

Annual Report



2023-2024

Autism Society West Bengal

Annual Report 2023-2024

Registration Details

Under the societies Act - (Registration No S/IL/13372 of 2002)

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment - NO. 312(com)

National Trust. NO – WAUT15510978715

Contact Details

Registered Office - 22 Anjuman Ara Begum Row, Kolkata 700033

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Message from the Founder Director

2023-2024 was an eventful year. With the support from donor (FCRA funding) during 1st November, 2022 to 31st October, 2023 ASWB has been able to reach out to many individuals with autism and their families with an unprecedented pace. This funding enabled ASWB to start the Outreach program.

Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) project, PACE, "Parent and Child Empowerment" purpose is to enhance parental skills and provide access to good proven teaching strategies during early intervention for autistic children, especially those newly diagnosed with autism. ASWB had always felt that children with autism from economically challenged homes should also get the benefit of intensive parent training. We had always kept a few seats for the parents from economically challenged families and have offered concessions as per need at ASWB. But as an NGO we could only offer one or at the most two free seats per PACE program, especially the three months Parent & Child Training (PCT).

For the first time in 20 years ASWB has been able to conduct and complete two **Free Offline Six Weeks Parent and Child Training (PCT) irrespective of economic capacity**. The first free Offline PCT (Started in July, 2023) had 11 children with autism and their parent(s). The second free Offline PCT (Started in September, 2023) had 10 children with autism and their parent(s). The third one started in November, 2023 with 9 parents with their child. With this FCRA funding a total 13 (thirteen) children with autism got **free multiple intervention services** from ASWB such as Occupational Therapy (OT), speech therapy, one to one intervention, School readiness, and six weeks PCT. Some of the mothers got **free psychological counselling** at ASWB.

With the increase in our manpower ASWB has been able to do outreach programs like never before. We have been able to spread awareness about overall disabilities and autism in particular in different areas; interact with parents, teachers, community workers; talk about different intervention strategies for autistic children and be able to offer free services to some and at concessional rates to few others. ASWB got the opportunity to associate with different NGOs (non-government organizations), CBOs (Community-based organizations) government and private schools and local governance (panchayat) to spread awareness on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities in Kolkata, South & North 24 Parganas districts.

We hope in the days to come ASWB fulfills her mission and vision which is providing a supportive, social environment where persons with Autism are understood and their right to participation upheld. The organization strives to enable individuals with Autism and their families to participate in developing strategies to improve their quality of life, optimize their strength through education, advocacy and support.

Indrani Basu,

Founder-Director, ASWB

Message from the Secretary

With the increase in the manpower ASWB was able to do outreach programs like never before in FY 2023 - 2024. ASWB has been able to spread awareness about overall disabilities and autism in particular. ASWB got the opportunity to associate with different NGOs, CBOs, Educational institutions and local governance to spread awareness on Autism

Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities in Kolkata, South & North 24 Parganas districts. ASWB was able to interact with parents, teachers, community workers and talk about different intervention strategies for autistic children and been able to offer free services to some and at concessional rates to few others.

With this additional manpower awareness programs were organized in both government and private schools around Mukundapur after getting the FCRA funds. One of the most prominent work over the years has been our consistent interaction and training with different mainstream schools which enhanced awareness and acceptance. Majority of private schools now believe it is doable and thus giving the students with ASD a chance to enjoy school life.

We could also start Sensitisation about Gender & Sexuality among our staff. So this FCRA grant allowed ASWB to organize a two-day workshop on Gender & Sexuality in end October, 2023. The resource person was the Executive Director of TARSHI, New Delhi, Ms. Prabha Nagaraja. The workshop provided us with much food for thought and we are in the process of revising our POSH Policy.

ASWB signed an agreement with a film director, associated with Doordarshan, to direct a short film regarding the work we are doing. Film shooting has been completed and now sent to the censor board for certification.

We were able to organize awareness programs in institutions of higher learning. The response from faculty as well as from the students of institutions of higher education viz. Department of Nursing, Aliah University; Department of Psychology, Swami Vivekananda University; Department of Education, Adamas University, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Gurudas College, students of standard XII of the three Narayana group of School during their visit and internship programs at ASWB was very positive. This positive

response has given us the impetus to continue the work on both ends of the society viz. grassroot level as well as schools and institutions of higher learning. ASWB signed a MoU with Swami Vivekananda University (SVU). Seven students of the Department of Psychology, SVU did a one month internship at ASWB. Like all years there were interactive sessions between students/trainees with autism of our Dikshan & Aarohan units with the undergraduate students of the Department of Nursing, Aliah University who visited ASWB. Students of the Department of education, Adamas University also visited ASWB and saw the teaching methods for our students with autism.

ASWB has always encouraged self-advocacy and conceptualized workshops in collaboration with the State Government during the World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) programs in April, 2023. In August 2023, a one day seminar was organized in collaboration with the renowned institution of national importance like Asiatic Society. There some autistic individuals (self-advocates) shared their thoughts and perspectives using different means of communication.

So in 2023-2024 ASWB has spread awareness among autism at two ends of the society viz, at the grassroots level in the rural areas of 24 Parganas (South) and also in centers of higher learning, We hope to continue this trend in the years to come.

Dr. Mitu De, Secretary

Beneficiaries 2023- 2024

Sl.No	Name of the programme	Number of Persons with autism and in some cases their families
1	Dikshan	34
2	Counseling	216
3	Consultation	27
4	Neuro-Psychiatrist Consultation	18
5	Psychological Assessment	20
6	Social Skills	5
7	Occupational Therapy	98
8	10 days Parent Training	60
9	Intervention	92
10	6 Weeks Parent Training	21
11	School readiness	85
12	Writing Enhancement Programme	7
13	Virtual Classroom	4
14	Functional Assessment	2
15	Occupational Assessment	25
16	YAAR	25
17	Mental Wellness Session	5
18	Niramaya	25
	Total	769

Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) Governing Body Members for 2023 -2024.

Sl. No.	Name	Post held in ASWB GB	Gender	Nationality	Occupation	Name of Father/ Husband	Residential Address
1.	Mrs. Roma Basu#	President	Female	Indian	Retired	Mr. A.K. Basu (Husband)	5C Wedderburn Road , Kolkata 700029
2.	Dr. Suparna Deb*	Vice President	Male	Indian	Medical Practitioner	Late Upendra Chandra Deb	4A/17 Dharmatala Road , Kasba , Kolkata 700042
3.	Dr. Mitu De*	Secretary	Female	Indian	Professor	Dr. S. R. Dey (Husband)	A 7/5 Purbasha Housing Estate 160 Manicktala Main Road. Kolkata – 700054.
4.	Mrs. Mitasree Biswas *	Joint Secretary	Female	Indian	Health Service	Dr Abhijit Biswas (Husband)	29/3C, Chetla Central Road Kolkata -700027
5.	Mr. Sudip Ghosh*#	Treasurer	Male	Indian	Service	Late Pranab Kanti Ghosh (Father)	Mohan Garden Murari 1/1,Kamalgachi Kolkata 700103
6.	Mr Amitabha	Member	Male	Indian	Service	Late Nirmalendu Bhaduri	F.No – 1B, Verdant, 336, N.S.C. Bose Road ,Kolkata700047

	Sankar Bhaduri*						
7.	Ms Argha Sur*	Member	Female	Indian	House wife	Late Ranjit Sur	C 37,Jaysree Park,Behala,Manton,Kolk 700034.
8.	Mr. Ashoke Kumar Basu*#	Member	Male	Indian	Retired	Late Prabhat Kumar Basu (Father)	22 Anjuman Ara Begum Row KOLKATA 700033
9.	Mr. Arun Kumar Sarker*	Member	Male	Indian	Retired	Late Upendra Chandra Deb (Father)	159,N.S.C Bose Road,Mo Avenue GovtHousing Estate, Flat K-5,Kolkata-700040

* Being a parent led organization, most of the members of ASWB GB are parents of persons with autism

None of the governing body members are related to each other.
The governing body is elected every two years.

Team of Teaching and Non Teaching staff for the year 2023 -2024

1	Chandrani Chakraborty	Academic In charge, Special educator & Coordinator Early Intervention Unit
2	Pranabesh Bhunia	D Ed Coordinator
3	Manoj Kumar Mahato	D Ed Faculty
4	Binay Samanta	Special Educator
5	Rajkumar Bera	Special Educator
6	Piyali Chakraborty	D Ed Faculty
7	Amrita Bhawal Barman	Special Educator
8	Priyanka Saha	Special Educator
9	Shampa Rani Sahoo	Special Educator
10	Swati Dasgupta	Special Educator
11	Sanjit Kumar Ghosh	Special Educator
12	Jhuma Choudhury	Special Educator
13.	Babu Patra	Classroom Assistant
14.	Arpaita Dutta	Psychologist, Special Educator & D.Ed core faculty
15.	Maitree Ahmed	Consultant Clinical Psychologist
16.	Writtwika Debta	Consultant Occupational Therapist

17.	Sakil Anowar	Consultant Speech Therapist(upto October,2023)
18.	Arpita Chatterjee	Project Coordinator
19.	Binita Chakraborty	Project Coordinator(upto September,2023)
20.	Piyali Chakraborty	Programme Coordinator
21.	Sangeeta Bandopadhyay	Special Educator
22.	Joyita Mongal	Special Educator
23.	Tanusree Mondal	Special Educator
24.	Ankana Halder	Special Educator
25.	Shoubhik Kansabanik	Special Educator
26.	Debashis Chakraborty	Accounts Officer
27.	Nababrata Guha Roy	Accounts Assistant
28.	Shreya Bhattacharjee	Programme Coordinator
29.	Sefali Naskar	Classroom helper
30.	Bishaya Bayen	Classroom helper
31.	Mina Bibi	Classroom helper
32.	Nazma Bibi	Classroom helper

33.	Sabina Bibi	Classroom helper
34.	Mamoni Sardar	Classroom helper
35.	Sanowara Khatoon	Classroom helper
36.	Lakshman Mondal	Gatekeeper
37.	Joydeep Sarkar	Gatekeeper
38.	Gosto Haldar	Security
39.	Purnima	Housekeeping Staff(upto January,2024)
40.	Abanti Paul	Clay teacher
41.	Saptarshi Mukherjee	Music Teacher
42.	Dr Banhisikha Chaudhuri	Hony Librarian
43.	Amitrajit Biswas	Office Assistant

Autism Society West Bengal organized different workshops at its premises and resource persons were invited to present topics related to ASD at different workshops and seminars organized by various schools,colleges,institutions and other organizations. We have collaborations and associations with educational institutes to spread awareness about Autism. Autism Society West Bengal started outreach programmes(orientation,screening and enrichment programmes) with different Government primary schools,ICDS centers and Government Departments and offices. A list of some of these activities is given below:

Workshops Organized by Autism Society West Bengal

Sl.No	Name of the Workshop	Resource Person	Date	Participants
1.	Mental Health Issues In Individuals With Autism	Dr Prasanta Kumar Roy, Mr Anirban Sengupta, self advocate, Ms Maitree Ahmed (Clinical Psychologist), Mr Aratrik Bublu De(Self Advoacte), Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director,ASWB) and Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB)	7th October, 2023	Parents,self Advocates and Professionals
2.	The Power Of Play	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director,ASWB) & Ms Shreya	15th October, 2023	Parents and Professionals

		Bhattacharje(,Program Coordinator,ASWB)		
2.	Gender & Sexuality	Prabha Nagarajan, Tarshi,Delhi	30th & 31st October, 2023	Management & staff of ASWB
3.	Origami	Prof. Abu Kalam Shamshuddin,Khulna University,Bangladesh	11th January, 2024	Management & staff of ASWB
4.	Positive Behaviour Support	Ms Arpaita Dutta(Spl Educator,D.Ed core faculty & Psychologist) Ms Joyita Mongal(Spl educator), & Ms Sangeeta Bandopadhyay(Spl educator)	20th January, 2024	Parents and Professionals
5.	How To Enhance Skill In Young Children With Autism So They are Ready For School"	Ms. Chandrani Chakraborty, Ms. Priyanka Saha(Spl educator) & Ms. Jhuma Chaudhury(Spl educator)	24th February , 2024	Parents
6.	Healthy Diet And Developing Good Eating Habits	Ms Triasha Modak(Program Coordinator,ASWB)	9th March, 2024	Parents
7.	Parent as Special Educators	Mr Pranabesh Bhunia(D.Ed Coordinator)	16th March	Parents and Professionals

Workshops where Resource Persons from Autism Society West Bengal were Invited

Sl.No	Name of the Workshop	Resource Person	Date	Organized by	Participants
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1.	Inclusion Of Students With Autism In Mainstream Education System	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director), Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB) and Arpaita Dutta(Spl Educator,D.Ed core faculty & Psychologist)	11th April,2023	Adamas University,Barasa at	Students and professionals of Adamas University
2.	ASWB autism awareness program	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director) and Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB)	18th April,2023	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology,Baras aat	Students and professors of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technolog y
3.	Autism Awareness	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director), Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB) and Ms Piyali Chakraborty (Spl Educator)	14th June,2023	Women's College,Kolkata	Students and professors of Women's College,K olkata
4.	Autism awareness	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director) and Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB)	26th June,2023	Swami Vivekananda University,Barrac kpore	Students and professors of Swami Vivekana nda University
5.	Sensitization	Ms Indrani Basu	5th August,2023	Kolkata Police	Personnel

	Program on Invisible Disabilities	(Founder - Director), Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary, ASWB), Ms. Maitree Ahmed, ASWB Clinical Psychologist			s from Police Department,Kolkata Police
6.	Seminar On – 'Insights into Social Inclusion: Lived experiences of individuals with Autism & their families' Collaboration with Asiatic Society	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director),Dr Mitu De(Hony Secretary,ASWB) Mr Amitrajit Biswas(Self Advocate),Aratrik Bublu Dey(Self Advocate),Parthiv Ghosh(Self Advocate),Amitava Basu(Self Advocate) and Rajarshi Rit(Self Advocate)	25th August, 2023	Asiatic Society,Kolkata	Professionals,Parents,Members of Asiatic Society and Office bearers of Asiatic Society along with their inhibited guests
7.	Autism Awareness	Ms Indrani Basu (Founder - Director)	29th February,2024	Sammilani Teachers Training College,Mukundapur	Professionals
8.	CRE on	Mr Pranabesh Bhunia(D.Ed Coordinator) and Mr Binay Samanta (Spl Educator)	9th and 10th march,2024	Asha Bhavan Centre, Howrah	Professionals

Visit by different Educational Institutions & Universities

Sl.No	Name of Institution/University	Date	Purpose	Participants
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1.	Department of Education, Adamas University	10th May, 2023	Awareness about Autism	Students of Department of Education, Adamas University
2.	Department of Psychology, Swami Vivekananda University	7th March, 2024	Observation & sensitization about Autism & related conditions	Students of Department of Psychology, Swami Vivekananda University
2.	Department of Nursing, Aliah University	21st March, 2024	Health Check up, orientation about Autism and demonstration of simple relaxation techniques	Students of 3rd Year Nursing Students of Department of Nursing, Aliah University

List of Outreach Programmes

Sl. No	Date	Resource Organization	Place	Type of Intervention / Prog.
1	04-04-2023	Natagachi (ponchupara) ICDS	Natagachi	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
2	06-04-2023	Daspara KMCP School(Day)	Mukundapur	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
3	13-04-2023	Daspara KMCP School(Morning)	Mukundapur	Orientation

				Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
4	07-06-2023	Sonarpur BDO Office	Sonarpur	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
5	22.06.2023	Budherhat KMCP School	Budherhat	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
6	12.07.2023	198 DOKRA KALIBAZAR ICDS CENTRE MAHAMAYATALA	GARIA, MAHAMAYATALA(KALI BAZAR)	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
7	17.07.2023	GARIA SHITALA MONDIR ICDS CENTRE(29 NO. WARD OFFICE)	GARIA, SHITALA MONDIR	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
8	19.07.2023	BADAMTALA HIGH SCHOOL(H.S)	BUDGE BUDGE	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
9	25.07.2023	YUBO TIRTHA CLUB ICDS CENTRE	KAMALGCZI(near KHUDIRAM METRO STATION)	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
10	28.07.2023	DASPARA KMCP SCHOOL	Daspara, Mukundapur	Screening camp for ASD and Other Developmental disabilities
11	05.08.2023	KOLKATA POLICE	POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL,KOLKATA	Orientation Session on ASD & other

				developmental disabilities
12	23.08.2023	AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL	CHETLA PARK	AWARNESS WALK
13	09.10.2023	Sonarpur BDO Office	CCM8+M8C, Bosepukur Road, Mission Pally, Narendrapur, Kolkata, 700150	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
14	11.10.2023	Arapanch Primary School	Ara Panch, Sonarpur, 2 no. GP	Enrichment Programme
15	13.10.2023	Daspara kmcp school(morning) & (Day)	Daspara, Mukundapur	Enrichment Programme
16	15.10.2023	Autism Society West Bengal	147,Barakhola,krishak pally,Mukundapur kol-99	Play
17	16.10.2023	Charon kobi Mukunda Das Junior High School	7, MukundapurMain Road. Ramkrishna Palli,Nitai Nagar,Mukundapur,kol-99	Enrichment Programme
18	31.10.2023/ 01.11.2023	Autism Society West Bengal	147,Barakhola,krishak pally,Mukundapur kol-99	Gender & Sexuality Workshop
19	07.11.2023	ALO	Lakkhikantapur	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
20	06.12.2023	GARIA DOKHRA ICDS CENTRE	Mahamayatala	Enrichment Programme
21	12.12.2023	KAMALGAZI ICDS CENTRE	Kamalgazi	Enrichment Programme
22	13.12.2023	NATAGACHI ICDS CENTRE	Sonarpur Natagachi ICDS	Enrichment Programme
23	03.01.2024	CHARAK TOLAR MATH ICDS CENTRE	Kamalgazi	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities

24	04.01.2024	CHARAK TOLAR MATH ICDS CENTRE	Kamalgazi	Enrichment Programme
25	09.01.2024	MAHAMAYAPUR	Kamalgazi	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
26	09.02.2024	BUDHERHAT KMCP SCHOOL	Ajaynagar	Enrichment Programme
27	26.02.2024	KHEYADAHA ICDS CENTRE	Nayabad	Orientation Session on ASD & other developmental disabilities
28	28.02.2024	DASPARA KMCP SCHOOL(MORNING)	Mukundapur	Certificate Distribution
29	29.02.2024	KALIKAPUR ICDS CENTRE(NATAGACHI)	Sonarpur	Enrichment Programme
30	13.03.2024	KHEYADAHA ICDS CENTRE	Nayabad	Enrichment Programme
31	14.03.2024	ARAPANCH GOPALPUR ICDS CENTRE	Arapanch	Enrichment Programme
32	15.03.2024	BUDHERHAT KMCP SCHOOL	Ajaynagar	Certificate Distribution