



BHARTIYA SAMAJ
CHARITABLE TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



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Ram Vashist
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Ameesha Sachdev
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A disclosure statement as required under Securities Act 1988 is freely available on request

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Annual Report 2019 - 2020

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ABOUT US



“Excel in our service to the community” underpins the value, mission, and philosophy of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust. We support bringing “Positive Change” in the lives of Aotearoa’s diverse communities to empower them to become strong, confident and in control of their lives. What started in 1995 as a community platform for like-minded people, we have grown into a large family and a trusted name amongst the households of the South Asian community. We now have the proud patronage of over 1500 members and an increasing number of young participants who come together as a community. We ensure that people of the community feel socially empowered, culturally sound, and emotionally settled in the vast neighborhoods of New Zealand, through various activities and programs on a regular basis. We offer wide variety of services such as Elderly support, Community Grievance/Distress Support, New Migrant Settlement Support, Skill development programs, culturally appropriate care home, Annual Summer camp and Holiday program for Children, Multicultural Playgroup(0-5 yrs.), Language and Cultural Classes. Most notable initiatives of this year 2019-20 have been our new programs such as environment project of sewing reusable bags from waste textile, skill bank project and COVID relief initiatives for the community. We are also proud to affirm that our services are available free to the South Asian Community irrespective of their language, religion, region and social status

Our Mission:

Excel in our service to the Community

Our Vision:

Connect with Aotearoa’s diverse communities to empower and support their well-being

Our Values:

Core values that we hold dear to our heart

- Diversity - Serve all mankind
- Empowerment – Empower people to become strong and confident
- Advocacy – Strongly advocate for all those in need
- Respect – To show care and respect for all

Benefits to the Community

- Sense of social inclusion
- Building connected and confident communities
- Mutual Support and companionship
- Community Wellbeing and cultural Identity
- Enhancing the quality of life of older people in the community
- Kiwi English Speaking and Te Reo Maori Language Classes
- Assist migrants and newcomers in seeking jobs, reduce barriers to settlement, networking and building relationships
- Youth Development
- For Children 6-14 years: Language and Cultural School for Overall personality development, Hindi Language and computer skills, music, dance and sports, culture specific Holiday Programs, Annual Summer Camp, better understanding of cultural values for them to remain grounded to their cultural roots and have stronger family bonds
- Multicultural Playgroup for 0-5years : A great place for children to develop their social skills, emotional confidence and prepare them to be independent at an early age. For the stay-at-home parents/caregivers it’s a platform where they integrate into the sphere of social inclusion and collectively grow from a shared learning environment, especially with cross-cultural interaction and each other’s experiences
- A free pick and drop facilities for mothers, caregivers and their children are provided which benefits the families that are struggling in accommodating into the social landscape of NZ

From the Chairperson's Desk



On the auspicious occasion of the 74th India Independence Day, I would like to extend hearty congratulations to all the Indians and friends of India around the globe and wish them a very Happy India Independence Day.

Every year we celebrate this occasion with the Auckland Indian Diaspora and the friends of India in New Zealand, however this year has been challenging for all of us due to the declaration of pandemic. In the wake of situations unleashed by the coronavirus pandemic all our in-person activities were put on hold, but it did not deter us from keeping our community connected. Digital platform was made use of to form virtual social groups to connect our members giving them a sense of inclusion, social connectedness and being valued. During these extremely hard and difficult situations, we stepped up to provide a helping hand to in the community. In an endeavour to serve the community, an initiative "COVID-19 Support Group", led by Indian High commission supported by Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust and other community organizations was undertaken to extend necessary and crucial aid to the vulnerable Indian nationals that included stranded tourists, students, weekly wage earners and professionals who lost their jobs and any other Indians on temporary visa. Online counselling services and distress support service was also provided to help people to manage and recover from stress and anxiety arising from financial struggle, social and physical distancing.

With all its remarkable patrons, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust is proud to continue serving the community with its numerous new initiatives and successful continuing projects, that help us build a stronger and more integrated community – with focus on Elder Support, Migrant Settlement, Grievance Support and more importantly building a centre of hope for our people. We have continued to celebrate milestones and achievements like previous years, and we continue to grow strong due to the love, dedication and support of our members, supporters, co-workers, volunteers and all associates. We feel honoured to be able to serve the community and bring forward new initiatives for children, youth, migrants, senior citizens and families. I am also glad to announce that we have incorporated numerous social initiatives including the "skill bank" and "Break Free from Plastic" an environment project of sewing reusable fabric bags from waste textile. I am deeply humbled by the sincere cooperation expressed by all those connected with us in making us what we are today. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Trustees, Committee Members, Funding Agencies and Operational Staff for the long-continued support and look forward to a memorable and prosperous journey together ahead.

In this darkest hour of coronavirus pandemic, I pray to Almighty to give strength and peace to the nation and to the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. My wishes and prayers are to protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation.

Thanking You.
Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeet Suchdev".

Jeet Suchdev QSM JP
Chairperson/ Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust

9 July 2020



A message from Auckland Mayor Phil Goff

To the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust, thank you for the important contribution you make to Auckland and for the work you do on behalf of our communities.

For almost a quarter of a century, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust has provided a range of free services to support children and young people, senior citizens, migrants and families. During the COVID-19 crisis, the trust offered much-needed help to those facing financial hardship by distributing food parcels and medical supplies, and by providing accommodation and repatriation assistance for travellers stranded in New Zealand.

To Auckland's Indian community—thank you for the role you play in making our city a diverse and vibrant place to live. You make an important contribution to the economic and cultural success of Auckland.

My best wishes to all Indian New Zealanders on the occasion of India's 74th Independence Day. We join with you in celebrating India's rich and proud cultural heritage, which dates back over 5000 years, and in reflecting on the continuing success of one of the world's largest democracies.

Kind regards,



Phil Goff
MAYOR OF AUCKLAND



भारतीय उच्चायुक्त

High Commissioner of India

22 July 2020

Message

On behalf of the High Commission of India, Wellington, I extend my sincere greetings and felicitations to Shri Jeet Sachdev and to the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust, Auckland on the occasion of publication of the Trust's Annual Report for the year 2020-21.

I also take this opportunity to commend the creditable work being done by the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust in the service of the Indian community, particularly for the senior citizens across communities in living with dignity.

This year, as the whole world grapples with Covid-19 pandemic, I would like to make a special mention of the self-less service rendered by Shri Sachdev for ensuring welfare of Indian nationals stranded in New Zealand by assisting them with accommodation and food and providing them emotional support during these tough times.

I wish Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust, its office bearers and members all the best in their future endeavours in the service of humanity.




(Muktesh K. Pardeshi)

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Hon Tracey Martin

Minister for Children
Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister for Seniors

Associate Minister of Education



Kia ora koutou and warm greetings to you all.

It's a great pleasure to be able to congratulate Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust on another year and to be able to mark the 74th anniversary of India's independence.

Your Trust has done considerable work over the past two decades and more in areas that span all of my portfolios. You have generously provided assistance to the community for children and young people, families, seniors and migrants. As Minister I know how difficult some of these areas can be to work in and how valuable this help, especially from a friendly face, can be for the people receiving it.

I would particularly like to acknowledge your work over the past few months, especially during the COVID-19 lockdown, with your efforts in delivering food and medicines, and helping out stranded members of your community – and helping them to return home.

My experience of the Indian community in New Zealand is that the sort of generosity demonstrated by Bhartiya Samaj is part of your culture. It is part of the enormous contribution by the wider Indian population here, both Kiwi-born and more recent arrivals, to this country.

To the wider Indian community, thank you. The anniversary of Indian Independence is a chance to celebrate your history and culture – the thousands of years of history and culture, not just the end of British rule – and its place in New Zealand as well as the progress of the world's largest democracy.

Warm regards

Hon Tracey Martin
Minister for Children

CONSULATE OF INDIA
Auckland, New Zealand



Level 1, 133A, Onehunga Mall,
Onehunga - 1061,
Auckland, New Zealand



Congratulatory Message

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to acknowledge the tireless work done by Jeet Suchdev and his team at the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust over the last two decades in serving our broader Kiwi-Indian community.

The Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust has carved a special place in the heart of the Kiwi-Indian community for providing support and assistance to those in distress and in need of support.

Notably, the work done by the Trust under the leadership of Mr Suchdev during the Covid-19 related Alert level 4 lockdown this year in providing food, housing and other support to our hundreds of stranded Indians in New Zealand is incredible and exemplary.

It is also my great pleasure to congratulate every member of your organisation on the momentous occasion of 74th anniversary of India's Independence Day.

I would like to extend every possible support in your future endeavours.

Bhav Dhillon
Hon Consul of India

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Michael Wood

MP for Mt Roskill



Tuesday, 21st July 2020

Namaste, Sat Sri Akal, Vanakkam, A-salaam-alaikum and warm greetings to you in all of the many languages of India!

I am delighted to acknowledge the work of Bhartiya Samaj in this Annual Report.

Bhartiya Samaj has tirelessly served the community since 1995, providing a wide range of services and support to thousands of people over that time. On a fortnightly basis, hundreds of Senior Citizens gather for fellowship with Bhartiya Samaj where they are entertained, informed, and connected with others across the community. In addition to this Bhartiya Samaj provides free services to children and young people, new migrants, and anyone else in the community who needs support or advice.

I really appreciate the way in which Bhartiya Samaj regularly adapts its services to meet changing needs. Over the past year the organisation developed a line of reusable fabric bags for people to use in place of plastic bags. Then, during the Covid-19 lockdown period, Bhartiya Samaj stepped forward to provide food and medical supplies to people in need, and played a critical role in looking after the welfare of stranded Indian tourists.

This work speaks to the values of kindness and community that our Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and the Labour Party believe in. I thank Jeet and Roopa, the Board, patrons, and all Bhartiya Samaj volunteers for their tireless work in support of the community, and look forward to working with you in the years to come.

Yours Sincerely

Michael Wood, MP for Mt Roskill



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Authorised by Michael Wood, Parliament Buildings, Wellington





Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi

National List MP based in Manukau East



Happy 74th Indian Independence Day

I take this opportunity to wish and celebrate with Indians across the globe on our 74th Independence Day.

India earned its independence due to team work, Jeet Suchdev and his team at the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust have continued our values of team work to provide community support. Their efforts have led to positive change in the lives of Auckland and New Zealand's diverse communities.

The trust began with baby steps in 1995 however, with a clear vision to excel in its services to the community. It has now evolved in to providing a wide range of services such as Children and Youth Support, Migrants Support, Family and Distress Support, Elder Support, Social Services, and Culturally appropriate Rest Home.

Organisations such as Bhartiya Samaj and its leadership make a positive difference to our community and keep the Indian spirit of *sewa* and *sarbad da bhal* going. May they continue to work and serve the community as a team.

Once again Happy 74th Indian Independence Day to everyone.

Yours sincerely

Yours sincerely

Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi

Wellington

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Authorised by Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi MP, 1/131 Kolmar Road, Papatoetoe, Auckland.

Priyanka Radhakrishnan

Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister for Ethnic Communities
Labour List MP based in Maungakiekie



Happy Indian Independence day!

Congratulations to the land of my birth and to my fellow Indian New Zealanders as we celebrate 73 years of Indian Independence.

On this day we remember the hundreds of men and women from across India who fought for justice and gave up their lives to achieve freedom. We reflect on their courage and strength to fight for what they stood for and believed in.

On this day, we celebrate ancient India – one of the oldest and richest civilisations - and her significant contributions on the global stage. We also celebrate modern India – the largest functioning democracy that has been making significant economic and industrial progress over the last several years.

India and New Zealand have a longstanding, warm relationship. Our ties go back to the 1800s, with Indians settling in NZ as early as the 1850s. Our relationship has strengthened over time and today, our vibrant and diverse Kiwi Indian community contributes enormously to NZ's society, culture and economy - and in virtually every sector.

On this day of celebration, I congratulate and comment Jeet Suchdev and the team at Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust for their work on behalf of our Kiwi Indian communities across NZ and for their commitment to celebrating important occasions like Indian Independence day.

I want to specially acknowledge the contributions made by the Bhartiya Samaj team to support families and international students who needed additional assistance during the recent COVID-19 lockdown. It was a tough time for many but it was special to see organisations like Bhartiya Samaj who worked as part of our team of 5 million and the government to eliminate COVID-19 from our shores. Thank you all for the part you continue to play as we deal with the impact of this pandemic and we keep moving to rebuild our economy together.

Yours sincerely

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Authorised by Priyanka Radhakrishnan, 100 Neilson St, Onehunga



Office of Dr Parmjeet Parmar

National List MP

It is with deep heart-felt congratulations I send my compliments to the Government of India, Indian High Commission to New Zealand and the Indian community in New Zealand, and all around the world on this jubilant occasion.

The India Independence Day anniversary is a day which is honoured and recognised by Indians globally.

I commend the Indian community in New Zealand for the commitment to ensure we remain connected to our culture and heritage as we celebrate our vibrant values, tradition and aspirations throughout the Independence Day festivities.

I wish to convey my sincerest congratulations to the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust on this special occasion and acknowledge their work with the Indian community. In this year, in particular, the efforts of Bhartiya Samaj can be especially recognised for the significant part the Trust has played in bringing the community together amidst the challenges of Covid-19.

Although the impact of the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust's efforts stretch across the community and embrace all ages, Bhartiya Samaj has been outstanding in providing the community with a much needed wide range of community based initiatives, especially for the elderly.

I wish Mr Jeet Sachdeva and Ms Roopa Sachdeva and the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust's team the best of luck and I trust they will continue to serve the Indian community well into the future.

I am looking forward to joining you all in this wonderful celebration and wish everyone Happy Independence Day anniversary celebrations.



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Wellington 6160



Telephone +64 4 817 9312
Email parmjeet.parmar@parliament.govt.nz



Congratulations to Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust for another year of good works in our community.

The Trust is a vital part of the Puketāpapa community eco-system, especially for our South Asian seniors.

I know that the local board members appreciate both the work you do and the invitations to your events to see you all in action.

The contribution that you make to mental and physical health for our residents has been significant, and your ability to provide remote support during the challenges of lockdown was impressive.

We wish you all the best for many more years of fruitful community connection and activity in Puketāpapa and beyond.

Yours sincerely
Julie Fairey
Chair



"The Chairperson and members of the Howick Local Board send their greetings to the Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust on the occasion of Indian Independence day, and congratulate you on the dedication and commitment you have shown leading a significant range of innovative projects in our community.

We also thank your sincerely for the input you have willingly provided to our Local Board Plan; and for the warmth and hospitality shown to us when we have visited your meetings."

Warm Regards,

Adele White,

Chair| Howick Local Board



The Auckland Indian Association Inc.



The Mahatma Gandhi Centre, 145 New North Road, Eden Terrace, Auckland 1021, PO Box 8110 Symonds Street, Auckland 1150, New Zealand

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Telephone: (09) 377 2424

PRESIDENT: Narendra Bhana E: president@aiai.org.nz GENERAL SECRETARY: Dr. Lingappa Kalburgi, E: secretary@aiai.org.nz

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust
13 May Road
Mt Roskill
Auckland 1041

Dear Jeet Bhai

Congratulations!

On behalf of the Auckland Indian Association Inc., I would like to take this opportunity to convey our heartiest congratulations to Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust for bringing positive change in New Zealand's diverse communities. Bhartiya Samaj has offered a wide range of services through various initiatives for Youth, Migrants, Women and Senior Citizens. The organization has made remarkable progress over the years and we are confident it will continue to touch hundreds of peoples' hearts in future.

We wish you all the best for your future endeavors.

Yours sincerely,
Narendra Bhana
President





Auckland Tamil Association

ஆக்லான்ட் தமிழ் அசோசியேஷன்

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8th August 2020

Mr Jeet Suchdev QSM JP
Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust
13 May Road, Mt Roskill
Auckland

Dear Jeet Ji,

On behalf of Auckland Tamil Association Inc, we would like to congratulate and appreciate Bhartiya Samaj, who has been a powerful voice for Indian Community and a tireless advocate for the Indian Diaspora. We appreciate their effort to bring all Indian communities together to celebrate the Indian Independence Day on 15th August 2020.

This Indian Independence Day celebrations will exhibit our cultural diversity and provides our younger generation an understanding of our Freedom Fighters who fought for our Independence.

Wish everyone a Happy Indian Independence Day.

With Regards,

Vai Ravindran

Vai Ravindran |President| Auckland Tamil Association.
9 Linden Street, Lynfield, Auckland, 1041
Mobile: 027 275 8266





On behalf of Urdu Hindi Cultural Association of New Zealand, I would like to take an opportunity to send my best wishes to the Indian Community on the occasion of 74th Indian Independence Day. 15th August is the day when India was declared as a Sovereign nation. On this auspicious day, we all gather to honour the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives to free our nation.

I would like to extend our gratitude and support to Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust and Roopa Aur Aap Charitable Trust for the constant endeavour and hard work towards the welfare of the community. The vision and efforts of Jeet Suchdev and Roopa Suchdev are remarkable.

Urdu Hindi Association of New Zealand promotes Urdu Hindi languages by conducting classes. This provides a great opportunity for Kiwi's to learn and improve their mother tongue and helps them to understand the literature and values. The association's aim is to preserve and promote the culture and heritage of our nation. We conduct Mushaira, Kavi Sammelan and Ghazals once a year to promote harmony among people where the community gets together and enjoys.



Warm Regards,
Mujeeb Syed, QSM
Secretary
Urdu Hindi Cultural Association of New Zealand
0211602135
098284876

New Zealand Telugu Association congratulates **Bharatiya Samaj Charitable Trust** for completing 24 years of service to the community.

Thank you for your tremendous help during COVID 19 pandemic. Stranded Indians from our community have highly regarded your support towards providing free food and accommodation for them. Your help to the elderly people, family and distress support is also highly appreciated. We admire your collaboration with other Indian organizations to celebrate Independence Day, Republic day and International yoga day. We wish you all the best to continue the service in coming years as well. It's a pleasure work with you and we thank you once again for your service to the community.

Happy Independence Day.

Regards

New Zealand Telugu Association President
Srilatha Magatala





Nepalese Cultural Centre New Zealand Inc.

**Rawene Centre
33 – 35 Rawene Road
Birkenhead, North Shore
Auckland 0626
Mobile: 021 180 2619**

07 July 2020

Subject : Congratulatory Message

**Mr. Jeet Suchdev
Chairperson
Bharatiya Samaj Charitable Trust
10 Rohi Place, Flatbush
Auckland 2019**

**Dear Mr. Jeet Suchdev
Namaste !**

We are glad to write this Congratulatory note to your organization on the occasion of Indian Independence Day. We worked together in many occasions from 2000. After the establishment of NCCNZI in 2008, we came very closer to each other in organizing different activities. Now from 2016, after we started hosting Multi – Ethnic Dance Festival, we started feeling as a member of a family. Your support to the NCCNZI is really commendable and become a backbone for the event. You have become an inspiration to our society for moving forward.

On the occasion of Independence day of India, we would like to congratulate you and team and wish that you will get success in all your attempts for the welfare of citizens of New Zealand. We acknowledge your activities for the community and also look forward working hand in hand for betterment of general people of New Zealand.

Once again I and all the members of the NCCNZI would like to congratulate you and all your team members from our heart for your great Achievements.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

**Kamal P Shrestha
President**



Probasee Bengalee Association of NZ, Inc

On the occasion of 74th Independence Day celebration for India, Probasee Bengalee Association of New Zealand Inc, would like to congratulate Bhartiya Samaj for the exemplary work done for the Indian fraternity here in NZ.

In an endeavour to serve the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, Bhartiya Samaj initiated their COVID-19 Relief program in collaboration with Indian High commission to provide immediate support to the Indian Nationals greatly impacted by lockdown. This included stranded Indian tourists, students and weekly wage earners on temporary visas and professionals who lost their jobs. They have also been working extensively to curb the psychological pressure of people suffering amid these critical times. Through free of cost online counselling services and distress support service the organisational social workers are helping people to manage and recover from stress and anxiety arising from financial struggle, social and physical distancing.

This Independence Day brings back our promise to build a strong and brighter future with the blessings of our glorious past. In our new homeland here in NZ, we thrive to keep rooted to our foundation culture and salute our martyrs to whom we will be always indebted.

Once again congratulating Bhartiya Samaj for making this occasion truly great towards Indo Kiwi friendship with cultural diversity.

Jai Hind

Malabika Bhaduri
President



Santanu Roy
Vice President



Sudeshna Giri
General Secretary



Probasee. 

14 July 2020

On behalf of the Migrant Heritage Charitable Trust Inc (Regd), I would like to CONGRATULATE BHARATIYA SAMAJ on the excellent work that they are carrying on within the Indian Diaspora in New Zealand. It gives us immense pleasure to be associated with Bharatiya Samaj and the zealously of Mr Jeet Sachdeva, who is doing a fabulous job through the Samaj. On the occasion of India's Independence day celebrations we wish the Samaj, its members, Jeetji and the extended Indian Parivar a very happy

INDEPENDENCE DAY!

*The occasion is a celebration of our rich cultural diversity and an opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of our senior citizens and their role in shaping the present India since independence. It also provides a platform for the younger generation in understanding our roots and gives them a sense of identity. I am sure you all will join me in wishing the **Bharatiya Samaj and Jeetji**, a grand future and wishing the Indian Diaspora on this momentous occasion.*

We are looking forward for a whole heartedly support and active participation in these endeavours and commit our solidarity in our adopted motherland. Good luck and Wishing you the best BHARATIYA SAMAJ

For MIGRANT HERITAGE CHARITABLE TRUST INC (REGD)



PRASHANT BELWALKAR
PRESIDENT – BOARD OF TRUSTEE



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Date: - 03.07.2020

On this auspicious Occasion **Woman Care Trust** would like to wish all the Indians Happy Independence Day and wishes heartiest congratulations to the team acknowledging all the hard work done by **Bharatiya Samaj Charitable Trust** during all these years with dedication, enthusiasm and insight which is really inspiring. Helping Indian Community by providing quality service for free to ensure people are benefited by fostering healthy relations among all members and catering to the social, cultural and emotional needs of these groups especially young children, who hold the future for a better tomorrow. **Woman Care Trust** would like to Congratulate Mr. Jeet Suchdev Founder of **Bharatiya Samaj Charitable Trust** for serving the Kiwi-Indian Community and organising Independence Day event.

Kind Regards,



(Paramjit Kaur)
Chairperson

Woman Care Trust

womancaretrust@gmail.com

Mobile 0212697050





From: **Swaminarayan Mandir Vasna Sanstha,
New Zealand**

Date 10 August, 2020

We are honored and delighted to state that Swaminarayan Mandir Vasna Sanstha New Zealand (SMVS) NZ appreciate the continuous support of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust which has been serving the New Zealand community for last 24 years and would like to congratulate them for the exemplary work done for the Indian fraternity here in NZ. It's been a wonderful journey for Bhartiya Samaj over two decades to bring all communities under one umbrella and create an environment to showcase the cultural diversity of India to the world. The efforts by Bhartiya Samaj towards the benefit of wider Indian communities, empowering the members for a better life and strong contribution towards NZ prosperity, is truly commendable.

We also would like to acknowledge and congratulate Bhartiya Samaj for extending strong support to the community during the difficult times of COVID 19. The relief work undertaken by them from the very start of lockdown was commendable that provided support to the people who were left jobless or were stranded here in NZ. The initiative included distributing free food packets to the people in need, arranging medicine prescriptions, transitional accommodation to the tourists stranded in NZ in a motel along with cooked meals. They undertook this mission at pan NZ level to support those struggling to manage their economic, financial, and social stability during this difficult time.

We appreciate the commitment and dedication of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust and its volunteers in serving the community. We wish them all for their future endeavors in serving the community.

Arpan Bhagat

(On Behalf of SMVS NZ)

021853797



Vaishnav Parivar (NZ) Inc. congratulates India on its 73rd Independence Day on 15th August 2020 and proudly joins everyone around the world in celebrating this auspicious day in Auckland. India has come a very long way since its humble beginning as a nation in 1947. By its steadfast commitment to democracy, peace, progress and prosperity India is today a thriving and respected nation of the world. Vaishnav Parivar wishes India every success in all its endeavours to modernize the country for the benefit of all its citizens.

Manhar Patel

President, Auckland



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GROUP OF COMPANIES



Rrahul Dosshi
Managing Director | Founder



Bhavini Doshii
CEO | Founder

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TELANGANA JAGRUTHI NZ
History & culture, Health and Women
Kia ora Aotearoa!

03-Aug-2020

Bharat Mata ki Jai
Jai Telangana
Jai Jagruthi

On the Occasion of 74th Indian Independence Day, Telangana Jagruthi NZ would like to congratulate our entire Kiwi - Indian community and all the Indians around the world. India's rich heritage and culture witnessed by the world. Our salute to each and every freedom martyrs for their sacrifice for India's independence. They are always in our hearts.

The amazing work by Bharatiya Samaj for Indian community in NZ is very commendable. Senior Citizens and young kids are thoroughly enjoying the programs of Bharatiya Samaj. We congratulate Bharatiya Samaj on their tremendous progress year by year.

Greatly appreciable their tireless efforts in promoting Indian culture in NZ.

On this Occasion we would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of Shri Jeet bhai.

Happy Independence Day to all.



With Regards,
Telangana Jagruthi NZ EC

President: Jyothi Muddam

+64 21 030 3341 ✉ telanganaiaagruthinz@gmail.com

Address: 93 Maoro Street, Mt. Roskill, Auckland - 0600



MUTH TAMIL SANGAM Inc

www.muthtamilsangam.co.nz

muthtamilsangam@gmail.com

Auckland, New Zealand.



Bhartiya Samaj, a pioneer organization to serve the broader Indian community to its deep root, catering to a variety of different fields, is a great bliss to Kiwi Indian community. We always wonder at your dedication in serving the community and we want to follow your footprints.

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Gujarati Samaj New Zealand Inc.



To,
Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust.
New Zealand.

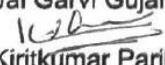
Subject; Congratulatory message

Over the last couple of decades, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust has been working for the community be it for Children and Youth, Migrants, Women, Senior Citizens. BSCT has initiated the celebration of Indian Independence Day together with all the various organizations of the Indian community. We appreciate Mr. Jeet Sachdev, chairman BSCT for good work.

We Gujarati Samaj NZ (Inc.), congratulate India on Independence Day on this 15th August 2020 and proudly joins with all other community organizations on this auspicious day here in Auckland.

It is indeed a proud moment for every Indian to celebrate the Indian Independence Day.

We pay our tributes to our tricolor, our predecessors and martyrs for the cause of our freedom. On behalf of GSNZ, we convey to you all our Greetings and Best wishes on this Independence Day – 15 August 2020 and look forward to working with the community for service to humanity and mankind.

Jai Hind
Jai Garvi Gujarat.

Kiritkumar Parikh.
President.
Gujarati Samaj New Zealand Inc.



Post Box No:15144, New Lynn, Auckland. email: info@gujaratisamajnz.com Website: www.gujaratisamajnz.info
Registration No: 2569060, Charities Services: registration No: CC49077



On behalf of GOPIO Auckland Central Chapter Inc.
Our heartiest Congratulations to the team of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust for their ongoing support to the community.

“Happy India’s Independence Day to Indian Diaspora”

“Vande Mataram”

Shefali Mehta QSM BEM JP-

President – GOPIO Auckland Central

www.gopio.com

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New Zealand Indian Senior Citizens Association

(Reg No. 662108, Charity No. CC30870)

MESSAGE TO BHARTIYA SAMAJ SILVER JUBILEE

On behalf of the New Zealand Indian Senior Citizens Association I would like to convey our warmest Congratulations and Best Wishes to you and all members of the Bhartiya Samaj on reaching its 25th anniversary. We are proud of many accomplishments you have achieved during this period. Once again CONGRATULATIONS and Best Wishes for the silver jubilee.



Dr Ram Lakhera

President

New Zealand Indian Senior Citizens Association



"On the auspicious occasion of INDIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY, I extend my hearty congratulation to all INDIANS. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts and the hard work put in by Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust over the years to help diverse communities in New Zealand as well as establishing a fantastic working relationship with the other ethnic community associations. It has been my pleasure to collaborate with Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust on many occasions, and together we form a diverse fabric of New Zealand society. Love and respect for all communities."

Shukria / Ngā mihi

Naveed Hamid

President

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“कोरोना वायरस 19”



मैं जब भी आप के सामने आती हूँ कोई न कोई छोटी सी घटना या कहानी सुनाती हूँ । आज की कहानी अभी ही शुरू हुई है , यानि 2020 मे । आप ने भूतकाल ,वर्तमानकाल ओर भविष्यकाल सुन रखा होगा पर इसी सन मे एक और काल अपने आप बन गया । आप जानना चाहेंगे क्या है ,बिल्कुल सही पहचाना वो है कोरोना काल ।

आप ने आज तक कितनी सभ्यताओ के बारे मे पढ़ा, देखा होगा । कुछ बस्तियां बसी कुछ उजड़ गई । नए मापदंड बने नई सांस्कृतिक सभ्यता का विस्तार हुआ । समाज सभ्य होता गया नए नए आविष्कार हुए । जो आज तक देखा न सुना था उन वस्तुओ को देख कर हम भ्रमित हो गए की बस हम से बड़ कर कोई नहीं मैं भी खुश थी कि हम इस **century** मे जी रहे हैं ।

पता नहीं रेडियो सुनते सोने ही वाली थी कि कवि प्रदीप जी का गाना बज उठा

देख तेरे इंसान की हालत क्या हो गई भगवान, कितना बदल गया इंसान, सूरज न बदला चन्दा न बदला बदल गया इंसान ।

सच मे सुबह उठ कर पता चला कोरोना काल आया है ,पहले तो समझ नहीं आया जब न्यूज मे हर जगह एक भीषण चीत्कार होने लगा ,घर से निकालना बंद **car** बंद हवाईजहाज बंद जो जहां है वही रहे ,किसी प्रकार का आना जाना बंद । मुझे लगा कोई सपना है ऐसा भी कभी कहीं होता है । ये सब समझने मे एक सप्ताह लग गया । अरे हाँ मैं एक बात तो बताना ही भूल गई ,जो पंछी मुझे सुबह आकर गीत सुना जगाते थे ,उनका स्वर भी नहीं आया मैं हैरान तो हुई के उनको कैसे पता चला **lockdown** है । उनकी भाषा तो नहीं आती पर लगा वो हम सब से ज्यादा बुद्धिशाली हैं ।

जब घर की चार दीवारी मैं रहना है तो कुछ न कुछ तो करना होगा ,काम पे नहीं जा सकते बाहर जाना तो आतंकित करने की तरह था, अपनों से नहीं मिल सकते ।

सबसे पहले अपने घर मे जो रहते हैं उन से जान पहचान की (माफ करना इस लिए कहा क्यों कि उनसे मिलना बात करना नहीं हो पाता था हम बहुत व्यस्त जो थे) फिर सोचा अपने साथियों से कैसे संपर्क साधें ,धन्यवाद दिया आज कल की तरक्की को फोन हैं इंटरनेट है सोशल मीडिया है जिसकी खिलाफत हम करते थे उस से बहुत प्यार हो गया ।

कुछ बहुत अच्छा हुआ ,ओर नुकसान तो भर भर के हुआ पता नहीं ये काल कब तक चलेगा कहते हैं जो वक्त आता है चला जाता है ,पर गुज़रता बहुत मुश्किल से है कुछ बेगाने अपने बन जाते हैं कुछ अपने दूर हो जाते हैं । कुछ लाइन फिर याद आ गई

“एक जरा सी बात पर बरसों के याराने गए ,ये चलो अच्छा हुआ कुछ लोग तो पहचाने गए “

माफ करना कुछ ज्यादा लिख दिया हो तो ,वही लिखा जो मुझे दिखा । आज आप एक शुभ दिवस मना रहें हैं ¹⁵ अगस्त यानि हमारी स्वतंत्रा दिवस की बहुत बहुत शुभ कामनायें । हाथ जोड़ कर यही प्रार्थना है हम सबको इस कोरोना से भी मुक्ति मिले ओर हम कहीं हम पूरी तरह से आजाद हैं ।

रूपा सच्देव QSM



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AUGUST 2019 - INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY

As India celebrated its 73rd Independence Day this year on 15th August, we honoured this annual patriotic day at The Mahatma Gandhi Centre, Auckland, New Zealand on Sunday, 10th August 2019 with all community organisations celebrating this day together.



This occasion marked a true sense of achievement for our hard-fought nationhood. It gave us immense pleasure in sharing the Indian Diaspora with all Indian Community Organisations in New Zealand coming together and celebrating this historic event that displayed unity in diversity. Many organisations came up front and performed on stage but the highlight of the event was the special performance by Bhartiya Samaj children and senior citizens that was applauded by the entire audience and the excellent results were evident on stage due to a combined team performance.



MILESTONES

SEPTEMBER 2019 - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

The morning of Saturday 28th September 2019 saw throngs of Bhartiya Samaj Senior Citizen members in attendance at the annual recognizance of the “International Day of Older Persons” celebrations held at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall. More than 200 members, respectable dignitaries, and volunteers were brought together yet again by Bhartiya Samaj under a common cause and celebration.

The celebrations commenced with traditional rituals of all the Bhartiya Samaj meetings followed by Mr Jeet Suchdev welcoming and addressing one and all present at the event. This was followed by the dignitaries recognizing International Day of Older Persons and appreciating the rich contributions Senior Citizens make to the society. The dignitaries raised awareness about the challenges faced by the ageing population and emphasized on the importance of coming forward to organizations such as Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust when in need. The dignitaries also announced an official launch of Bhartiya Samaj new project “Break Free from Plastic” - a step towards embracing a plastic free lifestyle by using fabric shopping bags which will be manufactured by the Bhartiya Samaj Senior Citizens volunteers.

The event was made more interactive and engaging by putting together a video montage of how the organisation aims to spread happiness amongst the elders of our community, whom we so love and cherish, through its various celebrations, events, and visits to shelter homes with lively & fun activities. This was followed by spectacular dance performances by Khottey Sikke group, Garba performance by Senior Citizens of Bhartiya Samaj, an entertaining dance performance by the Grandiose- The creative Company dance group and Kathak Kendra Nrityashala.

The event concluded with a scrumptious lunch arranged by Bhartiya Samaj. We are grateful to our volunteers and beloved members; without whose dedication and efforts this event could not have been such a success. Also, we would like to thank and acknowledge our media partners Apna Television and Indian Weekender for the event coverage.



MILESTONES



OCTOBER 2019 - HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust hosted yet another successful culturally appropriate holiday program during the school term break for Sept/Oct 2019. Over 25 children, aged 6 to 14 years, were enrolled, and participated in a week full of fun and creative activities. The Holiday Program was arranged in the cozy indoors at Bhartiya Samaj Activity Hall, and the days were filled with lots of laughter, activity, and learning.

The kids started off their days with Prayers, Yoga followed with a fun jump-jam session and a healthy breakfast. The days were very well planned full of stimulating activities designed specially to enhance their interpersonal development, teamwork skills, creative abilities, and to explore and appreciate the nuances of different cultures. The program featured special workshop by ASB St John's in Schools on First Aid that trained the children how to assess the patient using DRSAB Action Plan. The children learned various ways of responding to different situations requiring first aid through a lot of interactive group activities wherein each group was given an emergency and a first aid box, and they were required to treat the patient. It also helped them to explore various types of injuries that can happen at school or at home and become life savers in emergencies.

There was yet another workshop by Auckland Council Waste Management NZ team who displayed and discussed how to deal with problem of plastic pollution and various substitutes of single use plastics. There were multiple arts and craft workshops including learning

were multiple arts and craft workshops including learning Chinese Zodiac signs and making zodiac lanterns, wastepaper gift bag making and decorative Diwali hangings. The grand finale of the holiday program was done with a special dance workshop by Grandiose- The Creative Company which was enjoyed by one and all.



The 5 days of the Holiday Program at Bhartiya Samaj were filled with chatter and laughter along with lots of activities in the free time for kids, including movie sessions, and a lot of indoor activities and games to bring fun & learning together. A special thanks to all the volunteers, teachers, partnering organizations and parents who were devotedly involved, for their undefinable contributions that made this event a grand success. All sincere efforts were made to make those five days joyful and memorable for the children.





OCTOBER 2019 - DIWALI CELEBRATIONS AT BHARTIYA SAMAJ CHARITABLE TRUST

One of the most significant festivals in Indian culture, Diwali, the festival of lights holds significance of triumph of good over evil.

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust celebrated Diwali at various places for the people in our community. The biggest celebrations were for the Senior Citizens Roskill Group that was held on Saturday, 26th October 2019 at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall with over 250 seniors and eminent dignitaries gracing the auspicious occasion. Among the invited guests, were present St John's NZ, The Migrant Careers Support Trust and Commonwealth Vaults.



It was wonderful to see all our Seniors dressed up in their finery for this occasion. With a beautiful Diwali themed backdrop, celebrations started with Bhartiya Samaj Chair, Mr Jeet Suchdev wishing everyone present at the event, their families and loved ones a happy Diwali. This was followed by dignitaries and invited guests wishing our Seniors and all present for a wonderful and joyous Diwali.

On the propitious occasion of Diwali, an official launch of Bhartiya Samaj new initiative was made "Career Calling Service- a unique service made available to the lonely, vulnerable Seniors of our Community. Awesome collaboration and initiative by St John's, The Migrant Careers Support Trust, Commonwealth vaults, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust and Roopa Aur Aap. This is yet another milestone achieved, and a new feather added to the organisation's cap. This was followed by wonderful performances by the Group

Kathak Kendra Nrityashala and Seniors contest on theme "I am beautiful" and "I am Handsome". This contest required all the lovely ladies and Gentlemen to come up on stage and tell the audience why they think they are "beautiful" and handsome. This created a lot of buzz and evoked so much of fun and laughter. Wow amazingly talented seniors!

What better way to end the celebrations- with yummy delicious lunch and sweets!

The fabulous success of the event was a result of contribution and unequivocal support of Executive committee of Bhartiya Samaj, volunteers, organisers, performers and the community that collectively supported us to make this event a grand success. The event concluded with everyone exchanging heartfelt greetings for the festival of Lights.

The Children Wing of Bhartiya Samaj also celebrated Diwali at Multicultural Playgroup and Language and Cultural School during the week. The traditionally attired children and shared lunch from different cultures added an extra festive feeling.



Bhartiya Samaj also hosted a small Diwali party for the seniors residing at David Lange Rest Home. We feel blessed with an opportunity to bring smiles to the faces of seniors who are unable to move out or go to other big Diwali celebrations in the community. The rest home was beautifully decorated depicting our culture and we all cheered the Seniors to the tunes of famous Bollywood songs which they thoroughly enjoyed.

MILESTONES



OCTOBER 2019 - HEALTHY BABY - HEALTHY FUTURE WORKSHOP

As a part of developmental initiatives for the mums and grand mums of the Bhartiya Samaj Multicultural playgroup, we organised a workshop for expecting mothers and mothers of toddlers less than 4 years in partnership with "TANI- The Asian Network Inc". A 12-hour workshop spread over the month of October focused on making healthy food choices, reading food labels, learning healthier cooking options for a better weight management and some fitness exercises for a better lifestyle. The workshop had a live demonstration of healthy cooking recipes which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Recognising the time and effort taken by the mothers a graduation ceremony was organised on 5th Nov 2019 to felicitate the mothers who successfully completed the program. Each participant was presented a participation certificate and a gift voucher. Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust initiated this program to support young mothers as they are responsible for the day-to-day care of these children and these children are the future of the society, we all live in.



supported us by offering voluntary beauty services to Senior Citizen members.

Under this initiative an approved "Jeevan Praman" facilitator supported us by offering his voluntary service of sending Digital Life Certificates of Indian Pensioners to their pension paying authorities in India. This hassle-free service helped the members by saving their time and money for submitting their annual life certificates.



NOVEMBER 2019 BHARTIYA SAMAJ LAUNCHED ENVIRONMENT PROJECT "BREAK FREE FROM PLASTIC"

Environment project to sew fabric bags was launched which is aimed at diverting waste textile into reusable bags to replace plastic bags. It aims to connect and empower the local communities to tackle this problem of plastic pollution and bringing about behavioral change to help protect the environment thereby promoting sustainability.



BHARTIYA SAMAJ LAUNCHES SKILL BANK

Our new initiative "Skill Bank" was launched that enlists people and professionals who like to donate their skills, experience, talent and time to anyone who is in dire need of services but cannot genuinely afford them". Shahnaz Husain NZ & Bindu Brows and Beauty proudly

DEC 2019 - CHRISTMAS AND END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS AT BHARTIYA SAMAJ CHARITABLE TRUST

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust carried on the age-old tradition of celebrating the end of the year by organizing a "Christmas and End of the Year Party" at various locations for its Senior members, Children, Youth and families of the community.



The first event was held for Bhartiya Samaj South Auckland Branch Senior members on 3rd Dec 2019 at Saffron Restaurant, Manukau. The fun filled afternoon was graced by more than 50 + members who enjoyed the event with great fervor and enthusiasm. The seniors reached the venue all dressed up in traditional outfits to be a part of this special event. Entertainment programs, delicious cuisine and the dance floor were the main attractions of this special event.

For the Children of Bal Vikas Language and Cultural classes a fun filled party was organized on 8th Dec 2019 with Christmas related quizzes, Carol Singing, Talent contest and Secret Santa. After the games, they feasted on delicious goodies which they enjoyed a lot.

For the mums and children of BSCT Multicultural Playgroup Christmas party was organised on 11th Dec 2019 at BSCT Activity Hall. The event was a fun-filled day attended by the mothers and children who came beautifully dressed for the Christmas party. There was a delicious spread of food items prepared by the mothers for everyone which made the celebration even more joyful. The day ended with everyone exchanging Christmas and New Year greetings.



MILESTONES

On Saturday, 14th Dec 2019, Christmas, and End of Year party was hosted for Mt Roskill Senior Citizen members at Mt Roskill War Memorial hall. This fun filled day marked the presence of over 200 Senior citizens and the gracious presence of many eminent guests and dignitaries who have made tremendous contributions to benefit the society.



The event started with dignitaries expressing their appreciation towards Bhartiya Samaj's tireless contributions towards the people of the community thereby motivating us to continue the good work. This was followed by the stunning dance performances put up by Simran Chadha and Parul Juneja. After this a medley of melodious old Bollywood songs by Arif Zia ji and his team of Creation group that permeated the entire atmosphere which uplifted the moods of our senior members who also sang along and clapped in rhythm with the music. It was a joyous to see the performances from the "Khottey Sikkey" Dance Group who made the audiences come alive with their energetic dance display of Bollywood numbers. Electrifying atmosphere was overflowing with words of deep gratitude and admiration for making the day memorable.



After an exhaustive and highly participative performance all the members feasted on a delicious lunch organized by Bhartiya Samaj.



The stupendous success of the event was a result of contribution and love of the Executive committee of Bhartiya Samaj, volunteers, organisers, performers and the community. Bhartiya Samaj Chair, Mr Jeet Suchdev QSM concluded the event by wishing everybody a happy Christmas and a healthy new year. At the end he exchanged heartfelt greetings and thanked one and all to be a part of our Bhartiya Samaj family in New Zealand.

MILESTONES



JAN 2020 - ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP 2020



"If your plan is for one-year plant rice. If your plan is for ten years plant trees. If your plan is for one hundred years educate children." — Confucius

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust has always believed in this Confucian adage and with this thought and spirit it has been successfully organising the ever-popular Annual Summer Camp for 18 years now. Bhartiya Samaj camp is an assortment of fun activities- with a view to building and nurturing skills, values and attributes of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. These skills are increasingly understood to be central to success in school and in life beyond school. The outcomes achieved from the camp are numerous viz children build relationships with other children thus learning diversity within the community, the fun activities enhance their socio-emotional skills and make them more independent and socially aware in a fun filled way. The camp days also gives the children an opportunity to navigate social cues to build and maintain friendship not in the "virtual environment" but in the "real life environment".

With these objectives in mind, Bhartiya Samaj unveiled the 18 th Annual Summer Camp, a five-day program for children aged 6 to 14 years from 13th till 17th Jan 2020 at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall.

This year they had 105 children enrolled with them for the camp. Twenty volunteers/teachers devoted their time and energy to support/organise various workshops and activities where the children focused their time, energy, and attention in an open environment to utilize their leisure time to learn in an engaging way. The activities had an underlying purpose-to develop the overall personality of the young minds focusing on teaching them life skills like leadership, community involvement and tolerance / understanding of cultural diversity at an early age through activities/workshops. Some of the events and activities centered around art and craft, outdoor sports events by professional Sports club, dance, yoga, acrobatics, extempore, singing, meditation, workshops by Chinmaya Mission, First Aid training on how to deal with emergencies and perform CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) by St John's New Zealand, Orchard to Lunch Box workshop by Auckland Council Waste Wise Management, Dare to Explore Reading Program by Auckland Council library, Be a Junior Detective by NZ Police, workshops to promote intercultural exchange by Mt Roskill

Chinese Group and many more. The Children were also taken out for a full day trip that they thoroughly enjoyed. The camp program layout was a harmonious balance of academic enrichment and sports by professional sports club. All the days included regular nutritious meals (breakfast/lunch and evening snack).

On behalf of Bhartiya Samaj, Mr Suchdev expressed his sincere and deep thankfulness to all the Volunteers, Teachers, supporting organizations, sponsors and parents who were so passionately involved for their immense contributions that made the event the great success that it was.



MILESTONES

JAN 2020 – 71ST REPUBLIC DAY

26th January 1950 holds a great significance as on this day India's constitution came into effect and became a republic, which signifies complete freedom from any form of foreign rule. As India Celebrated its 71st Republic Day on January 26th, Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust honoured this annual patriotic day at the Senior Citizens meeting at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall on Saturday, 25th Jan 2020. More than 220 senior members, respectable dignitaries, and volunteers were brought together yet again by Bhartiya Samaj under a common cause and celebration. The day was embraced with enthusiasm and everyone was at their best to welcome new year, wishing each other. The presence of almighty was felt as everyone joined in the prayer to thank Almighty for his unconditional love and support.

The celebrations commenced with Bhartiya Samaj Chair, Mr Jeet Suchdev Ji welcoming the gathering and greeting everyone on Indian Republic Day. The dignitaries then wished the Indian community and thanked Bhartiya Samaj for their relentless efforts and commendable work to build a strong and connected Indian community. This was followed with unfurling of the Indian Tri-color flag by Honorary Consul of India Bhav Dhillon Ji. Thereafter, National Anthem was sung in unison by everyone present there which permeated the atmosphere with the patriotic feeling. The cultural program was put up to pay tribute to Mother India where the performers took pride in glorifying and celebrating the spirit of unity by singing patriotic songs and dance performances. The celebrations came alive with the sound of Desi Dhol, exhilarating our hearts and feet dancing to celebrate the Indian Independence. The Indian Patriotic songs brought the audience and the dignitaries running to the dance floor and shake a leg.



In the wake of Australian Bushfire Bhartiya Samaj raised a donation of \$1000+ to provide relief and recovery in the fire affected areas.

The grand finale of the event was a lavish spread of sumptuous lunch served by Bhartiya Samaj to everyone present there. Thank you to the organising team, dedicated volunteers towards the success of the event. A special thanks to our media partner Apna TV for covering the entire event. It was yet another milestone achieved by Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust in their efforts to socially engage the community.



MILESTONES



FEB 2020 - AGE CONCERN AUCKLAND WORKSHOP

On 8th Feb 2020, the day started with traditional rituals of all Bhartiya Samaj Senior Citizens meetings at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall. This was followed by an informative talk session by Ms Shayal Mala of Age Concern Auckland on "Falls Prevention". The speaker emphasized on the fact that the natural ageing process often places older adults at an increased risk of having a fall. However, it is important that we all must be aware of its causes and some simple tips/exercises to help prevent a fall from occurring. The take home message from the session was to make small changes in their daily lives which can continually help them build and maintain strength and balance helping prevent a fall.



The session concluded with requests for more of such informative sessions that promote positive ageing. A healthy scrumptious lunch was served to everyone present there. "We are very thankful to all the members, Age Concern Auckland and the volunteers for making the day a successful one" said, Mr Jeet Suchdev.

FEB 2020 - AUCKLAND COUNCIL CONDUCTS "HAVE YOUR SAY SESSION" WITH BHARTIYA SAMAJ

On 22nd Feb 2020, Auckland council conducted an Annual Budget Consultation session with Bhartiya Samaj Seniors at Mt Roskill War Memorial Hall. In response to the Climate emergency, the council plans to make some changes in their current program to reduce Auckland Council's emissions by 20%. In their "Have Your Say" session, they collected the feedback of the community regarding their proposed changes which was very well appreciated by the senior members.



MARCH 2020 - AUCKLAND COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT SESSION WITH SOUTH AUCKLAND SENIORS

On 2nd Mar 2020, Auckland council Howick Local Board conducted an interactive session with Bhartiya Samaj South Auckland Seniors during their monthly get-together at Old Flatbush School Hall, Flatbush. The local board discussed their priorities draft plan to ensure that it reflects the needs and preferences of Indian residents living in the Howick Local Board area. It was an informative and interactive session.



MARCH 2020 - COVID RELIEF DURING LOCKDOWN

“Excel in our service to the community” underpins the value, mission and philosophy of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust. A series of initiatives were undertaken by the organisation to help the Indian nationals’ tide over the extremely hard and difficult situations unleashed by the coronavirus pandemic. People who travelled to NZ for their dream trips had no prior knowledge that a pandemic of global magnitude would strike hard and they would be stuck here with their finances running out for food and accommodation. Considering this deeply stressful situation of Indian Nationals, a COVID relief support group led by Indian High Commission NZ supported by Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust and other community organizations were undertaken to provide the much-needed relief to such people. Indian High Commission NZ and Hon. Bhav Dhillon, Honorary Consul of India in NZ played a hugely vital role in supporting the organization to realize its mission. Aside from this, reputed community leaders respected Prithipal Singh ji and Dr Pardip Khullar Ji played a significant part by making available accommodations and meals to the stranded Indians in their motels at no cost.

Bhartiya Samaj’s overarching objective was to extend necessary and crucial aid to the vulnerable Indian nationals that included stranded tourists, students, weekly wage earners and professionals who lost their jobs and any other Indians on temporary visa. We reached out to the wider community in no time. A team of dedicated volunteers was set to deliver the required succor. The COVID Relief Project included distributing free food packets, arranging transitional accommodation in a motel to the tourists stranded / waiting to head home, medicine prescriptions, assisting right advise, providing cooked meals to the stranded and keeping



them socially connected using the online platform. This whole project was planned and executed at pan-NZ level to reach out to Indians painfully impacted and struggling hard to manage their financial and socio-economic stability during this tremendously testing times. Through a special initiative, Bhartiya Samaj kept the stranded Indians engaged in such trying times. It brought these people on an online platform and kept them entertained them with inspirational and melodious songs bringing forth feelings of social connectedness, family values and a sense of community belongingness. Leading singers of Auckland enthralled them with their mellifluous voices to make them happy and relaxed.

During these unimaginably harrowing times of COVID lockdown, some families also experienced stress due to family violence. Through its sister organisation “Roopa Aur Aap Charitable Trust” a Family Violence victim Support Organisation, these people were provided with online counselling besides reaching out to the victim and making available the with required guidance and support to deal with the abusive conditions/situations in the right way.

All the efforts were undertaken successfully to extend the desired help, support and assistance to people of Indian origin. “These are difficult times and amidst everything we cannot leave our most vulnerable unsupported.” Mr Jeet Suchdev. He also added



MILESTONES



APRIL 2020 - SENIOR CITIZENS' VIRTUAL MEETINGS

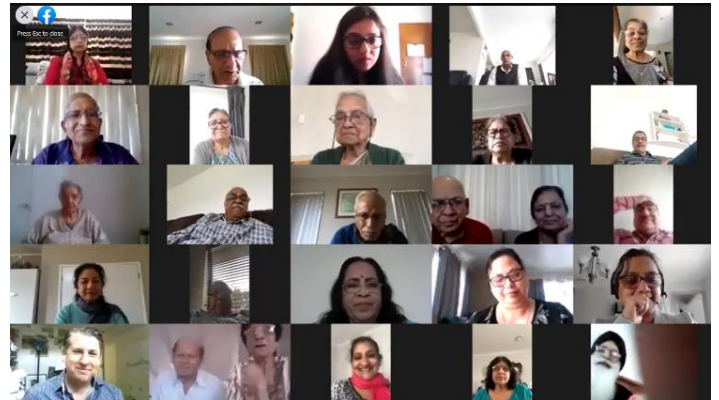
During the stressful times of COVID lockdown, when people got confined to their homes and had no way of connecting with their friends, Bhartiya Samaj team trained its Senior members to use online platforms. As a part of extending social and emotional support to the isolated senior citizen members and multicultural playgroup mothers of our organization, we connected them through an online social platform where they were able to socially interact with their friends from the comfort of their homes, have their regular weekly meetings and come forward and express their concerns if any, resulting in reduced social isolation and increased connectedness of people within the community.

On 9th April 2020, Bhartiya Samaj Auckland Seniors had its one of the first interactive & informative session with Jessica Phuang Ethnic Responsiveness Manager NZ Police. The online meeting started with Bhartiya Samaj ritual of offering prayers to the Almighty followed by greeting everyone and sharing their feelings about being stranded indoors. Everyone had a great time meeting and sharing their lockdown experiences and tried to feel positive in great company of friends. Jessica Phuang Ji educated the Seniors about being cyber safe while using the digital platforms.



On 23rd April, Hon. Michael Wood was invited as a guest of honour at the Bhartiya Samaj online seniors meeting. He applauded the efforts of Bhartiya Samaj

in connecting the Seniors through digital platform to support the wellbeing of the Seniors. He also addressed the Seniors and talked about caring for one another while staying safe and adapting our lives in a positive way to deal with the changes the pandemic is having on us.



MAY 2020 - SENIOR'S MEETING WITH HON CONSUL OF INDIA

Bhartiya Samaj conducted its online Senior Citizens meeting on 2nd May 2020 with over 40 participants who enthusiastically thronged the meeting room virtually. It was wonderful to see how our Seniors members have embraced the new technology to meet their other member friends. The guest of honor for the meeting was Hon. Bhav Dhillon Ji, Hon consul of India, NZ who with his kind and humble words acknowledged our efforts in undertaking the initiative to serve the community during COVID 19 situation thereby bringing a positive difference within the diaspora. In these unprecedented times, foreign nationals stranded in NZ, students, work visa holders who have become jobless/homeless and weekly wage earners are facing major upheavals in their lives. We are helping these people by providing food, transitional accommodation, and the much-needed essentials for them to lead a normal life. Hon. Bhav Dhillon Ji spoke highly about the organisation and its vision to support the well-being of the community.

MILESTONES



Also, I would like to express my special thanks to Joseph Ji of Creation Group for entertaining our Senior members with his melodious singing as a tribute on the sad demise of the legendary actor Late Shri Rishi Kapoor Ji.



MAY 2020 - LOCKDOWN ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE PEOPLE WAITING TO GO BACK TO INDIA

Yet another initiative of Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust to combat the difficult times of COVID 19 for those people who were on the tail end of their dream trip to NZ and are waiting to go back to India once the lockdown is over.

On 6th May, Bhartiya Samaj hosted an online melodious entertainment for the stranded Indian Tourists to enjoy until they are in NZ. Leading Singers of Auckland Rini Chakraborty, Guncha Singh, and Joseph left no stone unturned to dazzle the audience with their spectacular performances. A medley of melodious songs permeated the entire atmosphere which uplifted the moods of the audience. The electrifying atmosphere was overflowing with words of deep gratitude and admiration for making the evening memorable.

MAY 2020 - TAMBOLA SESSION VIRTUALLY HOSTED BY BHARTIYA SAMAJ CHARITABLE TRUST

On 30th May 2020, the virtual zoom session with over 40 senior citizens started with Bhartiya Samaj ritual of offering prayers to the Almighty followed by the melodious voice of Mr. Sandeep Singh. He entertained the senior members by playing their on-demand requested songs. It was a pleasure to see that our senior members have participated in the music session wholeheartedly by singing and enjoyed it a lot. Afterwards, the members had tremendous time interacting with each other. During the chitchat, everyone shared their lockdown experiences and the members appreciated the initiative taken by Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust of distributing the blankets among the homeless in order to support the community.



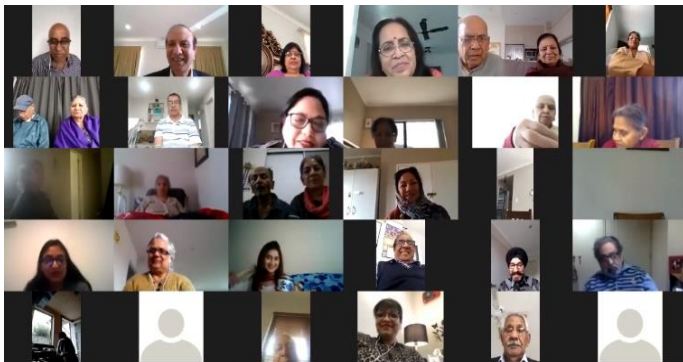
The session got warmed up when the Tambola game started which was organized by Ruchika. The game was played well by the members. Everyone got excited and fully participated in the game with cheering and applauding upon winners. The Winners of the game will receive the prizes in a face to face meeting. The session ended with a lighter note of Mr. Jeet Suchdev by saying “Thankyou everyone for being a part of the Zoom session and participating in Tambola game enthusiastically, we will continue such Zoom meetings on a more regular basis in future and special thanks to Mr. Sandeep Singh for entertaining our senior members and making their day memorable”.

MILESTONES



JUNE 2020 - SENIORS FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT

Bhartiya Samaj's virtual Seniors fun and entertainment sessions were held on Saturday 6th June 2020 which was attended by over 40 senior members. The highlights of the meeting were musical program by leading singer Kiranjit Singh Ji who entertained the audience with a medley of melodious songs that uplifted their moods and they enjoyed thoroughly. The audience urged for more and more, but the time was running out. The grand finale song presented by our senior member Dhansukhbhai Ji was well enjoyed by one and all.



On 13th June 2020, another lively session was held where the seniors played Bollywood themed games and thoroughly enjoyed answering the names of songs, movies and actors. The meeting came to an end with everyone thanking for the wonderful gathering and expressing their strong desire to meet next week with some more entertainment.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA JUNE 2020

6th International Day of Yoga 2020 was celebrated on 21st June at Mahatma Gandhi centre where various Indian community organizations under the umbrella of Auckland Indian Diaspora came together to honour the day. Aucklanders defied the cold weather and thronged in large numbers to participate in the event. It started with an official lighting of lamps and mantra chanting by the priest followed by a speech by Honorary Consul of India Bhav Dhillon, and Auckland Indian Association Inc. President Narendra Bhana, who welcomed yoga enthusiasts on a cold morning.

The instructors from the Art of Living Foundation commenced the session with a traditional chanting of 'Om' followed by fun activities and breathing exercises to boost immunity which is much required at this time of COVID 19. The participants were given an invigorating, powerful, and relaxing experience for an hour that included various asanas and postures.

A special thanks to Art of living Swami Ji who addressed the audiences explaining the benefits of meditation for increasing calmness and physical relaxation, improving psychological balance, and enhancing overall health and well-being. This was followed by a 10-minute meditation exercise which gave an amazing relaxing experience.

The yoga session ended at 11 a.m. with Bhartiya Samaj Chair Mr. Jeet Suchdev QSM acknowledging the respectable dignitaries and audiences and encouraging one and all present there to incorporate yoga into their daily routine to rake the benefits for themselves and their families.



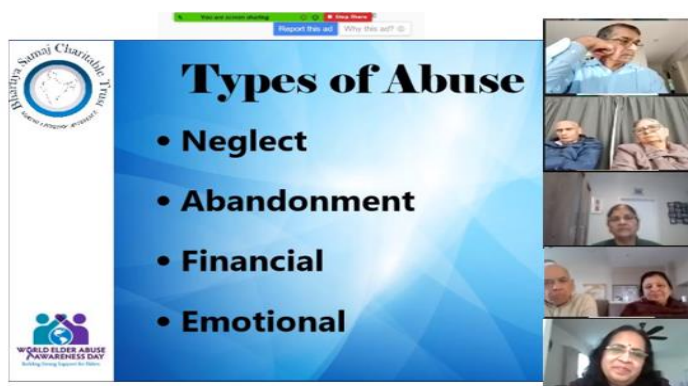
MILESTONES



The attendees were then served with light refreshments. A very sincere gratitude to Auckland Indian Association for extending their invaluable support in providing the hall, Sound/light system and refreshments without which the event would not have been possible. We also would like to acknowledge the efforts of the dedicated volunteers towards the success of the event and a special thanks to the media partners Indian Weekender, Stuff Ltd., Apna TV, Humm Fm, Radio Tarana and Spice Radio for covering the entire event.

JUNE 20 - ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Elder abuse is a problem that exists all over the world yet is typically under reported globally. Therefore, it is important to educate people to identify and deal with this problem. Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust always strives to take steps towards making the life of seniors a more pleasurable one and giving them credit for the valuable contribution they make towards the development of society. With the same intentions, Bhartiya Samaj observed "World Elder Abuse Awareness day" on 20th June through online meeting which was well attended by over 40 Seniors members. During the program, audio video presentation was shown to deliver an in depth understanding of types of elder abuse and create awareness about the ways to deal with it and not just keep tolerating it. The short film got the audience emotional and teary-eyed. Constable Niel Pimenta of NZ Police was invited to address the Seniors who emphasized on the importance of coming forward to organizations such as Bhartiya



Samaj Charitable Trust and the police when faced with abusive and harassment situations, and how one should take a stand in such cases against the abuse. The event ended with more socially aware Seniors.

JUNE 2020 - MATARIKI CELEBRATIONS

Bhartiya Samaj Conducted its virtual Senior citizen meeting on 27th June 2020. The day started with the traditional rituals of offering prayers to the Almighty followed by celebrating Matariki. Matariki is the Maori celebration of a New Year, celebrated on the first new moon after the appearance of the Matariki star. Bhartiya Samaj team made the celebration interactive and engaging by putting together a video montage of the welcome song in Maori, myths and legends behind Matariki celebrations and how this festival of stars has a great importance in Maori culture. The audience appreciated the local Maori culture and felt united in the diverse culture of Aotearoa.



After the celebrations, the highlight of the session was the glorious presence of a leading Singer Ashish Ramakrishnan Ji, winner of Indian singing reality shows such as Antakshari and Sa Re Ga Ma Pa. He enthralled the audience with his mellifluous voice and soul stirring songs. A medley of melodious songs sung by him stimulated the moods of the audience and words of appreciation for making the day enjoyable were in the air. Everyone thanked Ashish Ji for his lovely performance. The meeting ended with Bhartiya Samaj Chair Mr Jeet Suchdev Ji and Secretary Roopa Suchdev Ji thanking Ashish Ramakrishnan Ji for entertaining our Senior members with his melodious singing and making the day memorable.

MILESTONES



JULY 2020 - BHARTIYA SAMAJ EXTENDS HELP TO SEND DIGITAL LIFE CERTIFICATES OF INDIAN PENSIONERS CELEBRATION

COVID-19 presents unprecedented challenges for our communities – globally and within New Zealand. Bhartiya Samaj has been putting all possible plans and precautions in place to maintain our current service levels whilst ensuring the facility of our members. Because of COVID-19 members cannot send their live certificate by courier service.



JULY 2020 - FIRST IN-PERSON BHARTIYA SAMAJ SENIORS MEETING POST COVID LOCKDOWN



Though during the lockdown period all of us had the opportunity to spend time with our loved ones and family, the hardest part of it was being unable to meet friends and families we care about and it has shown how critical is social interaction for our mental health. Today's technology made it a great deal easier to endure these tough times and build up a virtual world for most, but it was not a replacement for physical interaction. Bhartiya Samaj hosted its first physical meeting after the lockdown got over on 25th July 2020 at Mt Roskill War memorial hall which was well attended by over 150 people. As the Seniors entered the meeting hall, their faces were beaming seniors entered

the meeting hall; their faces were beaming with excitement and happiness seeing their friends after a long time. The presence of Almighty was felt as everyone joined in the prayer to thank Almighty for His unconditional love and support and keeping us safe during these tough unprecedented times.

The day commenced with Bhartiya Samaj Chair, Mr Jeet Suchdev Ji welcoming the gathering, greeting everyone and appreciating the efforts of all New Zealanders in the victory over the fight against Corona. Hon. Michael Wood also welcomed one and all and thanked the Bhartiya Samaj Senior members for their collective efforts in their help to stamp out the COVID.





He applauded the commendable work done by Mr Jeet Suchdev in helping the community and the stranded families during these testing times. The day flagged off with an exercise session by Ella Kumar, this was followed by a small cultural program put up by the Senior members who sang songs and danced exhilarating their hearts out. The atmosphere had a sense of joy and relief of meeting fellow friends after a long time



An Electoral Commission workshop was held to educate the voters and encourage them to enroll and have their say in New Zealand's general elections and referendums.

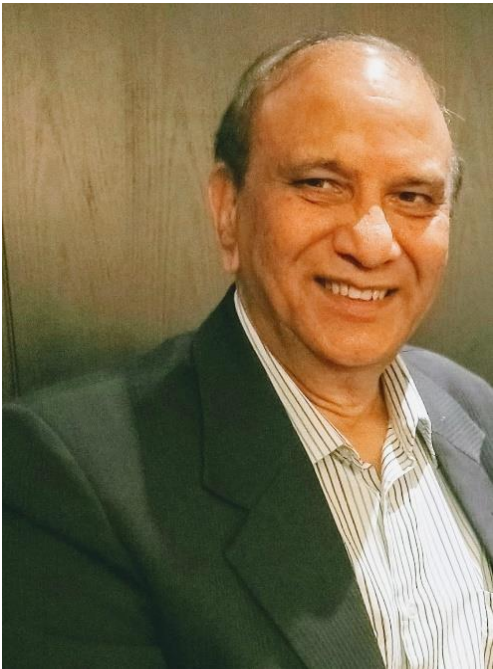
The grand finale of the event was a lavish spread of sumptuous lunch served by Bhartiya Samaj to everyone present there. Thank you to the organising team and dedicated volunteers towards the success of the event.

JULY 2020 - ELECTORAL COMMISSION COLLABORATES WITH BHARTIYA SAMAJ IN DRIVE TO ENROL FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Bhartiya Samaj Charitable Trust has been contracted by Electoral Commission to drive enrollment of our community people in the upcoming elections on 19th September 2020. We were to educate people and create awareness about need to enrol and get as many people enrolled as possible, to have their say in New Zealand's general elections and referendums. A series of events were undertaken at various locations to help the community to enrol.



AUGUST 2020 - BHARTIYA SAMAJ CHAIR APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF "SENIOR'S ADVISORY PANEL"



It is a matter of immense pride and joy for the community to see Bhartiya Samaj Chair, Mr. Jeet Suchdev QSM JP being appointed as a member of "Senior's Advisory Panel" in Auckland Council governing body based on his 25 years of extensive experience working with the Senior Citizens. The Seniors Advisory Panel has a very important role in identifying issues that are important to senior citizens, engaging with them and offer advice based on their experiences to help improve outcomes for the communities and bring social cohesion as set out in the Auckland Plan.

Under his able guidance and leadership, Bhartiya Samaj was formed in 1995 and registered as a Charitable Trust in 2001 to cater to the social, cultural, and emotional needs of the Seniors to empower them to become strong, confident, and in control of their lives. Over the years a wide range of services was added such as Community Grievance/Distress Support, New Migrant Settlement Support, and Skill Development and Enhancement Programs for Children and Youth. Since then Bhartiya Samaj has been working tirelessly with a firm belief of 'Service to Man is Service to God'. In 2013, it was a historic moment and a dream fulfilled for the South Asian Seniors in New Zealand when Bhartiya Samaj & BUPA launched "Aashirwad"- South Asian culturally appropriate Wing at David Lange Care Home.

This wing ensures culturally appropriate care and handling is provided by the caregivers who can communicate and understand the cultural values of the senior residents. What started as a platform for Senior Citizens, has now grown into a large family and a trusted name amongst the households of the South Asian community.

With all the years of experience and service to the community it is a great privilege for Bhartiya Samaj Chair to be representing at such an honorable position on "Senior's Advisory Panel" which will enable him to bring the voice of the community to the forefront and bring further positive change in the lives of people. We are proud of you!

We are thankful to Auckland Council governing body to offer such an honorable position to Bhartiya Samaj Chair giving him an opportunity and further motivation to address the various issues faced by Seniors and bring positive change in the lives of Aotearoa's communities.

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Roopa Suchdev QSM
Secretary

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Dr. Ashraf Choudhary QSO

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Roopa Suchdev QSM



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Samaj India Branch



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President of Bhartiya
Samaj Queenstown Branch

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Bhavini Doshii



Rrahul Doshii



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Santanu Roy



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Vanitha Kalra



Vin Tomar



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Sadguna Patel



Garry (Gaurav) Gupta

ADVISOR



Godrej Engineer

STAFF



Ruchika Agarwal
Business Admin Manager



Asmat Rehman
IT System Administrator

PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS



Roopa Aur Aap Charitable Trust

In collaboration with Roopa Aur Aap we conduct workshops to educate the community about domestic abuse and provide counselling services to help victims of domestic abuse to rebuild their future.



Indian High Commission

We work with the Indian community to help spread the policy news and provide emergency relief in times of need.



NZ Police

We act as an important link between the community and police which helps in making a safer and secure neighborhood. Special workshops are conducted to educate and create awareness in the community.



Auckland Council Libraries

Through the Library workshops conducted every year for the young children at our Annual Summer camp, opportunities are offered to stimulate imagination, creativity and learning through play.



English Language Partners

Kiwi English Speaking Classes are organized by us for Senior adults where they learn English Speaking skills so that they can lead independent lives, connect & integrate with people and not feel isolated.



St John's

We collaborate to offer a friendship-based service in Hindi for people who are alone in our communities. Educative and informative workshops offered to children at our Annual Summer camp and Holiday Program



Kelly Sports

We offer team building skill development opportunities to the young children through Sports program conducted every year in the Annual Summer Camp



Intern NZ

Offer students opportunity to gain Internship Experience



Bupa

Senior Citizens of South Asian origin enjoy personalized care in their own culturally appropriate environment so that feel completely at home.



Volunteering Auckland

We provide platform for volunteers to network, gain experience & learn new skills.



Electoral Commission

We were contracted to drive enrolment of our community people in the upcoming 2020 general elections and referendums



Media Solutions Kiwi Ltd.

We provide marketing support to all SMEs in Auckland.

FUNDERS



 <p>Auckland Council Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau</p>	 <p>FOUNDATION NORTH Te Kaitiaki Pūtea o Tāmaki o Tai Tokerau</p>	 <p>Blue Sky COMMUNITY TRUST</p>
 <p>Te Tari Matakawa Office of Ethnic Communities</p>	 <p>THE TRUSTS Community FOUNDATION</p>	 <p>Dragon Community Trust</p>
 <p>Pub Charity Limited</p>	 <p>auckland communities foundation Grassroots Giving Fund</p>	 <p>Lottery Grants Board FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY</p>
 <p>COGS Community Organisation Grants Scheme</p>	 <p>THE LION FOUNDATION <i>Here for good</i></p>	 <p>Four Winds FOUNDATION</p>
 <p>Infinity Foundation</p>	 <p>grassroots TRUST www.grassrootstrust.co.nz</p>	 <p>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA</p>
 <p>ANZ Staff Foundation</p>	 <p>the Southern trust</p>	 <p>Community Trust South TE POU ARATAKI POUNAMU O MURIHIKU</p>
 <p>MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA</p>		

BHARTIYA SAMAJ
CHARITABLE TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

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