits
The American India Foundation extended its support for Samarthanam skilling initiative at Ballari and Gadag Centers. Rajvinder Kaur and team visited the centres for an inspection on 17th and 18th Oct 2016 and have inaugurated the AIF Programme in both the centers.

Donors Meet at Dharwad
A Donors Engagement Programme was organized at Samarthanam Ballari center on 23rd Dec 2016. Purushotam and family donated cotton bed sheets and fruits of worth Rs 8000 and N. Suryanarayana Reddy, Ex. MLA and Congress Leader Ballari donated 3.6 Luminous Inverter to the training center costing Rs 80,000.

Cultural Programmes gather applause
- Ballari center organized Surasangeta Sanje on 8th Dec 2016 where students and neighbors participated in the event.
- Children’s day was celebrated along with AIM association (ladies wing) at the Gadag center and they have sponsored refreshments for our students during the event.
- Dharwad and Gadag students participated in the World Disability Day event organized by “Zilla Aadalita Bhavan” at Indira Glass House, Dharwad on 17th Dec 2016. Gadag center students dance performance received many prizes and admiration from the audience.

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Interview drive increases job opportunities
An Interview drive was organized on 6th October 2016 at Dharwad by Merititude Skill Development and Unique Ace Infomatic Pvt Ltd Hubli. Following which, a campus drive was also conducted on 21st Oct 2016 by Vindhya E-Infomedia Pvt Ltd where 38 DDUGKY students attended and all of them were selected for OJT under DDU-GKY Project.

Career Guidance Workshop gives a career insight
A Career Guidance Workshop was held at Kalghatagi, Sirsi-Siddapur, and Haveri for Multipurpose Rehabilitation Workers (MRW), Village Rehabilitation Workers (VRW) and PWD candidates. The program witnessed 3 MRWs, 57 VRWs and 43 Pwds. The main objective of the program was to provide inputs on career guidance for PWD candidates to plan their future. Also the program was to create awareness about DDUGKY program to MRWs and VRWs and to source candidates for the program.

Lifeskills & Skilling Program

SOUTH KARNATAKA
The flagship initiative of Samarthanam LRC witnesses numerous events with focus on trainees, training and placements. Training programs in the likes of DDUGKY Skilling program, HDFC Life skilling program, VM Ware Skilling program & 3M (For Women) skilling program have been providing quality training to various batches of students, of which 65% of them have secured employment in various promising sectors of the industry. The entire training model is unique in its own way. Apart from the systematic implementation there are many elements which make the entire program inclusive and effective. Some of the key elements include;

Career guidance session
Sessions on career guidance are considered to be the key role playing element in broadening the outlook of the students towards a world of opportunities out in the job market. Mainly the trainers along with the intervention and contribution of corporate, the sessions add much value to the initiative. Also it has to be mentioned that as an impact of the career guidance sessions the trainees enroll for higher education or apply for various public service vacancies.

Mock Interviews
Mock interviews are conducted very frequently to boost the confidence of the students which makes them ready for the real time scenario. Lots of corporates volunteer for this initiative which has given an edge to the learning out of it.
2\textsuperscript{nd} T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind 2017

28th January 2017 - 12th February 2017

Come Aboard India!

Time to Cheer
The World Champions!

World Cup is round the corner!

Let’s Support
Cricket for the Blind!

Join Us
for the big game!
Indian Team Felicitation by Hon President Pranab Mukherjee in 2012

Announcement of Brand Ambassador Press Conference in Mumbai

With Dilip Vengsarkar and Parvin Dabas Press Conference in Mumbai

CABI team meets Dharmendra Pradhan Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas

Photo Shoot with Rahul Dravid, the Brand Ambassador

For the Visually Challenged, Odisha felicitates the selected players
Learning based activities
These activities have turned out to be a game changer for the entire program. They include group discussions, role plays, project works, team building sessions and so on. The scope of impact on the trainees is that they have come out of their comfort zones and become extrovert in nature.

Exposure visits
To familiarize the trainees with real time work environment exposure visits were conducted to BPO companies. The trainees spent quality time at the company, closely observing and interacting with the customer service associates.

Celebrations
A significant part of everyone’s life is to celebrate occasions and take a break from the routine. Team LRC ensures that the trainees won’t miss out any of the days worth celebrating. There have been occasions like Ethnic Day and Children’s Day which were celebrated with lots of fun and delight.

Tech Savvy
Today the slogan of the nation is “Digital India”. Team LRC is well aware how imperative it is to make the trainees acquainted with the digital drive of the nation. On this regard the trainees are given tablets for their class room and lab sessions. It is commendable that the trainees are intrigued by this initiative.

Taking a break
Team LRC believes in taking a break from the regular schedule and has made it a point to take little time for the trainees to have some recreation. The trainees come up with their own novel ideas of recreation and it is implemented likewise.

Visits by close associates and partners
Very often we welcome visits from close partners and associates of the skilling program in LRC. It is an encouraging factor that the empowerment of the differently abled is becoming a motto of the CSR initiative of the corporate.
Captain Ajay brings in cricket fervor!
Cricket was enthusiastically brought into Samarthanam LRC Guntur when Ajay Kumar Reddy, the captain of Indian cricket team for blind had visited the Nipuna Guntur premises. He proved to be a huge motivation to the beneficiaries with his valuable speech and by sharing his experiences with cricket. Everyone at Nipuna were glad to welcome him and were excited about his plan of starting a coaching centre in Guntur for encouraging many more cricketers like him.

Sports competitions on International Disability Day
Nipuna celebrated International Day of People with Disability in a style of its kind. Many prominent people from various sectors have visited the premises on 3rd December 2016 including PS Murthy, Shirdhi Sai Dena Jena Seva Samithi member, Mogili and Maleswar Rao, Music teachers, PVAs Nageswar Rao, Sr Assistant Officer at Excise Dept. and Madhusudhana Rao, English faculty. Competitions were conducted a day before in chess, singing and cricket. A group of 40 students from Kala Bharati Public School and Shirdi Sai Public School and beneficiaries from Samarthanam Trust have participated in chess competition and the winners include M. Prasanna, Ajay Kumar and Rakesh who secured first, second and third place respectively. In the singing competition a group of 30 participated from the same schools and Samarthanam and M.Vikram Swamy, G.Ajay, B.Aruna, T.Sravanthi and G.Yalamanda secured prizes. Cricket competition included 45 students who participated with lots of excitement.

Visitors at Nipuna
Nipuna has been visited by two prominent people from Samarthanam Bangalore unit. Lalitha, Incharge of Digital Library Bangalore branch and Suryakanth, Specialist Trainer in jaws and NVDA visited the premises and interacted with the students. A proposal to start a Digital Library at Guntur has been forwarded as well.

LRC ANANTHAPUR
Eye-donation and Blind Awareness activity
As part of the Eye-donation and Blind Awareness activity by Samarthanam Trust many prominent individuals have come forward to spread the message of eye donation and blind awareness. Skill Development AP Head PVK Srinivas, Project lead Mounesh Bhargav, Placement officer Shafi Ulla with Phoathan, Venkatesh and Mokshith School Chairman and staff members were part of the program held at Mokshith School, Ananthapur. All the guests have delivered motivational speeches on the significance of eye donation and mentioned interesting statistics on the need of increased awareness.

RDT School Cricket Tournament
As part of the sports event and blind cricket awareness activity, a cricket tournament was conducted by Samarthanam Trust Bangalore and Ananthapur. Skill development AP Head PVK Srinivas and Samarthanam employees of Ananthapur conducted the event at RDT BKS School at Ananthapur where
Punar Project

**Special Collection for festivals**

Punar team has introduced special diyas on occasion of Diwali and colorful candles for Christmas which brought in lot of appreciation and sales from corporate. The quarter has marked highest sales from the festive collection.

**Stalls at Corporates**

Punar also marked its presence with stalls at corporate like Bhoomi Utsav, Mphasis, Sandisk, Continental Automotive components, Autoliv, Broadcom, Morgan Stanley, Symbiosis School of Media & Communication, Clarks Exotica, Altisource, Genpact Pritech Park, Brillo, Ab inbev, PWC, Quadril Consulting Pvt Ltd, Schneider Electric, Quicksilver, ANZ, VM Ware, AXA, Greatwest and Urban Ladder.

**Training Programme**

As part of the volunteering activity a team of 4 from Punar Kanakapura production unit visited VM Ware and conducted a training program on preparation of handicraft products including tea coasters, diya painting and paper jewellery. Another volunteering...
event was held at HSR premises for Intel employees for preparing handicraft products. Deloitte conducted “Impact Day” at Samarthanam HSR premises and 12 of Punar Kanakapura unit participated in the event.

Punar appreciates the support extended by corporate entities and other supporters. The team is thankful for the encouragement received, making the project big and valuable.

Environment

Parisara

Samarthananm Parisara is on a mission to inculcate proper management of discarded products like vegetable or fruits and reduce environmental pollution also while eliminating the littering on streets. On the same road, Parisara has successfully imparted training and sensitization programmes on source segregation to many corporate. Training was given to housekeeping staff on importance of source segregation and waste management. Regular audits were being conducted by the team to continuously provide inputs on ways to improve segregation.

The collection of dry waste has seen a significant increase in the last few months, with an increase in the segregation levels. Parisara has seen an increase in the trend in the collection of dry waste. The dry waste collection has increased from 70,563 kgs to 90,800 kgs in a span of three months.

Benefit to the environment

A total of 90,800 kgs of recyclables are collected in the last quarter. This implies that 90,800kgs of dry waste is deviated from landfills and open spaces. This has not only contributed to save our natural resources but also contributed in saving the environmental degradation that would have caused, by open burning of the dry waste and the carcinogenic emissions that would have caused health problems to several living nearby.

Boost to the recycling sector

With the increase in the segregation level and awareness among the people, the collection has increased and the mixing of the waste has reduced. Non-mixing of waste implies that resource recovery is maximum. The entire exercise of segregation has generated segregated waste which is further being sent to the recycling industry. This activity has enhanced the recycling sector and affected the livelihoods of the people working in the sector.
Well-being Out of Waste (WOW)

Swachh Bharat Divas
WOW team celebrated the Swachh Bharat Divas with rallies organized at Koramangala, Bommanahalli, Gaurapanpalaya, HanumanthaNagar and Srinagar by the esteemed Corporators and BBMP Officials of the respective wards. Koramangala program was flagged off by Ramalingam Reddy and Social activist Soumya Reddy where the pourakarmikas were given blankets.

Gurappanapalya Health Camp for PKs
A health camp was organized by BBMP for PKs with the support of WOW by Health India. The Camp was headed by Ramalingam Reddy, Transport Minister of Karnataka and more than 60 people were benefitted.

PKs Training at SG Pallya
A training programme was organized to instill awareness about health, hygiene and segregation and has been delivered by Mr. Mohan. The outcome included certain indications including use of safety equipment like mask and gloves, requirement of more bags to collect the dry waste, making the franchise collect dry waste from mustering points.

Added 7 new wards
WOW is currently working to create awareness at 30 wards in Bangalore. In a recent orientation at Hampi Nagar, a programme was organised for 150 pourakarmikas to explain them the theme of WOW and the benefits of segregation.

Ratnam International Award 2016
Samarthanam Trust with BTM ward team has been selected for the prestigious “Ratnam International Award 2016” for NGO Excellence services presented by “Child Relief and We” in recognition of the outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in addressing and raising awareness to wellness out of waste in BTM Layout, Karnataka.

A glance at WOW numbers
- In the Month of November the team closed at 895 Tons of Dry Waste which is more than 11 times of the dry waste collection started in January (80 Tons) concluding that the collection of dry waste in Bangalore is remarkable.
- Total number of wards with MoU’s signed are 30
- Number of households covered is 3,11,615
- Total number of municipal workers benefitted is 1386
- The Total Dry Waste collected in the quarter is 4290 tons of Dry Waste Collected (Approx)
- PKs Benefitted in the quarter read Rs 1,31,90,220 which has been generated from the project for the Pourakarmikas.
Sports

Felicitating the World Champions
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for Persons with Disabilities, Thawar Chand Gehlot, felicitated the World Champions, the Indian blind cricket team, and awarded a cash prize of Rs. 150000 each. The felicitation was to honor the cricket team who have won the first ever T-20 Asia Cup 2016 which was held at Kochi from 17th to 24th January 2016.

Zonal Tournaments and Nationals by CABI
Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) conducted 4 Zonal tournaments and Nationals from October to November as follows;

- North Zone was held in Delhi from 8th to 10th Oct and Haryana won the game beating Uttar Pradesh in the finals.
- West Zone was held in Pune from 18th to 20th Oct and Gujarat won beating Maharashtra in the finals.
- East Zone was held in Jamshedpur from 2nd to 4th Nov, Odisha won beating Bengal in the finals.
- South Zone was held in Ananthapur on 3rd and 4th Nov. Andhra Pradesh won the game beating Karnataka in the finals.

T20 World Cup Team building
- The State teams who have played the finals in all the four zonal tournaments participated in the Nationals, in which Andhra Pradesh beat Gujarat in the finals held in Valsad and Vapi from 10th to 14th Nov.
- After completion of the Nationals 26 players were shortlisted who attended the selection trial camp at Kochi from 2nd to 8th Dec to finalize on the 17 member Indian team blind cricket team. The details were announced on 21st Dec 2016.
- CABI is glad on the association made with IndusInd who have agreed to sponsor the Indian team for the next 2 years.
- A coaching camp will be held before the World Cup in Indore and Delhi respectively from 5th to 27th Jan 2017.

Day night Kerala Blind Cricket League
Cricket Association for the Blind in Kerala (CABK) in association with Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) organized the first ever day night Kerala Blind Cricket League on 2nd and 3rd December 2016 in Kochi. The game which was played under the huge flood lights was a big experience for the visually challenged players.
Arts & Culture

Sunadha
Samarthanam Sunadha is a true believer of taking arts beyond barriers and as the troupe moves ahead with many programs and admirations on the go, a few include:

- Kannada Rajyotsava Program at Yalahanka Kendriya Vihara on 6th Nov 2016 and at JP Nagar on 27th Nov
- World Disabled Day program at Kanteerava on 3rd Dec 2016
- Anjaneya Temple program at BTM Layout on 12th Dec
- Cultural program in RV Engineering College on 21st Dec
- Uday Banu Kalasanga cultural program on 28th Dec
- CBM program at Jain University on 30th Dec 2016

Sunadha troupe have always been traveling overseas and displaying their magnificent performances across all stages. As part of which the artists are currently in USA giving out various dance performances in various cities of the USA. The performances are gathering admiration and applause from audience and many followers.

Rehabilitation

Swadhara Gruha
- Volunteers from Apoorva Heights Apartments have integrated with Swadhara inmates and taught them paperbag making for 5 days. It was an exciting experience for the Swadhara inmates and found the making of paperbags very useful.
- Yoga classes were conducted by Patanjali group and Brahmakumari Samaj in two separate sessions which the inmates of Swadhara found rejuvenating and energizing.
- Volunteers from PWC integrated with Swadhara women to conduct activities like singing, dancing and quiz competitions.
- Currently Swadhara houses 32 women and 6 children who are provided with all the basic amenities and encouraged to take up activities for livelihood.
Volunteering at Samarthanam

Volunteering at Samarthanam is pivotal in executing many initiatives and projects and is immensely valued. A few of the volunteering firms include L&T Infotech, Praxair, Pulse secure India Pvt Ltd, PWC, VM ware, Microsoft, Wells Fargo, Ciber, Morgan Stanley, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Deloitte India, Deloitte US, Intel, Dell, Quintiles and First Advantage.

Daan Utsav brings in corporate contributions
The Joy of Giving week was celebrated from 2nd to 8th of October 2016 wherein about 6 companies participated. The donations included groceries (100s’ of kgs of rice, dals, fruits etc), clothes, books and stationery. Participating companies include Pulse secure India Pvt Ltd, Cognizant Technology Solutions, PWC, Tata Power, Simplilearn and Autoliv.

LTI Samarthanam Cup 2016
L&T Infotech played a cricket match with Bangalore Blind Cricket Team on 1st Oct 2016 in LTI Samarthanam Cup 2016. More than 100 people participated including players, senior leaders and Director. Snacks and Lunch were organized for all the participants. Blind cricket team won the match by 10 runs.

Praxair India volunteers for primary school kids
Praxair India took up cooking activity at Singasandra kitchen center for serving meals for Samarthanam primary school children. Of the 70 volunteers who participated, 35 were involved into cooking for 100 plus kids right from cutting to cooking to serving and the remaining took up cultural activities with the school kids.

YOU CAN HELP TOO!
Become a Volunteer at Samarthanam!
Help in your own little way!

www.samarthanam.org/volunteer
Corporate Acknowledgment

We are thankful for the support and encouragement received from the following corporate organizations. And look forward to a long term relationship.

Target Foundation
The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited
Mahindra Lifespace Developers Ltd
Deloitte Consulting India Pvt Ltd
Amway Opportunity Foundation
ITC Limited
3M
Sarojini Damodaran Foundation
Yokogawa India Ltd
Micro Plastics Pvt Ltd

Cibersite India Private Limited
Lifestyle International Pvt Ltd
Praxair
TIME Analytic & Shared Services Pvt. Ltd
Morgan Stanley Advantage Services Private Limited
GKN Sinter Metals Private Limited
Engineers India Limited
Tetra Pak India Pvt Ltd
Levi Strauss
SanDisk Corporation

Samarthanam expands its realm

Samarthanam is appreciably progressing with respect to the construction of the cutting edge disability-friendly free residential school, in HSR Layout Bangalore (India). The school will house students with and without disabilities from economically deprived communities and enabled with completely accessible features. The school is going to serve Samarthanam education purposes efficiently.

Samarthanam Human Resources

As Samarthanam moves on with the many initiatives and new proposals with every passing day the base team of the organization is crucial in many ways. Accommodating all the necessary facilities for an uninterrupted working ambience is the human resources team. This quarter the HR team has come up with employee background verification process introduced for all the new entrees in the organization. As part of employee engagement, the team celebrated Diwali by distributing sweets and gifts to all staff. An orientation to all PWDs on Swavalamban health insurance scheme was conducted. The unit has completed the employee assessment survey to understand Samarthanam working environment which was executed by ‘Great place to work,’ an agency for organizational assessment survey.
Stories of Change

NIKHIL

Nikhil hails from a poor economic background and is currently studying in 5th Standard at Samarthanam School. The family had to go through a lot of hardships and was in a poor socio-economic condition. Though the children were sent to Govt. School Nikhil’s parents gradually could not afford to spend money on their basic necessities of the children. Samarthanam accepted the three kids of Late Shree Ramappa and Gangamma into its Primary School and were provided with a completely friendly learning and living environment. Among the three Nikhil is popular in school for his excellent performance in studies, sports and other extra-curricular activities. Samarthanam takes pride in Nikhil who is a humble and responsible student at school and home as well. Unfortunately Nikhil lost his father recently and he has been an emotional support to his mother and brothers during the mournful situation. Nikhil aims to become a big officer and support his family. He wishes to bring fame to his family and the organization which aided him all through.

RAKSHIT LAKSHMIKANTH

Rakshit had come to Samarthanam at the age of 13. Rakshit is the second child of Lokesh and Rajalakshmi who work as an auto driver and in a garment factory respectively. Rakshit is intellectually disabled. His problem was lately diagnosed though he had been suffering from convulsions since the age of 5 months and continued for 5 years. When Rakshit approached Samarthanam his health was in a bad shape. He has been under medication and there is no sign of convulsions from past two years. He is now gradually improving. Rakshit was not ready to part with his family and join Samarthanam initially. Though he has not been very interactive in the beginning, after a few days of Samarthanam training Rakshit can now spell his father’s phone number, identify names of family members, complete his home work, eat and sleep, take leadership in class and likes to participate in sports. His progress has been highly commendable.

SHOBHA

Shobha is currently studying in 6th Standard at Samarthanam School. Her father Ramakrishna had deserted the family and mother Puttaramakka had to take up the entire family responsibility. Shobha’s economic status was poor and providing the kids with basic education was being difficult for the mother. Shobha is the second child of Puttaramakka and had approached Samarthanam when she was in 4th Standard. Samarthanam provided her with all the basic necessities including education, safety and other amenities. Her mother is very proud of her progress as she excels not only in studies but also in cultural events and extracurricular activities like Sports. Shobha stands first in Scholastic achievement as her absorption power is tremendous. She sings and dances very well and participates in many competitions. Samarthanam is certainly proud of Shobha as she has bagged a good number of prizes in various contests.
Support
persons with disabilities and the underserved with
your generous donation

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Choose Samarthanam as your CSR partner this financial year! We welcome employee engagement, monetary contributions, volunteering, diverse projects and long term partnerships.

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www.samarthanam.org