



## **Osmosis Progress Report Period :- June 2017 –June -2018**

The mission of Osmosis Centre is to bridge the gap between the child's level of learning and the demands of the school curriculum. The key strategy is to provide early intervention with learning issues, recognize the strengths of the child and motivate them to overcome their difficulties. The task is huge as almost one in ten children are impacted by Learning issues in the school .With the right instruction and guidance, there is no limit to what a child can do .The centre is run by qualified staff who work along with the school authorities and parents to identify and promote the areas in which the child is most proficient and in a play way method, reach out to the students so that they gain confidence and shine in the areas in which they have an inborn talent.

The Osmosis centre has been working in this area for the past 17 years and was formally registered as a Public Trust in 2010 ( Registration No- E/7504/Vadodara). Regular assessments are carried out and appropriate modifications are made in the Teaching methods in the child's best interest. Ideally remedial Education is beneficial when the student teacher ratio is ONE:ONE . The teachers are identified based on their attitude and training of faculty is a continuing process.

During the period under report the trust has made significant progress in the following areas .

### **1) Student and Staff strength**

#### **Vadodara Centre:**

This year marked the successful completion of one academic year. The activities were started in January 2016 at a rental premises for five months during which the Civil Engineering team from M/S GSFC completed the renovation work of two Bungalows at Chhani Health Care Centre, which was graciously allotted to us by Vadodara Municipal Corporation. The new premises of the Centre was inaugurated by Dr. Vinod Rao, the Municipal Commissioner of Vadodara on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

Starting a new centre in a city like Vadodara has been a rewarding experience in itself. Building a team of dedicated teachers and training them and establishing the infrastructure was a challenge and the experience gathered from the Bharuch Centre was very useful. We are grateful to VMC for the generous space provided and to M/S GSFC for the continuous support towards Security and general upkeep. After the monsoons two rooms were re-painted and water proofing was carried out.

The current student strength at the Vadodara Centre is :

Therapy	No. of Students
Remedial Therapy	43
Speech Therapy	11
Occupational Therapy	8
Educational Games Library	1

The Centre is also equipped with Computers to facilitate their learning ability.

The total faculty at Vadodara is

- Remedial Teachers-8
- Accountant-1
- Occupational Therapist-1
- Speech Therapist-1
- Support Staff (Helper/Gardener)-4
- Consultant-1

## 2) Bharuch Centre:

Student Strength: Bharuch centre as on March 2018

Therapy	No. of students	
Remedial sessions	64	
Speech Therapy	35	
Occupational Therapy	12	
Educational Games Library	11	

- Some children take advantage of 2 or more therapies.

The total faculty at Bharuch Centre is

- Remedial Teachers-9

- Accountant-1
- Support Staff (Helper/Gardener)-2
- Speech Therapist -2
- Occupational Therapist-1

The total number of students who attended both centers was 185 as compared to 165 in corresponding period last year.

## **2) Progress Report of Students**

A progress report of each child is maintained by the Special Educators and the improvement recorded in a verifiable manner. In addition special attention is paid to interacting with the Parents so both teachers and parents are involved in supporting and encouraging the child to overcome the identified shortcomings.

A six monthly progress report of each child is maintained .After each session the parents and concerned teacher meet and discuss the activities achieved during the session .This helps to maintain the rapport and transparency between the parents and the teachers .

As an illustration a typical copy of a child's progress report is attached

## **3) Outreach and Creation of Awareness**

Several steps were initiated to create awareness of the need for remedial therapy for special children amongst both Parents and Teachers. A number of school visits were organized at both Vadodara and Bharuch to impress on them that the one-on-one therapy offered by the Remedial Teachers at Osmosis can go a long way in ensuring that the child can not only continue but also shine in the main stream. While some schools such as Gujarat Public School, Navarachna Sama , Deendayal School and Kids Zee have readily encouraged our activities , it still remains an uphill task in several other schools.

Several schools are now increasingly sensitive to the needs of special children and employ in house counselors and shadow teachers . Osmosis hopes to work in close coordination with the counselors and the school management to be able to offer dedicated one-on-one remedial therapy which is normally beyond the schools responsibility. For this reason, the programme of School visits shall remain a continuing exercise in the coming years. If children are identified at an early age and right remediation is provided, they can cope up with their school curriculum.

To spread awareness of the new centre at Vadodara, a few students from the MSW were recruited as interns for a period of a few weeks . They along with our teachers visited schools and residential societies in the nearby vicinity. Though Chhani is at the far end of the city, the number of children is increasing based on word of mouth.

In March 2018 we took part at the NGO fair organized by MSW department at MS University. This was a good platform to interact with the other professionals in the field.

A short advertisement was aired on Radio Mirchi and handbills were distributed through local news papers. Between all these efforts we recognized that word of mouth is a slow but sure way of growing.

We were happy to host a number of Principals , teachers and counselors in this academic year. Eminent Professionals like Dr . Priyanka Behrani –A professor at M.S. university and Professors from the MSW Department also visited.

Mrs Preeti Pakti, a well Known counselor in Vadodara spoke at a very interactive sessions to a group of Parents both at Bharuch and Vadodara. Ms Nimita, a counselor from Navrachana school addressed the teachers at the Vadodara Centre on team building

The fee structure at Osmosis is based on a “pay-as-much-as-you-can-bear” basis. While the normal fees per session are Rs 200/- , it has been possible to part - subsidize this amount through the sponsorship of M/S GSFC. During the academic year 2017-18 , the number of children from families with Lower Socio –economic backgrounds whose fees were sponsored by M/S GSFC was 37. This was higher than the target of 20 largely because of strong resistance from parents to bear the full fee.

#### **4) Procurement of Educational Aids**

The educational aids are procured at an interval of 6 months. We need to be well aware of the new aged technologies and methods to teach children . At Osmosis Teaching – Learning process happens regularly. These aids are not only procured but the teachers are trained to use them along with children . Many old educational aids are also refurbished.

#### **5) Major Concerns:**

- At the Bharuch Centre we are moving towards self sustainability while at the Vadodara Centre it is a long way to go! We have to depend upon CSR grants and individual donation for smooth functioning of the centre.

At Bharuch there is a demand for increase in rent every 2 years . Today, the outgoing is Rs 21,000/- per month. We are occupying the present premises since 2013. The premises are located within a residential complex where such activities are frowned upon. The increasing number of children results in irritants such as shortage of parking

space. During speech therapy, oral motor activities are carried out by the therapist which results in “disturbance” to the neighbors !

Two options which are subject to consent of the Trustees are :

----To examine availability of premises from Municipality / Government for relocating the Centre

----To acquire property on ownership.

- The accountants at the Bharuch centre changed thrice during this financial year .To get dedicated professionals is always an issue .The earlier accountant had left work incomplete for almost three months . To hand over the accounts to a fresher was a task!

3) The Centre Head started her career in Ankleshwar at Shree Gattu Vidyalaya in 2001. This was the only school who readily accepted her as a Special Educator . Her growth in this school was a bench mark in her career . The school offered space without rent ! We dealt with a large number of children till 2017. We also used to work at a rental place in the city for the children who could not come all the way to Gattu school, GIDC , Ankleshwar. So along with the Baroda Centre we had 4 centres ! Managing all four Centres was a task ! We lacked dedicated staff and educational aids had to be shifted every week to Ankleshwar . Work was not happening satisfactorily! The Centre Head could not reach out to the children in Ankleshwar . Looking into all these issues , we had to take a drastic decision of closing both the centres in Ankleshwar. In November 2017 we had to wind up ! With time quite a few children from Ankleshwar , continued with the therapies at the Bharuch Centre.

**5) Celebrations and Group Events:** Due to establishing a new centre , we could hardly celebrate any festivals or go for an outing . Yet Holi was celebrated at the Vadodara Centre . On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Osmosis , Vadodara celebrated it's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday . Both these events were memorable for teachers, Parents and Children .

**6) Workshops and Seminars:-**The Centre head attended the Gujarat CSR conclave held in Feb 2018. This time , one day before the conclave , they arranged a Seminar on Children with Special needs . All the NGOs working towards the cause were allowed to present and showcase their work .This was a good platform to interact with the other NGOs and eminent people from Corporates.

**7) Future Plans:**

Build a Corpus:- All these years, the fees collected from the children is deposited in Fixed Deposits and this in turn helps us to grow our corpus.

Develop a Vocational Training Centre:-Children with learning issues can surely become contributing members of society .At the onset their aptitude needs to be tested and each individual child needs to be guided towards their ability and interest.

### **8) Acknowledgements:**

The Osmosis Centre gratefully acknowledges the support of GSFC, VMC , GCSRA, GACL , Mazda Limited ,GUVNL, Vishwa Construction and Tobaccowala foundation. We are also thankful to the individual donors who have made a difference in their own way! The Centre head also acknowledges the support of all our trustees. .