



Monthly Progress Report: September 2024

Sarathak Global Resource Centre (SGRC)

In September, SGRC continued to make significant strides across its various programs and initiatives. The *Vision in the Dark* experience, conducted twice during the month, attracted 50 participants. This immersive activity not only gave participants a firsthand understanding of the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals but also inspired them to reflect on how society can be more inclusive. Participants reported that the experience was both enlightening and humbling, with many expressing a newfound respect for the resilience of visually impaired individuals. One attendee shared, "It forced me to reconsider how we can build services that cater to everyone, regardless of ability."

At the *Employment Center*, we saw participation from 9 individuals, resulting in 12 job placements across multiple sectors. Key activities such as Business Process Optimization & Recruitment Inclusivity (B-PORT) and Disability Understanding & Insights Training (DUIIT) were conducted. Additionally, we established fruitful partnerships with a range of organizations, including Areeba Dresses, DAV Cemetery School, Next Guru, Neeta Hardware, and others, which will further expand employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

The *Skill Development Center* was also highly active, with 8 batches running concurrently. A total of 45 training sessions were held, catering to 160 attendees. The sessions covered a wide array of topics, including leadership, data entry, team management, CRM, and hospitality. Mock interviews were conducted to prepare trainees for real-world job applications, focusing on essential skills like communication etiquette, customer service, problem-solving, and stress management. The training helped enhance the participants' confidence as they prepared to enter the workforce.

The *Early Intervention (EI) and Rehabilitation Center* provided both online and offline therapies, serving a total of 200 children (85 online, 115 offline). We enrolled 21 new children this month, with a variety of new activities introduced, such as teaching activities of daily living (ADLs), oral

motor therapy, and physical exercises like trampoline jumping. Parents expressed deep appreciation for the nurturing environment and personalized care provided. One parent highlighted the significant developmental progress of their child, sharing how Sarthak's team not only helped their child but also empowered them as parents to contribute to their child's development.

2. Visitor Statistics

September saw a steady stream of visitors, with 110 individuals visiting the center, primarily between the ages of 18 and 35. The peak visiting hours were from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Many visitors were drawn to the *Vision in the Dark* exhibit, describing it as “eye-opening” and “transformative.” Visitors appreciated the dedication and knowledge of the SGRC team, who were always ready to engage and share insights. The combination of interactive exhibits and job training programs tailored for persons with disabilities left a lasting impression on visitors, who often commented on the center’s critical role in advocating for inclusivity and empowering individuals.

3. Key Challenges and Issues

In September, SGRC continued its commitment to ensuring smooth and effective learning experiences for all participants. To support new students in getting comfortable with online classes, we provided clear guidance on using Google Meet, ensuring everyone could easily join and participate. For those facing network issues, a tutorial video on Gyansarathi was shared, enabling them to stay connected even during interruptions.

To keep the learning engaging and relevant for all, we organized mock interviews that helped participants practice real-world skills in a supportive environment. For students who missed sessions, we introduced interactive learning approaches, including screen recordings and peer-led reviews, ensuring they could catch up at their own pace. These solutions helped us maintain a positive, inclusive learning atmosphere while addressing the diverse needs of our students.

4. Upcoming Events and Initiatives

No specific activities or guest visits are planned for the immediate future. However, SGRC is continually exploring new collaborations to expand its reach and impact.

5. Feedback and Suggestions

Visitors to SGRC consistently highlighted their appreciation for the center's innovative and inclusive approach. The *Vision in the Dark* experience, in particular, resonated with many, promoting empathy and a deeper understanding of the difficulties faced by those with visual impairments. Visitors also praised the center's modern facilities, interactive displays, and tailored job training programs for persons with disabilities. Staff and volunteers did not propose any major improvements for this month, as the center's operations are running smoothly and efficiently.

SGRC remains committed to its mission of promoting inclusivity, building skills, and raising awareness for persons with disabilities. The achievements of September showcase the center's ongoing dedication to creating a more accessible and empowering world for all.