



JUNE 2024

IN THIS EDITION

- Training of CHVs and ASHA Workers for leprosy identification
- Football camp with 16 Spanish volunteers from Bergner Group
- International Yoga Day Celebration at LSS
- Volunteer's Spotlight

Welcome to the June edition of our Monthly Newsletter!

This month, we have been energized by a series of events and initiatives. We conducted a training program for CHVs and ASHA Workers from the Government staff to enhance their skills in leprosy identification. Our children buzzed with excitement as we hosted a dynamic football camp led by 16 enthusiastic volunteers from the Bergner Group in Spain, fostering teamwork and cross-cultural connections.

Additionally, we celebrated International Yoga Day with NamMyohoDaan Foundation. Finally, in our Volunteer's Spotlight, we remember some of the dedicated individuals who tirelessly support our mission.

FOOTBALL CAMP WITH 16 SPANISH VOLUNTEERS FROM BERGNER GROUP

The camp was organized by the Spanish NGO Cooperación Internacional as part of the "Youth Leadership Program," with support from Lok Seva Sangam in Mumbai. Sponsored by the Bergner Group, an European kitchenware company collaborating with Cooperación Internacional, the project aimed to support various educational and sports initiatives in disadvantaged areas. The camp took place in the Govandi slum of Mumbai over a period of 10 days in early June.

The purpose of the football camp was to provide holistic development for children in the Govandi slum area. By combining English lessons with football training, the camp fostered essential life skills such as teamwork, discipline, and self-confidence.



The daily schedule was divided into two main sessions. In the morning, there was an hour of English lessons followed by an hour of football training. This routine was repeated in the afternoon. This balanced approach ensured that the children received both academic instruction and physical exercise, promoting their overall development.

In addition to football, the camp included non-sports activities such as cultural exchange sessions and team-building exercises. These activities provided opportunities for the children and volunteers to share their cultures and build strong relationships.

The success of the camp is measured through various indicators:

- Improvement in children's football skills
- English proficiency
- Progress in attendance rates
- Positive feedback from participants and their families
- Overall engagement and enthusiasm of the children



The cultural exchange between the Spanish volunteers and the local participants was enriching for both sides. The children were curious and excited to learn about Spanish culture, while the volunteers gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of the local culture in Govandi. This exchange fostered mutual respect and lifelong connections between the volunteers and the community.



TRAINING OF CHVS AND ASHA WORKERS FOR LEPROSY IDENTIFICATION



On May 10, 2024, a collaborative training and guidance program was conducted at Shivaji Nagar Hospital, focusing on empowering CHVs and ASHA Workers from three Health Posts in the ME Ward. The event was a joint initiative by Lok Seva Sangam and the ADHS (Leprosy) of Mumbai, part of NLEP, aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of frontline health workers in identifying and managing leprosy cases.

Program Highlights :

Inaugural Session

Dr. Chhaya from the ADHS Office inaugurated the program with an insightful overview of leprosy, emphasizing the importance of early detection and prompt treatment. She highlighted the current status of leprosy within the jurisdiction of the ME Ward Health Posts and discussed the latest strategies in combating the disease.

Guidance by Dr. Chhaya

Representing Lok Seva Sangam, Dr. Chhaya provided a comprehensive briefing on several crucial aspects:

- **Leprosy Status:** Shared statistics on leprosy prevalence in the Health Posts, highlighting specific areas of concern.
- **Finding Patients:** Stressed the need for early identification and diagnosis to prevent disabilities and curb the spread of leprosy.
- **Overcoming Challenges:** Addressed obstacles such as community stigma, raising awareness, and ensuring patient compliance with treatment.
- **Incentives:** Explained the financial rewards available to health workers for identifying and treating leprosy cases, motivating them to improve their efforts.

Inspection of Sub LRC

Dr. Chhaya conducted a thorough inspection of the Sub Leprosy Referral Center (LRC) at Shivaji Nagar. The visit included a review of the facilities and a discussion on how to optimize resources for better patient care.



Lok Seva Sangam and ADHS (Leprosy) extend their heartfelt thanks to Dr. Chhaya for her invaluable contribution and to all the CHVs and ASHA Workers for their active participation and dedication to improving public health.

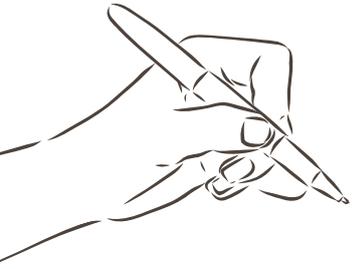
INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY CELEBRATION AT LSS

On this year's International Yoga Day, LSS proudly acknowledges and celebrates the remarkable contributions of Ms Priya Kamble and the NamMyohoDaan Foundation. Their contribution to our yoga programs has significantly impacted the physical and mental well-being of our students.

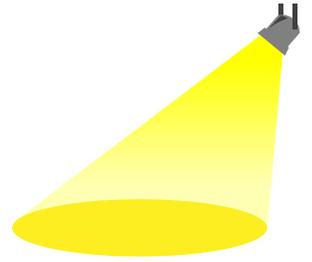
Ms Priya Kamble's expertise in yoga has not been merely about physical exercise but are a holistic approach to mind-body wellness. Over the past years, she has conducted numerous yoga classes, workshops, and individual sessions, deeply enriching the lives of our students.

The NamMyohoDaan Foundation, has been a cornerstone in supporting our yoga initiatives in providing resources, organizing events, and ensuring that our yoga programs are conducted well. Their partnership has allowed us to expand our offerings and reach more children of our community.





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



My favorite moments were all about witnessing the children's growth. It was incredibly rewarding to see them transform from hesitant participants to actively engaged students who consistently showed up for class. The football tournament that was organized became a fantastic platform for their hidden talents to truly shine. However, another part that I absolutely loved was the kids' skit. It was amazing to see them speaking English so fluently during their performance.



Name: Arhaan Bhiwandkar
Hometown: Mumbai, India
Age: 19
Volunteered: 24th May to 18th July
Occupation: Engineering Student



ARHAAN'S INTERVIEW

How did you get to know about Lok Seva Sangam?

A friend who volunteered here last year mentioned the program to me. The idea of coaching football as a volunteer was something I'd never considered before, but it piqued my interest. It seemed like a great way to give back and share my passion for sports, so I decided to sign up.

Did you encounter any difficulties at LSS?

One of the biggest challenges was catering to the diverse learning paces of the children. Some grasped concepts quickly, while others needed more time and individual attention. Additionally, there were occasional minor disagreements between the kids, but we were always able to resolve them through open communication.



What learnings do you take back home from this experience?

One of the things that I learnt from this experience is the kids' incredible dedication. Some of them travel long distances which makes you realize how much they love learning English and playing sports. They're always there, bright-eyed and eager to participate. It's clear some of these kids have a real hunger to learn, they're not satisfied learning the bare minimum. They soak up everything they can in class and always want to know more. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and it creates such a positive environment. It shows just how much they want to learn and grow, and that's truly inspiring.

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