



FEBRUARY, MARCH 2024

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of FMR India

This issue:

Communications Coordinator
PAGE 02

From the desk of the President
PAGE 03

FMR India
PAGE 05

Asha Niketan Asansol
PAGE 08

Asha Niketan Bangalore
PAGE 12

Asha Niketan Chennai
PAGE 14

Asha Niketan Kolkata
PAGE 17

Asha Niketan Nandibazar
PAGE 22

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February and March was filled with enriching experiences across FMR India communities! From vibrant book fairs to celebrating inclusivity and empowerment, we've embraced diversity and fostered connections. Our core members participated in impactful events, showcasing talents and receiving recognition. Stay updated on our inspiring activities and initiatives as we continue to thrive together in compassion and inclusivity.

Warm regards,
National Communications Coordinator.

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Subin Varghese

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
FMR INDIA



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Greetings! The Extended Leadership Meeting in Montreal ended positively, assuring L'Arche and FMR India's survival. With a new fundraiser in place, priority projects are underway. Grateful for laptops donated by Blue sky and L'Arche International. Updates on Haiti's security situation provided. Let's continue fostering inclusive communities. Explore the 'with and without' campaign for a better world together. Read on for inspiring FMR activities nationwide. Warm regards, National President, FMR India.

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Dr Premanand M E

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
FMR INDIA



From the desk of the President, FMR INDIA

BY DR PREMANAND M E

With the new fundraiser and communications coordinator in place, projects that need immediate attention shall be given priority. I request that Community Leaders and Chairmen/persons take a lead and outline projects so that funds can be sourced from willing donors. A big thank you to Blue sky and L'Arche International for the laptops from HP to all communities.

Many of you have heard the news reports about the extremely fragile security situation in Haiti, home to two L'Arche Communities, Carrefour and Chantal. Carrefour is situated on the edge of the capital, Port-au-Prince, which is much more directly affected by the gang warfare than Chantal, located further South. Alain Ouedraogo, the Federation representative, as well as others, are in regular contact with Eunice the community leader in Carrefour.

L'Arche FMR India is a unique movement based on friendship between people with and without intellectual disabilities. A movement of shared moments in life, from the most mundane to the most special. It's about creating diverse and engaged communities and making inclusion a priority, changing the way we look at disability. I encourage you to look into the 'with and without' campaign so that we can create a better world together.

<https://avecetsans.larche.org/en/home/>

Enjoy reading the activities of the FMR communities all over India.

Warm regards



Dr Premanand M E
National President
FMR India.



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Feb & March has shown significant promise in bolstering and forging fresh networks and connections. As we approach the conclusion of this fiscal year, we express our heartfelt appreciation for the generous financial support from our benefactors. Anticipating a more auspicious financial year ahead, we are dedicated to expanding our reach to those eagerly awaiting assistance, fostering growth and impact.

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Bharathi Gopalakrishnan

NATIONAL LEADER,
FMR INDIA



A meeting was held on 6th March 2024 at Asha Niketan Bangalore, attended by officials from ESAF Bank, Ms. Kasturi Saw and Ms. Tincy Jose, along with representatives from Asha Niketan Bangalore, including Chairperson Ms. Kanika Gupta, Mr. Shakeeb, Mr. Charles, and core members.

During the meeting, the visiting officials expressed their happiness with the work being done by FMR India Asha Niketan for people with intellectual disabilities. They had the opportunity to tour the center and were impressed by the facilities and programs offered.

It was brought to the attention of the ESAF Bank officials that Asha Niketan operates at five different locations, providing various services such as residential care, day care programs, disability-inclusive farming, gardening, and therapeutic services for children with disabilities in Kolkata Asha Niketan. The visiting officials expressed their appreciation for the vocational training and empowerment programs for people with intellectual disabilities.



International Leadership Meeting :

The National President and the National Leader participated in an International leadership meeting held in Montreal. This experience facilitated relationship-building with fellow leaders, paving the way for knowledge sharing and collaborative opportunities. The gathering offered invaluable insights into the organizational strategy across diverse regions and communities, as well as a platform to exchange best governance practices within L'Arche. Furthermore, it enabled the President to deepen his comprehension of the risks and challenges confronting the organization on a global scale.

Down Syndrome Day: On March 21st, FMR India Asha Niketan Bangalore orchestrated a remarkable awareness rally on in commemoration of World Down Syndrome Day. The event served as a platform to celebrate the unique abilities of individuals with Down Syndrome while fostering awareness and inclusivity within the community. A noteworthy acknowledgment goes to the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police Southeast for coming and flagging of the rally.



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Highlights from FMR India, Asansol Community

This month of February & March, we were part of the vibrant Asansol Book Fair with YUBA SILPI SAMSAD, celebrated Saraswati Puja at Asha Niketan, and enjoyed a musical evening with Agradhikar. Our core members participated in the Race for 7 program, raising awareness for rare diseases. We bonded over a Sunday lunch, using organic vegetables from our garden, discovering unique talents. Here's to a month filled with community, creativity, and compassion!

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Sibhasish Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN ASANSOL



We had the privilege of participating in the Asansol Book Fair organized by YUBA SILPI SAMSAD. In the bustling atmosphere of the fair, we found not only a space to showcase our talents but also a community that embraced us with open arms



We celebrated Saraswati Puja at Asha Niketan. The air was filled with joy and reverence as all members of Asha Niketan came together to honor the goddess of knowledge, music, and art.





Agradhikar, a Social Welfare & Blood Donor Organization, graciously spent a musical evening with us.

Our core Members participate in Race for 7 program at Asansol. Race for 7 is an awareness run organized by Organization For Rare Disease India (ORDI).



We all prepared some delightful dishes for lunch on Sunday noon using organic vegetables from our garden. In this joyful endeavor, we discovered the unique talents and qualities of our core members, which added flavor to our shared experience.





Celebrating the Color Festival was such a joyous occasion. The vibrant colors brought happiness, love, and positivity to everyone in our community. We filled each other's lives with beautiful hues and cherished memories. Wishing you all a colorful and delightful Holi celebration



We celebrated a meaningful feet washing ritual in our community, symbolizing humanity, mutual respect, and honoring one another's dignity and value, regardless of differences. This event created a space of warmth, acceptance, and solidarity among us.



We welcomed MIHIR YADAV, a 19-year-old young boy, into our community as a Day-scholar core member on 11th March.



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Highlights from FMR India, Bangalore Community

We celebrated inclusivity with SANDESH, welcomed Anjineyulu with open arms, and expressed gratitude to Dr. Rashi Jaiswal for her generous dental checkup.

Mrs. Ancy Bobby's home gathering brought smiles and camaraderie. Here's to fostering connections and spreading kindness in our vibrant community.

”

Charles

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN BANGALORE





SANDESH a like minded NGO who works on the similar area had visited our community to celebrate inclusivity and share a relationship that sees no limits.

We express our gratitude to Dr. Rashi Jaiswal of Smile Redefine Clinic for her generous visit and the complimentary dental checkup she provided.



ANJINEYULU, 27 years old has joined us this month. He seems to be a very active and full of energy. We welcome and wish him to have the best times in our community.

Mr. Karthik and Mr. Pradeep from Spire Technologies, our regular donor visited the community after a long time. Gratitude for their presence and support !!



Mrs. Ancy Bobby our day program staff invited a few members to her home. It was a wonderful moment of bonding and sharing and their smiles says it all.

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Highlights from FMR India, Chennai Community

In February & March, we welcomed Sumaiya, celebrated diversity, and enjoyed a cultural fest by Sangamitra Foundation and Veerammal Trust. Mrs. Sutapa Paul and Ms. Ashutosh led inspiring inclusion sessions, while a caregiver workshop enriched skills. Grateful for the medical camp by Chettinad Hospital, cricket match with Wales Senior Team, and dance session with Mr. Edward. Sathyabama Dental College's camp provided vital oral health education. Together, we thrive in inclusivity and joy.

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Lozilo Kikon

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN CHENNAI





On 26th we welcomed Sumaiya, our newest member with intellectual disability, to our community family! Together, we embrace diversity and inclusivity as we grow stronger as a community."

On 1st February. Our National Leader visit in the Community, Together, we're building a brighter future.



An unforgettable day celebrating abilities and joy at the Cultural Fest for special needs organized by Sangamitra Foundation and Veerammal Educational and Charitable Trust at Vels University. Our core members enjoyed performing on stage with group dances and a fashion show with a theme, radiating happiness. Grateful for the special gift and the wonderful memories made.



Inspiring days of inclusion formation led by Mrs. Sutapa Paul and Ms. Ashutosh on 6th and 7th. A journey filled with learning, joy, and empowerment as our core members actively participated. Together, we've embraced inclusivity and gained invaluable insights.



3-day caregiver training workshop conducted by Mrs. Rekha, Mrs. Anne Escrader, and Dr. Bala Prasanna. Special thanks are extended to our Chairman Mr. Aden Raj and Ms. Himat for providing this valuable opportunity to enhance our skills. This workshop provide valuable insights and practical skills essential for caregiving roles.

Grateful for the caring hearts of Dr. Soba and the team from Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute, Kelambakkam Chennai, who conducted a medical camp on 20th. From BP and PR charting to CBG tests, their generosity and expertise brought invaluable support to our community.



Big thanks to Mr. John for introducing us to the Wales Senior Cricket Team during their match in Amid Nagar, Chennai. Witnessing their game was a real treat, and we're immensely grateful for the chance to showcase our products at the event. Special appreciation to the team for their support and willingness to uplift our community.

On the 26th, core members had an amazing time with Mr. Edward, a well-known social media influencer from Belgium. His concept involved joining the core members in dancing. The essence of his approach was for the community especially for the core-members to teach him a simple dance move, which he would then learn and perform alongside them. Our core members enjoyed dancing with him and also enjoyed each other's company.



On February 22nd, Sathyabama Dental College hosted a successful dental camp, showcasing the dedication of its assistants and core members. They went beyond screenings, providing valuable health education materials & demonstrations on oral hygiene, even sponsoring Colgate supplies for the community. This impactful event served the community well.



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Highlights from FMR India, Kolkata Community

In February & March, our day care members fervently prayed to Goddess Saraswati for success and intellect. Outings played a vital role in fostering inclusion, allowing core members to explore, interact socially, and develop life skills. We celebrate Riya and Muneswar's achievements, inspiring us all. Mr. Sukanta's steadfast dedication to L'Arche ideals is commendable, shaping our collective journey. Together, we thrive on individual achievements and community support.

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Smritikana Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN KOLKATA





The Day care Members fervently pray to Goddess Saraswati for her blessings, seeking success, intellect, and creative mastery in their pursuits.



Outings play a crucial role in fostering a sense of belonging and inclusion for individual Core Members. These activities provide them with an opportunity to explore the world around them, engage in social interactions, and build valuable life skills.



As an organization, we take immense pride in fostering a culture that encourages and celebrates individual achievements. Riya and Muneshwar's success is a source of inspiration for all members, and their dedication serves as a reminder of the potential that lies within our diverse and talented community.



Through the ups and downs, challenges, and triumphs, Mr. Sukanta has been a pillar of strength, a source of inspiration, and an invaluable member of our community. His unwavering commitment to the ideals of L'Arche has left an indelible mark on each of us, shaping the very essence of our collective journey.





The Holi festival is a vibrant celebration of colors, joy, and inclusivity. Recognizing the diverse needs of participants, the organization takes thoughtful measures to ensure that everyone, regardless of their abilities, can partake in the festivities.



Asha Niketan Kolkata celebrates World Down Syndrome Day by empowering individuals with Down Syndrome, advocating for their rights, and promoting inclusivity and understanding in society.

"Inian Bank generously provided five wheelchairs for our daycare and outreach core members. The parents of individuals are extremely grateful to receive those from the ANK community."





We Attended a natural dyeing training workshop at Kolkata Centre for Creativity. Assistant Rajib from our community participated and we are pleased with this opportunity.

Washing of Feet Ceremony with intellectually disabled members demonstrates commitment to spirituality, love, and inclusion. It highlights fostering connections, embracing diversity, and the impact of compassion in nurturing belonging for all individuals.



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Exciting developments this February and March! Our core members participated in uplifting events, receiving prizes and appreciation. Despite missing a trip to Wayanad, they enjoyed outings to Mahe church, beach, and park. Lancy and Mithran are relishing outdoor adventures. We showcased our products at the Tasara International Expo for 14 days, underwent inclusion training, and initiated RAGI Millet cultivation successfully. Stay tuned for more updates on our thriving community! Warm regards, Nandibazar Community.

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Lilly RoseCOMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN NANDIBAZAR

Our core members took part in an event organized by moodadi panchayat leaders to uplift individuals with intellectual disabilities. As a token of their involvement, our core members were awarded prizes and received heartfelt appreciation.



Some of our members were unable to join a one-day trip to Wayanad. Instead, they were taken to Mahe church, beach, and park to enjoy their day out.

Lancy and Mithran are delighting in their time outdoors, having fun exploring and enjoying the sights.



We had the chance to participate in the Tasara International Expo of Arts and Textiles for 14 days at kozhicode, for free.

We set up a stall at the center to showcase our products and demonstrate our production methods along with our core members.



Our team underwent inclusion training conducted by our team Rakhi and Ashu to foster a deeper understanding of our mission and identity, encouraging inclusivity. It was an interactive and fun filled session.



We've initiated the cultivation of RAGI Millet as a pilot project for Asha Niketan Nandi Bazar. It has sprouted and is currently growing well. Additionally, this month we have harvested pepper and turmeric.





Our community visited the Wayanad theme park for a day of fun. Our core members had a blast and enthusiastically joined in on the various rides the park had to offer.

Mr. Ragilesh joyfully celebrated his daughter Ithikalakshmi's first birthday with us. Our core members were delighted to welcome them, and they engaged warmly and enthusiastically with one another.



The feet washing ceremony symbolized the pursuit and celebration of reconciliation with another member, demonstrating humility and love for each other. We conducted the feet washing ceremony on March 28th, 2024.





Thank you!



www.larchefmrindia.org
Emails: fmrindia.ashaniketan@gmail.com
Mobile : +91 9019390844