



22nd Anniversary Celebrations

MI celebrates its 22nd Anniversary- more than two decades of services offered towards people with disabilities, their family members and other disadvantaged groups. The celebratory events were presided by Ms Marika Millar, Vice President, MIBLOU, Switzerland. The Jo Millar Award was conferred to Ms Susila for her outstanding performance in the Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant (RTA) course at MI by Ms Marika Millar. "The training at MI has equipped me with the essential set of skills and expertise to serve the rehabilitation need of people in rural and remote corners" where I would be working mentions Susila.

Ms Albina Shankar, Director, MI took the opportunity of the occasion to reflect on the 22 years of journey, developments undertaken, milestones achieved and also challenges faced and overcome.



Ms Ritu Ghosh, Deputy Director-Training, addressed on the purpose of the commencement of training programs and the achievements and recognitions received till date. She welcomed all the students enrolled for the 15th Batch of training in a range of courses; Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant, Lower Limb Orthotics & Lower Limb Prosthetics.

Indoor and outdoor games were organised and the winners were presented with tokens of appreciation. Staffs and students shedding their inhibitions exhibited cultural performances, making the evening most enjoyable for the audience. The key highlights of the cultural performance was the presentation of the cultural, linguistic diversity of students across the various training courses of MI.

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Certificate of Merit at National CSR Leadership Congress & Awards



MI was presented with the Certificate of Merit for the contributions and philanthropic activities at the National CSR Leadership Congress & Awards, instituted by World CSR Day and World Sustainability Organization on 1st September, 2016 at Bangalore. The full day conference focuses on the trending and current issues in CSR. It recognises the transition Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainability approaches have made being a background issue to a primary concern.

The panel discussions followed on the trending themes such as CSR as a tool for Crisis Management, mainstreaming Corporate Responsibility & implementing a Regional Strategy, Water for Sustainable Development, Public Private Partnership for a greater planet, Shaping new business models, driving business through CSR innovations as well as working with NGOs: building mutually beneficial partnerships.

Experts Group Meeting on Disability Prevention & Rehabilitation



Ms Albina Shankar, Director, MI attended the meeting, organised by World Health Organisation South East Asia Regional Office, at Jakarta, Indonesia in July, 2016. It aimed at obtaining cogent and doable recommendations pertaining to prevention, mitigation and management of disability and improved access to rehabilitation services and assistive devices.

The focus of the interactions put forth by the experts was on existing gaps and challenges in the effective rehabilitation programs. The meeting concluded with recommendations such as multisectoral collaborations for effective rehabilitation service provision, developing national assistive technology policies, encouraging research & development, improving availability of assistive devices in large scale, long term plans for social inclusion of pwds and capacity building of human resources involved in rehabilitation.

Continuing Rehabilitation Education on Developmental Device & Service Provision



Cerebral Palsy and associated neurological complications in the early childhood leads children to being excluded from the opportunities and basic entitlements of healthcare, education and a good quality of life. Appropriate and on time interventions such as Developmental Devices to

facilitate posture and functionality development can enable these children to lead good quality lives. However there are multiple barriers, posing challenges which range from availability to financing, awareness to skillset and experience of the rehabilitation professionals.

MI in collaboration with CBM organised Continuing Rehabilitation Education workshop on 'Developmental Device and Services Provision for Children with Delayed Developmental Milestones'.

It aimed at capacity building of rehabilitation personnel involved in assessment, prescription and fabrication of appropriate developmental devices. 28 participants from diverse technical backgrounds from various partner organisations of MI and CBM benefitted through the hands-on training. CBM released five publications at the workshop on supporting Children with Delayed Developmental Milestones, associated issues.

South Bangalore Cultural Association sponsors Wheelchairs

An appropriate, well-designed wheelchair according to the individual need for people with disabilities, can be the first step towards their improved personal mobility, reduced dependence and engagement in the mainstream activities. This actuates a huge need of provision of wheelchairs in the prevailing times.



South Bangalore Cultural Association (SBCA) extends support towards wheelchairs for people with disabilities from the community project areas of MI. The SBCA team visited MI on 3rd September, 2016 for the personal handing over of the wheelchairs to the service users. Mr U K Barik, President, SBCA mentioned in his feedback "We appreciate your contribution for the society very much. We are feeling very proud of the kind services you are extending to the community across India".

Inclusive Learning Environment for Mahesh



Mahesh dreams to be a music teacher in future. His interest in extra-curricular activities apart from academics actuates his dreams. He has many accolades in the Talent Exhibition forums to his credit and his achievements despite of visual impairment by birth makes his parents proud.

12 years old Mahesh resides in Chamrajnagar and is in the 5th grade. His father operates a movable stall to sell plastic-wares and his mother works as a daily wage to support the domestic needs.

Mahesh's life turned on a new track when he gets identified by community facilitator from MI and referred for corrective eye surgery. In addition he was supported with spectacles, magnifier sheets and supplementary accessories and enrolled in the After Schools Club operational in his locality. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) was rolled out for Mahesh. Braille labelling in the school has turned to be quite supportive for him.

Rehabilitative interventions, conducive and accessible learning environment at school and support from peers and teachers has been the wind behind the wings for Mahesh to aspire his dreams.

Over the years around **33425** children benefitted through the inclusive education initiative of MI.

Initiatives for the Visually and Speech & Hearing Impaired in Chamrajnagara



MI launched an initiative aiming at provision of rehabilitation services to all people with visual impairment and low vision. The objectives of the initiative are awareness generation in the community, capacity building of various stakeholders, ensuring quality education for children with visual impairment, access to social security schemes and entitlements.

Sensitization programs were conducted, braille labelling was done in school premises to ensure accessibility for visually impaired students. Mobility training with white canes, skill training to enhance employability of visually impaired adults are conducted. They are oriented about the available services, prospects of better income generation and other entitlements.

Child Rights Protection Training

According to 2011 Census, children below 18 years comprises of around 40% of the total population in India. Of these 73% of children are from the rural areas, while the services are often urban-based. Though there are policies, schemes, laws outlined at local, state, national and international levels, still children are exposed to various issues, violations of their rights.



In such scenarios, Child Rights Protection holds utmost significance. Child Rights Protection is a matter of principle, rather than a matter of choice if the millennium and sustainable development goals of the nations to be realized to the fullest. It is highly essential to break the cycle of poverty, exploitation and underdevelopment. There is a huge need of awareness creation among the public on the entitlements of children.

The knowledge of Child Rights Protection is highly relevant and obligatory for all the MI staff, while children and those with disabilities are the prime recipients of the services. MI conducted a training on 'Child Rights Protection' on 2nd July, 2016, with the resource person Mr Vasudeva Sharma, who currently serves as the Executive Director, Child Rights Trust, State Convener for Karnataka Child Rights Observatory and Board Member for Child Line Foundation. The sessions were quite informative and made the staff aware about their roles and responsibilities towards protecting the rights and entitlements of children.

Wheels of Hope for Chinnatayamma

Chinnatayamma is 70 years old and resides in Jigani. After her husband's demise she was all alone, without anybody to look after her. 4 years back she had fractured her knee and Spinal Cord, making it difficult for her to move around. She struggled with the daily living activities, without any assistive device due to limited financial means.

She was identified by one of the community facilitator of MI working in her locality and referred to MI for assessment. Analyzing her situation and need, she was prescribed an appropriate wheelchair which will best suit her need. Considering her financial outset, she received the wheelchair through the contribution from DigiCaptions India.

She happily explains to the community staff of MI, how the wheelchair is helping her move around easily, perform her daily activities without much challenge. Rather than being confined to home, she enjoys being out and about in her neighbourhood which delights her immensely.



World Physiotherapy Day Celebrations

The elderly population (60 years & above) in India accounts for 9% of the total population as per Census 2011, which is projected to escalate up to 11% by 2025. With the progressive ageing, inevitable physical changes such as reduced bone density, reduced muscle strength, stiff joints and poorer coordination surfaces, leading to increased dependence on care providers.



Therapeutic interventions are proven to be effective for elderly to maintain their well-being, functional ability and independence. It can function as preventive measures to avoid fractures, maintain joint flexibility, range of motions, coordination & muscle strength.

The campaign message for World Physiotherapy Day, 2016 is 'Add Life to Years'. To cater to the emerging need, MI organised a 'Free Geriatric Screening Program', as a part of the proposed initiative of 'Fall Prevention Clinic'. Around 45 people benefitted through the screening, awareness on healthy ageing, accessible environment and measures on fall prevention.

2nd CBR World Congress

The second CBR World Congress took place at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 27th-29th September, 2016. The theme was 'CBR: Empowering & Enabling'. It provided a platform for professionals from various spheres to educate how the Sustainable Development Goals can ensure that persons with disabilities can become assets to their nations and



how adequate investment by Governments and societies for their wellbeing through early intervention in education, health, social and economic development, while at the same time removing barriers and creating physical access and providing assistive devices for their independence and full inclusion. Plenary discussions were being held which showcased various challenges and successes pertaining to CBR programmes across the regions.

Ms Albina Shankar, Director, MI and Mr Anand S N, Programme Manager, CBR Rural, MI participated and had a poster presentation in the Congress. The focus group concept implemented in the community projects of MI was presented. The Congress concluded with the declarations presented by the delegates.

Improved Mobility for Priti Mali

Outbreak of Polio in the early childhood claims functional independence of a lot many children. The support & care from the family and appropriate medical intervention is of utmost significance in enabling these children to lead a good quality of life, access education and other social opportunities.

24 year old Priti hailing from Nutan Bazar, Kolkata shares the similar experiences of early childhood Polio and the resulting reduced mobility. Though several trips to medical facilities and a series of corrective surgeries sought for her, it hardly yielded significant improvements in her mobility.

She received a calliper for her left lower limb from a local organization. But due to several reasons, she was not comfortable using it on a continuous basis. Ultimately she remained confined at home, without much exposure to the outer environment. She had to discontinue her studies after Standard 9th due to tragic demise of her only brother, who was the sole bread earner of the family. This tragic occurrence had severe impacts on the financial means of the family and also on the emotional state of Priti, as she was very close to her brother.

Few months later her family came to know about the light-weight and appropriate Orthosis provided by MI and approached MIRRC office with lots of hope for their daughter to be again mobile and independent. Priti was coordinating enough with MIRRC staff in sharing her issues and comfort, which helped the design of the appropriate Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis (KAFO) for her.

Delighted Priti mentions "Now I am able to sit, feeling very relaxed, my knee is flexible, I can wear it easily and need very little time to wear. I feel very light and comfortable".



Donate »

- ☐ Developmental Aid per unit.....Rs.1,600-5,500
- ☐ Assistive Devices (Calipers, artificial limbs, crutches, walkers)..... Rs.2,500-15000
- ☐ Wheelchairs.....Rs.8,000-15,000
- ☐ Nutritious foodRs.1,000-2,000
- ☐ Therapy Services per session.....Rs.250
- ☐ Education per child per year.....Rs.2,000-5,000
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