

A creative learning initiative for children undergoing cancer treatment and their caregivers

NEWSLETTER - February 28, 2022

Greetings from Samiksha Foundation!

We are happy to share the achievements and activities that have transpired in the last five months despite Covid playing a spoiler.

Virtual Samiksha Scholarship Program - Series 6(SSP6)- 9th January 2022

Samiksha Foundation held a stellar SSP6 event which was attended on zoom and watched live on Facebook by over 400 people. After months of ground work, Samiksha Foundation was able to finalise on the list of 74 deserving students for scholarships. Over the months of January and February these scholarships have been transferred to each of the respective students individually. <u>Watch</u>

We were very lucky to have speakers like Dr Julius Scott, Dr L Appaji, Dr C Ramesh, Dr Sunil Bhat, Dr KB Lingegowda, Ms Rhea Daruvala and Ms Sowmya Murlidhar.



<u>Dr Julius Scott</u> - "Mata Pita Guru deveme", Guru is in the third place because mother is the first person we are introduced. Mother introduces the father and the parents introduce the teacher and all the three will lead you to God. Samiksha is doing the third part for all of you, so I have the greatest respect for Sandhya for founding this and everybody who is supporting this.

Dr L Appaji - 'Samiksha Foundation means ECS, Education Creativity and Spiritual aspect.'

<u>Dr C Ramesh</u> - 'As per our Sanatana Dharma, Vidya dhana is considered to be the best donation or offering one can do in human life and this has been aptly practised by Samiksha in letter and spirit.'

<u>Dr Sunil Bhat</u> - 'I am so glad that Samiksha identified this unmet need, and have been very very active in this field for so many years now and helping children to continue their education which is formal but also lot of informal education which is imparted to the children while they are undergoing their treatments.'

Dr K B Lingegowda - 'It is such a great occasion to participate in any of the Samiksha Foundation activities.'

<u>Ms Rhea Daruvala</u> - 'we published a small pilot study somewhere last year which showcased the challenges, the benefits of setting up learning centres at tertiary care cancer centres and we were also able to showcase the numbers of children with some snippets of real life interviews and feedback from parents, children and volunteers who worked at the centre during the setting up stages'

<u>Ms Sowmya Murlidhar</u> - 'I am glad to tell you all that I chose the first option to get up, fight and overcome (cancer). It is certainly always easier said than done, and hence Sandhya ma'am wants me to be here. Say it and also show how it is done.'

Virtual Yoga Trial session- 21st December 2021

Mrs Sudeepta and Mrs Lalitha from EKA group, conducted a virtual Yoga-Creative Visualisation session for a group of 7 children. After a prayer and warm up, the children were taken through simple movement exercises. These movement exercises, like butterfly kiss and cat-cow pose, were designed and named for children. After that a creative visualisation session in which the children depicted the story narrated during yoga nidra through a drawing. The session was well received by the children and they were extremely thrilled doing the yoga.





As part of the Christmas celebrations, a Craft Activity was conducted in the MSCC Playroom by the 'A Thousand Cranes' team. They gave each child a kit with material to make a Christmas Tree and a snowman. A few of the caregivers sat on the sidelines watching the children in action. At the end of the activity, the children posed for photos with the SF, ATC, MSCC team members. The children who attended the activity were given caps knitted by the Silver Surfers group and eco-friendly colour pencil sets donated by team Empowered Minds.

Added on Give India

Give India is one of the largest and most trusted giving platforms in India. GiveIndia's community of 2M+ donors and 250+ partners have supported 2,500+ verified nonprofits. Samiksha Foundation is proud to be associated with Give India since 1st December and can receive donations . Donate

Children's Day celebration- 14th November 2021

More than 25 children took part in the Children's day celebration that was conducted by the Paediatric Oncology Dept. staff of MSCC-NH with the support of the teachers of Samiksha Foundation and other volunteers. Three wheelchair bound children were also able to participate. There were over 10 different games that the children participated in and the activities engaged the children for nearly 3 hours. The parents, doctors and staff who attended the celebration were also very happy to see the children enjoying themselves. At the end of the games, there was a distribution of books that were contributed by CMCA to Samiksha Foundation

Story Telling Session-12th November 2021

Elements Education for Children's Day, did a storytelling session with both in person and virtual.Deepali Kulkarni (via Zoom) and Tripti Khanna in the playroom presented "The Elephant's Long Trunk" story. The kids and their parents enjoyed the way the story unfolded and it was enacted. After the story session, the kids drew an elephant's picture. One child then did mimicry. Ms. Tripti Khanna and kids danced together on the song 'Bum Bum Bole' from Taare Zameen Par movie.

Deepavali Celebration-3rd September 2021

A Deepavali celebration program organised in MSCC was supported by team Samiksha Foundation. The program was attended by children from the ward, the outpatient department, parents , doctors led by Dr Sunil Bhat and staff. The talent show by the children, in which they performed dances, sang, and even gave a speech about Deepavali, was the highlight. The Magic Show by Simple Suresh sponsored by Samiksha Foundation, got the children, doctors and staff to actively participate in the magic show.



















Images from our Learning centre -



Please get in touch and support our work

We continue to believe that there are many opportunities to improve the situation for children with cancer and their families, outside formal medical care. The ultimate aim is to increase the happiness quotient of those affected by cancer, notwithstanding their circumstances. The possibilities are endless. The results would be heartening. Together, we can make a real difference!

We welcome you to be part of this incredible journey of spreading Happiness Visit Our Website or Contact <u>Rahul Papali</u>, <u>Valli Narasimha</u>

With sincere gratitude to all our patrons, volunteers, teachers, doctors, children and their families. Team Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer

To contribute to our corpus funds, please donate through our website. Donations online (Indian and Foreign): <u>https://samikshafoundation.org/donate/</u> Donations from US Citizens: <u>https://www.omprakash.org/global/samiksha-foundation/donate</u>

Corporate Donations through your employer's *Benevity page* is also possible. Your donations will be processed by NASSCOM Foundation for Indian donors and for foreign donors/companies by UK

Online Giving Foundation following the FCRA rules. Donate through Give India link.

For **domestic INR Indian Donations** direct transfer to our Bank account Name of Account: "Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer Trust" Bank: Axis Bank Ltd, No. 9 MG Road Branch, Bangalore 560001, India. Account Number: 909010035466397 **SC:** UTIB0000009

We welcome you to drop in at our Centre for Excellence at Koramangala, and refer volunteers too!!