Samarthanam Trust and Corporate Social Responsibility

We believe in building an inclusive society free from discrimination, where persons with disabilities become contributing members living with dignity and respect.
What is Companies Act 2013?

The Companies Act 2013 introduced Corporate Social Responsibility, mandating Indian corporate to dedicate a part of their income on social initiatives bringing about a positive change in the society and environment.

Clause 135 of the act assert that companies with net worth of INR 500 crores or more or a turnover of INR 1000 crores or more, or a net profit of INR five crores or more, during any financial year should form a CSR committee and fulfill other CSR related requirements. The spending on social activities, in every financial year, should be at least 2% of its average net profits made during the three immediately preceding financial years in pursuance of CSR policy.

The activities identified under Clause 135 are:
1. Eradication of hunger, poverty and malnutrition
2. Promotion of education including special education, and employment enhancing vocation skills; livelihood enhancement projects
3. Promoting gender equality, empowering women, setting up homes and hostels for women and orphans
4. Ensuring environment sustainability
5. Protection of national heritage, art and culture, setting up public libraries, promotion and development of traditional arts
6. Reducing child mortality and improving maternal health
7. Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognized sports, paralympic sports and Olympic sports
8. Contribution to Central and State Government funds for socio-economic development;
9. Contributions or funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institution which are approved by the Central Government
10. Rural development projects
Why associate with Samarthanam Trust?

There are about 2.68 crore people with disabilities in India of which 20.42 lakh are children aged 0 to 6 years. 54% of the disabled children with multiple disabilities never attended educational institutions. The overall literacy status of the disabled stands at 55%. As we pull together the statistics, disability may act as the main obstacle for education at every level.

Samarthanam, with its 7 diverse initiatives including Education, Skilling, Environment, Sports, Arts and Culture, Rehabilitation and Health and Nutrition, Samarthanam stands to be an umbrella organization, escorting people with disabilities in every endeavor.

Samarthanam works on multiple avenues with a vision to empower people with disabilities and support them for a self-sustaining living. Since we believe that the right place of a child is in the school, Samarthanam provides education support to children from various backgrounds, laying the foundation for a bright future. Training the youth for skill development and facilitating them with employment opportunities, encouraging blind cricketers and nurturing their careers, women empowerment, various environment conservation projects, a large scale food programme providing meals to kids from various schools are the prime domains which Samarthanam focuses on.

Samarthanam touched the lives of 50,000 people with disabilities across 15 cities in India since 1997, the year the organization was founded. On the basis of consistent partnerships established with corporate, Government, organizations and individuals, Samarthanam is positive of accomplishing its goals and help in building a country where persons with disabilities enjoy equal rights.
Samarthanam’s Mid-day meal programme provides nutritious meals to children from 51 Government schools in and around Bangalore. The objective, apart from providing a complete meal, is to eradicate malnutrition and encourage students to pursue continuous school education.

Education is the basic right of every individual and imparting complete educational facilities is the prime motive of Samarthanam. Primary and High Schools and higher education support are the various units which encourage continuous education among children.

Special school for intellectually disabled houses special children, who are trained in the basic daily activities and functional literacy making them independent.

The organization’s home for women in distress by name Swadhar, is home for many destitute women and those with disabilities. Residents of Swadhar are supported by offering counseling, vocational training and employment opportunities for sustainable living.

Working Womens Hostel accommodates 50 working women and students pursuing higher education. The hostel offers secure residential facility with hygienic nutritious food to its occupants.

Parisara is a waste management programme which provides dry waste management services to corporate, educational institutions, residential complexes, apartments and other organizations. Collecting, segregating and recycling of dry and e-waste is executed, significantly lessening the burden on landfills.

Similarly, Samarthanam centres carry out distinct environment conservation programmes raising awareness at large.
Sunadha is the troupe of artists with disabilities who are trained and encouraged to perform on National and International stages. The group consists of dancers, singers and musicians who excel in Indian traditional arts like Bharatnatyam and regional folk dance forms.

Samarthanam public library has a collection of various educative, social, arts, children and literature books, encouraging people of every age to join the library and reinstate the habit of reading.

Young mothers and pregnant women burdened with domestic and marital concerns are provided shelter at Samarthanam Swadhara, along with necessary medical facilities and counseling.

Cricket for the blind is not just a mere game but a life changing tool for the visually challenged, who strive to make a stand in the world of sports.

The game is a social change maker which connects players with visual impairment to the society. It is a sport for transformation, encouraging the players to leave behind inhibitions and grab onto opportunities showcasing talent. Indian Blind Cricket team poured in great efforts to compete and gain victory in many World Cup Championships.

Skilling centres of Samarthanam are spread across the country, along with rural regions, encouraging youth with disabilities to take up various training modules for successful employment and leading an independent life.
Alignment of projects with MDG and SDG:

**Millenium Development Goals:**
- To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- To achieve universal primary education
- To promote gender equality and empower women
- To reduce child mortality
- To improve maternal health
- To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- To ensure environmental sustainability
- To develop a global partnership for development

**Sustainable Development Goals**

1. **NO POVERTY**
   - Samarthanam Livelihood Resource Centre imparts skill development training to youth with disabilities, make them employment ready and hence improve their family income.
   - Education being the building block for establishing sustainable living environment eventually, Samarthanam provides education at primary, secondary and higher levels.

2. **ZERO HUNGER**
   - Narrowing down to child hunger, the Mid-day Meal Programme by Samarthanam zeroes many hunger problems in schools and strives to eliminate all malnutrition concerns among school children.

3. **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
   - The healthcare unit of Samarthanam School monitors continuous good health of its students and garners supports for treating major health issues of its beneficiaries.
   - Women and child healthcare is majorly taken care at Samarthanam Swadhara where young mothers and infants receive shelter and allied facilities.
Inclusive education being one of the prime motives of Samarthanam, the barrier-free residential school, built on smart technology and accessible infrastructure, provides superior education facilities to children with disabilities and poor economic background. An ambience for a lifelong learning is created without any gender discrimination.

Women in distress and with disabilities, those facing domestic abuse and marital issues are supported at Swadhara, counseled and encouraged to take up vocational skill improvement training and pursue occupations suiting their profile.

Girl students are encouraged to enroll into school/college, take up competent extra curricular activities and complete their education/skill training efficiently. Samarthanam schools record equal ratio of girl to boy students, so as their livelihood resource centres.

An RO water treatment plant set up at Kolar in Karnataka provides safe drinking water to the residents of two villages in Kolar District, clearing their water scarcity concerns to a large extent.

Around 12,000 people have benefitted from the project, covering more than 2000 households resulting in improved health and immunity.

Samarthanam Barrier-free Residential school, a completely accessible school constructed to house 700 students from various backgrounds, has been installed with solar water heaters under CSR initiative.

The upcoming buildings of Samarthanam are planned to be made green and eco-friendly.

While the entire world runs on technology, Samarthanam Skilling programmes largely use modern technology and innovative methods in designing and executing the training courses.

As youth with disabilities come forward to enhance their skills, receiving job offers becomes hassle-free, hence increasing employment in disabled youth.
Samarthanam Skilling centres foster innovation at various levels. An inclusive environment has been created across all centres of Samarthanam with the help of accessible assistive infrastructure for daily commute, communication and living.

Reduce- Reuse- Recycle is the one principle guiding Parisara in its endeavor to make environment cleaner and greener. The dry waste management service by Parisara recycles a large unit of dry waste produced by many corporate, educational institutions and residential complexes.

Samarthanam accomplishes its targets largely through the support received from multiple partnerships which also share knowledge, expertise, technology and guidance in the name of CSR.

Samarthanam is one of the few organizations which have been awarded Special UN Consultative Status in 2015.
Volunteering under CSR

The philosophy of volunteering forms the operational core of the organization, making each volunteer a catalyst in altering the life of the disabled. Volunteer management is one of the important wings/part of the organization that encourages the community and allows citizens to get involved in the social service activities. Samarthanam’s pan India presence enables volunteers to take part in our activities in their nearest city. Various companies and individuals come forward to lend a hand with the promotion and execution of programmes organized and also the regular activities at Samarthanam.

ACTIVITIES

- **Education support** in the form of tutoring, field trips, summer camps, arts and other allied activity classes, social skills, reader services and teaching scientific experiments. You also may lend a hand in converting text books into audio format for the digital library.
- **Skill development support** by teaching MS office, browsing, applications, soft skills, arranging corporate exposure visits, mock interviews, personality development and placement support for the differently abled trainees.
- Involve in **environment awareness projects** by encouraging people to adopt recycling and source segregation of dry waste, awareness campaigns, plantation drives, cleaning black spots and painting of flyovers and public walls.
- **Support rehabilitation of women** through offering vocational training, counseling, arranging activities for building self esteem and legal help.
- **Team building activities** include Cricket matches with blind cricket team, a means to encourage inclusivity of visually impaired persons. And lending a hand in our kitchen for making a sumptuous meal for Samarthanam children. Also add color to Samarthanam walls by painting the school walls/premises.
- **Offering employment opportunities** to persons with disabilities and creating an inclusive environment at your company premises
- Organizing **stalls** at your venue during Annual Days or other important events
- Organizing **performances by Sunadha**, a unique dance troupe comprising of artists with disabilities, for important events at your company
- **Corporate gifting** of environmental friendly products by Samarthanam
- **Consultation** for infrastructure building for creating an inclusive premise
- **Monetary support** for specific projects
- **Payroll giving** by individual employees for programmes of their choice
- **Sponsoring** for major events such as Walkathon, World Cup matches and so on.

**3000 VOLUNTEERS**

joined hands for making 2nd T20 World Cup Cricket 2017 (28 January 2016 – 12 February 2017), an international event organized in 10 cities of India, a successful event.

**2000 VOLUNTEERS**

came together for organizing Walkathon 2017 (December 9, 2017), a walk commemorating International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
Major Brands associated with Samarthanam

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Statutory compliance

Samarthanam abides by its fiduciary responsibility and well channelizes the income generated through donations in the rightful direction.

Samarthanam is FCRA certified and qualified to receive contributions through
Give India
Give2Asia
United Way
Goodera
Global Giving
Charity Aid Foundation, USA
American service to India, USA

All Donations made to Samarthanam Trust are 50% tax exempted under Section 80G of Indian Income Tax Act.

Donations made in USA are exempted under 501C3.
Get in touch

Head Office
CA: 39, 15th Cross, 16th Main, Sector – 4,
HSR Layout, Bengaluru – 560102
Karnataka, India
Phone: +91 80 25721444
Email: info@samarthanam.org
Web: www.samarthanam.org