Daan Utsav 2015
Summary of Activities
About iVolunteer

iVolunteer is a social enterprise that promotes volunteering. Our mission is to bring volunteers and organizations together to share time, skills and passion to promote India’s social development.

We have a PAN India presence and have offices across seven major cities. This year we had a number of corporate as well as internal volunteering based activities for Daan Utsav.

Launched in 2009 and celebrated annually, Daan Utsav (earlier called the Joy of Giving Week) is India's "festival of giving"!, As It is celebrated in the week including Gandhi Jayanti, i.e., October 2-8, and brings together Indians from all walks of life, to celebrate "giving".

Summary of Daan Utsav activities (PAN India) -

Chennai – 6, 7 Oct 2015

In Chennai, 167 corporate volunteers from in Employee volunteering program in Oct 2015. The activity included a Wish tree that was placed in the Offices (Ambathur old, new and Santhome) on 6th & 7th Oct 2015.

Arvind Foundation was our partner NGO and through the wish tree and collection drive (stationary and sports items) we were able to raise Rs 17,300 on both the days.

111 volunteers participated in Daan Utsav, Volunteer Mobilization . 7 special children from Arvind Foundation along with our Corporate volunteers made over 75 colourful and creative greeting cards and paper bags.

Greeting cards and paper bags will be sold to different corporate and individuals and proceeds of it will go to Arvind Foundation.

56 volunteers along with 50 Suyam children (residential school for underprivileged children) visited B.M. Birla Planetarium spend quality time together. It was a well spend day for both volunteers and children. Painted diyas were sold to employees and the amount (Rs 5625) was contributed to Suyam Charitable trust for Diwali celebration.

Volunteers with great enthusiasm participated in all the activities
Some of the Testimonials included -

Irfan Sulthana- “I am happy to participate in greeting card making with Arvind Foundation special children. They are very creative and motivating. Good initiative, I am also happy to contribute to wish tree stationary drive.”

Athma Raj- Founder, Arvind Foundation –“Thank you so much for taking time and spend time with Arvind Foundation special children. The love and passion showed by the volunteers was great. Thank you for your contribution through wish tree. This amount will be used to buy stationery material for our schools. The colourful and creative greeting cards will be sold and the proceeds of it will be used for Arvind Foundation”.

Ellapan – “I am pleased to coordinate this engagement and see many volunteers taking time to experience the joy of giving. Enjoyed spending time with suyam children. Visiting B.M. Birla Planetarium was a great experience.lot of learning and fun”.
Pune – October 7, 2015

Over 30 Corporate volunteers sprung into action as part of cafeteria volunteering for the SEVA Sandwich making activity for Daan Utsav. SEVA sandwich is one of the major activities that iVolunteer does during Daan Utsav and this year, the idea was implemented by some of our corporate partners as well.

Armed with Aprons, head caps, gloves and butter knifes within a span of three hours the volunteers made 50 cheese and Jam sandwiches, 100 peanut butter sandwiches and 100 butter Jam sandwiches. The arrangements were made in such a way that, there was a separate table for sandwich making and separate table for the packaging of the sandwiches. All precautions were taken to make the sandwiches as per standard hygiene practices by providing gloves, aprons and head caps so that the food did not get contaminated. The end result was fabulous with 250 sandwiches made in roughly 3 hours time including the making, assembling and packaging. In total 250 sandwiches were made and distributed to the children of Bophkel PCMC School and Vedprakash Lacchi School for disabled children as part of Daan Utsav. Through the SEVA Sandwich making activity the Tata Communication volunteers were able to reach out and feed about 250 deserving children coming from poor economic background and also the differently abled.
Some of the Volunteer Testimonials included -

Prakash Bhatia “Awesome experience to be part of this activity!! Thanks for the memories”

Prachi Bangera “Happy to help in making sandwiches for the kids, a very good experience”

Diptesh “Great experience, love being a part of this!! Looking forward to the upcoming activities”

Kolkata – 2 October, 2015

Kolkata started Daan Utsav, with a GYAN session on 2nd October 2015.

‘GYAN’ are capacity building workshops for professionals in the social sector. Industry Experts volunteer to facilitate these sessions that are custom designed to training needs of each participant.

At this session, we attempted to understand Social Media, unravel the mysteries of a right Cause Campaign and how we can use it to refine our Social Media strategies.

The Resource Person Volunteering for this session is Ramesh Krishnan, he is a Marketing Professional with more than 4 years of experience in the B2B Marketing sector. He has been associated with organisations like Tata Steel, Procter & Gamble and L’Oreal. A Student of the PGDM class of Mudra Institute Of Communications, Ahmedabad (MICA) of 2011, his interests include Brand Management and Cause Marketing. In his current role, he
is Marketing Manager for Tata Steel and handles their Ferro Alloy business and is based out of Kolkata.
7 Participants from 5 Organisations witnessed the session

Participants left with knowledge about how they build a low cost Social Media campaign. How do they drive attention? How do they utilize Social Media as an important pillar?

**Kolkata – 6 October, 2015**

iVolunteer teamed up with corporate volunteers and a partner NGO Tiljala SHED works to bring about change in the lives of children, young people and vulnerable individuals.

They educate children, provide healthcare and train young people and women in skills for livelihoods. A total of 13 Volunteers came together to spend time with 50 children from Tiljala SHED. 13 volunteers and 50 children together had unforgettable moment spend at ECO Park, the volunteer engagement was carried out beautifully. The children’s enthusiasm was commendable.

To start with the activity an orientation on the flow of the day and activity was done followed with ice breaker, energizers and quick games which was run and led by children. Volunteers and beneficiaries were so comfortable and excited for fun tour that we couldn’t wait long to go for it.

Volunteers encouraged children to share stories and with the help of some posters they mentor the children on civic responsibilities like save water, make environment green. We also shared Do’s and Don’ts for the activity.
Summary of Daan Utsav

We spoke to the volunteers and children about Daan Utsav and encourage volunteers to stick smiley stickers on their finger which is basically happy dot to promote the joy of giving. The Children enjoyed the activity.

Some of the Participant Testimonials included -

“Overall, the presentation and the session were brilliant! The session was engaging, informative, lively and gave everyone some great advice about how to use social media especially LinkedIn to raise your profile” - Ranjana of Autism Society
“Thank you for an excellent session. We gained a lot of knowledge about how to use Facebook for our organization and how to target specific audience, the best way of doing this and new ideas to get people engaged in your page. We would definitely recommend. Thank you once again for a great day spends qualitatively to celebrate Daan Utsav” – George of South point Organisation.
Mumbai - October 5th

This was an Office based Activity and It all started from a discussion amongst friends-cum-colleagues, on how and what to do different on this Daan Utsav. They finally had a word with Susheela co-founder of Amcha Ghar, which is an orphanage for girls in Uttan, Bhayander. The kids there wanted a visit to Magic Bus Learning centre in Karjat. After a few follow ups and coordination on both sides something interesting was shaping up. Magic Bus was very generous in giving us additional discounts since the beneficiaries were little children from a NGO- Amcha Ghar.

The Employees of iVolunteer started contacting their friends, family, colleagues, in order to raise the funds that we would need for this activity. We did it – All in mere 4-5 days. The day of visit was bright sunny Monday of October 5th.

It started from Uttan at 6am and reached our destination at 10:30 am, all eager for the day ahead. Breakfast (poha) and tea were waiting for the kids and volunteers.

The Team of Magic Bus was full of zeal and passionate about what they do. They briefed the team about the day’s program and the safety measures (precautions) to be taken while doing the activities. There was an ice breaking session with the kids where they danced to a unique song. Some of the activities included low-rope course, which involved walking on the ladder, tire and logs. It was a fun filled session.
After lunch was served, the session came to end by 4:30 as the weather was turning out be a spoil sport. We thank the team of Magic Bus and the children were super happy, asking us when will they visit again.

**Mumbai – 8 October, 2015**

13 of our iVolunteer employees from the Mumbai office participated in SEVA Sandwich and made close to 70 sandwiches with variations Coleslaw, Bombay Sandwich and Chatni & Cheese were distributed in Andheri East, Santacruz West and Kandivali.
Summary of Daan Utsav
Jaipur – October 6th, 2015

This volunteering activity included about 40 senior employee volunteers and 350 student volunteers in Jaipur. They all came together to participate in SEVA sandwich.

The experience got the corporate volunteers to make sandwiches for children of SOS Balgram, Bhoomi and Annakshetra; the experience of knowledge sharing with young aspiring enthusiastic next generation hoteliers; the experience of receiving a very professional behaviour of college to take care of smallest details in planning the logistics.

In total after 3.5 hours, 1700 sandwiches made of different fillings.
Hyderabad – October 8, 2015

The Hyderabad team geared up to make 100 sandwiches for SEVA sandwich this Daan Utsav. 5 Volunteers took appropriate safety and hygiene measures to make these sandwiches. Definitely, love and kindness were one of the key ingredients – which of course reached the children. Nothing makes these volunteers happy than to see their efforts touch the lives of children through little gestures. These sandwiches were distributed in the suburbs of Hyderabad.
Hyderabad - October 5th, 2015

60 Corporate Volunteers volunteered to make sandwiches as part of Daan Utsav alongside our NGO partner Aashrayam.

The Volunteers cheerfully made 115 sandwiches that were distributed amongst the kids with our NGO partner’s assistance.

Volunteer quotes and feedback:

“It’s was an excellent experience today “ – Srinivas Voleti

NGO quote, Mr.Sunil –“It's really nice to see children enjoying their evening snack. For some, this was the first sandwich they’ve ever tasted”.
Summary of Daan Utsav

Hyderabad - October 6th, 2015

Over 55 Corporate Volunteers volunteered to make sandwiches as part of SEVA sandwich Initiative for Daan Utsav. Our NGO partner ‘My choices’ was there to help and assist this process. The Volunteers cheerfully made 135 sandwiches that were distributed amongst the children.

Delhi – October 2-8, 2015

This year for Seva Sandwich, we had over 200+ volunteers including individuals, friends, family members, school, college and corporate who participated in Delhi alone. Close to 2700+ approx sandwiches were made and distributed in the area around the Delhi office.
**Summary of Daan Utsav**

**Bangalore – 6th October**

Over 13 Corporate volunteer came together and made 300 sandwiches for students of parikrama education centre. The students distribute the sandwiches amongst themselves and the corporate partner also provided lunch for some of the students.

**Kolkata – October 9, 2015**

A Wishtree, i.e a tree bearing wishes of children from Parikrma Centre for Learning and VVMVP School was installed in their premises. It was a simple volunteering opportunity wherein an individual selects a wish, writes his/her name on the wish tag and promises to fulfil one or more wishes of the children by 9th of October 2015.

The Wishtree had been placed at the cafeteria. This stall has been unmanned and an appropriate instruction has been placed near the tree with a box for wish fulfilment. The wishes were handed over to the respective NGOs in the week after Daan Utsav. Stationery, Education Aids and Sports equipments are the broad requirements. The tree was taken down on 9th October 2015.
To summarise The Seva Sandwich volunteer participation

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<th>City</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>13+</td>
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