



We are grateful for your 'GOLD' Heart...

We are extremely grateful and happy to inform all our donors and well-wishers that HTBF has been bestowed with the prestigious "Gold Certification for transparency and accountability" by 'Guidestar India' which is India's largest and most reliable online information repository with over 11000 NGOs. And with this, we have joined India's largest pool of credible NGOs after undergoing a rigorous due diligence process. To view our profile, please visit: <https://guidestarindia.org.in/Summary.aspx?CCReg=11157>



Education, Mobility And Employability Training (EMET) Annual Meeting & Training held at Bangalore



HTBF has taken the first step forward in imparting Skill Development, through an intensive 2 year programme.

The EMET Team from various regions presented the progress, and challenges faced by them. There were discussions on the syllabus and SOPs of the program. This was helpful in designing the future course of action and reflecting on the feedback from our trustees and volunteers. Enable India and Vividha Trust, our knowledge partners reaffirmed their support.

The volunteers were made familiar with the syllabus and placement opportunities for the VIs. The best employee awards were given to Gayathri, Janice and Dheeraj for English Training, Rajendar for Computer Training, and Leadership Awards for Adil and Keerthana, Swaroop for Coordination and other Special recognitions were also made.

Mr.Nataraj, our Trustee spearheaded this programme and ably supported by Mr. Sivaji Rao, our Managing Trustee.

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light." – Helen Keller





Laptop Distribution at Queen Mary's College, Chennai



13 laptops, along with external keyboards and tactile books for computers, were handed over to the students of Queen Mary's College, Chennai on 2nd March, 2022. Dr. Uma Maheshwari Principal of QMC, Mrs. Rajashree, CEO of Cognizant Foundation, Mrs. Sriranjani, Chief of Programs at Cognizant, Mr. Edwin, Manager at Cognizant, HTBF Trustees Mr. Narasimhan, Mrs.K.M Kanthi, HTBF Volunteer Mrs.D.Vijayalakshmi, Mrs. Jayashree, Chief Librarian at QMC, Dr. Sivaraman, HOD, Dept. of English, Presidency College, Mr. Nagaraj, Asst. Prof at Presidency College, many Teaching Faculties and Non-Teaching Staff of QMC, HTBF trainers, EMET Manager Mr. Renold and 13 beneficiaries with 20+ VI students from various departments of QMC attended the function.

Ms. KANTHI – A Woman of Substance

Ms.Kanthi K.M, a Trustee of HTBF, is an embodiment of poise and strength. Being around her makes you feel the vibrance that she emanates and her persistence and hard work will inspire you to go beyond the limits.

Ms.Kanthi is the first Visually Impaired M.Phil post graduate in the State of Tamilnadu. She has worked in the Department of English, Queen Mary's College (QMC), Chennai for 33 years. Whilst at QMC, she was instrumental in starting Business English Course (conducted by Cambridge University) to train girl students, which has been widely acknowledged and rated a success, especially for the benefit of her students from the lower strata of society. Ms.Kanthi's focus has been on the spoken English language and communication.



This Women's Day, Cognizant Foundation celebrated her success and charisma, by conferring her with the 'Inspiring Woman Award'. We at Help The Blind Foundation feel proud that we have such an eminent person to guide and inspire us, as our Trustee.

Click the link to read excerpts of the interview:

<https://www.facebook.com/CognizantFoundation/photos/pcb.5043304245753136/5043304085753152/>

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light." – Helen Keller





Together we make them resilient: Laptop distribution at Ahmedabad, Gujarat



HTBF with the support of Koshumbh Multitred PVT Ltd. distributed 35 Laptops to the VI students in three Colleges in Ahmedabad on 23rd March 2022. HTBF has been actively supporting nearly 400 VI Students in Gujarat.

Mr. Sonu Vaswani, Managing Director, Koshumbh Multitred PVT Ltd., Mr. Rajesh Ahuja, India Manager, Koshumbh Mutitred PVT Ltd., Mr. Sivaji Rao, Managing Trustee, HTBF India and The Principal Mr. Govardhan J. Banzara, HK Arts College where the program was held, were the chief dignitaries who attended the program. Mr. Sonu Vaswani committed to

support the sponsorship and skill development trainings together with Laptops for the 90 students under the EMET Skill Development Trainings in 2022-23 financial year. Mr. Vaswani and Mr. Ahuja distributed the laptops to the students. The Principal Mr. G.J. Banzara appreciated the efforts and commitment of HTBF and the support of Mr & Mrs. Vaswani in supporting the VI Students. Mr. Ghansyam, the computer trainer of HTBF proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The program was organised by the HTBF Volunteers led by Mr. Sunil Shah with the support of HK Arts College.

Let us give them wings.... Dreams will make them fly...



Ms. Pon Meenakshi, HTBF Volunteer at Coimbatore, organized a grand evening at Brookfields mall, Coimbatore, on 18th March 2022 to celebrate distribution of new laptops and sponsorships to our EMET Students in the region. It was well attended by our donors and well-wishers at Coimbatore. Mr. Narasimhan, HTBF Trustee was also present at the

“Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.” – Helen Keller



function. The students were provided with new laptops and scholarships with the support of Brookfield Estates Pvt Ltd. and Kishinchand Chellaram Foundation. We believe this will enhance their computer skills, empowering them to be more effective in the digital skill sets being imparted, as part of the EMET Program.

HTBF Scholarship Distribution and 'Ability Day' held at Andhra Loyola College, Vijayawada



Andhra Loyola College, Vijayawada observed the 'Ability Day' and organised the distribution of Scholarships from HTBF to the Visually Challenged Students, under the auspices of Higher Education for the Persons with Special Needs (HEPSN) wing of the College. Bringing out the talents of the students with visual impairments and making them successful in life was the aim of the 'Ability Day'.

In the scholarship distribution program, Fr. Peter Daniel, Operational Director of Village Reconstruction Organisation was the Chief Guest. Mr. Srinivas PVK, from Samarathana Trust, Fr. Sahayaraj, The Correspondent of Andhra Loyola College and the former provincial Fr. Bosco, Coordinator of HESPN Dr. G. Sahaya Baskaran, Volunteers of HEPSN and several others attended the function. Mr. Sivaji Rao, Managing Trustee, Mrs. Deepa Krishnamoorthy and Mr. Nataraj Sankaran, Trustees of HTBF, greeted the students online.

Help The Blind Foundation, has provided scholarships worth Rs.6.3 Lakhs, to 63 visually challenged students. The scholarships were processed through HEPSN wing of Andhra Loyola College.

The event was live streamed on YouTube. Students and Well-wishers attended the event, and nearly 200 people watched it online. You may watch the video by clicking the link given; https://youtu.be/46_F9HgbgEM

Their Smiles are our hope...

Scholarship distribution to students of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, lit up not just their faces, but also our hope of them having a bright future ahead.

The scholarship distribution function was arranged on 13th May 2022 for the Visually impaired students at BHU. The program was organized by the Finance Officer, BHU and the scholarships were given by HTBF. This year HTBF provided scholarships for 124 students in BHU.

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light." – Helen Keller





Visually impaired students of the Faculty of Performing Arts beautifully prepared the Kulgeet. HTBF Managing Trustee Mr. N.Sivaji Rao joined the program online and welcomed the delegates and emphasized that the goal of HTBF is to ensure good university education for the visually impaired, and help them become economically independent and successful in life.



Mrs. Deepa Krishnamoorthy, Trustee HTBF, encouraged the students to excel in life and thanked all the members of the BHU Administration, especially the Finance Officer and his team for the speedy dispersal of the scholarship. Prof. Arun Kumar Singh, Registrar, BHU presided over the function, and Dr. Abhay Thakur, F.O, BHU inaugurated the scholarship distribution. Director of the Faculty and Dean of Students Welfare, BHU along with HTBF Volunteer Dr. Raka Ray Mandal participated in the faculty wise scholarship distribution. Dr. Sanjay Kumar, J.R (A/C1) monitored the scholarship distribution.

You may click on the link to know more about this program;

<https://m.timesofindia.com/city/varanasi/scholarships-given-to-visually-impaired-students-by-htbf/articleshow/91552419.cms>

We Feel Proud

- ▶ **Mr.Nitin Tyagi**, ex Student ShreeRam College of Commerce and presently pursuing MSc Economics at IIT Delhi is selected as Probationary Officer with State Bank of India.
- ▶ **8** students who are HTBF beneficiaries and Mr.Vikas one of our EMET Trainers got placement in Sutherland Global.
- ▶ **Mr.Ajeeth.S**, HTBF beneficiary (UG Loyola + PG Madras Varsity) has joined IDBI bank as Executive Officer in Thanjavur Branch.
- ▶ **Mr.Dinesh Chand Seowa**, from Hindu College, Delhi joined as Junior Associate at State Bank Of India.
- ▶ **Ms. Summer Massey**, Student of Daulat Ram College, Delhi got selected as Officer in Gramin Aryavarta Bank, Lucknow.
- ▶ **Ms. Pandiselvi** of S V N College, Madurai, got selected as 'Customer Service Executive' in IDBI Bank, Madurai.

HTBF Gratefully Acknowledges...

With profound gratitude, and respect we confirm that Mr. J.V Ramani retired from the position of Chairman, HTBF India as on 5th February, 2022 due to the Rotational Policy for Trustees in HTBF India. Mrs. Mallika Ravi has also resigned as Trustee as on 31st March, due to personal family commitments. HTBF India sincerely thank Mr. Ramani & Mrs. Mallika Ravi for their untiring efforts and yeoman services for the growth of HTBF India, since inception. We look forward to their guidance and support as Mentors, in future as well. Mr. S Kothandaraman and Mr. R. Sunder Kumar have joined HTBF India as new Trustees from 1st April 2022.

HTBF CRICKET TOURNAMENT

HTBF Cricket Tournament was held on 9th of May, 2022 at Junction Road Park – Hard Surface Soccer Pitch, 195 Junction Road, Kowloon City. The event was held as part of the fund raising campaigns of HTBF. Star plus Trading Mr.Bala sponsored the Rondelle Thermo Bottle to winning Team members, Runner up Team members, Best Bowler, Best Batsman, Best Fielder and Most Valuable Player, and also sponsored T-shirts for the participants and friends. Mr. Arun, Mr. Balaji, Mr.Kanna, Mrs. Manju Vaswani and Mr.Venkat coordinated the entire event.



Mr. Mohan and Mr. Santhosh supported the coordination team and Thanks to Mr. Franky who is a licensed HKG league umpire & Mr. Rammi who has a great knowledge of Cricket and worked very hard and moved the games along smoothly.

Mr. Fazil and Mrs. Latha handled the scoring app diligently. Mrs. Niti Patel - Founder Member of "Help the Blind Foundation", Mr.Sonu Vaswani (Director – Sunshine Far East Limited), Mr.Venkat (Director – G.Doulatram & Sons (HK) Limited), Mrs. Meera Patel (Director - HTBF), Mr. Ravi (Partner - Sky Best CPA Ltd.), and Mr. Kanna (Director - HTBF) who came and distributed the prizes to the Winning Team Members, Runner Up Team Members, Best Bowler, Best Batsman, Best Fielder & Most Valuable Player.

APPEAL

Education, Mobility And Employability Training (EMET) Program And Placement Of Our Beneficiaries Are The Prime Focus Areas Of Help The Blind Foundation.

We appeal to our donors and other well-wishers to continue to support us in our efforts in providing college education, skills and employability training to our visually impaired students.

On the Employment front, if you can provide employment or refer an employer for giving jobs to our students, it will be a great help

And you can also contribute by speaking to your friends and relatives and create an awareness among the general population about the capabilities of our students.

Please contact managingtrustee@helptheblind.in for more details. You can also contact us at info@helptheblind.in or call us at +91 90033 30197

Comments, Questions? : Please write to managingtrustee@helptheblind.in with "newsletter feedback" in the subject line.

HTBF India Trustees details link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EHkx9DVOqjG8oPzn0ffVaIS9nT6TfxUN/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104861293972787322500&rtpof=true&sd=true>

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light." – Helen Keller

