

Caring Hand for Children Educational Activities in Slum Resettlement Colonies of Molar Bund, New Delhi

Caring Hand for Children has been supporting Arpana's initiatives over the years to serve deprived children of slum resettlement colonies in Molarbund, Delhi. This kind support has enabled Arpana to provide tuition support classes, value based life skills and cultural opportunities so that these children can work towards achieving their full potential. They have achieved recognition over the years in the government schools they attend, including top positions in their classes and prizes for speaking, reading, sports and other awards.

Caring Hand is supporting students from classes 6-8. There were 219 students who benefitted from the grants from Caring Hand for Children in this past year – tuition support for 23% of our students!

Brief Description of our Educational Activities:

- 1. Results of the students** of the middle school classes (6th, 7th, 8th) in their Government Schools in the academic year 2018-2019:
 - The result of the Government school was declared in the month of April 2019. 25 boys out of 102 boys and 27 girls out of 102 girls have secured 1st, 2nd or 3rd position in Government (MCD) schools.
 - The results of our girls, especially, have been very encouraging. 87.25% girls and 40.2% boys of the middle school have scored above first division marks (60%).
- 2. Admission test:** Two rounds of admission tests were held in the month of April 2019 and the selected new students were given admission so that they could benefit a lot from the extra classes which are conducted during the summer months.
- 3. Class Activities:** During the classes, activities related to the subjects were performed in all the classes for example: Activity on Germination of seed', Additive inverse, Article, Experiment on Filtration, Model of solar system, Mock Voting etc.
- 4. Parent Teacher Meeting:** PTM was organized to ensure that the students do not miss on their studies, each student was given a homework notebook with summer holiday work. The parents were told to monitor the work at home as 20 marks will be given for it.
- 5. Teachers Training at Swami Shivananda Memorial Institute (SSMI):** A 14 days teachers training workshop was held at Swami Shivananda Memorial Institute (SSMI). Mrs. Sunita Bhasin, Mrs. Vijay Laxmi and Ms. Gurdeep Kaur, along with their team, conducted the workshop. All the teachers of Arpana Trust from class 1 to class 12 were part of this capacity building workshop.



Tutoring Class 7 girls

6. Awards and Recognitions:



Certificate on self defense: Girls from class 7 received one week training from Delhi Police on self defense.



Solar study lamps: The meritorious girls of class 6th received Solar study lamps from NTPC for their academic excellence.

On 12th December, 60 students of Arpana Trust, studying in classes 6 to 12, received awards from their Government schools for excellent performance in academics, sports and other cultural events.



World Mental Health Day

Arpana's students won the maximum number of awards in Mental health program held on 9th October at Lady Irwin college on World Mental Health Day:

18 students from Arpana Trust won awards in posters making, slogans writing and poetry writing on the theme 'You are not alone'.



Ashok from class 8th got 1st prize



Sonam from class 7th got 3rd Prize



Vipender from class 6th Special Recommendation prize



Distribution of School Bags

School bags were distributed to 58 students of class 6,7,and 8 who were toppers in Arpana’s assesment and hardworking students who are needy.



Class 6th Academic result 3rd Priya, 2nd Sejal, 1st Saniya



Class 8th Academic result 3rd Mehak, 2nd Pallavi, 1st Arti

Meritorious Girls of Government Girls School, Badarpur Number 2 Received Bicycles for their Academic Performance

2 girls from Badarpur Government Girls School No.2 received bicycles for their academic performance in the last academic session.



Radha, who achieved grade 7 and 78% marks in Class 6, received a bicycle for her academic performance.



Riya who achieved grade 9 and 85.2% marks in Class 8 received a bicycle for her academic performance

7. Counselling Facilities for Students at the Centre

Mostly children living in the slum resettlement colonies of Gautampuri suffer from domestic violence, they face alcoholic parents and lack role models in their lives. The students often have no one (matured individual) with whom they can share their problems. The homes are tiny and crowded. The students don’t even get space to study with concentration. Financial constraints also kill their hopes and aspirations.

Counselling services have been initiated for the first time and students began to open up.

Ms. Ambika Maan, a young counsellor, visits twice a week for individual counselling with the students. She discusses the cases which need intervention at multiple levels with the teachers and management. Everybody then works together to support the student to overcome the barriers obstructing their progress.

Class	No. of students counselled
6	4
7	6
8	8

8. Impact Assessment of Life Skills Classes by Modicare Foundation:

On 25th and 26th March, assessment of life skills classes was conducted by Modicare Foundation with all the students from primary to senior classes.



Virtually all of the Students felt that Life Skill training helped them in developing their personality and thinking capabilities. They believed that they have started to have healthy communication with their family members and friends.

The training helped them in expressing their thoughts more clearly, presenting themselves better and communicating more effectively. The training has helped them develop positive self image and boost their self confidence.

9. Students doing very well in Co-curricular Activities : 16 students in classes 6, 7 and 8 have performed very well in co-curricular activities, including:



Irfan from class 6th very good in dance



Anshika from class 7th performs dance very well



Kavita from class 8th is an amazing singer

10. Cultural Activities:

Performance of plays on stage: Students also participate in plays, under the expert guidance of Mrs. Sushma Seth, a popular film and theatre personality. Along with studies, students also learn and polish their acting skills. This helps students in overcoming their stage fear and they are able to perform on stage with full confidence.

Scene from the play of 'Haddi'



Success Stories

Niharika

My name is Niharika. I am 13 years old. I live in Gautampuri with my parents and two brothers. My father's name is Mr. Manoj and he is a worker in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). My mother's name is Reena and she is a housewife.

I joined Arpana Trust in Balvatika (pre-school) and today I am in class 7. My aim is to be a teacher. To achieve my goal my mother admitted me to Arpana and wants me to continue to study here so that I can make my dream come true.



In Balvatika Madhu madam was my teacher. In class 2 Reeta madam had put in a lot of effort and I stood first in my Government school. In class 3 and 5 I stood third due to the support I received from Pooja madam and Mitali madam.

In class 6, I received solar lamp from school for my overall academic performance. I like to study at Arpana Trust.

We have access to the library which is full of informative books and story books. We also have computer classes and get a chance to learn basic computers.

The teachers at Arpana contribute a lot in every child's academic performance. Apart from academics they look after each child's welfare. At Arpana Trust every child can fulfill her own dreams.

I love to study science. Evaluation is also done at Arpana periodically.

Life skills classes are also held where we get information on various aspects from health and hygiene to developing our self confidence.

We also get free stationary, eg. notebooks, pencils etc. Students who perform very well in their classes also receive prizes. Sweaters are also distributed to few students in winter every year. Students who excel in academics receive scholarships and are encouraged for higher education.

Celebration of National days and festivals are organised at the centre. Students participate in these events which builds their confidence.

Yesterday I received a certificate for securing 3rd position (including all 7 sections) in class 6 in Government Girls Senior Secondary school No 1, Badarpur. I had scored 88.6%.

I also got first prize for slogan writing, drawing, bookmark making competition and received second prize in handwriting competition.

My parents are very proud of me. Today I have come out with flying colours due to the support of my teachers. I would like to continue to study here till class 12.

My message to all the girls is that we all should study. It is not a very difficult thing. Children from poor families can also achieve success in their life by studying hard.

Ankit



My name is Ankit. I study in class 7. I love to read and write. I started my Journey in Arpana Trust when I was in 'Bal Vatika' (pre-school). I was very excited when my mother got my admission. I used to play with toys, enjoy swings and also learnt different subjects in a fun filled way. I also remember the tasty meals which were served to us every day.

All the teachers of Balvatika were very supportive. I learnt how to read words and small sentences. The foundation laid at Balvatika helped me to acquire knowledge in Hindi and English.

After completion of Balvatika, I entered Arpana's tuition support classes. Here, I got a chance to attend computer classes and access the library which has a collection of more than 8,000 books. I will describe Arpana as an 'Ocean of Knowledge' as, apart from helping us in studies, there are other interesting and beneficial activities which are conducted in regular intervals. To mention here, 'Life skills' sessions have really helped us to gain important information and made us aware of different issues that we might face in our life. Different strategies on how to cope with such issues were also explained in details.

When I was in class 3, I lost my father and I was very upset. At that time, Arpana Trust supported me emotionally and financially. I receive monthly rations and clothes from the centre. My sister also studied from Arpana and also got a scholarship to pursue higher education. In class 4 my annual exam result was not very good. Agarwal madam told me to keep up my good score and promised to help me in my future endeavour. Her words have really encouraged me to come out of my difficult times. In class 5, I did lot of hard work and stood first in the class. I continued my hard work and with support from the dedicated teachers like Samreen madam, Rupali madam, Ruchi madam, Somna madam and Nanak Sir I stood first in class 6 also.

Agarwal madam gives us good advice. Nabaneeta and Shaheen madam also work hard to ensure that each child coming to Arpana Trust develops his full potential and does well in life.

I will always work hard and try to maintain a good academic score. I am very grateful to all the teachers of Arpana Trust who have always supported me. I want to be a good human being and dream of becoming an astronaut one day.

Conclusion

Caring Hand's project provides us help with academic resources necessary to succeed in our primary goal which is to ensure the children not only learn their curriculum through day to day tuition classes, but discover the importance of values in their lives.

This project gives us more resources to improve the academic facilities available at Molar bund, thus laying a strong academic foundation and ensuring good grades for pursuing higher education or better jobs in life. In these ways, we are using their school days to build a foundation for success and happiness.



With Deep Gratitude...

... to Caring Hand for being our partner in this journey of enabling the disadvantaged children, living in slum resettlement colonies, to have a chance to develop their potential, follow their dreams and have a life of dignity.