

August 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

- FEMA administrator visit to Sewa Houston office
- Sewa Influencers Summit
- Sewa Dancing Stars 2022
- Launch of seniors sewa program
- Alief donation drive for the victims of Houston apartment fires
- End of Internship Gala

EVENTS OF THE MONTH

FEMA ADMINISTRATOR VISIT TO SEWA OFFICE



FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell visited the Sewa Houston office to meet our leadership team. She conducted a "Faith-based and community roundtable" with several other organizations working in disaster space. She also discussed lessons learned from Hurricane Harvey and how to better coordinate for future events.

SEWA INFLUENCERS SUMMIT

Sewa International USA- Houston organized "Sewa Influencers Summit" on August 18, with selected leaders and change makers from the world of philanthropy service, disaster resilience, education, city and county officials. The first speaker of the event was Lisa Helfman, Senior Director of Public Affairs, H-E-B Grocery Company. Our second guest speaker was Taylor Wolter who serves as the Disaster Resilience manager for OneStar foundation and the third guest was Pam Wells, the executive director for Region 4 Education Service Center. Sanjay Rambhadran, the chairman of the Board of Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County was the moderator of the event. The fireside chat speakers challenged Sewa International and all others to step up in the areas of mental health, getting more involved in AmeriCorps program and helping the teachers. The Summit ended on a very high note with all around sentiments to do more for the community, individually as well as collectively.



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SEWA DANCING STARS



Sewa International USA-Houston successfully organized "Sewa Dancing Stars 2022" on August 27 with 30+ dance schools participating, 340 performers from 5 year old to adults, 13 outstanding Judges, 40+ dedicated volunteers and over 900 people in attendance . The program celebrated "Azadi ka Amrit Mohotsav" and was very colorful. It was the support of 40+ volunteers, including many first time volunteers, who stepped out of their comfort zone and made this mega event a grand success.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ANITA RAVAT



Anita Ravat has been associated with Sewa since 2014. She has played an active role as a Sewa volunteer leading fundraising activities including the Annual Fundraisers as well as the Sewa Dancing Stars event.

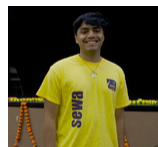
SANTOSH JHA



Santosh Jha is a tireless volunteer helping with all activities of Houston Chapter including food distribution, Sewa Influencers summit and Sewa Dancing Stars. He helped with the technical and backstage support during the Sewa Dancing Stars 2022

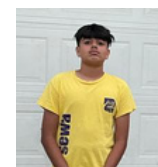
Youth volunteers

AATREYA TEWARY



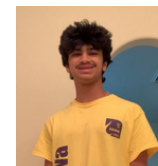
Aatreya is junior studying finance at UT Austin McCombs School of Business. He has volunteered at the Sewa Dancing Stars event since 2017. In the past, he has been awarded the Hindu Youth Award for his work with Sewa in 2019. He provided outstanding audio and video support for Sewa dancing stars 2022.

ARNAV BHASIN



Arnav studies in Junior High. Arnav along with his friends efficiently managed the parking during Sewa dancing Stars event.

ISHAAN CHINTALAPATI



Ishaan is a freshman in high school. He helped the team and guests with parking during Sewa dancing stars which was a difficult job in the sun.

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LAUNCH OF SENIORS SEWA PROGRAM



Sewa International USA- Houston started a new initiative "Senior Sewa- Enriching Golden Years with Sewa". This initiative is based on Sewa's other initiatives "Family Connect" and "S.E.L.F". The objective is to provide a platform for seniors to get together for overall wellbeing - physical, intellectual and emotional through neighborhood groups, mentors and workshops. It provide a forum for seniors to connect, contribute and get involved with their peer group. The first introductory session was attended by 35 members on August 6 at Sugar Land library. Participants were very enthusiastic and appreciated this initiative.

ALIEF DONATION DRIVE

On August 16, a major fire broke out in Southwest Houston. More than 56 families lost their shelter and many lost everything in their apartment. They needed support getting their life back together after the devastating incident. Sewa Houston organized a donation drive and raised more than \$3,000 through Facebook fundraiser. We donated household items, food, school uniforms, shoes, other clothing items etc. to the families in need.



COVID 19 VACCINE AWARENESS PROGRAM



Sewa International USA-Houston in partnership with Faith Center Church Pearland organized a vaccine awareness program at back to school event on August 7. Sewa Houston team also organized vaccine awareness program on August 12 and August 15 at community resource fair to address the myths and misconceptions about COVID 19 vaccine and create awareness about vaccination.

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SEWA SUMMER INTERN GRADUATION GALA



Sewa International Houston Chapter hosted the end of Internship Gala for "GIH" and "LEAD" interns on August 12 at T. E. Harman Center. This event was designated to celebrate the many accomplishments made by these youth. The event was graced by the presence of the Honorable Consul General of India in Houston Mr. Aseem Mahajan, Deputy Consul General Mr. Sandeep Chaudhary, renowned Attorney and keynote speaker Mr. Amit Misra, and the City of Houston "CERT" trainer Ms. Liz Schuller. Our interns put in a combined of over 3200 hours of service in nearly 9 weeks of internship spanning from serving at the ASPIRE centers, Houston food bank, Brighter Bites, 5k walks, leadership lectures with prominent members of the community and FEMA CERT training to name a few. Alings Chinese bistro sponsored the food for the event.

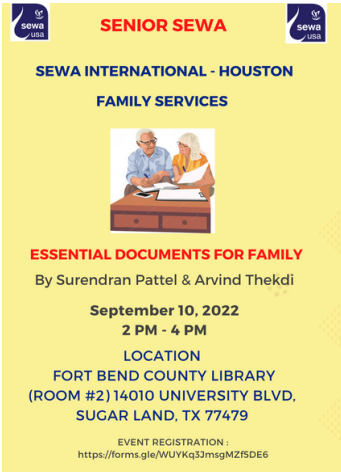
5K WALK/RUN AT ALIANA

Sewa International USA-Houston partnered with Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh Ahilya Shakha Aliana to successfully conduct 5k Walk/ Run event on August 13, under our S.E.L.F program. 80+ people of all age groups participated in the event. Every finisher received a 5k Sewa Medal. This event was special with participants posing for a picture waving the Indian tricolor as we celebrate India's 75 years of independence.




UPCOMING EVENTS

August 2022



SENIOR SEWA

SEWA INTERNATIONAL - HOUSTON
FAMILY SERVICES



ESSENTIAL DOCUMENTS FOR FAMILY
By Surendran Pattel & Arvind Thekdi

September 10, 2022
2 PM - 4 PM

LOCATION
FORT BEND COUNTY LIBRARY
(ROOM #2) 14010 UNIVERSITY BLVD.
SUGAR LAND, TX 77479

EVENT REGISTRATION :
<https://forms.gle/WUYKq3JmsgMZf5DE6>

SENIOR SEWA WORKSHOP - SEPTEMBER 10

Sewa Houston Family Services presents a workshop for seniors "Essential documents for family" on September 10, from 2 PM To 4 PM at Fort Bend County Library, Sugar Land, Texas. Register at the link : <https://forms.gle/WUYKq3JmsgMZf5DE6>

COVID 19 VACCINE AWARENESS PROGRAM

Sewa Houston in partnership with Grace Episcopal Church, Henry's Place and West Pearland Library are organizing COVID 19 Vaccine Awareness program on September 2 & 10 at Beaumont, September 17 at West Pearland and September 24 at Port Arthur. We invite volunteers to support the events.

SEWA INTERNATIONAL CHARITY GOLF EVENT - SEPTEMBER 11

Following on the success of the inaugural Sewa Golf Event in 2021, Houston Chapter is organizing its annual golf event on September 11 at Clear Creek Golf Club and is looking for sponsors for the event. For more information contact : contacthouston@sewaua.org
Please register at :
<https://sewaua.org/event-4936508>



SEWA INTERNATIONAL CHARITY GOLF EVENT

NAMMA PARTNER
Southeast Cardiovascular Associates

CLEAR CREEK Houston
Sunday, 9/11
3902 Fellows Rd. Houston, TX 77047

Registration 7:00 AM
Shotgun Start 8:00 AM
Lunch 1:00 PM
Prizes 1:30 PM

Format 4-Player Scramble
\$500 / Team
\$125 / Person

CONTACTHOUSTON@SEWAUSA.ORG
(281)-630-8685