

International Youth Day



As August dawns upon us, we embrace the spirit of empowerment and growth on the occasion of International Youth Day (12th August).

This month, we are thrilled to shine a spotlight on the incredible impact that Oasis India has had on countless young lives across cities, as we continue our unwavering mission of "Making India better for women and children."

Oasis India has been a beacon of hope, steering youth toward brighter futures through our diverse projects. It's awe-inspiring to witness the transformation that our initiatives have catalyzed, providing opportunities for growth, learning, and empowerment.

Our collective efforts have nurtured aspirations, ignited dreams,

and kindled the flame of change within each young heart we touch.



Echoes of Courage: My Heartfelt Odyssey of Understanding and Unyielding Resilience

In the bustling heart of Mumbai, I, Sanjay*, navigated a life filled with hardships. Yet, amidst the challenges, a miracle called Oasis India emerged as my guiding light, illuminating my path towards understanding and resilience.

My mother, Mahima, had a difficult past in Kolkata before she ended up in Mumbai. Despite the distance, she sent money back home to support our family, showing her love. Unfortunately, my family life was far from ideal, with my stepmother unable to provide the care we needed. This left my brother and me facing an uphill battle.

I was just 9 years old when I joined my mother in Mumbai. The reality I encountered was a stark contrast to my expectations. My mother's life in the red-light district was a heart-wrenching revelation. Witnessing her struggles, my heart was flooded with emotions that I couldn't fully comprehend at the time.



Amidst the challenges, a glimmer of hope emerged in the form of Oasis India. Introduced to me by a friend, Oasis India became more than just a place – it became a lifeline. At first, I was hesitant and reserved, mirroring the emotional turmoil within me. However, as I spent time in Oasis India's nurturing environment, my emotional cocoon began to unravel. The compassionate support and educational opportunities provided by Oasis India gave me a chance to process my feelings and channel them into growth.

Through the highs and lows, my dedication shone brightly. To ease my mother's financial burden, I embraced a morning routine, delivering milk before the sun's first rays. This wasn't merely a job; it was a reflection of my commitment and love for my family. Each milk delivery echoed my unwavering determination to rewrite our story.

Oasis India became more than a shelter - it became a sanctuary where dreams could be nurtured. Fueled by my passion for singing, my dream began to evolve from a mere desire to a tangible goal. Oasis India provided me with the emotional space to understand the impact of my dreams and to recognize the significance of my mother's sacrifices.



As I embraced Oasis India, my emotional journey mirrored my physical and academic growth. The melodies I yearned to create found resonance not only in my songs but also in my evolving understanding of my mother's role. I transitioned to Oasis India's group home, solidifying my bond with the organization that had become an anchor in my life.

With my spirit fortified, I embarked on a new educational journey, choosing nursing as a way to contribute positively to the world. My pursuit of education served as a bridge between my past and my dreams, symbolizing the emotional and intellectual strides I had taken.

Today, as I enter the second year of nursing school in Pune, my story continues to inspire. The emotional complexities I once grappled with have woven a tapestry of resilience and empathy.

My journey, from the shadows of my past to the melodies of my dreams, is a testament to the profound impact that understanding one's emotions can have on personal growth and the transformation of relationships.



My tale stands as a reminder that through emotional introspection and unwavering determination, we can navigate the stormiest seas and create our own symphonies of triumph.

(*name changed)



I wove my determination into the very fabric of my being, crafting not just frocks and suits, but a path to a different life.

I am Asha* 18 years old. For the last 13+ years, I have been living in the heart of the Azad Nagar community. In the midst of my parents and seven siblings, we've shared this space for over a decade. Our family's story is etched in the hardships of begging

and the shadow of illiteracy, surviving on the crumbs of kindness that others bestowed upon us.

Until not long ago, I was always with my family surviving our lives by begging. Despite countless attempts to provide me with a basic education, I remained tethered to the life I knew. It's as if those efforts were whispers lost in the wind, unheard and forgotten.

My poor personal hygiene was an open wound, a reflection of the chaos within me. Even the toxic embrace of tobacco became a twisted companion. Oasis India staff members extended their hands to me, trying to guide me to the well of resources, an Oasis waiting to quench my thirst for something better. But I was resistant, defiant in my own way. It took persistence, it took patience, and it took more than a fair share of family reluctance.

But the doors to training finally opened when I turned 18. Tailoring training beckoned, and I embraced it like a lifeline.

Those training sessions, once unfamiliar territory, became the cornerstone of my days.

Thread by thread, stitch by stitch, I wove my determination into the very fabric of my being, crafting not just frocks and suits, but a path to a different life.



The Oasis India Nalasopara team's unwavering commitment ignited a fire within me. The tide turned as I redirected my energy, swapping negligence for self-care, and despair for the joy of learning.

Now, as I look back on this whirlwind of change, I'm overwhelmed by the person I've

become. I was raised in the shadows of doubt, a world that barely acknowledged the existence of dreams, especially mine.

But today, I stand transformed, a living testament to the power of resilience and the blossoming of self-worth. A surge of pride courses through my veins, an emotion I never thought I'd truly feel. No longer confined by the expectations of my past, I'm eager to prove myself, to carve out a space in this world where I can earn my keep with dignity, where self-respect is as abundant as the potential I now see within myself.

(*name changed)

Saheli

I can't help but be overwhelmed with gratitude for this newfound opportunity.

Now, I stand on the precipice of a brighter future, one where I can work, earn a living, and regain my sense of self-worth.



I'm Saheli*, 22 years old, and life has thrown me through a tumultuous journey – a marriage that swiftly turned into divorce within just 10 months. Today, I find myself living with my mother in the close-knit community of Azad Nagar in Nalasopara. But before all of this, before the intervention that changed my course, I was grappling with the weight of unhealthy habits and the darkness of depression.

It was in this challenging phase that the Oasis staff crossed my path. They reached out to me right within our community, offering more than just guidance – they offered a lifeline. I remember attending those community sessions and taking those first steps toward healing and change. The warmth and encouragement I received there ignited something within me. It was a turning point when I decided to embrace skill

training. With newfound determination, I enrolled in the Oasis tailoring classes, where I learned the art of cutting and stitching, honing a skill that resonated with my spirit.

When I look at myself now, there's an undeniable glow on my face, a confidence that wasn't there before.

I say this with deep gratitude in my heart - without the unwavering encouragement from the Oasis India staff, I might have succumbed to the depths of my depression.



This transformation has given me more than just skills; it has gifted me connections – the chance to meet new people, to engage in conversations I once shied away from. It's given me the courage to venture out, to travel, and most importantly, it's granted me an improvement in my overall health.

My journey echoes with resilience, and the Oasis staff's support has been the cornerstone of this transformation.

(*name changed)



My computer course is more than just learning; it's my ticket to empowerment. And though the storm clouds may gather, I've found a way to weather them.

I am Priya, a 19-year-old student at Oasis India Computer Program. In the midst of a bustling joint family – I live with my parents, two siblings, and numerous relatives.

My family's perspective on education is tinted by gender bias; as a girl, my aspirations aren't given the support they deserve. Despite completing my 12th standard, a cloud of financial woes obscured my passing certificate. To bridge the gap, I took on a teaching role at a school, yearning to earn enough for that precious certificate and my dream of pursuing a BA.

But life is not always as hopeful as we wish it to be. The money I earned was snatched away in familial conflicts, leaving me in turmoil. Under the roof that should offer shelter, I was burdened with household chores and silenced by the prevailing indifference. The weight of my struggles pressed upon me, often so unbearable that thoughts of ending it all crossed my mind.

Then, Oasis India entered my life, casting a glimmer of hope. Slowly, like a bud unfurling its petals, I began to open up to the compassionate staff. Their guidance and counseling became a lifeline.

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And though the storm clouds may gather, I've found a way to weather them.



Finally, I thought, there's a safe haven to share my burdens. As I tread the path of my computer course, I find myself growing in strength. Soft skills workshops have endowed me with the ability to confront my own issues and cultivate patience, even in the stormy atmosphere of my home.

As I reflect on my journey, I stand amazed at the transformation Oasis India has facilitated. No longer drowning in silence, I've learned to swim through life's challenges.

With a renewed spirit, I continue my pursuit of education and my dream, grateful for the support that pulled me back from the edge and showed me that there's more to life than the heavy burdens we carry.

(*name changed)



To every donor and staff member, your dedication is the cornerstone of our success. It's because of your support that we're able to touch lives, inspire change, and shape

destinies. Every donation, every effort, and every moment you've shared with us is deeply appreciated.

Stay tuned for more updates, and feel free to visit our website and social media channels if you'd like to know more about updates.

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Once again THANK YOU for joining us in making a profound difference in the lives of youth, as we collectively strive to make India a better place for women and children.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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Our Mailing Address is:

Head Office

Amazing Grace, Flat No 201, 2nd Floor, 3rd "D" Main Ramaiah Layout, Opp. To BBMP Kuvempu Park, St. Thomas Town, Kacharrakanahalli, Bangalore – 560084

Regional Office (South)

No 1/1A 'B' Kalayanpuram, Main road, Vysarpadi, Chennai – 600039

Regional Office (West)

Bungalow No. 3 & 4, Vijay Park, Behind Amber Plaza Banquet Hall, Mira Road East, Mumbai – 401107

Regional Office (Northeast)

House no. 74, Bijang Khopi, Near Bijang Play Ground, P.O. Churachandpur, Manipur – 795128

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