VAANI DEAF CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

JULY 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 2026



MAITREE NEWSLETTER



From Early Support to Lasting Possibilities

Every Connection Matters. Every Child Belongs.



A child's journey towards independence and inclusion begins with connection—with a family that understands, a teacher who adapts, a community that welcomes, and a support system that stands beside them.

At VAANI, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to communicate, learn, grow and participate fully. From early identification and family support to accessible education and greater independence, every step forward opens new possibilities.

This quarter, we celebrate the children, families, educators and partners who are making these possibilities a reality.







EVERY EARLY DIAGNOSIS OPENS A DOOR



Newborn Hearing Screening Launched at PCMC PGI Yashwantrao Chavan Memorial Hospital, Pune, on 24th July ’2026.

A child’s future can be shaped by what we notice today. Early identification of hearing loss helps families connect with the right guidance, communication support and learning opportunities at the right time.

When early signs are overlooked, valuable time may be lost—time that can make a difference in a child’s developmental journey.

Building Awareness, Strengthening Early Identification

When the first signs of hearing loss go unnoticed, a child may miss crucial opportunities to develop language and access timely support. Not every opportunity comes around a second time.

VAANI’s ear-health camps across regions are helping bridge this gap by identifying children who need further attention, connecting families with appropriate healthcare services, and guiding them towards the next steps in care. For children whose concerns may have gone unnoticed earlier, these camps offer another opportunity to be identified, supported and guided towards a brighter future.

It is never too late to take the next step, and every child deserves the chance to reach their full potential.





600+

ASHA Workers Reached

ASHA and Anganwadi workers trained across capacity-building program in Meghalaya, Assam, Maharashtra and Karnataka

366

Children Screened

Screened across ear health camps in Meghalaya, Assam, West Bengal, & Maharashtra.

14

Children Identified & Referred

Diagnosed with hearing loss in Satara and Pune and referred for rehabilitation.







MAKING LEARNING ACCESSIBLE FOR EVERY CHILD

A child's ability to learn depends not only on what is taught but also on how clearly they can access the information. For children with hearing loss, classroom noise, unclear speech, and difficulty seeing the teacher's face can create barriers to learning and participation.



A hearing-friendly learning environment can make a meaningful difference. At VAANI, we promote a Total Communication approach, using a combination of communication methods tailored to each child's needs. Through individual and group-based interventions, we encourage the use of speech, gestures, visual aids, Indian Sign Language (ISL), and other appropriate communication strategies to support understanding, expression, and meaningful participation in learning.

Our work also extends to parents, caregivers, and educators, helping them understand how small changes in everyday communication can make a lasting difference. Whether at home, in the classroom, or among friends, we encourage an environment where children feel confident expressing themselves and are given the opportunity to participate fully.











OPENING DOORS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

For many Deaf and Hard of Hearing young people, pursuing higher education remains a challenge because educational spaces are not always accessible or inclusive. Yet, with the right opportunities and support, these barriers can be overcome. VAANI is taking a step towards making this possible in support of our philanthropic partners.

A NEW BEGINNING



On 29th August 2026, VAANI inaugurated its Higher Education Academy, developed in collaboration with the Training and Educational Centre for Hearing Impaired (TEACH), marking the beginning of a new journey for 31 Deaf and Hard of Hearing aspirants.

For many of these young people, this journey brings them closer to becoming the first graduates in their families.

VAANI is proud to walk alongside these aspirants as they pursue higher education, build confidence and work towards a more inclusive future.

EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

For 21 years, VAANI has been part of many journeys, supporting Deaf children and young people as they learn, grow and find their voice, while standing alongside their families and communities. We are grateful to everyone who has been part of this journey and look forward to many more years of learning, growing and making a difference together.





At VAANI's Sadhan Resource Centres, special occasions brought children and educators together through joyful activities, creative expression and shared experiences. Independence Day gave children a chance to learn about the nation's journey through flag-hoisting, art, and performances, while Teacher's Day let them appreciate their educators' dedication and guidance.

Each occasion added to the learning, friendships and sense of community that make the connection special.

ADVENTURE BEYOND BOUNDARIES!

Little Explorers: Adventure, Nature and New Experiences!.

Children from VAANI Deaf Children's Foundation participated in an inclusive trekking programme organised by Sankalpa by Ayana Outdoors, in collaboration with VAANI. The experience provided 14 children with an opportunity to connect with nature, enjoy the outdoors, and build confidence through an exciting and inclusive adventure.





Real change begins when parents become leaders in their own communities.

At VAANI, parent leadership goes beyond acquiring knowledge—it is about passing it on. When parents learn from each other, confidence grows, connections deepen, and families realise they are not alone in their journey. Together, they build stronger communities where awareness spreads and more children receive the support they deserve.







Parents at the Centre of Change



Parent Leaders from across Karnataka came together for a two-day Parent Leaders Training Programme facilitated by Inky Sen. The programme followed a hybrid format, with Inky joining virtually while parents gathered in person, creating a space for learning, sharing and mutual support.

The training strengthened parents' facilitation skills and equipped them to support more families of Deaf children in their communities. Beyond formal training, the programme celebrated the power of parents learning from one another.

This spirit of Parent-to-Parent Teaching continued through a special weekend computer session, where parents came together as teachers, learners and problem-solvers, sharing knowledge and building new skills.