

Mobility India (MI) is carrying out its Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programme as a facilitator- to people with disabilities and their families, an advocate- of human rights (disabled people's rights in particular), a communicator-by raising awareness in the community on related issues. The strategy is to build on the abilities of people with resources available in society in general and the community in particular.

## Dignity for Children - Access to Amenities... Basic Rights

Swetha is 11 years old and goes to the Sarbandepalya Government School. This bright little child had a spinal chord injury a few years ago and uses wheelchair for her mobility. She has been in and out of hospital for corrective surgery; hence her schooling has been sporadic. Another important reason, when nature calls, Swetha has to use the open space as a toilet. Swetha is not alone

Sarbandepalya is one of the sub-slums in Banashankari where Mobility India is working with 66 people with disabilities and 27 are children with disabilities in the school going age.

The Government school in Sarbandepalya has a Kannada and Urdu medium school in the same compound and approximately 1200 children from the local community attend this school, of which 10 are children with different disabilities. The school has classes from 1 to 7th standard. The school has only 4 toilets meant for the teachers and the children had to use the open space. Lack of access to toilet for children especially the girl child and children with physical disabilities was a delicate issue and none were willing to discuss this issue.



Community Initiative- Mobility India initiated discussions with the school authorities, the education department, the school betterment committee, the local leaders and the elected representatives to address this issue of the 'Lack of toilet for children'.

This proposal was welcomed by the different stakeholders and also brought in Swetha, to be involved in this project of constructing an accessible toilet in her school.

All donations are eligible for tax exemption under section 80G

## Sponsor

### Physical /Medical Rehabilitation

- Wheelchair Rs. 5,500/-
- Artificial limbs (prostheses) Rs. 3,000/- onwards
- Calipers(orthoses) Rs 2,500/-
- Surgery to correct impairment Rs. 3,000/- onwards
- Livelihood opportunities Rs. 5,000/- onwards
- Therapy for a month per person Rs. 1000/-

I am donating Rs..... by Cheque/ Demand draft number .....Towards .....

(DD/Cheques to be made in the name of Mobility India)

"Mobility India's vision is "An inclusive society where people with disabilities have equal rights and a good quality of life"

Rehabilitation Services- It is a well-known fact that mobility is the birth right of every individual but seclusion in life becomes a matter of grave importance when there is impairment. An important factor of restitution of mobility is the provision of appropriate rehabilitation devices to suit both the economic and environmental factors of the individual. The lack of providing basic rehabilitation devices hampers the process of "inclusion" of persons with disabilities into mainstream society and fails to bridge the gap between inclusion and isolation. The rehabilitation programme in Mobility India is child/ person centered. The effort is to bring about a maximum level of independence in their daily activities

### Ponnamal

One of Mobility India's partner organisations is CSI rehabilitation Center, situated in Kodaikanal. 9 year old Ponnamal came to Mobility India through CSI, Kodaikanal. When MI's rehabilitation team first met Ponnamal she was totally dependent and needed interventions on various levels to correct her deformities. She required a comprehensive rehabilitation plan to make her independent over a period of time

At the time of assessment - Ponnamal was found to have a condition called arthrogryphosis. As a result she had multiple deformities in her knees, elbows and wrists.

Surgical Intervention- She underwent corrective surgery for both ankles and knees, with support from CSI.

Therapy Intervention/Assistive Devices - Soon after her surgery, she was on regular post operative therapy sessions. Alongside, she was fitted with a pair of calipers and axillary crutches. She was on continuous gait training(learning to walk), and was given activities that improved her upper limb and trunk muscles. The process was a very rigorous one, but Ponnamal was able to achieve her independence with the support from her family and MI.



### OBITUARY

M. Vasudevan  
Committed to the rights of  
people with disabilities  
Board member of MI  
from 1997 till date.

Serge Azemer  
A skilled rehabilitation professional,  
warm and caring. His contribution to  
MI and its training programmes is invaluable.



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Please return this with your donation to:



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The purpose of Mobility India is to work with people with disabilities, especially the poor, on rehabilitation and social rights.