Anita Ajay Jaiswar

Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust’s
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme

Skill Development Award (Jewelry Making) 2019

Anita’s association with RF(IT) is through the Rangoonwala Community Centre, Pathanwadi.

This association materialized through the focused outreach work undertaken by the RCC team and Volunteer cadre. Anita came across the RCC IEC left at her home in Pimpripada, while she was away. She saw in it an opportunity to acquire skills as a beautician that she could otherwise not afford. Full of hope, she went to our RCC in Pathanwadi and immediately got associated as it put to rest an anxiety that she had..... she could do the course despite not knowing English! The atmosphere at RCC set to rest her other inhibition – that of not having a proper education.

Anita has not looked back in the more than six years of her association with RCC. With a supportive husband she acquired one skill after another. Through RCC she found a mother figure and mentor – our Sahayak- Vinita; who gave her the encouragement she craved for from her maternal family and the support her troubled childhood did not give.

Anita has found a niche in jewelry making. She leads the vocational activity unit – supervising the jewelry making, handling stocks and sales.

She feels empowered through the RCC. It has given her an identity of her own. It has given her the platform to showcase her skills. It has also entrusted her with responsibility that her own father did not think her worthy of.... managing money!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Paternal Aunt and Uncle of Pranali and her 3 siblings, Janabai and Santosh took on the responsibility of bringing up the children of their brother who died suddenly. For them, it was not a matter of choice. It was simply that the orphan children had no one else.

While we are amazed and humbled by the dedication, sacrifices and the single minded effort that the brother - sister duo made to bring up the 4 children; they give all credit to the children! Unmarried themselves, Janabai anchored the home, while Santosh worked with an Ambulance service. They say that Pranali, now a Computer Engineer, her elder sister and twin younger brothers were very good children. While Scholarship support since their school days helped educate them, the children would adjust with whatever means the family had and would never make any demands.

Today they are happy that they have made the children independent, with a good education as a sound foundation in life. They have a message for all parents or family members or guardians - all children have potential. The potential may vary. But it is the duty of the elders to help them build their life.

For preserving to educate Pranali & her siblings despite your struggles, Janabai & Santosh, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Amreen Sulthana Sharif

Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme Award 2019

for

Comprehensive Excellence

B.Tech (Biomedical Engineering): First Class         HSC: 82%         SSC: 81%

Application and Service Engineer at Modi Medicare, Mumbai.

Amreen likes her current work related to Oncology Radiology. It is challenging too. In the true RF(I)T spirit of Volunteering, she wants to share what she learns through her job by conducting cancer awareness sessions with women and use every platform she can possibly get to spread awareness on TB.

Hailing from Tamilnadu, where she studied up to 12th Std in a Govt. Girls School, Amreen’s family moved to Mumbai where her father has been working as an agent in the coconut business. The family found it very difficult to manage the higher education of three children on a single income. Her father sold their land in the village, but that money too was not enough. They took a Bank loan and also borrowed money.

The RF(I)T scholarship came at a time for Amreen when they seemed to have come to a dead end, fees were unpaid and she had almost given up.

While the Scholarship eased the financial burden, the Utkarsh Youth Development processes—the Volunteering Assignments, Soft skills and Life skills trainings, First Aid and Health awareness gave her multiple opportunities to interact, communicate and coordinate. As a Volunteer at RF(I)T events and an Utkarsh Campus Ambassador, she got a platform to express her ideas, to strategize and plan. This helps her and is taken positively in her current job. She feels that the trainings she got at RF(I)T, the guidance, the values she imbibed specially giving back to society, gender sensitivity and gender equality have molded her for life. She sees cancer patients everyday through her work. She motivates them. Where she sees despair, she says ‘Do your bit, don’t leave it only to God; for God helps those who help themselves!‘

For your Comprehensive Excellence, Amreen, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Pranali Arun Jadhav

Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust’s

Utkarsh Youth Development Programme Award 2019

for

Comprehensive Excellence

B.E. (Computer Engineering) : CGPI: 7.61     Dip. Engg.: 82.2%     SSC: 86%

Java Developer at Accenture, Navi Mumbai

Pranali lost her mother about 20 years ago and her father in 2011. Both were sudden deaths that must have been difficult for a young child to come to terms with. But she did not let that come in the way of her education, which she and her siblings feel are a foundation for life.

Pranali has been consistently excellent in her academics and co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. At RF(I)T, she has been an active and dedicated volunteer, imbibing the values that RF(I)T strives to instill in all Utkarshites.

Pranali feels that the Utkarsh scholarship helped ease the load on her Aunt and Uncle who had taken on the responsibility of the upbringing of four orphan children.

Utkarsh Youth Development processes helped build her confidence, honed her public speaking skills; the soft skills workshops helped her getting her job and the outbound life skills training groomed her personality in multiple ways. The Utkarsh volunteering task was initially challenging for her, but her ‘never say die’ spirit helped her overcome this to an extent that she found the additional tasks as an Utkarsh Campus Ambassador easy!

Her primary focus at present is to help support the education of her twin younger brothers before pursuing her post graduation.

For your Comprehensive Excellence, Pranali, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020

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Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust

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Satish Chandravali Yadav
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust’s
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme Award 2019
for
Perseverance Amidst Adversity

B.E. Mechanical: CGPI 7.46 HSC 74.62% SSC 83.82%

Son of a taxi driver, Satish applied for RF(I)T’s Utkarsh Scholarship in the 3rd. year of his Mechanical Engineering course.

The men of the family live in a very small house in Santacruz, which is barely enough to keep their belongings. They have been in Mumbai for a few decades to earn a livelihood, while the women, elderly and children are in the village.

Despite the hardship, Satish’s family managed to meet his education expenses for 2 years through borrowings from neighbors and friends as well as interest bearing loans.

The situation became unmanageable when Satish’s Uncle was diagnosed with cancer and the family could not stretch their meager resources further.

The RF(I)T scholarship helped ease their economic burden at a time when Satish felt that completing his education was almost impossible.

Satish feels that RF(I)T’s Utkarsh Youth Development programme has contributed a lot to his personal learning and growth. Volunteering Assignments gave him the satisfaction of being able to contribute. Other trainings have helped him acquire problem solving skills and deal with different situations in life.

For persevering to complete your education despite great odds, Satish, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Pavan Sanjay Ghare
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme Award 2019
for
Perseverance Amidst Adversity

B.Pharm.: 65.3%
HSC 62.62%
SSC 82.8%

Pavan’s father expired in an accident many years ago. His mother, works as a security guard to support the family.

Pavan studied in a Municipal school and scored well at the SSC level, but his percentage went down at HSC as he found the transition from Marathi medium to English Medium difficult. Hence he had to give up his dream of a medical career and chose Pharmacy instead. With no financial support, even that seemed impossible till his friends, RF(I)T’s Utkarsh scholars Janabai and Jaypal referred him to RF(I)T.

Not only was RF(I)T’s support for the 4 years of his College education invaluable, the other Utkarsh Youth Development initiatives were an advantage too for Pavan. The volunteering assignments, soft skills and life skills training, the First Aid training and volunteering at RF(I)T events forced him to change from a shy introvert to a person who can now communicate confidently and deal with unfamiliar situations.

His current work as a Medical Coder at Geobs Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. at Airoli, is the stepping stone for a future that Pavan wants to chart for himself professionally and personally for his family.

For persevering to complete your education despite great odds, Pavan, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Dr. Afira Azim Shaikh
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme Award 2019

for

Imbibing the Spirit of Volunteerism

Bachelor in Dentistry  HSC: 73.67%  SSC: 93.64%

Daughter of a school teacher and a BEST employee, Afira was awarded the Rangoonwala Foundation concessional fee seat for studying Dentistry at the M. A. Rangoonwala College of Dental Sciences & Research Centre, Pune.

As a student, Afira met the Volunteering compliances of the Utkarsh Youth Development Programme. But when she returned to Mumbai after completing her course, she expressed a desire to be associated with the Rangoonwala Community Centres (RCCs) for mentoring or health awareness.

Since then Afira has conducted sessions on Dental Care and Hygiene at the Monthly Open Forums at all the six RCCs, assisted our Doctor in First Aid training and is also conducting sessions related to Dental care in RCCs area schools under our School Outreach Programme.

Afira feels RF(I)T has given her a platform to reach out to a larger platform. While she has learnt a lot from the RCC team, she has gained in confidence, got a lot of respect and feels happy and satisfied that she has been able to give back in a small way what she has gained in life.

RF(I)T's volunteering reinforces the values that she has been taught since childhood by her parents- Islam is 1% prayer and roza, 99% Service to Humanity.

For imbibing RF(I)T values, particularly the spirit of Volunteerism, Afira, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahlim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Jignesh Solanki

Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust’s

Utkarsh Youth Development Programme

Alumni Award 2019

Project Engineer at Unicorp HVAC Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

An Utkarsh Scholar for a few years but an Utkarsh Alumni forever!

Jignesh came to us as a student of Mechanical Engineering in 2013. His father, a heart patient was working in the cloth market at Dadar and mother taught pre-school children.

Looking back, Jignesh never thought that he would share such close bonds with RF(I)T. The learnings through volunteering assignments, the trainings, which used to be tasks for compliances, have now become part of his life’s values.

Volunteering at RF(I)T events and the Utkarsh Campus Ambassador programme are amazing experiences for Jignesh. It helps him make new friends, take initiative, build a team and work with a team. It has enhanced his networking skills and helped in his interaction with others.

As Alumni, Jignesh and other Utkarshites still remain connected. They believe in coming together for a cause. It helps imbibe Volunteerism, impart learning and simultaneously gain knowledge. He wants more and more Utkarshites to join the Alumni network and make it stronger.

For Jignesh RF(I)T is family. He felt the biggest Award we have given him was when we chose him (along with a few other carefully selected Alumni) to refer students more deserving than him for Utkarsh Scholarships.

For remaining connected, for living our belief that we are sustainable through empowering our Alumni, we congratulate you!

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020
Rushmita Paul  
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's  
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme  
Academic Excellence Award 2019

Java Software Developer with Accenture Pvt. Ltd., Navi Mumbai  
B.E. (Electronics Engineering) CGPI: 7.79  
HSC: 80.46%  
SSC: 86%  

Despite a stressful family life and a grave financial crisis, Rushmita kept the focus on her academics. At a vulnerable time, her mother, a single parent did not let Rushmita and her younger sister compromise on their education.

RF(l)T's Utkarsh Scholarship came at a time when Rushmita needed it the most.

The Youth Development Initiatives added to her knowledge on health issues like Chronic Kidney Disease and TB.

The volunteering assignments as well as volunteering at events has helped her grow personally and professionally. She met new people, made new friends. The experience has made her gel well at work.

The employability soft skills, First Aid training and particularly Life skills learnt through the Student's Day Out have been important learning gains for her.

Rushmita has been very focused in whatever she has done.

Her feedback on Utkarsh trainings have been apt.

Her struggle continues. She teaches in her free time to supplement family income

Congratulations Rushmita for a consistently brilliant academic career despite the challenges life has thrown your way!

Nisreen Ebrahim  
CEO  
January 18, 2020
Ganesh Balbhim Kangude

Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme
Academic Excellence Award 2019

Trainee Engineer, L&T Infotech, Navi Mumbai
B.E. (Information Technology) CGPI: 8.49%
HSC: 70.15%
SSC: 87.82%

Associated with RF(I)T as an Utkarsh Scholar since 2016.

Ganesh’s parents have been working despite health problems to educate their children.

Tensions due to conflicts in the extended family had compounded their problems. It did affect Ganesh, but he strived hard and remained focused to maintain a consistently good academic record.

Ganesh feels that the Utkarsh Scholarship was a big help to his family as they were struggling to pay his fees despite taking loans.

Through RF(I)T, he also got the added advantage of the Utkarsh Youth Development initiatives. Volunteering assignments added to his knowledge of health issues. He says he did not know anything about Chronic Kidney Disease. Passing on the knowledge helped him gain in confidence as well as improve his communication skills. In addition to life skills and value building, the employability soft skills workshop was a boon for him as it came a month before his first job interview, in which he succeeded!

Congratulations Ganesh for a consistently good academic career despite the difficulties your family went through.

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 13, 2020
Yashwant Punwasi Vishwakarma
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust's
Utkarsh Youth Development Programme
UCA Award 2019

B.E. (Civil Engineering): CGPI 8.35  Dip. Engg: 80.98%  SSC: 88.55%

Yashwant's aspiration is to work with the Government. He has appeared for his MPSC exams. If successful, he will start as an Asst. Engineer - a Class 1 Govt. Officer.

His father, a carpenter, and mother, a home based piece rate worker, have been struggling to educate their 5 children.

Yashwant began volunteering through the mandatory assignments of the Utkarsh Youth Development Programme. He was selected for the Utkarsh Campus Ambassador programme, which gave focused inputs on a range of topics, including leadership.

Yashwant feels that as UCA's there was added responsibility, not only for oneself, but for each member of the group, as group tasks were also assigned. His ethics became stronger, confidence grew as it forced him to talk to unknown people, built awareness on health issues as well as social sensitization. He got emotionally involved with Ekta Support Group through his volunteering at their events, where he got to interact directly with kidney failure patients and their families.

Being able to give back to others is very satisfying. Yashwant feels volunteering experiences have made him a sensitive and aware citizen. These will remain with him for life!

For your dedication and commitment that exemplifies the qualities of a UCA, Yashwant, we congratulate you!

[Signature]

Nisreen Ebrahim
CEO
January 18, 2020