

NEWSFLASH

A Quarterly Newsletter of
Cheshire Homes India-Mumbai
(Estd.1955)

Swavlamban 2026

Enabling Educating & Economically Empowering



Cheshire Homes India, Mumbai, under its sustainable livelihood programme organised “Swavlamban 2026”, an event to celebrate successes, challenges and concerns of youth with disabilities as well as the employers of youth with disabilities. The event saw participation from 45 persons, which included employers like, RPG Raychem, Capital Mall etc. who shared their journeys of Diversity Hiring, challenges and successes. The participants also included aspiring PWDs and role model PWDs employed with private companies, State Government, Municipal Corporations, self-employed who have leveraged the Government self-employment Schemes etc. They shared real-life challenges after starting to work with the mainstream employers and starting own self-employment ventures. They encouraged the participants with disabilities and their family members to embrace the challenges at workplaces and conducting businesses smartly like everyone else, with or without disabilities and without an unwarranted sense of entitlement and overt sense of feeling left out or perceived victimization.

IN THIS ISSUE

Residential Care Services	02	Events, Volunteers & Visitors	06
Day Care Centre	02	Observance of Important Days	07
Health & Rehabilitation	03	Young Voices	08
Sustainable Livelihood	03		

Residential Care Services:

The Residents of Cheshire Home have been keeping reasonably good health. They are being provided medical intervention according to each one's need and their medical needs are attended by Dr. Ravi Patel, Trustee and by Specialist Doctors whenever required. The



(L) A Residential Care Beneficiary Being Attended to By Dr. Ravi Patel, Trustee, Cheshire Home. (R) A Resident Assisting in the Cheshire Home's Kitchen

residents support the activities like making cloth and jute bags, painting of statues and clay

models etc. They participate

in the activities of Cheshire Home like watering the plants in the garden, assisting in the kitchen etc. They watch television, play indoor games like chess, carom, etc. by way of recreation.

Day Care Education/Preparatory Class:



(Above) Activity Sessions in Progress at the Day Care Centre

During the reporting quarter, the Day Care Centre at Cheshire Home provided special educational interventions to 35 children with disabilities (CWDs). The CWDs were provided transportation facility from their homes to Cheshire Home and back on a daily basis. Day Care as well as Health & Rehabilitation CWD beneficiaries were

regularly provided nutrition in addition to the sponsored lunches, snacks etc. Recreational and extracurricular activities were regularly undertaken for the Day care CWDs. This includes art, craft, games & sports, gardening, yoga and dance etc. CWDs were on vacation in the month of May 2026 and regular day care activities resumed effective June 2026. Education support was provided to 2 CWDs enrolled in mainstream schools during the quarter.

Health & Rehabilitation Services:

As part of Cheshire Home's health and rehabilitation services to Children with Disabilities (CWDs),



(L) Children with Disabilities Undergoing Physiotherapy at Cheshire Home's Outreach Centre at Ghatkopar
(R) A Child with Disability During a Physiotherapy Session at Cheshire Home

Cheshire Home assessed CWDs and provided financial support for Medicines and Assistive Devices. These children will continue to be intervened in the next quarter post the further clinical assessments by the specialist medical doctors. Physiotherapy was regularly conducted at Cheshire Home

as well as at the outreach centres in the slum communities.

Some adult residents also benefit from the physiotherapy. Assistive device was provided to 1 CWD during the quarter.

Health Interventions: Screening & Capacity Building Programmes:

Cheshire Home's health & rehabilitation staff and social workers regularly organised disability screening in Municipal Schools and in the Community areas to identify CWDs in need of timely interventions. The parents/caregivers were also provided training and inputs on handling their CWDs in technically correct ways.

Sustainable Livelihood For Youth with Disabilities

Under the Cheshire Home's Sustainable Livelihood Program, the team of staff carried out the activities of identifying, providing vocational counselling, career guidance and employability skills training for youth with disabilities. The trained youth with disabilities were further assisted with suitable job placements in Hospitality, Retail (Including E-Commerce), Manufacturing, Warehousing and Logistics.

Cheshire Home in its endeavour to expand its outreach to economically empower youth with disabilities initiated sustainable livelihood training at Vasai, a distant suburb of Mumbai, falling in Palghar District, Maharashtra.

These locations are in addition to the ongoing sustainable livelihood training at Cheshire Home's premises at Andheri East, Mumbai.

During the quarter, 40 PWDs were trained and all attended job interviews. 32 of them have been placed in jobs, while others are awaiting their job offer letters.

Sustainable Livelihood For Youth with Disabilities



Group Vocational Counselling of Deaf Youth



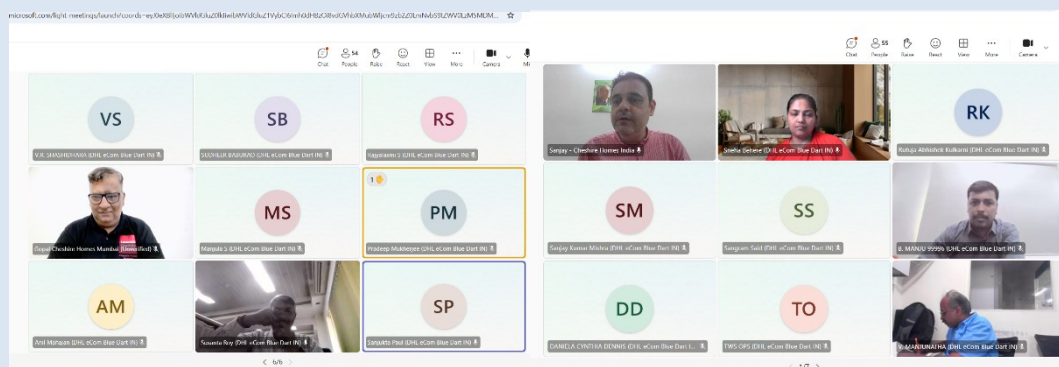
Physically Challenged Youth at Recruitment Drive at Mitti Café, Mumbai International Airport

Workplace Transition Support:



The work place transition program aims for smooth transition of newly placed youth with disabilities in their new work place, **(Above in Pic.)** Cheshire Home providing an on-site support by way of facilitating the orientation and induction, assist with the OJT (On the Job Training) upon employer's request. This at Mitti café, Mumbai International Airport. The new recruits were subsequently posted a different outlets across Mumbai and Navi Mumbai including the newly started Navi Mumbai International Airport.

Virtual Session on Disability Awareness & Indian Sign Language Conducted for 55 staff of Blue Dart based across multiple locations in India.





35 Years old Jaiswar is a wheelchair user who is profoundly disabled below his waist. He lives with his family of four including a brother and parents. Having completed 12th Grade, he worked at a BPO for vernacular Voice Process attending to inward calls. Having spent several years at the previous workplace and monotony, he began to look for a change to a new profile, where he could get the opportunity to deal with customers in-person and not virtually. He learned about Cheshire Home's skills training programme that focused on a variety of jobs across Hospitality, Retail, E-Retail, Quick Service Restaurants (QSR) and Manufacturing. He underwent the training at Cheshire Home and today works as a Cashier cum Customer with Mitti Café at its Outlet at Mumbai International Airport. He travels independently on his modified two-wheeler.

Events, Volunteers & Visitors



Volunteers from Johnson & Johnson Mumbai led by Mr. Murali Nair, Johnson & Johnson Mumbai (1st from Right) at Cheshire Home. They were joined by Ms. Jennifer Tseng, Johnson & Johnson, Malaysia and Mr. Subrata Pal, Johnson & Johnson, Singapore (4th & 5th from Left respectively)



Volunteers from Zeno Group led by Mr. Abhishek Bhandari, Head-Admin, Conducted Group Fun-Activities for the Day Care Children at Cheshire Home

Observance of Important Days

Observing The World Environment Day 2026



5th June of every year is observed as **World Environment Day**. Mumbai Cheshire Home is committed to Environment Sustainability and has taken several proactive steps over the years by way of installation of Solar Power System, initiation of organic vegetable garden using manure from in-house composting of dry and wet waste, rainwater harvesting and maintaining green cover at its campus. On this occasion, the Staff of Hotel Taj Santacruz, Domestic Airport volunteered to undertake plantation along with the day care children as an activity for them.



Observing The International Yoga Day 2026



21st June every year is observed as International Yoga Day as declared by the UN. While Yoga is one of the regular activities for the children at the Day Care and Residents, we also understand that Yoga is an important tool to manage stress and constant anxiety for the parents and caregivers of children with disabilities.

Cheshire Homes India observed the day through a Yoga Session with the staff of Mumbai Cheshire Home, children with disabilities and their parents participating with zeal and enthusiasm. The session focussed on overall wellbeing of parents and caregivers of children with disabilities, who are often stressed and fatigued following several years of care giving to their disabled wards. The session was well received by the participants.

Young Voices Advocacy Programme

Cheshire Home's Advocacy initiative, Young Voices under the aegis of Cheshire Homes India National Council comprising of active youth with disabilities continued to work together to address and resolve issues, concerns and challenges of persons with disabilities by meeting relevant officers and authorities.

During the quarter the Young Voices Programme (YV) continued to work on the issues through visits, meetings and writing letters to the various authorities like the Municipal Corporations, Maharashtra School Examinations Board, Maharashtra Public Distribution System (PDS) authorities etc.



YV Members Led by Darshan Kamble (2nd from Left) Met with Ms. Ritu Tawde, Hon. Mayor, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (2nd from Right) Bringing To Her Attention Various Issues Of Pwds In Mumbai And Municipal Corporation's Proactive Role In Enforcement Of Various Schemes, Provisions and Accessibility of Public Infrastructure.

Advocacy, Events, Activities and Support During the Quarter:

- i. Representation to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to appeal for equal banking rights to visually impaired customers and further follow up.
- ii. Advocacy with the Food and Civil Supplies Department regarding Accessibility in the KYC Verification process being carried out for Ration Card Holders.
- iii. Collaboration with Param Pujya (P.P.) Muniwar Shree Vinamrsagar Maharaj Saheb Ahinsa Sangh And Welfare Activities for Persons With Disability.
- iv. Assistance to Persons with Disability to avail facilities and entitlements
- v. Providing Scribe Services to Visually Impaired youth for academic as well as competitive examinations like railways, MCGM, Banking Services etc.
- vi. Meeting with Hon. Mayor of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) for various issues of PWDs in Mumbai.

- vii. Advocacy with various departments of MCGM regarding effective implementation of the Financial Assistance Schemes for Persons with Disability (PWDs)
- viii. Advocacy for resolution of administrative challenges in obtaining new UDID cards, post several administrative challenges.
- ix. Advocacy with the Maharashtra's School Education Department and State Board of Education regarding digital accessibility in 11th grade admission processes.
- x. Proposed Association with Colleges Under Mumbai University Having the NSS (National Service Scheme) Programme for Students For Disability Awareness and Sensitisation Sessions
- xi. YV's Advocacy with the Western Railway for Safe and Accessible Commute for Disabled Commuters and Associated Issues.
- xii. Darshan Kamble invited for a talk for at a Disability Sensitization Session at the National Association for the Blind (NAB)
- xiii. Socio-Economic Empowerment via Collaboration for a Scholarship Drive with Seva Samarpan Seva Charitable Trust, Mumbai
- xiv. Assisted The Persons with Disability to Avail Facilities and Entitlements.
- xv. Scribe Services to Visually Impaired Students for examinations and competitive examinations



Darshan Kamble Addressing the Participants at a Disability Sensitisation Event at NAB-India, Mumbai

Reach Out to Us

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