



Our Vision: "A just and harmonious society rooted in the gospel values of love, freedom and peace."

Our Mission: "To restore the dignity and potential of marginalized individuals and communities by facilitating access to holistic education, health, livelihood, and stable shelter."

KARUNYA

NEWS LETTER

...Leaving no one behind...



...the one who began good work among you will bring it to completion...

Vol.: 9 | Issue: 1

KALYAN DIOCESAN SOCIAL ACTION (KDSA)

PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

April, 2021

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Message from the Chairman

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am happy to see that the present issue of Karunya monthly newsletter is presenting the manifold social charitable activities undertaken by the Karunya Trust. On the one hand there are ongoing activities which are very beneficial and helpful to the needy people in the villages. These activities include, promoting self-help groups, green initiatives and efforts to solve water shortages etc. Since we mentioned on the one hand we can mention on the other

hand here before we start mentioning about Corona related activities 'Karunya' tries to extend timely help through distribution of masks and food grains to the poor and needy. 'Karunya' has taken initiatives to form 'help-desk' to guide and support those who are affected by Corona. Besides, counselling facility is arranged for those who are in need. It will surely help those who are undergoing or experiencing anxiety and fear due to Covid pandemic.

I appreciate very much all these initiatives of Karunya Trust and thank the Director Rev. Fr. Joby and Assistant Director Rev. Fr. Sinto and all the Karunya staff for the timely and valuable support you render to the needy brethren. God Bless you.



-Bishop Thomas Elavanal
Chairman Karunya Trust

“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.

-St. Mother Teresa

EDITORIAL

Over one year on, the world continues to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and grapples with the drastic changes that have been endured across the personal, relational, social, religious, employment, and educational aspects of our lives. The World Bank estimates an additional 88-115 million people have been driven into extreme poverty due to Covid 19 pandemic. This pandemic has affected each one of us in different ways. Loss of the dear ones, loss of health, loss of job and other income source and much more to list out. Till today we are not sure about the complete eradication of this deadly virus; still we ask hopelessly when will this suffering end and We are able to return to the pre pandemic

life without the fear of lockdown and social distance. Still we pray, believe and hope for the better tomorrow. Pope Francis said these current crises provide a helpful opportunity for the world and the need for a new Copernican revolution that can put the economy at the service of men and women, an economy that brings life not death, inclusive and not exclusive, humane and not dehumanizing, one that cares for the environment and does not despoil it. Only together we can overcome this situation by holding the hands the suffering around us. Karunya Trust social work department of diocese of Kalyan is actively involved in the humanitarian act in different ways to support the needy during the pandemic. Help desk for

emergencies, tele counselling, offline counselling, plasma and blood donation under the initiative of Kalyan Eparchy Youth (KEY), medical kits distribution, sanitary kits distribution, ration kits distribution, Covid 19 and Covid vaccine awareness programs and so on. I sincerely thank all the donors, volunteers, parish priests, staff and all the well-wishers for taking up the call and lent a helping hand during these challenging times. Let us together continue the good work.



-Fr. Joby Kurian
Executive Director,
Karunya Trust

Heartfelt condolences and prayers

from Karunya Trust, Diocese of Kalyan



Lion Dr. Ashok Mehta
Board of Director - Karunya Trust

18TH MARCH 2021

Lion Dr. Ashok Mehta was one of the Dynamic and Visionary leaders of Karunya Trust. He guided Karunya Trust in its Various Social Projects by serving as a Board of directors since 2012. For nine long years, he was determined to work towards the goals of Karunya Trust by upholding the core values. Karunya Trust will miss his Charisma...

Dr. Ashok Mehta was the Sheriff of Mumbai in the year 2001. He has been actively associated with several Medical, Educational, Social welfare, and Cultural institutions in various capacities. His death is a great loss to us and the entire Social fraternity who work for the upliftment of marginalized communities.

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MAKING AN

IMPACT

...Leaving no one behind...

Life is a journey. A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just. Human rights are not only violated by terrorism, repression or assassination, but also by unfair economic structures that creates huge inequalities. Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world.

-Pope Francis
Head of the Catholic Church



Magic of Lamit Ark



Kunde tribal hamlet consists of 68 families of 282 people whose main occupation is farming. They were using chemical pesticides on crops but as

other beneficial pollinators also got affected, it led to decrease in yield. Our KT team discussed the advantages of organic farming and

described the benefits of lamit ark. On 7th January 2021, our team trained seven women farmers on how to prepare it systematically. The solution was then diluted in 1:3 ratio in water and sprayed on infected areas. Spraying twice a week gave good results. The leaf hopper infestation got cleared within 20 days and plants became healthy. It has resulted in an increase of 5-6 kg yield per plot. One of the beneficiary women said, "It is budget friendly, easy to make and effective."



Conservation of Culture



The people of Poi, a small hamlet, have adopted the new-age common culture, have slowly giving up on their traditional ways. However, they did not have the necessary documents as caste certificate and hence were unable to avail benefits of government schemes and students could not get scholarships. Our team discussed this with the sub-division officer who suggested issuing caste certificate on the basis of their traditional lifestyle. The locals agreed and also decided

to preserve the Adivasi culture and create their own identity by conserving their traditional language,

culture, dressing, rituals etc. They also plan to make a small museum of their traditional farming and hunting equipments.



Green Initiative at Forest Land



KT has been working in collaboration with Forest department for the past four years. Every year our team organizes a plantation drive in July. Till now KT has planted 500 saplings on the land of conserved forest. On 13th March 2021, 18



Youth volunteers of Sacred heart Church, Ambarnath along with four of our staff members came forward for weeding

and mulching of area surrounded by plants. Now the plants are getting water more effectively and growing healthy.

Women get Water to Village



awareness programs, the women of the village got together and presented their problem to Gramsabha. After four years of struggle, on 4th December 2020 the officials installed the pipeline for water tank. Now they get water on regular basis.

Water scarcity was the main issue in Kelni a small village, where women had to buy and carry water in pots (6-8 liters) from the owner of a nearby well. It was a constant struggle to get the basic necessities of life for these people. In 2017, after being guided by our team in one of the



...Leaving no one behind...

Winners are not those who never fail but those who never quit.
A. P. J. Abdul Kalam



Road for Ferrying Water



A tribal hamlet, Dahivali, consists of 53 families from Katkari and Thakur community. People collectively solve their issues through common village meetings. On 12th November 2019, the people discussed a major

issue for which they needed to find a solution. Every day their women-folk used to walk through uneven bad roads barefooted to fetch water from the nearby stream. Carrying water-filled vessels on that path was a very challenging task. Our team guided the villagers to present the matter in Gramsabha. Finally on 22nd February 2020, the road was completed in a day and the people got some relief.





AWARENESS

PROGRAMMES

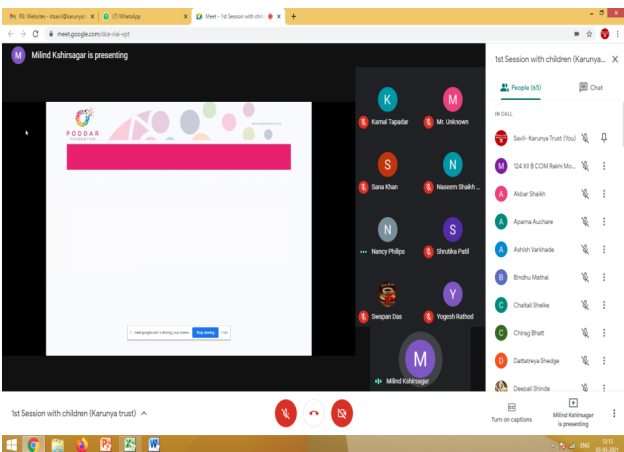
Dialogue with Nature



A one-day training program on Key Strategic Pillars - An Approach to Sustainability, was organized by Caritas India, on 20th January 2021 at our KT Rural project office at Badlapur. On 21st January 2021 Mr. Melvin, Assistant Manager – SP from Caritas India visited tribal hamlets in Kalyan Block. i.e., Poi, Kelni, Kunde and Belkarpada. He emphasized the need to connect our work with a sustainable approach. One of the parameters was 'Dialogue with Nature'. The green cover of planet earth is reducing day by day, and it is our responsibility to plant more trees for a better future. KT received some fruit saplings/seeds (cashew, guava, jamun, amla and custard apple) from the Forest Department. Mr. Melvin along with the villagers planted the saplings with a promise by them to take care of the plants.



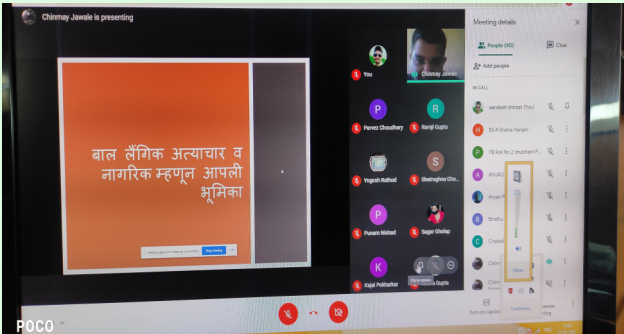
Seminar on Mental Health



A seminars was conducted for children on Mental Health. There were two sessions on 3rd and 11th March. Around 146 children actively

participated in both the sessions. Information on how to handle stress and get rid of the negative emotions and thoughts was shared. The coordinator Mr. Milind explained the disadvantages of negative thinking and benefits of meditation. He also discussed child abuse and the meaning of good touch and bad touch emphasizing on the safety of the children.

POCSO Act



On 23rd January 2021, Savli Project organized online session for children on the 'Protection of Children from Sexual Offences' (POCSO) Act. Adv. Chinmay Jawle, gave information on the Act and the Constitutional Rights of the children. He said that unlike the common perception, boys and girls are equally vulnerable to sexual

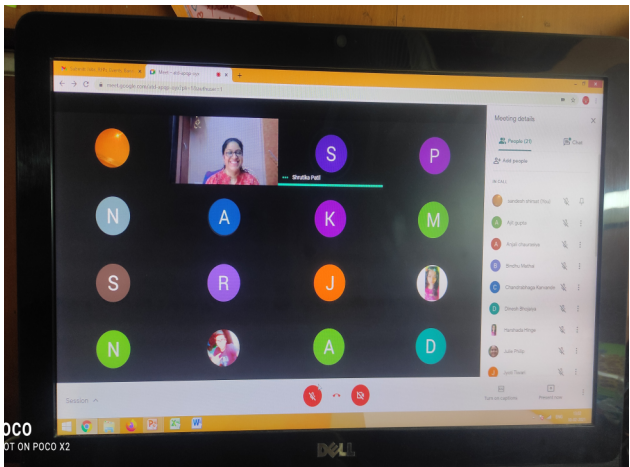
offences and one can take legal action through the NGO, police, and social workers. He also explained fraud messages, pornography and shared Child Help Line number and email contacts of organizations that can help in protecting child rights. Children were informed about the punishments and fine if they fall into such crimes. Around 46 children participated in this session along with all the staff.

...Leaving no one behind...

It is not your job to save everyone. Some people are not even ready to be helped. Focus on being of service to those who are, and be wise and humble enough to know when the best service you can offer is to guide them toward help in another direction.

- Anna Taylor

Motivational Session for Students



On the 10th of February we conducted motivational session for the students of 10th and 12th class. The object of this session was ‘Self

preparation with different techniques for the Board Exam’. The students were taught how to memorize the difficult points and how to sharpen the brain so that one can study for hours without much distraction. The session helped the students to strengthen their Concentration/ Study Techniques/ Focus and energized them to study well. Around 30 students of Savli Project participated in this session.

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS:

AGENCIES/ CORPORATES:- KNH, DEUTSCHE BANK, CARITAS INDIA, CONCERN INDIA FOUNDATION, FUTURE CHILDREN, RESHIMA, MADATA SURU, UNITED WAY OF MUMBAI, GLOBAL LOGISTICS SOLUTIONS (INDIA) PVT. LTD. , FUGRO SURVEY (INDIA) PVT. LTD, ADAMS KALYAN FOUNDATION, KARL GENG, BACHSTR, CASHFREE PAYMENTS INDIA LTD., INFANT JESUS FOUNDATION, ST.MICHEAL MEDICAL TRUST, ANNAIR DRYCHILL TECH(I)PVT.LTD, ST.ALPOHONSA CHURCH-MANKURUD, AMALALAYAM TRUST-DOMBIVILI, ORTHO CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS INDIA PVT. LTD.-ANDHERI, DELOITTE GLOBAL FINANCIAL ADVISORY IND. P. LTD-MUMBAI,ST.GEORGE CHURCH-PANVEL.

INDIVIDUALS:- JOSEY MATHEW-THANE, ROSEMARY JOHNSON KOONAMA AVE-DAHISAR, THERESA JOSEPH-MUMBAI ,TOM K. THOMAS-KANJURNMARG, SIJO OUSEPH ELUVATHINGAL-THANE, JOSE SEBASTIAN-POWAI, ARUN JOHNSON KOONAMA AVE-DAHISAR , CHACKO STEPHEN THOMAS, BIJU JOSEPH VARGHESE-ANDHERI EAST, RAPHAEL JOSEPH THEKEKARA-VIKHROLI, JOHNSON KOCHAPPAN THANIKAL,THRESSIA JACOB CHERUVATHUR, ROSHAN JOY INCHODY-BHANDUP, ROSELIN C THOMSON, VARGHESE GEORGE ALUKKARAN-KALYAN(E) , STENCY PUTHUR, ANTONY K.A-POWAI, PRAVIN J LOBO-VIKROLI, HARNISCH JOSEPH PERIEIRA, DIMPLE LIJOY, SAMEER FRANCIS, ROSY JITIN-PUNE, JITESH DOMINIC-SANPADA, DENNIS SUNNY KAITHEMATOM-PUNE, JOHN JACOB-SANTACRUZ, JEASON JOSEPH K-NAVI MUMBAI,NEEMA SUNNY, REETA VALANTINE ABRAHAM-THAKURLI, THOMAS PANAMTHANATH -THANE, ANTO P T-KANJURNMARG, RAPHEL JOSEPH THEKKEKARA-VIKROLI(W), DYNA B JOSEPH-ANDHERI(E) , SEEMA J KALLARAKKAL, , SANJEEV PHILIP- VASAI, JOSEPH THAZHATH, K.J. CHERIYAN, MOLLY JACOB ROY- KERALA, VEERAMBULLY LONAPPANPORINCHU-VASHI, JOYCE JESTIN-CHEMBUR, DAVID JOHN-KHARGHAR, JASMIN MARY JOHN-DOMBIVILI, GEORGE JOSE, MANUEL ROY XAVIER-GOA, GEORGE VYSAMPARBIL -KALYAN(E), THOMAS PAUL-COLABA, SEBASTIAN LOUIS PALLATH-SANPADA, ASHOKRAJ ISRAEL-DOMBIVILI,SINCY JOHN-PUNE, P. SONY RAPPAI-VIRAR, JOSY DHARAMSINGH THAKUR,N.A.GEORGE-MANPADA, PRIYA GONSALVES-SANTACRUZ

INITIATIVES During PANDEMIC

COVID-19 safty net to the needy...



Karunya Trust Donated 400 ration kits of Rs.1000 each to Mumbai District Aids Control Society (MDACS). These kits will be distributed to

400 HIV/AIDS infected families who have lost jobs and are affected by COVID-19. On behalf of MDACS, Additional Director Ms. Shrikala

Acharya received ration kits which would be distributed to the needy people through various BMC hospitals in Mumbai.

Online Classes



During this pandemic all work has become online and all schools are taking online classes. We are also doing the same. This year there were 18 students for 10th std (NIOS) through Unique school and 12 other students. When Gyansaathi started

classes it was challenging for children and teachers to adapt to the new method of learning as many did not have mobile phones plus the place had network issues. However, we got many volunteers to teach and complete the syllabus. We took an online exam through

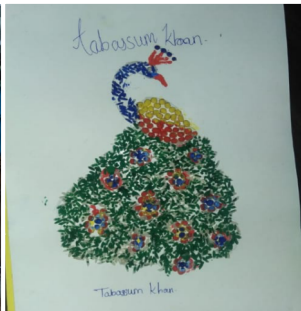
Google form. This year a study counsellor helped the children to develop interest towards study. We also conducted awareness sessions, study plan sessions, career guidance sessions, life skills for children online.

Mask Making Initiative

Report from the Urban project

Gyansaathi teachers had ‘Art and Craft’ sessions with students using available household resources. Children drew

pictures and decorated them with grains, seeds, leaves, pebbles and other local materials.



...Leaving no one behind...

Thank you very much for giving the opportunity to visit Karunya Trust project villages in KSP IDEAS. It was really a good experience and learning with Karunya Trust. My sincere appreciation to Karunya Trust for doing wonderful work in Jeevan- EA programme. The committed Director and hardworking staff has brought a lot of changes at community level. I congratulate the Karunya Trust for their commitment and reaching to unreached people.

Mr. Melvin Pangya,
Assistant Manager – SP, Caritas India.

Food Grain Distribution



Most of the underprivileged people especially the daily wagers have been seriously affected due to the pandemic lock-down. People are surviving with minimum food and some of them some have even gone without food for days. Gyansaathi organized food grain distribution for 350 families. Teachers and parents strictly followed government's safety norms during distribution.

Career Guidance for 10th Students



Gyansaathi arranged the Career guidance session for 10th standard children at Prafulla Psychological Center. Career guidance is the programme where students get to know about their ability through assessment. The trainer took the assessment of children on different subjects like maths, science, languages, etc. and conducted their IQ test. These sessions conducted by Prafulla with children and their parents help them to choose a career.

Mask Making Initiative



Gyansaathi took an initiative to provide a source of earning to the underprivileged as many lost their jobs and were therefore unemployed.

During the pandemic when no one was coming out of the house, an order to make masks for Police and other government officials was given to the beneficiaries. Gyansaathi Vocational beneficiaries made the masks and completed the orders on time. Total 22,628 masks were prepared and distributed to government officials and needy people.



TESTIMONIES

I am Reshma working as an Animator in Gyansaathi for the last 2 years. There are a lot of activities and life skill sessions for children and the community in Gyansaathi. Here I got my first experience of teaching children. Staff give attention equally to their study, good health and nutrition. After coming here, I have built a good relationship with the children and the community

From
Gyansaathi

My name is Chaitali working with Gyansaathi for the last 2 years. Before joining there was a lot of fear whether I will be able to adjust here or not? But the staff here is very supportive. I like that all work is pre-planned. Children who are unable to pursue their studies further, join vocational courses and

learn various skills. The teachers get proper training for education, teaching methodology and planning. Gyansaathi gave me an opportunity to do something for the children and community and I promise to do my work diligently.

From
Gyansaathi

...Leaving no one behind...

Karunya trust inspired me to reach to the needy people. I have been in touch with the Karunya Trust since the last 5 years. In this journey Sister Shaila, Mr. Nishikant and Sister Estelle helped me to support small children with my small contribution which has given me joy and peace. I am grateful to Karunya Trust for inspiration and support. Thanks to the entire Karunya team.

Mrs. Megha F. Abreo
-from Kalyan.

Providing Supplementary Nutrition



In Savrewadi a child of 8 months named Darshan lost his mother due to sickness. His father works as a daily wager. Darshan was undernourished as his father was unable to provide child supplementary nutrition.

He had to look after three kids. Bharti, an active member of SHG, discussed this issue with our staff. We gave support to Darshan's family and provided supplementary nutrition on a regular basis. Our staff told them how to prepare the

formula of supplementary nutrition and Bharti collects it and gives to Darshan regularly. Now she has started giving him semi solid food too. Darshan's health has improved now.

Self-help is the Best Help



Sangita, a resident of Warewadi, regularly saved regularly Rs. 100 in her SHG account. Our staff motivated her to start a business. So she took a loan of Rs. 10,000/- from the SHG and Rs. 5,000/-

from KT and has begun selling vegetables. Sangita buys vegetables from local farmers and sometimes from the local market. She is able to earn around Rs. 800/- per day by selling it to the nearby

villages. She can now support her family and earn good profit. She has become a role model for other members who wish to become active business women.

Putting the Learning to Use



Gulab, a member and president of Pimploli wadi SHG, is very hard working and positive thinking person. During the pandemic her family faced financial crisis because her husband did not have any job. To fight against the situation she made use of the training given by Project CF. The training was on mix cropping. She did not have any money but had her own land. Gulab and her husband started cultivation of mixed cropping in her farm, from which she earned profit of Rs. 15,000/-. She thanks members of KT for motivating and supporting her with such useful training.

Impact of CF networking



Chon is a tribal hamlet. The ZP school of Chon has 65 students in the school. The school has a total of 4 classrooms. The tribal children study here. However, the students were deprived of basic facilities due to the negligence of the authorities. Earlier the school had two units which were demolished later.

With the collaboration of Rotary club, 5 new toilet units: 2 for girls, 2 for boys and 1 for teaching staff were constructed. They also provided water tank with a capacity of 1000 liters. This was possible because of regular follow up of school principal, good networking and rapport.

Way to a Bright Future



Sugandha is the president of Jivdani SHG. Her family of five includes her husband and three daughters. During the pandemic both husband and wife lost their jobs as they were daily wagers and had no source of income, which led her family into starvation. But Sugandha did not lose hope. In the SHG she was trained in business plan. So she started a small business to support her family. KT helped Sugandha to buy a handcart. Now every

morning she buys vegetables in bulk and sells door-to-door. In the evening she sells snacks. She earns around Rs.500/- per day. Sugandha says, 'this job is better than working as a labourer'. Her husband supports her in her work. She is grateful to KT for the economic support and promises to repay the entire amount very soon. Sugandha has motivated other SHG members to start a small business like her and become self-dependent.



...Leaving no one behind...

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.

- Edward Everett Hale



TRAININGS

PROGRAMMES

Child Rights Situational Analysis training



Child Rights Situational Analysis training was conducted for the staff. The aim of the training was to understand the facts and situation of Child Rights in our

community during the pandemic. Our staff learnt different methods to find out the children's situation and violation of child rights. After getting this training we conducted

similar sessions with community women and ex-students and also found the facts and situation about child rights in their community.

CF Forum



The Partners from eight projects were present for the CF Forum organized by KNH at Kolkata on 29th January 2021. The objective was training of trainers (TOT). The participants also shared their experiences on how

they overcame challenges and exchanged ideas on activities conducted during the pandemic, participants were divided into groups to present certain topics. Our KT team's presentation on business plan, CLA

formation, communication and conflict management was well received. A field visit was also arranged to see different types of business and check dams.

CELEBRATIONS



In Poi



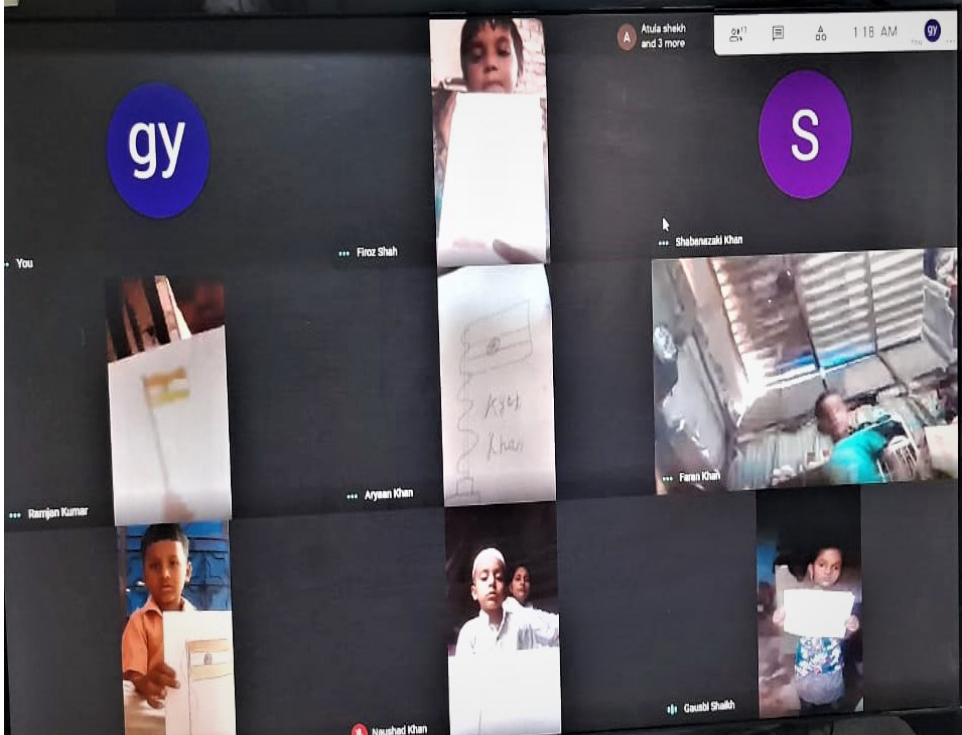
Women's Day: In Poi people did not participate in any activity or program and there was minimal involvement in any meetings to solve the issue. After an awareness

program by our team, the people started to come together. On 8th March 2021 under the guidance of Karunya, Womens Day event was celebrated. The people performed their

traditional 'tali-dance'. Sarpanch madam motivated the villagers to arrange more such programs.

From Bharari

Republic Day



Every year Gyansaathi celebrates Republic day with students and teachers. But this year we celebrated differently. We

organized online drawing competitions and essay writing competitions. Students gave speeches on freedom fighters. The

teachers distributed gifts to the winners.

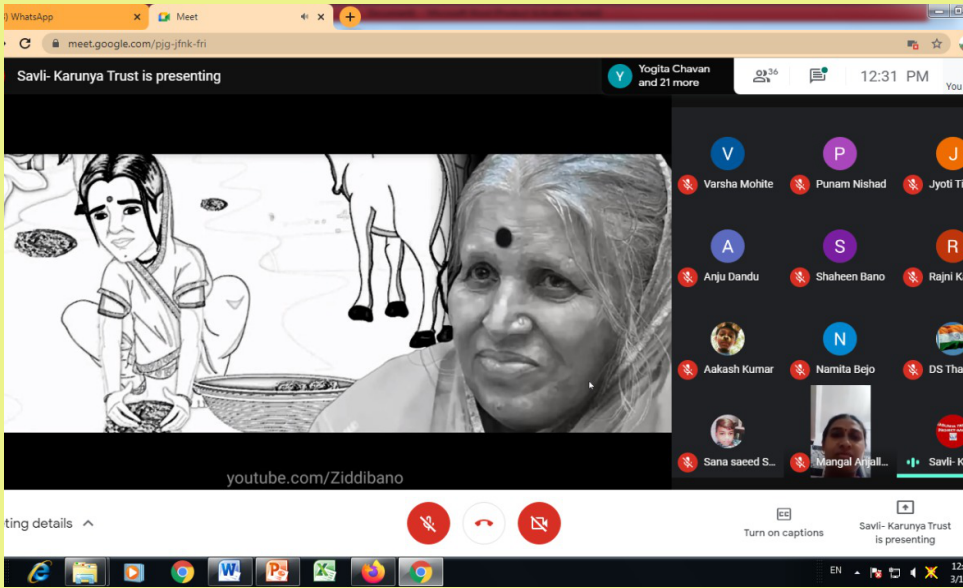
From gyansaathi

...Leaving no one behind...

I always wondered why somebody doesn't do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody.

- Lily Tomlin

Women's Day



The project organized women's day celebration on 13th March 2021 in which around 30 women participated. They displayed a life presentation on Sindhu Tai and other great women in history, who inspired the women. Few women shared their life stories too. The event concluded with a motivational song.

From Savli

Republic Day



The Project celebrated Republic Day online with children on 25th January 2021. The project had taken responsibility of Children Parliament, so the children read out from the constitution of India, sang and danced on patriotic songs, and also conducted online games and quiz competition. 50 students and 5 members of the staff took part in this celebration. All the students participated by performing at least in one item.

From Savli



Diocese of Kalyan

...Leaving no one behind...

COVID-19 HELP DESK



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☎ 9702718991

☎ 9004729259

☎ 7021835412

Pune

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STAY HOME SAFE

“MITWAA” Kishor Mela



MDACS conducted 'Mitwaa' Kishor Mela on 1st December 2020 to bring smiles to the faces of most vulnerable children. MDACS gave the opportunity to Project

Savli to organize various fun activities and competitions for children. Around 100 children who came for the event were given cloth masks and cloth bags prepared by

Self Help Group women of KT. Children were also introduced to a tree activity to sensitize them towards environmental issues.



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