



Sarthak Educational Trust

Sarthak Advocacy Program - Awareness initiatives for persons with Disability

(Progress report -July 2021)



The primary focus of Sarthak's awareness & advocacy initiative is to create opportunities for a life of equality and dignity for Persons with Disability and their families through holistic approach by providing Medical Rehabilitation, Inclusive Education, Skill Development Training & Sustainable Employment and Advocacy to those in need.

Advocacy for Sarthak means to take action to create change. Advocacy has been described as "speaking truth to power". The perennial struggle of the rights of people with disability, including the right to have access to public resources, right to education, right to be employed, and other community support services necessary to support living an independent, unsegregated life is advocated through advocacy programs of Sarthak.

Sarthak Educational Trust takes pride in mentioning that more than 200+ corporate houses have been sensitized and converted into the prospective hiring partners of persons with disability.





Glimpses of Advocacy Events – July 2021

Levels of Advocacy at Sarthak

- With Government As an outcome of advocacy with center and state government
 of India, Sarthak advocacy events came with varied thought leadership over various
 areas of action for PwDs, namely, National Action Plan Accessibility India Campaign,
 Sector Skill Council for Persons with Disabilities, and passing of the Rights of Persons with
 Disability Act, 2016 was the positive outcome.
- With Corporate –We envision a society of humankind to be stronger. This is also done where we involve the corporate stakeholders, study job profiles with person with disabilities with the mutual consent of the human resource manager. Not only this, a basic orientation session is conducted for the non –disabled employees of the organization to acquaint them with the basic know how to deal with the persons with disabilities, for instance, sign language sessions, basic infra support for accessibility at workplace etc.

Sensitization Workshops

Sensitization for them becomes an important agenda in inclusive hiring initiatives. Once they are sensitized and understand the value proposition with the PwD, it leads to successful inclusion and long-term benefits to them producing diverse and strong teams.

- With India Disability Empowerment Alliance (IDEA)—NGO capacity growth is an
 essential tool to share mutual benefits to share resources. This helps in building an
 ecosystem of stronger humankind where all people irrespective of the abilities,
 flourish.
- With Media- Media is an important instrument in raising awareness and countering stigma. Sarthak during advocacy events ensures the disability awareness is spread to large masses at once.



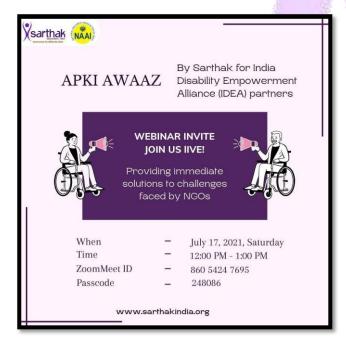




Successful session with our mentor and Guru Dharma Pracharak Padma Bhushan Dr. MB Athreya on the topic of Dharma in Kalyuga.

Sarthak's new Sign Language series to form an inclusive beautiful world





Providing immediate assistance and solutions to the beneficiary NGOs regarding the challenges they face





Sarthak's 13 year Annual day program



On the occasion of Sarthak's 13th year annual anniversary, Sarthak held a day long panel discussions about pressing needs and requirements of the disability sector. This event brought national and global experts together to bring knowledge and practical wisdom to our audience to scale policies and programs for the disabled community.

These experts included senior bureaucrats, CSR leaders, Corporate, Champions with Disability, Senior Media Persons and international experts who had in-depth insights on the subject.

Six panel deliberations covered plans for bridging the physical, attitudinal and financial barriers in the line of inclusion of People with Disability through digital mediums. The panel discussion provided a forum for dialogue and learning to build capacity on the use of disciplinary knowledge and share best practices to comprehend the same in light of current law to further realize the need-based interventions and rights of persons with disability in India. The panel discussions aimed to bring best practices in the disability sector with reimagining disability in the context of the current legislation and policy framework to understand the diverse needs of the population of persons with disability.

Glimpses from the panel discussion

















Introduction to Sarthak k Sarathi

Dasharath - Sarthak Kolkata Center

Dasharath is from Sarthak Kolkata center. He has an OH candidate. He was given training in computers and developed a detailed lens of the professional industry. His personal experience was enjoyable as the trainers at Sarthak noticed visible improvement within his behavioral skills. He is currently working in Oyo Properties, drawing a salary of INR 10,000/ month. He extends his deepest regards for Sarthak. Let's listen to Dasharath's journey.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pinYu5J29xs&t=38s





<u>Soham – Sarthak Mumbai Bhopal Center</u>

Soham is Sarthak's OH candidate from Sarthak Bhopal Centre. He came to know about Sarthak through a friend. He trained herself with Sarthak's trainers and aced computers and communications skills. He is currently in working in Mahindra Finance as a cashier with an annual package of INR1,80,000.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8uVwPr1JUgQ

CALL FOR ACTION

For people with disabilities, the ability to advocate for oneself is essential. For disabled people, advocacy is also an effective way to make changes in systems, policies and procedures that affect their daily lives. So, we at Sarthak try our best to advocate their rights and disseminate into the society.

For more information, reach out to Sarthak Advocacy Team

Link for Donation - <u>sarthakindia.org/donation.php</u>

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