



RAPHAEL



July 2012

RAPHAEL RYDER CHESHIRE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA

newsletter

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Raphael has been abuzz with action once again and we bring you news of the last six months. We remain, as always, conscious of our Founders' ongoing Mission for the relief of suffering and continue to aspire with this objective in mind.

With the continuous support and assistance of our overseas and local supporters, we are able to achieve a great deal. Needless to repeat, we are ever grateful to them for all they do to assist us to make our residents lives better and meaningful.

Once again, our sincere thanks to all those whose efforts make our tasks, - many a time intimidating, so much easier and possible.

I hope you enjoy going through our Newsletter.

With our best wishes

Reena Chaturvedi.
Reena Chaturvedi

MIF / RAPHAEL PARTNERSHIP MONTH

*Immunization and Health camp held in
MIF- Raphael Partnership month.*

For the second consecutive year, MIF- Raphael Partnership month was observed in March thus strengthening our bond with MIF. As part of its various philanthropic activities MIF in partnership with Raphael organized an immunization and health camp on the 15th of March at Raphael for underprivileged children living in adjoining areas. A similar camp was held on the 16th of March at Mussoorie with the assistance of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration. Our doctors and a team of specialists from Max Healthcare attended to the children and supervised the camp.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends,

The journey that our Founders set us on continues and the exciting part of the journey is that there are forever newer challenges, opportunities and surprises.

It is for the first time that we have Suraj who stays in Ava Vihar, but attends a normal school as part of our effort to encourage 'all inclusive' education. This partnership continues to be a learning process for the school, Suraj and us. Suraj's progress encourages us and we hope to repeat this with other children as opportunities arise.

The children enrolled in the IAYP programme had the experience of their life during their 'adventure journey'. I must admit that at first I was somewhat apprehensive in letting them be exposed to camp life, but the confidence of the IAYP volunteers and our own teachers made me relent. The icing on the cake was when they received their well-earned 'Bronze Medals'.

Visiting the Sheltered Workshop one morning, Chavi, a Barbara Cottage resident, who is on a wheel chair came up to me and produced a hand knitted woolen scarf, which I was told she had made for me! Made me feel very special!

I am happy to report that soon we hope to open our special MDR TB ward.

Lt. Gen. Kerr has returned after attending the RCA's Biennial Conference deeply moved by both the work being done and the affection he received from all. My special thanks to RCA for inviting Raphael.

We have witnessed an increase in the number of volunteers and are delighted at this trend.

As always our special thanks to all our supporters and friends without whom this exciting journey would not have been possible.

Best wishes

Brijesh Jayal
Brijesh Jayal

AVA VIHAR / DAY CENTRE

The older residents of Ava Vihar remain ever cheerful and happy helping each other and participating in their daily routine and chores. The younger children are progressing at a good pace in the Day Centre. Suraj who had improved enough to join a mainstream school has done very well in his class two examinations. He stood 5th in class and has done Raphael and his parents proud. A tremendous achievement for Raphael certainly, to prove that with patience and persistence, a child with disability can manage well to participate in a mainstream school.



30 children and residents participated in a State Sports Meet held at Haridwar. Not only did the participants enjoy the outing away from Dehradun, they were full of enthusiasm at all the sports activities organized.

IAYP ADVENTURE JOURNEY CONCLUDES AT RAPHAEL

Twenty nine children successfully completed the International Award for Young People (IAYP) programme and received Bronze awards from Mr. John May, Secretary General of the IAYP in a ceremony at the prestigious Doon School here. The children have been working on this project since last year but the most interesting part, the 'adventure journey' section of the IAYP concluded in May. Three teachers- Maninder Kaur, Lata Chamoli and Kishan Rana along with other staff members and IAYP volunteers helped the children set up tents on Raphael campus and the children enjoyed a taste of adventure which included rappelling, walking on Burma bridge, river crossing, pitching tents, making a fire and cooking on it. The children actually slept in the tents for two nights. Overall it was a wonderful experience for our children.

... (more on backpage)



Carolyn (a volunteer) with girls of Barbara cottage

Our four girls at the Barbara Cottage are enjoying their independence, living on their own with the Housemother, and doing things for themselves. They are able to help in all the chores of the house- cook, wash, clean, and sew. Chavi, Komal, Ashu and Pooja have certainly justified the concept of our independent living project. Chavi, who knits well, has knitted a beautiful woolen muffler for the Chairman and surprised him with it on one of his visits.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION FORMED

A number of the parents of children with intellectual disability have shown interest and taken the initiative to form a Parents Association to discuss the progress and future welfare of their children. The association will address set objectives and emphasize on developing vocational skills in the children. Raphael is providing this fledgling group both administrative and moral support.

COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION

Raphael's Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programme continues to function successfully. An awareness programme was conducted with forty-two parents attending the programme in Hasanpur, a village on the outskirts of Dehradun and a Disability Identification Camp was conducted at the John Martyn Memorial School at Bhagwantpur.

Two boys - Abdul Rahman and Sadashiv suffering from Cerebral Palsy and who have been a part of our CBR programme for the past five years were happy beyond limits to receive special chairs under the Education for All Scheme. The chairs are specially meant for children suffering from Cerebral Palsy.



Anna Williams (a volunteer) with CBR Children

SNAC (STATE NODAL AGENCY CENTRE)

As a part of the ongoing SNAC activities, World Autism Awareness day was observed on 2nd April. Local NGOs, teachers of regular schools and our staff participated in the event. Sessions included games, video clips and some presentations.

A disability sensitization programme for high school students was organized by Abhiprerna Foundation and conducted by Raphael at Haridwar in May. About forty students attended the programme.

A one-day medical camp was organized on 13th May by Gokul Society, a NGO working for the less fortunate amongst us at Tehri. Raphael was asked to participate to cater to the needs of children with disability. Our resource persons provided appropriate programming and counseling to all the disabled children and their families during the camp.

RESOURCE CENTRE

Special Education (MR) Courses continue to run with full strength.

The training activity in the Resource Centre carries on and this year twenty-five students will complete the two year Diploma course in Special Education (MR). The next batch starts in July and is likely to be fully subscribed (twenty-five students). The other courses also continue to run with full strength.

In the field of learning difficulties fifty three students are receiving remedial help. We conducted a disability awareness workshop at Purkul Youth Development Society.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES / WORKSHOP

A two day workshop on the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD) was organized in January. The resource person was Ms. Radhika Alkazi from Aarth-Astha, Delhi.



A workshop on disability awareness was held at a local school - Purkul Youth Development Society to sensitize the teachers to the needs of the children with special needs in their school.

A Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) Programme by Rehabilitation Council of India on 'Understanding International Classification of Functioning: Review of Assessment tools' was conducted in February. About 30 special educators from other special schools attended the programme along with other interested persons in this field.

A training programme on intellectual disability was held for parents in May. The topics included characteristics of children with intellectual disability, the causes and prevention of intellectual disability and the role of parents.



Mrs. Chattopadhyay and Mrs. Chaswal, both members of an organization called 'Action for Autism' from Delhi conducted a workshop in April on management of sexual behaviours for persons with intellectual disability.

Mrs. Lesley Evans, a volunteer at Raphael from UK conducted a training programme in May for our teachers on the development of social stories.

SHIV SADAN

The older residents Kunka, Jasoda, Bisla and Gyani are visibly getting frailer but respond well to treatment of their various ailments. Kisni Devi another older inmate had a minor eye surgery and Nakchundi has recovered from a Gall Bladder operation. Majority of them now need constant medical care but they seem to be in good health.



TB HOSPITAL

The TB Hospital has been kept busy dealing with the stream of patients coming in from all parts of Dehradun, the adjoining districts of Uttarakhand and adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh (UP) including from the state of Bihar. A total of 141 new TB patients were registered for treatment and one new case of MDR (Multi-Drug-Resistant TB) was recently registered. The reputation of the TB Hospital continues to attract patients from towns/ villages far afield.

LITTLE WHITE HOUSE

Champa outshines other students with a first division in Board Examinations

Children of Little White House have returned to Raphael after their summer vacations.

All the six children passed the board examination with Champa outshining the others with a 1st division. The children in other classes have also done well.

Children of LWH are actively pursuing their IAYP programme and have started taking a lot of interest in activities like cooking, gardening, block printing and candle making. They are also helping elderly residents of Shiv Sadan and taking care of the mentally challenged children. Uttam, Prem, Subhash, Rahul, Bappi, Puja, Rita, Priyanka and Tara participated in a dance programme at our Founders Day celebrations.



CHRONIC WARD

Chhatru, Bhola and Sudeep are doing well. Despite their age and fragility they are as spirited as ever. Chhatru loves knitting and stitching jute bags which do well in all our sales. Sudeep and Bhola are cheerful. They are quite the favourites with everyone. Apart from being fussed over by visiting volunteers they are also being paid a lot of attention by the LWH children. As part of their IAYP programme the children are now seen wheeling the four for walks and outings.

REHABILITATIVE WORKSHOP

The more able bodied of the Shiv Sadan residents continue to do their weaving in the Rehabilitative workshop. In order to



augment this team a few ladies from neighbouring colonies are being imparted training by a specialist weaver.

The other residents and children continue with their candle making, gift bags, folders and block printing. The quality of block printing has improved tremendously. The children are now printing on table runners and mats weaved by the Shiv Sadan residents. Natural dyes are also being made and used.

Dheeraj Uniyal, a student in pre vocation class, after completion of basic training has been inducted in the paper bag unit. We could not miss the gleam in his eyes when he received his first stipend.

Preparations for Diwali have already begun. This year it is proposed to manufacture fancy decorative diyas for the 'festival of lights'.

RESIDENTS MEDICAL COVER

The general health of the residents is checked on a regular basis and all seem to be doing well considering the circumstances of age and age-related ailments. The younger residents are keeping well.

SPONSOR A MEAL SCHEME

This popular and on-going scheme is now on firm ground. More and more generous folk are coming forward to do their bit to make this project work. To sponsor a meal for 180 residents and children, not only goes a long way to meet the escalating costs of food but also brings so much of joy to the residents. It is specially rewarding for a sponsor to witness the residents' joy and anticipation of 'something special' coming their way.

Our hope is to involve others, and especially privileged children of other institutions, in this scheme and to sensitize them to feel for the underprivileged.



Volunteer Lesley Evans with intellectually challenged children

VOLUNTEERS / VISITORS

Raphael has always encouraged volunteers, overseas and local, to come and spend time with the children and residents and help in whatever way they can. Sharing their world and culture with the children gives the residents the exposure that they would never otherwise experience.

Now a very integral part of Raphael, we have a continuous flow of volunteers throughout the year and the last six months have seen a number of them from all over the world. We do hope that their numbers increase.

Many of the other volunteers extended their time and help until Our Founders Day. All of them contributed a great deal to make the day a success.

Lesley Evans and Carolyn Reed from the UK were tremendous assets. One of the items that the children put up was an English Country Dance item taught by Lesley who said that she did not have much difficulty in teaching the children most of whom



Lesley Evans with Indian volunteers Pooja, Vibha, Anchal & Sweta

were intellectually challenged. They picked up the dancing steps very fast and had no problem in keeping time with the music.



Anna Williams with Ava Vihar Children

Anna Williams from New Zealand adjusted very well in Raphael and enjoyed her teaching time and helping with all activities.

Claire Louise and Andrea Pomphrey from the REGE Foundation UK visited Raphael in April. Claire is very familiar with Raphael since the Foundation supports part of the programme. She returned pleased with CBR's performance in the various villages.

Jamie McCartney and Simon Welsh also came from the UK. Though their volunteering was for a relatively short time they left with a lot of love for Raphael and its residents.

Georgia Herron from Australia was impressed with the quality of care provided to the residents. She has come back after a short vacation since the Day Centre school has reopened. She is busy spending her time with the children.

Anita Shirwaiker and Sarah Brerton from Australia loved their time at Raphael as the following remarks indicate:

“We have had a wonderful time at Raphael. The staff and the students made us feel incredibly welcome from day one. Every day we looked forward to the many happy faces looking up at us. We have been inspired by the teacher's passion and innovation in the classroom as well as the student's creativity and eagerness to learn new things. We have enjoyed every second of our stay here whether it be teaching the children dance moves, making play dough, singing in the music room, playing cricket and basketball or helping in the classroom. We most definitely look forward to coming back in the near future.”

Jane Forster our indispensable volunteer coordinator from the UK is indeed a very familiar figure in Raphael. She tries to visit Raphael every year or whenever possible and her loyalty and services of long years to the organization are highly appreciated. Raphael and many look forward to her visits as much as she enjoys her time at Raphael and meeting up with residents and old acquaintances. We look forward to her visit again next year.

In May, a group of nursing sisters from Canada visited Raphael. They were familiarized with all its activities and especially of the TB Hospital.

BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Lieutenant General EG Kerr, our Governing Council member was invited to the RCA Biennial Conference held in Canberra on 5th & 6th May 2012. He returned with glowing reports of the dedication and professionalism that he witnessed during the conference and overwhelmed by the kindness and hospitality he received.

STAFF NEWS

Dr Ashok Kumar, our Doctor looking after the Residents and the Resident Clinic has had to leave for personal reasons. He now spends a lot of time with his children who live overseas. We miss his presence and sound advice and wish him luck and happiness in the future.

Lalita Rana, our speech therapist after twenty years of dedicated service to Raphael resigned due to personal reasons.

Our congratulations to Megha Bisht, our Physiotherapist on her marriage and wish her all the best.

Payal Khanna, our Resource Centre Coordinator has been blessed with a baby boy. Congratulations Payal!

ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN AT RAPHAEL

We are grateful to RCA, Ryder Cheshire Foundation, New Zealand, Target TB, UK, SOIR-IM and the many individual supporters who continue to come to our aid in support of infrastructural and other humanitarian projects that keep arising from time to time.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the sad demise of Kalu Ram from Shiv Sadan. May his soul rest in peace.

FOUNDERS DAY, 5TH APRIL 2012

Founders Day celebrated amidst thundershowers and rain.

Raphael celebrated its 54th Founders Day on 5th April. Even though the weather forecast predicted thundershowers and rain, it did not deter our loyal supporters to join in the celebrations. Amidst bad weather and rain, Raphael had a good turn out and we were grateful to our friends who came to revive their bonds with Raphael and encourage our residents.

Chairman, in his welcome address paid a tribute to our Founders and traced Raphael's historic journey highlighting some of the important milestones and personalities who have contributed to this journey. He specially mentioned Maj. Gen. Rummy Bakshi's long contribution. He concluded by assuring all those present that Raphael's abiding commitment to providing relief to those suffering will remain as strong as when our Founders first conceived of it.



The celebrations included a short programme by Raphael children and residents. The English country-dance taught by one of our overseas volunteers was deeply appreciated. Local dances depicting the culture of some of the states especially Uttarakhand were certainly of a high calibre. It showed how much the children can imbibe and learn and how music and dancing form an important and enjoyable part in their lives.

Chief guest, the Chief Secretary of the Government of Uttarakhand Mr. Subhash Kumar lauded the efforts of Raphael's mission for the underprivileged and the needy and extended all possible support in its efforts to improve the life of the residents. He deeply appreciated the manner in which it was fulfilling its goals.



IAYP AWARD FOR RAPHAEL

Article published in IAYP Newsletter:

The International Award for Young People

Creating Committed Citizens



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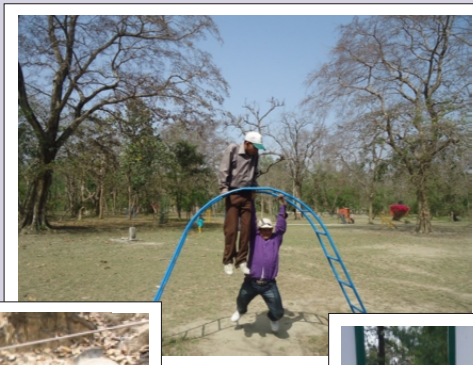
34 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL ABILITIES FROM RAPHAEL HOME TAKE ON THE AWARD CHALLENGE



Each young person at Raphael that signed up for his/her Award journey has special needs, yet they chose their activities themselves, based on their abilities, potential and Interest. For the skills section, activities ranged from job related skills like Paper bag making, Candle making, Block printing, Vegetable cutting, chapatti making, Computer typing; to basic life skills like having a bath, folding their clothes and catching a ball. Each of them helped younger children with their daily chores including bathing and dressing, pushing wheelchairs, to locking the classrooms after school hours and helping in data transfer on the computer. The Award has brought tremendous change in their attitudes, personalities, confidence and a sense of responsibility.

The 3 day adventure camp attended by 29 participants, had the young people busy learning to pitch tents, light a wood fire, and engage in activities they only dreamed about like river crossing, rappelling and some trekking. On 31st March 2012, 29 participants received the Bronze award from Mr. John May- Secretary General of The International Award Association at a ceremony at The Doon School. [Visit Raphael Home website](#)

more pictures . . .



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