



EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH



QUARTERLY REPORT

July - September 2022

About the Foundation

Ek Kadam Aur (One Step Forward) Foundation works at the intersection of blindness, poverty, and inaccessibility to provide quality education to the children of underserved communities in India and Nepal. All its educational programs are aimed at bridging gaps in the educational opportunities for the neglected children and facilitating their growth as future citizens and leaders.



VISION

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation represents Dr Satish Tripathi's vision of a world where every child enjoys complete, uninterrupted rights and opportunities with free access to quality education, skill training and healthcare. Ek Kadam Aur Foundation envisions a world where every child is a potential leader and lives in dignity.



MISSION

Transforming lives of underprivileged children through education, technology, healthcare programs.



VALUES

G: growth **R:** respect **I:** inclusion **T:** teamwork

Ek Kadam Aur is a non-profit charitable organization registered in the US since 2015 under 501c3 and India since 2017 under 80g.

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Message from the President



Dear Friends,

Season's Greetings!

I'm pleased to share with you all a glimpse of our work in the third quarter of the passing year and their impact through this compact quarterly report.

In the third quarter, we emphasized on strengthening our connections with likeminded organizations to accelerate bridging of educational opportunity and access to blind children in India. Our Arunodaya (Sunrise) for Blind Children' project has expanded at pilot level in three states in India with appreciation, encouragement and support of organizations like the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), National Federation for the Blind (NFB) and National Association for the Blind (NAB). In Chhattisgarh, we started the pilot directly in collaboration with a District Magistrate's office!

Our other programs continued to advance Ek Kadam Aur's mission of making world-class education available to the poorest students in India. Students at our partner schools under High School Leadership program enjoyed delving into topics of their own interest under the I-Search project activity. Our implementing partner for Active Learning program, the Ramakrishna Mission College of Education, Coimbatore, India, have started working with Avenues World School, Brazil, to create universal modules for Active Learning. We thank Visakhapatnam Port Trust for their support.

Celebration of India's 75 years of independence with much jubilation with stakeholders across programs reaffirmed our commitment to facilitate every child's growth into a responsible citizen and an able 21st century leader.

At Ek Kadam Aur, we believe that education is the key to transform a child's life. Your continued support strengthens our resolve to make education inclusive, quality-oriented and accessible for all. We thank you for your continued support.

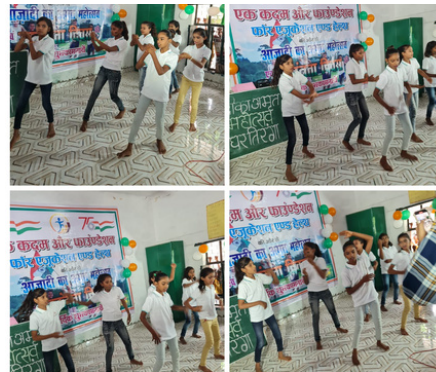
Happy reading!

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

Dr. Satish Tripathi (Founder/President)

Highlights

Independence Day Celebration



We celebrated India's 75 years of independence across our programs with much patriotism and jubilation. In Auraiya, Uttar Pradesh, we organized an in-person program.

Joining the Ranks of Change-makers in the Lives of Blind Children's Education



Our staff members meeting Dr. Das, Director, and Prof. Mittal at NIEPVD, and Ms. Richa Chaudhary, District Magistrate, Gaurela Pendra Marwahi District, Chattisgarh.

Ek Kadam Aur at Harvard



Dr Tripathi with his Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative Fellowship 2022 Cohort (left) and him showcasing our work at Internship Expo at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Our Programs

Arunodaya (Sunrise) for Blind Children aims to identify each blind child (with 100% vision loss; ages 4-13 years) from remote parts of India and train them under trainers certified by our team of qualified special educators. This intervention will give them a fair chance to thrive within India's existing social and educational systems.

High School Leadership offers training in 21st-century skills, world-class education, and mentorship platform to high-school students in five schools in India and Nepal by connecting them with more than 200 global experts from the US and India via virtual classrooms.

Train the Trainers program recruits young local high school and college students or graduates to support elementary school children in their community with their foundational academic skills after school hours. It nurtures local youth leaders who give back to their community through public service. While the school children benefit from the trainers, the trainers also receive scholarships to pursue their academic and career aspirations.

Active Learning program promotes engagement of the students in their own education by moving from teacher centred to student centred learning. Workshops on Active Learning are provided regularly for teachers and students in partner schools. It encourages peer-led discussions, critical thinking and embodied learning.



Program Updates

Arunodaya (Sunrise) for Blind Children

We are encouraged by the progress of the blind children in Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states in academics, orientation and mobility, daily living skills, Braille and abacus training. The children are now able to move on their own, identify the dots in the Braille, do basic operations on abacus and are engaged in co-curricular and cultural activities such as singing, poetry recital, and can identify household things.



We owe our gratitude to Ms. Richa Chaudhary, District Magistrate of Gaurela Pendra Marwahi (GPM) District, Chhattisgarh, and her team including the Block Resource persons, Ms. Mona Goutam and Mr. Praveen Chaudhary for recognising our work for the blind children and get involved as collaborators in our Arunodaya program.

Ananya: A Unique Curriculum for the Program (Phase I)

Nikhil Kalara, an intern from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, developed initial draft curriculum for the first phase (6 months) of Project Arunodaya. The curriculum has evolved after revisions by experts in the education of visually impaired children. The final draft of the curriculum is ready and we named it "Ananya" in Hindi which means unique for its unique approach towards education of young blind children.

Completion of Baseline Survey

The Baseline survey was conducted by Devanand Yadav, a special educator in Auraiya appointed for the program. The questions were asked to the students and recorded on the paper. The oral test was also conducted along with the survey by the students' trainers and the scores were recorded. This will be used towards impact assessment.

Joining Hands with Organizations in Delhi

On August 18, 2022, the team visited Saksham, National Association for Blind (NAB) and Blind Relief Association (BRA) in Delhi to develop a mechanism for admission of blind children once they successfully complete 12 months in Project Arunodaya. We hope to develop a memorandum of understanding with these organizations by 1Q2023. In addition, we are developing relationship with multiple schools in the areas where blind children enrolled in Project Arunodaya live.

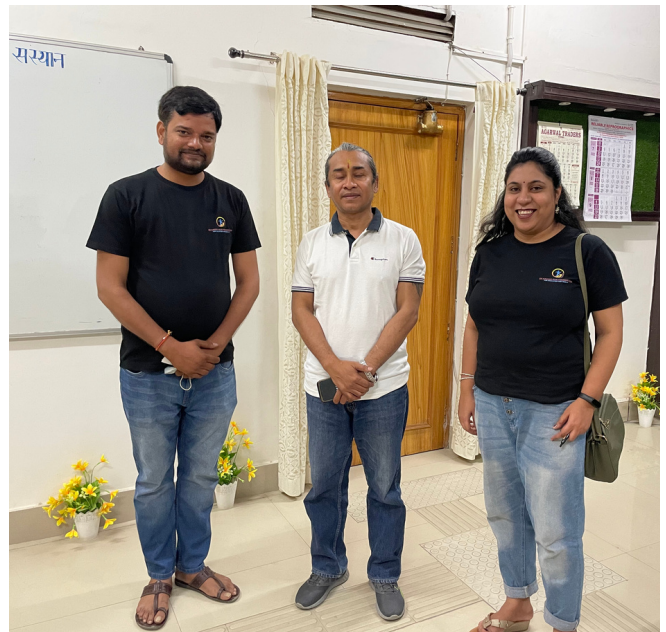
Collaboration with the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD)

July 4, 2022

Two of our team members, Saumya Tripathi and Anoop Dubey, visited the NIEPVD, Dehradun, the apex body working for the education and welfare of visually impaired persons, Government of India, to explore areas of collaboration. Two areas were selected for collaboration – development of curriculum for the project and accessibility of the materials for the blind students. We thank Dr. Himangshu Das for his support for the collaboration. A follow up videoconference between Dr Das and members of Ek Kadam Aur was held on August 5, 2022 to solidify the collaboration.

Sensitization of the Parents and Government School Teachers

Ek Kadam Aur colleague Biswajit Ghosh conducted audit of Project Arunodaya by visiting homes of five blind children in Panhar, Uttar Pradesh. Biswajit met with the children at their homes with their family members. During his visits, the entire care ecosystem, inclusive of the parents, family members, and school teachers, was sensitized to the needs of the blind children and how to enhance their quality of life through education. Mr. Ghosh visited two government schools in Auraiya district; Shahbadiya and Baripur Maafi, and met with the existing blind children and their teachers there.



Ek Kadam Aur staff members, Saumya and Anoop, with Dr. Himangshu Das, the Director of NIEPVD.

Project Arunodaya Pilot in Chhattisgarh in Collaboration with a District Magistrate's Office

July 14, 2022

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation launched Project Arunodaya in Chhattisgarh on 14 July 2022. Through in-depth ground level research, our team has identified and enrolled eight blind children in the program. We are coordinating with the offices of District Magistrate (DM) and Block Resource Persons (BRPs) to ensure the success of this program. Our research and development team are in contact with the trainers for regular status updates.



Spoken English Classes for the Trainers

July – September, 2022

Corporate English-speaking sessions for the trainers of the blind children were started by Sarika Kumari Pandey from Cognizant, Kolkata. In total 8 sessions were conducted during the quarter. The sessions focused on basic communication skills and general vocabulary for the trainers. The trainers have learnt some basic phrases and practiced some oral and written communication.

FIELD ACTIVITIES



FIELD ACTIVITIES



Program Updates

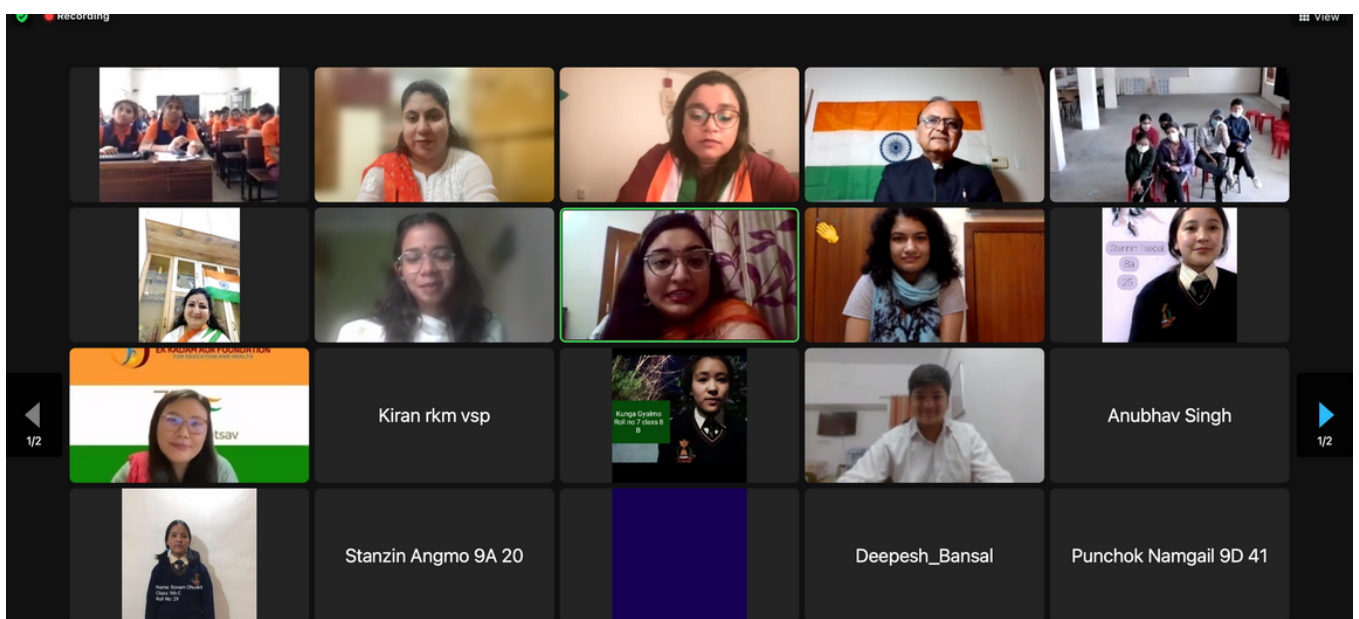
High School Leadership

The sessions held in the 3rd Quarter of 2022, covered wide ranging topics such as STEM, communication, leadership, and entrepreneurship. This quarter also presented the students with the opportunity to participate in the I-Search Project. While enhancing and developing deeper knowledge about research, presentation skills, teamwork, and creativity the students presented their final reports of their projects. I-Search project was supported by Visakhapatnam Port Trust.

We celebrated 75 years of India's Independence Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav with students' performances, and presentation of their talent through activities like dancing, singing, essay writing, elocution, photography, art, and craft.

The program provided the students an opportunity to avail of a scholarship. The application for the Shrawan and Priti Nigam Scholarship was made open to all students who have been a part of the Foundation's High School Leadership Program.

The High School Leadership Program continues to be the stepping stone for all students to be aspiring change-makers of the world.



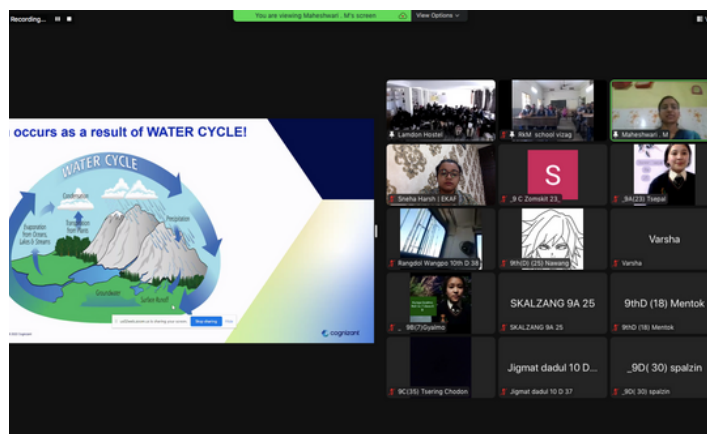
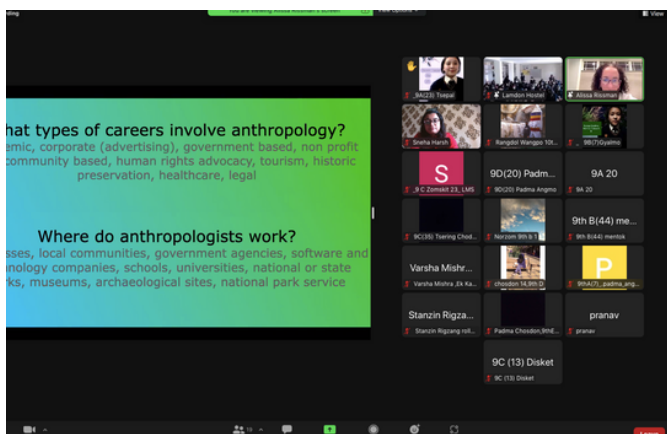
Program Updates

July 2022

The month of July mainly comprised sessions focusing on STEM education and entrepreneurship. The first session was conducted on '21st Century Skills for Youth'. Following this, volunteers from Cognizant conducted a session on Mathematics covering the topic 'Number System' and Dr Machinani Rao introduced the Periodic Table and its relevance in Chemistry.

A session was held on 'Branding' to understand its applicability and importance. Ms. Shriya Agarwal, a Soft Skills Trainer, Marcom Professional, and Holistic Health Coach, explained how branding through conscious and subconscious triggers is widely used in today's world to create a long-lasting brand image and impact on society. Volunteers from Firstsource conducted a session on "Effective Teamwork: How to work together in groups and achieve goals?" The guest speaker, Mr. Ryan White, Associate Director, Talent Development at Firstsource shared insights on effective teamwork

practices. Dr. Veena Tripathi conducted a workshop on communications, covering topics relating to clear, succinct, and direct communication techniques. To introduce the field of Regulatory Affairs to our high school students, Ms. Shrutika Dumbree, a regulatory professional working as a manager of regulatory affairs at Karyopharm Therapeutics Massachusetts, USA, delivered a session on "Pathways to a career in Regulatory Affairs". In the last session of the month, guest speaker, Douglas Jack, Associate Director and Head at the US Talent Development, Firstsource, spoke on the 'The Art of Asking the Right Questions'.



Program Updates

August 2022

August began with the announcement of the Shrawan and Priti Nigam Scholarship for the students. Students were given three principal entrepreneurship learning sessions on the varied STEM careers by Mr. Sukhendu Bandhu, Global IT/P; ways of developing and delivering effective presentations by Mr. Nirbhay Lumde, Head of Sustainability and CSR Asia Pacific SBU at CGI; and Stress Management Techniques by Ms. Ishita Agarwal, a meditation practitioner.

The month also gave students the opportunity to learn about the Basics of Neuroscience from

Meghna Thakkar, a life science analyst and strategy consultant. A session was held on 'Discovering the Author in You' by Neetu Rishi, CEO and Founder at the Success Door. The last session for the month was on Haematology, the study of blood, led by Krupa Pandya, a quality chemist based in Australia.

The month ended with the students presenting their final reports of their i-search projects where all 10 groups presented PPTs on their respective topics with each student participating and honing their communication skill as future leaders.



EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Virtual Classroom Session #112

HOW TO DEVELOP AND DELIVER EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS?

Guest Speaker
Nirbhay Lumde
Author, SDG Enthusiast
Head, Sustainability and CSR
Asia Pacific SBU at CGI

9 AUGUST 2022 | 8AM IST | TUESDAY | ZOOM

www.ekkadamaur.org



EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FINANCIAL PLANNING

by

Yagnesh Mayani
Associate Director of Operations
Firstsource

Sept 24, 2022 | 8:00 AM IST | Saturday

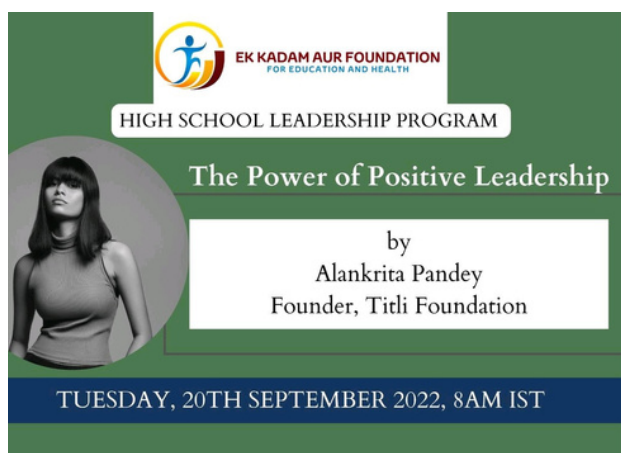
Program Updates

September 2022

September started with the closing ceremony of the I-Search project which was held on September 3, 2022 and the announcements of the winners.

The month of September had 6 knowledge packed sessions across the month. The sessions covered important topics as follows: Quality Education, Financial Planning, Positive Leadership, Design Thinking, Art of living and Orbital Hybridization. These topics are closely linked to Ek Kadam Aur's goal to impart quality 21st-century skills and world-class education to high school students.

In the first session conducted on 6th September on Orbital



EK KADAM AUR FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATION AND HEALTH

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Power of Positive Leadership

by
Alankrita Pandey
Founder, Titli Foundation

TUESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER 2022, 8AM IST

Hybridization by Dr. Machinani Rao, President of WoodburyBiologics Consulting, LLC, the students were introduced to the concept of mixing of orbitals and the various hybrid orbitals which help explain molecular geometry, a revolutionary concept in the field of chemistry. On 10th September, 2022, our students had an interactive session on "Learning about the Art of Living" by Shelby Chen, a Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative fellow. Ishita Agarwal, the website designer for

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation, engaged our students in new methods for problem solving by helping them understand the process of "design thinking". The students also learned the importance and SMART ways of Financial Planning, with Yagnesh Mayani, the Associate Director of Operations at Firstsource. And finally, to end the quarter, the students were introduced to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, especially the SDG 4 - Quality Education.

Program Updates

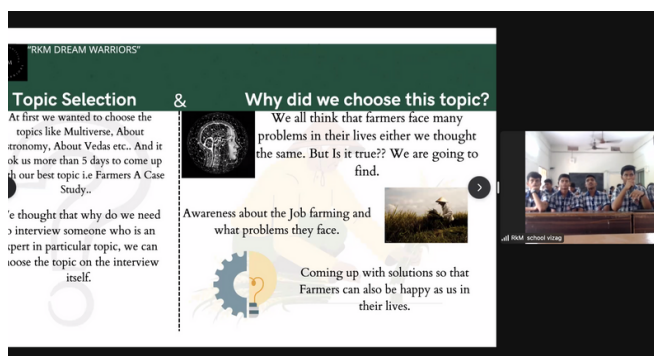
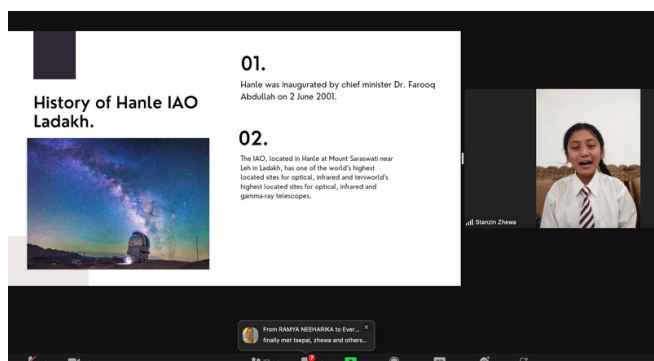
I search Project 2022 Implementation

July 9 to August 30, 2022

The month-long I-Search project concluded on September 3, 2022. Prior to that, on 29 and 30 August, the students presented their final reports of their projects.

The students were judged on the criteria of:

- Depth of research
- Understanding of topic
- Presentation skills
- Teamwork
- Creativity



I-Search Winners, 2022



- **Ladakh, Hanle (IAO):** by students of Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School, Ladakh
- **Farmers, a Case Study:** by students of Ramakrishna Mission High School, Vizag
- **Multiverse:** by N.K. Singh Memorial School, Nepal

An honorary mention was made of the project "Quality Education" for engaging the audience in their thought-provoking presentation.

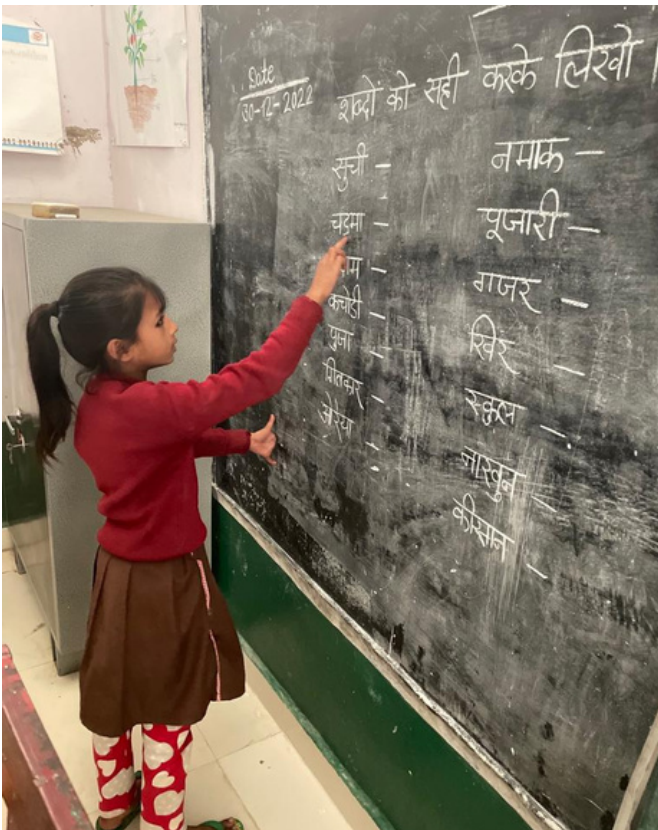
Program Updates

Train the Trainers

In the third quarter, we taught 165 students with assistance from 6 trainers in Uttar Pradesh and 12 students under 1 trainer in Andhra Pradesh. Total number of beneficiaries this quarter is 177. The students were taught different subjects such as Hindi/Telugu, English and Math 6 days per week, 2 hours per day.

Computer literacy sessions were also conducted once every week as computer skills teach students how to solve issues by looking at the bigger picture, and develop ways to break them down into smaller and more manageable tasks. 35 students participated in these sessions.

The third quarter focussed on the overall development of the students; hence they were also engaged in extracurricular activities and wellness programs such as yoga, dance, and other creative exercises.



Program Updates

Computer Classes for the Trainers

July 1, 2022 onwards

Computer classes were restarted for Group C students. The classes are held two days a week for 2 hours. 35 children from program are learning how to operate laptops and computers and usage of Microsoft Office and Paintbrush program.



Dance Classes

July & August, 2022

Avni Dubey and Kirti Saxena, trainers of the program, taught dance to children of Government Primary School, Panhar, Uttar Pradesh. Children were very excited to learn dance preparation of the Independence Day's celebration. These engagements also lead to increase in student attendance at school.

Yoga Classes

July - August, 2022

The Foundation considers physical wellbeing of its children as an important factor for their overall growth and development. Towards this end, advanced yoga classes were organized for the children in Government Primary school, Panhar, Uttar Pradesh. Yoga trainer, Dr Vishal Yogi, taught various complex asanas like Astavakrasana, Dhanurasana, and Uttanasana. The training enabled the children to show their yoga skills during the celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.



Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

Celebrating India's 75 Years of Independence!

August 16, 2022

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation celebrated Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav enthusiastically with students by organizing a cultural program at Primary School Panhar, Auraiya District Uttar Pradesh. The students' patriotism and love for India was evident through their tribute to our freedom fighters and land. The Foundation's Arunodaya project's beneficiaries also participated through a beautiful performance. The Mahotsav was graced by the presence of the Basic Education Officer Vipin Kumar Tiwari and Block Education Officer Arun Kumar.



Program Updates

Active Learning

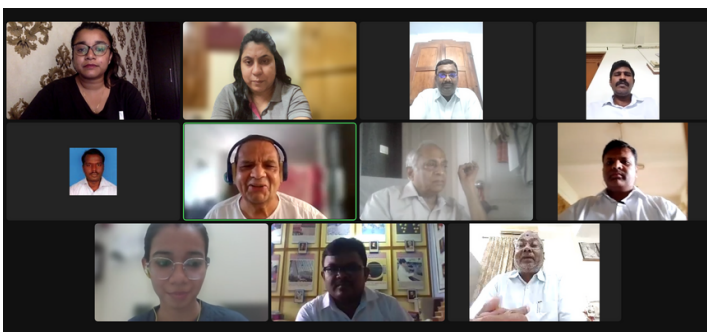
The Active Learning Program has made significant progress in planning a potential collaboration with the Ramakrishna Mission College of Education (CoE), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. The CoE is working on the modules in collaboration with Ek Kadam Aur's partner - the Avenues, World School, Sao Paulo, Brazil. The Active Learning practices have been adopted in different subjects like Mathematics, Science and Social Science in the Ramakrishan Schools in Coimbatore. To ensure sustained progress of the program, monthly recurrent virtual meetings are continued.

Content and Methodology: A Discussion

September 26, 2022

A meeting of EKAF and Faculty members of College of Education (COE) was held to discuss the Content and Methodology of Active Learning Training Program as per the details provided by the Avenues, Brazil.

(<https://sites.google.com/avenues.org/avenues-active-learning/home>). The team also finalised the composition and list of participants for the training program.



Exchange of Best Practices in Active Learning

September 4, 2022

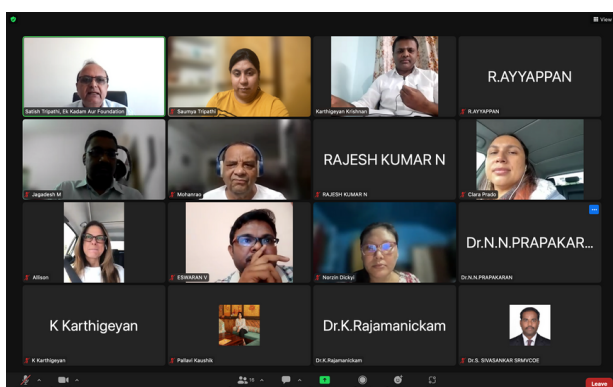
Allison Uros & Clara Prado made a presentation on Active Learning Methodology in practice at Avenues, Sao Paulo, Brazil, and shared real experiences of Active Learning Methodology and its effect on students there. They also made a presentation on proposed Active Learning Training Methodology. The faculty members of College of Education offered a presentation on Active Learning Methodology in Practice at Government Schools, Tamil Nadu, India, and shared the challenges faced in conducting Active Learning Classes in their schools.

Program Updates

Ramakrishna Mission College of Education, India, meets the Avenues, Brazil

August 6, 2022

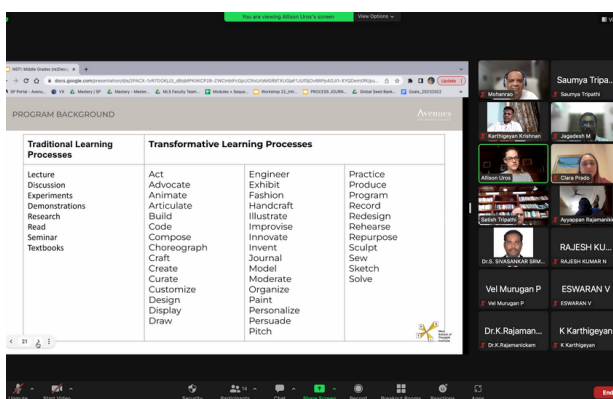
An Introductory Meeting was held among the partners for scale up of Active Learning Program. Two members, Allison Uros and Clara Prado, representing Avenues, Brazil. Present in the meeting were faculty members including Dr. G. Subramonian, Principal, College of Education, and Dr. Satish Tripathi.



Active Learning Scale-up Program (ALSP) in Collaboration with the RKM College of Education, Coimbatore, India

July 4, 2022

To launch the Collaboration between Ek Kadam Aur Foundation (EKA) and the College of Education (CoE), RKM Vidyalaya, Coimbatore, an in-person meeting was held in the college campus in presence of Dr. Satish. They reiterated the importance of ALSP and discussed its core features and details of outcome from it. The members also explored the need for technological interventions and subject-specific laboratories for Mathematics, Sciences, Social Science and English respectively. It was decided that 10 schools will participate in ALSP including 4 schools in RKM Vidyalaya campus and 6 more schools within 6 Km distance from RKMV.



Nurturing Youth Leadership

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation strongly believes in nurturing youth leadership. It provides year-round internship opportunities for high school and college students (both active and graduates) under its two initiatives: Ambassadors of Change (for High School students and graduates) and Internships for college student and graduates.

Ambassadors of Change

Ambassadors of Change, Summer 2022

This Summer, we hosted eight Ambassadors of Change; five from USA and three from India. Aditi Dey, Anusuiya Bhorkar, Eva Bennet, Esha Bennet and Shivani from the USA and Aarna, Avisha and Shivika from India.

Ambassadors of Change program connects high school students from the United States with their counterparts from India. It's provides a vibrant platform for exchange learning and sharing.

Conclusion of Summer Program 2022

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation (USA and India) welcomed eight ambassadors of change for the Summer Program 2022; five from the USA and three from India. This allowed them to participate in a cross-cultural learning experience. Over the summer, the ambassadors worked on the projects which contributed to the Foundation's mission of inclusive education for its sighted and blind children. The summer program concluded in August 2022 with the ambassadors submitting their final work products. We congratulate the ambassadors for successfully completing the summer program 2022 and look forward to welcoming these bright, young minds in 2023 Summer!

Ambassadors Share Their Thoughts



This summer, I enjoyed working with Ek Kadam Aur to support their mission to help educate underprivileged students in Nepal and India. I was thankful to be able to work on projects for blind students in these areas, and was able to both develop my own Eye to Eye project for integration of blind students into visual classrooms using simulations, as well as collaborate on a data research project on comparative statistics for blind children's populations, education, and socioeconomic statuses in India and the US. I look forward to the year ahead!"

- Aditi Dey



"During my time as an Ambassador, I expanded my knowledge of various differently-abled communities and discovered ways that I could help improve inclusivity in these communities. Inclusivity is something very important to me, and I'm glad that I was able to help other children feel more included in their learning this summer. Under the guidance of Ek Kadam Aur, I was able to start building a project surrounding the inclusion of all students in their schools and their learning.

I feel so thankful that I too can make a difference in the world with Ek Kadam Aur. I am truly grateful for Ek Kadam Aur, and the opportunity the foundation gives me to help other students across the world. All children deserve the privilege to learn, but not all children get the opportunity. Ek Kadam Aur strives to help provide equal opportunity for these students. In all of the meetings, I am glad that I got this extraordinary opportunity to grow my own skills while working to help other students.

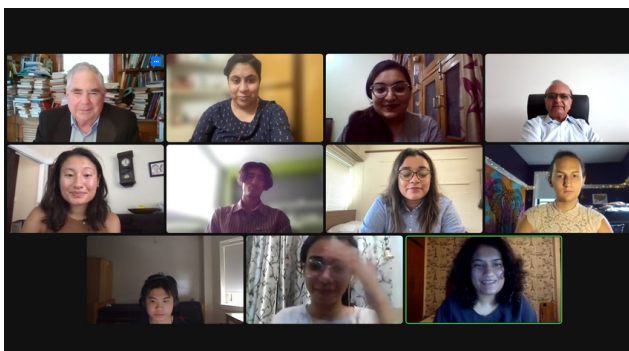
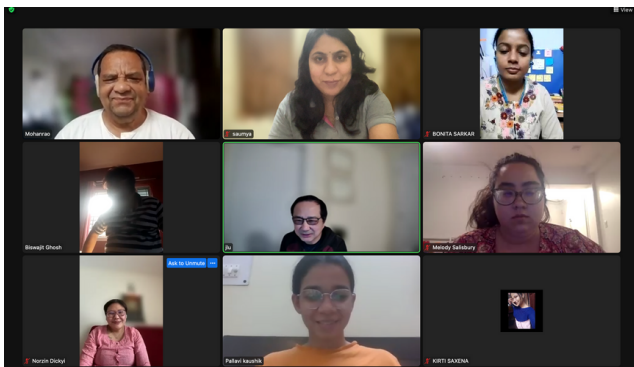
- Anusuiya Bhorkar

Internship Opportunities

Intern from Harvard Graduate School of Education

September 7, 2022

Following the internship expo at Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE), Melody Salisbury, a first year Master's student at Harvard, has joined us as an intern for the Project Arunodaya for Blind. Melody works on data analysis and impact assessment of the program. Her background in education and life experience of being a visually impaired person lend tremendous value and insight to the program.



Final Presentation by Summer Interns

August 27, 2022

Ek Kadam Aur (USA) hosted four Social Impact Interns from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Summer 2022 to work towards the Foundation's inclusive education program for the blind children.

The interns worked on different projects contributing to the Foundation's mission of inclusive education by applying their innovation, communication, and technological skills in the areas like Impact Assessment, CSR, Fundraising, and Database management. At the end of the Summer Program, the interns made presentations to the Board members of Ek Kadam Aur (USA) on 27 August 2022.



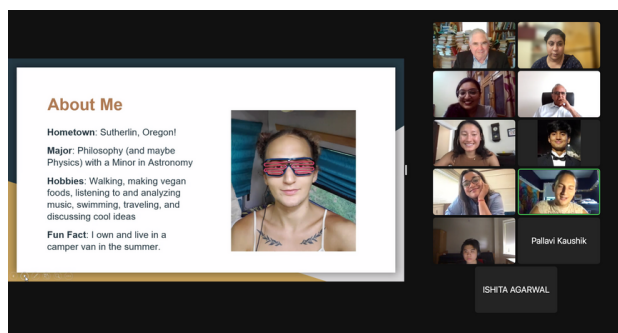
Congratulations to Emmi Mills, Keaten Clarno, Sheng Huang, and Samir Amin for completing 2022 summer internship!

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Collaborations

Ek Kadam Aur Foundation completed one year of its corporate volunteering engagements in June 2022! Over the year, corporate partners (TCS, PwC, CGI, and Firstsource) joined hands with the Foundation to support educational and skill development programs. The Foundation has conducted over 80 sessions for the students, teachers, and trainers through corporate volunteering over the past one year. We are grateful to the support of our corporate partners and envision to create an even larger impact with their support!

Fundraiser in US and India by MIT Interns

Keaten Clarno and Emmi Mills, interns from MIT, US, contributed to fundraising and outreach activities during their Summer Internship with the Foundation. Keaten Clarno started an online fundraiser to support the education of underprivileged blind children in India and Emmi Mills developed resource materials, brochures, and videos to sensitize the stakeholders about the gravity of the situation through storytelling.



CSR Stakeholders' Survey

The Foundation conducted a survey of materiality assessment with the stakeholders to assess and analyse the key thematic areas of Foundation's interventions to which the stakeholders connect the most. The assessment helped the Foundation determine the key focus areas of its intervention, leading to increased focus on educating the blind children.

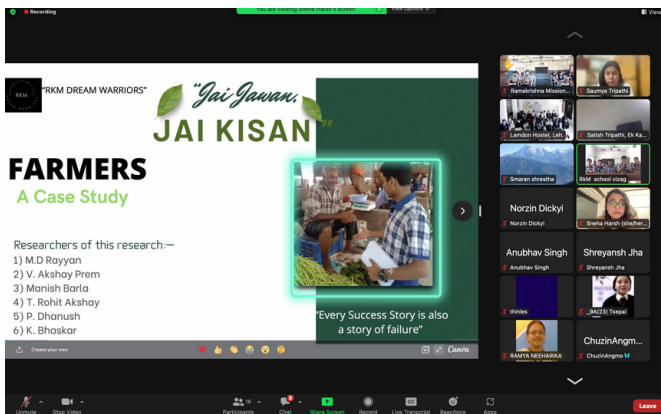
Outreach: Article published

Article on "Sustainability in Education: People, Planet, and Profit Perspective" written by Ms. Muskan Madhok got published on CRISP (Center for Research and Implementation of Sustainable Practices) Global's website. <https://crispglobal.org/sustainability-in-education/>

CSR Projects Implementation

I Search Project 2022

Visakhapatnam Port Trust funded the Foundation's I-Search Project 2022 for the students of Ramakrishna Mission High School, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India. The project was successfully implemented over a period of 6 weeks



Ed-powering Youth

RS Live Media (New Delhi, India) funded the Foundation's Train the Trainers Program where 10 sighted and 2 blind children from a small village in Uttar Pradesh are getting access to fundamental education.

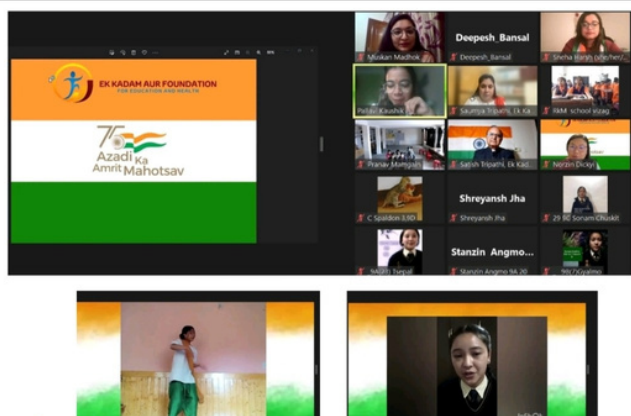


"Quality education not only empowers the children but also improves the communities in which they grow up to serve. Support from corporates ensures sustainability of our programs aimed at providing education to the most needy. CSR collaborations also provide an effective and critical platform for the corporations to engage in public service directly."
 - Dr. Satish Tripathi



Other Notable Engagements

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: Special Celebrations of India's Independence Day



August 16, 2022

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: Independence Day celebration was an organization-wide celebration here at Ek kadam Aur. While a part of our team gathered in Panhar, Auraiya district, Uttar Pradesh to celebrate the occasion with our students from Train the Trainers program and project Arunodaya, team members and stakeholders from the other programs – High School Leadership and Active Learning – engaged in virtual celebrations with much patriotism and enthusiasm. In Auraiya, we organized a cultural program at the Government Primary School where our students – blind and sighted – performed heart-warming dances, yoga asanas and poetry recitations.

New Faces at EKAF

The Foundation's work is strengthened by an expanded team!



RK Mohan Rao Ji, who has been a part of Ek Kadam Aur Foundation since its founding days, joined the Foundation on September 1 in yet another leadership role at its Project

Arunodaya. He is associated with Ramakrishan Mission and has been leading our collaboration and scale up efforts in Active Learning program and High School Leadership program.

Bonita Sarkar joined us as Scholar, Ek Kadam Aur, to do field work in Kolkata, West Bengal, for our project Arunodaya.



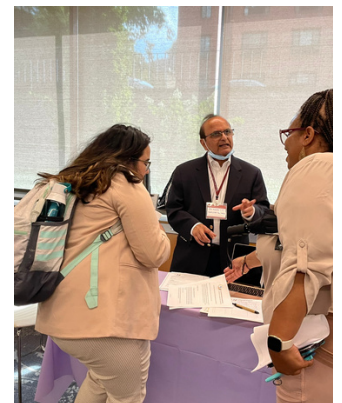
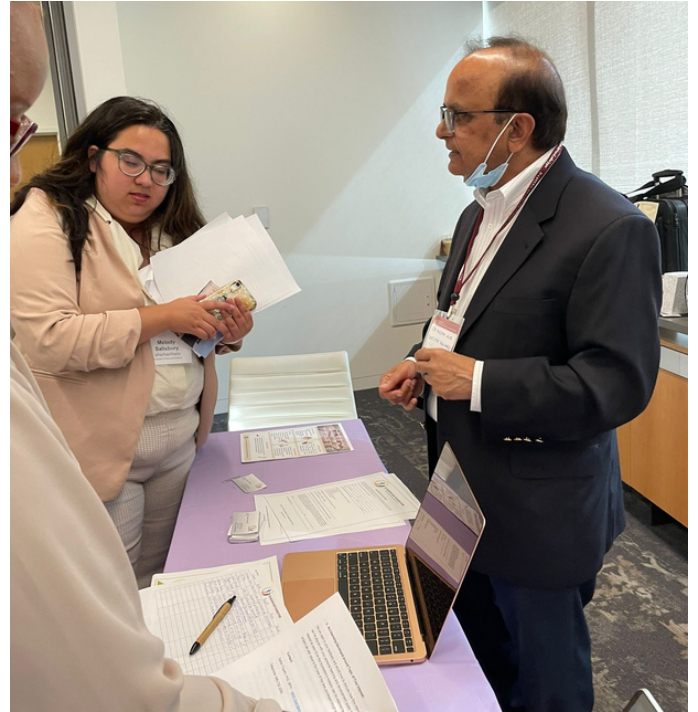
Other Notable Engagements

Ek Kadam Aur at Harvard University

August 3, 2022

We participated in the Internship Expo at Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) on August 3, 2022. The Foundation has hosted interns from Harvard Kennedy School in the past, and this year, the social impact internship opportunities are offered to Ed.M. students. More than 100 students visited and inquired about the exclusive internship openings. Dr Satish Tripathi and Sneha Harsh (our former colleague) engaged with over 75 students of which 40 students showed interest in an internship with Ek Kadam Aur.

Dr Satish Tripathi, Foundation's Founder and President, is an Advanced Leadership Initiative (ALI) Fellow 2022 (January–December) and Sneha Harsh is an Ed.M. student (Class of 2023) of Learning Design Innovation and Technology at Harvard. We thank HGSE for their support and cooperation. We are looking forward to working together with the students of HGSE in 2023 and beyond.



Testimonials



Nisha Singh (Trainer, Train the Trainers program)

"Through Saumya Tripathi, I learnt about Ek Kadam Aur Foundation and joined it as a trainer. I am dedicated to serving the children by educating them and setting goals for them. Achieving those goals not only makes me happy but also makes children happy. Connecting with Ek Kadam Aur Foundation has made me realize how the children are filled with potential. All we need is a good teacher and support to channelise their zeal for education".



Kirti Saxena (Trainer, Project Arunodaya, Auraiya)

"It has been almost 6 months since I joined Ek Kadam Aur foundation and I feel enriched. I learned a lot of things while interacting with children who are visually disabled. Ek Kadam Aur is working day and night for the betterment of education of the children. It is not only helping the children in the field of education but is also helping them in their daily life activities so that the children can become self-reliant. After joining the Foundation, I was even able to practically use all the knowledge which I had learnt in my psychology classes at the college. Thank you, Ek Kadam Aur Foundation, for giving me an opportunity to learn something new and implement it in my life."

Testimonials



Gunja Gendley (Trainer, Project Arunodaya, Chhattisgarh)

"The Project Arunodaya has come like a boon to my daughter's life. My daughter, being a completely blind child, has been facing challenges in her life and I've always tried to support her in every aspect of life but this program has given me the direction of how to go about it. I've learnt Braille and I'm so happy that my daughter is learning Braille now. With this program, came a hope that my daughter can also do good in her life and be independent.

She has become very curious to learn new things every day and this curiosity keeps me driving. I am so grateful to Ek kadam Aur Foundation to start this program and happy to be a part of it."



Khushi Yadav (Trainer, Project Arunodaya, Auraiya)

This program of Ek Kadam Aur Foundation is a step towards a better future for the underprivileged children. My student has changed a lot after being a part of this program; she has become more organized and is keen to learn every day. As a trainer, I am also learning a lot with this program. I've learnt Braille and how to teach it to the children. With this program, the children are getting free education and are motivated and inspired to keep learning in life.

Testimonials



Tsepal (High School Leadership Program Student, Lamdon Model School, Leh Ladakh)

"The month of August was not just a simple month for me as I was engaged with many activities, one of them was the I-search project, it not only allowed us to learn more about our topics but it also allowed us to implement all those learnings from EKA sessions related to this project like teamwork, leadership, mental health, how to be organized and so many more.

We were fascinated by how people from other states were also interested in knowing about our own project on Hanle IAO. I would like to express my gratitude to Ek Kadam Aur for giving us yet another amazing experience to enhance our leadership skills in a very interesting way."

**Thank You
for Your Continued Support !**

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