



Dargah Hazrat Inayat Khan Hope Project Newsletter

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Collaborative Efforts lead to Significant Improvement in People's Lives

We take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to our readers and donors for their wholehearted contributions and invaluable support. Every day we help meet the needs of the Hope Projects' beneficiaries, all those struggling with the increase. Together we have been able to return to our routine programme implementation with valuable additions to overcome consequences of the Covid-19 lockdowns.

In our children's educational sector we have welcomed new toddlers to the creche, been in close contact with the parents to ensure enrolment in our Pre-Primary classes, and have successfully welcomed (back) students in Hope's Non-Formal-School, many of which would otherwise not be receiving an education. We are honoured by the trust of our students' parents and continue to strive for the highest of standards in teaching, as well as providing nourishing lunches and healthcare.

It is encouraging to note that more young adults of the community are aspiring for higher education. Another group achieved employment in finance, nursing and the corporate sector after completing our computer course.

All these successes have increased the interest of our community, especially in our vocational skills programmes. Long-term employment and financial stability of trained beneficiaries inspire others to try for themselves. We are thrilled that over 250 women have enrolled in classes in the past year. After completing Cutting & Tailoring and Beauty Culture many of these trainees earn enough money to start their own businesses.

Our Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) and its many health camps continue to reach thousands of people. Collaborations with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Mahila Panchayat, BMI and CAN Support have resulted in so many people finally receiving access to healthcare. The MMU alone has doubled its reached communities from four to eight!

One of the major highlights of the year is to receive an award on behalf of Hope Project Charitable Trust for its significant contribution to make India a tuberculosis free country. HPCT further committed to join Ni-kshay Mitra Scheme launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by adopting 15 TB patients and providing them free medicines, eggs, milk and daily ration so that they recover fast.

We've also started organising workshops. The team of Mahila Panchayat coordinated and introduced the team of 'Breakthrough' with us. A program called "Stand Up Against Street Harassment" was conducted at our Welcome Vocational Centre by 'Breakthrough' in which a free of cost training session for one hour was conducted. Around 26 girls attended. The program was designed to inspire people to effectively respond when they witness or experience street harassment.



Photo: "Stand up..."

Believing that exchange of thoughts and practices enriches one's knowledge, a staff exchange program was held at Seelampur (one of our vocational centres) for the Beauty Culture trainees and staff of all the four centres. 43 trainees attended the program along with instructors from the four centres where Galvanic Facial and Deluxe Pedicure were demonstrated so that learning of advanced skills of beauty culture could enhance the program.

Sewing a New Life

20-year-old Barkha had dreamed of studying fashion design since she was a little girl. While attending formal school during the day, she never missed a Cutting & Tailoring class at Hope's Vocational Centre. She was well on her way to making her dream a reality when the pandemic put an abrupt stop to life as she knew it. Her father lost his job and the family struggled to make ends meet. Despite all, Barkha successfully completed her exams and was admitted to Delhi's Industrial Training Institute (ITI). Although desiring to help Barkha realize her dreams, her family knew that there was no way they could afford her study fees, her uniform, nor the required sewing machine. She could not hide her tears from her vocational coordinator the next day, and when prompted, she confessed her misery. Hope immediately sprang into action, supplying the necessary money. Barkha passed her Fashion Designing Course with distinction and is well on her way to making a name for herself with her designs. She has bought herself a modern sewing machine and is supplying for herself and sharing her success with her family.



Photo: Barkha (left)

From Begging to Earning



Photo: Naseema

A life filled with struggles and hardship, left Naseema (42) begging on the streets of Delhi, unable to care for her daughter. This is how one of our outreach workers found her, desolate and alone. Sceptic of modern medicine, it took several visits and conversations until Naseema was willing to come to Hope's Health centre where she was immediately treated for a bad case of ringworms. It took another long conversation for Naseema to accept treatment for herself; living on the streets had resulted in a skin infection that left her with many scars. It's been a year since Hope first met these two resilient people. Naseema now aspires to be a domestic help, while her daughter spends the night with a nearby family. They still have a tough road ahead of them, but for the first time in many years, Naseema has Hope for a better future.

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