

MOBILITY INDIA

NEWSLETTER - Issue - Oct-Dec. 2008

The beginning...Bachelors in Prosthetics and Orthotics (BPO)



At the inaugural session

October 16th 2008 was a memorable day for Mobility India as the first batch of Bachelors in Prosthetics and Orthotics programme began. The programme is affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka and Recognised by Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi . Ms. Kamala Achu, Executive Director of Disability Development Partners, London inaugurated the training programme. Three students from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Manipur have enrolled for the course.

The 4 ½ year training includes both technical aspects and practical experiences from different areas like slums, communities and rural organization. Once the student completes the training they would be capable of working in collaboration with other health care professionals to provide a holistic service to persons with disabilities. There is 100% job guarantee for them in the areas of Clinical, Education, Research or Marketing.

Community Based Rehabilitation(CBR) Programme in Attibele

Vision

“An inclusive society where people with disabilities have equal rights and a good quality of life”



Orientation to Panchayath Members

In 11 months of our work, the team has identified 738 people with disabilities. We have formed 27 Self help groups and sensitized 400 members in the community. Among the other activities, the major focus has been on primary and secondary education. 125 children are attending regular schools while 8 with severe disabilities have been integrated in the home based education programme. 14 local tutors were trained & guided on various topics like definition & types of disabilities, appropriate educational approaches, curricular adaptations etc., so that they supplement the school education to under-privileged



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children and those with disabilities in the communities.

It is highly encouraging to note involvement of community member in addressing the issues of persons with disabilities. The community members have taken responsibility by supporting in local resources to conduct programmes. 17 village level meetings have been held and have discussed the various issues related to persons with disabilities.

Community Based Rehabilitation Manager's Training Programme



CBR Managers with Trainers

Community Based Rehabilitation programmes are being implemented in many countries around the world. It is important for personnel involved in such programmes to enhance their knowledge about the multi-sectoral and rights based approach as per the guidelines developed by World Health Organization in managing CBR programmes.

Mobility India offers training for managers of community projects. Recently the training was conducted from 17th to 22nd November-08. 17 participants attended the programme from different parts of India & France. They were oriented on UN Convention on rights of people with disabilities, basic skills on initiation, planning, periodic monitoring, evaluation and strengthening CBR programmes. Participants were also oriented on Information Dissemination, Networking and Advocacy related to Disability Rehabilitation and CBR. They felt that the programme helped them change their outlook. One of the students had to say "My expectation was fully met. I came to know about the new trends in CBR & got more knowledge".

Diabetes Awareness Programme



Diabetes Awareness Session

According to World Health Organization, WHO diabetes is the 4th leading cause of death globally. In Bangalore studies have shown that prevalence of diabetes is about 12.4% of the population in the year 2001. Mobility India has seen an increase in diabetes related amputees visiting the rehabilitation centre for prosthesis (artificial limb).

To increase awareness about diabetes related complications and to stress the importance of preventive care, Mobility

India in collaboration with Jain Institute of Vascular Sciences (JIVAS) unit of Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Hospital and Handicap International organized a one day sensitization camp. All the staff with disabilities especially persons with disabilities had the privilege of availing free assessment of their blood sugar level pressure points in their feet while walking, which was measured using unique scanner mat on which person has to walk few steps bare footed. JIVAS has designed screening mobile bus equipped with all the facilities to carry out assessments in the rural areas. MI is working with one of its rural partners Grameena Abyudaya Seva Samsthe (GASS) to take the bus to project areas where people have not been able to avail these services.

Regional Resource Centre

P-91, Helen Keller Sarani, Majerhat, Kolkata - 700 053
Telefax : 033-24013914, 24012190 Email : mic3914@dataone.in

International day for the Disabled

International Day of Disabled Persons (December 3) is an international observance promoted by the United Nations since 1992. It is celebrated the world over in different ways. Each year the day focuses on a different issue. The theme for 2008 is “Dignity and justice for all” the celebrations - in MI's Rehab Centre Bangalore. In the beginning all the participants lit candles and observed silence for two minutes in the memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attack in Mumbai. We had programmes for service users along with their care givers who participated in different games assisted by staff of MI. It was a joyful event.



Lighting candles

In the community - sports were organized for persons with disabilities and their family members. More than 260 members participated in the programme, the members enjoyed different track and field events. The programme also appreciated all the mothers for their efforts in the holistic development of their children with disabilities braving all the cultural and societal pressures.

Special Olympics -Training for Tutors



Tutors Training Session

Special Olympics have been created to help people with intellectual disabilities develop self-confidence, social skills and a sense of personal accomplishment.

Mobility India in collaboration with Special Olympics Bharat -Karnataka organized training for Community Education Tutors of Kasaba and Harve Hobli (In Chamrajnagar District where Mobility India is running the Education and Livelihood Programme). Mr. Amarendra, Sports Director & Asia Pacific Regional Trainer was resource person for Community coaches for two days. 40 community level workers participated in the training to learn various skills and techniques to improve the abilities of children with Intellectual disability through games.

Our Social Commitment needs your support... Please sponsor



Physical/Medical Rehab

Wheelchair Rs. 7,000/-

Calipers(orthoses) Rs 3,500/-

Artificial limbs (protheses) Rs. 3,500/- onwards

Therapy for a month per person Rs. 1000/-

Education

Education/fees for one child Rs. 2000/-

Coaching class for a child Rs.1000/-

Desk Top Publishing Training Rs. 2500/-

Basic Computer training for a child Rs. 600/-

I am donating Rs..... by Cheque/ Demand draft number

..... .Towards

(DD/Cheques to be made in the name of Mobility India)

All donations are eligible for tax exemption under section 80G

Samreen's story:



Samreen Attempts to Write

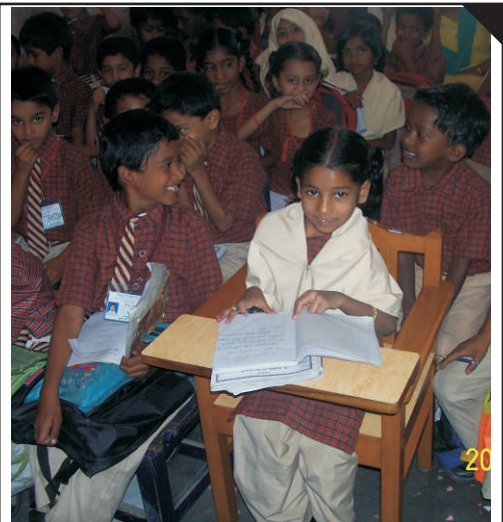
Samreen is 6 years old who lives in yarabnagar (a CBR project area of Mobility India) with her parents and elder brother. Her father is a daily wage worker and her mother is the home maker.

Samreen is a student of III standard. This bright little girl has a spinal bifida and scoliosis which causes problems in sitting upright. Due to her uncomfortable posture Samreen was not able concentrate on education and her writing was very poor since she had to keep the book on her lap and write.

Mobility India's community facilitator identified her and an assessment was done by the rehab team. The regular therapeutic intervention

and body brace has improved her posture. She has been provided lapboard at home which she uses during her study time. The chair was modified as per her need and placed in the school which helps her to sit in a comfortable position for the whole day in the classroom.

Now, a happy and chirpy Samreen is eager to reach school early. She also plays computer games with her brother in our project office. She concentrates on her studies, and does not have difficulty, the school teachers are very happy to see her enjoying her studies.



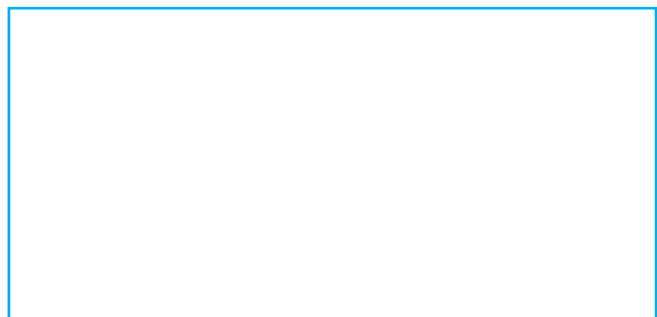
Samreen's new School Chair

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Please return this with your donation to:

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