

Annual Report

2024-25



KHUSHI
Educational & Social Trust

Reg.No. F 36649 (Mumbai)

ABOUT ORGANISATION

Khushi Educational And Social Trust is a Mumbai based Non-governmental organization, working towards bringing a change for the betterment of under privileged women and children through the most powerful medium, that of education. The trust was formalized in 1999 and registered under The Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 in 2007.

Our vision is to play an active role towards building an educated, socially aware, self-reliant and healthy society. "To dutifully serve the society that we live in, is true social service." Khushi Trust is the result of coming together of social conscious persons who firmly believe in this ideology.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Jayant Diwan	Chairperson
Mr. Sandeep Bedekar	Secretary
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Mr. Ashok Kamble	Member
Mr. Milind Tambe	Member
Mr. Rajesh Yadav	Member

OUR PURPOSE

Every year, we are required to prepare an annual report, summarizing the work done over the past twelve months into just a few pages. Often, an event that is captured in merely half a page in the report has, in reality, involved multiple planning and review meetings - enough to fill more pages than the report itself.

Condensing hard work and extensive efforts into a few words is a task in itself. The real challenge lies in presenting the work in such a way that the reader can vividly visualize our activities and effort. In this report, my colleagues and I have sincerely attempted to achieve that.

With the blessings of senior citizens, the academic year 2024-2025 saw an expansion in our initiatives. Drawing from our continuous work and accumulated experience, our team members have refined and enhanced each of our projects.

Programs like Art Masti, English e-Teach, Sahyogini, and the Care Center constantly offer new experiences and stories to share - credit for which goes entirely to the dedicated efforts of our team.

This report is also a reflection of the trust placed in us by our donors, who support us year after year. Each year, we climb a new step, learning from past experiences. We strive to correct our mistakes and improve even in projects where our financial resources have limitations.

Without lofty language or flowery metaphors, this report is a grounded and honest account of our actual fieldwork.

We hope this report presents a living, visual representation of our work over the past year. Thank you."

Thanking you,

Ujwala Patel
Trustee

Khushi Care Center

After the age of fifty, most individuals need support in their daily activities and healthcare. In addition, many seek mental and emotional support, and some senior citizens even have a desire to learn something new. However, due to physical ailments, household responsibilities, or the absence of family members at home during the day, they are often unable to step out of their homes. We noted these problems during our regular interactions within the community. To serve the elderly in our society Khushi Trust established a Care Centre in Bhandup four years ago, with the objective to provide, not only practical assistance, but also to give them emotional support, a sense of belonging, and opportunities for continued learning and engagement.

A total of 56 individuals connected with the Care Centre, where various activities were conducted based on the specific needs of the individuals, ensuring that each senior citizen benefits in a way that suits their requirements.

To meet their medical needs the doctors at the centre examine the elderly, provide medical treatment, and give them appropriate advice and medicines. Vitamins, calcium, D3 and BP tablets that they need are provided free of cost which also helps to reduce their financial burden to some extent.



Physiotherapy sessions were introduced when we realised that along with medication, many individuals also needed physical exercises. These sessions are conducted once a week under the supervision of a doctor. Based on individual needs, patients are taught different exercises, which have proven to be highly beneficial for many. This therapy has significantly boosted their confidence.

Physiotherapy proved to be panacea for those who came to the Care Centre suffering from knee pain, which made walking difficult and causing considerable discomfort while sitting or standing. It helped ease their movement and reduced their pain noticeably. Some were unable to lift their arms due to shoulder pain, while others had complaints related to back or neck pain. Many such individuals have experienced substantial relief through physiotherapy.



Since physiotherapy is often expensive, most elderly individuals, particularly women from economically weaker backgrounds, tend to avoid spending money on themselves, instead resorting to temporary relief through over-the-counter

painkillers. However, thanks to the Care Centre, senior citizens from nearby areas now have access to physiotherapy free of cost enabling them to receive consistent effective care without worrying about costs.

All these medical efforts were directed towards addressing physical ailments. While food and medication are essential for physical survival, it is not enough. One needs a happy mind and a positive outlook along with food and medicine to live happily. As the saying goes, healthy body needs a healthy mind! Illness of the mind is often greater than that of the body, and yet, it is harder to recognize. Mental health challenges often involve emotional and psychological complexities, which require empathy and understanding.



Therefore, along with medical treatment and physiotherapy, Khushi Care Centre also introduced activities such as art and craft, games, and home visit to cater to multiple aspects of care and support. With this in mind, we reached out to families where individuals were unable to come to the Care Centre, or those who were emotionally withdrawn, who had lost the will to live. These individuals were in need of emotional and psychological support.

To help engage their minds and lift their spirits, we began playing new and engaging games during our interactions. The idea was to immerse them in enjoyable activities that would gradually bring a sense of joy and connection. This approach proved to be successful, as we witnessed positive changes in their engagement, mood, and overall well-being.

Initially, the senior citizens were often hesitant or reluctant to participate. However, with patience and understanding, we gradually encouraged them in a gentle and supportive manner.

One memorable experience worth sharing is that of Mrs. Nirmala Chavan, a 68-year elderly woman who lives alone. Our visit to her home lifted her spirits. The fact that ‘someone has come to visit me’ was enough to make her happy. While talking to her we sensed her loneliness, so we started visiting her now and then.



Nirmala Chavan, who initially spoke very little, gradually began opening up and speaking freely with us. It became clear that more than medication, what she truly needed was companionship. We then, along with some senior citizens, began visiting her home and organizing

various games at her home as well as at the Care Centre. No-Hand Cup Challenge with Balloon, Lucky Ludo Challenge, Pyramid Game, Ball and Glass Game, Passing the Pillow, Board Games, Dumb Charades, Activity Board Game, Ring Game, Antakshari, Drop the Ball in a Cup, Blindfold Game with Glass,



Turn the Coin with Earbuds, and Pick the Grains with a Spoon were some games we played. These games brought joy, interaction, and a sense of community among the participants.

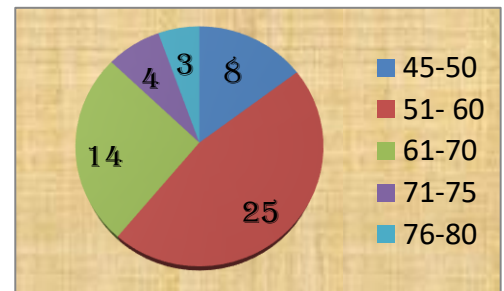
We realized that not everyone who comes to the Care Centre do so only for medication or physiotherapy. During our home visits we found that some individuals, though happy with their families, felt that they had missed the chance to learn something new in life. This opportunity they found in Art and Craft activities at Khushi Trust's Care Centre. We began teaching them a variety of creative activities. These included making wall hangings from ice-creams sticks, Organdy Flowers, Stocking Flowers, Bangle Making, Rangoli Painting, Diya Painting, Mandala Art, Wall Hangings on Mount Board, Door-Side Hangings, and Pot Painting. These sessions gave them not only new skills but also a renewed sense of joy and accomplishment.

At times we used to go their homes to conduct these activities. We conducted a Mandala Art session at the homes of Rubinaji and Saidunnisaji. Rubinaji had always had a deep interest in painting, but she never had the opportunity to pursue it during her childhood. The Care Centre finally gave her the chance to do something she had missed out on as a child. While doing Mandala Art, she was reminded of her younger days and felt a sense of fulfillment.



Saidunnisaji, on the other hand was initially hesitant and afraid to try Mandala Art, as she was probably holding a pencil after many years, perhaps for the very first time. But when we gently guided her hand and helped her learn a few simple designs, her hesitation turned into joy. She went on to complete the artwork with ease and a big smile.

Some individuals really enjoy watching movies, but at home, the television is often monopolised by young children, leaving little opportunity for them to watch what they like. At this stage of life, the absence of friends or family often means they are unable to go to a theatre. To cater to



Age wise number of care center member



these enthusiastic movie lovers, movie sessions were started at the Care Centre. Each session began attracting around 15-20 participants. While watching a two-and-a-half-hour movie, they never felt like outsiders. On the contrary, they felt even more comfortable than they would at home, completely at ease and among their own.

Khushi Care Centre in Bhandup has thus become an inseparable and meaningful part of the senior citizens' lives.



Usha Tambe Wagh

We met Ushaji , just six months ago. At that time, she was experiencing severe pain in her lower back and legs, and was not even taking any medications for her pain.

When she started coming to the Care Centre, during casual conversations, she mentioned that for the past few months she had been suffering from dizziness and headaches for which she was taking some medicines, but she said that it would bring temporary relief, and the symptoms would soon return.

We then told her about the doctor who visits the Centre. The doctor checked her blood pressure and found it to be high. He advised monitoring her blood pressure for five days. After observing her readings, he prescribed medication, which brought her relief.

For her back and leg pain, the doctor started her on vitamin D3 and mineral supplements, which have helped significantly. Now, she is able to move around more comfortably and comes to the Care Centre regularly. She enjoys coming here and feels good meeting us and the doctor.



Pratiksha Survey

Pratiksha lives with her daughter and mother-in-law. Her husband died 12 years ago. Pratiksha suffered from pain in her back and legs, due to which she could not sit up. The doctor at the centre advised physiotherapy. She started coming to the care centre where doctor showed her the exercises for her waist and legs which she was supposed to do thrice a day. We followed up with her treatment and made her do the exercise during home visits. Now she is much better. Earlier she could not fold her legs and sit cross-legged. The domestic flour mill provided by the Centre is helping her financially. When we met her a few days ago, she told us that atta chakki is working well and she earns money by grinding flour for the people in the chawl where she lives. Pratikshaji likes to participate in all the activities going on at the care centre, and she likes to meet us very much.

Namdev Ghadi



Namdev had severe abdominal issues. Years ago, he underwent two surgeries after which he used to face a lot of difficulty while using the washroom, resulting in significant bloating in his abdomen. His first surgery was done in his village, but due to improper treatment, he had to undergo a second surgery in Mumbai. This had made him physically weak due to which his legs would wobble slightly when he tried to stand or walk. Despite ongoing medications, there was no significant improvement. After joining the Care Centre, he was prescribed vitamin supplements and, on the doctor's advice, started doing specific exercises. After four to five sessions of physiotherapy, he is gradually improving and now wobbles less when walking.

He now visits the Care Centre regularly. Once, we showed him how to do liquid embroidery. Initially, he said, "I can't do this", but with time he truly enjoyed it and completed the activity on his own.

Along with formal education and the daily routines of children, it is crucial to nurture their hobbies and creative interests. At specific stages of development, children should be given opportunities to explore and engage in age-appropriate activities beyond academics. Recognizing their natural inclination toward art, craft, and creative expression, the 'Art Masti' project is conducted annually in BMC schools. The focus on these schools stems from the aim to provide equal educational opportunities to children from economically disadvantaged communities, helping bridge the gap through inclusive and holistic development.



In keeping with this vision, as every year, a successful effort was made in the academic year 2024-2025 to bring new, colourful, and creative experiences to children in a total of 17 schools out of which four were private aided schools. In this journey from Mulund right up to Prabhadevi, we were able to reach children from Class 3rd to 8th through Art Masti. In the academic year 2024-25, a total of 213 fun Art Masti workshops were conducted starting with origami flower workshop in August 2024 and ending with liquid embroidery in March 2025, reaching 3,491 children.

Number of School	17
Number of Workshop	213
Number of Students	3491

While working with them, it became evident that not only did they have a strong interest in art and craft, but also that they possessed remarkable artistic and imaginative abilities. To ensure their creativity wasn't

confined to drawing on paper, a wide range of activities were introduced including jewelry making, liquid embroidery, glass painting, decorative crafts, paper puppets, origami puppets, various types of flower-making and art created using buttons and ordinary day to day materials.





This year, focusing on India's rich cultural heritage and after studying these traditions, Camps were organized at Barve Nagar School No. 3 and the Kamaraj Nagar School Complex. Children experienced immense joy while learning diverse forms such as Mehendi, Lippan Art, jewelry making, Warli painting, Mandala, liquid embroidery, and rangoli painting. Through this initiative, Traditional Art reached over 200 students.

The enthusiastic response from both students (Class 5 to 8) and the teaching staff has been a great source of motivation. It has strengthened our resolve to expand the reach of such art-based initiatives in the years to come. Throughout the year, the joy on the children's faces and the pride they feel after creating something beautiful with their own hands continue to energize us. These workshops not only foster creative skills but also inspire new ideas and strengthen our passion for working with children in meaningful, joyful ways.



Izara Riyaz Salmani, from the slum area of Bhandup studied in Pathan Colony Urdu Municipal School which did not have art classes or an art teacher. Like many children in her neighbourhood, Izara didn't have access to extra classes or resources.

This year, as part of the *Art Masti* initiative, Khushi Trust brought a spark of creativity to her school by conducting 15 vibrant art workshops. For the children of this school art and craft materials were new and the introduction of creative activities brought great excitement among the students. Teachers were amazed to see their students bloom in ways they hadn't imagined.

The children participated enthusiastically, showing immense curiosity and joy in learning. Izara, too, actively and eagerly participated in all of them and won second place in the student art competition organized by the Education Department. Her teacher, Ms. Rubina, remarked, "This achievement is a clear reflection of the impact and success of the *Art Masti* initiative."

Aaradhya, a sixth-class student from Ratna Chintamani Kanya Shala was a star of the Sandhya Art Masti workshops. Her enthusiasm for every session drove her not only to participate eagerly but also taught her friends in the neighbourhood.

When we introduced Mandala art in one of the workshops, she was so inspired that she went home and decorated her house with a series of beautiful Mandala designs. Aaradhya's passion, creativity, and initiative reflect the true spirit of Sandhya Art Masti. We believe that with continued encouragement, she has the potential to grow into a young entrepreneur.



The objective of Khushi Trust's Women Empowerment, is being successfully achieved through 'Sahyogini.' We reached out to women in the area surrounding the organization in Bhandup through Sahyogini in 2019, the expectations being that they should learn some useful skills to become self-reliant, and become financially independent. We think that lack of formal education should not compel anyone to remain financially dependent. With this in mind, we initiated skill-based courses like tailoring, beauty parlour training, and mehndi to encourage them to



become self-reliant and start their own small businesses.



This year, 2024-2025, our program included not only women from nearby localities but also participants from areas like Panvel, Lalbaug, Parel, Nahur, and Ghatkopar. We successfully conducted five consecutive batches of the beautician course. Through this effort, we were able to provide training to 73 women under the 'Sahyogini' initiative, many of whom are now independently and successfully running their own business.

This is the fourth year of our tailoring classes and we are happy to see that more and more women – from schoolgirls and college students to homemakers, full-time working women, and even senior women above the age of fifty – showed keen interest in joining our tailoring course. Everyone has their own story of struggle. While managing their daily struggle of existence, routines and responsibilities, 75 women made the time to learn tailoring. They were taught to make items like handbags, pouches, A-line one-piece dresses, umbrella skirts, cushion covers, blouses, pants, and other garments. In fact, several women began taking orders for blouses and handbags even while the course was still in progress. Gradually, their confidence is growing.





The Sahyogini's tailoring batch women, empowered by our team's support, now confidently showcase their artistic creations bags, pouches, wall hangings, and more – in successful exhibitions."

Considering the current demand for Mehndi and how it has helped many women become financially independent, a Mehndi course was introduced in 2023. This year, a total of 25 women under the 'Sahyogini' program were taught basic Mehndi skills. Among them, confident young women like Vinaya and Pranajal have even started earning while still pursuing their education.



Sahyog means supporting and uplifting fellow women by walking alongside them on their journey. The women who became a part of



Sahyogini were not only taught skills like beautician work, tailoring, and Mehndi, but were also guided on how to become successful entrepreneurs in society. They were taught how to face challenges, secure orders, and understand

aspects like profit and loss. In many cases, instructors even helped the women get orders, especially those in need.

This year, the women who joined us were also introduced to hand embroidery. Two batches of the hand embroidery course were successfully completed. Sixty women enthusiastically learned various new stitches and created beautiful embroidered items. They made very beautiful embroidery on items such as handkerchiefs, sarees, pouches, cushion covers, dresses, torans



Course	Women
Beautician	73
Tailoring	75
Mehandi	26
Hand Embroidery	60

(door hangings) with neat stitches. This was our first attempt to teach hand embroidery; their enthusiasm and joy are inspiring us to expand our reach. Considering the positive response received this year we are definitely committed to expanding this course to reach more women in the coming year.

Sahyogini project of women empowerment that was launched by Khushi Trust is successfully empowering many women every year.



One more opportunity was provided to the women to help them take flight in this journey. Those connected with the Sahyogini program were provided with resources like beauty kits, sewing machines, food processors, etc by United Way, Mumbai, to ensure they didn't remain restricted to just learning a skill, but use their newly acquired skills to become financially independent. With this empowerment - focused approach, kits were distributed to a total of 149 women - 70 women in May 2024 and 79 in March 2025. Today, with the help of these kits, each woman is chalking out their own path to success. Many women and girls have already started taking orders and using these resources effectively in their own ventures.



Manisha Ghadi



Manisha Ghadi's journey from a home maker to an entrepreneur is inspiring. After completing her education till 10th grade, she became fully occupied with responsibilities, first at her parents' home and later with her in-laws' household after marriage. Managing household chores, taking care of her children's education, and the never-ending tasks from morning till night, she didn't realise when she turned 40.

Even though the financial condition at home weren't that good, the thought of looking beyond her household responsibilities to become financially independent never really occurred to her, nor did she ever find an appropriate avenue or an opportunity. However, after crossing the age of 35, she began to feel an urge to do something for herself. Being naturally optimistic by nature, she didn't let thoughts like *"What can I do at this age?"* hold her back. Instead, she enrolled in the tailoring class at Khushi Trust and even encouraged her daughter to join the beautician course.

Manisha is affectionate, understanding, and always helpful. She completed the tailoring course with great interest and was always ready to help others in class. Around the same time, our Trust also started a hand embroidery course for women.

Even while fulfilling all her responsibilities as a dedicated homemaker, she eagerly and enthusiastically completed both the tailoring and hand embroidery courses. She created beautiful embroidery patches during the course. While managing all three responsibilities - her home, tailoring class, and embroidery class - she also began accepting orders for blouses and alterations.

Through this journey, the otherwise quiet Manisha revealed her expressive and capable side. Manisha is a perfect example of a business person who understands that timely delivery and quality work are both equally important. She is known for completing her tasks reliably and on time. Just last month, she received orders for blouses and alterations for a family wedding. She stitched a total of 20 blouses - her first major order.

Her desire to bring about a change within herself, and her effective use of the opportunities she received after joining Khushi Trust, have made Manisha not only a dedicated homemaker but also a successful entrepreneur today.

Jyotsna, 34-year-old joyful, positive and hardworking lady had always been passionate about beauty and self-care. She connected with us by enrolling in this course. She not only learnt the skills required for a beautician, but also groomed herself to make herself presentable so as to be able to accept orders. Her husband, a driver, encouraged her to pursue her dreams in spite of their limited income which just covered their household expenses.



Financial needs was not the only reason to start her own business. Jyotsna always wanted to do something for herself and be able to become financially independent for herself and for her daughter's bright education. In this cut-throat competitive market, expanding her own business seemed difficult, but Jyotsna didn't lose hope. She kept improving her skills, adding more expertise like enrolling in our Mehendi art class to widen her range of services.



In March 2025, Jyotsna received beautician kit from Saksham project. Very skilfully and confidently, she put her skills to use and began offering complete beauty solutions for events and festivals.

Khushi Trust became a pillar of support for her, enabling her to manage entire events handling everything from makeup and hairstyling to mehendi and skincare. With her dedication and the right guidance, she was ready to take her career to the next level.



When Khushi Trust started a beautician course for the LGBTQ community in 2024-25, many eyebrows were raised. We were not even sure whether this initiative would receive a positive response even from the transgender community.

The first TG batch for the course was started in May 2024, at the MHADA colony at Kanjur. Of the twenty-five people who showed enthusiasm to learn, 15 to 18 participants attended the course regularly.



Sapna from the TG community attended all the classes regularly, diligently learning everything, and practiced her skills with dedication and hard work. After learning just three activities of the course, Sapna independently took her first order. With the money she earned, she brought sweets for everyone in the class. The sweetness of this success was not limited to Sapna alone from the TG community. Inspired by her, other hardworking individuals also made full use of the beautician course and began taking orders themselves.

Seeing the enthusiastic response for the beautician course, the organization also introduced a two-month Mehendi (heena) course. It was our second batch with 14 transgender individuals. This illustrates that passion and interest know no limits when it comes to pursuing interests and passions. Human spirit knows no bounds when it comes to following one's heart.

During the course, the artistic talents of participants like Satish (Shaina), Kinjal, and Suraj came to the forefront. They didn't limit themselves to just learning the art, but put it to practical use by accepting Mehendi orders from within their own community. Their artistic abilities are getting recognition, and their self-confidence is growing.

This year is our third batch, in which we have now added Traditional Art and Craft. This year's course starting with 25 people on March 5, 2025, in addition to the traditional craft, covers the usual activities like Rangoli painting, Lipan art, Mosaic, Bangles making, Jewelry making, Stocking flower, Organdy Flower, Glass Painting, Warli, Mandela, Pot Painting, Spray painting, Hand embroidery, and Golden tree. The objective was to make them self-sufficient which is a necessary condition for any human being to have self-confidence and live with dignity. It also provides them an opportunity to express their creative talents.



Demand for Traditional art work is increasing which gives skilled persons an opportunity to earn a good income. Frames of paintings like Rangoli painting, Lippan art, Glass painting, Mandala, and Warli with traditional motifs fetch high prices. Stocking Flower, Organdy flower made from cloth can be used for decoration. In jewelry making, we teach how to make bangles, necklaces, and earrings from fabric. They learn how to do hand embroidery on dresses or blouses.

Participants showed a lot of interest and enthusiasm to learn. We give them notes of all these activities so that they do not get stuck even after completing the course, along with videos of all the activities.

Women empowerment is successfully progressing through the Sahyogini project. But at the same time, it is helping to support and empower the transgender community.

This is a small but sincere effort to ensure that the transgender community are empowered to work with dignity and respect in the society, and become financially independent. Positive responses from Satish (Shaina), Kinjal, Suraj, and Sapna, Zishan, Pranit, and Mahendra are inspiring for others interested in such activities.

Sumita Bodo, age 32, Assam

Coming from Assam, she lives in Govandi. For any transgender without any skills, begging is the only means of survival. Sumita currently survives by begging in trains and markets. Though every transgender person's life story is different, the common thread is rejection and hatred from society, lack of adequate support from family, often leaving them with no choice but to leave their homes. Sumita was no exception to this story. While still in school, overwhelmed by constant rejection and ridicule, she left Assam and came to Govandi, Mumbai, the dream city, in search of a better life. Since then, her journey has been one of continuous struggle. But today, she is determined to learn a skill, stand on her own feet, and build a life of dignity and self-respect through meaningful work that she can truly call her own.



She learnt from some of her friends that Khushi Trust was going to start a mehndi course. She immediately applied for the course. Sumita was happy that now after completing the course, she would no longer have to beg for a living.

The Trust not only provides the course free of charge but also supplies all the necessary materials, making Sumita's difficult journey a little easier. She was actively searching for any opportunity, any skill, that she could learn, that would help her do something meaningful—and finally, she found it. And now, there's no turning back; Sumita was determined to make the most of this chance.

Driven by the hope that one day she would be able to get over her undignified existence and be able to stand on her own feet and live with dignity she completed the course. Sumita believes that the same society that once rejected and belittled her will one day welcome her with respect—inviting her to apply mehndi at weddings, haldi ceremonies, and birthdays. She also dreams of setting up her own small mehndi stall and building a dignified life through her art.

Sapna Khan, age 28, Govandi, Mumbai.

Sapna, previously known as Sumon Khan, had left her home in Assam many years ago and came to Mumbai to live on her own terms. Being a transgender, she was humiliated, teased, her pride hurt. Her feminine gestures and attire invited mockery and ridicule in her village.

Against all odds, standing firm, facing opposition from her family and society, she completed her graduation in politics. The hardworking Sapna was determined to achieve something in life and make a name for herself. However, because she didn't fit into the traditional categories of either a woman or a man, all her dreams seemed shattered.

Tired of the mockery from her own family and the taunting glances of people in her village, Sapna left for Mumbai at the age of twenty-two. In a city like Mumbai, the city of dreams, those willing to work hard and determined to achieve something in life usually find a way. But Sapna faced many obstacles because of her identity as a transgender. Eventually, with no other choice, she was forced into sex work.

Though Sapna earned money through sex work, she was not happy because she could not get the dignity she was seeking. She longed to return to her village to fulfil her dreams of starting a small business of her own – to go back to her roots and live a respectful life on her own terms. Her family too had now come to terms with her nature and unfortunate situation.

For two years she had been inquiring with Gaurav Sanstha, an organization that works for the transgender community about enrolling in the beautician and mehndi course. She completed her beautician course at the Khushi Trust. Even during the period of the course, she earned her first income of Rs. 1,200/- through leg and hand waxing. She could barely contain her joy with this achievement. Filled with confidence, Sapna plans to stay in Mumbai for a few more months to continue practicing her skills. After that, she intends to return to her hometown in Assam and start her own beauty parlour.





Pranit Chandbodhle, 22 years

Pranit lives with his family. He has a deep interest in making floral garlands, braids, and decorative flower arrangements. However, he was unable to generate any financial benefit from his skills. As a member of the LGBTQ community, he was eager to nurture his artistic talents and learn something new that would enable him to become financially independent. He enrolled in the Traditional Art and Craft course offered by Khushi Trust. Since the course is offered free of cost for members of the LGBTQ community, he was able to join easily.

With a desire to ensure that others from his community could also benefit, he shared information about the course with his friend, Prasiddh. Both of them then participated in the activities wholeheartedly and with great dedication. They made the most of the opportunity and actively engaged in all aspects of the course.

As a result of the structured training provided through this free course at Khushi Trust, Pranit began receiving orders to create decorative 'Golden Trees.' This brought him great joy and helped boost his self-confidence. Empowered by this experience, he is now confidently engaging with his community and promoting the sale of other handmade items.

Receiving the right opportunity at the right time is essential for today's generation. Recognizing this need, Khushi Educational and Social Foundation has opened its doors to aspiring individuals from the LGBTQ community. Through these initiatives, we now see members of the LGBTQ community participating in society with pride and dignity.





Mahendra Chohan, age 28

Due to certain circumstances, his education was interrupted and he was unable to complete his studies earlier. However, this year, he appeared for the 10th standard examination. Like any other individual, he wishes to live with dignity in society and dreams of starting his own independent business. To achieve this, he needed proper training and guidance. Unfortunately, the lack of adequate mentorship led him to face several challenges.

At that time, Khushi Educational and Social Foundation launched the Traditional Art and Craft course, which was offered free of cost for members of the LGBTQ community. All required materials for the course were also provided at no cost by the organization. The primary objective of the course was to help members of the LGBTQ community become self-reliant by leveraging the growing market demand for traditional art. During festivals such as Diwali and Dussehra, large companies place orders for these handmade items, providing a stable source of income for the skilled persons. The purpose for which this course was started seems to be succeeding to some extent.

There is a growing curiosity and eagerness within the community to learn something new. By making good use of the opportunities provided to them, many are beginning to earn through honest and dignified means. Mahendra is a shining example of this progress. After receiving quality training through the Traditional Art course, he created several art pieces and exhibited them to the people in his locality. This led to him receiving orders for Warli paintings, rangoli art, and even decorative golden trees. In gratitude for the skills and support he received, he expressed his sincere thanks to Khushi Trust.





Zishan Shaikh, age 20,

Zishan is the only son of his parents. His parents have reconciled to his personality and love him just the way he is, and that is Zishan's only plus point. Being aware of being different from other children had given him a kind of inferiority complex. After completing his 12th standard, he wanted to learn something new to become self-reliant and start his own business which would augment his income.

At the time, a course in Traditional Art and Craft was started by the Khushi Trust which was free for members of the LGBTQ community. Zishan, decided to take advantage of this opportunity.

Since he wants to build a career in this field, the traditional art course was an important opportunity for him. He sincerely learned the various activities involved. While the course was ongoing, he started receiving orders for bangles and jewelry, which boosted his confidence.

Zishan now takes orders for small and large decoration projects. Zishan wants to build a career in event management, and this course will benefit him greatly in achieving that goal.



English E Teach

Khushi Educational and Social Trust has been working in various schools for the past decade, with the objective of supporting students from regional language mediums by focusing on their education and overall development.

The BCPT's E-Teach Program is specially designed for schoolchildren studying in regional languages. In the academic year 2024-25, we implemented this program in 12 schools located between Mulund and Kurla. Under this initiative, we provided free English DVDs created by BCPT, based on the English syllabus for students of standards 1 to 4, which are shown using equipment such as projectors, TVs, and computers.



This year, we worked with Marathi, Hindi, and Urdu medium students with the participation of college students from VK Krishna Menon College (Bhandup) and RJ College of Arts and Commerce (Ghatkopar), benefiting approximately 2,798 students. These college students conducted sessions in schools twice a week from September to February.



To build confidence among students in speaking English, our team and volunteers went beyond the video sessions, engaging students in reading, writing, storytelling, sentence formation, grammar games, WH questions, and vocabulary-building activities tailored to their age and the standard they are studying in. We were pleased to see that with this method of teaching many regional language medium students are now able to form sentences and attempt to speak on given topics. The audio-visual method made them eager to learn new words and lessons.

With the support of college volunteers, school teachers, and our facilitators, we are making English learning easier and more accessible, especially for children who lose confidence due to poor English communication skills and feel left behind in today's education system.

Pre-tests and post-tests conducted to assess the impact show that students understand questions better and attempt to frame sentences more confidently. Their post-test results showed considerable improvement. The main goal is not

only to improve test scores but to enhance comprehension and boost their confidence.

Our experience shows that many regional language students struggle to identify common things in English. However, regular E-Teach sessions have helped clarify their basic understanding, providing them with foundational English skills appropriate for their age and standard. By listening to correct English pronunciation through videos and repeating with their instructors, some teachers observed noticeable improvements in their students' vocabulary and pronunciation. These small but positive changes represent a meaningful step forward in the growth and success of the ongoing E-Teach project.



Shivaji Prathamik Vidyalaya is one of our regular and supportive partner schools in the E-Teach project. In the academic year 2024-25, volunteers Kashish and Anuradha conducted English E-Teach lectures for students in standard 3 and 4 with great skill and in a friendly atmosphere.

In addition to the standard pre- and post-tests, Kashish conducted extra assessments and organized vocabulary games related to previous lessons. As a result, it was observed that students have started attempting to speak in English, incorporating it into their daily communication and during classroom interactions.

At the end of the E-Teach lecture series for standard 4, based on noticeable positive improvements, the class teacher awarded a certificate of appreciation to Kashish on behalf of the school.



The principal and teachers of Lokmanya Prathamik Vidyalaya, a primary school located in Mulund, are eager to provide the best possible resources for their students. But since the school lacks sufficient equipment for conducting English E-Teach in the classroom, the sessions are conducted in the computer room.

Shikha Rane, one of our best volunteers from last year, has once again done commendable work with the students of Lokmanya Prathamik Vidyalaya this year. The teachers reported that her teaching style is both distinctive and effective. Students are always enthusiastic to attend her English E-Teach sessions.

Through regular lectures, word repetition with correct pronunciation, engaging activities, and focused reading and writing exercises, Shikha has significantly improved the basic English skills of the students in grades 2 and 4.

Some teachers also observed that their students are now attempting to understand the meanings of difficult words from poems and lessons — a very encouraging sign of progress

Art Masti Camp 2025



Once exams are over, parents start looking for the best summer camps for their children as these camps impart practical knowledge instead of bookish learning. Such experiences are essential for the overall personality development of the child. They help children explore their talents and learn many new things. Acknowledging the importance of these camps, Khushi Educational and Social Trust initiated Art Masti Camp for children in 2022 to make it easy for children who might not otherwise have the means to attend such programs.

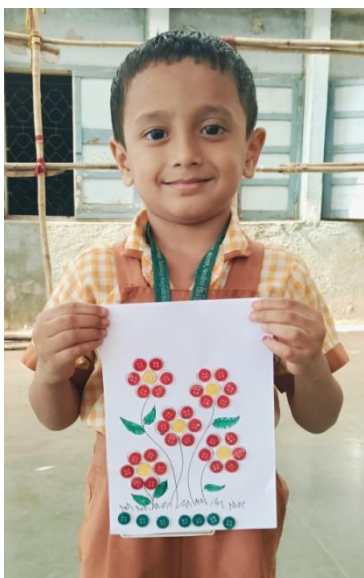
Therefore, like every year, this year too, seeing the enthusiastic response from schools, parents, and children, an Art Masti Camp for children of Junior KG to 4th standard was held for two days in five schools namely Lokmanya Primary School, Shivaji Primary School, Bhairav School, Gyan Prakash School, Sahyadri Vidyamandir from 2nd April to 29th April 2025.

Children participated in various activities such as Warli painting, thumb painting, collage making, button art, scenery with clay, photo frame, 3D fish and paper craft like paper puppet, honeybee, dog, paper doll and cup butterfly. The children are so happy making all these items and are so proud when they carry their creations home at the end of the camp. The teachers also feel a sense of fulfillment and take selfies with children.



They praised the children's achievement and we too receive accolades along with them. Parents too appreciate our efforts. The centre of attraction this year was the new activity - making scenery with clay. Teachers from Lokmanya Primary School watching the children's activities were amazed to see the children sitting in one place for two hours and joyfully completing the activities. They took photos with them. The students, teachers, and parents of Sahyadri Vidyamandir really enjoyed the Art Masti Camp.

This year, we also wanted to conduct activities like button art and collage making typically meant for slightly older children with the junior and senior KG students of Shivaji Primary School. Honestly, it was a bit challenging for us because until now, we had conducted this activity with children from first to eighth grade. Since the Junior and Senior KG children are very young, we were unsure about how to explain the activities to them and what care to take while giving instructions. Although we were resource persons, this was our first opportunity to conduct a camp with such young children, and we were determined to make the most of it. In such a situation it was necessary that we too should learn.



Each resource person has to adopt a child-centric approach and be able to explain things in a way the child can grasp. While teaching and guiding children, every resource person should take on the role of a mother; nurturing, patient, compassionate, and understanding. This empathetic approach helps create a comfortable and open environment where children feel free to express themselves and engage actively in activities.

The parents of the students from Gyanprakash School were overwhelmed with joy on witnessing the creative activities and artwork produced by their children. They could hardly believe that their own children were capable of making such beautiful items.

We successfully conducted a two-day camp on April 7 and April 8. We received positive feedback and appreciation from Mr. Ravindra Badave, the Principal of Shivaji Primary School, as well as all the teachers. They expressed great satisfaction with the activities conducted during the two days. The activities designed for Class 2 and 3 were carried out very effectively by the junior and senior students, and the efforts of the entire team were highly commended.

The *Art Masti* camp, which has been successfully conducted for the past four years, was implemented this year with remarkable enthusiasm and vigour. This edition of the camp engaged a total of 962 children, making it a vibrant and impactful experience for all involved.



We were delighted when the parents of students from Gyanprakash School requested that a two-day camp be organized for them as well. In response, we conducted a two-day Art Masti camp with a total of 30 parents comprising four activities – glass painting, rangoli painting, organdy flower, and liquid embroidery. It was amazing to see these parents, who typically do not take time off for themselves, hardly think of their own needs, and are constantly devoted to their children and households, become so deeply immersed in the activities, remaining seated and engaged for four to five hours as if they were joyfully reconnecting with their own childhood.

Some of the parents expressed their joy learning new things which they never had the opportunity to do earlier. Others mentioned that they couldn't learn anything during their childhood, and after marriage, household responsibilities prevented them from pursuing anything further; they simply never got the chance. During the two-day Art Masti camp, “we got the opportunity to learn many new things. Using simple rangoli powder available at home, we created beautiful paintings and learned how to frame them. We also learned how to make organdy flowers from fabric for home decoration. Glass painting was a lot of fun, and we realized that these can also be framed and displayed at home. While we were aware of thread embroidery, none of us knew that liquid embroidery could be done on fabric using colours; this was something completely new for us.” All the participants expressed their gratitude to Khushi Educational and Social Foundation for providing this wonderful learning experience.



The Art Masti camp continues to foster creativity, joy, and emotional connection, not only among children but now also among parents, making it a truly inclusive and transformative experience for all participants.

3rd January : Savitribai Phule Jayanti



January 3, the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule, is an important event in the annual celebrations of the Khushi Trust. An inspiring role model for women – someone who not only redefined the meaning of struggle, but also created history through the success born out of her challenges.

Like every year, this year also Savitribai

Phule's birth anniversary was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Khushi Center. Our colleagues in the Trust, our senior citizens visiting the care centre and the women of our Sahyogini Project participated in this program. The program was divided into three parts, in which a total of 46 women from our senior citizens group attended in the first two parts.



The preparations for the program were done by the women themselves. The chief guests of the program were Ujjwalataji and Pranaliji, both members of our care centre. The program started with lighting of lamps and a prayer recited by our senior citizens.

After the introductory remarks by Ujwala Patel, Krutika Madam spoke a few words about Savitribai. Many women from the senior citizen group presented songs, poems and gave speeches. The women thoroughly enjoyed the program.



The old members also shared their experiences with everyone. In the third part, a total of 40 women from Sahayogi participated in the program. The arrangements for this program also were made by the women themselves. They prepared and presented songs, poems and speeches. In this way, Savitribai's birth anniversary was celebrated with great joy.



8th March : International Women's Day

Like every year, this year too, on March 8th, International Women's Day was celebrated at Khushi Trust. This day symbolizes the social, economic, cultural, and political progress of women. Therefore, all the women, a total of 110 women, involved in the Sahyogini project of Khushi Trust, along with the people from the care centre participated in this event.



As part of the Sahyogini project, nearly 500 women benefited from courses in tailoring, beautician skills, and Mehndi art. At the event, several of these women, who have made significant progress and gained financial independence with the support of Sahyogini, were felicitated for their achievements. These women became emotional while narrating their experiences. Their story of struggle and success inspired other women.



People from the care centre were also present at the event, including senior citizen Usha Wagh, who shared her experiences with the gathered women and motivated them to face challenges with determination.

Our Team



**Ujwala Patel, Minal Vishwakarma,
Nikita Khandagale, Krutika Bagwe, Sana Shaikh,
Nisha Yadav, Raziya Shaikh, Farzana Shaikh,
Malini Gautam, Prachi Jadhav**

Friends and well wishers

**Ms. Utpala Thacker , Mrs. Hina.V.Manerikar,
Mr. Raghu Pilaka, Dr. Hasumati Chheda,
Mr. Laxmichand Kenia, Mr. Kamlesh Gandhi,
Dr. Pradeep Yadav, Dr. Shakambari Beke,
Mr. Rajesh Shinde, Mrs. Vidya Ganpatye, Mrs. Farhat Shaikh**

Thanks



Khushi Trust's report is a testament to the trust placed in us by the community, including school teachers, students, parents, and most importantly, our valued donors. Their financial support empowers us to work more effectively. Each year, our organization has made significant progress, and we strive to reach more people in need. This wouldn't be possible without a dedicated team. We extend heartfelt gratitude to the doctors and physiotherapists at our care center, who have tirelessly provided services to seniors for the past four years. Khushi trust extends heartfelt gratitude to our valued donors, whose generosity and trust have enabled us to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. Your support has been instrumental in driving our mission forward, and we are deeply thankful for your partnership."

Let's bring happiness together....



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