

EQUITAS

pulse

A CSR NEWSLETTER
from Equitas

Feb 2017

5,4,3,2,1... Lights! Sound! Action!

Students of Trichy Gurukul set the stage afire with scintillating performances during their 7th annual day celebrations that was held on 3rd Feb 2017 in the august presence of dignitaries. It was indeed a treat to our senses and a very gratifying moment to see the progress of our children in co-scholastic learning areas of music, dance and theatre. One of the key aims of Equitas Gurukuls is develop our children socially and train them with effective communication skills, both of which were superbly displayed. The plethora of stage performances, each defying the other with its beauty enraptured the audience and served to testify our efforts. Children portrayed their theatrical skills through a dramatic performance of Shakespeare's

Macbeth. The dignitaries lighted the lamp Incredible India was simply reinforced by the colourful folk dances that our children performed. The high point of the evening was our tiny tots showcasing the adoption of Stephen Covey's 7 habits of highly effective people. The clarity in content and delivery held our parents spellbound, clearly reinforcing our mission to develop our students into responsible individuals. Mr. S.Siva Kumar, Founder and Director of Trichy Plus Group of companies and Mr.D.Rajkumar Principal, Oxford English Schools, Chidambaram graced the occasion as chief dignitaries and

made the day more memorable. Both dignitaries addressed the gathering and encouraged students to pursue a career of their choice and interest and requested parents to refrain from pushing their dreams on to the children. The three hour program was well appreciated by the management and the parents as it show cased the many talents of our young learners, the coordination and talent among our teachers and the able guidance of the leadership team.



Shots to save from spots!

Children of VSKD Gurukul, Sivakasi shall enjoy a protected summer this year. The school organised a health camp on 20th February 2017 at their campus. Highlights of the camp were, inoculation against Rubella for the tiny tots and an awareness seminar on uterine cancer for the teachers. Doctors and nurses from Sivakasi government hospitals extended their earnest support in making this camp successful. 64 students were vaccinated on the day and more children will be vaccinated by the end of the month. Equitas Gurukul has a robust health and wellness club that plans and delivers health programs periodically to ensure good health among its students, teachers and family. Sivakasi Gurukul students and teacher shine in the Yoga Competition held at Anna stadium. 1st prize won by Irfana, Std V, 2nd prize by Amira Banu and Alise Maria of Std IV.



A day with the Gurukul visionary

Students of VSKD Gurukul had the privilege to meet the correspondent of Equitas Gurukul, Mr. Muralidaran, a walk the talk person, focused on nurturing effective leadership among all his team members, be it students or teachers. 16th February 2017 will surely be remembered by the students of grade X and XI who had the enriching opportunity to brainstorm and understand the process of setting goals and how to achieve the same in an effective manner, with none other than the Chief people's officer himself. An ardent follower of Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of highly effective people, our dynamic correspondent in simple terms made the students, understand and realise their responsibilities towards their own lives. The day long conclave of higher secondary students with the correspondent, evolved to be a power packed, decision making session that also enlightened the students and staff about the seven spiritual laws of success urging every one of them to think of stepping into a more meaningful journey of life.



Other activities of CSR



Financial literacy program was conducted for our members and their family in Osmanabad branch, Solapur.



Conducted drawing competition for our member's children at Memdavad branch, and gifts were distributed to all children.



Creating opportunity for our members, to sell organic spinach and to generate additional income.

Zero project award to Equitas at UNO, Vienna

Equitas's Social & Financial Empowerment of women with Disabilities named as Practice 2017 on Self-Employment by Zero Project

Chennai, February 24, 2017: Social & Financial Empowerment of women with Disabilities by Equitas has been awarded as an Innovative Practice 2017 on Employment, Work and Vocational Education and Training. On behalf of Equitas, John Alex, received the award at the ceremony held in the United Nations Office in Vienna. Equitas firmly believes that disability is just in the mind and there is no hurdle you really want to achieve something. Equitas while forming women's group consciously focuses on disabled women for inclusive growth. The Zero Project, an initiative of the Essl Foundation, focuses on the rights of persons with disabilities globally. It provides a platform where the most innovative and effective solutions to problems that persons with disabilities face, are shared. Its sole objective is to assist in creating a world without barriers. The Zero Project Conference 2017 this year focused on Employment, Work, and Vocational Education and Training. The conference was attended by more than 500 experts from more than 70 countries, discussing innovative solutions – Innovative Practices and Policies – that support employment, decent work and meaningful vocational education and training. The Award for Social & Financial Empowerment of women with Disabilities is based on a selection process organized by the Zero Project, based on the criteria of innovation, impact and scalability that involved more than 1,000 experts with and without disabilities from all over the world. 56 Innovative Practices and 11 Innovative Policies were finally selected this year.



Monthly Medical Camp

57764 members benefited through medical camps conducted across India by various hospitals. 33427 members were screened in eye camp, 178 free cataract operations were done by Various Eye hospitals and 555 members were provided free reading spectacles.



Placement Cell

Equitas conducted job fairs for unemployed youth and was successful in giving employment opportunities to nearly 4604 for the month of Feb-2017 and cumulatively 89474 youth were placed.

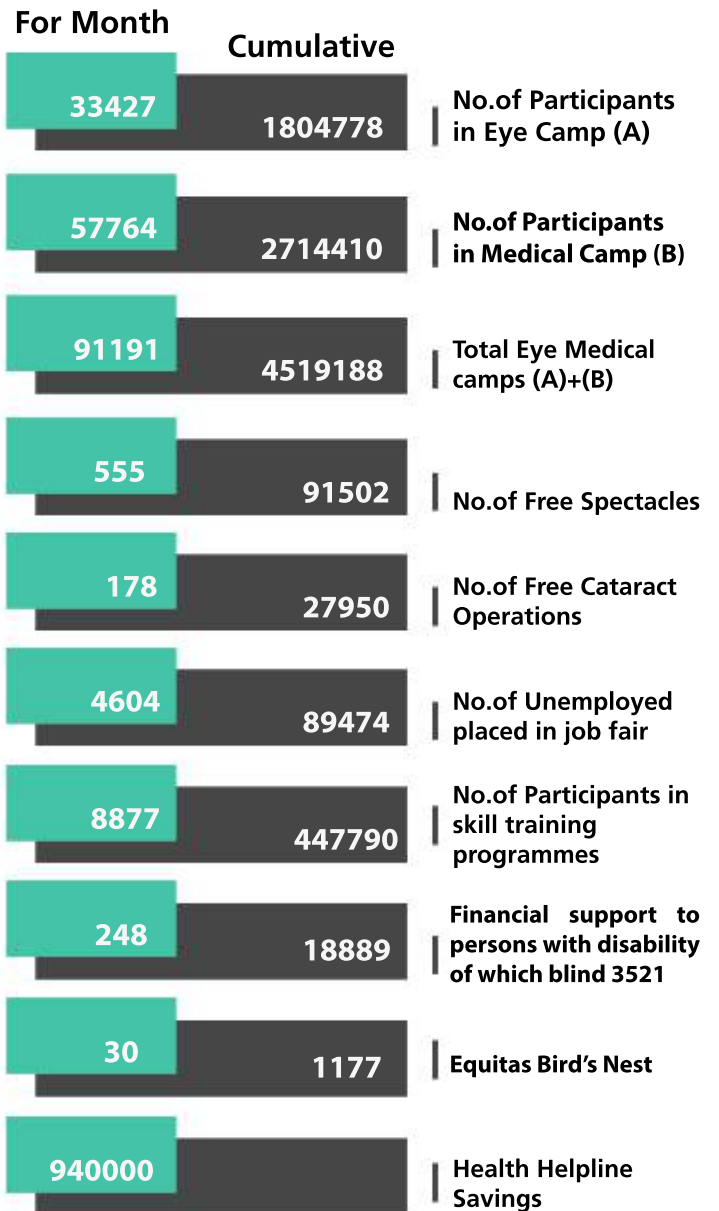


Skill Training

Branches conducted 5 days skill training programme across India for 8877 members on various products like soap oil, soap powder, phenol, tailoring, beautician, embroidering etc. These trainings additionally support the members' income. Along with the skill training we also provide health education to members, developed & supported by freedom from hunger.



MEMBERS REACH OF CSR INITIATIVES



Equitas Dhanyakosha

In our journey of providing food security to many members, we came across interesting episodes of passionate members who were willing to do business and become entrepreneurs with a little help. And in our regular centre meetings and interactions we found that there were few members with a little capital wanted to become entrepreneurs by setting up a grocery store at their homes but these members lacked expertise, enough funds and experience. We, with 8 years of business/operational experience with 24 stores thought of leveraging our strengths to support this cause hence an initiative called GEM (Grocery Entrepreneurial Model) was born out of deeper ideation to help these deserving members. This work came very close to our mission to improve the quality of their lives by empowering them to become Grocery entrepreneurs. This model was set in motion in the year 2104, in Kumbakonam and surrounding areas. At present 14800 entrepreneurs are benefited out of this model. Based on the success of this model, EDK rolled out another GEM Model at Madurai in September 2016. Around 1100 entrepreneurs are benefited out of Madurai