



AKS HOPE NEWS

HOPE HOME

52 children in the age group of 5 – 17 years enjoying their stay at Hope Home .

AKS ACADEMY

AKS Academy has 210+ children in classes Nur. to 5. 67 children are also enrolled in the Higher Education Program.

HOPE SAMVEDNA

The focus of Hope Samvedna in these past months has been on livelihood projects.

HOPE CBID

A programmatic approach to achieve Disability Inclusive Development. 1200+ PWDs in 4 districts & 9 blocks have thus far been helped.

HOPE CCSS

Hope Comprehensive care & Support Services continues to work in the area of health, counseling, awareness & follow-up, etc....

A word from the managing director...

Thank you dear friends, donors and well-wishers of Agnes Kunze Society HOPE Project. It is your continuous support and encouragement that has enabled the team of almost 80+ staff to work diligently, selflessly and with full dedication in the 30+ projects of AKS HOPE thereby making a great impact in the community that is being served.

Through these projects approximately 12000+ children and adults have benefited. They have been able to bring a flicker of hope in the dark world of so many families and it is indeed a joy to see the smile on the faces of children and their parents as they look toward a bright future.

It is not an easy task and very often the project teams are faced with difficulties and challenges but they continue to move ahead with renewed zeal and vigor as they know that the end result will bring a smile on a face!

Please take time from your busy schedule to glance through this newsletter and get a glimpse of the work of AKS Hope Project along with many success stories.

Warm wishes,

Manju Lawrence



The children had a wonderful time with their parents and relatives and had a lot of interesting tales to tell the staff at the Home after their break.

Coming back to the Hope Home, they were once again involved in a lot of activities and at the same time they devoted themselves to studies, as they had to prepare for the Quarterly and Half yearly examinations. With qualified teachers and Smart Board classrooms, the children are getting a good opportunity to learn and do well. Besides this, the children were extremely happy that new television sets were installed in their dormitory rooms and now all the children can watch their favorite programs in their own rooms during their relaxation time.

In the month of September, the management of Hope Home organized Sports Day for the children in collaboration with Wynberg Allen School, Mussoorie. They played many friendly games. The children

thoroughly enjoyed themselves with lots of fun activities, dancing and music.

September was also the month of Inspection and Social Audit. On 22nd of September, the DM of Dehradun and the JJ Act Inspection team visited the Home. There were 10 people representing the following departments:

DM, Dehradun and team
Mrs. Meena Bisht (Dist. Probation Officer) & DPO team
Mrs. Asha Kandari (Child Welfare Committee, Dehradun and JJ Act team)

They reviewed the living conditions of the children in the Home, the condition of the dorms, type of food being provided to them. They also checked the individual medical records of the children and their personal files. The social audit team was very happy and satisfied with the work and activities among the children and appreciated the management for the good work among the needy children.



AGNES KUNZE ACADEMY

AGNES KUNZE ACADEMY currently has 210+ children enrolled. The vision of the school is to see the overall development of the children and enable them to do their best so that they can build a bright future for themselves and their families. The school management provides the children with best facilities to help them progress in all areas of education.

Some students are also assisted in pursuing higher education and presently there are 67 such students under this program. A number of friends, visitors and donors visit the school from time to time to encourage the staff and students to continue their pursuance for excellence.

The journey of Pravind Gupta

(Ex-student of Hope Higher Education Program)

Pravind Gupta's journey began from this classroom when he took admission at Agnes Kunze Academy and began his studies. He completed his schooling and went on to pursue higher education under the Hope Higher Education Programme. He is currently doing graduation in Science (PCM) from SGRR PG College, Dehradun.

A notable achievement – Pravind was recently elected President of the Student's Union from SGRR PG College!! AKA is proud of Pravind!!





Children enjoying the beauty of nature

ACTIVITIES AT AKA



Friends from The Netherlands visiting AKA



Students participating in a parade



New toilets installed



HOPE SAMVEDNA



The focus of Hope Samvedna project in this quarter has been on livelihood projects. The Disabled People Group, Umang Divyang Sewa Samiti participated in Mushroom Cultivation training at Herbertpur Anugrah Centre. It was a three-day training program under Disability Inclusive Livelihood Program (DILIP).

Under the Disability Inclusive Livelihood Program, the families also visited Burans project, basically for cross learning from families with mental disability, who are now successfully engaged in livelihood projects such as poultry, goat rearing, kitchen gardening etc.

Almost 300 plants were distributed to persons with disabilities and Disabled People's Group members to initiate horticulture as livelihood and at the same time create an environmental balance.

Anupama Khali

“I have been working with Hope Samvedna project for the past three years. Initially, I did not know how to work with persons or children with disabilities. After working for these past years, I have gained so much experience and the work has personally empowered me to do more for the betterment of Persons with Disabilities. I have also enrolled myself to do a Masters in Social Work with special focus on understanding disability and working with special needs children.”

My life has also changed due to my interaction and work with these children. My communication skills have improved to a great extent, both with the staff as well in the community.

I just love working with children and persons with special needs and I hope to do much more in this field, thus helping them to live a better life.”



HOPE COMMUNITY BASED INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT 2018

Community Based Inclusive Development Project is a programmatic approach to achieve Disability Inclusive Development. It is Agnes Kunze Society Hope Project's approach to enable Disability Inclusive Development on the ground. It brings about a change in the lives of people with disability at a community level, working with and through local groups and institutions. It enhances and strengthens earlier work described as Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR).

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CBID PROGRAM

- A group of Physiotherapists, Special Educator, Livelihood Manager, Occupational Therapist conducted a needs assessment of 1206 individuals in Uttarakhand.
- Follow-up according to the goals set in the areas of Individual training on money concept, personal hygiene, physical exercise, employment and income generation opportunities. Also, Caregivers training has been conducted, Health and Social Awareness, Linking Special Needs children with Anganwadi Centres, Referrals to health, livelihood, education and rehabilitation services has been done.
- Encouraging the formation of Disabled Peoples Group in new catchment areas.
- Attending the National Disability Consultation meeting with DPG/DPO members of Uttarakhand on July 19 & 20, 2018.

CHALLENGES FACED

The hilly terrain and difficult weather conditions have proven to be a challenge to the ongoing project implementation, especially during the monsoon season, when the CBID team faced landslides and bad weather. But this has not deterred their zeal or motivation to work in this area.

'ASHA KI KIRAN'

A RAY OF HOPE



Arjun is a mentally challenged child. The Community Based Inclusive Development team connected with Arjun and his family during a survey that they were conducting in their area. They have since then kept in constant touch with Arjun's family. Arjun had never been to school.

As a result of regular follow-up visits and encouragement, Arjun's parents were motivated to take a positive step towards their child's education and future. They gathered courage to go and visit a nearby primary school and initiate the process of admission for their son. They requested the school management to enroll Arjun in the school. The Community Based Inclusive Development team supported the parents in this initiative and Arjun was finally granted admission in the school.

Arjun's parents are overjoyed and extremely thankful to the Community Based Inclusive Development staff for their support and encouragement. The only constraint that is seen is that the school does not have a special educator. Nevertheless, Arjun is receiving education and his parents are happy!

HOPE COMPREHENSIVE CARE & SUPPORT SERVICES (HOPE CCSS)

HOPE Comprehensive Care & Support Services (CCSS) continues to work actively in the areas of health, counseling, awareness meetings, distribution of medicines, visitation and follow-up especially among the HIV & TB patients. The CCSS team encourages the patients to go for regular check-up and also take the medicine timely. Mrs. Beera Devi, CCSS worker has been visiting the Female Sex Workers (FSWs) in the different areas of Dehradun, counseling them to stop this work. Condom distribution has also been done among these workers. Awareness is created among them about various sexual diseases and HIV that can be the result of such work and can become a serious life threatening issue.

Bimla* (not real name) is a Female Sex worker. She has two children, an 8-year-old boy and an 11-year-old girl. The children have never attended school. After a lot of counseling and motivation from the CCSS team, they took admission in April 2018 and have started going to school. This is a real achievement for Bimla as well and she is very happy.



8 year old boy living in a slum settlement was taken to Doon Hospital for a check up. He was diagnosed with TB. He is now receiving regular treatment and follow-up is also conducted by HOPE CCSS staff on a regular basis.

Ritu* (name changed) is an HIV patient. Her husband passed away and she is now left with two children. She comes all the way from Chamoli, (Kumaon border) to Dehradun for treatment and to collect her medicines. HOPE CCSS team takes care of her night stay and food facility while she is here in Dehradun. They have also helped her to apply for a ration card. One of her children who was born at Doon Hospital after her husband's death was tested negative.



HIGHLIGHTS OF CCSS ACTIVITIES

- 90 Multi Drug Resistant Patients visited and counseled
- 100 corner meetings held in different places & streets of Dehradun to explain about Tuberculosis/Human Immunodeficiency Virus & Mental Health
 - Self Help Groups meetings held
- 250 homes of People with Psychosocial Disabilities were visited and counseling done. Out of these, 215 TB, HIV & mental disorder patients came to the hospital to get treatment
- 30 Accredited Social Health Activists & Anganwadi



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

As part of its Human Resource Development initiative, AKS Hope always encourages and motivates its staff to attend workshops, seminars and training for personal as well as organizational growth and development.



A Report from Shakti Singh Accounts Officer

“I attended the **Finance Management Workshop for NGOs** conducted from May 24- 26, 2018 at KKID (Karl Kubel Institute of Development), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Shri Vithal Rao ji our trainer for the above program taught us so many things related to Finance Management in NGO sector.

After the initial introduction of all the participants, Shri. Vithal Rao began his session by explaining what is an NGO and how it is created. He took sessions on Rules & Regulations and purpose of NGOs. The other sessions included topics such as Book-Keeping and what method should be followed by the NGO sector; corrected format of Financial Statement and its importance for raising funds; Income Tax and a brief session on GST and its implications on the NGO Sector.

This training was very beneficial to me for updating my knowledge in my area of work and I will apply it for the Finance Management of Agnes Kunze Society.”

I am thankful to Agnes Kunze Society for giving me the opportunity to attend this program.

Chief Functionary

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