# DARE TO DREAM MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## **NOURISH THE GROWING MINDS!**

## ACTIVITIES AT WINVINAYA

Visit from the stakeholders, Alumni Connect Back, Disability Awareness Orientation, New Training, Circle Time with Fun, Healthy Food and more...

## PLACEMENT AT WINVINAYA

Many companies are focusing on increasing their disability diversity coverage by recruiting persons across disabilities. True Inclusion.

### TRAINING AT WINVINAYA

We started a batch for training Persons with Visual Impairment in Accessibility Testing, in addition to adding more courses to Academy.

#### ALUMNI CONNECT BACK - FUN AND LEARN

Isn't it always nice to connect back with our friends from schools & colleges and take a walk down the memory lane? This month we organized a Virtual meet where Alumni played games, shared stories, and had an interactive session on current placement trends, how they can benefit and in what ways they can contribute. It was a Fun and Learn session.

#### DISABILITY AWARENESS WORKSHOP

This month, we did the Disability Awareness Workshop for 2 of the leading corporates. In both the sessions, we brought in Persons with Disabilities for a lively interaction with the audience. Experiential learning is the best!

Disability Awareness Workshops are very important to address the myths around disabilities and highlight the positive results of recruiting Persons with Disabilities.

#### VISIT FROM OUR PARTNER NGOS AND PARENT GROUPS

As you know WinVinaya trains Persons across Disabilities. Recently our partners from various NGOs and Parent Groups visited us to understand about the training we do and explore areas of collaboration. One of them remarked that they came across Persons across 7 Disabilities during this visit and it was wonderful for them to see lively interactions between people across disabilities.

If you are a NGO/ Parents Organization/ Corporate who want to get sensitized about Disability, interact with Persons across disabilities, schedule a time and visit us. It will be great to learn from each other and explore areas of mutual interest.









#### TRAINING AT WINVINAYA!

We started training for Software Development, Software Testing. For persons with Visual Impairment, we started Accessibility Testing training where we will enable the candidates to get 508 Trusted Tester Certification from Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which is a reputed and challenging certificate to earn.

Every month, we start new batches for upskilling the candidates.

If there are candidates who could benefit through this free training and placement assistance, please <u>register at WinVinaya Foundation</u>.

#### PLACEMENTS AND COLLABORATIONS!

3 candidates were placed in 2 leading companies this month. 5 more companies have shown interest in recruiting persons across disabilities and are in the pipeline. We provided post placement support to our candidates and the companies that recruited them to ensure that the candidates can integrate well with the company, add value, and grow.

#### **BLOGS!**

#### Circle Time with a Difference!

Have you ever walked from one place to another without your feet touching the ground? Sounds exciting and confusing? During the Circle Time, we actually "walked" without our feet touching the ground? Read the full story about our weekly <u>circle time</u> to know more.

#### Good Food for a Great Mood!

Sweet Momos Anyone? At WinVinaya we started providing snacks and lunch for all our students and associates and Sweet Momos are one of our favourites. Read the full story of our <u>snack time</u> to know more on how we have created an inclusive environment where we have a lot of fun, eat great food, and get back to work with a relaxed and refreshed mind.



## **GALLERY!**









#### **VOLUNTEER WITH US!**

We always encourage inquisitive and brilliant minds to volunteer at WinVinaya. One of our recent volunteers is Dhriti Kirpalani who came up with a lot of interesting and exciting activities for Persons with Neurodiversity. She made them sing, dance and play. She also made them prepare smiley sandwiches and everyone loved it. She is also helping us create learning materials for training PWDs. If you are interested to enrich your life by enabling others to succeed, please register yourself as a volunteer.

#### DONATION!

Now you can impact lives just like we do right where you are! Rs. 25k will help us train a candidate in Niche, Industry Ready skills like Software Development/ Software Testing/ Core Banking, Financial Accounting and more. Your contribution will make a huge difference in the life of a candidate.

Don't wait, head out to donate!



#### HUMANS OF WINVINAYA!

Manjula is WinVinaya's "Food Lady." She is originally from Haveri, Karnataka. She moved to Bangalore at the age of 15 when she got married in the year 2006. She has always been passionate about food but never thought of making a career out of it.

Her catering service started when one of her Husband's friends took some sweets prepared by Manjula to his office and the people immediately fell in love with her sweets. They offered her an opportunity to cater lunch for the office. She was a little hesitant at first, but with her Husband's support and motivation, she accepted the opportunity. Her husband and both her sons also help her with cooking and motivates her to get better. Currently she is catering for 2 companies.

Upon asking her about her experience in working with Persons with Disabilities she said that even though her mother's brother is a person with Intellectual Disability, she had NOT come across many persons with disabilities and she never thought that they could actually lead a life with dignity.

When she came to WinVinaya and interacted with persons across disabilities she realised how they are working beyond her imagination. She was amazed to see how people across disabilities are working together and how they help and motivate each other to perform better. She was thrilled to see how Persons with Visual Impairment operates a computer and perform their everyday tasks without depending on anyone else. She said that it gives her immense pleasure that she is contributing to the happiness and wellbeing for a greater cause and she is delighted to learn that her Ghee Rice, Idlis, Sweet Momos, Parathas and Chutney are everyone's favourite. She is very motivated and determined to cook even better and contribute in her own way.

Manjula could not study much but she wants her sons to learn, grow and be capable of leading independently. She is happy that with the money she makes from catering, she can support her family. She is leading a life with dignity because she knows what her passion is and how despite not having a degree it did not stop her from being an earning member of her family.

She is an ideal example of how passion more than formal education is the most important thing in leading an independent life and she is an inspiration for all of us.

Her comment? "Your happy faces are what keeps me going and I will keep on doing my best to provide you with good food. Keep smiling."

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