

Sewa International - Bay Area Chapter's 2018 Annual Planning Meeting Report

Bay Area Karyakartas and volunteers planned and presented a very detailed and creative 2018 Annual Plan on Sunday, Feb 18th in Cupertino. The event started at 10:15 a.m. and concluded at 4:15 p.m.

Arun Kanakani Ji, our National EVP was present for the whole event guiding and working with the teams throughout the day. It was a great pleasure for the Bay Area Team to interact and network with him.

Thanks to Arun Ji, Sewa Volunteers, Karyakartas, Advisers, members from partner organizations, well-wishers, LEAD Student for attending the Yearly Planning Meeting and participating proactively which clearly demonstrated their passion for Sewa.

The Meeting was attended by 41 people. Some were in and out



The day was divided into 4 Sessions:

Session 1: was kicked off by Local President Jayant ji with Welcome song and self-introduction of all attendees. It was followed by a brief overview of the Sewa Int'l's National level achievements by Arun Ji.

Each of the Team Leads (Rajesh Shastry for Monthly Serve Activity; Minal Joshi for Family Services Case Management; Seema Murthy for Stop Diabetes Yoga Workshop; Anita Kant for Fund Raising; Jyothsna Prasad and Niveditha Jain for Lead Program) along with their teams presented their Project's 2017 performance which was divided into 4 main sections 1) purpose 2) achievements 3) Impact 4) team members.

We went through a very proactive session of Bay Area Chapter SWOT Analysis and identified the top 3 areas of focus and improvement for 2018. This was a very important input for the chapter for the next session.

- Over-all marketing
- Effective communication with donors
- Community outreach

Session 2: was a group planning working lunch session with individual teams working out their plans for 2018. It was great to see them working in small groups including our board of advisors, Ajay Singhal Ji in one of the groups



Session 3: Nine teams presented their plans for all projects and activities for 2018.

Chapter coordinator Guru Prasad consolidated the key goals for n 2018 into Sewa Commitments foil, reviewed and agreed to some of the key event dates and time line.



Session 4: Some key announcements regarding the organizational changes for 2018 were made. Jayant Ji announced that Guru Prasad will be the coordinator for Bay area Chapter.

Our current Board of Advisor, Mr. Ajay Singhal Ji announced that Bay Area will have 3 new board of advisors: Mr Raju Reddy, Dr Nandeesh Veerappa, Attorney Anu Peshawariya , who have graciously accepted our offer to join as Board of Advisors to guide and help the Chapter as appropriate.

One of our donors spoke about his passion for Sewa.



Arun Ji concluded the meeting with his remarks on the event and brief talk on a few aspects of volunteerism at Sewa.

- 1) Following the Hindu Philosophy, do service (sewa) without any expectation
- 2) Share with spouse and kids the kind of work you are doing for Sewa. They can get inspired. Connecting family and friends is a spiral path.
- 3) Consider visiting one Sewa Service program site while you are visiting India. It will generate positive feelings and will boost the morale of people living or working in those service support centers.

Overall, it was a very productive and enjoyable meeting which included home cooked, delicious, potluck lunch by volunteers.

Regards,

Guru Prasad
Sewa Bay Area - Chapter Coordinator