

# KALEID SCOPE

*Change is the only constant*

AUG 2024 | ISSUE NO.4  
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THANK YOU, DEAR DONORS, FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT; THANKS TO YOU, THE ANUGRAHA PROJECT HAS ACHIEVED REMARKABLE PROGRESS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

The inauguration of The Banyan Tree Park on August 11 was a memorable event filled with joy and celebration. We began with the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing hope and new beginnings. This was followed by a tree planting ceremony, reflecting our commitment to sustainability and growth. A lively kabaddi tournament brought excitement and energy to the day, showcasing the spirit of sportsmanship within our community.

We also provided snacks and beverages for everyone to enjoy, creating a festive and welcoming atmosphere. During the event, we took the opportunity to honor volunteers like Zuber Khan and Dasrath Basumatary for their unwavering dedication and service in building The Banyan Tree Park. Their contributions have been invaluable to our journey.

Co-founder Mira Krish was in attendance, along with several well-wishers, all of whom shared in the celebration of this significant milestone for our community.



## THE BANYAN TREE PARK: TRANSFORMING A SWAMP INTO A HAVEN FOR GROWTH AND LEARNING

Imagine a place where once there was only overgrown parthenium—a notorious weed—and a hazardous, swampy wasteland. This area was not just unused but was an active health hazard for the community. The space, full of potential, lay in neglect, underutilized, and unsafe. But today, this very spot has transformed into a unique, thriving community space that stands out not just in this underprivileged settlement but perhaps across the country.

In just a few months, the vision for this space blossomed from a simple idea into a vibrant reality. This transformation is more than just the addition of greenery; it's about creating opportunities, breaking barriers, and fostering a sense of belonging and purpose.

At the heart of this transformation is an organic kitchen garden, an initiative like no other in any underprivileged settlement. This garden is not about feeding 100 families; rather, it's about nourishing the spirit of the community. It's about initiating a healthy, community-based activity that brings people together, breaking down walls and fostering a sense of unity and cooperation. The garden serves as a therapeutic activity, a green oasis amidst a sea of challenges, where the community can learn about nurturing, sharing, and the joys of sustainable living.



The play area, now a vibrant playground filled with laughter and joy, has been a literal godsend for over 100 children. Before this, there was no space for them to play or just be children. Many would just sit idly, with nowhere to go and nothing to do. Now, they have a place where they can run, play, and develop both physically and mentally—a place that fosters creativity, friendship, and growth.

The new indoor and outdoor spaces are a haven for all 400 members of the community. They provide a much-needed outlet for activities beyond just work or school. Picture this: women learning to crochet or practicing yoga while their toddlers play safely within view. Nearby, gardening enthusiasts engage in meaningful dialogues about the benefits of organic produce and composting, sharing knowledge and building bonds over a shared passion for gardening.

The Banyan Tree Park is not just a garden or a play area; it's a community hub, a place where lives are enriched, and possibilities are endless. But this is just the beginning. We envision so much more—a place where people can continuously learn, grow, and come together. To make this vision a reality, we need your help. **We are looking for volunteers with ideas, skills, and a passion for community service to join us in this journey of transformation. Whether it's through gardening, teaching, or just lending a helping hand, your contribution can make a huge difference.**

Join us in turning this into a thriving community center where everyone can find something that interests them, something that helps them grow, and something that brings them joy. Together, let's continue to transform this once-forgotten space into a beacon of hope, learning, and growth for all.

## NEW TOILETS FOR THE COMMUNITY: A STEP TOWARDS DIGNITY AND HYGIENE

Rotary Club of Bangalore has constructed eight brand-new toilets- four each for women and men for our community- replacing the four dilapidated ones. These facilities were inaugurated in June and have provided a much-needed boost to the community's dignity and access to basic hygiene. The speed of this transformation amazed the community, with the new toilets built just a few months after we prioritized this need. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Rtn. Manjunath Aniekar of Rotary Club of Bangalore and the donor, P.D Navkar Bio Chem Pvt. Ltd, who generously supported this project worth ₹5.75L (\$6800) and personally attended the inauguration ceremony.





## EXPANDING HORIZONS: LAUNCHING A NEW ENGLISH CLASS



Our educational initiatives continue to grow! As our older students progress to Level 2 in their English classes, provided by Aarunya Trust (<https://aarunya.org/>) we are excited to announce the start of a new class for beginners. This class, which will be held at The Banyan Tree Park, is equipped with modern tools, including a smart TV monitor, laptop, and webcam. We have welcomed 8 new students from a similar community, bringing the total to 23 middle-school kids eager to learn. This expansion reflects our commitment to providing quality education for all and marks the start of our efforts in a new settlement, aligning with our vision of "Empowering the underserved—one community at a time."

## CRICKET STARS IN THE MAKING: OUR BOYS HEAD TO A TOURNAMENT

Our young cricketers have shown remarkable improvement in their skills, thanks to their unwavering dedication and passion for the sport. Every weekend, they attend coaching sessions at the Padukone Dravid Center for Sports Excellence (CSE- <https://centreforsports.in/>), a world-class facility where they train under top coaches. This is a rare opportunity that not many kids have access to—practising in such a high-calibre environment truly sets them apart.

This accomplishment ties into our commitment to Enrichment Programs, a core part of The Anugraha Project. Through these programs, we aim to provide individuals in our community with opportunities to explore their interests and hone their skills—opportunities that might otherwise be out of reach. Our Enrichment Programs are designed to foster personal growth, expand career possibilities, and build a stronger sense of community among participants.

As our young cricketers gear up for the upcoming tournament in September, we are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication. Stay tuned for updates as they prepare to showcase their talent on a larger stage, demonstrating the power of perseverance and the support of a nurturing community.



# SPORTING SPIRIT: SJ COLLEGE STUDENTS HOST A SPORTS DAY



As part of a fundraising initiative, in June, students from SJ College organized a series of sporting events- for college students across Bangalore- including football, swimming, basketball, and tennis, at the prestigious Padukone Dravid Center for Sports Excellence (CSE- <https://centreforsports.in/>). The sports day was a tremendous success, fostering a spirit of teamwork and healthy competition. We are grateful to SJ College for their support and look forward to more such collaborations in the future.



Cash prize for the winning team!



## JOIN HANDS WITH US: CONTRIBUTE AND VOLUNTEER FOR THE COMMUNITY

Your support is vital to the growth and success of our community initiatives. Whether through donations or volunteering your time, every contribution helps us provide better opportunities and resources for those in need. Explore the various ways you can get involved and make a difference today!



# HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

DONATE | 

- 1. Community Garden:** Sponsoring seeds and saplings for our kitchen garden will help us promote sustainable living.
- 2. Keep Our Space Clean:** Donations of cleaning products will help maintain the container area and the newly-built toilets. Additionally, sponsoring the monthly payment for a dedicated cleaner will ensure the space remains welcoming for everyone.
- 3. Support Our Hand-Wash Facility:** We are building a hand-wash facility outside the toilets to promote hygiene. Your contribution towards this facility would be invaluable.
- 4. Equipment for a Reading Corner:** We are looking to create a cosy reading corner in our new space and need a chair, a small desk, and bookshelves. Donations of these items would greatly help us provide a nurturing environment where children can develop a love of learning and reading. Your support can make a big difference in fostering a brighter future for our community!
- 5. Equip Our Playground:**
  - Volleyball Court: We're setting up a volleyball area and need equipment, including a ball and net.
  - Play Equipment: We are seeking play equipment like slides and swings for an area we've designated next to the kabaddi court. Gently used equipment from schools is also welcome. Your contributions will help create a fun and engaging space for the children in our community!
- 6. Support Our Aarunya English Classes (<https://aarunya.org/>):** Contributions towards Zoom account expenses, as well as monthly electricity and water costs, are essential for running our Aarunya spoken English classes. We'll provide specific amounts if you're interested in sponsoring these.

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- 1. Community Garden:** If you're interested in getting your hands dirty, we welcome volunteers to help set up the garden and maintaining the kitchen garden as well.
- 2. Teach Yoga and Meditation:** If you have skills in yoga or meditation, we would love to have you lead sessions for the community.
- 3. Engage with the Children:**
  - Students or adults who can read to the children, play chess, or engage them in other meaningful activities like story-telling, once a week are encouraged to join us.
  - Students or adults who can teach them the art of crochet; their handmade creations will be sold online to help them earn additional income.
- 3. Educating members of the community** about personal hygiene
- 4. Raising Awareness on Waste Management:** During our recent visits to the community, we observed the burning of collected trash, including plastics, which poses significant health risks and contributes to air pollution. To address this, we are launching an educational initiative in collaboration with Vasuki and his team from Solid Waste Management Round Table SWMRT.

[Click to view Instagram profile](#)



This initiative aims to inform the community about the dangers of burning waste and its impact on air quality and global warming. In addition to educating about proper waste segregation, SWMRT will introduce composting practices for organic waste, providing sustainable solutions for waste management.

We are excited to embark on this journey to protect our environment and help combat global warming. Every step counts!

Vidya Mulky - Content Editor- TAP Core Team

SHARE YOUR IDEAS: IF YOU HAVE OTHER INNOVATIVE IDEAS OR ARE INTERESTED IN STARTING A NEW INITIATIVE FOR THE COMMUNITY, WE WOULD LOVE TO CONNECT WITH YOU.

YOUR TIME, SKILLS, AND CONTRIBUTIONS CAN MAKE A LASTING IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY. TOGETHER, WE CAN CREATE A SPACE THAT NURTURES GROWTH, LEARNING, AND WELL-BEING.

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