



JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

YEAR 2 ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 2021

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Facebook Fundraisers

We thank our friends for
hosting FB fundraisers!

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Yogesh Dixit
Mahesh Itraj
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JPF Podcasts

Listen to inspiring stories
from our different projects!



From the President's Desk

Hello JPF Family,

Time really flies by, isn't it? With all of your support and wishes, JPF is already in its third year!! It has been a very exciting journey of new ideas, growth, & challenges because of COVID. JPF celebrated the anniversary through a gratitude week thanking you - volunteers, donors, well-wishers, and partnering organizations who have been a constant in this everchanging journey. Today, I would like to share our achievements during the last two years and JPF's plans for this third year.

We, as a JPF family, supported 11 projects by raising \$350K, most notably ensuring uninterrupted education for 600+ Students and backing 100+ women entrepreneurs. In addition, our volunteers undertook six additional projects such as Beyond Language Barriers, Translation, Baal Prabodhini, Perna Setu, COVID Knowledge Attitudes Practices, and a Women Youth Wing trying to make meaningful contributions in the field of research and education. This team of 100+ dedicated volunteers has built a strong foundation for JPF's future growth, and we envision continuing to grow as a volunteer-based organization.





So far, JPF has formalized an executive and consultative committee ensuring appropriate governance and direction. This year, we are planning to formalize the subcommittees with respective leads and co-leads. The vision is to expand the current projects to broader audiences and open forums. Moreover, with the increasing percentage of vaccination and commute opening up, we want to focus on more vibrant regional chapters and support groups. I am looking forward to an even bigger JPF Family owning responsibility as change-makers. Come, be part of this impactful and fulfilling journey :-)

Thanks,
Pranav Kulkarni

Program Updates

Sponsor a Child

Jnana Prabodhini is committed to providing high-quality education for the last sixty years. The organization is also known for admitting the students without looking at their financial background and raising support for financially weaker students. JPF was able to support multiple schools and educational centers in the last quarter.

	Year 2020	Year 2021
	\$118,200 Raised	\$73,000 Raised
	417 students supported	218 students supported
	From 8 educational centers	From 4 educational centers
	\$ 350 Per Student	

After supporting two educational centers in the first two quarters, JPF supported Jnana Prabodhini Harali and Jnana Prabodhini Navnagar Vidyalaya, Nigadi (JPNV) this quarter. We are glad to raise \$30K to support 120 students at JPH which is an excellent model of Rural Education. The students in this school come from farmer or migrant laborer families needing support to continue their education. JPNV is situated in the industrial area and worst hit by COVID where we are able to support at least 60 students with the help of \$30K. I thank all the generous donors for raising such huge support to help students continue their education.

Anand Shala



Anand Shala means School of Joy. This program was started by Jnana Prabodhini Harali (JPH) for students in nomadic tribes residing in nearby villages. All students in these tribes are first-generation students. Their education was at a halt due to the shutdown of schools in COVID and not having infrastructure resources for digital education.

JPH designed this program to conduct the schools and provide meals to avoid the risk of malnutrition and losing previous knowledge. It runs at **9 different locations for 425 students from 1st to 8th grades**. We congratulate the team of 20 coordinators for stepping forward and conducting this program. Its currently planned for 4 months with the support of \$6K for daily meals for the students.



Health Improvement Program

Solapur district in Maharashtra is known for more than 50K cigarette rolling workers and most of them are women doing this job at home. This puts them and their families in danger and raises many health concerns. In response to this situation, the JP Solapur started coherent breathing (Pranayam) classes as rolling cigarettes mainly affects the lungs and respiratory system.



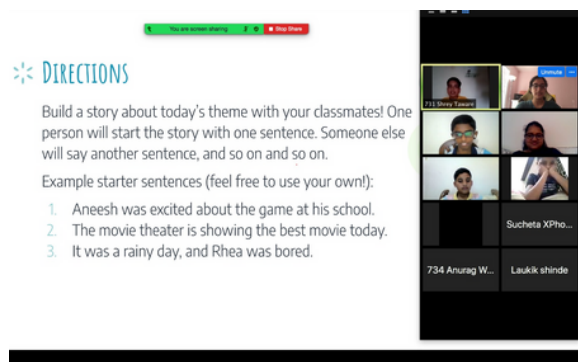
The program is conducted at 10 different locations with the help of 2 Yoga teachers and 10 group leaders. The initiative started last year and helped 102 women to improve their health planning. JPF is happy to support this initiative with \$3K to run the program for the year.

Beyond Language Barriers

Beyond language barriers is a JPF project to help students and teachers in India with their English communication skills.

For this academic year, we are working with 7th-grade students from Jnana Prabodhini Nigdi. We have a team of 20 volunteers working with 35 students. The volunteers and students meet every week in which they play games, read books, and enjoy group activities with an emphasis on English conversation. All these activities in an informal setting give the students a safe space to speak in English and learn from their mistakes. This has helped the students to build their confidence and communication skills.

If you like teaching or interacting with students, reach out to us and we will connect you with the students.

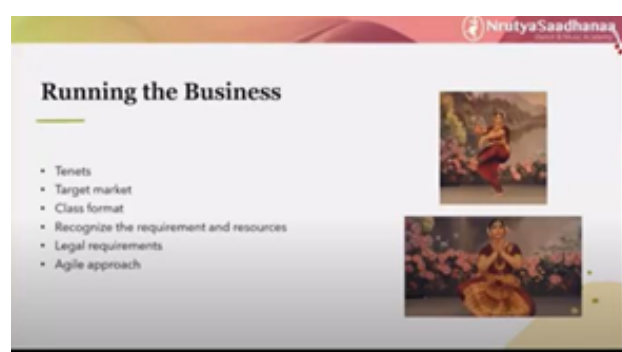


Prerana Setu - 2

We are very excited to share that Prerana-Setu team has successfully concluded theme-2 on 28th August 2021. The theme was focused on entrepreneurship.

Renowned entrepreneurs across the globe presented highlights of their careers followed by an interactive question-answer session. Students from 13 schools across the nation participated in the session. The theme has successfully sparked motivation in the students to start and nurture entrepreneurial journeys. The impact of sessions has been visible from the feedback shared by students in the concluding session. The students expressed interest in starting their own ecotourism industry, creating a sustainable technology business, and starting a music institute.

Following this, the team Prerana-Setu is now all set to start a new theme in the first week of October. Stay tuned!



Yuvati Vibhag Abroad

Yuvati Vibhag Abroad (Women Youth Network) is a JPF initiative to connect women who have immigrated from India. This forum was formed is to understand the challenges that women face overseas and support and inspire them to overcome these challenges and succeed.

The group held its inaugural session on May 9th, 2021 (Mother's Day!) The next session was dedicated to revisiting old school memories where everyone shared their stories, experiences, and learnings from school. The third session was a celebration of Guru Pournima with JP teachers - Anuradha Dhupkar and Vidya Hardikar-Sapre.

Forth session with Bageshree Ponkshe was an enlightening one - she shared heart-rendering stories of her work on Darubandi - banning illegal liquor stores in rural India, and helping addicts overcome their alcoholism, and lead a normal life with their families. The latest session was Ganeshotsav special with Pallavi Gadgil, a JP alumna teaching 'Barchi' (one of the instruments played during the Ganesh festival) followed by a Ganpati poojan.

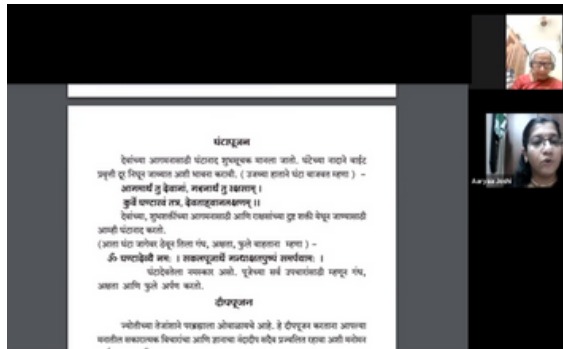
Ganesh Pratishthapana Workshop

Ganesh Chaturthi marked the beginning of the Ganapati festival worldwide. Families celebrating the festival typically enshrine (Ganesh Pran Pratishthapana) an idol of Lord Ganesh in their homes and offer prayers and prasada to him during his stay.

On September 5th, 2021, JPF, in coordination with the Sanskrit Sanskriti Samshodhika (Santrika) division of Jnana Prabodhini in India, conducted a virtual workshop to teach Ganesh Pran Pratishthapana including an explanation of the meaning of each shlok to families interested in undertaking the ceremony ritualistically.

The Satrika division is known for pioneering the training of female priests (purohita) in the ways to conduct Hindu rituals and customs.

Three such purohita - Dr. Aaryaa Joshi, Surekhatai Likhite, and Vidyashreetai Purandare, hosted the workshop over Zoom. JPF's volunteers Shilpa Vaidya Mehta and Pranav Patil lead the efforts of coordination. Approximately 10 families from the US, UK, Canada, and India attended the workshop.



Regional Group Updates

With summer vacations and other activities happening, this quarter was a little lighter on meet-ups.

A couple of meet-ups were organized in the regional groups such as UAE, UK and US-Northeast. US-Northeast had their in-person meet-up after a long time!



JOIN THE TEAM

Please reply to this email if you're interested in volunteering for any of the existing or upcoming projects in JPF.

Projects are underway in several other areas of impact and we are always on the lookout for volunteers who can take charge of new ideas and transform them into initiatives!

Thank you!



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