

Sponsorship 2022-2023 gracefully completed

The year 2022-2023 has been eventful. Similar to the previous years, this year was also very exciting with its own challenges, and our volunteers took active interest in addressing the issues tactfully and pro-actively. Sponsorship Program 2022-23 was completed successfully and the Foundation could process close to 3000 applications from 255 colleges in 53 cities, in 14 states across India.

We are very happy to take this opportunity to thank our all our Trustees, volunteers, coordinators and staff who have put in their efforts and completing the process successfully. We hope to serve more Visually Impaired Students in the years to come and make them their better versions of themselves to compete as equals with their sighted peers.

We look forward to your continued support in our relentless efforts to make the students self-reliant and economically independent.

Managing Trustee

Cognizant World Wide Partner's and Directors Meet



A World Wide Partner's and Directors meet was held by Cognizant Foundation on 2nd March, 2023 at Chennai. Mr. Nataraj Shankaran, HTBF Trustee & Project Director EMET and Ms. Pooja Singhvi, Project Manager Skill Development attended the event along with Mr. Balakumar Thangavelu (Head - Cognizant Outreach), Mr. Rajesh Nambiar (Chairman and Managing Director, Cognizant India and Chairman, Cognizant Foundation), Mr. Shahul Hameed (Senior Director, Corporate Communications, Cognizant), Daffodil Marcus, (Director - Strategy & Operations, Cognizant Foundation), Ms. Rajashree Natarajan (CEO - Cognizant Foundation), Mr. Edwin Moses (Senior Manager - Programs, Cognizant Foundation).



Short Term Training Program – Phase 2

Short term Training Part 2 for the Visually Impaired students who aspire for employment was organized in Chennai. 12 Students from different parts of the country successfully completed the course. The candidates were given certificates by HTBF Trustees Mr.R. Sunder Kumar & Mr.S.Narasimhan. Mr. Ramesh, General Manager HTBF, Ms.Pooja Singhvi and Ms.Abbinaya Sundar, Project Officers EMET and Ms.Aprarna, Asst.Project Officer were also present. Students expressed their contentment and gratitude for getting an opportunity to sharpen their skill sets and for the guidance the course could provide to them.



Impact of STT

- ☞ Ms. Amrithalakshmi G, from Coimbatore has got placement in Amazonas Device Tech Support – Accessibility Testing.
- ☞ Mr.Suhail who attended the short term training Program – Part 2 at Chennai got placement in the ESSA Garments Pvt.Ltd.as Office Assistant.
- ☞ HTBF beneficiary and Trainer Mr.Mohammed Bilal joined Sutherland Global Service as Senior Associate, Amazon D2.

New Contributor Award by Google



This is not the first time Srinivasan is making waves. From adding his father’s tea shop location in the google map to writing an assignment all by himself, he keeps making us proud and happy. This time he surprised us with yet another triumph " New contributor" award by Google local guide community of Google map for giving right reviews with amazing photos and answer for the questions. He will get ‘Novice Reviewer’, ‘Novice Photographer’ and ‘Novice Director’ awards from Google map. His photographs and videos have got 63201 views on Google.



Tech4All - Enabling persons with disabilities for a career in Office Management, Insurance, Banking, Finance and Accounting – Photographs

Detailed report in Page 3





Awareness Class for Visually Challenged Students



A general medical awareness program for the visually challenged students of Help the Blind Foundation, Chennai chapter was conducted on 6th March 2023 at Government Arts College, Nandanam, Chennai. Over 40 girls and boys from Queens Mary College, Presidency College and Government Arts College, Nandanam participated in the program. Mr. S. Narasimhan (HTBF Trustee) presided over the session.

Dr. Ramasamy, a leading Oncologist and Haematologist from USA addressed the students on topics like importance of exercise, nutritive

diet, yoga, meditation, dental hygiene and personal hygiene. He also emphasized the importance of mental health and well-being.

It was an interactive session, and the students asked many questions on diabetes, urinary infection, eye care etc. Students were curious and displayed a lot of eagerness to learn through these sessions.

Dr. Ramasamy distributed tactile books to the students which would help them understand computer concepts by haptic perception.

"Tech4All - Enabling persons with disabilities for a career in Office Management, Insurance, Banking, Finance and Accounting"



"Tech4All - Enabling Persons with Disabilities for a Career in Office Management, Insurance, Banking, Finance and Accounting" project, which is being carried out by Cheshire Disability Trust (CDT) in partnership with Help The Blind Foundation (HTBF), Christ University, and the Visually Impaired Bank Employees Association (VIBEWA).

The project's training materials and training modes are tested for accessibility by HTBF, the project's accessibility partner, so that they can be transformed into a format that is accessible by people with visual impairment. The project is funded by **Cognizant Foundation**. The primary goal of the program is to equip VI applicants with the knowledge and skills needed to land a job in the fields of Office Management, Insurance, Banking, Finance, and Accounting.



Smart Vision Glass Assessment held at Help The Blind Foundation



A team from Cognizant under the leadership of Ms. Rajashree Natarajan, CEO Cognizant Foundation held an assessment session of Smart Vision Glass at the Help The Blind Foundation Office, Chennai. HTBF beneficiaries who have been given the Glasses for testing purpose were brought together to get their feedback on the device.

Mr. Edwin Moses (Senior Manager - Programs, Cognizant Foundation) and Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim (Regional Business Development Manager) SHG -



Smart Health Global Technologies who are suppliers of Smart Vision Glasses also attended the session. HTBF beneficiaries Ashika, Lavanya, Mukesh, Monish, Santhosh A, Seenivasan c, Srinivasan and Sivabalan along with Ms.Sathya, Trainer EMET attended the session. HTBF Project Officers Ms.Pooja Singhvi & Ms.Abbinaya Sunder facilitated the sessions.

Students gave their feedback and opinions to improve the quality of SVG which was well taken and appreciated by Ms.Rajashree Naratajan.

Appeal

Apart from college education with which we started as the primary focus, skills training through our Education, Mobility and Employability Training (EMET) Program and Placement of our beneficiaries have also become the 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.

For donations – Contact: +91-8838664419, Email: suchitra@helptheblind.in

HELP THE BLIND FOUNDATION

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