



NEWSLETTER

Sewa International- New Jersey & New York

North Jersey: Parsippany Clean-Up

April 24, 2021

On the occasion of Earth day, 150 of Sewa's LEAD participants and volunteers came together to help clean three different locations in the town of Parsippany: Teaneck Road, Mountain Way, and the Boonton Reservoir. Parsippany's mayor, Michael Soriano attended the clean-up along with Prem Pusuloori, Sewa International's Director of Programs and Projects.



Westchester: COVID-19 Angels Initiative

The Westchester chapter partnered with the city of White Plains to assist in the implementation of the COVID-19 Angels project. This project aims to assist White Plains seniors with booking an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Currently 60 volunteers in 7 teams are working to help seniors book appointments. Throughout the month, Sewa's volunteers contacted 681 people and booked 317 vaccine appointments. Several notable community officials, including the White Plains city mayor, have commended Sewa on their efforts.

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City of White Plains News

Posted on: March 4, 2021

Are you 65 or Older? Do You Need Help Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine?

The City of White Plains has launched a COVID Angels Volunteer Project to assist White Plains seniors with navigating the technology needed to obtain an appointment for getting the COVID-19 vaccination.

The City of White Plains Youth Bureau and Recreation & Parks Department will be managing the project to secure vaccination appointments online for our senior citizens age 65+.

A volunteer organization has been identified to assist with implementation of this project: SEWA International (Westchester). SEWA International is active in twenty countries and has worked closely with other local disaster relief organizations throughout New York and USA. SEWA serves humanity irrespective of race, color, religion, gender or nationality. They specialize in disaster relief and rehabilitation. SEWA's development programs focus on family services; child, tribal and refugee welfare; women empowerment; health; and education. In addition to their extensive work in the US, they have also undertaken development projects in Colombia, Guyana, India, Kenya, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The COVID Angels are here to provide White Plains seniors assistance obtaining the protection they need to combat this aggressive virus.

Westchester: Monthly Food Drive

The Sewa Westchester chapter held its fourth food drive of the year. A total of six families and 20 volunteers donated 60 Peanut-Butter-Jelly sandwiches along with a crate of water bottles and assorted cleaning supplies to the Open Arms Shelter in White Plains, New York. With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, volunteers took safety and hygiene precautions such as wearing masks and gloves while preparing and packaging the food.



Westchester: Lemonade Stand Fundraiser

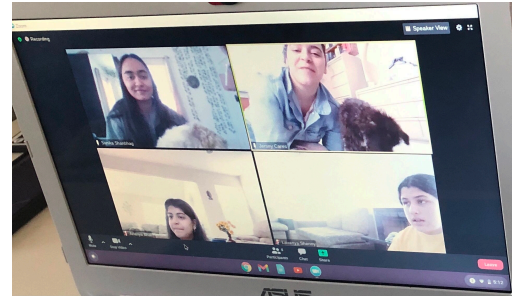


Ranya Patel, at the young age of 8, decided that she wanted to help India during this perilous time. She, along with her friends held a lemonade stand with some baked items for sale. Ranya will donate all of the proceeds towards sending oxygen tanks to India. With her strong will and determination she could raise more than \$600 for the cause.



North Jersey: Jersey Cares

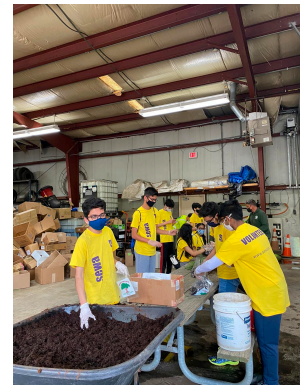
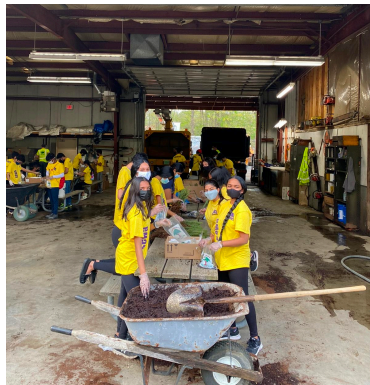
The North Jersey Chapter partnered with Jersey Cares, a non-profit organization focused on recruiting volunteers for specific programs, to help with a Senior Citizen program called *Pet Therapy and Book Buddies*. As a part of this program, Sewa's LEAD participants show their pets or read a short story on a virtual session which is streamed to the Senior Care Center in Wayne, NJ.



North Jersey: Arbor Day

April 28, 2021

Sewa volunteers and 46 LEAD Participants helped the town of Parsippany, in packing Colorado Spruce tree saplings that will be distributed to Parsippany elementary school students for Arbor Day. Sewa's volunteers packed over a thousand saplings!



North Jersey: Highway Clean-Up

April 17, 2021

14 Sewa volunteers came together for the first quarterly highway clean-up. A total of ten bags of trash and six bags of recyclables were collected.



North Jersey: Soup Kitchen Donation

200 pounds of non-perishable food items were donated to the Parsippany Soup Kitchen for the month of April.



Volunteer Spotlight: Anil Ji Dadheech

Anil Ji Dadheech and his family have been associated with Sewa North Jersey since 2016. Anil Ji has been a dedicated volunteer who stepped up to anything and everything Sewa needed him for. Anil Ji has organized various LEAD events. In the past Anil Ji also led North Jersey chapter's special project "Girl's Health and Hygiene" now known as the SHE program. Anil is now part of the national team for the SHE project. During the pandemic, last year (2020), Anil Ji led the West Coast helpline that served several people in need. Sewa is glad to have Anil Ji and his passion to serve the community selflessly.



Program Spotlight: India COVID-19 Relief Initiative

The second wave of COVID-19 has engulfed India completely. The Indian healthcare system is struggling to keep up as the number of cases exponentially rise every day. With the alarmingly high death rates, this second wave requires immediate response.

Sewa's volunteers in the United States and India are actively serving in various forms. From building a digital help-desk for verified information to distributing essentials, and oxygen concentrators.

Currently, Sewa is distributing essential kit's across India, as well as sending Oxygen Concentrators around the country.

So far, Sewa International has raised over \$10 million, sent over 2,500 Oxygen Concentrators to India, and is continuing to procure other vital medical equipment and medications. There are 200 Sewa volunteers in the United States working towards this initiative, and over 800 Sewa volunteers in India working tirelessly to help citizens.

TWO WEEKS' REPORT HELP INDIA DEFEAT COVID-19
MAY 10, 2021

- \$20+ MILLION RAISED
- \$164 MILLION GOALS
- \$6+ MILLION SPENT
- 7482 OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS PROCURED
- 5482 OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS SHIPPED
- 20,500 P.A.R.E. DONATORS PROCURED
- 293 VOLUNTEERS PROCURED
- 256 CO-MENTORATORS PROCURED
- 1178 SWAP & CRAMP PROCURED
- 4000+ MEDICINE KITS DISTRIBUTED
- 9300+ HUSBANDS AND DISTRICTS

OUR PARTNERS IN THIS CAUSE

United Way, Red Cross, and other partner logos.

HELP INDIA DEFEAT COVID-19

**Donate now at www.Sewausa.org/donate or www.facebook.com/donate/
486054246054033/**

Upcoming Events:

North Jersey:

1. PAL Clean-Up (May 22, 2021)
2. Troy Meadows Street Clean-Up (May 15, 2021)
3. Thank you cards for seniors (May 15-June 15, 2021)
4. Keep the StreetClean Project

Visit our Chapter Website, Facebook, and Instagram Pages:

<https://sewause.org/Chapter/NewJersey>

<https://www.facebook.com/SEWANorthNJ>

<https://www.instagram.com/sewanorthjersey>

Join the North Jersey Volunteers WhatsApp Group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/oqAhEyU3v99DGfe51V9Pf>

Sewa urges everyone to practice social distancing, follow CDC guidelines and remain safe.

Helpful Links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/> - Official site to get updates on COVID-19

<https://nj.gov/> - New Jersey State update on COVID-19

<https://www.ny.gov/> - New York State update on COVID-19

Quotation: “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the *service of others.*”

- Mahatma Gandhi

Om Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah