

### Sewa Meals

Sewa Meals has become a fortnight Sunday ritual for the Sewa Leads across all centers. Sewa families and others have been able to sponsor these meals and make their special events happier and a great sense of satisfaction in giving back to the less privileged.

Chesterfield leads have made 180 meals and delivered to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Trenton. The meals consisted of pasta, salad, and a brownie. These meals were served to those in need in Trenton, Burlington, Camden towns.



Edison leads gathered at Padma Ji's house to prepare boxed meals for those at the Ozanam Homeless Shelter. The meal was sponsored by Sanjay's family to celebrate his birthday. A special thank you to Padma Ji and her family for dropping off the meals at the shelter and providing space in their backyard to prepare the meals. Also special thanks to Neha and Nilesh Bhat's family for baking us a cake as an additional item on the menu.



### Chapter Highlights

- ❖ Sewa Meals
- ❖ KKWC Summer Camp
- ❖ Community Clean Ups and Reforestation
- ❖ Green Fair

### Center Highlights

- ❖ Monroe Gardening Projects
- ❖ BHS Garden Tour
- ❖ Bake Sale

### Volunteer(s) Spotlight



**Pradeep Byram**

Pradeep Ji has been with Sewa, since 2019 and has been instrumental in the startup and growth of Monroe center. He has initiated many innovative projects-Monroe, Marlboro Garden & Pennington watershed and ensures successful execution. Recently he also initiated container garden considering leads who are unable to take part in other projects. He is passionate and sincere about helping the underserved. His dedication for community service sets him as a role model for Sewa leads and family (lead Aniketh, Shubhan & wife Suneetha ji). He always looks to channel kid's time towards fun and fitness, he has been teaching Volleyball kids in his neighborhood.

Monroe leads also continued the fortnight ritual of preparing the meals for those in need and delivered to Methodist Union Church, New Brunswick.

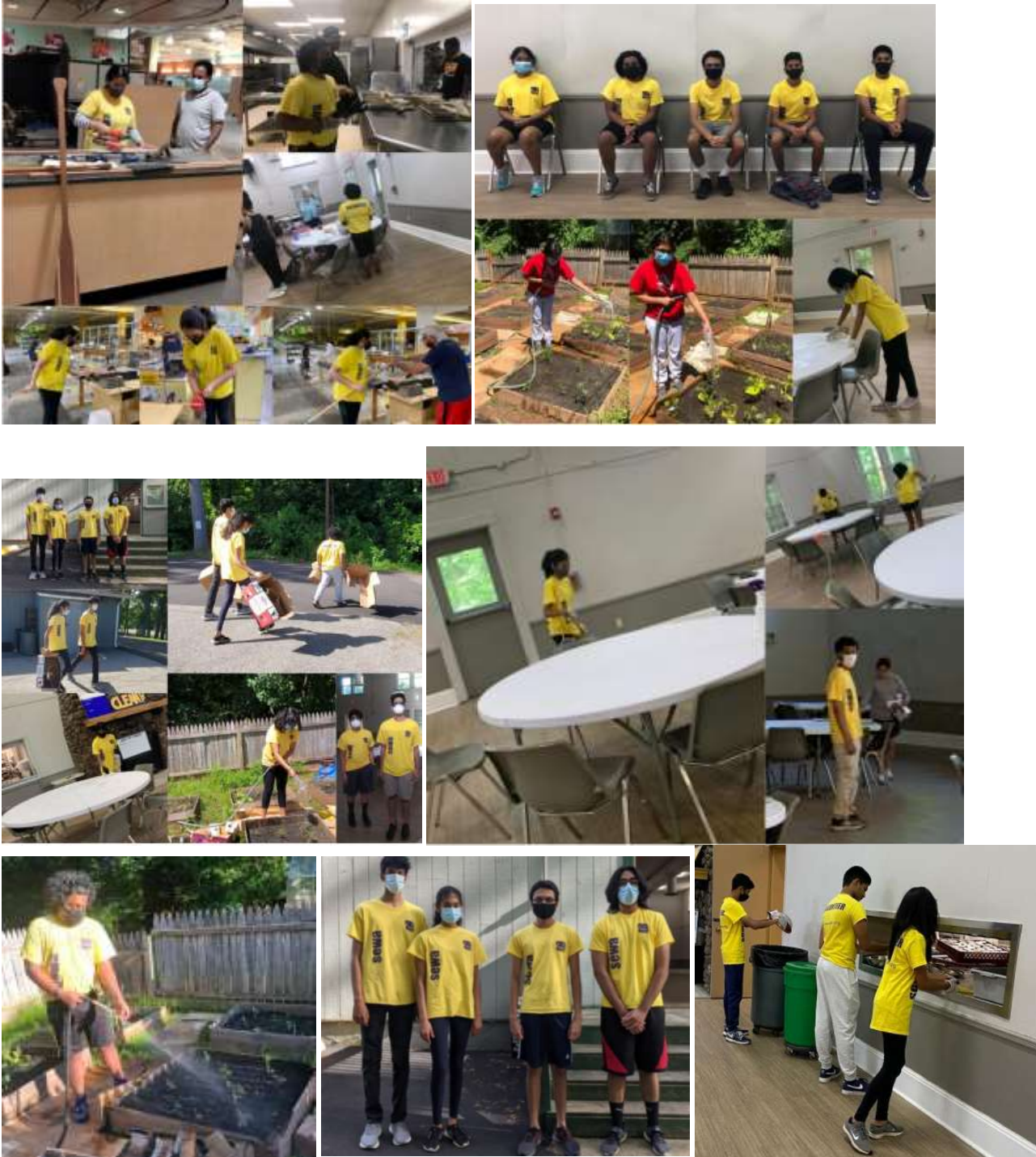


Somerset leads made meals and delivered to the Methodist Union Church, New Brunswick on June 13<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>. These meals were sponsored by Batra family to celebrate their father's birthday and Simha family in celebration of their friend Pushpa's birthday, respectively. Leads had prepared Indo Mexican meals consisting of naan, Channa masala, veggie vermicelli, brownies, cupcakes, grilled cheese sandwiches, muffins, salad, and Mexican rice.



## Kiddie Keep Well Summer Camp (KKWC)

Sewa leads across Central Jersey Chapter volunteered at KKWC Summer Camp in Roosevelt Park, Edison (Middlesex County). The project started on June 23 and will continue through the summer. KKWC is a summer camp that hosts weekly camping sessions and activities for kids to participate in. Leads were able to help the camp counselors by setting up/cleaning breakfast tables, working in the kitchen, watering the plants, building canoes, and more. The project greatly helps the counselors with their work and enriches the experience of the kids who attend the camp.



### Community Clean Ups and Reforestation

Sewa Leads and parents from all the centers have worked on multiple cleanup and reforestation projects.

**Croft Farm** - Our Cherry Hill leads went to *Croft Farm* to help the *Cherry Hill Environmental Board* on a sunny Saturday morning. The volunteers were divided into different groups to perform different tasks like trail renewal, litter pickup, and native tree planting. Most of the Sewa volunteers helped rejuvenate numerous trail pathways by lugging over carts of clay. The remainder of them were sent off to pick up trash by the river, and around the trails. Overall, the LEAD's worked for three hours tirelessly and were able to finish rejuvenating two pathways.



**Neshaminy Park** – On a brisk Saturday morning of June 13th, the Cherry Hill leads were up and ready to help with the reforestation efforts sponsored by *Excel Events*. The volunteers were tasked with replacing the pre-existing eco-friendly covers for the young saplings- with better fitted metal cages. The newly installed metal cages were much better at preventing the saplings from becoming fodder for the native deer's present in the park. These cages are also built to withstand the massive floods that occur in the Neshaminy region. The leads were able to assemble 40 wired fences and install around 23 of them, in the three hours that they were there. The volunteers were also welcomed to the park by a native snake that had gotten stuck in the cage sod. Some of the leads were also responsible for adding additional mulch. This would help ensure their survival over the hot days as the summer season kicks in. The Cherry Hill *SEWA International* leads did an excellent job at helping Jared from *Excel Events* by installing numerous cages as well as mulching the saplings to help ensure their survival for the oncoming summer season.



On the weekend of June 26th, Somerset leads dedicated their mornings to ensure the safety of the newly planted trees by fencing them and weeding the soil around the trees later filling the area with mulch to make sure new weeds did not sprout. Following that, the leads watered the trees to help them flourish as the trees would mitigate the effect of floodwater in the nearby region. Working under a blazing sun was no easy task but the leads were able to push through to support the thriving ecosystem and take home some of the skills they learned and apply them in their gardens.

### Davidson's Mill Pond Park

Davidson's Mill Pond Park: holds frequent cleanup events where Sewa leads from all centers take part come to gather. With numerous activities to complete, leads divide into an even number of groups to provide proper help. Groups of leads went along the paths of the park collecting trash, clearing the area from weeds. Along with these events, SEWA leads also safely use hand saws to cleanup trees. With events such as these Sewa leads greatly contribute to the growth of nature , contribute to healthy and clean environment.



### Green Fair

Bordentown Green Fair is an annual fair that takes place in historic Burlington County. Chesterfield & Somerset leads attended the green fair, helped set up the vendors & signs. Sewa volunteers also setup the Sewa booth & organized recycling games to educate the residents on recycling. LEADS also sold handmade bracelets & donated books & raised the funds for the Sponsor a Child program. Sewa volunteers also handed out the reusable shopping bags to encourage residents to use them while shopping, thereby reducing the usage of single-use plastic bags. These sturdy beautiful bags were donated by our sponsor [GEP \(https://www.gep.com\)](https://www.gep.com).



## Monroe Projects

### Marlboro Garden

Monroe Leads continued with their weekly Marlboro gardening under the guidance of master gardeners Ellen and Bob.



### West Windsor Arts Council Garden

Monroe leads continue their biweekly activity for keeping West Windsor Arts Council Garden free from weeds. Leads have kept their commitment despite of the strenuous work requiring uprooting the deep-rooted weeds, wading their way safely away from the poisonous ivy.

### BHS Garden Tour

Chesterfield leads helped the Bordentown Historical Society in selling tickets, greeting, and giving packets to visitors of Bordentown Garden Tour. They took part in about 21 gardens around Bordentown.



## Bake Sale

Cherry Hill leads Dhriti Cagathi and Sarayu Nalamalapu came up with a unique idea to do a bake sale, to raise donations for the *COVID India* movement. The leads worked rigorously to bake about 31 orders worth of bakes & raised \$300\*. The volunteers spent the whole day on June 19th, a Saturday- to bake, put icing on the cupcakes, and deliver their products on the same day. They were able to make 124 cookies, 83 brownies, 86 muffins and 73 cupcakes all within the five hours.



## Feedback(s)

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ First National Lead Convention
- ❖ Reusable Bag Distribution in Chesterfield
- ❖ Vaccination Camp partnered with Chesterfield & Burlington County
- ❖ Metuchen Farmers's Market Help
- ❖ Sewa Meals
- ❖ Kiddie Keep well Summer Camp (KKWC)
- ❖ Summer Tutoring Sessions
- ❖ Small Center Picnics with leads and family in accordance to CDC guidelines
- ❖ Python Training
- ❖ Algebra Classes
- ❖ Stem Science Camp

## Newsletter Team

- ❖ Anish Akkala
- ❖ Areeni Sharma
- ❖ Dinesh Karnati
- ❖ Nandini Miryala
- ❖ Nithya Kanthan
- ❖ Pranav Nagarajan
- ❖ Rijul Verma
- ❖ Sanjay Ravishankar
- ❖ Shreya Nayak
- ❖ Shriya Joshi
- ❖ Suhas Kavuri
- ❖ Trisha Veloor

## Communication Channels

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