# DARE TO DREAM

The official newsletter of WinVinaya Foundation



### WINVINAYA'S INCLUSIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

# US Leader's Inspiring Visit: Lauren Benne Commends WinVinaya Foundation!



We had the honor of hosting Ms.
Juhi from TE Connectivity and Ms.
Lauren
Benne, Senior

Manager of Global Corporate Responsibility and Executive Director of the TE Connectivity Foundation, on her first visit to India. Lauren interacted with WinVinaya candidates and employees. She shared, "I was inspired by the testimonials of the students and teachers. You are clearly doing impactful work - keep it up!" Thank you for your kind words and support, Lauren!

# Triple Triumph: Our Candidates Shine Across IT and Non-IT Domains

Last month, three of our candidates secured placements in forward looking inclusive organizations. Congratulations to Goskhe Kavya and Naveen M for their success with VARITE INC, a leading staffing and solutions company, and to Madhur Aurora for joining MAP, a prominent consulting and services firm. Their achievements reflect their hard work and dedication. These placements reflect the excellence and versatility of our candidates!

# **Empowering Learning: Zoho Payroll Training at WinVinaya Foundation!**



On June 14th and 15th, Mr. Nandakumar, Training Lead at ZOHO, conducted an insightful Zoho Payroll training session for 14 WinVinaya Trainers, including 2 with hearing impairments, 7 Deaf individuals, 1 with a locomotor disability, 4 without disabilities, and 1 interpreter. He covered the concepts of Zoho Payroll, including TDS and PF details, comprehensively. The training also focused on effectively using the Zoho Payroll app to manage salaries. Such training, the trainers' workshop will help us to train candidates with diverse disabilities in Zoho Payroll, which could help them get a better paying job and lead a life with dignity. We are grateful for Mr. Nandakumar's expertise and fostering dedication to an inclusive learning environment.

# Wells Fargo Mentoring Program: Empowering Connections at WinVinaya Foundation!

On June 18th, we kicked off the Wells Fargo Mentoring

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June - 2024

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Intro to WinVinaya Foundation was given by mentee Haseena, followed by self-introductions from new mentors. Feedback from the 2023-24 mentees and mentors was shared by Nagarathna, Solairaj, Chandan, Varsha, & Vidhyashree. Ushas and Rahul introduced the basics of Indian Sign Language. Mentor-mentee pairing was facilitated by Helen and Jannet. The event concluded with speeches by Wells Fargo's Manoj and mentee Akhil, followed by refreshments.

### Empowering Volunteers: Sensitization at NISH College for MargaDarshan 2024!



On June 21st, WinVinaya Foundation's Asbiya (Placement Coordinator) and Baskaran (Head of Training) conducted a volunteer sensitization session for MargaDarshan 2024 at NISH College. They provided training and sensitization to the volunteers registered for the event. Most volunteers were from Kerala, and a few sign language interpreters also joined. This session was crucial in preparing the volunteers for their roles, ensuring they are well-equipped to contribute effectively to MargaDarshan 2024.

### MargaDarshan 2024: Empowering Employment for Graduates with Disabilities!



Get more insights at: MargaDarshan.WinVinayaFoundation.org

MargaDarshan 2024 Successfully Concluded! Celebrating Empowering Employment for Graduates with Disabilities

WinVinaya Foundation is thrilled to announce the successful completion of MargaDarshan 2024, held at the National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) in Kerala. This event highlighted valuable employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, fostering inclusivity and highlighting their skills. This event highlighted valuable employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, fostering inclusivity and highlighting their skills.

#### **Key highlights of the event:**

Recruitment by 11 companies, including 8 in person and 3 online. In all, 181 candidates participated in 317 interviews during the Job Mela on that day. Of those, as on date 40 were chosen for the next round, 18 did not clear for next round, and we are awaiting results for the remaining 259 interviews.

### Chief Guest Address: Embracing Inclusion at MargaDarshan 2024

**Dr. Suja K. Kunnath**, Executive Director, NISH graced MargaDarshan 2024 as the Chief Guest, emphasizing inclusivity in education & employment. She urged empowerment of PWDs, inspiring all with



her commitment to fostering an equitable society.

#### **Highlights of the Event**

#### Empowering Inclusive Employment: MargaDarshan 2024 Fireside Chat

Mr. Vijaya Raghavan (CADRRE) moderated the fireside chat - "Unlocking Potential: Paving the Path to Inclusive Employment", which brought diverse voices of Leaders from Industry + Social Enterprise + Inclusive College, Parent of a PWD, A deaf candidate working for a Fortune 500 company.



The session featured insightful discussions on enhancing opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in the workforce. With panelists Ms. Seena Ravindran (CONCENTRIX), Mr. Binu Sankar (EY), Mr. S S Jayasankar (OORJJA), Dr. Raji Gopal (NISH), Ms. Daisy Sebastian (Parent), and Ms. Rajeshwari (NISH Alumni working in a corporate), shared strategies for inclusion, challenges and success stories from their respective fields, emphasizing collaboration and adaptive workplaces.

#### **Myth Bust Series**

#### **Celebrating Ability and Innovation**

MargaDarshan 2024 by WinVinaya Foundation highlighted the skills of PWDs. Jogeshwar Rao (our employee with hearing and speech impairment) learned roller skating in a month, breaking stereotypes. Saiprasad (our employee with visual impairment) and his visually impaired friends also took up skating, showing that support opens new opportunities. Watch the Video

Arun Kumar, our employee with visual impairment is a Power BI Trainer. He impressed everyone by using Power BI to create detailed HR data visuals. His session showed how accessibility tools can help people with visual impairment succeed in tech and open new career opportunities. Watch the Video

### Vandana Srinivasan's Impactful Advocacy at Margadarshan 2024!



Vandana Srinivasan delivered a compelling speech at Margadarshan 2024, passionately advocating for eye donation awareness through her impactful artwork and social initiatives. Her advocacy has garnered widespread recognition, inspiring

action, and awareness nationwide. The session concluded with a poignant moment as Ms. Vandana presented digital artwork to Mr. Vijaya Raghavan, symbolizing the creative spirit and inclusivity fostered at MargaDarshan 2024.

### E-Book Release: Discover "The Best Job I Never Expected!"



Dive into valuable insights with our newly released E-Book by Mr. Shiva Jayagopal, Co-Founder of WinVinaya Foundation. "The Best Job I

Never Expected!", this E-Book offers a journey through transformative stories and impactful lessons in disability inclusion. Click here to download the eBook.

Benefit: This book is for anyone who believes in the power of kindness and the importance of giving back. The first 14 chapters resonate with a broad audience, offering compelling stories and valuable insights.

**Special Focus:** For those specifically interested in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) initiatives, the book takes a deeper dive. Chapters 15 through 19 provide practical guidance, tips, and resources specifically geared towards:

- Recruiting and training individuals with disabilities (PWDs)
- Developing successful DE&I strategies
- Outsourcing projects to inclusive teams
- Strategic ideas for the future

#### Life Journeys Unveiled: Conversations with Rajat Nautiyal and Co-founder Ms. Akila!

WinVinaya Foundation's employee, Mr. Rajat Nautiyal, alongside WinVinaya's Co-founder Ms. Akila explored the insightful life journey of Rajat, filled with challenges and triumphs which showcased the power of resilience and positivity.



**Experiential Zone on Disability** 

Sensitization at MargaDarshan 2024

ISL Sprint: Participants learnt 15 basic signs in Indian Sign Language (ISL) to enhance communication inclusivity.

Sensory Safari: Participants stepped into a world without sight, gaining profound insights into daily challenges and adaptations.

Soul Speak: CADRRE Trainees Shine with Artism Studio **Products** Ramnath and Gokul, neurodiverse trainees from CADRRE The Artism Studio, showcased their handmade products at MargaDarshan 2024, Despite challenges, they excelled in marketing and generating leads. This opportunity highlighted their talents.

NISH Accessibility Team Showcases Assistive Devices The National Centre for Assistive Health Technology (NCAHT) presented their assistive devices at MargaDarshan 2024. Their innovations include communication boards, eye gaze boards, BIGmack, hearing aids, reader pens, slant boards, and pencils with adaptive grips, designed to support communication, reading, learning, writing, hearing, and vision for individuals with special needs.

### Dr. Murali Thindebhavi's New Book Spotlights WinVinaya Foundation

Dr. Murali Thindebhavi's "The Ultimate Quote-abulary: Volume 1" pairs stunning photography with thoughtprovoking quotes, promoting introspection and appreciation life's beauty. Encouraging readers muralithondebhavi.com for a free download, the book supports WinVinaya Foundation and two other charitable organizations, fostering education, mental health awareness, and community welfare.

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