



HOPE NEWS

July 2016

FOCUS AREAS

- ◆ Advocacy
- ◆ Empowerment
- ◆ Livelihood
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Healthcare
- ◆ Environment

From the Managing Director's Desk....



Dear Friends,

After a fruitful and eventful year, we entered into the new year, afresh with immense hope, expectations and new vigour to achieve greater results and impact more lives through the various projects of Agnes Kunze Society Hope Project.

The year began with a number of our friends, donors and visitors visiting Hope Home and Hope Academy as well as some of the other project areas of Hope. We are always blessed and encouraged by such visits from friends and the children just love to interact with them. Thank you all for coming and encouraging us.

In the words of John Joseph Powell, *"It is an absolute human certainty that no one can know his own beauty or perceive a sense of his own worth until it has been reflected back to him in the mirror of another loving, caring human being."*

This is exactly what AKS Hope Project family is trying to do through all its 36 different projects - striving to bring out the beauty and a sense of worth with love and care, which can be seen reflected in another human being.

I take this opportunity to thank the entire staff of AKS Hope Project for selflessly laboring throughout the year towards this cause.

The year has begun on a welcoming note and as you go through this quarterly report, you will find that within the span of these 4 months, a lot has been achieved. We are looking forward to greater achievement in the coming months.

We look forward to your support and well wishes for another fruitful and successful year. Do stay connected as Friends of Hope and pray for the work of the Society.

May God bless you.

Warmly,

Manju Lawrence

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HOPE HOME

The year 2016 began with great enthusiasm and thrill for the children at Hope Home, as a number of friends, donors and visitors visited the Home and stayed with the children, interacted, taught and learnt with them. Overall, it was a great learning experience for the children!!

Frederick Paul from Germany was the first one to arrive on January 12th. The children loved him from the very first day as he intermingled with the kids by teaching his favourite subject, Maths and even how to play the guitar, cooking pasta for them and sharing about his passion for motorbikes.



While Paul was engrossed in his busy schedule Lea, Haecker, & Auguste arrived adding surprise and excitement among the children. Lea has visited the Home on many occasions before. So the children were excited to see her again. All of them engaged the children in various fun activities and it was a great time of learning various skills through these fun activities. Pia came after a long time and was unable to recognize some of the kids as they had all grown up. Nevertheless, they enjoyed interacting with her and learning how to make face masks, wrist bands, singing and dancing.



“Isn't everyone a part of everyone else?”
— Budd Schulberg

Caroline, Emmeran and their daughter, Tara along with Elizabeth & Ekaterina also visited the Home during these months. They were given a very warm welcome by the children. Elizabeth & Ekaterina directed a play telling about how Agnes Kunze Society came into existence, which was appreciated by all. They did an energetic dance on a Punjabi song.



It was fun to go on the jungle walk and picnic with Jasper and Ryanne, who visited towards the end of March. The children enjoyed a little snack under the Sal trees and each one had a story to tell when they returned from the jungle.



“To become a true global citizen, one must abandon all notions of ‘otherness’ and instead embrace ‘togetherness’. The world is no longer white, black, yellow and brown. Through love, tribes have been intermixing colors to reveal a new rainbow world. And as more time passes, this racial and cultural blending will make it harder for humans to side with one race, nation or religion over another. Therefore, practical wisdom should be used to abandon any cultural, social, religious, tribal, and national beliefs of disparity altogether. This is the only way mankind will truly evolve. Segregation is a word of the past. Unity is the key to a peaceful future.” — Suzy Kassem

HOPE ACADEMY

The children enthusiastically returned to school after the winter break, when it re-opened on January 8, 2016. Republic Day celebrations were observed on January 26th in which, Honourable Minister, Mr. Dinesh Aggarwal was the Chief Guest and hoisted the national flag. Local elected representatives, Parshad Raj Kumar Kakkar and Mr. Anup Kumar were also present. The Project Coordinator also addressed the audience and sweets were distributed to all present.



February and March are the months of Unit Tests and final examinations. A parent-teacher meeting was also held just before the exams to ensure that the parents are aware of the academic progress of their child and provide proper guidance to them in the areas in which improvement is required.

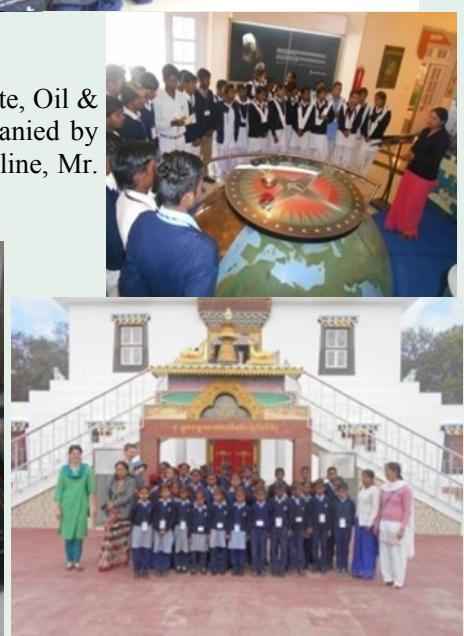


Mostly mothers came to the school on the day of the declaration of the results. Some children had achieved excellent result, while others needed improvement.



Teachers counselled the mothers to deal with their children with love and patience, instead of beating them as that would have an adverse affect on the children. The new academic session 2016-17 began in April. All students were very happy to go to new classes with new books, new uniforms and bags.

The new session began with educational excursion to the Forest Research Institute, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation and the Buddha Temple. The children were accompanied by their teachers and also the founder members of Agnes Kunze Society, Ms. Caroline, Mr. Emmeran and Tara. It was a wonderful learning experience for the children.





Since the beginning, 2016 has been a year for visitors. A number of friends and well-wishers of AKS Hope Project have visited the school and other projects of the society. They spent quality time at the school, seeing the curriculum, interacting with the children and teaching them as well according to their expertise.



It was indeed a privilege and a pleasure to host the founding members of AKS Hope Project, Mrs. Caroline and family from Germany. She met with the management, staff and students of AKS Hope Academy and was thrilled to see constant progress and endearing smiles on the faces of the children as well as positive changes in the community. She discussed about further skill development programmes and studies for the Hope Higher Education Students programme.



Ms. Rianne, a volunteer from the Netherlands took sessions with teachers to improve their teaching skills. She is an educational scientist and has great knowledge about teaching methods. Mr. Jasper, who came with her, assisted her in the capacity building programme.



Ms. Anita Bisht, completed 10 years of faithful service at AKS Hope Project. The management along with the founder members of AKS, Mrs. Caroline & Mrs. Manju Lawrence appreciated her services and awarded her for her commitment and dedication..

SUCCESS & ACHIEVEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Parvind Kumar,
Class XII, Science
75.4%



Atul Kumar
Class XII, Science
72.2%



Rohit Kumar,
Class XII,
Commerce 56.2%



Sahil Gajwan,
Class X, Science
77.8%



Sumit Gajwan
Class X, Science
60%



Shivani Keri,
Class X, Science
63.2%



Neha Kumari,
Class X, Science
59.2%

I joined Agnes Kunze Society on 7 Nov 2005. It has been an honour for me that I have completed 10 yrs of my service with the society.

During 10 yrs of my journey the initial change that came in my life was when I got a chance to give my duty under the society.

At first it was very hard the locality I area was a challenge for me but I got strong support from my staff, colleagues & management of AKS.

Last 10 yrs of my journey I also learn many things from my co-ordinate staff. How can we do our work with a team spirit. They always motivated me & helped me to boost my ability.

They are also very humble, co-operative & helpful. I have completed my 10 yrs journey. I hope that this journey contributes with passion & enthusiasm.

My heartfelt thank to all of you for this support, love, care & for everything which you have given me throughout my journey.

My best wishes is always there for the management, staff & all children.

Anita Bisht

HOPE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

AKS Hope Community Health Project was able to conduct 160 corner meetings and 16 awareness camps in Dehradun during this quarter. 4 new Self Help Groups were started. The main aim was to raise awareness amongst the people of the various government schemes and to take advantage of such benefits from the government authorities. At present there are 15 Self Help Groups with 5 members in each group. Within this last quarter, around 20 new women have received loan for starting up small businesses and they are efficiently working in their community.



The Community Health Project has also been concentrating on creating awareness of the ill effects of smoking and the causes of TB. Awareness rallies were conducted and the Anti Tobacco brigade consisting of students and children of the community have been effectively propagating about the ill effects of smoking and chewing tobacco amongst their family members and neighbours. This message is also conveyed through skits performed by the Community Health staff in different slums. Awareness has been created amongst almost 5000 people in the entire Dehradun district. This is a very small step towards eradicating Tuberculosis, but the staff has been working with full dedication towards this cause. World TB Day was also observed on March 24th in which

Dr.Gairola (NHM), Dr.Abishek (DTO) and Mr.Anil Verma for Civil Defence also participated.

Under the AKS Hope Community Health initiative, regular meetings with the youth, parents and health check-ups of children is done to raise awareness on healthy living. Information regarding HIV/AIDS, TB/DOTS was shared with the community. Around 15 people in the community were diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and TB. After conducting the tests, they were sent to the Doon Hospital for proper treatment and to the Integrated Counselling & Testing Centre for HIV testing & counselling. The awareness meetings also include topics like non-communicable diseases, mother and child health care, mental health & disability, etc.



In partnership with CBM, AKS Hope Project participated in the “Include Vidya Campaign” project, creating awareness on:

- ◆ Increase of enrolment and retention of children with disabilities in mainstream schools.
- ◆ Gain community & parents commitment to ensure inclusive education
- ◆ Ensure children with disabilities in school are learning with their peers.



The AKS Community Health Team participated with other organizations in a rally taken out on “World Autism Day” at Gandhi Park, Dehradun.



Hope Project Burans has been working effectively amongst Persons with Mental Disabilities. Around 20 people with Mental Disability attended a session in Sahaspur, Dist. Dehradun, where they were given awareness on Right to Information. A support group meeting regarding livelihood government programmes was also conducted with the women who suffer from mental disability.

HOPE SAMVEDNA

The focus of Hope Samvedna is on disability. Disabled Peoples Group (DPGs) have been formed, which have been formally registered as DPGs. One of the leading DPG is named "**UMANG DIVAYANG SEWA SAMITI**". Various training and workshops have been conducted to strengthen the DPG members and create awareness amongst them. 14 DPG members participated in an "**Organic Compost**" training. The trainers were Mr. Kimothi and Mr. Jugal Kishore from Navdhaniya. They trained the members in vermicompost and pit compost.



Pia and her friend, who visited Hope Home during this quarter, taught the group to make paper earrings. The members were very excited and motivated as this was a very low cost product and can be made easily.



DPG members also participated in an agricultural training on animal husbandry, poultry farming, organic compost, etc. This training was very beneficial for them as they learned how to improve their financial status by applying for these very low cost schemes provided by the government.



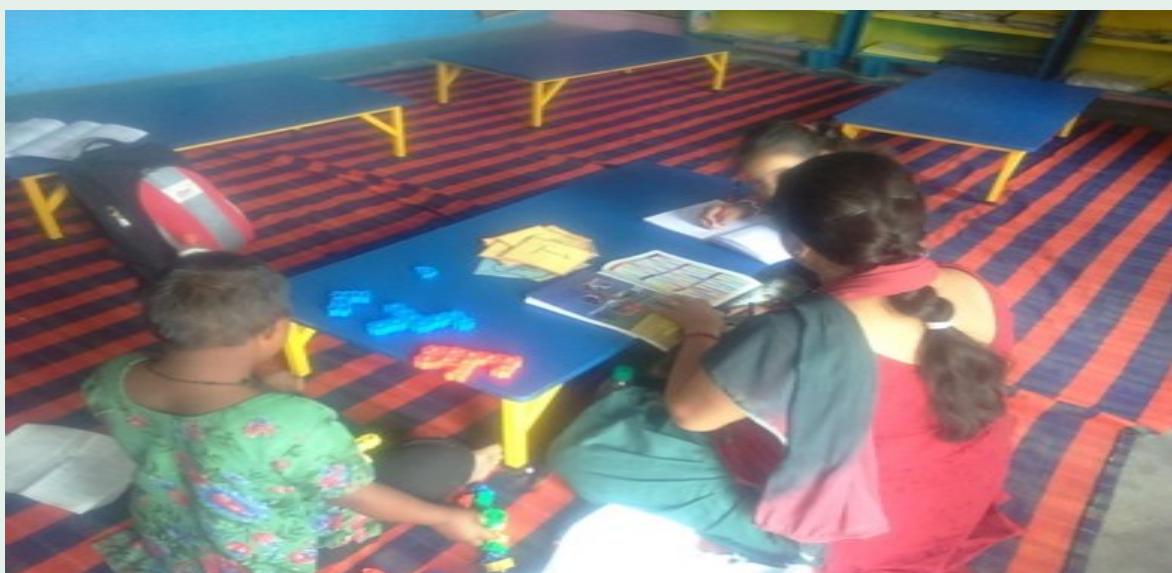
A very useful and practical accessibility training was conducted by CBM in which many of the DPG members took part. It was a great learning experience for them.



April 2016, Community Based Rehabilitation for the Hope Samvedna children began. A total of 25 children are getting rehabilitation facilities in their own communities.



Hope Samvedna staff has been making every effort to create awareness about inclusion and are trying to get admission for special needs children into various government schools. For this they have been visiting the local authorities, government school authorities, Pradhans, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, etc. This initiative has helped the children to socialize with other children and created in them a feeling of acceptability and cooperation.



A HEARTFELT THANKS
TO THE MANAGEMENT
OF OIL & NATURAL
GAS CORPORATION
(ONGC), DEHRADUN
FOR PRESENTING A
SCHOOL BUS FOR OUR
CHILDREN



Chief Functionary

Agnes Kunze Society

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www.akshopeprojectindia.org

**CONGRATULATIONS ON COMPLETING
TEN YEARS OF SERVICE AT AKS HOPE!!!**



(L to R) AKS Hope Staff

Mr. Laxman Balan (Community Health/Hope Burans)

Ms. Pratima Rana (Hope Home/
Hope Samvedna)

Mr. Stephen Masih (Head Office)

Ms. Anita Bisht (Hope Academy)

**Along with Managing Director &
Founding Members**

Mrs. Manju Lawrence (3rd from
left) & **Mrs. Caroline** (5th from
left)