

Sandnya Sanwardhan Sansth

Activity report for the year 2018-19

Though we plan things with all good intentions and put in our genuine efforts with the expectations to see the things happening. But many times it does not progress the way we plan. In spite of this wisdom demands that we keep on trying with out expecting it to happen in any specific time limit. We have completed another year with few long awaited events happening. One of such projects was Parent Relief Centre[PRC]. Though we identified the need of this facility in the very first year of Sandnya, it took 25 years to put this in practice. Though the time was running out, we did not loose our focus and ultimately after such a long time we could implement the idea this year. It requires immense faith in destiny and infinite patience.

Another long awaited project is the “ Special wheel chair accessible bus” for our students with multiple disabilities. It is about five years we are working on this project. It is normal belief that with out money nothing moves. But in case of this special bus, we got funding before we could initiate the work on this project. Actually it was more than a year we received the funds and could not start the work. Anyway, this year we could make the significant progress and looks like we can put the bus on road with in two or three months.

All along these more than two decades in the service of mentally challenged we never faced problem as far as funds are concerned. We always got our genuine needs full filled and in reasonable time.

Let me put the relevant details of performance of all our major programs.

Special education:

The total number of students for special education were 73 this year and the number is same as last year. This includes 26 girls and 47 boys. During progress report distribution last year, there were few queries and apprehensions on the part of parents regarding the progress of their ward. On effective counselling and in turn parents changing their thought process a positive change was noticed in the respective students. Mental disability is not only multi dimensional but is indeed very complex as well to understand. The mental disability is a irreversible condition and the only option available is changing the environment to the extent possible. Making understand parents the critical points in managing behavioural traits is the most challenging job. By and large most of the students show good progress and parents are also satisfied.

Developmental therapy:

Amongst all our students 55 students got therapy. Out of this 22 got therapy daily and the rest got on alternate day. This whole year we were short of staff in

this department. There was only one therapist through out the year. Since the therapist joined in mid session, she took little time to build repo with our special students. We were short of assistants as well.

We are in search of occupational therapist which is a full time job.

Rehab Units:

We have 7 rehab units where in 43 adults are working which includes 8 girls. The handloom unit has added one trainee this year, by the end of the year he is doing a good job. The hand loom unit has produced 34 floor mats and 84 yoga mats during this year. Out of this 23 floor mats and 64 yoga mats were sold.

News Paper Scrap donation:

Trustee members are aware that we have been collecting news paper scrap from individuals and through this we raise funds. The amount raised through this efforts is about 4 lacks which is almost same as last year.

Solar Power Project:

The 12 KW solar power project is installed on the ruff top and all formalities are also completed. Net meter has also been installed and the whole system is functional. The total cost incurred is about Rs.8 lacks plus and for this we received funding from Asha For Education, US. We have started receiving net bills for power consumption.

Parent Relief Centre :

The Parent Relief Centre, the temporary residential facility for our bonafide students was made functional since Feb' 2018. Initially the facility was meant for 3 days at a go for one student and the family could avail this for twice in a year, we did not get the response for some time. After discussing this with parents the PRC committee recommended that the maximum number of days at one go should be 6 and this was accepted by the Sandnya management. With this change we got fairly good response. From Feb' 19 to 31st March' 19 PRC serviced 6 application and the total number of days PRC used was 14. The longest stay was for 4 days. Total number of staff days used was 18 which include supervisory staff as well. I am sure next full year we will see more number of students using this facility.

Let me remind that PRC is a temporary lodging boarding facility for our bonafide students and the objective is to provide relief to parents and family during stressed family circumstances. Further we are providing this service free of cost to all irrespective of number of days the facility is used.

Sports & Cultural Activities:

As a yearly activity the sports days were held on 17 & 18th January 19 in Sandnya Srushti campus. Most of our students enjoy these two days on ground. They certainly do not understand spirit behind these sports events but the sense of enjoyment is indeed there. Even wheel chair bound students also enjoy it.

On 18th August there was a Vishwa Bangala Sammellan and our students were invited to give a performance. We presented the 'Adivasi Nritya' from our students of Rehab Units. The audience was spell bound to witness such a skill in our special students. This is an attempt towards social integration of our "differently able" children.

On 28th Oct'18 we did celebrate our "Silver Jubilee Year" with cultural cum awareness program. The program was witnessed by 700 plus audience and graced by the distinguished personality of Nagpur Dr. Vinod Asudani, HOD, Dept.of Humanities, Ramdeobaba College of Engineering, Nagpur as a Chief Guest. Swami Pitambaranandji of Ramkrishna Math presided over the program. Secretary during his address told the audience about the special bus and explained through the PPT how a hoisting device will be used to take wheel chair bound student in the bus without handling them physically.

We did celebrate Independence Day & Republic Day. On Independence Day the first version of the prototype of the wheel chair to be used in special bus was presented before the audience and the parents as well. Mr.Anil Onkarji, the person who is making this wheel chair was also the Chief Guest for this program.

The religious functions like Dahi- Handi, Holi, Diwali and Ganesh Utsav etc were also celebrated as usual. Needless to mention that all these celebrations are efforts towards social integration and the part of the learning process of social skills.

Students did go to the out door picnic on 2nd February'19 to Ganga Devi Mandir, Navegaon about 70 km from Nagpur. The total number of 73 students with 38 staff enjoyed the day out.

Summer Camp:

This year also a summer camp was organised in Sandhya Srushti campus during 7th to 14 th May'18. There were 16 boys and 6 girl students with 13 staff members. This residential camp is organised to give an opportunity to these selected students to learn sharing, co operation and few more ADLs. The camp is supervised by Principal and guided by our Chairman.

Matrusangharsh:

This self help group of mothers of our students organised the Shikshak Din where in parents showed their gratitude towards the teachers. The program followed with lunch for all persons present.

As a yearly activity Matrusangharsh organised a night out on 5th-6th Jan'19 in Sandhya Srushti. During the stay there were different useful events like Yogabhyas, 'Deep Yagya' by Gayatri Parivar and guidons by a doctor and a clinical psychologist. There was breast cancer screen of staff and all mother parents present. The doctor who carried this screening camp herself is a cancer survivor and could aptly motivate the mothers and our staff as well.

This year Matrusangharh members donated two digital weighing machines and a digital TV which is serving the purpose of a digital notice board. This notice board is installed in the visitors seating area.

Staff meetings:

There were 10 staff meetings held during the year and two of them were chaired by Chairman and Secretary and the remaining were presided over by Principal. Apart from this on first and third Saturdays of every month there were sessions conducted for case studies for critical cases and Principal co ordinated these sessions.

Staff training :

On 4th August a orientation program was organised and Dr.Hemant Wagh was the faculty. He talked about behavioural problems in mentally challenged and role of medicines in behavioural modification.

Siblings training:

On 14th Oct'18 we organised a siblings training program for siblings of our students. We had 33 siblings for this day long workshop and they were school / college going. The workshop began with a simple questioner for siblings for us to understand there level of understanding regarding their siblings condition. The main faculty was Mrs.Prachi Deo from Hyderabad who herself is a sibling. Though she is a serving software engineer left her career and committed herself to the cause of mentally challenged. She is not only looking after her mentally challenged elder brother and parents but managing her own family as well. Her interaction with the siblings was a great motivation to the present siblings. The workshop got inaugurated in the presence of Dr.S. Ganveer, Dean Government Dental College, Nagpur. The objective of this day long workshop was not only to make them aware about mental disability of their peer but to make them realise their potential and responsibility towards their special sibling.

Parent meetings:

Scheduled 4 parent meetings were held and the average attendance was 65%. Additionally we had a special meeting for parents of students who got admission this year. Further we had meeting of parents of students of rehab units. Parent meetings is the integral part of our work since without parents involvement and co operation quality of life of our special students can not be improved.

Awareness Programs:

This year we addressed 14 awareness meetings of which 8 were in Sandnya Srushti campus.

Transport:

We have three buses for commuting our students. The total amount spent on running these buses is about Rs.15 lacks all inclusive. We have spent about 10%

on maintenance and 30% on salary of drivers. About 48% is spent on fuel cost and 11% on taxes. We are subsidising about 35% on bus running expenses.

Special purpose Vehicle[Bus]: For members to recall that the customised wheel chair job is entrusted to M/s Onkar Furnitech, Nagpur. The first prototype version of the wheel chair was tried with our students on 15th August '18. There were many practical difficulties with the prototype and thus many corrections were suggested. It took lot of time for the maker to carry out corrections and he could not present the corrected version till this year end i.e. 31st March '19. The final trial of the chair with our students was carried on 10th June. It is now expected to come for next trial in couple of months. We have paid Rs.2.00 lacks to M/s Onkar Fernitech as advance.

Mean while we have imported the hoisting device, tie downs and floor rails through M/s Ferro Equip company based at Mumbai. We have also purchased the chassis for making the bus from M/s Mahindra & Mahindra. After negotiations we could buy this bus chassis for Rs,14.8 lacks all inclusive. The chassis is delivered to M/s Binwa Automobiles, MIDC, Vile-Bhagad, Raigadh for bus body building. This company is the franchisee company of M/s Mahindra & Mahindra for school bus manufacturing. Further, Mr. Rodricks, the owner of Ferro Equip has agreed to supervise the installation of hoisting device and floor rails in this proposed special purpose vehicle[bus]. We have paid Rs. 8.5 lacks for importing the hoisting device, rails and tie downs. Further we have paid Rs. 3.00 lacks to M/s Binwa Automobiles. Thus till this date we have spent about Rs.29 lacks for this bus.

I hope to receive the special purpose vehicle[bus] by July end in our campus. But the customised wheel chair may not be ready before August '19. I know and realise that this special bus is taking undue long time to come on road. The main reason is the wheel chair. In spite of our untiring pursuit we are unable to take the task to its logical end. Accepted that it is a new product development and should take some extra time but in this modern digital technology world it is taking unreasonably delayed. However I believe that by September end this special purpose bus should be on road.

Funds under CSR:

As you know we have three buses of our own for commuting our students. We have a sizeable number of students from Butibori and surrounding villages. And most of them could not avail our transport facility since existing three buses were full. This year we got a 24 seater school bus for Butibori students from M/s Komatsu Mining Equipment Manufacturing Company under CSR.

Special Education



Morning Prayer



Physiotherapy



Independence Day Programm



Dahi-Hundi Celebration



Annual Programm Celebration



Solar Project



Solar Project



Guest Speechin 'Matrusangharsha' Prog.

