



# NEWSLETTER

July - September 2023

## Strengthening Early Identification of Disability at Primary Health Care Levels in 3 districts of Karnataka.

Research has shown that early identification of disabilities can lead to more effective treatment. However, many frontline healthcare workers lack the training to identify signs of disability. The impact of COVID-19 has highlighted a gap in identifying impairments. This program is aimed at building the capacity of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA workers) and Village Rehabilitation Workers (VRWs) and their supervisors Multipurpose Rehabilitation Workers (MRWs) to include early identification of disability in their work with rural and urban communities. The program targeted vulnerable areas of Karnataka, including Tumkur, Chamarajanagar, and Bengaluru Urban District

Mobility India, in collaboration with the Public Affairs Foundation (PAF) and the Society for Community Health Awareness, Research, and Action (SOCHARA), conducted a unique training program titled "Strengthening Early Identification of Disability at Primary Healthcare Level in 3 Districts of Karnataka."

The program was aimed to equip frontline health and rehabilitation workers with the tools to identify disabilities in communities so early intervention can be done through linking persons with disability to govt. hospitals/rehab centres/NGO-run clinics and familiarise frontline health workers with the WHO Assistive Products List which serves persons with disabilities and/or impairment so that they can advise families they are in touch with to seek rehabilitation services including standard assistive products.

The program welcomed 372 participants, primarily ASHA workers (97% women), VRWs, MRWs, and their supervisors. Additionally, 16 Health & Family Welfare Department officials participated in the training. The district officials, including the Tahsildar and Health Officers, were the guests who inaugurated the trainings in each location to garner support for the initiative.





Through the training, healthcare workers learned about early disability identification and were introduced to WHO's Assistive Products List. This knowledge is vital in making a positive difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. The participants were thrilled with the training content. They shared their thoughts, emphasizing the need for more in-depth training and rural awareness camps.

## Mobility India celebrated 29th Anniversary

Mobility India celebrated 29th Anniversary, a journey marked by dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of those in need. On this special day, we look back at the incredible work we have accomplished and the promising future ahead of us.

**Chikkanayakanahalli:** Our anniversary celebration revolved around the parents of children with disabilities. An awareness program on disabilities and assistive devices was organized. The event was graced and inaugurated by the honourable Minister, Mr. C.B Suresh Babu, Legislative Assembly Tumkur district, along with block and district-



level government officials. Mobility India's 29th-anniversary logo and posters were unveiled. Various assistive devices, including hearing aids, speech and hearing kits, positional devices, and wheelchairs, were provided.

The heartfelt gratitude expressed by many parents brought tears to the eyes of the members present, making it the most emotional and inspiring moment of the event. Ms. Albina Shankar, Executive Director, was felicitated.



**Chamarajnagar:** was centered around children with disabilities. Our mission was simple yet powerful: to provide these children with essential assistive products that would enhance the quality of their lives. The event was graced by Ms. Padmini Sahoo, IAS, Superintendent of Police, and Dr. Vishveshwaraya, DHO, who joined us as our chief guests. Their encouragement and support reaffirmed

our commitment to creating an inclusive world where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

**Turuekere:** As part of our ongoing efforts to improve children's health and well-being, we conducted an eye screening program for Government School children at Turuekere. This initiative, aimed at ensuring that no child's vision goes unnoticed, was made possible by the gracious presence of M.T. Krishnappa, Honorable MLA, and esteemed officials from various Government departments. By catching vision issues early on, we are contributing to a future where every child can see a world full of possibilities.





## Bangalore Headquarters

Bangalore Headquarters: Our celebration didn't end there. At Mobility India's headquarters in Bangalore, we organized a vibrant Sports and Cultural program. It was a day filled with enthusiasm, camaraderie, and, of course, lots of fun! We acknowledge that our team is at the heart of everything we do, and their relentless efforts are truly appreciated.

Following the spirited festivities, we came together for a delightful cake-cutting ceremony to mark this significant occasion. It was an opportunity to reflect on our journey and look ahead with renewed vigor and purpose.

In addition to our staff, we also took this moment to acknowledge and appreciate our housekeeping members. Their behind-the-scenes contributions are vital to the smooth functioning of Mobility India, and we thank them for their dedication.



## Celebrating 2nd Convocation Ceremony for Graduates

We are happy to share the news of a significant milestone in the journey of Mobility India - the successful completion of our 2nd Convocation. This event marked an essential step in recognizing the hard work, determination, and outstanding achievements of our students.

On Friday August 25, 2023, Mobility India held the second convocation in a hybrid model, and 46 outstanding graduates from the fields of BPO (Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics), DPO (Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics), RTA (Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant), and MPO (Master of Prosthetics and Orthotics) were awarded their degree.

The ceremony was attended by the chief guest, Dr K S Ravindranath, Former Vice Chancellor, RGUHS, Mr David Constantine, President, International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (virtual), Prof Rajesh Shenoy, Dean of Allied Health Sciences Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, Mr Claude Tardif, Immediate Past President International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (virtual), Mr Navid Dadbin, Regional Physical Rehabilitation Project Manager, International Committee of the Red Cross, New Delhi, Mr. K. L. Vinaya, Secretary of MI, Ms. Romola Joseph, Board Member of MI, Albina Shankar, Executive Director and Ms. Ritu Ghosh, Academics & Technical Director.





# "Recent Trends in Management of Spinal Deformity"

A six-hour Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) workshop was held on August 25, 2023, with the aim of providing an in-depth understanding of the roles and responsibilities of multidisciplinary team members in treating spinal deformities, focusing on scoliosis.

## Keynote Speaker:

Mr. Navid Dadbin, Regional Physical Rehabilitation Project Manager at ICRC New Delhi, delivered the keynote address.

## Presentation Topics and Speakers:

"Pediatric Scoliosis & Management" presented by Dr. Prashanth Inna, MBBS, MS-Orthopedics, DNB – Orthopedics Surgeon at Manipal Hospital, Bangalore.

"Spinal Deformities & Management" presented by Mr. Arjun Kumar from Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Bangalore.



"Unlocking the Potential of Conservative Scoliosis Treatment: Principles & Practice" presented by Dr. Mayura Kudva, Clinical Physiotherapist at Physio4You, Bangalore.

"Evidence-Based Spinal Orthotic Management" presented by Mr. Erlis Ilazi, Head of the P&O Department at University Trauma Hospital, Tirana, Albania.

"Measurement & Casting Technique for Corrective Spinal Bracing in Scoliosis" presented jointly by Mr. Sanjoy and Ms. Minakshi.

The workshop was attended by 70 participants from diverse backgrounds, including Special Educators, Prosthetists & Orthotists, Physiotherapists, Rehab Therapy Assistants, Occupational Therapists, and Postgraduate students. Their collective experience ranged from one to over ten years in the field of rehabilitation. The participants represented various states of India and gained knowledge as follows:

- The scoliosis research society's definition of scoliosis as a lateral spinal curve exceeding 10 degrees was discussed.
- The International Scientific Society on Scoliosis Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Treatment (SOSORT) provided a more detailed understanding of scoliosis as a complex three-dimensional spinal deformity.
- Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis was highlighted, emphasizing the importance of awareness among young professionals.

## World Physiotherapy Day on 8th September 2023- the Theme was "Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis".

**@ At the Bangalore center:** Arthritis screening was organized and 27 members were screened and oriented on the prevention and management of Osteoarthritis with dietary recommendation.

**@ Chamrajnagar-**hosted an awareness program for 35 service users and their parents, emphasizing the vital role of physiotherapy for children with disabilities. Mr. Anand, the headmaster at Madapura, highlighted the essential role of physiotherapy in the lives of children with disabilities. Mr. Rajanna, Education coordinator, provided an overview of the organization's services and the remarkable progress observed in service users who have received physiotherapy. Ms. Manjula, a Senior Rehabilitation Therapist Assistant, offered valuable guidance to parents on the advantages of physiotherapy, home follow-up routines, and exercise recommendations for children with disabilities. The parents of service users expressed their gratitude to Mobility India for its remarkable contributions.

**@Chikkanayakanahalli – ‘The World Physiotherapy Day and Parents Sensitization Program’** took place at Stree Shakti Bhavana in Chikkanayakanahalli. This program was organized in collaboration with the Health Department and aimed to raise awareness about the importance of physiotherapy for children with disabilities. 45 members, including staff, children with disabilities, and parents received information on the benefits of physiotherapy for children with disabilities, and how it can contribute to independent activities of daily living (ADL). The use of assistive devices for school-going children and the prevention of secondary deformities in children with disabilities was also highlighted.

**Mr. Ranganath**, the Field Health Officer, shared details about the National programme for health care of the elderly (NPHCE), emphasizing its benefits and usage. Mr. Balakrishna, NCT Councilor at Chikkanayakanahalli, informed about National programme for prevention and control of Cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases & stroke (NPCDCS), the services offered and their advantages.





## Intellectual Disability parent's awareness program at Chikkanayakanahalli and Turuvekere.

Two days sensitisation program for parents were organized at Shree Shakthi Bhavan Chikkanayakanahalli and Pattana panchayat Turuvekere on 25th and 26th July 2023. The program was inaugurated by Mr. Narasimhaiah and Mrs. Veena, Block Resources Coordinators from the Education Department.



Sr. Pridha, a special educator from Asha Sadana Special School in Mandya, and Rajanna, special educator from Mobility India, shared their expertise and facilitated the sessions.

The primary objective of this program was to create awareness about the management of children with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) at home and to explore livelihood opportunities.

Parents candidly shared the difficulties they encountered while caring for their children with ID and how they are making efforts to support them. Sr. Pridha provided valuable insights into how to facilitate livelihood opportunities, activities of daily living, behavior management, and artistic pursuits like drawing and craftwork. The discussion also centered around the classification, causes, and characteristics of children with Intellectual Disabilities. 82 members participated and gained knowledge.

## Sensitization program for School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC) Office bearers.

Mobility India, in collaboration with the Education Department, organized a sensitization program for school development and monitoring committee (SDMC) Office bearers of Chamarajanagara taluk on July 21, 2023, at the Block Education Office in Chamarajanagara.

The program was inaugurated by Mr. Somanegowada, Block Education Officer, who emphasized the pivotal role of SDMCs in the holistic development of schools and their contribution to the effective implementation of inclusive education.



- Mr. Ramesh, Block Resource Person, highlighted SDMC structures, member selection criteria, and their historical significance in creating inclusive school environments.
- Mr. Rebelo BIERT explained government facilities for children with disabilities.
- Mr. Rajanna, the Education Coordinator, led discussions on inclusive education's goals, definitions, special vs. general schools, and creating barrier-free environments.

Mr. Rajeeva, BRC, Mr. Lalingaswamy, president of taluk teachers' association and 32 SDMC presidents, 10 CRPs and BRPs, 2 members Block Inclusive Education Resource Teacher (BIERTs). Block Resource Persons actively participated gained insights into the goals and aspirations of inclusive education, ensuring equal opportunities for all.

## Corporate corner:

### ANZ's Inspiring Support for "Artistic Abilities Knows No Boundaries"

ANZ's CSR team participated in the "Artistic Abilities Knows No Boundaries" play therapy event on July 21, 2023. Their dedicated involvement and support left an indelible mark, underscoring ANZ's commitment to community causes.



### MHS Retro Musical Concert: "Aji Aisa Mauka Phir Kahan Milega" was held at the Chowdhia Memorial Hall on August 18th, 2023.

During the event, a stall was set up to raise awareness about the availability of Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology services, as well as the various training courses offered by Mobility India. A captivating video highlighting our organization's efforts was played at the beginning and during the intervals of the program.

MI volunteers created awareness about Mobility India (MI) to Mrs. Yasmin, the daughter of the legendary singer Mohd. Rafi, and her son-in-law, Mr. Pravez Ji.

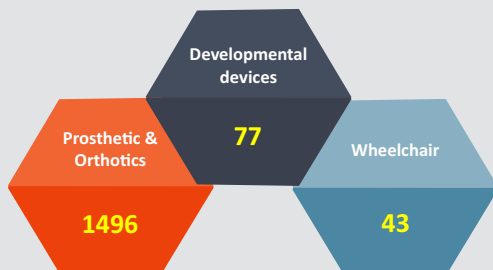
We would like to express our gratitude to the organizers of the MHS Retro Musical Concert for providing us with this valuable opportunity to connect with the community and raise awareness about our cause.



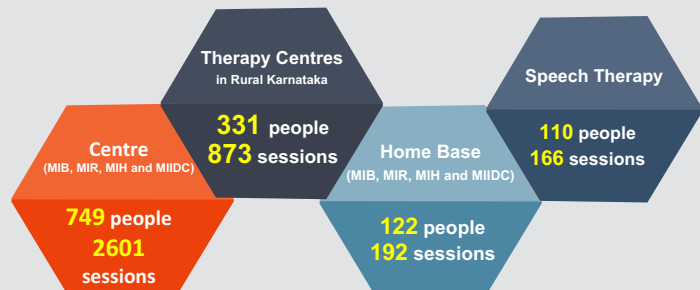


## Our Reach

### Rehabilitation Services



### Therapy Services



## Mridula's Journey

Mridula, a resilient 6-year-old girl hailing from Bengaluru, diagnosed with cerebral palsy, her life is a daily battle. Her family, struggling financially, consists of her father, a daily wage laborer, her mother, a dedicated homemaker, and a younger brother, also dealing with cerebral palsy.

Despite their hardships, Mridula's parents are determined to provide the best for their children. They've enrolled both Mridula and her brother in special schools, recognizing the significance of education. Mridula also fights epilepsy, requiring regular medication.

In their time of need, Mobility India walked in. They identified her brother's needs, without knowing about Mridula and providing essential assistive devices and physiotherapy, which yielded visible progress. Encouraged by this, Mridula's parents informed about Mridula and sought assistance for her as well. A comprehensive assessment revealed her requirements: therapy, medication, and nutritious food. Home adaptations were made, and essential Assistive Devices, including the appropriately sized AFO (Ankle-Foot Orthoses), were provided.

These Rehabilitation interventions have had a profound impact and empowered Mridula to attend school and overcome the limitations of her condition.

Mridula's story is a testament to the transformation Mobility India brings to the lives of children with disabilities.

**There are many children like Mridula who are waiting for their chance. This festive season, we invite you to join us in this mission. Together, we can create a brighter future for children in need to access the care and assistance they need to lead fulfilling lives, receive an education, and realize their true potential.**



# Support Us

Let's come together and support children and people with disabilities in gaining access to health and rehabilitation services, empowering them to lead a better quality of life.

Therapy Services



Educational



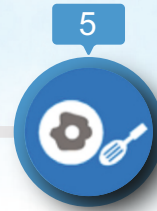
Developmental  
Devices



Assistive Device



Nutrition Food



Your generous donations will make a significant impact on their lives!

**Donate Now!**



I Would like to

## Give Monthly

Nutrition Food Per Child	Rs. 300
Therapy for 1 Session Per Person	Rs. 500
Assistive Devices	Rs. 9500
Developmental Devices Per Child	Rs. 10000
Wheelchair	Rs. 20000

## Give Once

Nutrition Food	Rs.10000
Therapy for 20 sessions	Rs.10000
Assistive Devices	Rs. 50000
Developmental Devices	Rs. 50000
Wheelchairs	Rs. 100000

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