

"Service to Sufferers is
Service to God"

October
2018



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7th World Cerebral Palsy Day

CRP observed the World Cerebral Palsy Day on 6th October 2018 with the theme "We are here" The day started with a rally of the special needs children of William and Marie Taylor School and Paediatric unit. CRP's Executive Director opened the event and joined the rally.

Later with a welcome note and presentation on the current situation of cerebral palsy in Bangladesh, the discussion programme began at CRP's Reddaway Hall at 10 am. Professor Dr. Narayan Saha, Head of Paediatric Neurology, National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital was the Chief Guest at this session. The special guests were Professor Dr. Omor Ali Sarker, Principal, BHPI and Shahnaz Sultana, Assistant Head of Programmes, CRP. The event was chaired by CRP's Executive Director Md. Shafiq-ul Islam. Speakers during the day stated that "it is time to close the gap between the everyday circumstance and the real potential for people living with CP. Through World CP Day, we will join together to combine our resources, energy and knowledge."

The speeches were followed by the children with cerebral palsy presenting a spectacular cultural performance in honour of the guests. The day ended with the distribution of prizes to the performers and thanks were given by the Executive Director.



Programmes on 7th World Cerebral Palsy Day (a rally and discussion)



CRP in National Development Fair 2018



CRP's mental health project staff displaying different items in CRP's stall



Inauguration of the fair at Savar Upazila ground

The Government of Bangladesh organized the 4th countrywide, National Development Fair from 4- 6 October 2018. CRP participated in this fair organized by Savar Upazila for promoting CRP's services to visitors. In the fair CRP's stall was adorned with handicrafts made by women with disabilities, wooden toys and puzzles, various publications and mental health project activities. The special needs children from William and Marie Taylor School (WMTS) also took part in an inclusive cultural programme and amazed the crowds with their mesmerizing performance at Savar Upazilla playground. The visitors really appreciated and enjoyed watching CRP's activities.



A rally with mental health patients and officials at CRP-Ganakbari on the occasion of World Mental Health day

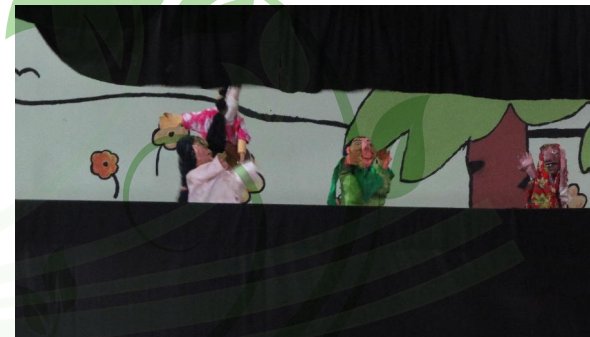


Md. Mazharul Islam, Assistant Commissioner (Land), Ashulia, Savar delivering his speech in the discussion programme

CRP celebrated the World Mental Health day on 10th October 2018 with the theme "Young people and Mental Health in a changing world". It was organized by the Occupational Therapy Day Centre at CRP-Ganakbari a project for people with mental health needs. The day started with a rally in the morning followed by a discussion session and cultural program in the afternoon. The discussion session started with receiving the chief guest Md. Mazharul Islam, Assistant Commissioner (Land), Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka and was chaired by Md. Shafiqul Islam, Executive Director, CRP. The Centre Manager of CRP-Ganakbari welcomed all attendees and the Project Coordinator gave a brief presentation on the project activities. Patients with mental health needs, their caregivers and other staff of CRP were also present. They discussed the importance of raising awareness and treatment of mental health.

An Awareness raising Puppet Show at CRP

CRP's peer support group staged a puppet show at the Paediatric unit on 16th October 2018. All the inpatient children and their parents enjoyed the show. The story concerns the present situation of the children with disability and how it affects their family and our society. Very often parents hide their children because of the social stigma. They do not realize that if we encourage and support them and create an accessible environment for them, they can achieve everything a normal child can. CRP's staff and vocational trainees with disabilities organized and presented the show to raise awareness about disability issues, for the parents. A renowned actress and also a puppetry artist Nawshaba was present with her family, who also enjoyed the show. She used to play the role of Ikri Mikri in the famous programme Sisimpur. She promised to help CRP's puppet team to develop their performances. CRP staff, volunteers and many patients enjoyed the programme.



Audience, guests and participants enjoying the puppet show at CRP's paediatric unit



Prosthetics & Orthotics Training

CRP's Prosthetics and Orthotics department in collaboration with International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) organized a training course on "Rehabilitation for persons with lower limb Amputation(s)" (RAMP). The training was held in CRP's conference room on 17th and 18th October 2018. 17 participants including physiotherapists and P&O technicians were also present. The topics covered in this training were:-

- Using clinical reasoning to assess and treat persons with lower limb amputation.
- Introducing P&O interventions (including basic knowledge about alignment) to improve interdisciplinary interaction.
- Examining complex cases and proposing relevant rehabilitation.
- Using trial results to describe physiotherapy interventions and sharing experiences.

The trainers were Md. Shapin Ibne Sayeed, Physiotherapist, ICRC; Noor Jahan Akhtar, Senior Physiotherapist, CRP, P&O Department and Daniel Du Toit Botes, Prosthetist & Orthotist, ICRC.



Trainer, Md. Shapin Ibne Sayeed briefing during the training session



Trainees working in groups

Road Safety Day 2018: "We will obey law; we will make roads safe"



Rally, human chain and awareness raising puppet show on road safety issues on National Road Safety Day observation at CRP



CRP observed the National Road Safety Day on 22nd October 2018 with the slogan "We will obey law; we will make roads safe". The day started with a rally from CRP-Savar to Shimultala followed by a human chain on Dhaka-Aricha Highway. After this a puppet show was staged to raise awareness concerning road safety issues. This was prepared and performed by a team of physically challenged staff and vocational trainees. CRP's Founder and Coordinator, Dr. Valerie A. Taylor along with the Executive Director, Md. Shafiq-ul Islam joined the programme. Other staff, all SCI inpatients and students of William and Marie Taylor School also enjoyed the show.



Md. Rubel receiving an appointment letter as a shop management trainer at CRP- Savar from the guests



Attendees in the job fair

BBDN organized a Job Fair for Persons with Disabilities

A job fair for persons with disabilities was held on October 20, 2018 at Krishibid Institute Complex, Farmgate, Dhaka, The Job Fair was organized by Bangladesh Business & Disability Network (BBDN) with funding provided by ILO, Government of Canada and BRAC. The following Resource Members of BBDN collaborated closely to ensure the success of the Job Fair: Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP), Access Bangladesh Foundation, ADD International, Leonard Cheshire Disability Bangladesh (LCDB), CBM, UCEP, Branding Bangladesh and PFDA.

During the day of the job fair, 18 persons with disabilities received "on the spot" jobs through interviews by 19 potential employers who had set up booths. Another 85 persons with disabilities received confirmation for jobs through a pre-matching / interview process prior to the Job Fair and a further 7 were confirmed for jobs after the Job Fair. A total of 110 jobs were provided by the Job Fair. Following the job fair, it was found during a discussion session with employers that approximately 250 CVs of potential candidates had been collected and assessed by employers for future job opportunities.

A total of 400 participants attended the Job Fair which included representatives from employers, NGO/INGO, Government officials, guardians, job seekers and members of the media.

World Occupational Therapy Day and Get together

The Occupational Therapy Department of CRP observed the World Occupational Therapy Day on 27th October 2018. The slogan for this year was "Celebrating the global community". The celebrations started with a colorful procession from CRP-Savar to Shimultala in the morning. All the professionals in this sector, students and other staff joined the rally. In the evening all occupational therapists celebrated their annual get together programme at the Reddaway Hall.



CRP's Occupational therapists enjoying the World Occupational Therapy Day celebration



Physiotherapy Students of BHPI Participated in an International Ethics Project (IEP) Course:

The International Ethics Project (IEP) was initiated and developed by the effort of Prof. Michael Rowe in the Department of Physiotherapy at the University of the Western Cape, in Cape Town, South Africa. Under the IEP, online ethics course was developed in collaboration with colleagues from Sudan, Belgium, Switzerland and Bangladesh. The purpose of this online ethics course was to enhance student engagement in the topic of professional ethics while at the same time helping them to develop graduate attributes that are not discipline-specific (for example, digital literacy). The course was offered to a wide variety of physiotherapy students from different institutes around the world in an attempt to better understand collaborative learning in physiotherapy education (<https://internationalethicsproject.wordpress.com/>). The topics in the course were designed according to a contemporary physiotherapy curriculum so that students online learning capacity progresses alongside their understanding of the subject matter in Professional Ethics (<https://iepcourse.wordpress.com/topics/>). The Physiotherapy department in the Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI) gave permission to conduct the course for the final year students as a part of their ethics course in the final year curriculum. Physiotherapy students in the session 2012 – 2013 and 2013 – 2014 respectively actively participated in the cohorts and received a certificate after successfully completing the course.

The 4th year Physiotherapy students (Session: 2014-2015) of BHPI will also be participating in an online course on Professional Communication, to begin in January 2019, presented by Prof. Dirk Vissers, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and Physiotherapy at the University of Antwerp in Belgium. Role-play will be used to make a video of an interview with a patient. The video will be made available online for physiotherapy students of different countries. They can give feedback on the video with a focus on international and intercultural differences in physiotherapists' communication with a patient.

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Physiotherapy Students (Session: 2012-2013)



Physiotherapy Students (Session: 2013-2014)

Workshop on Inclusive Employment at Leather, Garments and Textile Sector

Inclusive Job Centre (IJC) and Marks & Start (M&S) Industrial Project jointly organised a Workshop on Inclusive Employment at Leather, Garments and Textile sector. Marks & Spencer and other supplier factory representatives attended the program. The program was held on 31st October, 2018 at CRP Reddaway Hall, Savar headquarter.

It was a day long program engaging 200 people with the Marks and Start suppliers from different factories. The program started with the welcome speech of Md. Shafiq-ul Islam, Executive Director, CRP. He stated that Marks & Start Project in Bangladesh started in 2006 and till today we have successfully trained and employed 2100 physically challenged people across Marks & Spencer supply base in Bangladesh. He also informed everyone about the progress and accomplishments Bangladesh has made in the past few years and he thanked all M&S suppliers and beneficiaries for their contribution in this advancement.



Mr. Mizanur Rahman, Senior Social Compliance Manager, Marks & Spencer Bangladesh delivering his speech



Attendees in the workshop



Afterward Mr. Mizanur Rahman, Senior Social Compliance Manager, Marks & Spencer Bangladesh Sourcing Office, said that persons with disabilities are working with their own capability. He also believes that they can perform better than able bodied employees due to their high level of dedication.

Finally a vote of thanks was given by Ms. Valerie A. Taylor, Founder and Coordinator of CRP, to everyone present in the occasion. IJC, M&S and CRP gave a small gift to the beneficiaries as a token of appreciation for attending the event.

There were many discussions for developing an inclusive environment for physically challenged people. It is to be hoped that persons with disabilities will be recruited and employed in a barrier free society.

Main Objective:

- To advocate for Inclusive work environment for barrier free access to skill training and employment.
- To understand the challenges faced by the factories employing Persons with Disabilities and the way forward.
- To understand the challenges faced by Persons With Disabilities in these industries
- Strategies to implement inclusive policies and legislation

Outcome:

- Friendly factory policy will develop with an inclusive environment
- Factory personnel will be sensitized
- Factory environment will be accessible for PWD workers
- Increased recruitment of PWD workers
- Further development to work jointly with Marks & Start and Inclusive Job Centre for Counselling service, Assistive Devices, Post recruitment follow up, advisory support for inclusive environment and accessibility

Nupur Gomes
Project Officer
Marks & Start Industrial Project.CRP



Sakib's story

Thirteen year old Sakibul Islam is a playful and loving boy from Satkania, Chittagong. His father is a day laborer and supports the family of 4, including Sakib's younger brother. One evening, Sakib went out with his friend to pick some berries from a tall tree. While climbing, he lost his balance and fell onto his face. He immediately became unconscious. Bones in his arms were broken and he was bleeding profusely from his nose. He was rushed to a local government clinic for primary care. They were unable to stop his bleeding so sent him to the local government hospital and from there he was taken to Chittagong government hospital. Sakib remained unconscious for 11 days still bleeding from the wound. The Chittagong hospital doctors eventually managed to stop the bleeding but refused to keep him there as they had no other medical treatment to offer him. One of his neighbours advised his family to visit Savar CRP for help.

He was brought to CRP as a spinal cord injured patient on 24th of July 2018 and stayed here for four months. The doctors upon examination admitted him immediately and advised therapy on a daily basis. When he came, he was a child with a blank look, distraught and very depressed. He was given Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy and Counselling to gain not only his physical health, but his mental health as well.

Sakib is quite well now. His therapists say that he will never be able to gain muscle power and bladder sensation. He will remain wheelchair bound for the rest of his life. The sad, gloomy boy has now become a jolly and playful boy again. During his 4 month stay here, he not only won over the hearts of doctors and fellow patients, he also managed to make some friends. Sakib's family plan to place him in a school in his village and CRP's rehabilitation wing will track his progress.

For Donation, Zakat & Membership
Please contact:

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E-mail: fundraising@crp-bangladesh.org/frd@crp-bangladesh.org

Send your Zakat to:

Account name: CRP Zakat Fund
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