

DARE TO DREAM

The official newsletter of WinVinaya Foundation



CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AT WINVINAYA!

Where CSR Fuels Transformation Wells Fargo at WinVinaya Foundation

What happens when leaders from Wells Fargo meet the brilliant minds at WinVinaya Foundation? A day filled with inspiration and innovation!

We were honored to host Anna Bard, Head of Global Impact & Volunteer Engagement, and Bandana Jha, Head of Philanthropy and Community Impact, from Wells Fargo, whose insights and CSR support fuel our inclusivity efforts. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Anvisha Bhardwaj for her unwavering support to WinVinaya.



Our candidates with hearing and speech impairment led the event as Master of Ceremonies and our employee with hearing and speech impairment gives the introduction about Indian Sign Language and our candidates with neurodiverse gives an inspiring speech.

Thank you, Wells Fargo, for your continued support and for believing in the potential of individuals with disabilities. Curious about what's next for this empowering partnership? Stay tuned!

Discovering the Vibrant Energy at Sambhav Foundation



Curious about where passion meets purpose? The WinVinaya leadership team recently explored the dynamic

Sambhav Foundation in Vijayanagar, Bengaluru, where students with intellectual disabilities, aged 4 to 42, are empowered every day.

We had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Simrandeep Kaur, the foundation's Program Manager. The contagious enthusiasm of the entire team—from teaching to support staff—created an atmosphere alive with energy, inviting everyone to join their mission. It's evident that serving with heart and soul ignites transformation.

What exciting collaborations lie ahead? WinVinaya is eager to engage in this remarkable journey toward inclusion!

WinVinaya Foundation Celebrates an Inclusive Onam Festival



On 16th September 2024, WinVinaya Foundation celebrated an inclusive Onam festival with enthusiasm and unity. Our diverse team, including persons with disabilities, embraced the traditional festival, creating a joyful and memorable experience. Dressed in traditional Kerala attire—mundu for men and kasavu sarees for women—participants gathered to celebrate the occasion.

The festivities began with a stunning 'Pookalam'—a floral arrangement symbolizing prosperity—followed by a delightful traditional Onam feast. The highlight of the day was the cultural program, where candidates, employees, and consultants, including persons with and without disabilities, showcased their talents through dance and music performances, fostering a spirit of inclusivity and celebration.

In the afternoon, fun inclusive games like musical chairs and 'lemon on the spoon' brought everyone together, concluding with a group photo capturing the vibrant spirit of the event. This celebration exemplified WinVinaya's commitment to inclusivity and community, making it a truly memorable day for all involved.

Empowering Persons with Disabilities Through Project Discovery

As part of Project Discovery, an initiative by EnAble India, we've had the privilege of identifying and showcasing grassroots-level assistive solutions created by persons with disabilities themselves, empowering them in their daily lives. These innovations reflect the resilience and creativity of the community in overcoming challenges.

We are proud to announce the successful submission of 36 assistive solution videos this month for Project Discovery. This contribution reflects our ongoing commitment to serving the disability community by amplifying these solutions and making them accessible to all. With Project Discovery 5.0, we are eager to continue fostering inclusion and creating lasting change. Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive future!

Celebrating the Valedictory Ceremony of BFSI and IT Training Batches



On September 13, WinVinaya Foundation proudly celebrated the valedictory ceremony of our BFSI and IT training batch, which empowered candidates with various disabilities. The BFSI batch sponsored by TE Connectivity included 8 candidates with locomotor disabilities and 2 women from Bengaluru. The IT batch included 3 candidates with locomotor disabilities and 5 women. The training program provided vital skills for the financial and IT sectors.

In BFSI training, the curriculum included basic English, soft skills, MS Office, financial accounting, core banking, Tally, Power BI, and Zoho. In IT Full Stack Development training, candidates learned Java, SQL, HTML5, CSS3, Angular, Agile, as well as Software Testing and Test Automation, including SW Testing fundamentals, alongside English and soft skills.

We were honored to have Ms. Pratigya, a Talent Acquisition Recruiter from Amazon, whose presence and encouraging words inspired our graduates as they prepared to step into their professional careers.

WinVinaya Foundation's Interactive Session with Runners High

On September 21st, WinVinaya Foundation hosted an inspiring and interactive session with the Runners High, demonstrating how persons with



disabilities can thrive seamlessly in various roles. Aimed at raising awareness about inclusivity,

this event showcased the remarkable strengths and capabilities of PWDs, promoting diversity and empowerment across sectors.

Ashwin, a person with hearing and speech impairment, engaged the audience by teaching basic sign language. Rajat, a person with hard of hearing, and Yogitha, a person with visual impairment, demonstrated communication techniques between person with hearing, speech, and visual impairments. Mari Muthu, a person with visual impairment, showcased how he navigates a laptop with a screen reader which enables him to be productive and efficient, while Nagaratna, a person with locomotor, shared her inspiring journey of teaching digital literacy to micro and small enterprises.

This impactful session fostered a deeper understanding of inclusivity, offering valuable insights to participants about the potential of persons with disabilities in the workforce.

To get the sign language video of this newsletter, please scan the QR Code given here



Humans of WinVinaya - Hamsa Gowri

Hamsa Gowri's journey with WinVinaya Foundation exemplifies resilience, growth, and inclusivity.



After graduating as the class topper and securing third rank in computer engineering from Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu,

Hamsa began her career at Global R&D - Wipro Infotech, where she worked for seven years on various systems software projects. However, after a successful career run, she took a long break, stepping away from the professional world.

In August 2023, Hamsa embarked on a new chapter by joining WinVinaya as a volunteer, eager to explore whether she could re-enter the workforce after her time away. She quickly found herself immersed in learning new tools, including Python, and collaborated with Dharani and Neeraja on an accounting automation project. Her hard work and adaptability soon led her to transition into a consultant role.

Currently, She leads the SELCO digitization project, working closely with persons with hearing and speech impairments. To communicate effectively, she took the initiative to learn sign language, bridging gaps and fostering inclusivity within the team. Her commitment to learning and adapting highlights her dedication to building strong connections with her colleagues.

Hamsa's story is a reminder that it's never too late to reignite a career or embrace new challenges. Her journey highlights the importance of lifelong learning and the value of inclusion, both in the workplace and beyond.

Her dedication, curiosity, and inclusive mindset make her a valuable member of the WinVinaya family, inspiring those around her with her journey of rediscovery and growth.