



Indian Association for Promotion of
Adoption and Child Welfare (IAPA)

NEWSLETTER

April 2023 - September 2023



Dear Readers,

It's always a happy feeling connecting with you all. Our happiness is manifold when we share our children's achievements!

There are updates from our Adoption and Pre-adoption Family Care programme. You can't miss out reading a poem by Gauri Takalkar expressing the family's JOY of adoption. 😊
See **pg.2**

Do reach out to us for adoption counseling when required. See **pg.8**

At our educational sponsorship programme - Urban and Rural, students enjoyed a field trip to Kidzania, career guidance sessions, sessions imparting life-skills, instilling the reading culture; distribution of bicycles. Reading about the success achieved on overcoming the hardships is bound to make you emotional. See **pg.3,4**

At Daan Utsav, IAPA managed to support families of sponsored and foster cared children with groceries up to 70 kgs. Thank you donors for the funds and in-kind donations! See **pg.9**

Raising funds to support our services is an ongoing need. IAPA, once again is planning a jumble sale on 4th November. Spread joy by donating in kind for our Pre-Diwali Jumble Sale 2023. See **pg.8**



Adoption and pre-adoption family care

- Two online **Orientation sessions** for the **Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs)** on **5 May 2023** and **7 July 2023**. More than a dozen families joined the meet, posed relevant questions and got acquainted with the pre and post adoption process. Some topics addressed during the session ranged from Home Study Report (HSR), sharing the fact of adoption, regulating the emotions of the child who shows willingness to search for his/ her roots. The session stood out as a few older adoptive parents came on board and shared their experience of adoption.
- Adoption **information & process and understanding Child Study Report (CSR) and Medical Examination Report (MER)** - a refresher session was conducted online on **6 September 2023** for the PAPs. The session was resourced by **Dr. Manish More**, Paediatrician, Department of Paediatrics, Group of J.J. Hospitals. He explained the medical and developmental issues children may face during their early childhood and ways to address concerns needing immediate action. Dr. More provided meaningful insights that helped the families understand the process and medical terms better. Social workers refreshed information about understanding the Child Study Report and following mandatory and legal processes to bring home the child.



"Being a parent isn't just about bearing a child.
It is about bearing witness to its life."

- Jodi Picoult

Adoption is Love...

A poem by an adoptive mother

*We prayed, and we dreamed of this day when we would meet that
special little person who would make our life complete.*

*So, two more little hands and two more little feet,
Now our family of 4 is finally complete!*

*We are thrilled and excited to share this wonderful news that
Ovi now has a new sister to hold,
and we have a new life to mold!*

*The road that she has walked alone is now a distant past,
So, rest assured that she has reached safely to her HOME, at last.*

*We are delighted to welcome the youngest bud
of the Takalkar clan, SAAVI.*

- Gauri Takalkar, an adoptive parent

Educational Sponsorship Programme

FUN N LEARN

A trip to **KidZania** was organized by IAPA on **28 April 2023** for the students supported by IAPA. KidZania is an indoor theme park, located in north Mumbai for children between the age group of 4 and 16. The park provides an interactive platform for children to learn through fun activities. The activities are carved in a way to enable children to enhance their social and cognitive skills.

Fifty students participated in more than **100 activities**. The starting point was learning bank transactions. Another activity was to enact different professions, a fireman, a radio jockey, a doctor and many more. Donning the chef's cap, the children made yummy candies and delicious chocolates at Donald's



Factory. Savouring these was a treat! This visit gave the students a platform to show -case their creative side. They returned home with happy faces.

Session on Career Guidance

Career Guidance is the most crucial part of a student's academic life. It helps them to decide what subjects they should take up, why they are important and the subsequent career prospects. IAPA organized two sessions for Std. 10th and 12th students on 14 June 2023 and 21 June 2023 at the 'Mumbai Public School West Khetwadi Marathi'. Psychologist and Career Counsellor, Ms. Honey Jain was invited as a resource person to assist students opt for suitable career fields. 39 students attended the session.

Ms. Honey Jain provided practical advice on considering a field of study that is aligned with their interests, abilities and goals to develop a course of action for achieving those goals. She acquainted students with certain skills for facing challenges in their professional lives.



News from our Rural Programme

The last few months were filled with different activities for the students in the villages around Dapoli taluka. Equipping the students with appropriate life-skills has been of prime focus, and the same is implemented effectively by our social worker based in Dapoli.

Few glimpses

1] Group sessions on different topics such as Self-image, awareness about emotions and ways to handle them, intra- and inter-personal relationships, stereotypes and sensitization about gender equality, human reproduction, anger resolution were some of the topics covered during the session. Additional sessions focused on one's environment, ecosystem, nature conservation, waste management, global warming. These sessions helped students get acquainted with the multiple topics instilling desirable attitudes towards self and the world around.



2] Another interesting activity encouraging the **reading habit** among students (10-16 years) was to distribute **VAYAM** Marathi magazine issues purchased at half price. The magazines provide for a variety of activities, literature and information on different topics. Our social worker gave this as a gift for the students after their final exams. Library was set up at one more school for the 5-7th std. students. Social worker motivated the students to volunteer to monitor the distribution of the different issues of the magazine and the books.



3] Bicycle support –

Saniya was facing difficulties attending college due to no State Transport bus coinciding with her lectures. Determined to study Micro-biology, she walked a distance of over 6 kms to her college and back. On getting to know this, social worker discussed the bicycle option with Saniya. Getting a nod from her, social worker mobilized resources to raise funds for a second-hand bicycle. Since August 2023, Saniya has been happily riding her newly acquired two-wheeler!



4] Haemoglobin check-up for the girls followed with informative session with them and their parents was organized in August. The session was necessary to identify anaemia, take appropriate action, and where possible prevent its onset.

News from our Rural Programme ... contd.

Hardships and more hardships –

Namrata's dad has taken to alcoholism and is abusive when drunk. One day in a state of inebriation, her father locked her in a room and beat her badly. This left Namrata devastated. The social worker provided all the necessary support to uplift Namrata's confidence. She spoke with Namrata about using the legal recourse where required. Simultaneously, Namrata was assured support for her education from IAPA. Social worker also guided her to take up a part time job to keep herself engaged and also make an earning. Namrata is studying first year graduation in Commerce faculty. Being an athlete, Namrata represented her college at state level sports competitions in 200 and 800 meters running. She is in need of nutritional supplements to overcome her malnourishment and underweight to continue her participation in different sports events.

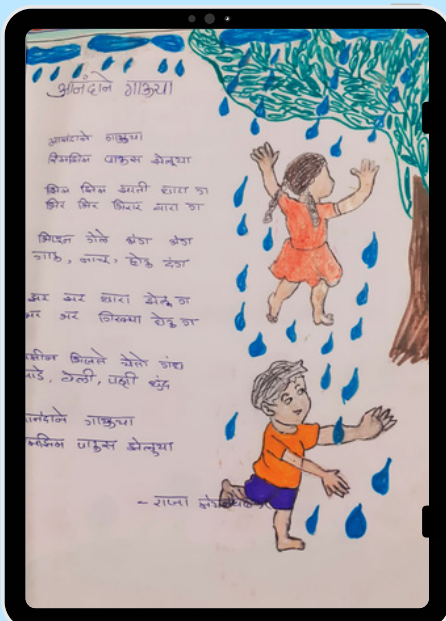
Success Story! It's a delight to share that Sanjana passed 1st year B.Com with first rank (GPA – 7.8) among 150 students in her college.

Another student, also named Sanjana completed the 1 year Patient assistant and Nursing programme from Vatsalya Mumbai with 71 percent, securing 3rd position in her batch. All this after coping with the challenge of her mother leaving her family and Sanjana's father taking ill. All through her studies Sanjana continued to take care of her father. Her experiences have certainly made her a tough person, ready to face difficulties and move on.

Over the years, we have seen a healthy change in career options taken up by the girls. They are seen exploring different careers, which open more possibilities of earning and economic self-dependence for them.



Sanjana Shigvan



Students of Terevayangani High School unlocked their creative minds and came up with innovative designs to decorate the booklet themed, 'Monsoon'.





Success Stories



Sanskruti Mandavkar

Congratulations to Sanskruti for attaining 83.6 percent in her Std. 10th exams. Sanskruti has come ahead the hard way. She is supported under the Bal Sangopan Yojana since 2018. Sanskruti's mother took up a job as a bus attendant to contribute towards the family expenses. The encouragement and timely guidance provided by the social worker enhanced Sanskruti's skills and overall personality. She passed her Elementary and Intermediate drawing exams with an 'A' grade. This year she has secured admission in the commerce stream. She is academically inclined and aspires to soar high with good grades and better employment. Her mother was also supported under our 'Medical and Nutritional Assistance' for prolonged health issues.

Rudra's score of 82.8 percent in the 10th std exams without additional coaching is commendable! Hardworking and a dedicated student, Rudra aspires to become a Chartered Accountant. He is grateful to IAPA for consistent support he received under the Alternative Family care Programme since 2015. Rudra has high regard for his mother who single-handedly manages the household expenses.



Rudra Chauhan



Smita Channe

Smita completed her graduation in Information Technology with 92.35%. She has been supported under IAPA's 'Educational Sponsorship Programme' since 2013. Immediately after her graduation she was absorbed as an intern in one of the IT firms. Her father works as a painter and her mother works as a support taking children to their school and back. Their low family income has not deterred them from encouraging their daughter to study further. They feel the encouragement they have received from the social worker has been worthwhile.

Sadma has passed the Board exam of Std. XII in the Commerce stream. She is now continuing her education. Even though she has not scored very good percentage her performance is laudable as she comes from a very conservative family where girls are not encouraged to study. She has to help out with the household chores as well help her younger siblings with their studies. Her father mentioned continuing her education after Std. X only because of the support and guidance from IAPA. However, her parents did not want her to commute alone to college and back. Her brother started accompanying her. She is now continuing her senior college. A happy news she shared with the social worker - her father has allowed her to carry a mobile to college and also to travel on her own. This is a result of consistency in her studies, and the timely support she received from IAPA.



Sadmabano Choudhary



Sunny Kanojiya

Sunny has passed the first hurdle of his education the Board exam of std. X securing 79.20 percent marks. He has now taken admission in the Commerce stream. Sunny is determined and persistent. He comes across as a responsible boy for his age and does not let circumstances deter him. Whenever faced with challenges, he finds ways and means to overcome it. Sunny's parents are not educated. Yet they want their children to study and have a better future. Sunny's father makes a living ironing clothes.



Success Stories



Maiser Ansari

Here is one more example of the hardships faced by our beneficiaries. Abandoning his wife and daughter, Maiser's father remarried, providing no support to Maiser and her mother. Illiteracy forced Maiser's mother to work as a domestic help. Maiser was identified for support by IAPA's social worker since 7th std. Starting with a weak academic base, MAiser has today MAiser has completed her graduation in the Commerce stream and started working to enhance her the family's income. The support through financial backing and guidance from the social worker proved fruitful for Maiser. Maiser has become a confident girl, sure of making a decent living for herself and her mother.

Anish was not fortunate in clearing his 12th std exams in his first attempt. However he cleared his Std. 12th exams in his second attempt. Anish is studying in the Commerce stream. His is a mother-headed family as his father is dealing with alcohol addiction and does not support the family. Anish's elder brother doesn't have a steady job. This forced Anish to take up a job as a delivery person. The social worker at IAPA consistently guided him to study regularly and also arranged for his tuitions in the IAPA office premises. He has now secured admission for graduation.



Anish Pawar



Sakshi Bhillare

Sakshi, her class topper had big dreams. She excelled in academics and extracurricular activities. Full of life and with positive energy, Sakshi's parents were supportive of her. She had finished her Std. XI exams. A little later the family faced a devastating challenge. Sakshi's father died in an accident while going to his native village to meet his mother. This left Sakshi's mother to take care of Sakshi and her younger sibling. Her mother valued IAPA's presence as she had someone to lean on. She said the family did not feel alone while coping with the big loss. Sakshi has passed the Board exam of Std. XII in the Science stream and is now continuing her further education.

Recently, she won an award for the best background music at the 'INT Aditya Birla Center for Performing Arts' inter-collegiate one act play competition 2023.

Adoption Counselling Service

IAPA's pre and post-adoption counselling service has reached out to many adoptive children and families over the years. The counselling centre is resourced by Dr. Laura Vaz, psychotherapist and a close associate.

More than 10 counselling cases were handled between April '23 and September '23 addressing issues ranging from pre and post adoption counselling, healthy parenting and understanding the psychology of children, non-cohesive parent-child relationship, anger management, and inappropriate behaviour of children.



*It's **Never too Late** to Ask for Assistance*



Indian Association for Promotion of Adoption and Child Welfare (IAPA) 

Adoption Counselling Centre

for

- Behavior Management
- Emotional Health
- Psychological Health
- Relationship Concerns
- Self-awareness and more...





Come and talk with us 

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Upcoming Event


Pre-Diwali Jumble Sale

4 November | 11 am - 4 pm



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Fundraising Event | 26 May 2023



Soon after the Covid-19 pandemic, the need to raise funds became even more pressing. In order to sustain IAPA's child welfare programmes, a **Fundraising Event RISHTE (रिश्ते)** was held on **Friday, May 26, 2023** at RangSharda Auditorium, Bandra. The event was a success and contributed towards our fundraising efforts.



The nostalgic evening was designed by **Mr. Pradeep and Mrs. Seema Patole, 'Rangdhara – Connecting Musically'**. One of our sponsored student **Ms. Khushi** started the evening with an invocation followed with the song 'दिल है छोटासा'.

It was a treat to the ears listening to the evergreen songs of yesteryears sung by four vibrant artists, **Alok Katdare, Soumya Varma, Sagar Sawarkar and Radhika Nanday**.

Daan Utsav | October 2023



IAPA celebrated the **festival of donation, 'Daan Utsav'** with enthusiasm!

We thank our donors for their generous donation of **essential items, groceries, monetary support** that helped us reach out to those in need.

Our belief that 'happiness is received when it's shared with others' was strengthened.



Thank you dear Sponsors, Donors and Well-wishers!

We and our children are grateful to our sponsors, donors and well-wishers who have been consistently supporting us. Together we are making a difference. Your continued support throughout the journey is vital to our mission.

We truly appreciate your interest in helping our organization thrive.



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**सुरक्षा और परिवार,
हर बच्चे का अधिकार**

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The Public Trust Act of 1950. Registration No. -F-2230 | Guidestar India No. 528

Donations to IAPA are available for deduction under Sec 80G of the Income Tax Act

Please note our new no. 022-35560701