The summer is upon us and by May the slow down sets in. The beads of sweat and thirst, the oppressive heat in the small stuffy spaces in the slum becomes over bearing. Families look forward to schools closing and head out in droves to the village to visit family and take some fresh air. This means that attendance in the JM programs and all the centers becomes very thin. By mid May we wind down the therapy sessions and turn to tasks like maintenance, accounts, stock taking, in house training. That is what May and June were about. But April was as busy as busy can be!
EORTTEC- Aya Nagar and Mohammadpur

Stitching classes

10 persons with disability learnt to thread, oil, clean the sewing machines. Some managed simple stitching to make a lunch bag for themselves. The handles were added afterwards. Unique handles made by Seema Didi by plaiting waste cloth gave a special look. Besides this, 38 girls/women/young mothers from the village community came to learn basic tailoring.

This group offers an opportunity to reach out to the community and showcase the ability of challenged persons. In the past some of our staff have emerged from among these young women.

Home visits in Aya Nagar

Some children are trapped in their homes because of their disability and their parents situation.

Most families welcome the visits, some shut the door on your face. Jita’s smiles and delight at seeing Didi makes up for gruff father of Ankur!

Rishab was delighted with school holidays. He is home bound because of his disability but now that schools are shut all his neighbourhood kids are available for play time!
Gardening: Cucumber, Onions, Lauki (squash) were flourishing in the hot season. A lot of hard work went into preparing the soil, watering it to be ready for the seeds and saplings. Then to turn the soil regularly, watering in the dry season cannot be ignored for a single day. All this nurturing finally yielded a healthy crop!!! The smiles were very wide indeed on harvest day.

Recycling training also means collecting leaves and wet waste from the garden and turning it into manure. This is what is used to nourish the soil and plants.

Nutrition is a thread which runs through the entire program. If we are cooking for a workshop, for training stipend holders, making snacks for guest or parents meeting we are using recipes which are full of nutrition and which the older boys and girls learn how to make. It has really empowered the boys. Poha, Idli, Fruit Chaat, Upma, Uttapam, Sattu, Namkeen Daliya. There are many admirable outcomes. The skill and information level of all the students goes up. Team activity - so collaboration and socialisation is high. Knowledge about nutrition gets underlined. They develop a taste for this unusual dish.
Amu Laljee and Neeraj have been working regularly on Music Therapy.

**Parent Meetings**

**This time we began with an Ice Breaker** by Amu Laljee who wanted to meet the Mothers of the kids that she had been working with in her Music Therapy classes. They had so much fun with these activities that parents are ready to come even on a Sunday! Naveen’s future was discussed with his parents. Individual discussions were very useful. We got great insights into homes, relationships and the progress that the trainees had made.

Report Cards were shared, communication with Fathers,(who had no clue what their children were learning and how.) was very valuable.
Parent meeting in Mohammadpur.
Parents revealed that the nutrition training is also having its impact at home. Staff shared with them the recipes and how their children might be fussy eaters at home, but in JM when they cook together, they eat together with great pleasure and enthusiasm. The Parents were amazed!!

Himanshu, cerebral palsy (8 yrs) is one such child. His mother is really dedicated to him. She takes 30/40 minutes to walk him a short distance. “But this is how he will get stronger and learn” she says. Now he has got admission in class 1 at the local KV school. Well done Himanshu Pal, Jan Madhyam team and his Mother.

Parents in Mohammadpur feel very vulnerable, especially with daughters. In this context the ongoing self defence training was greatly appreciated.

ROZGAAR
The Summer vacation will be used for the Rozgaar group to work on a production line for the sales later in the year. The shopping for material was done and a group of 4/5 including Anita Yadav and Deepak kept busy making Button Bags, Papier Mache- Sharpeners, Decorated Pencils and Key chains.

SAHYOG
April 29th Sunday was a staff training on Vision Building and Personality Development. This was done by member Sanjay ji. The second session was on Behaviour Modification by Member Dr. Mitu Rohatgi. Community cooking and eating made it thoroughly enjoyable- not just useful. Another important training was about Learning and Teaching- by Jollyji
The stipend Holders, Sarvesh and Faizaan are doing well. Fazing is working part-time in a local grocery store and Sarvesh has many responsibilities in the JM centre in Mohammadpur. Naveen is now working full-time at Just Organics in Aya Nagar. Anita too has a job in Gurgaon. Learning from this we taught the older trainees who will be rehabilitated, how to use the Metro and the Cell phone for personal safety.

SRIJAN and VISTAAR
April and half of May were busy with sessions in Schools. Srijan team was invited by two different clients to design and execute murals in their homes during this period. This is a low period for Srijan as the schools close for the summer. So there was time to take up this interesting project. However JM found this to be an excellent time to give training too. Deepak, Yogendar, Pradeep, Rinku, Monu, Anil and Anita. They will introduce and conduct the Srijan sessions in the classrooms of Mainstream schools in the next academic session.
SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship students have been followed. They have all done well in the exams specially the visually impaired students have had good results. Three more children have been prepared for admission to the mainstream school. Deepdas, Himanshu Pal and Ayush. All three have disabilities.

A new teacher has joined in Paharganj to help the scholarship students keep up with their academic s. Some of the boys like Ram Ashish and Sumit live under extreme difficulty. They have to work on the streets to earn for their families as well as study. Life is tough for these youngsters. They deserve the small support we give them.
Crisis in Mohammadpur. Pinky one of our stipend holders had been mentally disturbed and went missing from Safdarjung Hospital. Fortunately after a harried search by her family she was located after 9 days and brought back. She is still not well but at least she is with her family! All of us heaved a sigh of relief.

Sad News
Raju one of our Alumni was rehabilitated and working in South Extension. Sadly he was killed by a speeding vehicle while crossing the road.

Chasing the MCD.
For decades JM has been working with the MCD schools in Aya Nagar and a few other urban villages where children with special needs are included. We have developed a symbiotic relationship with these institutions.
But today the department has become aggressively demanding. Updation of written permissions became an issue. We have spent hours and days chasing this elusive piece of paper from office to office, desk to desk.
The process is on going!!

Outreach visits
Visits were made to Therapy centers like Kiwani, Rehab Centre (South Ext.) and Cheshire Homes to understand and explore the quality of therapy facilities available for the community we work with.

A new project DOCUMENTATION of Jan Madhyam’s work was started in good earnest. A youthful team of Research assistants from IP college, managed by Documentor Rajeshwari and guided by Sanjay ji and Mitu ji worked all through June.
Special Visitors from EASA came to experience a Zero Waste space. They saw our solar electricity system, garbage recycling and water harvesting with great interest.

Students from a design school IIAD visited Jan Madhyam with the objective of designing a disability friendly ethnic kitchen for Jan Madhyam. They learnt a lot about disability, access and Inclusion. We may get an exciting design for an appropriate kitchen!!We look forward


**Donation in Kind:** Ms.Nidhi, MS.Niti Jain, Ms. Jolly Rohatagi, Ms. Kavita (Rinku’s mother)

**Visitor:** Mr. Niju Mon, Mr. Mukesh, Mr. Anil Madan, Mr. Tilak Bhagat, Mr. Sudesh Aneja, Mrs. Padma Sachdev ,Ms. Poornima Jain, Mr. Kumar Naina, Ms. Kumar Anjani, Ms. Deepali Telang, Ms. Kasturi , Mr. Amit Jelang, Mr. Akhilesh, Ms. Vasavi, Ms. Anannya, Mr Sanjay kumar, Dr. Mitu Rohatgi, Ms. Shonali Mazumdar