



## PALNA DAY : Where Love and Memories Intermingle

Every year Palna Day has been a heartwarming celebration of love, laughter, and togetherness at Palna! It is an evening when Palna parents and children return to Palna to relive their first steps into a new beginning.



The evening of 28<sup>th</sup> March saw more than 35 children and their families get together at Palna! The focus of the evening is on the younger ones of our alumni.

It is truly rewarding as well as fascinating to see the children enjoy taking in the warm sunlight and staring with wonder at their own and the others' reflections in the mirrors! Apart from their obvious enjoyment, the time spent in this warm, sunlit space blends play, care, and critical developmental support, helping our little ones grow healthier, happier, and stronger every day.

The air was filled with giggles during train rides, endless fun in the bouncy house, and excitement over games like musical chairs and passing the ball. The children had a blast with the pink squirrel and panda bear. This was accompanied by a delicious and wide-ranging spread of snacks. Everyone danced with joy and soulful singing performances by kids and parents touched every heart. Old memories were revisited, and countless new ones were made to treasure forever!

We also had the special privilege of having Mrs. Neena Macedo, Past-President of DCCW - who was associated with DCCW for over three decades – in our midst.

We eagerly look forward to seeing everyone again soon!

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# Spotlight

## Sanjay Verona

Sanjay Verona, a Palna child, was adopted when he was a young boy by an Italian family in the early 2000s. He recently returned to India for the first time since then - this time with his own beautiful family!

Accompanied by his wife and two children, Sanjay's visit to Palna was filled with emotion, nostalgia, and deep gratitude. Reuniting with Ms. Loraine and Ms. Bindu of Palna – both of whom he remembered well - Sanjay shared heartfelt stories and memories. Impressively, he spoke Hindi with ease, reflecting his lasting connection to his roots.

Now a successful entrepreneur in Italy, Sanjay's journey stands as a powerful testament to care, belonging, and new beginnings



# Quarterly Updates

## Partnerships in Action



With the generous CSR support for Palna from our long-standing partner **EXL**, Palna continues to provide comprehensive care to the currently resident 98 children during their most formative years. The partnership strengthens essential services such as nutritious meals, timely medication, regular health monitoring, and age-appropriate educational and wellness support. This initiative helps us give every child in our care a healthier foundation and a better start to life. We are deeply grateful for their continuing and valuable support, standing steadfastly beside us through our tough times

Our vocational training partner **Nykaa** held a two-day **Train-the-Trainers Workshop** in Mumbai where six of our beauty and wellness course trainers participated. By enabling its in-house master trainers to upskill trainers from partner organisations, Nykaa is investing in training quality and consistency across centres, and alignment with industry standards. Several of our instructors also underwent intensive, hands-on training in advanced hairstyling and Rajasthani bridal makeup.



Since 2015, **Jaquar Group** has stood beside DCCW helping fulfill essential needs such as stationery, uniforms, T-shirts, school bags, and learning materials, enabling children to attend school with dignity.

This year, the group has generously donated shoes for all Palna WeeKids and Supervised Homework Scheme students across DCCW centres.



A highly experienced team of experts of behaviour therapists, psychologists, speech therapists, and special educators from **Tirath Ram Shah Charitable Hospital** conducted screenings and assessments of our Supervised Homework Scheme children under the supervision of a paediatrician. Parents of the children participated in the camp and attended a counselling session to understand the symptoms and diagnosis of any behavioural concerns.

A special thank you to the entire team for their tireless dedication towards helping the children.

Ms. Savita Aggarwal and her team from the **Capital Foundation** visited our Head Office to meet the **30 children they supported through DCCW's Educational Sponsorship** programme. They took time to interact with them, review their progress, and offer encouragement. The interaction reflected a shared commitment to nurturing education and brighter futures. Thoughtful gift hampers were shared, adding joy to the visit. We are grateful for their continued support.



A group from **Ion Foundation** visited Palna and spent meaningful time interacting with the children. A valued and long-standing supporter of Palna, Ion Foundation has further strengthened its commitment by extending support to Palna's Bal Chetna initiative, which is aimed at the special needs children in Palna.

**Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital** conducted eye check-ups for children enrolled for educational sponsorship. A total of 36 children diagnosed with vision issues were given spectacles free of cost, helping them see the world more clearly.

**Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** provided essential food and grocery items for our Palna children, ensuring consistent nutritional support for their well-being.

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## Programme Highlights & Other Updates

**Construction of our centre in Janakapuri** re-started after a stoppage of almost 3 months due to GRAP restrictions. As per the current projection, the reconstruction of the centre is scheduled to complete by end - August 2026.



DCCW was **successfully accredited by Credibility Alliance** following the Central Accreditation Committee review conducted under the Minimum and Desirable Norms. The process involved transparent in-depth interactions and detailed interviews, reflecting a strong commitment to accountability and good governance. We are grateful to Credibility Alliance for this rigorous engagement and extend special thanks to their assessor Mr. P. N. Thussu.



**Centre Supervisor Ms. Lalita retired after a 40-year journey** of dedication, compassion, and selfless service. DCCW was never just a workplace for her—it was her second home. Her commitment extended beyond herself, with her family also becoming an integral part of the DCCW family. We will miss her.

**Azim Premji Foundation** organised a two-day Partners Meet of organisations working with vulnerable children through childcare institutions. The objective was to facilitate knowledge-sharing and best practices, reflect on the evolving legal and policy framework for child protection in India and promote cross-learning on adoption, family restoration, aftercare and working with children in conflict with the law and POCSO victims. DCCW Director Ms. Neeru Bhatnagar, and Assistant Director Ms. Loraine Campos participated and contributed actively to the discussions.

In **collaboration with My Whole Child (MWC) Trust**, we conducted two workshops on “The Magic of Stories” and “Importance of Teaching Learning Material” for Palna WeeKids teachers, special educators, and Palna caregivers. The sessions were facilitated by Ms. Jaya Modi, a special educator and former principal of Genesis School. The workshop highlighted how stories can fire imagination, encourage participation, and strengthen connections with young children.

**Cyber security awareness** sessions were conducted by **Magic Bus India Foundation** to equip our vocational training students with essential online safety skills. The sessions covered job, loan, courier, matrimonial, and social media scams, along with safety precautions, helpline information, and immediate steps to take after a cybercrime.

**Educational Sponsorship saw 639 children collect their stipends and stationery.** The turnout was a little low as annual exams were on. Parents informed that they would collect the same during the next disbursement, along with all necessary documents required for the same.

**Celebrations:** DCCW centres came alive with the vibrant spirit of Lohri, with bonfires and offerings of popcorn and jaggery. All DCCW centres and children from all our programmes came together to commemorate the 77<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India.

# Well-wishers Speak

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## **KARISHMA**

I was one of the students who received sponsorship during my studies, and it truly helped me during a very tough time in my life. I am deeply grateful for the support. Thank you so much for the incredible work you are doing for society and for those in need. Please keep up the great work!

## **RAHUL SIKKA**

I wish every child of DCCW All the Very best in their life.

## **NAVODITA SHARMA**

You are doing wonderful job.

## **DINESH KUMAR**

You are doing great work. Keep it up.

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## Photo Gallery





*Thank you for reading!*

ALL DONATIONS TO DELHI COUNCIL FOR CHILD WELFARE GET TAX EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 80G OF THE INCOME TAX ACT OF INDIA.

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DELHI COUNCIL FOR CHILD WELFARE (DCCW) IS A REGISTERED NGO (NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION), ESTABLISHED IN 1952 TO CARE FOR CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN DISPLACED DURING THE RIOTS THAT TOOK PLACE AFTER THE PARTITION OF INDIA. SINCE ITS INCEPTION OVER 50 YEARS AGO, DCCW HAS GROWN, ITS SERVICES EXPANDING AND DIVERSIFYING TO KEEP PACE WITH THE CHANGING NEEDS OF DELHI'S LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN. TODAY, DCCW PROVIDES A RANGE OF SERVICES FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN LIVING IN AND AROUND DELHI.

**[www.dccw.org](http://www.dccw.org)**

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