

Training & Development

The profiles of Keshab Raj Chaulagai, a former student from Nepal and Deidre Rikre M. Momin, a student from the current batch reflect the need of people with disabilities and the lack of trained personnel in developing countries.

Keshab, a former student at work in Nepal

Keshab trained as an orthotic technician in Mobility India in 2004 with support from Disability and Development Partners U.K. After his training he started working with Disabled Relief Fund (DRF), an organisation based in Kathmandu, Nepal. DRF carries out a range of activities for the benefit of disabled people in partnership with Handicap International.



Keshab works in Kathmandu and travels to the surrounding regions to provide orthotic services for people with disabilities. He has produced 198 orthopaedic devices and given mobility aids for 329 people with disabilities. Besides he is also shares some administrative responsibilities with his other colleagues. Keshab says " *I am confident in my work as well as my attitude to people with disabilities as I was trained well for both during the course of my training in MI.*"

Deidre, undergoing training to work in Meghalaya

Deidre hails from Tura, Meghalaya. Having polio as a child, Deidre spent her early childhood at home. She first went to school at the age of 9. She moved to her uncle's house as it was closer to school. She completed her graduation. A family friend told her about Bethany Society, Meghalaya, an organization working extensively for the rehabilitation of people with disabilities. Through them she was sent to Mobility India to train in Orthotics supported by Christoffel Blindenmission.

Deidre had never heard the term orthotics before nor had she seen anybody use them in Tura. The pair of crutches Deidre used for mobility was designed by her father who knew a bit of carpentry.

Deidre says " *The training at Mobility India has helped me understand the importance of appropriate rehabilitation. I am learning to make orthosis.*"

During the course of her training Deidre also underwent physical rehabilitation. She was referred for surgery after which she underwent sessions of therapy and was fitted with a pair of orthoses to improve her mobility.



On completing her training, Deidre will go back to Tura. MI's Regional Resource Centre, Kolkata is helping Bethany Society set up a Rehabilitation Workshop. Deidre will be working there as an Orthotic Technician, helping many more people with disabilities especially women in that region with appropriate assistive devices.