

## Covid Relief Activities

Central Jersey chapter leads & parent volunteers sprang into action in various covid relief activities within US and have addressing to the needs in India.

## Vaccination Administrations

- Sewa leads along with parent volunteer help administration of vaccines at a local pharmacy in East Windsor
- Sewa LEAD and Parent volunteer help at FEMA site in Philly: Monroe Lead Anurag and Cherry Hill volunteer Sri ji helped at Philly site as non-clinical volunteers. <https://www.inquirer.com/health/coronavirus/covid-volunteer-india-fema-philadelphia-clinic-vaccine-20210505.html>

**Indian Americans offer a hand at Philly vaccination sites as COVID-19 threatens loved ones an ocean away**

Headshots of people from the American branch of the Hindu nonprofit Sewa International have volunteered at FEMA and the Pennsylvania Convention Center.



Sewa volunteers Viree Mallikarajh (left) and Anurag Talwar at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. JOSE F. MORENO / Staff Photographer

## Fundraising Effort for HELP INDIA FIGHT COVID 19 Campaign

- Bioactive Resource, biotech in central NJ donated \$25K to campaign
- New Brunswick High School club is running the campaign and already has 15 donors.
- Chapter adult volunteers are reaching out to various organizations to create a campaign. At this point, the Federal Reserve Bank of NY and Barclays Bank have come onboard. More efforts are underway.

## Sewa Meals

Central Jersey chapter leads have continually engaged in preparing meals and providing to homeless shelters and churches on a weekly /Bi-Weekly schedule.

Our **Edison** Leads volunteered at Ozanam Homeless Shelter preparing meals for ~ 50 individuals. Sewa families have been sponsoring for these meals to celebrate their special events to include those in need. Leads have been following all safety measures while working as a team and creating a wholesome meal.



## Chapter Highlights

- ❖ Covid Relief Activities
- ❖ Sewa Meals
- ❖ Reforestation and Tree Planting
- ❖ Adopt a Highway
- ❖ Spring Clean Ups
- ❖ Boat Building

## Center Highlights

- ❖ Marlboro Garden
- ❖ Produce Harvest
- ❖ SAT Math Study Group
- ❖ Vaccination Help

## Volunteer(s) Spotlight



**Rajiv Rajpal**

Rajiv Rajpal Ji is an active and energetic volunteer of Sewa International, Central Jersey Chapter. He is passionate about helping others and have been coordinating various projects for our chapter. He has been actively involved in projects like diaper drive, food, clothing drive, and vaccination registration. Rajiv Ji's strengths are in media work, and he has devoted countless hours working on flyers, videos, and presentation decks for our meetings, some of which have even been aired on TV Asia. Rajiv ji quotes Beside his dedication towards volunteering activities, he is keen about learning world, art and interested in cooking. Rajiv ji works for International Business Machines (IBM), resides in Bordentown, New Jersey with his wife, Madhu, and two daughters, Astha and Riddhi, who are also active Sewa leads.

Our **Somerset** Leads have embraced the Sewa meals opportunity to prepare meals for the homeless and sponsors are making their special day celebrations more satisfying to give back to the community.



Our **Monroe** Leads were motivated by our Edison and Somerset leads and have initiated the Sewa meals project in Monroe and is being distributed at Methodist Church, New Brunswick for Sunday Dinners. April dinner was sponsored by Mr & Mrs. Chitti in celebration of their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our Leads have prepared a healthy meal for 50 consisting of a large tray of Indian rice noodles, a large tray of pasta salad, 50 sandwiches and 50 brownies.



### Reforestation & Tree Planting

**Neshaminy State Park** - Our leads volunteered at Neshaminy State Park to help remove 40% weeds and other invasive plants from the park and plant some new saplings that will eventually grow into trees by the Delaware River, helping minimize the effects of a flood. With help from various Leads, SEWA International Leads have managed to help Neshaminy State Park with tree plantation and weed removal. Leads have been a crucial part of Neshaminy State Park's reforestation project due to their hard work and willingness to help. With the help of donations and volunteer participation in this project, over 200 trees have been planted at Neshaminy State Park over the course of several weeks.





Mercer County tree / shrub planting - Sewa LEADs went to Mercer County Park in Pennington, NJ to celebrate Earth Day. The volunteers planted blueberries, strawberries, and many other types of plants. Over 50 plants were planted and fenced.



**Adopt a Highway**

Consul for Community Affairs Mr. A K Vijay Krishnan joined Sewa International Central Jersey Chapter during Adopt a highway, 2 mile clean-up activity on earth day. 16 parent volunteers and leads above 16 years have spent ~ 6 hours cleaning our Route 27 near Metuchen.





**Spring Clean Up(s)**

Sewa Leads and parents from all the centers have worked on multiple sprint cleanup projects this spring.



**Cliffwood Beach** As part of the Annual Beach Sweeps conducted by Clean Ocean Action (COA) 3 leads have spent a dull day to clean up Cliffwood Beach in Aberdeen, Monmouth County. Clean Ocean Action (COA) aims to protect all-natural waterways from pollution, oil/gas drilling, and more. Thanks to all the hard work of the leads, Belmar Beach is cleaner and are ready for visits.



**Colonia Park Bridge Painting** - 11 leads participated in a full day project to restore Colonia Park in Woodbridge Township. Leads re-painted the bridge that flows over the park creek, using professional painting equipment to cover up any worn-down, previously added paint. The act of community service by these leads was greatly appreciated by locals.



**KKWC** - 7 of our leads helped clean up and restore Kiddie Keep Well Camp (KKWC) yard and have it ready for the summer campers



**Middlesex Greenway** - Our leads celebrated Earth Day @ Middlesex Greenway, which is an important part of Central New Jersey. It covers three boroughs - Edison, Metuchen, and Woodbridge. It is used for walking, biking, jogging, etc. Leads spent their time cleaning up any litter and thereby providing a cleaner space for people to enjoy the environment.



**Naaman Park** - Our leads in partnership with Lower Raritan watershed volunteered at Naaman Park towards the goal to create cleaner environment. Leads picked up litter and separated recyclable and non-recyclable waste, our leads were happy and proud about helping keep the waterways clean, thereby helped preserve the habitats of fish, birds, and wildlife.





**Wildwood Park** - Our lead Suraj Patel spent a day picking up litter @ Wildwood park in Metuchen making it clean enough for the animals and people to spend in the park.



**Radha Gopinath Temple** - Our leads clean up the garden @ Radha Gopinath Temple. They cleared out weeds and made the garden beds ready for fresh flowering bushes and plants. Thanks, you our leads as keeping a clean the temple surroundings clean creates a positive and calmer vibe for temple attendees.



**Cranbury Village, Plainsboro Preserve** - Our Monroe leads spent time during the month of April cleaning up multiple parks. Moved 5-year-old dogwood and oak saplings from tree nurseries to their new homes in the forest. On Earth Day our leads and parent volunteers have spent time in the neighborhood town Cranbury cleaning up the park, they had a chance to meet the Mayor Mr. Micheal J. Ferrante and deputy Mayor Barbara Rogers of the town. The officials were

impressed with their work and are looking forward to providing many volunteering opportunities to Sewa leads.



**Amico Island** Sewa leads along with parent volunteers spent a day @ Amico Island Park in Delran, NJ to take part in the cleanup event organized by Burlington county. They picked up litter along the trails and riverside to have the park cleanup and ready for summer. Each LEAD collected an average of 2 garbage bags filled with plastic waste brought in by the river or left there by visitors. Everyone had a great time and were glad to be of some assistance to the park and county.

### Boat Building

Edison and Monroe Leads have volunteered for boat building project in New Brunswick. This project has been overly exciting opportunity for the leads to learn about how boats are built, apply engineering concepts to practice and learn how to use power tools of carpentry - such as sanders, clamps, and saws.



### Marlboro Garden

After a successful 2020 gardening project with master gardeners Ellen and Bob our, Monroe Leads have begun their 2021 garden season early spring. They have been spending an hour every Saturday working on the tasks assigned to them and wrap up with a 20-minute gardening lesson. in April they have been engaged with activities like compost sifting, leveling truck tracks, cardboard and wood chips, and mounting signboards. On Earth day they were awarded with beautiful Dalia tubers.



### Produce Harvest

Chesterfield and Cherry Hill Sewa leads volunteered at Honey Brook Organic Farm in Chesterfield, NJ. They harvested 32 large baskets of carrots weighing approximately 650 pounds. The Farm donated all the carrots harvested to Share My Meal, a non-profit food recovery in Princeton. It was a great experience for the volunteers as they were able to experience farm life and the process associated with harvesting vegetables.



### SAT Math Study Group

Cherry Hill leads continued SAT classes initiated this year for helping middle and high schoolers prepare for Math. During the 18 classes held student received through revision on Algebra and Geometry topics. Students were engaged with challenging and comprehensive practice problems during the classes and post class (homework). The LEADS also created detailed notes on each topic, outlining important formulas and techniques required to solve SAT problems. Recent SAT takers were also invited to the sessions who talked about their experiences and strategies that were helpful in preparing and taking the test. This project not only boosted confidence, and public speaking skills for our LEADS, but also helped them sharpen their subject knowledge.

**SAT BREAKDOWN**

Day	Topics
1 / 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single variable equations</li> </ul>
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linear Equations: Systems of Linear Equations</li> <li>Word Problems</li> </ul>
Algebra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systems of Equations</li> <li>Linear Inequalities</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manipulating polynomials</li> <li>Quadratic Equations</li> </ul>
Advanced Algebra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graphing polynomials &amp; Systems of Equations</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exponential Functions (Including exponential modeling)</li> </ul>
Advanced Algebra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systems of Equations with Inverse Equations</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Triangles and related Exponents</li> </ul>
Advanced Algebra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exponents (Exponential operations)</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate geometry: lines and slopes</li> <li>Coordinate: lines and angles</li> </ul>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate geometry: conditional functions</li> </ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geometry: circles</li> <li>Circle: Perimeters and Functions</li> </ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geometry: triangles and polygons</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trigonometry</li> <li>SOH-CAH-TOA</li> <li>CAST Rule</li> <li>Radicals</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area and perimeters</li> <li>Volume: Area: Area: Standard deviation</li> </ul>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number: Mean and median</li> <li>Combinatorics: sets and probabilities</li> </ul>
12 / 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study Test</li> </ul>

### Vaccination Help

2 of the Chesterfield leads volunteered in the vaccination drive conducted by Greenhill Pharmacy in New Brunswick. Leads took care of setting up the vaccination station and further assisted in filling out the vaccination cards. They concluded the day assisting in cleanup of the site. 3:30-2:00 PM! Overall, it was a nice experience and proud moment for our leads as they assisted ~ 100 individuals that received vaccination on April 18<sup>th</sup>.



### Family Services – Meeting with consul of Community Affairs

Family services team met with Shri. A.K. Vijaya Krishnan the Consul for Community Affairs from the Consulate General of India and Ms. Sonia Gawas ji a Council member of West Windsor township. The meeting was to discuss how various volunteering organizations can collaborate and help Indian community. Shri. A.K. Vijaya Krishnan ji acknowledged Sewa for the exemplary services to the local communities & ongoing work during the pandemic. He also conveyed consulate is looking forward collaborations among the organizations in serving the community.



### Upcoming Events

- ❖ Continue India Covid Relief Fund raising
- ❖ Sewa Meals
- ❖ Container Garden
- ❖ Bordentown Fencing Help
- ❖ Spring & Early Summer Cleanups
- ❖ Neshaminy State Park (Tree Maintenance)
- ❖ NJ Renaissance Faire Parking Help
- ❖ BHS Board Painting Project

### Newsletter Team

- ❖ Anusha Gupta
- ❖ Astha Rajpal
- ❖ Avijith Karthikeyan
- ❖ Chahel Kumar
- ❖ Dinesh Karnati
- ❖ Manavi Gupta
- ❖ Ridhi Gannamaneni
- ❖ Sanjay Ravishankar
- ❖ Shreyoshi Ghosh
- ❖ Sukhmani Dehar

### Communication Channels

Please visit our chapter Website and follow-on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram

**Web:** <https://Sewausa.org/central-jersey-chapter>

**Twitter:** @JerseySewa

**FB:** @JerseySewa or Sewa Central Jersey

**Instagram:** centraljerseysewa

**Email:** CentralJersey.Sewa@gmail.com

**Helpline:** 702. 900.SEWA