

“SAMIKSHA FOUNDATION - CARING FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER TRUST”
A CREATIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE FOR CHILDREN
UNDERGOING CANCER TREATMENT AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

WWW.SAMIKSHAFOUNDATION.ORG



EIGHTH YEAR REPORT

(2016-2017)

18 June 2017

The report of our support activities and observations at Bangalore, India, recorded during the period of June 2016 to May 2017.

Primary Focus Group at Samiksha Learning Centre at Kapur -SBM Paediatric Ward at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, now called Kidwai Cancer Institute (KCI). Children are included from Jindal, Aniket and ShantiDhama wards at KCI.

Samiksha Foundation is a Paediatric Oncology Support Group, a Civil Society Organization, operating at Bangalore, India.

Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer Trust is a registered trust under the Indian Trusts Act, 1881, document no. BNG(U)-BMH 237 2009-2010. Donations made to the Samiksha Foundation are deductible under Section 80G(2)(a)(iv) r.w.s. 80G(5)(vi) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Disclaimer

This report is maintained on behalf of the Samiksha Foundation - Caring for Children with Cancer Trust, to enhance public access to the information relevant to the work of the trust. Our goal is to keep this information factual and accurate. If errors are brought to our attention, we will try to correct them. However, the Trust does not accept liability whatsoever with regard to the material on this report.

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FROM THE FOUNDER AND TRUSTEE

Over the last few years, with an awareness of both the need for continued education, and non-medical support for children undergoing cancer treatment recognised as significant, Samiksha Foundation in line with its mission aims for strategic growth and reach with 'Looking Ahead' as the theme of 2016-17.

In pursuance to increase reach, more core centres have been identified to implement the Samiksha Program. Additionally, a program to reach out to children at home post treatment, is also in process. We have had 1 success this year.

As volunteers are the direct interface to the children and very important to the implementation, we have also initiated a feedback mechanism into our ongoing and niche volunteer orientation program. Additionally, to continuously engage our teachers in enhancing their skills, additional training and support in English Language and Math Skills is in place. Continuous documentation is maintained to understand what parents, teachers and doctors can do to ensure the child's school needs are met, when undergoing cancer treatment.

The Foundation has presented its work to various diverse forums and corporates, to spread awareness and for fundraising. At the IAPCONⁱ 2017 at Coimbatore, we presented our new Documentary.

We continue to engage with BEETFⁱⁱ programs and look for collaborations in various areas of Civil Society Work in the area of Education of children in distress.

The Samiksha core team is being expanded. New Trustees are being welcomed and one of our older Trustees, Mrs. Bhavani, retires this year at 80.

This year our application for FCRAⁱⁱⁱ with the Ministry of Home Affairs was completed and submitted on 16th May 2016, Inspections were completed by November 2016 and we are awaiting the final approval.

We are very happy to note that the KCI hospital staff, authorities, donors, volunteers and community are deeply and positively involved in the Integrated Programs conducted by Samiksha and are all active participants in their 'Pursuit of Happiness' with these Children.

We keep our faith in our support groups and donors and sponsors. Seeing a significant increase in donations, we extend our grateful thanks and are sure the children do so too. A special mention of the annual BOUNCE BACK sports fundraiser organized by cancer survivor Mahika Khosla and her family along with her friends and School Alma mater, Mallya Aditi International School, Bangalore, who have become ambassadors of our mission in the city. They had their 2nd successful run this year in raising funds for us.

At the 8th year celebration in June, 110 school kits were distributed as always, and we thank the volunteers from Morgan Stanley headed by Raj Parthasarathy, who made this happen smoothly, with much joy. Highlight of the year was celebrating the Corporate Donors, Senior Citizen Knitters and Crafters Group, and Student volunteers from various schools.

IMPACT:

At the school at KCI, till date, we have had about 1975 children beneficiaries

- *More than 1400 of them have gone back to attending regular school at their right level and are doing well*. Those gone back are learning, and happy.*
- *Today, about 30 children in the OPD and Maintenance visit every day; 95 children- in patients in 3 different children's wards.*
- *Hospital statistics - success rate of cancer treatment at 85% (children return home recovered) Our success rate of children going back to school - between 55% and 76% (as recorded by our teachers *)*
- *To date, around 30 of the children cleared their 10th class with exceptional grades and are studying in colleges. 6 have completed 12th boards with good percentages ^ 80% this year and 6 Samiksha students wrote their 10th exams with success (^ 65%)*
- **This is verified by those who return to the hospital for maintenance or keep in touch with us. We do not have a mechanism of follow up at schools' post discharge.*

This year out of the 976 children who attended or participated at KCI, 455 were school going between 6 and 15 years of age. 54% of them returned to school post cancer treatment.

Outside of KCI, Team Samiksha has helped Priyanka from Chamrajpet, taking treatment at Shankara Hospital, to pursue her Board exams this year. A big 'Thanks' to Ambika and Vijet, who helped her. We also facilitated the re-entry of 15-year-old Jayanth Singh at Yelahanka, by procuring admission for him at MEC school after he was disallowed into his old school in 9th Grade due to his failing in Math because of disturbance due to cancer remission. Jayanth is doing well at his new school at 10th grade. His family is happy. We are thankful to Anita Naolekar for her dedicated effort in making this happen.

We wish the whole team a great Year ahead.

Let the Force be with you, Team Samiksha!

Sandhya Sharad and Vijayalakshmi N[#]

([#]Sandhya is a practicing architect and interior designer, and also runs the Foundation. She is skilled with children and teenagers and has great faith in the creative talent and spiritual capabilities nested in this country. She believes that a touch of professionalism and caring into every creative work we seek to do, can improve the quality of our services to the world.

Vijaya, a strong believer in independent thinking and solving problems at hand, holds a Masters in Biochemistry with over 20 years' experience in the media industry as a marketing professional. She also has teaching experience in Math, Science and Art to primary and middle school students. She now continues to engage in the Social development space)

FROM DIRECTOR DR. MANJARI BHATNAGAR# -

Samiksha Foundation is one of the unique schools in the country. It addresses the non-medical needs of the children with cancer, the need of education, exercise, through yoga and meditation, recreation, play, creative activities and entertainment.

All this is provided to them at the paediatric ward of Kidwai Cancer Institute (KCI) while these children undergo their treatment. The children however come from different socio-economic backgrounds, mostly from lower strata of society and from various states including West Bengal, Assam, Odisha etc. We are proud to share, that this facility completes eight years on 18th of June 2017.

Our vision is to enable children to go back to their study program in schools without losing a year, be with their peers, settle in with hope, confidence and relive childhood days. The children who have cleared their 10th grade by going through our program have dreams to be future leaders and also want to come and help / serve the children who are facing a similar situation. Our teachers and volunteers are actively involved in their pursuit of creating and disseminating knowledge through creative teaching, which benefits not only the children but also the caregivers.

We aim to provide high-quality education, increase the happiness quotient and give value-added consulting to other CSOs who want to be in the similar space. We have constantly endeavoured to grow and develop to reach out to the children with distress. As a result, there is need to collaborative partnerships with hospitals that have the same sort of requirements in different cities.

Thus, at Samiksha Foundation, we are committed towards creating a community of educators and happy children who understand the value of each other even under the constraints of a hospital environment.

We thank the Director Dr. Lingegowda, his staff, the doctors, especially Dr. Appaji, Dr. Padma, HOD of Paediatrics and nurses of KCI for their constant support and look forward to continued cooperation from them considering the enormous success of the program and its impact on the children and their caregivers.

Dr. Manjari Bhatnagar is a qualified geophysicist and a Ph.D. in statistics, who has diversified into the fields of drama and wealth management. Her exuberant and cheerful personality, combined with her love for children, make her a priceless gem at the foundation. Over the last 8 years, she has been responsible for the public relations and fundraising activities for the foundation and coordinates many events at the Centre. Currently, she's working on a research paper for the next IAPCON on 'Happiness Quotient'

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT-

ACTIVITY DETAILS:

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

FACILITY DETAILS:

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



Photo: Team UTSAV and our other Friends from the Shubham Music School with Team Samiksha

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Samiksha functions from the Kapur-SBM Paediatric Ward. The entrance to the ward has been converted to teaching-cum-activity space. The library has been set up in the basement of the ward with books in various languages. The foundation-appointed librarian/teachers are present 4 days a week, (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday), between 10:30am and 4:30pm. The teachers are qualified and continuously trained in early childhood education by local boards. Relevant textbooks, notebooks, worksheets, and art materials are provided to each child in a school bag on the first day they come to the program, to encourage and

provide an appropriate environment. The supply is constantly replenished as required by the child, at our cost. Children on maintenance (out patients) are also encouraged to participate. Siblings of children and many caregivers, mostly mothers, also come in to learn and read here. All volunteers are given an orientation before commencing hands-on work with the children. The children's involvement, attendance, progress, and requirements are recorded and maintained.

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

To help them come up to speed with their school work and curriculum and prepare them for the examinations, if they wish to appear. Volunteers from international schools, corporate sector, and universities engage with children in learning and creative activities.

This year, two students appeared for their 10th Class board exams after their discharge.

Circulating Library

Books are issued to children and caregivers on a regular basis, to read in their time to encourage independent reading. For those children unable to read by themselves, volunteers read to them at their bedside. Multilingual books are provided. Children also take back their favourite books when they get discharged.

Yoga for kids and mothers in the ward:

This program is currently conducted by our Yoga Teacher and Consultant Ms. Anitha. The children and the caregivers show lot of eagerness and enthusiasm during Yoga activities.

I Am a Star

All children are special. The program aims to fulfil some of their wishes to make them feel even more special. For children who are discharged, we have an arrangement with Make-a-Wish Foundation to fulfil their wishes via a referral program. Children going home are also given a special gift, usually their favourite storybook.

Storytelling

Ambika Chandrasekhar is our regular qualified storytelling specialist. With support from Pratham Books and independent storytellers like Arti Anand, Lavanya Prasad, a significant change is happening in the way the children approach books, reading and recall. Ambika combines storytelling with hand puppets, origami, drawing, and creative writing.

Birthdays at the ward

Birthday parties for children are held on the last Saturday of the month or on a day chosen by the sponsors. Entertainment and activities range from singing groups, magic shows, dance performances, pottery workshops, skits and songs by the children themselves. Goody bags with fun things are distributed to all children admitted to the ward and their siblings. Various organizations and individuals have sponsored the costs for these events. This monthly event is now an established routine for both children and caregivers. Care is taken to ensure the children are involved without getting hyperactive and that the excitement of the parties is not overwhelming or physically exerting for the children. No cake or outside food is served.

Fruits and Vegetables

To ensure attendance, fresh vegetables and fruits are distributed at least twice a week and fruits given every Saturday and on events, as part of the nutritional help. Savitha Balajee is a regular sponsor of vegetables every Thursday whereas Naveen is our regular sponsor of fruits every Saturday.

Festivals and National Events

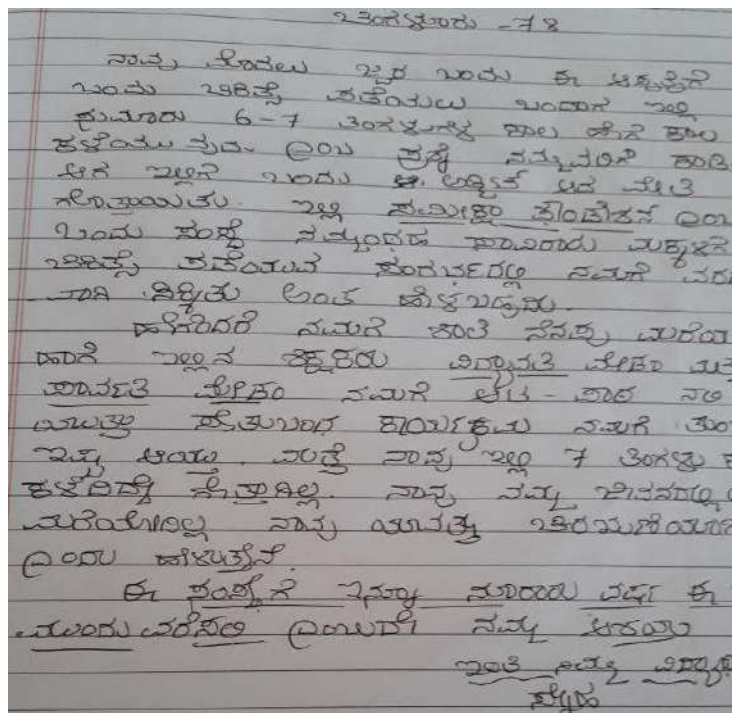
Among the popular festivals and special occasions that the Parents and caregivers look forward to celebrating are Children's Day, Diwali, Dussehra, Christmas, Republic Day and Rajyotsava Day.

We do not have any religious celebrations but encourage creative activity and community participation on these days.

OBSERVATION AND IMPACT:

In May the teachers were given 2 weeks off as vacation. For the first time in 7 years, the children were lost. They were bored, confused and upset that the Vidyavathi and Parvathy were not there for 2 weeks. We were told by the staff and security that children and caregivers were hugely relieved when they came back after vacation. Children expressed their happiness on seeing them back and welcomed them with little artwork, hugs and huge smiles. We were told by them that we cannot close the school even for a day!

As SNEHA writes:



GALLERY- GLIMPSE OF ACTIVITIES THROUGH THE YEAR-



Director Dr. Lingegowda is an active participant in most of our birthday Celebrations



Birthday and gifts by our resource partners Jumpori.



Dancing with Volunteer Girish

Learning through craft and art....

Never a dull moment at Samiksha!





Actress Sanchita is a regular visitor at Samiksha at KCI.



L: At the Annual APR Marathon event fundraiser by Adarsh Charitable Trust
R: Team Laughter by Suchitra and Friends from ANNS Rotary Group



Dr. Lakshminarayan entertaining kids with puppeteering alongside Magician Satish Kumar



Activities by students from Maharani College



Balloon sculpting on one of the birthdays



Caricature by Jumpori team

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016-17-

DATE	EVENTS	SPONSORS/VISITORS
09-Jun-16	Birthday for 14 - Magic show by Satish	Samiksha
18-Jun-16	7th Annual Day celebration	Morgan Stanley Group; Various activities by volunteers
30-Jul-16	Birthday for 9 - Drawing Competition	Cipla Group
27-Aug-16	Birthday for 9	Silver Surfers Women's Group of Bangalore Club, Ramakrishna Ashram
07-Oct-16	Children felicitated	UTSAV Group
08-Oct-16	Art & Dance activities	Grameena Organization
22-Oct-16	Birthday for 13 - Magic show by Suresh Babu	Hazel Hegde
25-Oct-16	Colouring of mud lamps on account of Deepavali	UTSAV group with student volunteers -Barnalee Sarkar
05-Nov-16	Drawing competition	Doctors at KCI/Samiksha
26-Nov-16	Birthday for 14 - Balloon sculpting	Sudha & Jumpori team/Samiksha
20-Dec-16	Activity Day	Ronit and team – Informatica
31-Dec-16	Birthday - Magic show	Munish Sachdeva and friends
28-Jan-17	Birthday for 7 - Activities by Maharani students	Lauren Ramji and team Bangalore Club Silver Surfers
03-Feb-17	Essay Competition on Swami Vivekananda	Ramakrishna Mission Trust
25-Feb-17	Birthday for 5 - various activities	Sudha & Jamboree team
25-Mar-17	Birthday for 8 - Magic show & Puppet show	Mr. Karthikeyan Visweswaran
29-Apr-17	Birthday for 12 - Puppet show	Samiksha/Dr. Lakshminarayan
05-May-17	Drawing competition	Cipla Team
27-May-17	Birthday for 11 - Caricature	Sudha & Jumpori team

STATISTICS AND DATA – RECORD KEEPING-**No. of students attended and discharged grade wise data between June 2016- May 2017:**

Month	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	Total
Below 3yrs	19	18	16	24	24	25	29	29	26	23	23	27	283
3-6 yrs (LKG)	3	4	8	9	8	14	18	16	12	11	11	11	125
3-6 yrs (UKG)	10	12	13	12	6	7	10	7	9	10	10	7	113
Gr 1	9	7	8	4	4	3	2	2	6	3	3	4	55
Gr 2	8	8	7	6	3	5	3	4	3	4	4	6	61
Gr 3	5	3	5	6	4	8	6	9	6	5	5	6	68
Gr 4	3	1	1	2	3	5	3	4	7	9	9	7	54
Gr 5	1	2	4	6	7	5	6	8	9	8	8	5	69
Gr 6	5	6	6	5	4	2	1	1	3	2	2	4	41
Gr 7	4	4	4	3	3	4	1	2	3	4	4	3	39
Gr 8	6	6	4	5	4	5	3	1	1	4	4	4	47
Gr 9	4	3	4	3	4	4	2	2	1	0	0	1	28
Gr 10	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total	79	75	81	84	75	87	84	85	85	83	73	85	976
Discharge	21	12	24	24	23	20	19	25	19	27	15	24	253

Volunteers and Visitors 2016-17:

Month	Volunteers	Visitors	Total
June	25	41	66
July	40	18	58
August	36	24	60
September	26	6	32
October	15	16	31
November	12	8	20
December	16	26	42
January	8	36	44
February	8	7	15
March	8	11	19
April	16	17	33
May	5	10	15
Total	215	220	435

Success rate or return to school is at 54% in 2016-2017

REFLECTIONS-

TEACHERS' REPORT:

Ms. VIDYAVATHI B.S -TEACHER CUM LIBRARIAN

I have been working as a teacher and librarian for Samiksha Foundation School for the past eight years. In our school, the kids are provided with all the necessary things to enhance their learning. Kids of every age come to our school for creative activity and play.

Sunita, a young girl from West Bengal, comes to school whenever she is here for her check-ups. She always carries a notebook along with her and does not like to waste time even when she is here.

Pallavi and Geeta were in class 9 and class 10 respectively when they used to visit Kapur Ward for their chemotherapy cycles. Whenever they've been here, even for just 15-day medication course, they were quite keen to learn and had many interactive sessions with us. And Geeta completed her 10th class board exams this year with 80% which has been a very proud moment for all of us.

Naveen is another kid who is always eagerly waiting for the school to start in the morning. On the days when we are not at the school, he would be impatiently enquiring about us to his mom and other hospital staff. On the days when we are here and if he's supposed to be on IV, he would request them to do it the next day.

We are often accompanied by number of volunteers who are involved with kids in various activities - learning, playing, painting, music and dance. And the kids are extremely happy to spend time with them, they are curious to learn.

Parents feel relieved that their kids would be able to attend school and not feel bad about staying in the hospital for number of months. Through this, the kids would be able to go back to schooling when they return to their homes after their treatment.

The people who visit the Kapur Ward, after knowing about our school, are very appreciative of the things we do here and wish us more progress. We feel very proud and wish the school to scale more heights in the future.

AMBIKA CHANDRASHEKAR – STORY TELLING EXPERT/ TEACHER

Samiksha Foundation has been a guiding light for all the children. I entertain kids with storytelling every Thursday and the kids are really excited to hear them. Even origami is taught to them which they hang them near their beds. The kids even when they're suffering and do not have interest in anything, then also kids come and spend time in the school. The mothers show keen interest and participate in the activities. We pray that the kids and their mothers get more strength through this ordeal.

Ms. PARVATHY K.B – PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

I have been working as a teacher and librarian at Samiksha Foundation School over the past seven years. This is a different school helping over 70 kids present in the ward. The mothers are quite disheartened when they come here, and the kids are also worried that they

would miss out on school during their stay, an average of 6-8 months. But when they see our school, they get really excited and eagerly participate in learning through creative activity, play and storytelling.

Karthik is a 4th grade student from Hassan who was reluctant to go home after staying for over 8 months of treatment. He wanted to study only in this school even after going back to his hometown. So, whenever he is in town for his check-ups, he involves completely in learning, drawing and other activities.

Devu, a 3rd grade student, asked his mom to write down the names of teachers Vidyavathi, Parvathy, storyteller Ambika, and volunteer Girish so that he could show them to his teacher back home after the discharge.

Akshata was in 9th grade when she first came for treatment at Kapur Ward. This year, she's passed her I PUC in first class which has been a very proud moment for all of us. She went under remission when she was studying 10th standard and had to be in the hospital for few months again. During her time here, she didn't back down from studying and went back and passed her board exams in first class. She has been one of the role models for the younger kids staying at the ward. She visits the school on occasion and spends time with the kids.

The kids are also taught moral education through various simple stories - turtle and rabbit, monkey and crocodile - in which they comprehend that it is not good to be overconfident and be humble and gratuitous towards everyone, especially the ones who help us. The life story of Swami Vivekananda is one of their favourites.

Apart from the kids, our Samiksha Foundation is praised by parents and doctors alike for the continuing efforts put in. We all wish that our school gets many more accolades in the years to come.

CHILDRENS' VOICES:

ANKITHA P

My name is Ankitha, and I'm seven years old. I have been admitted in Kapur Ward for seven-month treatment. Samiksha Foundation is doing a great job. I study and enjoy a lot. Thank you for all the things and thank you for the teachers for making me feel good.

AFREEN

I am studying in 9th standard and Samiksha Foundation teachers are very nice. They teach us all the subjects and they teach us very good. Whenever I go to school, I feel very happy. I will be playing, singing, dancing, doing crafts and other activities. We do Yoga with Yoga teacher which makes me very happy. Thank you, teachers. Thank you, Samiksha Foundation.

SINCHANA K S

I was studying in 9th standard and on account of my illness I was admitted to this hospital. I have been here for over seven months now and I feel that I'm getting better. I study

Mathematics, Yoga and various subjects and activities at Samiksha School. I'm thankful to everyone who taught me all these things. And I'm going to miss Kapur Ward and Samiksha School a lot.

PALLAVI R

I'm studying in 9th standard. Since I have Ewing's sarcoma bone cancer, I have been admitted to Kidwai Hospital in Bangalore. Dr. Appaji, Dr. Aruna, Dr. Suma, Dr. Avinash and other doctors have started treating me and there has been little improvement. Kapur Ward, where I stay, is very good and cleanliness is maintained. The nurses look after all the kids very kindly. And there is a school in Kapur Ward. Teachers Vidyavathi and Parvathy teach us really well and they provide notebooks, drawing books, crayons, and all kinds of textbooks to all the kids. They treat all the kids equally and impartially. Vidyavathi. This has made me very happy. Various activities and programs are also conducted such as Rangoli and drawing competitions. Dr. Lingegowda heartily inaugurates these programs and this brings joy to all the people. These kinds of facilities are only present in this hospital. The staff here care for all the patients.

HARSHITHA

I am studying in 9th standard. School teachers teach us lessons and also allow us to play. I am so happy in the class to do the crafts and so many activities. I have been discharged now. When I was here, I used to play with everyone around. In Samiksha School, I used to do Yoga, dance, meditation etc., Math is my favourite subject. I was very happy when I was here, and I have been missing everyone since the discharge.

JYOTHI B S

I am studying in 8th standard and I have been in this hospital for eight months now. I liked this hospital because the cleanliness is well-maintained. But I had one worry that I didn't have anyone to play with. Then teacher came and took me to school and I was very happy. We read, write, and do drawings and Parvathy teacher taught songs also. We used to play from afternoon till evening.

BHAVANI

When I came here seven months back for the treatment, I was feeling quite dejected. One day Teacher Parvathy came and took me to school, and I felt very happy. We study lessons from morning till afternoon and we have playtime from afternoon till evening. This makes all the kids very happy. Vidyavathi and Parvathy teach us really well. We do drawings on Saturdays. Samiksha School is a very memorable school for me.

SANTOSH G C

I am studying in 9th standard. First time I came here, I thought my studies is ruined. But came to know that there is a school here at Kapur Ward and I was really happy. I started coming to school every day and I liked the lessons taught by the teachers and the care they show. I'm thankful to Samiksha Foundation.

JAYAPRABHA

I came here when I was studying in 7th standard, and it's been eight months now. I have never felt I am in a hospital all this while because of the constant caring of all the nurses and teachers who run the school. I don't feel as a patient, and all the doctors here have been treating really well. The first time when I came here, I didn't feel like staying and badly wanted to go home. But gradually I got adjusted and I am close to all the staff here. I made lots of friends in eight months. Finally, when I was getting discharged, I was happy and sad both since I was going to miss all these people. And whenever I come here for maintenance check-ups, I meet the teachers and still it does not feel the same. I really miss both teachers and doctors a lot.

SUDEEP M

I am studying in 5th standard. I have been in this hospital for eight months now. Because of this, I had to leave my schooling behind but here also we have a school and I was glad that I could continue my lessons here. "I miss you Samiksha Foundation and I love so much."

MANU P

I was studying in 9th standard when I came here, I was worried about how I could continue my studies, but it was a relief to find a school here. Later I went back home and wrote my exams too.

NITIN

I am studying in 8th standard and I came to this hospital when I was 14 years old. We get good education here. This school is different from other schools. I was taught really well along with playing and so much love and affection. This Kapur Ward has become my home and I am sad that I have to leave this home now.

JAGRUTI P

I am studying in 3rd standard. First when I came here, I didn't go to school. Later, I grew really fond of this school. We got so many toys to play with and story books to read. I like the teachers a lot.

VOLUNTEER'S VOICE:**SANDHYA MARADI**

Working with the children at Kidwai is truly an enriching experience. While I try to teach children, it is they who are teaching me - lessons on patience, perseverance, strength, laughter, and hope. It is the happiness that the teachers bring to the children and together they are a unique family, enriching my life and bringing more meaning to it.

OBSERVATIONS AND LOOKING FORWARD BY THE TEAM:

- Children are excited about this learning program. They tend to hang on to every word that is said 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, 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. Story recall and sometimes an urgency to *learn it all* there with older children.
- 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. The special language teachers have made a huge difference to many. However, their writing willingness is lesser than the reading.
- 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 kids aged between 6 and 14 years.
- The participation of the children is also 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 for caregivers and families.
- Over years, the hospital staff has also got involved in the programs. The nursing staff come in and teach the children very often. They actively participate in events.
- Doctors are convinced about the learning program and encourage the children to attend regularly. They encourage children from 3 other wards at KCI to come to attend the programs. The average monthly attendance of school going children has gone up from 26 in 2009 to 46 in 2012 and is about 47 now, which includes children from all wards here.
- In this year we have had infrastructure setbacks at the Hospital for 2 reasons.
 1. When the ward was converted into OPD (Outpatient area) and we did not have enough space to run the classes and activities. We had to refuse volunteers and visitors for over 6 months at the time. Children's education quality was compromised greatly due to lack of space and infrastructure at Kidwai Hospital.
 2. The Basement that houses our Library and books is perpetually flooded which is cause for great anxiety year around.

Hence, we are actively exploring a new Library facility at KCI

OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS – 2016–2017:**Dedicated and passionate about their work:**

Dr. Manjari Bhatnagar	Director - (Wealth management and Theatre)
Ms. Meera Srivathsan	Volunteer Education Program coordinator at KCI– (CA)
Ms. Vidyavathi B.S	Teacher and Librarian – (Trained teacher and Librarian)
Ms Parvathy K.B	Teacher and Librarian – (Trained teacher and Librarian)
Ms Ambika Chandrashekar	Storytelling specialist - (Trained Storyteller)
Ms. Anita and Ms Pooja	Yoga Teachers
Ms. Niveditha Anuja	Volunteer Teacher (Creative Professional)
Ms Padma Vishwanathan	Volunteer Teacher (Software professional)
Mr. Rajinder K Chopra	Advisor to the trust (Retired Electrical Engineer)
Ms. Tania Khosla	Advisor to the trust (Graphic designer and Art Therapist)
Mr. Girish Jayaraju	Volunteer and core team member- (Software Engineer)
Mr. Naveen Jagannathan	Volunteer (Software Engineer)
Mr. Vijet Aioli	Event Coordinator (Engineer)
Ms Sandhya Maradi	Volunteer Teacher (Kannada & English)
Ms Barnalee Sarkar	Special program coordinator and teacher (Dancer)
Ms Aakanksha Jayasheela	Volunteer (Architect)
Ms. Ranjani Ramesh	Volunteer teacher and Admin support (IT professional)
Ms. Anita Naolekar	Volunteer (Engineer)
Mr. Aditya Sharad	Volunteer (Student)
Mrs. Bhavani Nanjundeswaran	Trustee and Advisor. (Senior Citizen)
Ms Vijayalakshmi	Trustee and volunteer (Management Consultant)
Ms Sandhya Sharad	Founder of Samiksha Foundation and Chief Functionary of the Trust (Architect and Social Entrepreneur)

LIST OF OUR DONORS -FY 2016-2017 WITH GRATITUDE, FOR THEIR SUPPORT**RS. 25000 AND ABOVE**

Accel Partners
 Informatica Business Solutions
 Page Industries Ltd
 Anupam Pandey
 Embassy Property Development Pvt Ltd
 APR Charitable Trust
 Superseva Financial Services Pvt Ltd
 Chandra Guha Thakurta

Mahatma Gandhi Vidhya Peeta Trust
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Sangeeta Praveen Marlecha
Sandeep Khosla and Tania Khosla
Ganesh Chandar

Harinath P R
Amrish Prakash Kumar
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Hazel Laveena D
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Chitra Girish Vaidya
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Sunil Gupta
Shalini Raheja
Anushka Gopalan
M R Subramanian
Mr. Satishchandra Trasi
Gopi Bhawani
Subhashini
Raj Bhatnagar

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:

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

MAKING A DONATION TO THE FOUNDATION-

If you haven't already given to the Foundation, please do consider supporting us now. For details please contact us or email us at happinessquotient@gmail.com

We have 80G Tax deduction certification for all cash donations.

Certificate No. **DIT(E)BLR/80G/5/AAJTS8922L/ITO(E)-3/Vol 2012-2013 dated 10/04/12**

You can choose the activity or program that you want to support and also choose the date on which this donation should be given through our NEFT facility with Axis Bank, Bangalore.

For Indian Donors – For Online Remittance:

Bank Account No.: 909010035466397

Bank & Branch Name: Axis Bank Ltd, M G Road Branch, Bangalore

NEFT Code: UTIB0000009

Cheques and/ DDs, to be drawn in favour of 'Samiksha Foundation – Caring for Children with Cancer Trust'

We continue our special Education Campaign – online for Rs.2500/- per year. We wish to secure at least 100 donors per month from this campaign. 75% of this will be used for the education of children admitted at hospital, 10 % will be kept to build a scholarship fund for surviving children who are doing higher studies and 5% to support the siblings of these children, 10% for the administration of this campaign. Appeal to all donors to spread the word and facilitate contributions and donations towards this Education Campaign for children with cancer.

Trust registration Nos. under the Income Tax Act of 1961:

Our Certificate under section 12A R/w Section 12 AA (1) (b) (i) of the Income Tax Act 1961-

NO: DIT(E)BLR12A/S-2338/AAJTS8922L/ITO(E)-3/Vol 2012 2013 DATED 10/4/2012

Pan No: AAJTS8922L

Our Auditors:

Vasudev Pai and Associates, S- 401/402, Manipal Centre, Dickenson Road, Bangalore
Audit records and Balance sheet are available on request.

Our Registered Office:

C/O Gud Deals, No.34. 1st floor, CMH Road, Indiranagar 2nd stage, Bangalore 560038

Email: happinessquotient@gmail.com

ⁱ Indian Association for Palliative Care Conference

ⁱⁱ Bangalore Effective Education Task Force

ⁱⁱⁱ Foreign currency regulations Act

