

JUNE 2023

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of L'arche FMR India

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### **Celebrating Unity in Diversity:**

#### **A Month of Joy and Growth at Asha Niketan**

In June 2023, Asha Niketan thrived with unity and happiness. Welcoming diverse members, we fostered a joyful atmosphere through group prayer. The month saw successful events, warm reunions, and heartfelt celebrations. Guided by insightful discussions, our L'Arche family connected globally. Together, we explored themes and appreciated collective decision-making. A tapestry of love and togetherness, June was filled with enriching experiences, making it a truly inspirational month at FMR India.

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## **Subin Varghese**

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR  
FMR INDIA





## **Celebrating Unity and Success:**

### **IFA 2023 and Community Achievements**

In June, Asha Niketan experienced remarkable success and unity at the International Federation Assembly (IFA 2023). The Earth, Water, Air, and Fire editions brought inspiring themes and meaningful presentations, culminating in a joyous celebration of togetherness. At home, all communities are moving forward with renewed vigor, holding meetings at various levels. Congratulations to the new leaders and members assuming key roles in our communities. We eagerly anticipate the release of the Second Edition and the upcoming GB Meeting in Bangalore. Gratitude to Ravi Victor for his exceptional leadership in Asha Niketan Asansol community.

Let us continue to thrive together and create a brighter future for all.



**Dr Premanand M E**

NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
FMR INDIA



# From the desk of the President, L'Arche FMR INDIA

BY DR PREMANAND M E

The International Federation Assembly (IFA 2023) was a super success, thanks to all the activities and celebrations and participation by our Core members and care givers.

Day One was the Earth Edition with the theme 'Bring the world together'. L'Arche Kenya's dance was simply superb. If you have watched the celebrations, this is the link: [vimeo.com/838068478](https://vimeo.com/838068478).

Day Two, Water edition highlighted the importance of water in and around communities. After 3 years of 'listening, speaking and sharing' with communities, L'Arche finally got a new Charter with a resounding 97% of voters saying YES to it.

Day Three, Air edition saw the presentation of the mandate of L'Arche (2023 – 2028) and the presentation of candidates for the International Stewardship Board.

Day Four, Fire edition saw Stephan and Stacy pass on the flame to Sylvain, the flame they'd carried since Belfast. Thanks for all that you've done to India, Stephan and Stacy.

Day five, celebration. So much had happened during the past 5 days and during the celebration, everyone came together and celebrated as people with and without disabilities the fact that we are together in the world.

At home too, things are looking on to the brighter side. I'm happy that the Second edition is being released in July, during AGM.

All communities, Asansol, Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai and Nandi Bazar are moving forward with renewed vigour with community level meetings, GC level meeting and National meetings.

Congratulations to the new Chairperson in Asansol, Mr Gautam Chaudhuri and to Mr. Tapas Ghose, Treasurer, and Mr. Pratik Rai, GB member. Lozilo Kikon on assuming the leadership in Chennai community, Smrithikana, on being given a second mandate.

Looking forward to meeting you all for the GB Meeting scheduled to be held at Bangalore on 29th and 30th July 2023.



**Thank you, Ravi Victor for leading  
Asha Nitekan Asansol community through  
thick and thin.**

Warm regards

Dr Premanand M E  
National President  
L'Arche FMR India.



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The Federation Assembly 2023 was a deeply gratifying experience for our community delegates. Engaging in insightful discussions about our lives and challenges strengthened our sense of togetherness. The newsletter's inclusion of our community's picture further motivated us. Guided by essential emails, we remained well-informed. Exploring themes like Earth, Water, Air, and Fire inspired meaningful presentations. The interactive delegate meeting and innovative voting process were appreciated. The event truly enriched our FMR family

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## Bharathi Gopalakrishnan

NATIONAL LEADER,  
FMR INDIA





"The Federation Assembly meetings were truly enriching! A sense of belonging, worldwide solidarity, and a joyful experience. Thank you for this unforgettable opportunity!"  
- Yogi and Soney, AN Bangalore

"Grateful for L'Arche International's well-planned event! Informative newsletter, creative drama, and interactive meetings with Zimbabwe. Vinod and I, as Delegates, felt fully involved and happy!" - Sutapa Paul, AN Kolkata

"An enriching experience! We embraced L'Arche's global family, actively engaging in meetings and charter discussions. Kanaga's excitement and anticipation were contagious. Grateful for this unforgettable opportunity!"  
Kanaga and Sindhu, AN Nandi Bazar

"The International Federation Assembly 2023 was a remarkable experience! Appreciated the Earth-themed activities and the New Charter. Sharing insights as Delegates was fulfilling. Grateful for the meaningful connections made!" -  
Rahul Francis & Ashutosh Dutta, AN Asansol

"As Delegates at Federation Assembly 2023, we cherished their role, sharing their community's life, discussing joys, challenges, and current struggles. A truly meaningful experience!"  
Ram and Vengadesh, AN Chennai



**Chair of the International Stewardship Board**

We warmly welcome Sylvain Brabant as Chair of the International Stewardship Board and interim Executive Director of the Federation during the transition. A dedicated L'Arche Joliette member since 2008, Sylvain served on the Community Council and as its Chair until June 2015. He was also instrumental in the AAQ as a board member and Chair until June 2016. With 28 years of education experience and expertise in leadership and governance workshops, Sylvain's commitment will greatly benefit our community.

We Welcome **Sylvain Brabant**

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In June, Asha Niketan Asansol Community thrived with all Core members and Assistants in good health. We warmly welcomed Subhabrata Goswami and Emmanuel (Sunny) Kerketa as new residential members. Community actively participated in the International Federation Assembly 2023. Our stall at Budh Math during Rath Yatra received great response. The month also saw the appointment of a New Chairperson, Treasurer, and a GB member. Overall, a joyful and successful month with exciting additions and developments.

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## Sibhasish Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,  
ASHA NIKETAN ASANSOL





We warmly welcomed **Subhabrata Goswami** and **Emmanuel (Sunny) Kerketa** as new residential members.

Various activities of the Garden team.

Mr. Tiwary Da started spiritual meeting & meditation with Core Members every Wednesday.



**Mr. Gautam Chaudhuri**  
New Chairperson



**Mr. Tapas Ghose**  
New Treasurer



**Mr. Pratik Rai**  
New GB member

Workshop activities and the product.



Community Assessment  
by  
the National Leader  
**Ms Bharathi**



Outreach  
program

Stall at  
Budh Math on  
the occasion  
of Rath Yatra

Dance  
Class



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In June 2023, Asha Niketan Bangalore had an enriching month of activities. A small group visited the Sandesh NGO center, fostering connections. The Federation assembly events brought happiness to our members. Mr. R.S. Tewari conducted a stress and anger management formation for assistants. The community celebrated birthdays together on Fridays, fostering camaraderie and joy. A fulfilling and eventful month at Asha Niketan Bangalore.

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## Charles

COMMUNITY LEADER,  
ASHA NIKETAN BANGALORE



Visiting Sandesh  
NGO on 9th June  
2023



Celebrating the  
togetherness  
in the community



Friday Fun Filled  
with Birthday Joy!



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The Core members and Assistants are in great physical condition, fostering a happy atmosphere. They gather for a group prayer before starting their activities. Two new Assistants, one male from Manipur and one female from Himachal Pradesh, joined in June, enhancing diversity and adding to their collective happiness.

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## Lozilo Kikon

COMMUNITY LEADER,  
ASHA NIKETAN CHENNAI



## Group Prayer

The household's Core members and Assistants are in great physical condition, fostering a happy atmosphere. They gather for group prayer before starting their activities. Two new Assistants, one male from Manipur and one female from Himachal Pradesh, joined in June, enhancing diversity and adding to their collective happiness.



## Wedding Function

On June 8, a few of the Core members, accompanied by a male and a female Assistant, joyfully attended the wedding of Mr. S.G. Ethirajan and Mrs. Mohana Ethirajan. The wedding took place at "Maamannar Maruthu Pandiar Maaligai" in Kannan Nagar, and they had a wonderful and memorable experience.



## Remembering Usha Akka

On June 10th, we marked the 3rd Death Anniversary of Usha Akka, a valued member of our organization and sister to Ramesh, a core member and the founder's son. Usha Akka's impactful contributions as a dedicated social worker and her unwavering support for the Chennai community will forever be cherished by the Asha Niketan family. Ramesh's yearning for her return continues, as he watches the roadside, calling out her name. We honor her memory with a nurtured coconut tree, wishing her eternal happiness.



## New Community Leader

On June 10th, we held a special program to officially announce Lozilo as our new Community Leader. The handover ceremony was filled with joy and excitement as we embraced this new chapter. Lozilo's appointment brings a renewed sense of leadership and dedication to our community. With her passion and commitment, we are confident that she will continue to guide our community towards growth and positive change. We look forward to the wonderful journey ahead under Lozilo's capable leadership.



## Workshop Activities

During the workshop facilitated by our assistant, our core members created a range of products that promote geriatric activities. Engaging in their favorite games and relaxation techniques, our members actively exercised and maintained their well-being. The garden activities proved to be highly rewarding, teaching valuable life skills to the core group. Under the guidance of the assistant, they became self-reliant, learning to sow different greens, leaves, and even create brooms. These activities fostered physical health improvement and independence among our cherished core members.



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In June 2023, Asha Niketan Kolkata celebrated its Foundation Day with a lively Cultural Program by its members, bringing joy to Friends, Donors, Parents, and Members. The month also witnessed engaging Workshop Activities, a Dental Camp, Physiotherapy sessions, and Birthday Celebrations. A month filled with enriching events and communal happiness.

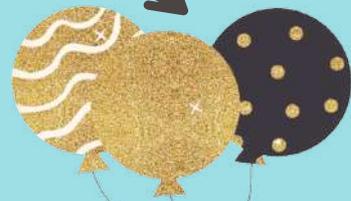
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## Smritikana Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,  
ASHA NIKETAN KOLKATA



# Foundation Day Celebrations



# Workshop Activities



# AN KOLKATA

House Visit



Dental Camp



Physiotherapy Session

Saturday Activity



Birthday Celebration



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In June, Asha Niketan Nandibazar Community joyfully re-opened the center after a two-month holiday. The core members were thrilled to reunite, and Ms. Kanaga warmly wished her old friend Mithran a Happy Birthday. Special occasions were celebrated with donations, and sponsors held birthday parties for their children at our premises. Federation Delegates Mrs. Sindhu and Ms. Kanaga connected with the L'Arche family, fostering local and global relationships. A month of heartfelt connections and meaningful experiences.

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## Lilly Rose

COMMUNITY LEADER,  
ASHA NIKETAN NANDIBAZAR



Reunited and Celebrating Togetherness after Two Months! 🍷❤️



Capturing the Joy of Birthdays in Our Community! 🎂🍰



Sharing Love and Joy: Donations on Special Occasions!

Eid Mubarak: Mr. Zakaria's Prayers for Friends and Community



❖ eid ❖  
MUBARAK ❖