

NEWSLETTER MAY - JULY 2022

A peek in to our world



Mann ki Baat

We are delighted to share with you that our Founder Director, Meera Shenoy and the work of Youth4Jobs has been recognized by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his Mann ki Baat address on 29th May 2022. Please find the video clip here. We thank each and every one of you for your support and contribution.

It is indeed an honour for all of us at Youth4Jobs Foundation to be recognised. Thanks to **ALL** who have stood by our side and believed in our challenging but transformational work.

[Watch Here](#)

Youth4Jobs is 10 years old now

We are in **28 states plus 8 UTs**, have touched **9.3 million households**, **579 districts**, **3452 mandals**, **12026 villages**. Trained **32000 youth with disabilities**, mostly from rural villages. Placed **75% in organised sector and local jobs**, **5% in enterprises**, **20% opt for higher education**. We partner with **2865 colleges**, **1305 companies and NGO's**.

Special thanks to all the stakeholders who have supported our work - corporates who have hired our youth, Grassroot organisations & Government dignitaries. But most importantly, our youth with disabilities, whose zeal and indomitable will power has always been, what has kept us going forward.

JOB FAIR'S - PAN INDIA



Our exclusive Job Fairs for Persons with Disabilities always promise a sure shot at finding a job for many of our trained youth. The rest are given hope to be placed another time and usually end up being a part of our training programs that skill them to represent industry standards. Stay tuned for the upcoming fairs in our events page.

Here's a peek into the last three months!



Pune, Lucknow, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Vishakhapatnam, Tirupathi



2000+ attended



Participating Companies



OUR COLLABORATIONS



SEWING MACHINES DISTRIBUTION - Rotary Club India

Rotary Club India distributed Sewing Machines to 30 Persons with Disabilities, a feather in the cap of our WISE team. The program was inaugurated by Rotary India president Mr. Sekhar Mehta who appreciated the work we do. Women were happy and encouraged the distribution as they feel there are many who are in need.

Thank you Rotary Club India!

DELIVERING SMILES - A TABS donation program by Amazon

"Delivering Smiles" an event in collaboration with Amazon gave a platform for many to experience and accommodate Speech and Hearing Impaired youth.

TABS donation was the key aspect of the programme for the SHI youth, which will help them improve their skills through online learning and attend virtual interviews. We distributed 400 TABS for the needy, future aspirants, especially women. The event took place in three cities **Kolkata**, **Surat** and **Ahmedabad**.

The youth were overjoyed and emotional to get such unexpected support.

KUDOS team WISE!!



OUR COLLABORATIONS

Smart Inclusion Center Team organised a Career Guidance Program for class XII students and parents of **MGR school for Hearing Impaired** and for the **Students and Educators Government College for Women, Vazhuthacaudu**. They were given orientation on Importance of Graduation & the availability of educational courses and colleges in the city followed by orientation on Government polices and scholarship schemes for the students and role of parenting for children's career.



PLACEMENTS DRIVES

CANNOT TO CAN

Youth with disabilities CAN get jobs in higher positions. We are breaking myth which says they cannot. Work from home opportunity for the candidates from Tamilnadu and Cochin. The mobilisation was managed by team College Connect. Amazon was moved by our work. They were speechless when they saw people with severe disabilities walk in for the interview. Several youth with severe disabilities for salaries between 2.5 and 4.5 lacs in the month of June.

Amazon in one of our placement drives exclaimed, "We have hired 11 PwDs for executive roles in a single day is a record in India. A huge thanks to Youth4Jobs."

Special thanks to APJ Abdul Kalam Technology University, Kerala



INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

KONKANI SAMMELAN 2022

CALIFORNIA, USA



It was an honor to see our Founder, Director, Meera Shenoy join the growing list of stellar guests as the key note speaker at Hilton Convention Hall with Deepika Padukone and Anant Nag for the 10th North American Konkani Sammelan 2022 at San Jose, California, USA.

The **Konkani Sammelan** (KS) is a flagship event for the Konkanis in North America. This event attracts Konkanis from all across the United States and Canada. The two-and-half day event highlighted sumptuous Konkani food, entertainment, seminars, workshops, and much more serving as an effective forum in connecting families, fostering new relationships and reinforcing Konkani identity and culture.

She addressed a 2000+ full-house about helping youth with special needs as a part of her keynote speech on "Serving the Society".

Thank you Konkani Sammelan for inviting Meera Shenoy to showcase Youth4Jobs Foundation amidst such a special audience.

OUR WORK TOUCHES LIVES

Varsha Agarwal from VMware

"VMware is an organization that strives to be inclusive of #URM folks and provides equal opportunities to everyone regardless of #sex, #orientation, etc. VMware also seizes every opportunity whether traditional or non-traditional to hire URM #talents into the family and we are proud to say that #DisabilityAtVMware collaborated with Youth4Jobs Foundation NGO to hire PwD talents. It was a successful journey, and we were able to hire 2 talented folks from the community in Sales Management Support. All of us enjoyed the experience and looking forward to do more."

Thank you Varsha for tagging us in your post!

When our cause grows wings sharing the experience is sheer joy

June 2022, PUNE Job Fair

In one of the recent job fair's that was conducted at Pune, our Program Head of WISE, Sameer Nair experienced the sheer joy of a cause that caught on. He shares:

"

I thought of sharing some motivational stories, that happen behind the scenes, the story of a small contribution done by a commoner, for the Pune Job Fair.

The day after the Job Fair, I boarded an auto to catch my bus back to Hyderabad. Being my usual chatty self, I started a conversation with the auto driver. A beautiful surprise was awaiting me when he mentioned that from 3:00 pm the previous day, till the end of event the following day he provided support to more than 30+ candidates with locomotor disability by dropping them at nearest bus stop without charging a penny from them. At first I could not believe it, but when he shared names of candidates and the companies they attended the interview with I was very impressed.



Being a thorough gentleman, he denied charging me, and went on to say that, he believes deeply in our cause and took note from the first day that we were providing **free support** to youth with disabilities. I smiled and paid him the fare. Then he called out once again and showed me something behind the auto. There it was written in Marathi:

Free transportation for youth with disabilities.

Angels come in many forms and **Ramesh Gavali** was one more of them, who convinced me that the path we have chosen to empower each and every Person with Disability in India, is going to be full of such pleasant angel supporters.

"

OUR ALUMNI SPREADING THEIR WINGS

HYDERABAD'S SRIKANTH SHOOTS GOLD IN DEAFLYMPICS

Promising young shooter from Hyderabad Dhanush Srikanth showcased his potential by shooting a gold medal in the men's 10m air rifle competitions in the 4th Deaflympics at Caxias do Sul, Brazil.

The 19-year-old, competing in the Deaflympics for the first time, shot 247.5 in the final, which is also a finals world record score, to grab top honours ahead of South Korea's Kim Woo Rim.

With Dhanush, the hearing and speech impaired shooter, doing well in regular tournaments, his parents were reluctant to send him to the Games. However, his coaches and support staff wanted him to compete in these Games to get international exposure. And the youngster now returns with the top honours.

Congratulations Dhanush! We are proud of you.



VISAKHAPATNAM'S GANESH SHOOTS SILVER



Ganesh of Visakhapatnam won a silver medal in the National Para Kabaddi Championship. Ganesh, who represented Andhra Pradesh in the Divyangula Fourth National Men's Kabaddi Tournament at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai, showed his talent.

Congratulations Ganesh! Your hardwork made us proud.

He is a trained candidate from our Project Year 2021-22, 79th batch.

PRESS AND MEDIA

Featured in Newss18 - The Change Makers- Seasons 3

THE CHANGE MAKERS
SEASON 3

in association with **NEWS 18**

Transforming lives
of youth with disabilities Through trainings,
technology and jobs

Transforming Industries
by supporting them In their Inclusion journey

This week exclusively on **NEWS 18** **FIRSTPOST.**

www.thechangemakers.org.in info@thechangemakers.org.in

Watch the Inspiring story of Youth4Jobs on The Changemakers – Season 3 on 1st July 2022, exclusively on CNN-News18 (digital) & #Firstpost. Series Knowledge Partner Sattva Consulting.

[Watch this documentary.](#)

Thank you friends of the Press for helping us spread the word!

காண்ட் மேலா
தீர்மானமாக முனிசிபல் ஜோப்பிங் கம் மெகா ஜாண்ட்

14,500 3,700 2,000
அபிவிருத்தி
தேர்வு
10,480

Over 100 disabled shortlisted at Madras university job fair

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: The Madras University's job fair for disabled people attracted more than 300 candidates from across the city on Saturday. Companies including Amazon, Infosys, TVS Motors have shortlisted more than 100 candidates for various roles including software developers, programmers, accounts and administration.

response. Thirty companies have conducted interviews to shortlist the candidates. We expect more than 100 job offers from companies from this drive," said TM Sridhar, placement officer of the university. Jitendra Sharma said the quality of the candidates was so good. "We will issue offer letters to the shortlisted candi-

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Subhashini, Vellore

Disability: Muscular dystrophy

Subhashini and her elder sister were diagnosed with muscular dystrophy as teenagers when they started slipping on stairs. MD has no medication and muscles degenerate gradually. Her father died of cancer and her elder sister deteriorated so fast that she was bedridden. With a housewife mother dependent on relatives for finances, there was a pressure to earn. She did her MCA with many challenges of accessibility in college, transport etc. And even after her MCA, the only job she could get was DTP operator, then a school job.

Came COVID, she sent 100 job applications everyday and barely got a response. When we approached her, she readily agreed to be trained. We worked with her, got her interviewed for a work from home opportunity at an MNC for princely Rs.4.5 lakhs pa.

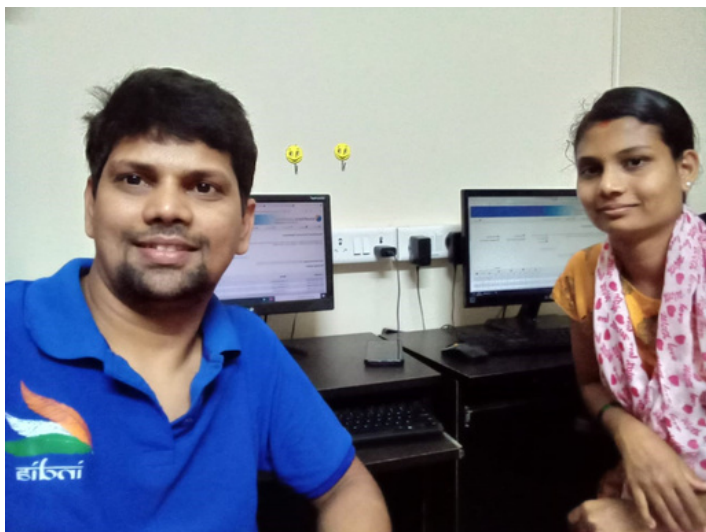
We asked what her challenges were. She said, "Every day relatives would say, you cannot even go to the toilet. Is it worth living? Why don't you die? Why don't you die?" and I had to push this out and be positive for my family. Youth4Jobs changed my life; I will also help change others".

She helps children with muscular dystrophy to learn English, finish schooling and get their disability certificates.



Ankitha Rao, Karkala (Mangalore)

Disability: Speech & Hearing Impairment



Ankitha is a speech and hearing disabled person with 100% disability. Both her parents work as daily wage labourers and she is the only child. Pampered and protected at home, she never went to school and hence lacked the basic communication skills. In March 2019 after attending an open exam, she completed her Xth exam.

In the beginning when Ankitha joined Youth4Jobs she was very hard to approach. She didn't understand sign language, felt homesick and challenged to travel alone and live alone in the PG at Mangalore. She convinced her parents that she would like to drop-out. It was the team of Y4J that counselled the family otherwise and the team slowed down to observe her interaction with her peers. From there the team learnt how to interact with Ankitha and were able to teach her soft skills, typing and english. Ankitha was the topper in her class in speed and accuracy. After the training Y4J team placed in Webtel India for BPO Non voice position.

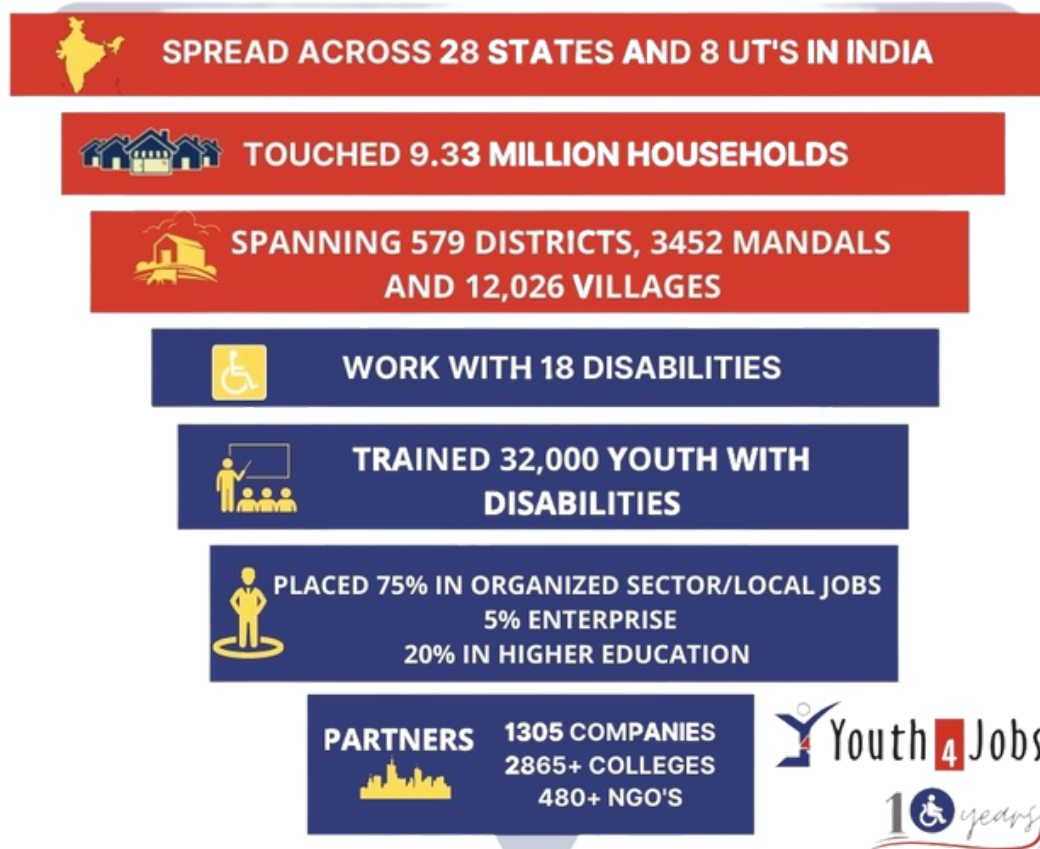
During her commute she met her would-be husband, who himself is an SHI person. Both of them quickly connected and once again Team Youth4Jobs stepped in; this time not as an organization but as a family. They counseled both families. Post marriage her husband also got placed into the same company through Youth4Jobs. Later during the pandemic, they were both given the opportunity to Work from Home. Both of them have been happily employed now for the past 2 years. Both families have expressed eternal gratitude to the team Y4J.

Two years into the Pandemic has left persons with disabilities disproportionately affected. The youth, many of whom were laid off, had to come home to their families, none of whom had any source of livelihoods. These youth were doubly disadvantaged: Being disabled and being unemployed. They could not even get food for their families.

Many of our alumni volunteered for outreach and awareness around their homes by stitching and distributing masks or by cooking food and giving it to those with multiple disabilities. Our youth put the need of others over their own, despite their own difficulties. And they have been an inspiration for us.

We also realized we had to continue our work on skilling and connecting youth with disabilities to jobs during these COVID times since the ask from parents and youth with disabilities was “ What we need is a Job.”

Youth4Jobs is **10 YEARS** old now



This challenging yet transformational work could not have been done without your support. Write to us at info@youth4jobs.org on how we can together make a larger difference.

