



# *samiksha* FOUNDATION

**FOURTH YEAR REPORT 2012- 2013**

*Report of our activities and observations at the Kapur Ward,  
Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, India*

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## Purpose of this Report

### ACTIVITY DETAILS

To record the activities across the past year, to understand the patterns emerging from the course of the activities with respect to children's attitude, their happiness levels and self expression.

### FACILITY DETAILS

To record the infrastructure and material improvements provided by Samiksha to the facility and the environment, and how this change has affected in overall for the children.

### LOOKING AHEAD

To understand the learning requirements of the children better and try to address the concerns about learning and school while they are in treatment and to improve the quality of the ongoing programs.

To understand what things we as parents, teachers and doctors do to make sure the child's school needs are met when undergoing cancer treatment.

To share this information with the hospital staff and authorities for the greater benefit of the children.



## Program Details

Samiksha functions from the Kapur Pediatric Ward at Kidwai Memorial Institute for Oncology. A vacant area at the entrance to the ward is being taken up and converted to teaching cum activity for the children. The library has been set up in the basement of the ward, with adequate books for children. Our librarian and teachers are present thrice a week, (every Tuesday and Thursday and Saturday), between 10.00am and 4.30 pm. They are specialised in activities for children. The children's involvement, progress and requirements are maintained in an annual reflection by them. We help to maintain a minimum adult to child ratio (1: 12) with our staff and volunteers during all days. All volunteers are given an orientation before commencing work.

### **Special tutoring for 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th grade children:**

We get tutors for these older children on some days, so they can come up to speed with their school work and curriculum. Volunteers from international schools and corporate also help us with this.

### **Circulating Library:**

We issue books to children and caregivers on a regular basis, to read at their bedside when we are not around. This is part of our reading program.

### **YOGA Program for kids and mothers in the ward:**

This program is being conducted by our Yoga Teacher and Consultant, Swami Yogaratna Saraswathy, every Saturday between 2.30 and 3.30pm, after the schooling program.

Swamiji has developed a practical curriculum for the children of various age groups and the program is very popular with the children. As part of this program, we have Creative Visualizations and Art Therapy with the kids on these days. This is a unique curriculum developed by Dr. Carl Simonton of the USA that is followed here. Our consultants and mentors are qualified Yoga and Art Therapists.

### **I Am a Star**

All children are special. In this program, we have collected some data on what each one likes and fulfill some of their wishes to make them feel even more special. For this program, we have an arrangement with Make a Wish Foundation. We have referred children to them.

### **Birthdays at the ward:**

We conduct birthday parties for kids every month on the last Saturday.

On our Birthday parties, we have different activities for each party ranging from singing groups to Magic Shows. Various organisations or people have sponsored the costs for these events. At every such party, we distribute goody bags with fun things for all the kids in the wards. The birthday children are given special birthday gifts too, which are age appropriate.

We have now established a certain routine even for these events so the kids are involved without getting hyperactive. Our team is careful to make sure that the excitement of the parties is not overwhelming or physically exerting for the children. Yoga and breathing exercises are part of every such organised event.

### **Fruits and Vegetables:**

To ensure attendance, we have started distribution of fresh vegetables and fruit every day that we are there.



## Highlights of Activities for Year 2012 – 2013

**JUNE, 2012 :** Foundation commenced its fourth year at Kidwai memorial hospital.

**NOVEMBER, 2013 :** IMPACT Day Events by DELLOITTE group

**DECEMBER 2012 :** Roopa Belur, Rangapravesha fundraiser event.

**JANUARY, 2013 :** Stanchart Mumbai Marathon representation

**FEBRUARY, 2013**

Rotarian YV Pai and his family have instituted an annual award in the memory of Susheela V Pai to recognize a woman achiever who has made exemplary and selfless contribution to the welfare of the disadvantaged children. This year the SPM Person of the Year award was conferred upon Mrs. Sandhya Sharad.





### MARCH 15, 2013 - A DOCTOR' S BIRTHDAY

On 15th March favourite HOD of paediatric oncology had his birthday. All the children and parents contributed. They collected the money and requested the Samiksha team to organize party for him. It was a humble and solemn function. There was cake, flowers, gifts. The cake was only symbolic as the kids didn't eat it and it was distributed to all the staff and parents there. Children were overjoyed to participate with confetti and songs that they had prepared for him, and the doctors were overwhelmed! We presented him with a card written or drawn by all the 60 children in the ward. He accepted with grace and humility.



### April 27, 2013 – a special day at Samiksha

The celebration this day was the same as one done every month- a birthday party for the kids in the ward. The volunteers the same and the gifts given to the children were also similar, as these are some things that we at the Samiksha Foundation, have almost regularized. But, this time for entertainment, 16 year old Master Dilip, a child facing a life threatening illness himself, coupled with abject poverty in the family, was up on stage performing *Magic* for our children undergoing cancer treatment at the ward. This was his "WISH" that was full filled in collaboration with the "*Make a Wish Foundation*".



## Complete List of Events 2012- 2013

JUNE 2012 TO DECEMBER 2012		
JUNE 18 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration, 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Commencement Celebration	Samiksha Foundation Dell offices at IRR, Bangalore, Mr.Sriram and ShyamBala
JULY 28 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Orientation Program, Lunch for Volunteers and Team Leads at TAJ GATEWAY, Bangalore	Samiksha Foundation
AUGUST 30 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration	Samiksha Foundation And Savitha Ashok
SEPTEMBER 27 <sup>th</sup>	Drawing Competition	CIPLA
SEPTEMBER 29 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration	Samiksha Foundation
OCTOBER 2012	Day of Fun and Games	Volunteers from Cognizant headed by Rajesh Varma
OCTOBER 27 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration	Samiksha Foundation
NOVEMBER 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Impact Day Event and Birthday Celebration	Delloitte group, Bangalore led by Deepak Kumar
DECEMBER 27 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday and End of the Year Celebrations	Samiksha Foundation
JANUARY 2013 TO MAY 2013		
JANUARY 25 <sup>th</sup>	SMP Awards Function SMP person of the Year Award for Sandhya Sharad, Founder of Samiksha Foundation	Rotary Club, Koramangala
JANUARY 31 <sup>st</sup>	Birthday Celebrations and Drawing and Painting Competitions	CIPLA Oncology
FEBRUARY 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jacaranda Festival - Samiksha Participated in Fundraising Event	Brigade Millennium Association, JP Nagar
FEBRUARY 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Birthday celebration Special guests - Families from Acropolis and CA Vasudev Pai with family	Samiksha Foundation And Mr.Vijay Ladha
MARCH 15 <sup>th</sup>	Dr.Appaji's Birthday	Parents and caregivers
MARCH 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Birthday Celebration	Sponsored by Mrs.Bhavani Nanjundeswaran and Vijayalakshmi Nanjundeswaran
APRIL 27 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration with Make-A- Wish Foundation Guest Appearance and Magic Show by Master Dilip	Samiksha Foundation
MAY 18 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday Celebration and Craft Event	Sponsored by UTSAV group

## Facility Details

### PROVIDED BY SAMIKSHA FOUNDATION AT THE KAPUR WARD FOR THE CHILDREN :

- Play Area revamped - The common play area for kids outside of the building was revamped, with added swings and colorful paint. This was the only outdoor activity that the children are allowed to in the hospital.
- A Library of books: The area near the staircase is converted into a library cum study area for the children. This area is now also extended and cleared with shelves to accommodate the books and toys. About 100 new storybooks were purchased for the library and 2 additional cupboards were installed. Additional reading material is being regularly added to this library.
- Puzzles and Activity models. Along with the toys that come in as donations and gifts, many activity toys like Jigsaw puzzles and activity models such as the Scrabble, Word Builders, Tan gram sets have been added to the library.
- School kits for each child. New school kits consisting of 2 notebooks, a pencil, an eraser, sharpener, a drawing book, color pencil set, crayon set, water colour paints with a brush – all in an eco friendly bag with their names on it, were distributed to new inpatients whenever they come in. Older children of 5th grade upwards are also given a compass box. To date over 700 kits have been distributed to the inpatient children and children in the Dharamasala.
- A mobile Black board facility. 6 ceiling fans in the ward areas and common areas.
- School text books in most subjects have been provided for children from 4th to 10th grade. These are in Kannada and English medium as required.
- Text books in both CBSE and state syllabus are now available for 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> standard students.

We are grateful to our donors who have donated fans, music system, blackboard and some of the parents who donated books and stationery for the children's use.





## Observations and Looking Forward

### OUR OBSERVATIONS ON CHILDREN’S ABILITIES AND REACTIONS:

- Children are excited about this learning program. They tend to hang on to every word that is said to them and want to participate actively when not tired. Even when they have had a procedure or IT, they insist on coming in for a short while and just sitting there and observing the happenings.
- They have a very keen desire to learn and remember information that is given to them during the classes. This is evident in our story time recall sessions. Most of them try very hard to recall information accurately- if provided with the right clues, time, and if they have done their homework.
- The ability to understand Math concepts is very superior in most children.
- The willingness to learn English and communicate is also fairly high. Even the children who communicate only in vernacular languages have been very regular and are keen in communicating with us.
- Parents and staff are very enthusiastic about the Yoga program. It is endearing to see families of all denominations come in and participate in this actively. They say they even practice the exercises in the ward when we are not there.
- The kids are also very enthusiastic about the singing and music and dancing. They never shy of dancing to a tune on the mobile or radio at any time of the day.
- The children love to draw and colour or paint and can be very creative.
- The most regular children are the school going age kids between 6 and 14 years of age.
- The participation of the children is most dependent on the participation of the caregivers in some way. If the caregivers are convinced that the mission of the foundation is essential for the children, then the children come in wholeheartedly. Hence, regular awareness programs are needed.
- Over years, the hospital staff has also got involved in the programs. The nursing staff come in, and teach the children or read with them very often.
- Doctors are very encouraging about the learning program and encourage the children to attend regularly. They encourage children from 3 other wards at KMIO to come to attend the programs.
- The average monthly attendance of school going children has gone up from 26 in 2009 to 56 in 2012 at Kapur ward, which includes children from Dharamasala building, Shantidhama and Jindal ward.

Visitors have observed that Samiksha Programs in the Hospital has made a huge difference to the atmosphere at the children’s ward. It has also brought some routine of activity and learning, thus keeping the children busy during their free time instead of roaming around the grounds aimlessly. Many have commented on the fact that they cannot imagine what the place would be like without Samiksha’s presence here.

“What was it like when Samiksha was not here?” “What would the children be doing otherwise?” - are questions we often get asked.

<b>SAMIKSHA FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS, VISITORS AND STAFF</b>		
<b>JUNE 2012 to MAY 2013</b>		
MONTH OF YEAR	NO. OF VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS	ATTENDANCE BY SAMIKSHA STAFF
JUNE 2012 TO DECEMBER 2012		
JUNE	20	40
JULY	39	47
AUGUST	122	55
SEPTEMBER	41	34
OCTOBER	26	31
NOVEMBER	25	39
DECEMBER	38	32
JANUARY 2012 TO MAY 2013		
JANUARY	50	49
FEBRUARY	74	50
MARCH	24	53
APRIL	53	38
MAY	54	46
AVERAGE MONTH	PER <u>47</u>	<u>42</u>

<b>SAMIKSHA FOUNDATION ATTENDANCE AND DISCHARGES</b>		
<b>JUNE 2012 to MAY 2013</b>		
MONTH	NO. OF STUDENTS ATTENDED	BACK TO SCHOOL
JUNE 2012 to DECEMBER 2012		
JUNE	57	10
JULY	51	6
AUGUST	53	14
SEPTEMBER	46	7
OCTOBER	69	12
NOVEMBER	75	4
DECEMBER	82	23
JANUARY 2013 to MAY 2013		
JANUARY	66	20
FEBRUARY	65	7
MARCH	77	16
APRIL	69	12
MAY	66	10
TOTAL	776	141

## Donors for the Year 2012 - 2013

S.NO	DATE	RECEIPT #	NAME
1	4.4.12	144	Dell - Brenden
2	18.6.12	145	Lioness club of Hanumanth Nagar
3	12.7.12	146	B.H.Shantakumar
4	17.7.12	147	N.K.Bansal
5	19.7.12	149	Lioness club of Bangalore
6	20.7.12	150	Suchitra Vivek
7	25.8.12	151	Ashok Savitha Prakash
8	20.8.12	152	R.Jayaraman
9	25.8.12	153	Badhrambal Jewellers
10	25.8.12	154	Raj Bhatnagar
11	25.8.12	155	Narayana Kamalahasan
12	20.10.12	156	Saurabh Kumar Verma
13	9.12.12	157	Adhi Kesarla
14	15.12.12	159	Pramod
15		160	Urmila Patel
16		161	Rekha
17	15.12.12	162	K.P.Suresh
18		163	Priyanka
19	15.12.12	164	Mrs.Varsha
20	15.12.12	165	B.Ashwin
21	15.12.12	166	R.K.Gupta
22	16.12.12	167	Renu Par
23	16.12.12	168	Chandana
24	17.12.12	169	ManuPai
25	19.1.13	170	Rangarajan T.S
26	22.1.13	171	Dolon Basu
27	22.1.13	172	Bharathi
28	22.1.13	173	Ramakrishnan
29	22.1.13	174	Vishesh Tyagi
30	22.1.13	175	V.Padma
31	22.1.13	176	Sekar Vaidyanathan
32	22.1.13	177	Fortune Consultants
33	22.1.13	178	Rajni Singh
34	3.2.13	184	Vidyasagar
35	7.3.13	185	Environment Protection Institute
36	7.3.13	186	Jairamanan
37	12.3.13	187	Kris Muthusamy



38	19.3.13	188	CSB - Bangalore
39	23.3.13	189	Karthik Jayaram
40	23.3.13	190	Keerthana Ravi
41	28.4.12	17	Lynn Khan (Waseem Khan Photography)
42	29.5.12	18	Ajay Sharma
43	7.6.12	19	Synchronoss Technology
44	7.6.12	20	Prashanth D.S
45	7.6.12	21	Sushma Baliga
46	12.6.12	22	Vidya Ramachandran
47	18.6.12	24	Pradeep Jain (CMD Techno)
48	1.7.12	25	Vinod Raman
49	6.9.12	28	V.Venkatasubramanian
50	10.9.12	29	Tania Khosla
51	30.10.12	30	Waseem Khan Photography
52	10.12.12	31	Uma Devi & Vijay
53	10.12.12	32	Latha Maheshwari
54	10.12.12	33	Atul Agrawal
55	21.12.12	35	A.N.Navin
56	21.12.12	36	Jogin Bhaitav Desai
57	21.12.12	37	Yajnanarayan Kammaje
58	27.12.12	38	ARM Embedded Technologies Pvt Ltd.
59	15.1.13	39	Roopa Belur
60	30.1.13	44	Sharad Subramanian
61	22.1.13	45	Srividhya Bondili
62	15.12.12	46	Rajendra Chopra
63	14.2.13	47	Waseem Khan Photography
64	21.2.13	48	Yajnanarayan Kammaje
65	21.2.13	49	BM Jacaranda BK Apt. Owners Assn.
66	21.2.13	50	Praveen Hingorani
67	6.4.13	51	Harinath Pabbathi
68	18.4.13	52	Deepak Shivashankar
69	10.4.13	53	Sundara KV Iyer



## Our Staff and Volunteers

### DEDICATED AND PASSIONATE ABOUT THIS WORK:

Dr.Manjari Bhatnagar	-	Director of Samiksha Foundation- ( Wealth management and Theatre)
Ms.Meera Srivathsan	-	Program coordinator – ( Chartered Accountant)
Ms.Vidyavathy	-	Teacher and Librarian
Ms Parvathy	-	Teacher and Librarian
Mr.Chopra	-	Advisor to the trust – (Retired Management Consultant)
Ms.Tania Khosla	-	Advisor to the trust (Graphic designer and Art Therapist)
Mr. Girish Jairaj	-	Regular volunteer and core team member- (software engineer)
Mr.Naveen Jagannathan	-	Volunteer and supplier of fruits every Saturday- (software engineer)
Ms.Thishya	-	Engineer, Sunday volunteer.
Ms.Chitra Ramesh	-	Thursday Volunteer.
Ms Barnalee Sarkar	-	Special program coordinator and volunteer
Mr.Sadagopalan	-	Volunteer tutor –( senior citizen)
Ms Gloria Davis	-	Volunteer (MBA student)
Ms Archita Suri	-	Volunteer (Architect and journalism student)
Ms Vidya Ramachandran	-	Volunteer ( Software professional)
Ms.Shobana Iyer	-	Volunteer (Medical Transcriptionist and qualified Dentist)
Swami Yogaratna	-	Yoga Teacher and Consultant
Ms.Jyoti Narkar	-	Yoga Teacher
Ms Priti Rao	-	Coordinator with Mallya Aditi School and volunteer
Ms. Jhanavi Mohan	-	Teacher coordinator at Mallya Aditi School
Mr. Aditya Sharad	-	Volunteer and manages the website and blog regularly- (student)
Mrs Bhavani Nanjundeswaran	-	Trustee and Advisor. ( Senior Citizen)
Ms Vijayalakshmi	-	Trustee and volunteer.( Management Consultant)
Ms.Sandhya Sharad	-	Founder of Samiksha Foundation ( Architect and Design Consultant)



Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer

[www.samikshafoundation.org](http://www.samikshafoundation.org)