

## Newsletter – April to June 2024

### More Hands the Better – Warm Care to the Babies...





It has been an immense joy to see a significant increase in volunteers joining us to cuddle the babies.

These cuddlers are committed and passionate about how to make a two-hour session count. There's nothing they wouldn't do, it's literally two extra hands. They feed, play, cuddle, sing and dance. These set of volunteers are also involved in the Early Intervention Program initiated by Fernandes Hospitals and follow age-appropriate stimulation exercises that help these kids reach their milestones faster.

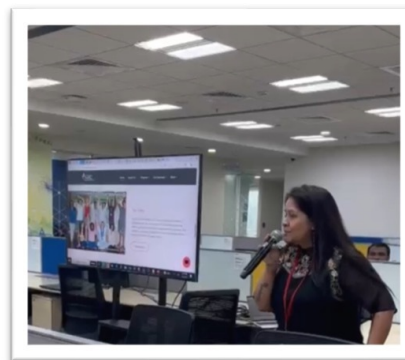
These stimulation activities are based on Gross Motor and Fine Motor development and also Communication, Cognitive and Sensory improvement. We also have had volunteers in their spare time continue doing the handmade crafts which contribute to the above. They made contrast cards, sensory bottles, bean bags and posting boxes. All of which help in stimulation and developmental milestones.



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## **CORPORATE VISIT**

The board members and ABC volunteers visited regular corporate sponsors. It was a 3-day visit which required us to have an ABC stall and do floor walk presentations. It was a great opportunity to meet employees and create awareness about ABC. It was time well spent in getting to know other noble contenders as well.





*Amita, one of our board members doing the floor walk on the left side & ABC stall on the right side*

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## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- As the new academic year started we had a request for many school supplies for the pre-school at the orphanage. Special thanks to Ms.Shobha Devi who sponsored the craft supplies.
- There was a requirement for specific playground equipment in a new area of the orphanage which we supported. A special thank you to GreenPark Hotels who sponsored it!
- We sponsored a waterbed for the children as a part of their Physiotherapy treatment.





## **RUNNER UPDATES**

- A special thank you to Apollo Hospitals for conducting an eye camp for 70 children of the orphanage at their premises.
- The FTT project continues, and the number of children has increased. We continue to review the progress through the support of Fernandes doctors. It helps us track the progress and provide preventive care for the children who need it.
- We were able to do MMR and Chicken Pox vaccinations for the babies and

kids up to 5yrs. The timing couldn't have been more perfect as we were able to give it right in time before the summer season hit. Hardly, any cases of chicken pox or Mumps were reported.

- Baby S, a 2.5-year-old boy who has been under our care for almost 2 years had his tracheostomy tube finally removed and is well able to breathe on his own. He's undergoing speech therapy currently under our support.

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## CUDDLERS

The cuddlers had a busy summer and the season has seen a significant increase in the number of new volunteers. The babies kept us busy throughout...!



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## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteering as a cuddler with ABC Society has been a profoundly enriching experience. My entire career as a play therapist is grounded in being that one caring adult who connects with children, fostering their emotional growth and resilience. Observing these young children, many of whom have experienced

instability, I see firsthand how crucial it is for them to have consistent, nurturing interactions. It's heartwarming to watch all the volunteers pour their care and attention into creating a sense of safety and affection for these little ones.

Each Monday, I look forward to my time with the kiddos. The joy I feel from simply being present with them, offering comfort and a safe lap, is immeasurable. Holding a baby who is just beginning to explore the world, or soothing one who feels unsettled, reinforces the idea that even brief moments of connection can have lasting impacts. Play, essential for all children, becomes especially crucial here. It helps the toddlers regulate their overburdened nervous systems and fosters their emotional and cognitive development. I am grateful to use my skills in this environment, engaging in playful interactions that promote their well-being.

Although our time together is short and I may never see the long-term effects, the privilege of being a reliable adult for these children is immense. This fills my heart with joy and a sense of purpose. For anyone who has the chance to volunteer in this way, I wholeheartedly recommend it—it's not always easy, but you'll find that the giggles and smiles from these little ones make every challenge worth it!

– Swathi Kundru



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## **THANK YOU TO OUR CSR PARTNERS AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS:**

We are thankful for the continued support of our corporate donors and CSR partners. Donations received in the last quarter:

- United Way of Hyderabad
- Shriram Insurance

Additionally, we couldn't do what we do, without our individual donors and other institutions who were very generous (listed below are donors that gave more than 5000 this quarter):

- Jayakannan Bashyamaiyengar
- Prabhu Mohan
- Radhika C Reddy
- Cartikeya C Reddy
- Anita Narayanaswamy
- Ritu Shukla
- Sunanda Reddy K
- Rita Ranjit
- Pratima Dutt
- Parmati Reddy
- Dr. Radhakrishna
- Deepthi Davuluri

#### **Donations in kind**

Special thanks to Luchelle who has donated a Bumbo seat for the babies.

We would also like to thank Juliet for baby clothes.

Huge help!

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## **EXPENSES**

Listed below are our expenses for the first quarter (Q1 of 2024-25):

**Baby items: INR 1500** for the purchase of a waterbed for an MR child.

**Consultations, Diagnostics and Medicines: 90.9K**

**Health and safety: INR 35.9K** - Antibacterial soap and Sanitiser.

**Supplements: INR 3.79 lakhs** - Pediasure, Nutrilite, vitamins / minerals, Dry fruits and nuts.

**Vaccines: INR 18K** – 40 MMR vaccines purchased and administered under doctors' examination for those children due for vaccination.

**Salaries and transport charges for the staff that care the babies: INR 5.4**



**lakhs** - includes ayahs to care for the babies in the hospital, full-time nurse, part time-occupational therapist and staff to monitor FTT babies and annual bonus.

**Hospitalisations: INR 30.31 lakhs** covering 17 hospitalisations. Balance payments for two children who required longer stay were paid this quarter.

*We need you!*



The demands placed on us are never ending, so do you know anyone who can help out? They can volunteer and help us...

- Cuddle babies
- Raise funds
- Pledge a fixed monthly amount
- Donate towards special projects
- Donate diapers and baby toiletries
- Donate money for the medical needs of the babies we support
- Corporate partnerships (CSR)

ABC is an entirely volunteer based organization, with all proceeds going directly to support the orphans we work with.

We are always in need of Volunteers to help with the various requirements. You can make a difference too!

CALL US

**+91 7032489040**

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