

VOLUME: 27

INDRADHANUSH

E-NEWSLETTER (JULY- SEPTEMBER 2020)



PAINTING + SCULPTURE BY ANSHUMAAN SINHA FROM
STATIONARY UNIT DISPLAYED IN EXHIBITION, "NIMISHA
ZOZO" AT NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, NEW DELHI



From Director's Desk

"The best teachers are those who show you where to look, they don't tell you what to see"

This has been a period of Unlocking and Muskaan team has been unlocking potentials and capacities of not only their students but their own selves too. We have come a long way in our Digital journey during this quarter though there is still a long road ahead. At Muskaan we consider every team member as a teacher and our teachers have stood strong in these challenging times and I would like to mention a Quote here for all of them:

"To the world you may be just a teacher but to your students you are a hero"

Our Online training Programs were started with a new zeal from July onwards. Majority of the teachers started taking classes five days a week. We started moving from WhatsApp to Google Meet for conducting classes as well as meetings. Our team started created <u>Digital learning materials</u> for our students to make their learning more interesting and impactful. To strengthen our efforts, we took on board a Young professional who gave a boost to our <u>Digital Journey</u>. Today Muskaan is registered on G-suit for Not for Profits. This platform has been a boon as it opened many options for us to store and share content, connect with team members, students and parents on one platform and also keep a track of it.

Our production, sale and marketing team is working hard to restore the market by reaching out to customers through' phone, WhatsApp and emails. For the convenience of our retail customers we started home delivery of products. We also started getting some orders from our corporate clients. Muskaan has spent 30 years to establish a good market for its products and we could not afford to lose it due to pandemic. Therefore, we decided to start the production in July 2020 by our associate staff. Simultaneously we started talking to our Production associates and their parents about making products at home. Some of them agreed to this idea and we started supplying raw material to them at home and provided guidance online to maintain quality of products. Our Production associates are happy getting back to their work even though its <u>Work from Home</u> just like others.

More residents came back from their homes and joined the residential facility once again. We have been following all necessary <u>precautions for their safety and good health</u>. They are engaged in a meaningful routine of various activities for learning and practising skills as well as having fun. Birthdays and festivals are being celebrated with social distancing norms and residents participate with full enthusiasm.

We revived our Family counselling services through' online mode. Teachers identify the needs and case conference is organised for internal team of Muskaan before meeting the family/student in need of counselling. Our counsellors meet the family online and facilitate in finding solutions to their challenges.

We started a <u>drive for raising donations</u> for construction of Extension of Muskaan Building. A Simple request letter from Dr. Shanti Auluck moved so many hearts and donations started pouring in from India and overseas. Many Parents, siblings, EC members, teachers and friends of Muskaan joined hands in this campaign and helped in raising a substantial amount even during this period of recession. The construction is nearing completion now and very soon all payments need to be done. We are still short of around 50 lakhs and appeal our readers to continue making their sincere efforts in helping us raise this amount. Like every year we have started preparing for our <u>Diwali Utsav</u>. We will be reaching out to all of you very soon with our promotional material for this Diwali and watch out for beautiful products once again!



An Overview

Students Information

July 2020- September 2020

Total no. of students enrolled in different Programs: 181

Student in long leave: 3

Training Programs

No of students in training & orientation program 18

• No of students in activity centre: 49

• No. of students in East Delhi centre: 8

Employment Program

• No of students in supported Employment centre: 44

 No of students in training under Pilot project Dept. of Food & Beverages- 11 Dept. of Pickle Making- 15

• Students in mainstream Employment: 33

Employed: 30

On the job training: 3

Assisted Living program: 17 Residents

To know more about us visit & subscribe our channels

Website: http://muskaan-paepid.org/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MuskaanPAEPID/
Instagram: https://www.youtube.com/muskaanpaepid/
You tube: Muskaan – PAEPID https://www.youtube.com/muskaanpaepid/

Donate to Muskaan

Your donations go a long way in supporting our training programs as well as our advocacy and awareness efforts. You can donate through website also on this link

http://muskaanthengo.org/donate/

*Donation to Muskaan are tax exempted under section 80G of Income Tax Act

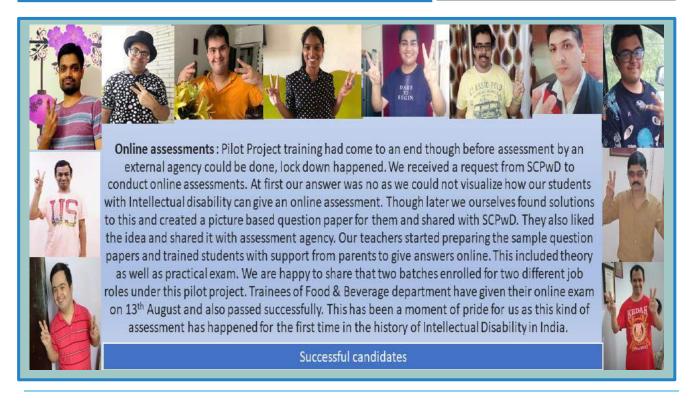
Support us

Whether it is by raising awareness online or helping to raise funds, there are many ways you can help the cause!

Contact us

Plot no-3, Sector-B, Pocket-2, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi- 110070 Phone no- 011-41761873/4171874

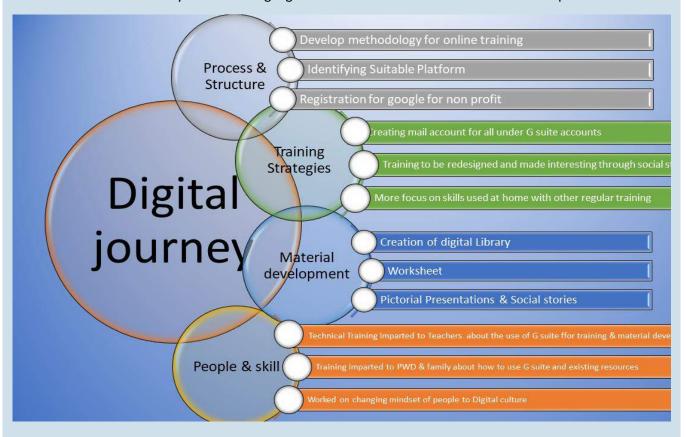
Email: <u>muskaan32@gmil.com</u> info@muskaanthengo.org



MUSKAAN DIGITAL JOURNEY

When lockdown started due to the COVID pandemic, Muskaan adapted by taking it's teaching and training online. But because of the sudden change, there was no technical infrastructure in place to facilitate this and thus, we started with WhatsApp chats and video calls to connect with the students and each other. Educators also recorded educational and training videos and curated relevant photographs, visuals and other teaching material on different areas to share with students.

Soon there was a need to get a more reliable and capable technical architecture in order to increase functionalities and efficiency. The following digital transformations were researched and implemented-



- 1. Digital Resource Library: Muskaan has created multiple digital libraries with various resources for different target audiences.
 - Student Resource Library- This contains all the teaching learning material created by Muskaan teachers and curated by researching external available sources. This material aims to improve the learning outcomes among the students and provide a reliable and verified repository for teachers to pick from when teaching new concepts. Implemented on Shared Drives on Google.
 - Teacher Resource Library- This library contains resources like training videos, webinars and other links and videos that can be used for teachers' training and skill development.
- 2. Collaboration and Information Sharing: This is a big initiative by Muskaan that was started during the pandemic lockdown but will have long lasting positive effects in the workings of the organization. This included:
 - Using a centralized email domain and assigning all students and teachers a mail ID to streamline communication and information sharing on Gmail and Google Chat
 - Effective conducting online classes on Google Meet, using resources from the Digital Libraries.
 - Up-skilling of teachers and parents through various training sessions



Program Highlights

Online Training programs

Muskaan have Long-Term Goals and Objective for the trainees which aims to improve the lives of person with disability by giving them work opportunities and enhance their life through life skill training and extracurricular activities. Working according to the same, in today's Pandemic situation, as our students have become more home oriented so we crafted the training according to their need. Looking at the same, some goals and objectives are prepared for them during pandemic situation...

Goal:

- To provide emotional, social and educational support to the students and their families during COVID-19
- Muskaan should maintain its role even in the time of pandemic so that the families can be helped more and more. And help them to solve all the technology related problems that have come up during online learning.

Objectives:

- To give awareness about the pandemic situation and how to deal with the situations.
- Creating such a routine for every student for his home so that he/she works like a productive member at home and not a burden for the parents.
- Provide the scope of self-expression through various medium of creative and expressive way to develop social competence skills.
- Help students to stay fit physically and mentally.
- To carry forward the information learned by the students so far in Muskaan. So that students can do the life skills more well by using them in their day to day life at home.

To achieve our goals and continue with the training we adopted new interesting methods for online session like social stories, worksheets, pictorial presentations, interesting educational stories available on internet etc.

Mainstream Employment

With the ongoing spread of pandemic most of the offices, Hotel Industries were either closed or working with very few workers and looking at the vulnerability of our friends they were allowed to stay back till the situation is under control. In this situation Muskaan provided it's services to help our friends to continue not only varied training also with personality development, extra-curricular activities, fun games, festival & birthday celebration along with counselling & guidance to their psychological issues.

Regular classes were held for the group and the topics covered were awareness about COVID-19 (Safety & Precautions), About precautions to be taken at work place, cooking skills, Skills used at hotel industries, Domestic skills, Social skills, Vocational skills, computers, Art & Activity, Fitness etc. Students themselves also conducted the sessions on different topics.



One review meeting held each month with parents. Parents were happy with all of Muskaan team efforts and involvement during this COVID-19 time, and the way Muskaan team guided, counselling, providing emotional support to their ward as well as their family member during this period is remarkable.

Also, they like the new concept of Talent hunt: Dance & music competition, Birthday celebration, Fun games, Art & Craft activity & Online cultural event.

Supported Work centre

This quarter is most crucial for work centre as it's the production house which is showcased during Diwali. Due to pandemic everything became so uncertain that whether we will be able to celebrate our annual Diwali Utsav or not. Our production and marketing team started working on it and came up with new ideas like "production from home" &" online marketing with home delivery".

In work Centre targets for production were reviewed for Diwali as some production was finished by students before lockdown in March.

Food Unit:

Masala targets were fixed according to plan for Home delivery of products. Masala unit also made masala for Mango pickle and Garam Masala for Lemon pickle. Mango pickle was made in the beginning of July. Mango Pickle was made by Teacher's Associates as there is good demand for it among the regular customers. Two students came to help and all SOP were followed according to safety during pandemic.

Stationary:

Production was started for Brown Bags for Lemon Tree Hotels and Atmosphere Kombucha, plan was made to send work for students to their homes. Training regarding the work was given to students during their online sessions with the teacher. Students were given instructions regarding making the bags, timelines and targets. Some of the students started doing block printing on newspapers and later they did on Atmosphere Kombucha bags.

Diya & candle:

Unit received Diya from Gujarat in the month of July. Targets and designs were finalized for Diwali and work was distributed among the Teacher's Associates and students. Students were given Diya for painting at home with timelines. Candle targets are production was also reviewed and production plan was made till October,2020.

Art & Activity centre

As Art & Activity Centre's has its Long-Term Goal and Objective for the students with high support. which aims to improve the lives of person with disability by giving them work opportunities and enhance their life through life skill training and extracurricular activities. In the current pandemic situation also, we could complete our Assessment and IEP of all students. For this preparation we also added feedback of the parents based on challenges they are facing with their ward.



Following topic has covered in the activity centre in this quarter.

- Cognition/Communication/ Awareness building activities: -
 - Colour, shape, Numbers (worked on matching, identification and naming skills through worksheets/ videos/online games/flash cards/ live sessions)
 - o Identification of day to day usage objects with their names, function and features
 - Set making on grid
 - o Communication (demonstration and understanding of what, when and where questions)
 - Awareness building topic to see present scenario like How to wash hand (through video and demonstrations), How to wear and remove mask, how Covid 19 spread etc.
- Creative/ therapeutic Activities:
 - Art: colouring from simple to complex form like leaf painting, colouring with in boundary and based on code wise, etc.
 - o craft work: cutting on straight line, pasting, bag making, greeting card making, tearing and pasting, collage making, Paper flower making etc.
- Physical fitness and Recreational Activities:
 - Recreational activities Fun games like online ludo, tombola, tipi tipi top, and name game, storytelling etc.
 - Every students of activity center were the part of physical fitness programme. few has been taking therapeutic input by the therapist and rest involve with the physical fitness instructor (mode of medium was videos, demonstrations and live sessions)
- Domestic skills/Vocational skills:
- washing utensils, dusting, Ironing, folding clothes, wash vegetable and put them in refrigerator, help in baking simple things, non-gas cooking activity like lemonade, mayonnaise sandwich and Kurkure chaat, and fruit chaat, preparation work for cooking like cleaning, and chopping vegetables, watering plants etc.

As this time was not easy for everyone. Most of the time the teacher was busy to handle emotional issues of the students by taking support of family members. The biggest achievement of the Art Centre is that our students take online sessions for 15 to 60 minutes at a time, especially when they knew how to work in physical presence.

Training & Orientation Program

Online training continued like other units with the goal to prepare them for work centre. Training as follows:

- Fifty-eight Educational and LSP training held in the quarter which included understanding of situation due Covid, safety guidelines, being independent in their day to day life, being productive in the house environment, understanding different concepts and application of the learnt concepts in the home, hygiene guidelines and practice of the hygiene procedures
- Seventy-seven Vocational training sessions held in the quarter which generally covered home related skills to be ready to work at home and extend helping hand to their parents and meaningfully engaged



- as well as at Muskaan, understand the importance of work, learn how to organise the work stations and how to apply learnt concept in the work when it requires
- Ten extra-curricular Activities session happened in this quarter which covered art & craft session and Music & Dance.
- Ten There was special emphasis on physical fitness program since continuously being at home makes people lazy and unfit.
- ♣ Apart from that ten recreational session held like Dance & Music Competition and Festival & Birthday celebrations
- Eight PTM and ten review meetings held with parents to support family
- Seventeen assessment done in this quarter for admissions.

Pilot project: F&B Training and Pickle Making training Program

It's a project with SCPWD to create replicable model for employability of people with IDD. All the 32 trainees 16 each completed their course but before assessment lockdown was implemented due to Covid 10. It was unimaginable for us that how our friends can complete their paper and assessment process online. But proving us wrong all the trainees of F&B appeared in first time ever in online examination and cleared it with remarkable numbers. The topics were covered in their online sessions were; Orientation to guest services, preparation of service & dining area, setting up buffet & clearance, Cleaning Table % side boards after dining, IRD operations, Effective work place communication, Hygiene & Safety (general & Covid19), Apart from the focused training sessions

Adult Training Centre (East Delhi)

208 sessions were conducted in this quarter on Cognitive, Life skills, Art & craft, Physical fitness, Recreational, home base activities and fun activities. Celebrated festivals and birthdays along with different entertaining events they were Bollywood Antakshari, Fusion musical event, teacher's day, fun games etc. Conducted two review meeting and two training programs for Parents.

We can proudly share that with everyone efforts Muskaan team & Trainees along with parents' involvement during this COVID-19 time we have been successfully conducting our training online. Yes, we have adopted lot of new systems and continued with our guidance & counselling along with providing emotional support to our friends as well as their family member during this period. It was remarkable and also shared by parents many times in different forums.

Assisted Living Facility

In the first week of July'20 before allowing residents to join back the facility, preparation towards their safety were taken up. SOP was developed for residents and staff. Six Staff members were given boarding and lodging facility on campus and they were taken for RAPID COVID tests. Everyone tested negative. As residents joined after almost three months their entire life style was changed and it took almost a month to bring them back in a disciplined and safe & healthy life style. As they got bored during isolation at home all of them were happy and thrilled to come back.

Training Sessions started with full speed on campus, six hours a day for six days. Sessions were conducted by Ms Seema Chadha, Mr Tapan Adak, Mr Dev Prakash & Ms Sushmita. Focus was on Life skill (reorientation of



personal care and practice SOP for COVID prevention, art & craft activities – Diya Painting. beading to make door hanging, key chains & embroidery on mattie cloth and some special session of half an hour conducted by Ms Seema on Touch points with residents at home.

Apart from regular class & review any other call or concern from the parents which you attended separately write few lines about the reason and the solution you shared with them. Few parents still not sent their wards looking at the situations. All the guardians kept a regular touch with the in charge to check wellbeing of their wards.

Name of program		of session is quarter	Theme of the Session	Mode & Materials used for Session
Training & Work Centre Vasant Kunj Adult Training	196 (average) in each unit 208	Four session every day Four session	includes understanding of situation due Covid, safety guidelines, being independent in their day to	Mode: WhatsApp video call for sessions, Worksheets, Flash
Centre East Delhi		every day	day life, being productive in the house environment,	card, Audio & Video files, Live
Mainstream Employment	218 session	5 session a day	understanding different concepts and application of	demonstration etc
Residential project	148 sessions	Six hours a day (on campus))	the learnt concepts in the home, hygiene guidelines and practice work related skills to be ready to work at home as well as at Muskaan, understand the importance of work, learn how to organise the work and how to apply learnt concept in the work when it requires along with physical activities, extra-curricular activities, etc.	Structuring routine at home along with art & craft activities
Celebrations	Each unit celebrated different festival and events virtually with full enthusiasm. Talent hunt, Raksha bandhan, Janmashtami, Independence Day, Teachers Day and birth day celebrations.			
Review Meeting	Eight PTM & Two review meetings were held for each training program during this period in which all parents participated with their respective groups, which helped us to understand the need so we could modify & customize our training programs according them.			
Parent training program (for all units)	# Importance of home activities especially domestic chores for students during Covid # Digital training about G suite, Virtual classroom & use of digital libraries			

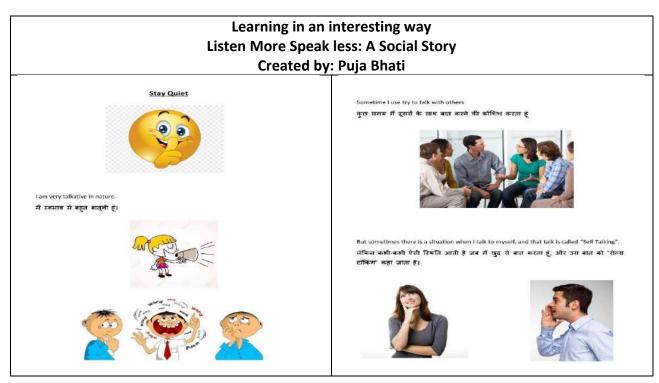
In conclusion, we believe that online sessions have allowed trainees to be much more responsible and take ownership of their learning, understanding and bonding between family member with that PWID gets stronger. Once everyone become comfortable with the online sessions, any challenges during a crisis can be addressed in the future.







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Doing so is enhance my work quality and quantity ऐसा करने से मेरे कार्य की गुणबता और माना में बृद्धि होती हैं







If my work quality and quantity gets better then I will get stipend or teachers will be proud of me and I will become a good boy / girl in my unit

अगर मेरी कार्य गुणवता और मात्रा अच्छी हो जाती है तो मुझे वजीका मिलेगा या शिक्षक मुझ पर गर्व महसूस करेंगे और मैं अपनी यूनिट में अच्छा तड़का / तड़की बन जाड़गी











Our Partners who supports us in running different training programs





















Capacity Building of Team

Looking at the diverse need Muskaan organised several online training programs for the team. Apart from this Muskaan team members also attended several webinar / training programs organised by other institutions or available online.

Details of the webinar/ training program/Events attended by the team on different platform...

Date	Topic of the Webinar	Conducted by	Attended by
02.07.20	home based activities for young adults with Disability	Ms. Shoba Srivastav	Rashmi, Surender Singh, Smriti Shankar
03.07.20	Future of Education: A fire side Chat		Mridula Sakle
03-07-20	webinar- Home based activities to keep young adult with disability busy	SOPAN	Reena Singh, Akhilesh Tiwari Alka Rajliwal, Shigufta Bano
08-07-20	Building the bridge	Nissai Foundation	Smriti Shankar
12-07-20	NCPO Meeting	Pariwaar	Smriti Shankar
14.07.20	BOA grant Monitoring	Deloitte	Mridula Sakle
15-07-20	Consultation for the person with intellectual and developmental disabilities	Manovikas	Reena Singh, Akhilesh Tiwari
16.07.20	Payroll Module	Ascent HR Demo	Mridula Sakle, Akhilesh Tiwari & Seema Chadha
16-07-20	Scientific Session on Adolescent Health	Indian Academy of Paediatrics, Bangalore	Smriti Shankar
16.07.20	online test of AAC Aadi	RCI	Alka Rajliwal
17.07.20	Assisted living solutions- staff recruitment and retention	ALAP	Seema Chadha
18-07-20	Role of GO & NGO in Disability rehabilitation	CRC Ranchi	Smriti Shankar
20-24 July	eToMT Master trainer (20-24th July 2020)	SCPwD & MEPSC	Neera Chawla & Surender Singh
20-07-20	Making Digital Education inclusive	Vidhi centre for Legal policy	Smriti Shankar
20.07.20	IAO- what is Not CP	TAP Bihar Branch	Rashmi Garg
20.07.20	Making Digital Education inclusive	Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy	Nutan Sharma, Savita Sharma, Smriti Shankar
26-07-20	Distinctive role of teacher in times of crises	Baha' C12communication of Bengaluru	Teachers & Management team
29-07-20	E- dissemination workshop on innovative pilot training for PWD	DFID/SCPWD	Teachers & Management team
30.07.20	Discussion of Livelihoods for Persons with Disability before and after Covid	Azim Premji	Mridula Sakle, Neera Chawla, Smriti Shankar, Abha Karn, Seema Chadha

01-08-20	Covid Pandemic & Mental health fall out	Tricontinental Institute for social research with NPRD	Smriti Shankar
06.08.20	How to apply for 12A and 80G		Honey
07.08.20	e-workshop on pilot on skilling people with disabilities -VI and ID	DFID	Savita Sharma, Reena Singh Nutan Sharma, Surender Singh, Smriti Shankar
07.08.20	Mission 1000 Manthan 5.0	Enable India	Seema Chadha, Surender Singh, Mridula Sakle, Smriti Shankar
09.08.20	Sexuality related issues	SARS	Alka Rajliwal, Smriti Shankar
11.08.20	Meeting with SCPwD & Examiner	Muskaan	Surender Singh
13.08.2020	F&B Pilot project final assessment	Muskaan/SCPwD	Surender Singh
13-08-20	Legal Guardianship and other Schemes	NIEPID Noida	Smriti Shankar (as Resource Person)
14.08.20	Session on Vedanta by Dr. Shanti Auluck	Shanti Auluck	Team Muskaan
16-08-20	Rights of Children with developmental Disabilities	Chetna	Smriti Shankar
19 to 23- 08-20	Five days E-faculty training program: 'Machine Learning Technologies for Social Media Analytics'	ISEA administration	Smriti Shankar
21-08-09	Janta Parliament	NPRD	Smriti Shankar
26-08-20	Delivering effective online learning	Tarun Parihaar (SCPWD)	Smriti Shankar
31-08-20	Rastriya Shiksha Niti	NIEPID	Smriti Shankar
5 th Aug-5 th September	Online Clinical Internship (advance level)	Nayi Disha Mental Health Clinic	Smriti Shankar
02.09.19	Strengthening trainer Development in short term skill eco system	NSDC/Skill India	Surender Singh
04.09.20	Meeting with DLF golf and Resort team	DLF Team	Surender Singh, Neera Chawla, Mridula
04.09.20	Freedom and Equality	In for the cause	Surender Singh, Smriti Shankar
06.09.20	Series on empowering MSMES Confirmations	Avenues for youth	Surender Singh
08 & 09- .09.20	Restoration of schemes	National trust	Smriti Shankar, Seema Chadha
10.09.20	Augmentative alternative communication and Update	AYJNIHH KOLKATA	Surender Singh
10.09.20	Social & Emotional Problems related to SLD	Composite Regional Centre for PWDs' Sunder nagger	Surender Singh
10-09-20	Uncover potential of children with special need through sports	Ananth centre for learning and development	Surender Singh
11-09-20	Understand and Responding to self-stimulating repetitive behaviour	EBLITY (Speaker Mr. Gerd Winkler)	Surender Singh



15.09.20	Breaking Barriers-Sexual behaviour and health in Adolescents with Autism and Allied disorders	Ananth centre for learning and development	Smriti Shankar
22.09.20	discovering the potential of the Differently abled	"sitaron se aage Jahan" Program by Inner wheel	Team Muskaan
23-09-20	Sexuality Education & intervention for parents of children with Disabilities	NIEPID	Smriti Shankar
24.09.20	ATPAT on Entrepreneurship Model		Mridula Sakle
28.09.20	Woman safety in residential home for PWD	Neena Wagh Panellist: Dr Shanti Auluck & Ms Seema Chadha	Smriti Shankar, Neera Chawla, Abha Karn, Alka Rajliwal, Surrender Singh, Reena Singh, Akhilesh Tiwari Nutan Sharma
28.09.20	Award Ceremony	NCPEDP	Mridula Sakle, Smriti Shankar
28-09-20	Inspirational Leadership & Motivation Virtual talk by Shiv Khera	IGNOU	Smriti Shankar
30.09.20	implementation design thinking in business education	Prof. Svetlana Gudkov, Binus University , Jakarta ,Indonesia	Mridula Sakle, Seema Chadha, Neera Chawla, Abha Karn
Sessions co	onducted in house		
15-07-20	Desk Time Demo (Training)	Abha	Seema Chadha
20.07.20	Guideline for teachers working in pandemic period	Ms. Neera Chawla	Teachers
07.08.20	understanding Mind of PWID (Open Discussion forum)	Dr Shanti Auluck	Team Muskaan
14-08-20	Understanding Life & Vedanta	Dr Shanti Auluck	Team Muskaan
21-08-20	Learning from Pilot Project n their Applications	Ms Neera Chawla	Team Muskaan
26-08-20	Training on G-suit	Ms Shreya Garg	Teachers & Management team
28-08-20	In continuation Understanding Life & Vedanta	Dr Shanti Auluck	Team Muskaan
02-09-20	In continuation Possibilities within G-suite (Training Program)	Ms Shreya Gerg	Teachers & Management team
04-09-20	Workshop on augmentative and alternative communication	Ms Nutan Sharma & Ms Alka Rajliwal	Teacher associates
U 1 -03-20			
09.09.20	Training on technology session IXL and Do2 learn	Reena & Rashmi along with their team	Team Muskaan
09.09.20 11-09-20	Training on technology session	Reena & Rashmi along	Team Muskaan Team Muskaan
09.09.20	Training on technology session IXL and Do2 learn	Reena & Rashmi along with their team	









Virtual Employee Engagement Program

Date	Cooperates name	Participants	Activity done
07.07.20	Macquarie	Mridula Sakle	Volunteer
			Engagement
04.08.20	Macquarie	Muskaan & Macquarie	Fun activity
		Team	conducted by
			Surender Singh
14-08-20	AIG		Fun & Learning
			Activities
21-08-20	AIG	Team Muskaan	Bollywood Antakshari
14-09-20	AIG	Team Muskaan	Fun Activity conducted By Surender Singh
18-09-20	Macquarie	Dr Shanti Auluck, Mridula	Session on Muskaan
		Sakle, Surender Singh	
19-09-20	Macquarie	Muskaan & Macquarie	Fun activity
		Team	conducted by
			Surender Singh
21-09-20	AIG	Team Muskaan	Tol – Mol ke Bol and
5		AIG	Mandala Art







My journey with Mukul Andley, a Down's Syndrome child

- Kamini Andley

When my son Mukul with Down's Syndrome was born, I hit a brick wall. His big, broad life on my mind with his delayed milestones. when will he walk? when will he talk? As a parent of a special child,





these questions sucked me. Having a child with special needs has given me permission to act more in the moment and less within the confines of the status quo. Though I hit a brick wall on his birth, yet my soul searched and discovered a great new world with hidden benefits.

Here are the secrets I have discovered in my 29 years journey as a parent of a down' syndrome.

- 1. There is humour to be found --- My son makes me laugh. He pays little attention to the rational world. He dances, laughs and finds delight in what I often think as trivial or bothersome.
- 2. The ego doesn't get in the way of living. His ego isn't there like mine. If he wants something, he wants it with no agenda tacked on.
- 3. Sports can be enjoyed without competition. They get to enjoy the sports with no goals in mind other than the pure joy of it.
- 4. There is true happiness. Yes! these kids are happy in the elevator, the grocery store and school.
- 5. It's OK to quit--- If an activity doesn't jive with my son he quits. He competes with no one but himself.

I really enjoy and learn from the beauty of above benefits.

Initially we found it difficult to understand him as he was not expressive. It was a tough task for us. When he was 3 years old, we took him to "early intervention programme" for special children. Then he joined a special school. Each down's syndrome child has different ability, none of them are similar. We kept on working for him but were not sure about his goal. Time kept passing without a goal in sight.

Then in the year 2019, we came to know about 'Muskaan'. It came as a silver lining, with a ray of hope for us. A project for 'Lemon Pickle Associate' was about to start, and we got him enrolled for it.

I think each individual learns best in his own specific ways. Some are visual learners while others are auditory learners. This is exactly the same for children with down's syndrome. Each child on the planet has his/her own set of skills, talent, abilities and downfalls.

By identifying each of these, we enhance their happiness, success in learning and success in life.

The down's syndromes require repetitive learning practices. The need to hear information multiple times and in different ways to store this information in their long-time memory.

Hats-off to teachers in Muskaan who could do this with repetitive routine with patience. Covid 19 restrictions made this year's project a bit tougher but teachers worked hard and managed to prepare them for the qualifying exam by taking on-line classes to complete the curriculum. Now we can see a light at the end of the dark tunnel.



We extend our sincere gratitude to all the teachers and supporting staff who made this project a success.

My special thanks to the senior in charge of this project for trusting my son that he could do it and stand up to their expectations. It was all your trust in him that led us to think beyond what we thought he was capable of doing.

Thanks once again to entire Muskaan team.

Success story: Bani Magoo

-Surender Singh

She is 23years old young adult with Down syndrome. I remember That When I met her in Muskaan first time in 2013, that time she was very shy and introvert girl. Hardly she was speaking or interacting with others. But in the other side regarding work, she was always keen to learn the new task and always involved in the class activity. She is very keen observer and doing the things with full concentration & perfection. In 2015 when we were selecting for Mainstream Employment in Lemon Tree Hotel Gurgaon she was selected and keen to work outside. As we believed that she had the potential to adjust and cope up with outside world demand and mange herself. She has finished her eight-month intensive on the job training and successfully



placed in Lemon Tree hotel Gurgaon Sec-29 in their Food & Beverage department.

Major Challenge-: As she was very shy and introvert and she was taking time to mingle with others, during the initial period she was not listening to her other team member's instruction and only taking command from Manager and me (the trainer to support from Muskaan). Also, she knows all the task of coffee shop but most of the time she was doing work in Back area. After continuously dialogue and counselling she came inside the coffee shop and happily working with her team members now.

Family support-: Throughout this journey in Muskaan and during Mainstream employment entire family members of Bani was very cooperative and supportive. They always keen and egger to know about his training also want to know about their support and always stood behind her.

The human spirit is one of ability, perseverance and courage that no disability can steal away. ...

