

# Break the walls of silence

As normalcy returns to the world, the corridors of Ashray Akruti are once again filled with a renewed quest for learning and joy as our students reunite with old friends and teachers. While we rely on the foundational building bricks of interventions at AA, we continue to augment our services with new programs in order to keep up with the evolving demands to ensure that our students stay current and relevant. The following newsletter summarizes our activities and outreach for the quarter ending in June.

## Accolades

### SSC Board Examination Result



The Hearing-Impaired students of Ashray Akruti excelled in the SSC Board examination of 2021-2022. The 26 (16 from Srinagar Colony and 10 from ChadrayanGutta) students performed exceptionally well- thus making the first attempt a home run. P. Vaishnavi and S. Kalyani of Srinagar Colony and Maheen of ChadrayanGutta secured 9 GPA and the other students came close with 8.5 and above GPA.

The 10 students of Chandrayangutta are the first batch of students that appeared for S.S.C board exams from this center.

Ashray Akruti commends the determination and efforts of the students, faculty and parents on their outstanding accomplishment!

## Donor Activities

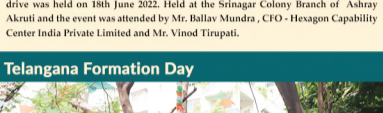
Hearing aids play a vital role in improving the quality of life and education of hearing-impaired students.

### Distribution of Hearing Aids



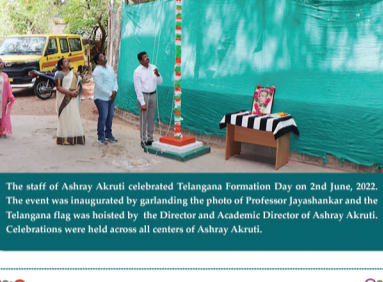
UW Bengaluru and Parexel donated 50 Hearing aids to the students of Ashray Akruti. The donation drive was conducted on the 19th of April by Ashray Akruti. Mr. Simon Peters from UW Bengaluru attended the event along with Mr. Karthik, Mr. Aurojyoti, Mr. Jagannadharao, Mr. Gopi, Ms. Sai Soumya and Ms. Snehal from Parexel. UW Bengaluru is supporting the education of 100 Hearing Impaired students of Ashray Akruti.

### Distribution of Hearing Aids and Educational Kits by Hexagon



Hexagon Capability Center India Private Limited (HCCI) came forward to donate 40 hearing aids and 30 educational kits to 30 students of Ashray Akruti. The donation drive was held on 18th June 2022. Held at the Srinagar Colony Branch of Ashray Akruti and the event was attended by Mr. Ballav Mundra, CFO - Hexagon Capability Center India Private Limited and Mr. Vinod Tirupati.

## Telangana Formation Day



The staff of Ashray Akruti celebrated Telangana Formation Day on 2nd June, 2022. The event was inaugurated by garlanding the photo of Professor Jayashankar and the Telangana flag was hoisted by the Director and Academic Director of Ashray Akruti. Celebrations were held across all centers of Ashray Akruti.

## Visits by Corporates

### ADP

A few executives from ADP paid a visit to the Chandrayangutta Center on the 3rd of April. Since they have been supporting this center since 2019, they visited the classes and appreciated the efforts put in by the teachers in providing education to the students.

### Qualcomm

Mr. Aaby Babu, Ms. Swapna & Ms. Apoorva from Qualcomm visited the schools of Ashray Akruti at Srinagar Colony and Chandrayangutta on June 17th. They visited the classes and appreciated the efforts of Ashray Akruti in providing quality education to the students.

### Wipro for Earth



Wipro employees visited the Srinagar Colony Center to donate 50 indoor plants to the school on account of World Environment Day on 5th June 2022. The students were thrilled to be able to contribute towards a greener Earth.

### J.P. Morgan

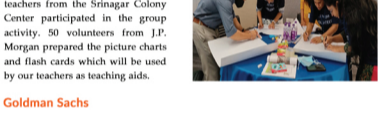
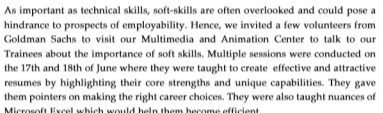
IEC material making activity was organized by J.P. Morgan at their office premises on 23rd June, 2022. 5 teachers from the Srinagar Colony Center participated in the group activity. 50 volunteers from J.P. Morgan prepared the picture charts and flash cards which will be used by our teachers as teaching aids.

### Goldman Sachs

As important as technical skills, soft-skills are often overlooked and could pose a hindrance to prospects of employability. Hence, we invited a few volunteers from Goldman Sachs to visit our Multimedia and Animation Center to talk to our Trainees about the importance of soft skills. Multiple sessions were conducted on the 17th and 18th of June where they were taught to create effective and attractive resumes by highlighting their core strengths and unique capabilities. They gave them pointers on making the right career choices. They were also taught nuances of Microsoft Excel which would help them become efficient.

Both the trainees and the volunteers had a fun filled and informative exchange of ideas and knowledge. We believe that this initiation has made our trainees feel more confident about their skills and contribution.

Attached below are a few of the pictures from the 2-day training program.

## Volunteering Support by Corporate Donors



## Cochlear Implantation

The month of May saw yet another successful collaboration with Verizon enabling us to schedule Cochlear Implant surgeries for 5 children.

Further, with the generous support of Hans Foundation, Ashray Akruti was able to organise Cochlear Implant surgeries for 8 children in June, out of which 6 have begun Auditory Verbal Therapy at SR Nagar. We also donated Cochlear Implant kits to the kids in therapy.

## Ongoing Skill Development - Multimedia & Animation Training Course for Disabled Youth

The online classes returned to offline from April. Currently we have 25 HI youth in the batch and 15 students who graduated earlier have secured employment in the VFX and Retail sectors in Hyderabad.

We would like to appeal to our Corporate Sponsors to assist our youth by providing them with employment opportunities. They are capable, self-motivated and enthusiastic individuals and are set to make a difference in their own lives and the lives of those around them. Your belief in their abilities will be the wind beneath their wings to break out of the despair and uncertainties of the situation dealt to them.

## Paving the way forward - Sign Language Training Project

In an effort to widen the scope of inclusion at the foundational level, Ashray Akruti designed a summer course to teach school going children the basics of the Indian Sign Language. Eligible for kids between 10 to 18 years of age, it is a fun yet impactful session to ensure inclusivity is at the root of learning. We believe this will enhance the range of sensitivity and awareness of the children by teaching them a new language. It is also very beneficial for the hearing-impaired community because it builds yet another bridge towards making them and their needs feel acknowledged. The first batch began with 15 children in June. We hope to see more children sign up to become agents of change.

As of April, 20 youth out of the 100 that were trained in ISL have been employed. Our trainees include siblings of hearing-impaired people. They bring an additional skill set of language and inherent compassion of working with the community. We urge our sponsors to welcome our trainees to become contributing members of their workforce as a part of Diversity and Inclusion. Their contribution will be instrumental in creating an inclusive workplace.

Additionally, Ashray Akruti conducted Advanced Level training in Indian Sign Language (level B) for 32 employees of HSBC. 468 employees from Dell were trained in ISL out of which 291 received Level A certification.

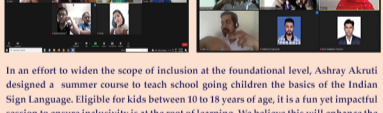
## Celebrating International Yoga Day

On the occasion of International Yoga Day held on June 21st, our Multidisciplinary Center at Manikonda held a Yoga class for students, teachers and parents where we emphasised the importance of regular Yoga practice. Certain asanas in Yoga have proven to be beneficial for people with hearing loss. In children, it is known to help them gain balance and improve motor skills. It increases their levels of concentration which further helps them learn and retain new concepts and become better at problem solving.

## Chintal Hearing & Speech Clinic Project

A brand-new center of Ashray Akruti's Hearing and Speech Clinic was inaugurated in Chintal on 12th April 2022 with the support of PNB Housing Finance Ltd, PEHEL Foundation and our supporting partner Give India.

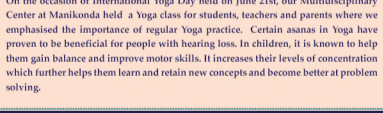
The Chief Guest presiding over the event was Ms. Sukriti Sethi, Assistant Manager - Corporate Social Responsibility PNB Housing Finance Ltd, PEHEL Foundation and the Guest of Honour was Mr. Yama Sandeep, Associate Manager - Corporate Partnerships, Give India.



Fitted with state-of-the-art equipment like Pure Tone Audiometer, OAE Screener, BERA, Video Oscope and Impedance Audiometer, the new clinic increases our geographical outreach and will help us provide audiological services to the people in the Chintal area and its neighbouring communities.

Listed below are the details of a few hearing camps that were conducted at the new center to spread awareness.

<b>Megson Diagnostic Center</b> in front of Chintal Hearing clinic. Date: 13-05-2022 Number of patients screened : 80	<b>ZPHS ,Gandhinagar</b> at their school Date: 25-06-2022 Number of Children screened : 100	<b>Gandhinagar Colony</b> Date: 26-06-2022 Number of Children screened : 106 out of which more than 30 were diagnosed with hearing ailments.
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Ashray Akruti provided a free hearing aid to the Maulvi from Jagathgiritgutta Masjid. He has been suffering from a loss of hearing since the past eight years but was unable to purchase one due to constrained finances. He was very grateful for the useful donation.

As we humbly sign off, our appeal to you for your valuable donation of time, resources and feedback remains. Please help us continue to reach more children and youth who are in need of faith and support.

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