

Wheelchair Stakeholders Meeting



U.S. Agency for International Development, World Learning and International Society of Wheelchair Professionals (ISWP) organized the Wheelchair Stakeholder Meeting at Mobility India, Bangalore from 15th to 18th January 2018.

The purpose of the meeting is to convene partners and sector experts who work in wheelchair provision in less -resourced settings to define the future priorities for the sector.

56 delegates from different countries took part in the meeting and 7 were wheelchair users. Important discussions on setting the plans for future of the international sector in the developing countries was an important outcome.

The wheelchair sector has come far since 2006,

Mobility India (MI) hosted "ISPO Consensus Conference on Wheelchair for Developing Countries" in collaboration with Leahy War Victims Fund of the United States Agency for International Development (LWVF-USAID) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).



In 2008 WHO released Guidelines on the provision of Manual Wheelchairs in less resourced settings. Following the release of the guidelines WHO, in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), developed Wheelchair Service Training Packages.

This meeting in January 2018 is another move in the right direction to improve access to wheelchairs around the globe.



56th Annual Indian Association of Physiotherapists (IAP) Conference

Mr. Riyaz Hussain, Assistant Manager, Therapy and Ms. Soumya Pai, Physiotherapist attended IAP conference at Agartala, Tripura from 9th to 11th February 2018.

As keynote speakers they presented papers on **"Innovative Twin Device- A New Concept"** and **The parents perceived effects on the usage of "The Adaptive Positional Devices for Delayed Developmental Milestone .**

Designed the off the shelf prefabricated positional device with adjustable features, allows to modify the same device as the child grows, cost effective, reduces the delivery time, helps in achieving milestones, child feeding, better positioning, improve eye contact and parents have time for their household and income generation activities .

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Mobility India actively collaborates with several companies and foundations in their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program. Corporates visits to Mobility India provide an opportunity for people to gain insight of activities conducted by Mobility India. Employees of Larsen and Toubro (L&T) and Hewlett Packard (HP) visited to understand about the activity of Mobility India. Accenture supported to conduct English Classes for the students. Apart from this S. J Foundation, Inner-Wheel Club and Ladies Circle Club supported for the provision of assistive devices. MI extends its sincere gratitude to all for their support.

Provision of Assistive products

Tanushka from Jigani, Anekal Taluk is the only child to her parents. Her father is employed in a private organisation while her mother is her sole care provider. Growing up she had challenges in standing & walking independently. She was diagnosed with Spina Bida - a congenital deformity. After Mobility India's intervention, she underwent corrective surgery and with proper therapy she is now able to walk on her own and continues her education. Her life has changed completely due to early intervention.



This quarter 960 people were provided with appropriate assistive devices at Bangalore centre, Chamrajnagar and Guwahati

International Women's Day

On March 10, 2018 Mobility India commemorated International Women's Day with the theme **"Progress and Positivity of Women"** to acknowledge and celebrate accomplishments of women in their respective professions.



A fun filled day with numerous activities and cultural programs witnessed astounding talent through songs, dances and skit performances.

Guest speakers addressed topics like progressing in one's career, maximizing their potential, making name for oneself and balancing work - life. Guests list included Ms Aparajita Dhar of CBM, Ms. Malini Varier of Northern Trust, Ms Shantha Maheshwari of Accenture, Prarthana Kaul of Giftabled, and Vikram Sridhar of Bangalore storytelling Society to name a few.

Ms. Parveen Taj, parent from our community, who received Government of Karnataka's award of appreciation for taking care of her child with cerebral palsy was honoured at the event.

Afternoon sessions was organized exclusively for women staff of Mobility India. There were speakers on different topics. Ms. Shruthi Mohan on "Leaving behind an impact", Ms. Prithvi Krishnamurthy on "Mental wellbeing and the importance of sharing and letting one's emotions out in a proper setting", Ms. Latha Shubhakar on "Wealth and Investment", Dr. Shantala.S on "Women's Health", Ms. Shalini Chandrashekar on "Legal Rights of women" and Ms. Kalyani Prasad on "Importance of fitness and keeping the body and mind calm through yoga".

Disability is a State of Mind

Ms. D Manjula achievements shine brightly as she has managed to achieve heights overcoming her own disability of Low Vision. Joined Mobility India in 2008 as Community Facilitator in the community project at Attibele, Anekal Taluk .

For the last one decade her contribution to the cause of helping people with disabilities to access basic needs like education, livelihood and social recognition has been commendable. She was one of the key member to support in the start of Disabled People's Organization (DPO) - an organization for people with disability which makes continuous effort to make changes in people's lives.

Her contribution to the cause was recognized by Karnataka Rakshana Vedike on the occasion of International Women's Day. She was felicitated with an award on 10th March. Mobility India congratulate Ms. Manjula for her achievement and wish her all the best to continue her good work.



Training in Assistive Products (TAP): A WHO GATE Initiative 1st Pilot Training at Mobility India - 26th Feb to 3rd March 2018



TAP aims to support global efforts to increase access to Assistive Technology; through equipping community level workers with the knowledge and skills to enable them to provide a range of basic assistive products, including many of those listed on the WHO Assistive Products List. TAP also aims to support users of assistive products directly with readily accessible information about basic assistive products.

World Health Organization in collaboration with Mobility India and Baptist Hospital organized the first pilot training focused on walking aids and reading glasses with the objective of increasing regional capacity of community level workforce.

28 participants attended the online and practical training from MI, Primary Health Care centres- Urban & Rural, Government of Karnataka & Baptist Hospital.. Through this capacity building initiative, the personnel knowledge and skills were enhanced and they learnt how to help those who use assistive products to select and use the most appropriate device; as well as to provide an ongoing, quality service with follow up.

Eye and Dental Screening for Elderly



*240 members
screened for
various
interventions*

MI in collaboration with Narayan Nethralaya and Dayanand Sagar Dental College in Bangalore and Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya in Guwahati organized Eye and Dental screening programme for people in the Urban & Rural communities.



“We were unable to cross the road, do our work as we had turned blind” recalls 65 years old Mehboob Jan and her husband 73 years old Sab Jan hailing from G.G Halli slum where MI has a Community project.

They are running a small flower business. Both of them started having eyesight problems and were unable to continue their regular work. Both were diagnosed with diabetes couple of years back and had developed cataract in both their eyes. They had to undergo surgery costing around Rs.20000/- to 22000/- each. Failing to arrange the huge sum, they were conned at home and had to depend on others even for their meals.

Both of them underwent eye surgery free of cost in the assessment program organized by MI in collaboration with Narayan Nethralaya. They would undergo surgery again for second eye after 3 months.

Both of them are back to work with dignity!



Orientation To The Community Stakeholders on Rights of Persons With Disabilities (RPD) Act, 2016

Rights of Person with Disability (RPD) Act, 2016 came into existence in December 2016.

Salient features of this Act are

- It covers 21 categories of disabilities from the previous 7 categories under the 1995 Act,
- The new Act lays complete emphasis on one's rights – right to equality and opportunity, right to inherit and own property, right to home and family and reproductive rights among others.
- Unlike the 1995 Act, the new Act talks about accessibility - setting a two-year deadline for the government to ensure that persons with disabilities get barrier-free



access to physical infrastructure and transport systems.

- Additionally, it will hold the private sector accountable. This also includes educational institutions 'recognized' by the government such as privately owned universities and colleges.
- A path-breaking feature of the new Act is the increase in reservation in government jobs from 3% to 4%

An orientation program for the community Stakeholders at Chamrajnagar was organized, 45 members participated and benefitted.

Play Therapy – A Unique Initiative for Creative Development



“You can understand more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation”- Plato

Mobility India introduced a unique initiative of play therapy which creates a platform combining therapy and fun to improve communication between families, children and elderly people with disabilities.

2 therapy sessions were conducted this quarter on Balance, Coordination and Positioning to help the children and elderly people with disabilities. Children and elderly people having difficulty in coordination participated in the session. Games like Table Tennis, bowling, Tic-Tac-Toe and Balloon Blast were introduced in the session. These activities enhance their coordination and balance. Uniqueness of the play therapy is that the activities can be practiced at home too.



Mari Muthu

Mari Muthu, a 25 years old boy from Yeshwantpur, Bangalore. Full of life, energy and dreams, he was on his way to bring his wife from Tumkur. He never imagined what was coming to him that night.

While standing on the steps of the train for saying goodbye to his friend, the train started moving and the door got closed due to the force hitting him hard. His half body was stuck inside and half outside.

He recalls, "I was lying there on the track and no one was around, I kept calling out for help but there was not a single soul at sight". After long time people took him to the hospital, everything was pretty blurred for him as he was still in and out of consciousness.

When he became fully conscious, he was lying on the bed and two of his limbs amputated. His life turned upside down within a night. He was in the hospital for 1 month before he was discharged. Unsure of his survival, he turned to be a true fighter, but didn't know where and how he should proceed further.



Through doctor's reference he came to know about Mobility India, where he was fitted with Bilateral Trans-tibial Prosthesis. He underwent 3 months vigorous Mobility training to get back on his Prosthetic feet.

But determined Mr. Mari says "This is a beginning of a new life for him, he is glad to be alive and happy that things worked out, but he says "it's still a long way to go".

Donate »

- ☐ Developmental Aid per unit.....Rs.2,000-6,500
- ☐ Assistive Devices (Calipers, artificial limbs, crutches, walkers)..... Rs.2,500-15000
- ☐ Wheelchairs.....Rs.15,000-20,000
- ☐ Nutritious foodRs.1,000-2,000
- ☐ Therapy Services per session.....Rs.350
- ☐ Education per child per year.....Rs.2,000-5,000
- ☐ Any amount you wish to contribute

I am donating ₹ by Cheque/ Demand Draft number
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(DD/Cheques to be made in the name of Mobility India)

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