

Annual Report 2018-2019

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1. DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Over the past while I have been thinking strongly about a couple of ideas that would help improve society as a whole. Working with the members at Sandesh has moved me to write about these ideas as I believe they are pertinent to the work we do.

Society is focused on impact with respect to numbers. We forget that success can me measured in many different ways that have nothing to do with a number. In many areas of our lives and in society, the individual can get lost and lose identity, the numbers are the impact only worth mentioning. We see it everyday in business, education and healthcare. We need to turn our focus away from numbers. Instead of asking "How much is our profit margin?", ask instead, "Are our employees happy and clients satisfied?" Instead of asking "What percentile are students achieving?", ask instead, "What skills have our students gained?" The term impact is used to express a quantitative measure... we need to change our focus away from numbers as impact and measuring success. The qualitative measure has a much greater 'impact' I think.

The other idea I have been thinking about is that of community. Today we live in what society has termed a global community. The idea of community can be viewed on many levels but the common thread is connection. We are all connected! Sandesh provides a safe space for those with different abilities to come together and create a community where each individual matters. A best friend, a team mate or a work partner - our members experience these connections at Sandesh. Our priorities are numerous but creating a beautiful community where members feel included allow those priorities to be recognized. Creating a experience of 'living in community' requires work each day. It takes trust, accountability, responsibility, love and respect. Allowing our members to work toward finding their own place in the Sandesh community realizes their individuality within the community.

Thanking each one of you who has given us time and energy. Your support has made this year a good one for Sandesh. We experienced both learning and unlearning during this time. Looking forward for a beautiful journey together with Sandesh...



2. VISION, MISSION & VALUES

Vision

An inclusive environment that leads to a dignified life for every individual with intellectual and developmental disability.

Mission

Create an inclusive environment that empowers all individual with intellectual and developmental disabilities by enhancing their abilities through various therapeutic activities, care and equal opportunities for a dignified life.

Our Values

- Safety for all.
- Inclusiveness and mutual respect.
- Integrity.
- Welcome.
- Non-judgmental.
- Inter-religious community.

3. ABOUT SANDESH

Sandesh is a community for members with Intellectual and developmental disabilities. It's a day care facility which aims at bringing happiness into the lives of all, especially the most vulnerable ones of our society. Sandesh is an inter-religious community. It is a way of life where religion is not the factor that divides us. Here the HQ is measured rather than the IQ.

Sandesh became registered as a Charitable Trust on 30th May 2008. We are registered under the Disability Act 1995. We have 80G, 12 A (income tax exemption) and the FCRA certificate.

Sandesh is a project supported by friends and well-wishers. It's great to have friends who feel, Sandesh is their project and thus take responsibility by spending their time, providing provision, helping in the vocational unit and celebrating their special days with us in the community. *The resourceful people and professionals give their supports in various section and skills with community.*

Sandesh supports individuals by imparting the feeling of belonging and self-dignity which empowers them to grow to the fullest potential. Most of our members are coming from a lower socio-economic background and have challenging behaviour. We consciously made a decision that Sandesh will support the care, therapies and training of the members from such backgrounds. Nutritious food is provided for all. The program at begins at 9 am and continues until 5 pm.

Sandesh members are diagnosed with different mental disabilities such as:

- Mental Retardation (Mild, Moderate, Severe and Profound)
- Down's Syndrome
- Cerebral Palsy
- Autism

Sandesh has reached to 200 families. This has been an incredible journey for us and we would not have achieved it without your support.

Current Overview

Unit	Member Number	Staff Number	
Total members with disabilities	77		
Total staff members		24	
Early intervention/outreach	22	9	
Day Care for members with severe and profound disabilties	16		
Early Education	10		
Pre-vocational Unit	7	2	
Vocational Unit	22	5	
Driver		1	
Cook		1	
Housekeeping		2	
Administration		4	
*Some specific support areas like	counselling and administration ha	ave part-time staff.	



4. 2018-2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Sandesh New Bus - We are happy to let you know we were successful in getting a large bus for Sandesh. Gratitude to all of the friends who supported us. Now all our members can come and go back home together in a safe vehicle. This addition has supported us to extend our work timing also.

Partnership with Dhwani Foundation - It's been one year now since we started working together with Dhwani Foundation. We have learned a lot and we are happy to report that Sandesh has put in place all of the policies required for NGO status. We have upgraded ourselves in every way possible. This will surely support us on providing a better place for all members and staff at Sandesh.

TCS 10K marathon - Sandesh participated for the second time in the TCS10K and and this time almost the whole community participated. We were so happy to be with thousands of other people running/walking together. It was a big awareness program for us. Thanking all the friends who supported us to be a part of this big event. A very special thanks to Team SAGlobal and BlueJeans Network for running in the name of Sandesh.

Parents Meeting - The annual parent's meeting went well. All parents are happy but some are concerned about the future of their child. Other concerns include behavioural changes in their children that continue to make life tough. It was good to give them their child's report and an outline of future goals. The parents also decided that they will come together to create a Parent's Association. The focus will be a support system for the parents so they can work together as a team.





Speech Therapy - Sandesh is partnered with the Dr. Chandrashekar Speech and Hearing Institute and we now have regular speech therapy in Sandesh. This has been a very important addition to our activities as it is very beneficial, especially for our little ones.

First Aid Training for all Staff - This was important training for all staff in Sandesh. It was organized by Dr. Subramanian and Dr. Deepa from Seventh Day Adventist Hospital. Everyone benefited from this training and it also supported us to understand our members better. Thanks to both doctors in giving their time and energy for Sandesh.

Medical Camp - In August a medical camp was organized in Sandesh by the Seventh Day Adventist Hospital. A complete checkup for all our members was done which was very beneficial.

Acupressure training/workshop - Georgina P, an expert in Acupressure Therapy in Bangalore, came to do a day workshop and training in acupressure for parents and staff at Sandesh. This was done, particular, for the children who have severe and profound disability and those with epilepsy. It was a beautiful day. Parents were very happy and looking for more such training.

Early Intervention - Two staff from Sandesh were trained on early intervention (M/s Bibiana and M/s Shaheena). Due to this great training Sandesh is now able to have a well run program which focuses on children in the age group 0-8 years. Early detection of disability will minimize the effect on the child. It also focuses on training the mother as well as providing support to her and the family. This helps to provide acceptance of the child who requires different care compared to their other children. We are planning to focus more on this program in the future.

CCTV - Sandesh is fully under CCTV surveillance. This has supported us to upgrade our safety measures.

Workshop on Sanitary Hygiene - RutuChakra NGO organized a day for hygiene training. All female members of Sandesh attended this workshop and were benefitted by it. It was good to see that everyone took this time very seriously. Parents were also asked to join for this day. Thanks to Sanjana Dixit and friends who organized this day for Sandesh.

Visit of Bertrand Figarol - A good friend of Sandesh, Bertrand Figarol from France, visited us in October for a couple of days. It was so nice to share our life with him. He has been a good support for all of us. We were lucky to have some time from him as he is very busy person. He has helped us in getting SFA (Sandesh Friends Association) in France. Thank you to Bertrand for all his blessings and for journeying with us for all these years.

Picnic Day - Thanks to Blue Jean Network for giving us yet another beautiful day. All of us had a day outing in Club Cabana. It was so nice and relaxing after the hard work we all did during Diwali time. Thank you to friends from Blue Jeans for all the love you continue to show us and it makes us feel loved and special.

Splash Painting Day - Our members and staff were happy to join other special schools and communities for a colourful day organized by Concern India. Much fun was had by everyone.

Heartfulness Meditation - Every Saturday the staff team comes together to have a time of meditation together. This is organized by volunteers from Heartfulness Meditation team. This is a blissful time, supporting the team to relax and get themselves recharged.







Sandesh Garden Project - With the initial support of The Adhyapana Trust, we started our garden project. Support from Ms. Nupur Jain and Ms.Ritu allowed us to make it bigger and better. We were able to cover a part of our terrace with a small green house and add pots and plants to make the garden green. The project is coming up well. We have learned a lot and got some good work done during the festive season. Our members are happy to learn more and get involved.

Christmas Party - This year our Christmas party and annual function was very different. The BFT. Bangalore Football Turf, organized a beautiful day for us. We were invited to have a full day filled with fun and activity. and it was also a fundraising event for Sandesh. Parents were invited to join and the parents and student of the football club were also present. It was a great day. Thank you to the management for all their hard work and thoughts for Sandesh. We will be able to have a cutting machine for our work unit. This will make our work easy and professional.











Early Education - This is a new program/unit in Sandesh which focuses on giving functional academics and life skills to the younger children with the aim to prepare them for a special school. This unit is very organized and the members are with moderate and mild IQ levels. It is an important program/unit as the children will get care and training at an early stage which could lead to positive future outcomes. Goal setting is an important part of this unit. Also, working together with the parents is crucial because the without the partnership with the parents, the child will not will not grow and achieve the goals.

Diwali Work - Every year our work unit was busy finishing all the orders for Diwali time, in particular, the corporate gifts items. Sandesh worked with both new and old friends and continued to create products for this special time of the year. It has been a big blessing for us to have work throughout the year. This festival of light is definitely giving life for us in many ways.

Volunteers and Interns - We are happy to spread our message of love and equality. This message spreads through the help of volunteers and interns who come regularly to Sandesh. This year we had interns from Valley School, who filled our life with happiness and energy. We had young MBA students from XIME Bangalore who were very helpful and enjoyed spending time in Sandesh. We had volunteers from Sapient, Harman, Cisco, Huron, and Anmol. Each time they come we make new friends. Our overseas volunteer, Lina Popp from Germany, left after spending 6 months in Sandesh. Her time was so good for us and for her. We miss her. Hope she will be able to come and spend more time with us in the future





5. STRATEGIC PLAN

The strategic plan for Sandesh is prepared for the next three years. Focus areas have been made after much discussion. Our growth will be have a definite path which will create more efficiency. Our supporters will know what is happening in Sandesh with the direction of our future and reports/evaluations will be available.

Future plans:

- Focus on our strategic plan and build the quality of activities in the community.
- Provide all staff with a minimum wage as per the legal requirement from the government of India. This important step will allow for greater responsibility.
- Increase partnerships for Sandesh with companies and larger NGOs.
- Increase focus/time for fundraising and awareness program.
- Provide regular reports/evaluation to donors.
- Organize regular training programs for efficient/effective staff training.
- Aim for Sandesh owned premises by 2022.
- Investments in machinery to allow the work unit to be more efficient.
- Committed and supportive Board members to increase growth at Sandesh.
- Work closely with the Government.

6. SUCCESS STORY

In Sandesh we can share many stories as steps forward life's journey. One such journey is the story of Rushil.

At six years old Rushil was a shy, very anxious boy who was unable to speack, walk or eat on his own. He spent all his time crying and was not wanting or willing to do anything when he joined Sandesh. He took time to trust the team. Regular physio and speech therapy sessions provided him the support to begin to improved and he showed changes in his abilities. Rushil's training in functional life skills gave him much confidence. Within two years, he learned to eat by himself, became toilet trained, started speaking, started walking and even running. With all these added abilities, Rushil finally got admission in a special school when he was eight years old.

In Sandesh the environment provided to Rushil did wonders for him. He was valued as a child with his own abilities, encouraged to grow in every level and the team work of the staff supported him greatly. Rushil was loved dearly in Sandesh. He still continues to be our friend and comes to visit us whenever he has a holiday.

We hope that he grows to his full potential and explores different opportunities that will come his way in future. Thank you for journeying with us at Sandesh Rushil and we wish you all the best in your future journey.



"The greatness of a man/woman lies in the heart and not in the head". - M. Gandhi

7. OUR DONORS & PARTNERS

Individual donors:

Abhinav	Chirag's Mom	Jo Sastry	
Ajay Ba	Chitra Ramesh	Jose Florance	
Amiyatosh	Deepa A	Julian Sapna	
Anand Ramachandran	Deepak	Jyoti Nayyar	
Angel Vianney	Deepak Kumar C	Kevin	
Anil Kantilal Somaiya	Deepthi Diresh Pai	Kiran	
Anshu Tripathi	Denta Care	Malathi S Kumar	
Anthony	Dharmalingam	Manish Jain	
Apoorva Singh	Dhilish Joji	Manju	
Ashish Somani	Dinesh Kumar & Kumkum Jain	Manjunatha PC/Arathi	
Ashok	Dinesh Kumar c/o Vanishree	Maria Deekshitha	
Atul Jo	Emmanuel	Meera Reddy	
Bharath Raj	Fr. Vincent Moolan	Mohammed	
Bibiana Gali William	G Selvam (Sam)	Mohit Das	
Bina Anil Somaiya	Ganesh Chodisetti	Mount Carmel College Exhibition	
Boban D John	George Moolan	Mrs. SA	
Brother Mani	Georgina Palathingal	Namita Shahi	
Byju's Exhibition	Gopika Karumbiah	NextGen	
Chetana Ashish Bhuta	Hannah	Nitin Gupta	
Chetana Bhutada	Jayanagar Jaguars	Nupur Singh	

Individual donors continued:

Pastor George	Sandhya Big	Srikanth Narayanaswamy
Prachi Mehra	Santosh T	Suma Rao
Prafull Oorja	Saravanan	Suma Vani R
Prasad	Sashank Sharma R	Surabh Sharma
Prashant Dighe	Sasikala	Surita and Rajeev Lochan
Prashant K Goyal	Sastha KK	Swati Saxena
Praveen Bajaj	Saumya Kaushik	Sweta Sharma
Priya Muthusamy	Saurabh Sharma	Swetha Appaiah
Puneet Kaushik	Shaliny Vasudevan	Thomas
Pushpanjali Trust Delhi	Shashank Jain	Tina Gupta
PV Foundation	Sheetal Sandeep	Venkatesh c/o Heugah
Ramya	Shivashankari	Vincent Moolan
Rivicha	Sindhu Mukund Gadgil	Visvesw
Ruchita Pathak	SK Jain	Vivek Chandra
Samir Malik	Sojan Z	
Sandeep Singhal	Sridevi Vineet	

Company donors:

Anmol Share Broking Pvt Ltd	Grasshopper	Kiran Agarwai c/o Tender Stroke
Concern India Foundation	Huron Consulting Group	Lodestar Education Services Pvt Ltd
Dayananda Poojari Gangulli	Huron Eurasia India Private Limited	Make My Garden
E & Y Exhibition	IBM India Pvt Ltd	Safe Lanes Consultants Pte Ltd
Fervent Communication Pvt Ltd	Inmobi	Sapient
Ercon C	Insta Gana Live	

Partners:

Parents
Dhwani Foundation
Ombrie Foundation
SFA Sandesh Friends Association
Blue Jeans Networks Pvt Ltd
Harman Inspired Charitable Trust
Heartfullness Meditation
Systems Advisors Software Services Pvt Ltd
Katholisches Pfearrant Maria Himmelfart

8. TESTIMONIALS

Heather Fitzpatrick

On my first trip to India I was introduced to the concept of Sandesh before the physicality of the project began. In November 2010 I met the first few members to join Sandesh as Jenny, Seby and Anil began their journey with this new family. Over the last 9 years, I have had the pleasure and honour to watch the organization flourish. For me, what happens here, is pure inspiration.

As a teacher in Canada, I work with many children who are at risk and face trauma every day of their lives. Compassion, love, recognizing individuality, identifying importance, building self-esteem, making positive connections and providing a safe, secure environment are important for the children I teach. These same requirements are also needed for individuals of different abilities. The environment at Sandesh cultivates such requirements.

The staff at Sandesh must be recognized. They tirelessly care for all of the members - they teach, they feed, they clean, they love. Many continue to increase their own skills through workshops and courses to provide more for the members and to help them move forward in life. On each visit to Sandesh I am welcomed with kindness and respect and it is a joy for me to re-connect with staff I met in the early days of Sandesh, and to meet those who have newly joined since my last visit.

Sandesh is about the members. It is about providing dignity to individuals who might not receive that inherent right in general society. When I visit and spend time with the members, I realize that they give me more than I can ever give back in return. They make me smile each and every day. They allow me to be me...they accept me as I am and they ask for only that in return. Is that not the way we should all be in society?

Whether it be serving food, painting designs, making paper mache products, working with the young children, riding the bus, giving 'homework' or just laughing and talking, time spent at Sandesh is time well spent. I so look forward to each visit as it a second home, a second family and a place that provides me great peace. Thank you to everyone at Sandesh for giving so much to me - my heart is full.

9. FINANCIALS

Receipts	Amount (Rs.)	Payments	Amount (Na.)
Opening Balance of:		Administrative Expenses	29.088
Cash in Hand	38,399	Audit Fees	5,153
Cash at Bank		Bank Charges Rasse Service Charges	2,583
Federal Blank A/c No. 63578	46,76,473 23,36,096	Education & Training to Staff	39,587
SIB A/c No 2285	73,24,565	Postage & Courier Expenses -Admin	1,840
Fixed Deposits	13,24,767	Printing & Stationary	17,412
Desartons & Contributions	1,60,42,165	Professional Fees	59,000
Desiron & Control	1911-1011	Travel Expenses -Admin	98,921
Interest Income	8,04,937	Vehicle Maintenance -Admin	20,039
Workshop Income	5,14,810	Salaries & Wages	11.45.776
		Salary	33,48,276 4,51,669
		PF Paid	4,000
		Boot Foresters	9,11,539
Staff Advance Repaid	68,000	Rest Expenses Food Expenses	4,29,958
TOTAL D. L.S.	12,100	Day Carr Expenses	1,31,760
TDS Paid	12,700	Early Inservences Expenses	1,38,362
		Training Centre Expenses	5,24,215
		Workshop Expenses	9,47,997
		Vehicle Maintaneure	1,35,310
		Restal Deposit	1,50,000
		Staff Advance Paid	75,000
		Coultd Expenditure	
		CCTV	\$1,000
		Computer	37,800
		Electrical Equipments	17,990
		Furniture	24,000
		UPS - 101E Vehicle Bus (New)	17,85,260
		Workshop Tools	11,518
		Advance for Land	5,00,000
		TDS Deducted	12,100
		TDS Receivables	61,422
		TCS Receivable	16,751
		Rest Advance	57,613
		Closing Bulance of: Cash in Hand	28,421
		Cash at Bank	18,54
		Federal Bank Alt No. 63578	20,46,571
		SSB A/c No 2285	-
		SIB A/c No 2285	33,82,484
		Fixed Deposits	1,04,77,364
Total	2,61,61,965	Yotal	2,68,67,505

AMT (in Rs.)	AMT (in Rs.)
8,04,937	
1,00,42,165	
5,14,810	1,13,61,912
	68,000
	68,000
	1,14,29,912
	17.14.487
	17,14,487
	97,15,425
76,69,274	
3,76,675	72,92,599
24,67,168	
1,50,000	
	26,17,168
	75,000
	99,84,767
	NII
	25,83,487
	24,19,493
	43,19,625
	93,22,605.57
	3,76,675

10. THANK YOU