



EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

QUARTERLY REPORT

January - March 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- Celebration of 4th Foundation Day (India): 16 January 2021
- Annual Board of Directors Meeting: 26 February 2021
- Phase 3 culmination in Active Learning Program: 17 March 2021
- Advisory Committee formed for all the programs
- Welcomed Foundation's Youngest Interns - Ambassadors of Change from US High Schools and Middle Schools: March 2021
- 500+ students and teachers benefitted from our programs in the 1st quarter, 2021



FOREWORD BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SATISH TRIPATHI, PhD, MPH



Friends,

I join my colleagues at Ek Kadam Aur in acknowledging the tangible support of our members of High School Leadership Team and Advisory Committees of Train-the-Trainers, Active Learning, and Technology for Visually Challenged Programs. We would have not been able to deliver during these challenging times without your support and encouragement.

We are pleased to have completed the final phase of Teacher's training in the Active Learning Program. It is hard to express in words wholehearted support of teachers under leadership of Mr Mohan Rao and affirmational support of the Management of Ramakrishna Mission High School in Sitanagaram (near Vijayawada) in Andhra Pradesh. We recognize Co-trainers Jeremy Bhatia and Drew Edwards from The Avenue: World School, New York, and operational support from our colleague Saumya Tripathi. This quarterly report provides you a detailed insight into Active Learning Program.

On 16 January 2021, we completed our 4 years of work in India and celebrated our anniversary on Republic Day (26 January) with students and teachers in our programs. We recognize challenges ahead as Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact our daily lives including school closures; when the schools are partially open, our teachers must do twice the amount of work as they must teach in the classroom for students who are coming to school and repeat the classes for those who opted to study from home.

Thanks to the leadership and commitment of Mr Biswajit Ghosh, the Principal of the Blind Boys Academy, we continue to make serious progress in our Technology for Visually Challenged Program

This quarter, we started a new project with middle and high school students - **"Ambassador of Change"** and welcomed 8 student interns from Massachusetts Institute of Technology; please stay tuned to hear about their contributions.

Wishing you good health and wellbeing. Take care of yourself and those in need.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Satish Tripathi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ACTIVE LEARNING PROGRAM

Active Learning is an educational strategy where the autonomy of students while learning is respected, encouraged, and sustained. The Ek Kadam Aur Foundation aims to provide a classroom environment where students are encouraged to actively participate in the learning process through discussions, problem-solving, projects, and other activities. The program's primary objective is to upgrade India's unidirectional teaching methods and make them multidirectional, therefore up to par with world-class standards. We are passionate about training and educating teachers on the concepts of Active Learning classroom practices. This approach benefits both students and teachers as students are given an enhanced learning experience and teachers can develop important skills. The National Education Policy of India 2020 synergizes closely with our program's objective and affirms our faith deeper in the Active Learning principles.

What's New?

- After the successful completion of the first two phases of the Active Learning Program in the last quarter, the Foundation started a 12-week long **training program** for the twelve teachers at Ramakrishna Mission School in Sitanagaram, India. This training was led by Jeremy Bhatia, Social Impact Manager, from Avenues World School in New York. He was accompanied by Drew Edwards, Tigerworks R&D Consultant, also from Avenues World School. Kajal Chaudhary coordinated the efforts on behalf of the Foundation. We specially recognize Mr Mohan Rao from RKMS, Sitanagaram and Chairman of Senior Leadership Team of the Foundation's High School Leadership Program.
- The teachers and students at Avenues World School in Sao Paulo from Brazil also added value to the training program through topic discussions & experiences.

What's Next?

- **Integrating** Active Learning into the other programs of the Ek Kadam Aur Foundation, such as the High School Leadership Program in India and Nepal, the Train the Trainers' Program in a rural town of Uttar Pradesh (India), and the Technology for the Visually Challenged Program in West Bengal (India). Spring Interns from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be devising optimized roadmaps for the further implementation of the modules in all other programs.
- **Strategizing** the specific implementation of project-based training at Ramakrishna Mission High School in Sitanagaram, India.
- **Bringing** the Active Learning modules to partner schools in India and Nepal.

LET'S HEAR FROM THE LEADERS!



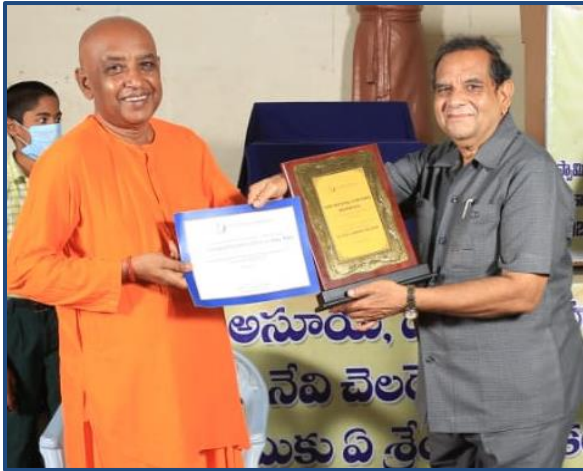
The teachers from RKMS struggled, the trainers from Avenues struggled, and the facilitators from EKA struggled. This struggle or tension indicates learning. Learning should not be easy; it should be uncomfortable. Not too uncomfortable, but enough so that it challenges a person to reach for new knowledge and techniques that will help them grow. My job as the co-trainer was to constantly be aware of this struggle, ensure that our group was not headed beyond a productive level of tension and be able to support teachers to complete this 8-step active learning.

My biggest takeaway and observation from this training is like every interaction I have had with RKMS and EKA to date. There is an unbridled commitment to learn, grow and support students. The teachers and administration initiated this training out of a desire to support their students and use active learning concepts. The three-month training was a fantastic display of why so many people are attracted to education and why I personally admire educators. Educators want the best for their students and want them to become who they want to be. The teachers at RKMS, already facing the uphill battle to learn from two Americans with distinct accents through zoom, showed a willpower that is admirable. They bought in from the beginning, and truly opened to share their feedback and candidly describe the transition happening in the classrooms as they moved to more active learning concepts. Their reflections displayed their understanding of Active Learning Concepts and inspired us on a weekly basis. I am grateful for this opportunity, I love working with these teachers, and I am thankful to God I get the chance to work with these amazing teachers.

- **Jeremy Bhatia**

Manager, Social Impact,
Avenues: The World School,
New York, USA
Trainer, Active Learning Program

LET'S HEAR FROM THE LEADERS!



Swami Hridanandaji (on the left)
R.K Mohan Rao Ji (on the right)

One of the most appropriate programs of Ek Kadam Aur Foundation in the context of the *New Education Policy - 2020, Government of India* is Active Learning Program for schools. It is our good fortune that Ek Kadam Aur conducted a 6-week introductory program of Active Learning at Ramakrishna Mission High School in Sitanagaram in May-June of 2019 to a selected group of our students even before the announcement of the Education Policy. Through this program our students proved that they could adopt themselves to Active Learning methodology. During August-December of 2020, Ek Kadam Aur developed special Active Learning

content and field-tested its efficiency on selected students with the help of our teachers. Again, our students received this content with exuberance and enthusiasm. Subsequently, Ek Kadam Aur conducted a 12-week Teachers' Training Program in Active Learning from December of 2020 through March of 2021 in a more formal setting. Twelve of our teachers participated in this fully practical oriented program online and were exposed to several instructional Active Learning techniques. Teachers also received an opportunity to experiment these techniques extensively with students. To the best of my knowledge, Ek Kadam Aur has taken a unique lead in India to introduce an Indian school to this Active Learning Program.

This program brought a remarkable transformation in the perspective of education among both the teachers and students at our school who participated in these EKA events. Teachers have further realized that it is possible for them to prepare the students as life-long learners and train them in how to learn independently. It is further realized that intelligence of a student is not static but can be enhanced by creating conditions that allow them to place their effort on a continuous and sustainable basis. Students can enjoy the learning process by participating in collaborative activities and reaching learning objectives effortlessly.

It is a great achievement for us that development of 21st Century skills like communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, and more, are built into the process of the Active Learning Program. We are very thankful to Ek Kadam Aur to conceive the Active Learning Program for schools and this is the need of the hour in India.

- **R.K. Mohan Rao**

Chief Coordinator,
Active Learning Program
Ramakrishna Mission High School
Sitanagaram, India

ACTIVE LEARNING PROGRAM'S FELICITATION CEREMONY



At the conclusion of a 12-week long intensive Teachers' Training Program under Phase 3 of Active Learning Program, teacher participants and Ramakrishna Mission High School's coordinator, R.K. Mohan Rao, were felicitated with plaques and certificates by Ek Kadam Aur Foundation. We thank Swami Hridanandaji, Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh for being the Guest of Honor.



Closing ceremony of the Active Learning Training Program: 17 March 2021

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation recognizes the following teachers from Ramakrishna Mission School, Sitanagaram for successful completion of the Active Learning Training Program:

- D.V.S. Durga Prasad
- Ganesan Vamsi Priya
- I. Anjani Kumari
- J. Padma Shri
- K.N. L. Kalyani
- K. Padma
- M. Pushpalatha
- P. Shalini
- P.V.R. Durga Prasad
- T.V. Nagalakshmi
- U.V. Vidya Rani
- V. Suvani

A VIEWPOINT ON ACTIVE LEARNING



We are shifting to a global world, and students must learn collaboration, communication, and teamwork more than ever before. When students are invited to participate in structuring their own learning, their motivation is heightened, and so are their learning outcomes. We believe that Active Learning combines all the skills necessary for students to succeed across all academic disciplines and contributes to professional spaces they may encounter in life.

Active Learning involves students' participating or interacting with the learning process as opposed to passively taking notes in the classroom. When students are actively engaged, they perform better as they seem to have better understanding of the materials. Active learning approach nurtures the brain, giving it an opportunity to connect new and old information, correct previous misconceptions, and reconsider existing thoughts or opinions.

The Active Learning Program of Ek Kadam Aur Foundation is modeled on a similar ideology and focuses on bringing a positive mindset for learning in our classroom culture where confusions, mistakes, and failures are seen as opportunities to learn from. Other integral aspects of this program include a clear vision about the importance of thought

process, classroom discussions, constructive feedback, project-based learning, and, of course, the subject matter being taught. These group activities give students a sense of purpose and a push to become more motivated, self-directed learners rather than trying to just complete their syllabus.

It is obvious that the change from passive to active learning will not be swift, and will instead impose its own challenges, we believe that Active Learning programs are worth extra time and effort. Shifting the teachers' role from projectors to interactive facilitators of learning will be slow as they are comfortable in their own way of teaching and will feel compelled to return to it time and again. Classroom group activities will also demand extensive time initially, but efficiency can be improved with practice and regularity. One obstacle in the long run will be providing transcripts that mark the credentials of Active Learning approaches while still being acceptable by the Board of Secondary Education within States and Union Territories in India. This should be easy to tackle once we receive positive results from our efforts and successfully scale up.

This program is a paradigm shift that calls for patience and support from all involved in the learning process. During Covid-19 pandemic, such shifts required more work on the part of teachers. Should the pandemic continue for a longer time, teachers and students may find themselves in a state of confusion or feel overwhelmed. We sincerely hope that we should continue to push the envelope through providing guidance and resources. Persistence of our efforts can have groundbreaking results!

- Kajal Chaudhary
Head, Active Learning Program

TECHNOLOGY FOR VISUALLY CHALLENGED PROGRAM

The program aims to transform the way of learning and living for the visually challenged students using technology. It uses education and employability skills as tools to enable the visually challenged students enhance their potential for effective participation in the socio-economic process. We started the program with training the students on the use of computers for education and smartphones for better quality of life. The ongoing Computer classes are expected to improve our trainees' employability and accelerate their learning process. We hope to integrate the high school leadership program into technology for visually challenged through specially designed classrooms. In addition, we anticipate extending Train-the-Trainers model to model to visually challenged - a well-tested

concept at our Foundation that involves training of “trainers” by Foundation Staff to enable “trainers” to teach primary school students in their vicinity. In case of visually challenged, we will go a bit deeper in this concept by actually finding children hiding in their homes especially in remote parts of India.

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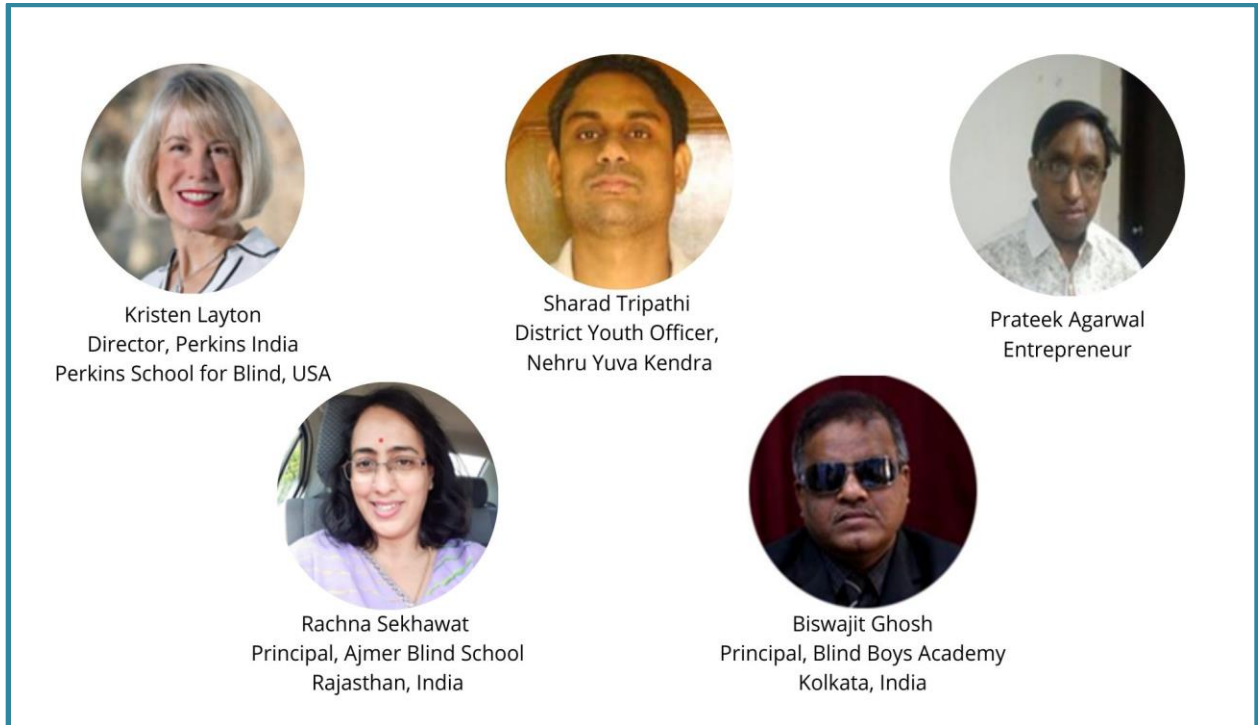


We initiate Computer Class after making students comfortable with keyboard through training on “Typing.” Ek Kadam Aur Foundation provides class on “Typing” at Blind Boys Academy in Narendrapur, Kolkata.

What’s New?

- Reviewed and analyzed the West Bengal state board curriculum and Ramakrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy’s syllabus for Computer Education.
- Ek Kadam Aur Foundation for Education and Health launched its Computer keyboard typing classes on 21 January 2021 for the high school and college students of Ramakrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy, Narendrapur, Kolkata with a plan to expand to other schools during the academic year 2021.
- The program is designed to provide computer hardware training through user-friendly lessons to enable students to master the position of letters and numbers. This training is followed by exposing students to the use of the internet in accessing books and reading materials for their school curricula and for seeking employment opportunities.

- The program has an active Advisory Committee that provides strategic guidance and knowhow. This committee consists of collaborators from Perkins School for Blind, blind entrepreneurs, Blind School Principals and staff members from the Foundation who have responsibility for High School Leadership, Train-the-Trainers, and Active Learning.



The Members of the Advisory Committee of Technology for Visually Challenged Program

What's Next?

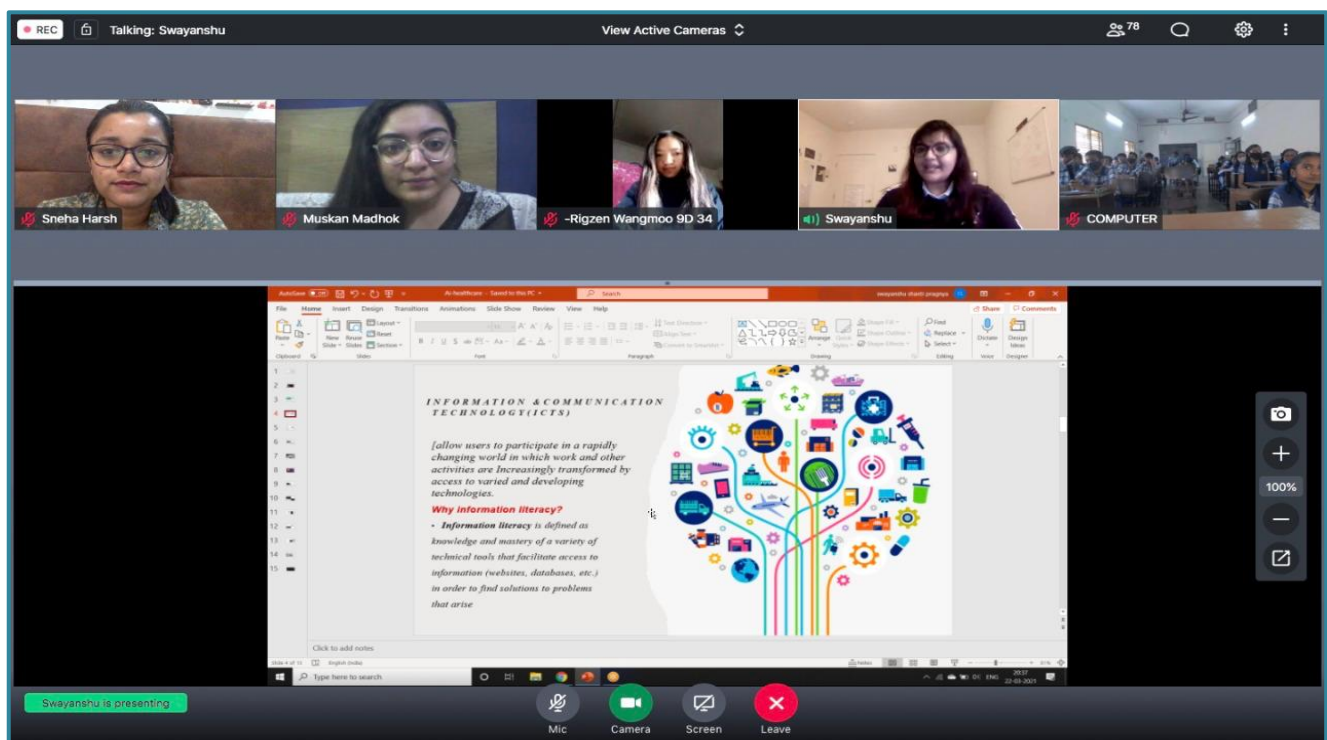
Develop a curriculum for computer training based on the current syllabus of the Board of Secondary Education, West Bengal State.

- Provide smartphone training to blind students.
- Engage Summer interns in designing the tools (survey, semi-quantitative methods) for impact assessment of the program. Student interns to make recommendations on enhancements to the program to enable easier scaling.

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation is committed to find, develop, and support the brightest and most promising students through its high school leadership program. Virtual (Interactive) Classes are taught by leaders from India and the United States. The classes consist of one-hour lectures by e-Faculty broadcasted simultaneously to all schools twice a week on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Our footprints seem to impact the states of Andhra Pradesh, Union Territory of Ladakh in India and Kathmandu in Nepal. By targeting these areas, we continue to empower students from low economic background families with a high-quality education and holistic development. Lectures encompasses STEM subjects, leadership development, and entrepreneurship.

Despite Covid-19 Pandemic, students, teachers and EKAF Staff were able to continue this program. During 1Q2021, we completed 25 lectures. The diverse range of topics seems to create a positive impact on these students with potential for higher cognitive abilities, more self-confidence, and more motivation or drive to accomplish goals.



(Screenshot during the lecture **'When IT meets Medicine'** by Ms. Swayanshu Shanti Pragnya, Graduate Student at University of Colorado Denver Business School)

What's New?

- The monitoring tools are implemented to understand the students' feedback and their interest areas. The Summer interns from Harvard Kennedy School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology developed these tools.
- We conducted two online tests based on the lectures conducted in the High School Leadership Program.
- To broaden students' learning experience, we provide opportunities for co-curricular activities such as creative art, content writing, public-speaking, and developing ability of independent thinking. During this quarter, we conducted **Essay Writing Competition, Video Interpretation Competition, and Watercolor Painting Competition.**

Congratulations to our Shining Stars of the competitions!!

Essay Writing Competition, January 2021

Name	School
Stanzin Chuskit Rigzen Wangmoo	Lamdon Senior Secondary School, Leh
M. Soniya B. Venkat	Ramakrishna Mission High School, Visakhapatnam

Video Interpretation Competition, February 2021

Name	School	Results
Rigzen Wangmoo	Lamdon Sr. Secondary School, Leh	Winner
Sindhu Kumar	Ramakrishna Mission School, Vizag	Recognition
Uha Chandrika	Ramakrishna Mission School, Sitanagaram	Recognition
Skarma Dolma	Lamdon Sr. Secondary School, Leh	Recognition
Stanzin Deachen	Lamdon Sr. Secondary School, Leh	Recognition

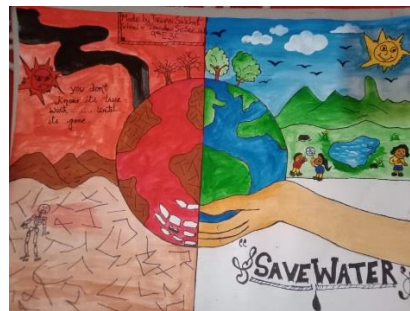
Watercolor Painting Competition, March 2021



N Janu Teja Shree
Ramakrishna Mission
High School, Sitanagaram



Tsering Dolkar
Lamdon Senior
Secondary School, Leh



Tsewan Salchet
Lamdon Senior
Secondary School, Leh

Virtual Lectures

We continued to cover diverse range of topics during this quarter (January - March):

Sr. No	e-Faculty	Topics
1	Meghna Thakkar, PhD	Vaccines
2	Srishti Lokwani, MSc	Transportation of substances in the body
3	Machinani Rao, PhD	Periodic Table Metals and Non-Metals Chemical Bonding Orbital Hybridization
4	Krupa Maulik Pandya, MPharm	Blood and its components
5	Guneet Kour, MTech	Cell and Gene Therapy
6	Sauhaib M. Siddiqui, PhD	Nanotechnology
7	Mahesh Viswanathan, PhD	Polynomials (2 lectures)
8	Shayak Mazumdar, MBA	Artificial Intelligence Motion Force and Acceleration
9	Robert Koirala, BE	Fractal
10	Parth Bhatnagar, BE	Numbers
11	Pooja Joshi, MSc	Linear Equation in two variables
12	Devanshi Rathi, BBA	Why Chess?
13	Pratibha Patti Tripathi, BA	Celebrating Int'l Women's Day
14	Seema Verma, BCom	Communication through Emails
15	Satish C Tripathi, PhD, MPH	Bringing Purpose To Your Everyday

		Actions
16	Shriya Agarwal, BA	Communication: Inside-out & Outside-in
17	Swayanshu, Shanti Pragnya, MS	When IT meets Medicine
19	Geetha Krishnan, MSc	Understand Emotions using Dance Therapy
20	Bharti Singal, PhD	Fundamentals of Biotechnology and its applications

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM'S PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY



*Swami Divya Bodhananda and Dr. Ravi Chandra (An Alumnus of **Ramakrishna Mission School, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**, and a practicing orthopedic surgeon) felicitating the winners of Entrepreneurship Bootcamp- B Tarunmai and Haripriya, Online Talent Show Competition - Tejesh, Amrisha Indrani for the Rangoli Art Competition, Creative Arts to Mrs. Prasanna Rani, the principal of the school and Best teacher coordinator award to Ms Ramya Neeharika and Ms S Mounica.*

Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, Leh, Ladakh: The Prize distribution ceremony has been postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic.



Mrs. Pramila Sharma, the Principal, and Mr. Rajendra Sharma, the vice-Principal, felicitating the winners of Online Talent Show Competition - Ashleshal, Rumani Magar, Reeju Koirala and Beepana, Elocution Competition- T. Dhruiti and P. Sai Satwik at **N.K. Singh Memorial EPS Kathmandu, Nepal**



Ms U.V. Vidya Rani, Ms M. Pushpalatha , Mr D.V.S. Durga Prasad, Mr P.V.R Durga Prasad, Ms Bhubaneswari, Mr Srinivas, Ms Kalyani and Ms Rajya Lakshmi felicitating the winners of Entrepreneurship Bootcamp- Kruthika and A. Vardhan, Online Talent Show Competition - Tejesh and Uma Maheshwari, Elocution Competition- T. Dhruiti and P. Sai Satwik at **Ramakrishna Mission School Sitanagaram, Andhra Pradesh**

What's next?

- Restart classes at all (4) schools in the virtual classrooms after students return to school post Covid-19 pandemic.
- Set up a new classroom in Ladakh to equip 100+ students.
- Entrepreneurship Bootcamp to be conducted in 3Q2021.
- Obtain external funding to establish Entrepreneurship Incubator in Ladakh or Visakhapatnam, India.
- Implement the recommendations of the 2021 Spring Student Interns (Massachusetts Institute Technology).

LET'S HEAR FROM OUR TEACHER COORDINATOR



Needless to say, that EKAF has ignited the spark of E-learning to the students of remote areas like ours even much before the present pandemic which compelled everyone to switch towards E-learning. Being the first batch class teacher who got such an excellent opportunity, I could sense the enthusiasm that both the students and the teachers had experienced. E-learning facilities provided by the EKA made it possible for our students to interact with speakers who are global subject matter experts which otherwise would not normally be available to them.

With a great sense of gratitude and excitement at the same time, I would like to thank Dr. Satish Tripathi and all the members of the Ek Kadam Aur Foundation for kindling the spark of leadership qualities through the High school Leadership Program which helps prepare students for the future as well as helps them succeed in different areas of their life. The program gives exposure to the students beyond the traditional classroom syllabus to include communication, interpersonal and entrepreneurial skill development, and development of business ideas and writing business plans for seeking competitive funding.

I am immensely pleased to see how exuberantly students participate in every lecture that they get to attend. Not only students, even many parents expressed their incredible sense of happiness for such kinds of opportunities. The level of interest and enthusiasm of students can be judged because they can't stop talking about the session, especially by E-speakers like Parth Bhatnagar on Mathematics, Meghna Thakkar on genetic engineering, Anish Dalal on how to start a business with no money and many more on the list.

I am grateful to be a part of ECAF and looking forward to working and learning together.

- **Chamba Kunzes**

Teacher Coordinator,
High School Leadership Program
Lamdon Sr. Secondary School, Leh

TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS PROGRAM

Access to good-quality primary education is often difficult for children in rural areas. Close to 50 million children currently in elementary school do not have foundational literacy and numeracy skills. This program aims to provide good quality education in rural areas by training young local graduates and high school students. These young students not only teach primary school students but also increase awareness of education in the community; in return, they receive scholarships and mentorship for their further education. This program is curated to provide fundamental knowledge of Hindi, English and mathematics and it resulted in a decreasing dropout rate and increased awareness of education in those areas where the program was running.

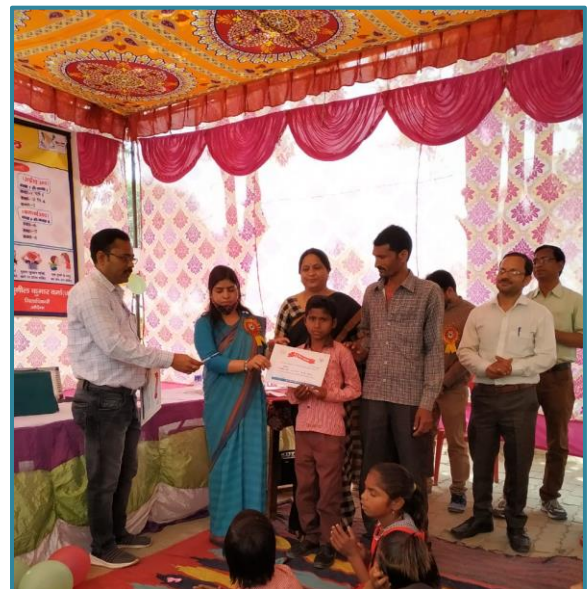
What's New?

- The Train-the-Trainers program has completed 3 years at Government Primary schools the villages - Jhawar ka Purva and Panhar. This program not only made a positive impact on students but also played a major role in educating the community about the value of Education.
- There was no impact of Covid-19 on the Train-the-Trainers program as "Trainers" were able to continue teaching in their neighborhood while schools were closed. These classes have resumed in the classrooms with strict safety measures in place.

- The classroom has transformed into an active learning environment in order to make classes more engaging and the students were allowed to advance at their own pace.
- Trainers have been trained in the concepts of Active Learning such as restorative approach to discipline, collaborative learning, giving feedback and application-based teaching.
- Trainers are using mathematical kits and educational games to make learning fun and engaging for students.
- One of the students of the Train-the-Trainers program at Panhar, Krishna Rajpoot received an Award based on his performance in a competition organized by Mission Prerana during Gyanotsav Program.
- EKAF donated 12 laptops to Government primary school Panhar to establish **Ek Kadam Aur Computer Laboratory**.



Transformed classroom into active learning environment



Krishna Rajpoot, a student in Train-the-Trainers Program receiving award In Mission Prerana Gyanotsav

TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS PROGRAM'S RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARDS



Jitendra Pratap Singh from Jhawar ka Purva and Ruchi from Panhar (District - Auraiya, Uttar Pradesh) received BEST TRAINER awards for their contributions to the program

What's Next?

- **Integrate** the train-the- trainers program into the technology for blind program to prepare visually challenged students for the classroom and allow them to get one-on-one coaching.
- **Construct** a training manual for new “trainers,” coach these “trainers” twice a week and evaluate their effectiveness with students in the field.
- **Incorporate** principles of active learning in the training program for “trainers” and test effectiveness.
- **Resume** the computer training program in Government Primary school, Panhar.
- **Design** the roadmap for Scaling in India and Nepal working hand-in-hand with student interns.

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

The Public Health Education initiative is based on belief that the holistic development of children or adults is not complete without good health. EKAF shares information on hygiene and healthy habits with families of students and their neighbors in the villages where its Train-the-Trainers program is active. The Foundation organizes medical, eye, and dental camps. A few hundred people benefit from this program every year.

What's New?

- 500 masks tailored by a Self-help group women's NGOs in Delhi were distributed to students from villages in Uttar Pradesh, India as they returned to school in February 2021.
- Trainers shared information on Covid-19 awareness with their student groups. A knowledge-sharing campaign was held during the masks' distribution drive; it focused on mask handling, hand-washing and social distancing.

What's Next?

- Medical, dental, and eye camps are to resume after Covid-19 situation gets under control.

CSR AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- **Corporate Social Responsibility**

The Foundation offers corporates and organizations the opportunity to implement Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs in the areas of Education (elementary/middle/high school & rural/semi-urban), digitization of education, Education & Skill Enhancement for the Visually Challenged, internships, and merit-cum-mean scholarships, public health education, and other areas aligned with the Mission of the Foundation.


- **Fundraising and Donations**

With the generous support of its donors, Ek Kadam Aur Foundation has begun fundraising during 1Q2021. The Foundation welcomes tax-deductible donations of cash and in-kind donations such as books, laptops, and smartphones. The Foundation looks forward to working with individual and corporate partners to fund scaling of its programs.

**EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION**
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

seeks your support to

Bring the classroom to students' homes!



Smartphones & Laptops Fundraising Drive

Make your contribution now -
<https://donate.ekkadamaur.org/>

- **Social Media Outreach**

The role of social media globally has become crucial during the time of the pandemic. Adapting to the change, the network of the Foundation on LinkedIn has increased by **5 times** during this Quarter. This seems to result in developing connectivity between global industry experts and our students.



INTERNSHIPS FOR THE US UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Internships provide opportunity to US students wishing to get Ex-US public service exposure. The Interns get exposed to opportunities that help them develop analytical skills such as program evaluation, research, impact assessment, data collection, and analyses as well as an opportunity to work in a corporate environment. Ek Kadam Aur hosts internship programs throughout the year for the students of US universities. At present, this program is open to undergraduate students from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and undergraduate and graduate students from Harvard University and New York University.

What's New?

- The Foundation welcomed 8 student interns from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Spring 2021.
- The student interns are working with the Heads of all (4) programs; their work product would be individual reports and/or conference abstract.

What's Next?

Ek Kadam Aur will continue to offer internships to US students. In addition, the Foundation will pilot a limited internship program of 2 months duration for 1-2 students in India during Summer 2021.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM'S RECIPIENTS OF THE AWARDS



Anne Dietterich, MPA
Fall Intern 2020, Ek
Kadam Aur

Award for Significant
Contributions for
High School Leadership
Program



Mercedes Riley, BS
Fall Intern 2020, Ek
Kadam Aur

Award for Leadership and
Significant Contributions for
Train the Trainer's & Active
Learning Program

AMBASSADORS OF CHANGE

The Foundation welcomed the first batch of its youngest interns from the High Schools and Middle Schools of the US. This new initiative intends to encourage and motivate the young changemakers to step up for the societal good and gain empathetic leadership skills along with exposure to the corporate world. Being of the same age as our beneficiaries, the interns would act as peers to our student beneficiaries which would enable the Foundation to develop a peer-to-peer learning and feedback system.

What's New?

- The Foundation welcomed 5 interns (3 High School & 2 Middle School Students) in March 2021. The Board of Directors of the Foundation endorsed the title for these interns as “Ambassadors of Change”.
- The motive behind this initiative is to provide social sector exposure to the young changemakers and sensitize them towards the cause. This experience will make them aware of the needs and problems of the less privileged, encouraging them to come up with innovative solutions.

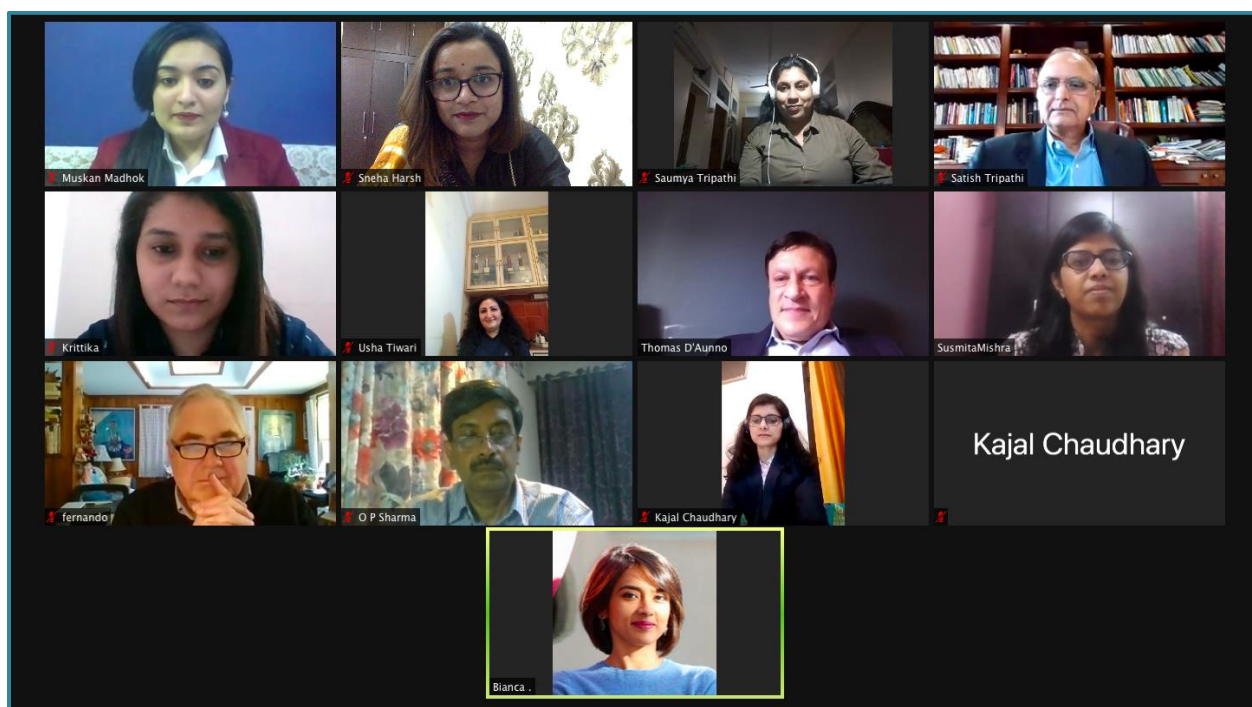
What's Next?

The Foundation hopes to contribute to the Ambassadors of Change group's personal goals by providing them exposure to the nonprofit world along with corporate experience. Ek Kadam Aur team looks forward to working with young minds to bring in newer ideas and enhanced approaches to the educational programs.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

- **Annual Meeting of Board of Directors**

The foundation organized its 5th Annual meeting of the Board of Directors on 26 February 2021. The board members as well as the Foundation's colleagues attended the meeting via video conference and discussed its accomplishments during Year 2020 as well as cumulative impact over the past 4 years. Dr. Satish Tripathi, Founder and President of Ek Kadam Aur shared the Vision for 2025 with the Board. The board members appreciated the performance of the Foundation during 2020 and encouraged management to give their best in the year 2021.



The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of Ek Kadam Aur held on 26 February 2021. The Foundation's Board of Directors from India also participated

- **Foundation Day Celebration**

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation for Education and Health (India) celebrated India's 72nd Republic Day and 4th Anniversary of the Foundation on 26 January 2021. The event was celebrated virtually with immense passion and zeal. The celebration provided an opportunity for the students from the Foundation-sponsored schools to learn about our programs such as High School Leadership, Active Learning for

Middle and High School, Technology for Blind, and Train-the-Trainers for Primary Schools.

The highlights of the program included a cultural presentation by the Foundation's staff and a Quiz competition for students. The Celebration concluded with the distribution of Awards and Prizes for student competitions for the Years 2019 and 2020. The members of the Senior Leadership Team appreciated Foundation for its significant contribution to leadership development at their schools.



Ek Kadam Aur's Foundation Day and India's Republic Day Celebration held on 26 January 2021

- **Team Building and Goal Setting Sessions**

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation organized team building and goal setting sessions for the staff members in January 2021. The Foundation welcomed Ms. Neha Gupta, MBA, and Ms. Susmita Mishra, PMP to host the sessions for Ek Kadam Aur staff members. Neha conducted a workshop for the management of our Foundation along the theme of "How effective teams positively influence productivity in achieving organizational goals". To address this concept, Neha used experiential and concept-based learning and appropriate behavioral instruments to build cohesion among employees. Neha's session helped our Program Heads immensely in developing their individual and team goals.

Susmita, Honorary Secretary and Volunteer at Ek Kadam Aur Foundation conducted one team building session with the Foundation's staff. Her session focused on defining the goals of the organization and identifying the linkages between team member's personal and organizational goals. Both the sessions were extremely helpful for the team members and the Foundation is appreciative of the efforts of Ms. Neha Gupta and Ms. Susmita Mishra.



Team Building session conducted by Ms. Neha Gupta on Ek Kadam Aur Foundation's Foundation Day on 16 January 2021

RECIPIENT OF THE AWARD



Ms. Neha Gupta, MBA

Felicitated for her significant contributions to
High School Leadership Program, 2017-20

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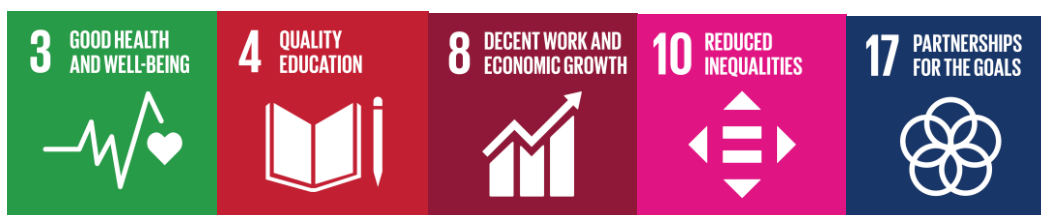
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One Step Forward!