

DREAM CATCHERS

VOL - II

(JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018)

Jan Seva is a not-for-profit organisation. Services include a crèche for underprivileged children aged between 2-6 years; it provides free education, nutrition and health checks. The 'UDAAN' Community project offers similar services for children with disabilities and their families. Jan Seva also runs programmes like Adult Literacy, Computer Literacy and Vocational Training for the mothers and students who have dropped out of school. The aim is to encourage young women and girls towards empowerment through self-employment. A Community Health Programme (CHP) is offered, the main aim of which is to protect and improve the health of the families in the community.

EDITORIAL

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Friends,

I start on a sad note - the loss of a great supporter of Jan Seva, a genuinely kind soul and our dear friend, Ralph Strangis, husband of Grace Strangis of Pathways to Children. He left us on August 15 this year. Ralph's interaction with the children and staff of Jan Seva and his contribution, both monetarily and by way of ideas, have given Jan Seva an admirable and significant character. Ralph, we will always remember you very fondly and your memory will continue to inspire us to keep excelling! Grace, to you I send our heartfelt condolences and our deepest gratitude; also salutations for wanting to continue with your support to Jan Seva in spite of your overwhelming loss.

Jan Seva has come a long way from its small, modest beginnings. Today, it is seen as a place of excellence for pre-school education for little children from marginalized homes and for women in the community. Our UDAAN project continues to impress! When the children with disabilities - differently abled - find their rightful place in the sunshine, our joy knows no bounds. I thank all our caregivers, our teachers, our coordinators, our doctors, our CHP team and all those associated with Jan Seva.

I thank all our sponsors, especially Amicale and Pathways to Children who, with their generous contributions have made this a reality. Jan Seva would not have been possible without their support, and for this I say a special "thank you" to Mr. Bisset, Amicale and the Government of Luxembourg.

I would like to thank the board members of SICW for their sustained support in helping shape Jan Seva. I must acknowledge the relentless dedication of our kitchen staff, who bring so much joy to each and every child every day at lunchtime. Thanks also to our gardener, who grows the most enviable seasonal vegetables for the children's meals.

Let us together continue to make Jan Seva even bigger and better.

With warm regards

Dr. Zarin Dadina

Thank You



EDITED BY - Aditi Mazumdar, Indrani Dey, Twisha Ganguly and Sumaya Gupta

EDITORIAL CONSULTANT-Reena Sen PhD, Board Member, SICW

Please feel free to contact us or give us feedback on Newsletter

chpsicw@gmail.com, twishaganguli@yahoo.co.in, udaan.sicw@gmail.com

Independence Day at Jan Seva



Jan Seva celebrated India's 72nd Independence Day on 15th August with great aplomb. Children from UDAAN and the Crèche participated in an Integration programme- the showstopper for the morning! The event included a medley of patriotic songs, dances and poems. The little ones did their teachers proud! In their colourful costumes, the children looked like blooming flowers. The stage was bedecked with the Indian flag and the children performed with excitement and enthusiasm.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMME (CHP)

I AM LIVING FOR JUSTICE

Led by Sara Lederman a student of University of Minnesota School of Public Health and in collaboration with Pathways, professionals in CHP have developed a programme for community based interventions for women who have experienced domestic abuse. In addition to providing a safe, therapeutic space for processing trauma narratives from the women, the CHP team is providing counselling support for the women who expressed interest in intervention. For those who shared experiences of abuse but were tenuous about intervention, CHP professionals will continue to offer support if they ever express a desire for further guidance.



BELIEVE THEM WITHOUT DOUBT

A Panel Discussion on Child Sexual Abuse -"Ponder, Protect and Prevent" was conducted by RACSHA (Rise against Child Sexual Harm and Abuse) in association with The Telegraph (YOUNG METRO). Debolina and Indrani from the CHP team with Dr. Janak Hartnett, Programme Administrator, CHP attended the three-hour programme. The audience and panellists comprised youth advocates, teachers, Heads of educational institutions, mental health practitioners, members of the press and media and development professionals. The principal objective of the workshop was to implement child protection policies and tools at school level and increase awareness about sexual abuse in both girls and boys.

AWARENESS ABOUT COLDS AND COUGHS

Stories told with the aid of flip charts and scrap books were used to teach children of the Crèche about sneezing and coughing so that the infection does not spread, and techniques of maintaining oral health.



INTERVENTION FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE LEADING TO DEATH

The CHP team intervened in a case of domestic abuse in a district of West Bengal leading to the death of a young woman, a mother of 2 daughters who was tortured and killed with her infant daughter by her husband and in-laws, for not producing a son. The case was reported in the newspapers and reported directly to the CHP team by the victim's aunt and uncle.

Action taken by CHP:

The team members provided a counselling session and referred the victim's paternal uncle and aunt to the District Child Protection Officer for further communication and action. The team made a linkage with the West Bengal Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR) and informed Child Line (1098).



CRECHE AND ADULT PROGRAMMES: SUCCESS STORIES

Name of the Child: Aishika Biswas

DOB: 19/03/2014

DOA: 02/04/2018

Aishika came to Jan Seva (JS) for admission at UDAAN, after a Cochlear Implant in May 2017. After some time, Aishika's improvement was noticeable and hence our paediatrician, Dr Mary Acharya advised to shift her to the Crèche with typically developing children. She has started making progress in her scholastic performance and has started interacting with words with her friends in the crèche.



Name of the child: Subhoshree Mondal



DOB: 4/04/2012 DOA: 12/12/2014

Subhoshree was admitted in JS when she was 2 years and 8 months old. She studied here for three years and each year she was the class topper! She comes from a poor family and her uncle supports her educational expenses. Her father works as a labourer in a

factory and her mother stitches shoes. She got admitted in Silver Point School in Jan 2018. She is studying in Class 1 and doing very well in this English medium school. She loves dancing and has a high level of concentration in whatever she does.



Name of the Student: Jyostna Bhagat

DOB: 21/01/1988

DOA for Adult Literacy Course (Bengali): 12/03/2017



Jyostna was married off when she was very young and had no opportunity to study, due to poverty. At Jan Seva, she used to learn stitching at the Vocational Training classes when she came to know about the Bengali adult literacy course. She enrolled herself and studied with great

perseverance and regularity. Her performance was rated as 'outstanding' in the August 2017 assessments. Now Jyotsna teaches her own daughter at home and keeps abreast of news and views through reading newspapers regularly.



'UDAAN' COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

PARENT- TEACHER MEETING (PTM) ON 27TH JULY

Regular intervention and awareness programmes are held for sensitizing the parents of children with special needs who are in UDAAN. This has broadened their knowledge about Right to Information, opening of bank accounts for their children, acquiring disability and Railway concession Certificates and availing of facilities from hospitals with the help of the disability card. During this PTM, the mother of Saharsh Jha was in tears while expressing her gratitude for her son's admission to UDAAN. The IICP team has suggested Saharsh should move to the crèche with the view that exposure structured curriculum would lead to all round development.



'UDAAN' Achiever:

Soumya Ghosh

DOB: 23/02/2010

Soumya has Downs Syndrome and started attending UDAAN at the age of three. He lacked communication skills and did not speak. He has now developed social and communication skills. He is also improving in academics. Soumya will be joining a mainstream school in the next academic year - 2018-2019.



NEW ADMISSIONS IN UDAAN (JULY & AUGUST)



I, Saharsh Jha, have Cerebral Palsy



I am Arjun Mondal - my developmental milestones are delayed

BI- MONTHLY CLINICS SUPPORTED BY IICP

BI- MONTHLY CLINICS SUPPORTED BY IICP

We were delighted to see little Monisha Mondal who has cerebral palsy trying to sit on her own, with gaiters on her arms - here she is being urged by **Arijit Ghosh, Head of CBR, IICP** to raise her head to look at a toy.



Speech Therapy

Speech Therapist, Mr. Ratnadeep Das is seen here working with Arisa Singh, a child with features of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and developmental delay. After 1 year of speech and language stimulation, she has developed speech, gradually. She can say nearly 40 words; she names numbers from 1 to 10 with cue cards.

UDAAN: Some Glimpses



A twice-a-week 'Mother and Child' Clinic serves the community: 278 patients were treated with free medicines between July and September 2018



EVENTS: OCTOBER -DECEMBER 2018

COMMUNITY HELATH PROGRAMME

➤ **October 2018**

Jan Seva: An awareness programme for children on Child Safety -No touch

Community programmes: Breastfeeding and Nutritional Care for Pregnant Women

➤ **November 2018**

Community programme: Family Planning

CRECHE AND ADULT PROGRAMME

November

Diwali Celebration

Children's Day Celebration

Parent's Awareness Meeting for Crèche final assessment

Immunisation Camp for MMR and Typhoid - intake 2018

Launching of Advance Word and Excel - Computer Literacy Programme

December

Final Assessment for all children; Promotion to new crèche room

Admission process for the Academic year 2019

Adult Literacy English students' assessment- Batch II 2018

NEWS LINKED TO WEBSITE

- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/08/24/Raksha-Bandhan-Celebrations-at-Jan-Seva>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/08/19/Jan-Seva-English-Course-Students-Educational-Visit-to-Birla-Mandir>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/08/01/Our-14th-Batch-of-Students-of-complete-the-Computer-Basic-Course-by-NIIT>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/07/07/Rath-Yatra-at-Jan-Seva>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/09/07/I-am-living-for-Justice>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/08/09/Awareness-Program-with-Cr%C3%A8che-Children-on-Sneezing-Coughing-and-Oral-Health>
- <https://www.sicwforchildren.org/single-post/2018/08/01/A-Workshop-on-Child-Sexual-Abuse-with-Schools>