



ARPANA SERVICES

Educational Support Enables Underprivileged Children to Blossom



Arpana's Community Welfare Centre Activities

Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

April 2020 to March 2021

Under the Auspices of Arpana Trust

Headquarters: Madhuban, Karnal, Haryana, INDIA

Our Founder and Inspiration – Param Pujya Ma



Param Pujya Ma explained that all people are the Lord's children. Thus, Arpana members felt the need to assist those who are disadvantaged.

Since education, including teaching the humane values, is one of the most important means to have a better life, Arpana's Rejoice Centre in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, set up tuition classes for poverty stricken children.

With Param Pujya Ma's blessings, hundreds of children from underprivileged families in the area, are being given the opportunity to transform their future prospects.

"The Lord comes to give and teach the art of giving; to serve and teach the art of serving. He transforms ignorance into transcendental beauty."

Param Pujya Ma

Brief History of the Organisation

Arpana Trust is a registered charitable, not-for-profit organisation, headquartered in Madhuban, Karnal (Haryana). It is a non-sectarian organisation, whose spiritual foundation inspires members to translate the eternal values into everyday living.

Thus, Arpana has a beautiful series of health, development and education programs for the underprivileged, spread over the states of Haryana, Himachal and Delhi and is recognized at the state, national and international levels.

Executive Summary

Covid-19 erupted into the world and the first lockdowns in Delhi were put in place at the end of March 2020. Not only were the students unable to come to class, they were unable to take their exams and the future of the affected children looked bleak.

Fortunately, the education team at Rejoice, Arpana's Centre in Vasant Vihar, were able to adopt online teaching methods and connect to the students. WhatsApp meetings emerged, with smartphones made available to those with no access to one.

Regular Zoom meetings with teachers were held for planning and evaluations.

A few functions were held when lockdown was eased. Meritorious students were recognized. Scholarships were distributed. Special meals were provided at a few celebrations.

Physical classes resumed from 15th January 2021 till 30th March 2021.



Actualizing the Potential of the Disadvantaged Child

Arpana set up Gyan Aarambh in Rejoice, Arpana's Community Centre in Vasant Vihar, with a mission to provide important educational support to underprivileged children so they can compete with their peers.



Identifying the gaps in learning that these students grapple with at their regular schools, this program offers tools and resources to address their most urgent needs. Ultimately, our goal is to help them develop into wholesome adults and responsible citizens in a fast-changing world.

This academic year, the COVID-19 crisis forced education systems worldwide to innovate alternatives to face-to-face instruction and interaction.

Incentives were given to encourage students to stay in classes

Gyan Aarambh adopted:

1. Online teaching and learning techniques to help students cope with the added pressures of the digital classrooms, and remain on an upward academic trajectory.
2. A flexible Hybrid Method was adopted, wherein teachers designed their lessons in an audio-visual format, augmented by printed worksheets that were distributed to the students.

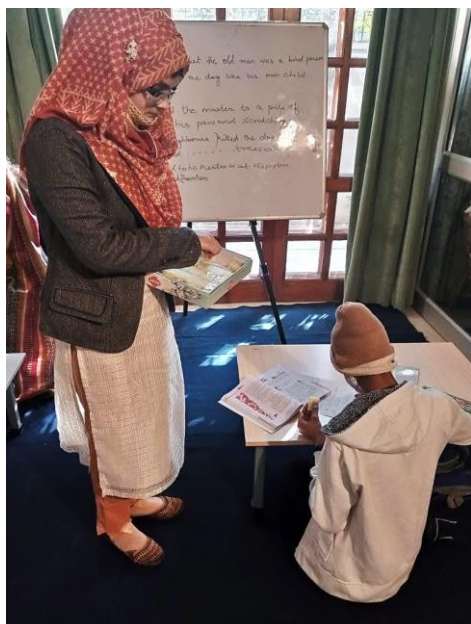
Since our students did not have universal access to infrastructure (hardware and software), we had to address the limitations and challenges at every stage. Many of our students left for their villages, where bandwidth and connectivity issues prevented them from participating in classes.



Through the persistent efforts of the Director, the motivated and diligent volunteers and all the teachers and staff at Gyan Aarambh, the target of supporting students through digital interaction was achieved.

The Academic Session, Using Digital Means, Started 1st July 2020

1. **WhatsApp groups** were formed by Teachers for their classes, including audio aids.
2. **Online Teaching** was modified from 7 days a week per subject to 2 days per subject, per class, since students had to complete their school work.
3. **Weekly zoom meetings for teachers** were held for planning and evaluations.
4. **Personalized tutoring for weak students** was effected from October 2020.



5. **Teachers supported and motivated students** to complete assignments on time.
6. **50 -60% students attended classes** due to lockdowns and lack of access to digital tools.
7. **Teachers enhanced their skills** with CBSE & NCERT webinars and English speaking courses.
8. **Online classes were held for class 10th students in English and Science:**

Students who had passed out of the 9th Standard from our Centre had the privilege to be tutored by a very well known Senior Educationist and Administrator of DPS, Mrs. Geeta Shankar. Our own teaching faculty taught Science subjects.

Teachers and Students Prepared for Digital Learning

1. **Readiness for online studies:** Teachers first formed WhatsApp groups for the classes taught by them, with their subject committee heads as administrators. Lesson plans were designed, deliberated upon and then delivered to students.
2. **Audio aids** accompanied these lessons. Both mediums of instruction were used to deliver the content. Teachers supported and motivated the students to complete assignments on time.
3. **Framing of time-table for classes:** This was done keeping in mind that students also had to complete their school work. Therefore after initially conducting 7 days of online teaching, it was modified to 2 days per subject, per class.

4. **Zoom meetings for teachers:** Every month 4-5 zoom meetings were held so that planning for the term and evaluations, etc. could be discussed in detail. This ensured uniformity in teaching standards, and enabled us to stick to our timetable and lesson coverage.

The Trust provided hygiene and nutrition kits to children on April 13-14.



Identifying and Eliminating Barriers to Learning Practices

With the beginning of the second term in October, the assessment of the first term activities made us aware of the difficulties and inadequacies of the online learning environment.

We implemented targeted solutions to these hurdles in the form of personalized tutoring for weak students.

Teachers catered to such students by brushing up on the basics and improvising concepts so that the learning barrier could be reduced. The results of this approach were encouraging.



Classes in the Centre

Physical classes resumed from 15th January, 21 and continued till 30th March. In these classes, special emphasis was given to revision work and preparation for school examinations.

Scholarship Program

- On Diwali, scholarship cash prizes were given to students, along with story books and gifts. This was based on their performance in the online classes



A few of the scholarship recipients

- A Scholarship Program was organized by the Trust to acknowledge the meritorious students in the month of January, 2021
- Rs. 10,000 was donated for Arpana's scholarship program by Mr. A. S. Tatari, a respected media personality with a keen interest in empowering children through education



Students receiving Scholarship incentives, prizes and rations during the Covid pandemic

Community Support

1. Mrs. Geetika generously donated Rs.10,000 which was utilized for various requirements of the children like reference books, notebooks, whiteboard etc.
2. Many of our donors came forward to facilitate the recharge of data and provide mobile phones from July to September 2020, enabling students in digital learning.
3. A very thoughtful contribution of masks and socks was made by Dr. Manpreet Isser and Akshay Sharma. We want to especially acknowledge Dr. Manpreet who has time and again contributed generously towards our educational program.

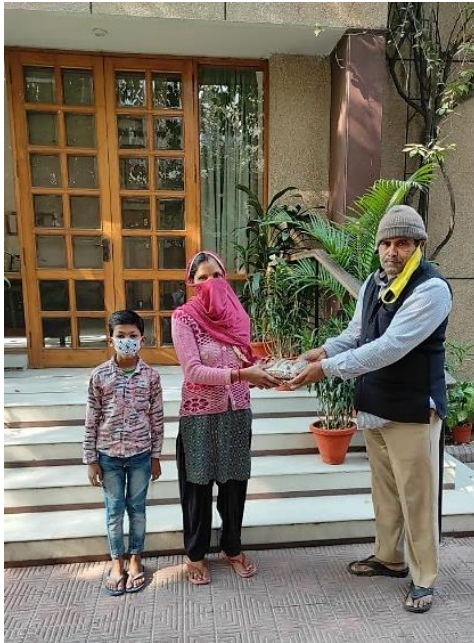


4. Our director, Mrs. Meenakshi Mathur provided sumptuous and nutritious meals for the children during this pandemic from time to time
5. Ms. Ritika came forward in distributing rajma and chana dal to the student's families.
6. In addition, the Gyan Aarambh teachers and volunteers enthusiastically and whole heartedly raised Rs.25,000 for the families of the children.



Rations and support for families of students – distributed at Rejoice, Arpana's Community Centre

New Frontiers – Resilience & Learning



This pandemic taught all of us the values of resilience and responsibility, and the importance of keeping our morale high with optimism, self-reflection, and gratitude.

Our efforts have instilled a routine and discipline, which have proved vital for surviving these unprecedented times, and has opened up new frontiers of learning.

Arpana gives rations and gifts to the children's families

With Deep Gratitude to all our Supporters...

*Your warm generosity and support is enabling
underprivileged children to move towards
achieving their dreams*

Add Your Support to Empower Vulnerable Children as they Reach for Their Dreams!

Indian Donations: Arpana Trust is approved under section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961, giving 50% tax relief for donors in India.

1. Online Donation please click here: [eazypay](#) | [Search, View and Pay your bills](#) | [ICICI Bank Ltd.](#)

2. Donation through Direct Bank Remittance: To: Bank of India, Karnal (IFSC Code: **BKID0006750**)
Bank Account Name **Arpana Trust**; Bank Account No. **675010100100001**

3. Cheques to Arpana Trust to be sent to: **I & R Office**, Arpana, Madhuban, Karnal, Haryana 132037

Foreign Donations: Arpana Trust has FCRA Registration No.172310001

1. **USA: AID for Indian Development, 84 Stuart Ct, Los Altos, CA 94022**, email: tejinder.singh.1537@comcast.net

2. **Canada: Arpana Canada, 7 Scarlett Dr., Brampton, Ontario L6Y359**, email: suebhanot@rogers.com

3. Donation through Direct Bank Remittance: To: State Bank of India, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi -110001; (Swift ID: **SBININBB104**);

Branch Code: **00691**; IFSC: **SBIN0000691**; Bank Account Name **Arpana Trust**; Account No. **40193018145**

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