



**VOICES OF GAP**



**45000 books and counting! Meet GAP Star Changemaker Madhavi Sharma, who is igniting a reading revolution among children across India**



*Star Changemaker Madhavi Sharma talks about her experience with GAP*

Madhavi founded Food 4 Thought Foundation to ignite a reading revolution by connecting idle books to hungry minds. Through her initiative she focuses on two critical aspects, providing access to books and creating a joy of reading for children.

Madhavi has been striving to create spaces at the school level where children can have quality time, immersed in books. Till date, Food 4 Thought has collected 45000 books and established 126 libraries. Through her initiative, Madhavi is committed to connecting all the idle, un-used books to hungry young minds, who do not have access to books. Madhavi and her initiative benefitted immensely from the mentoring and network of volunteers provided by GAP. This has helped her in scaling up her organization and creating a clear strategy and budget.

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**The GAP Intensive team was touched and inspired by the work of G Karthikeyan at Sristi Village in Pondicherry, where disabled individuals earn their own livelihood and live with dignity**



Sristi Village founder, G Karthikeyan talks about the support received from GAP

The GAP Intensive team led by Hari Rao and consisting of Pushpa, David and GAP Agent Anusha visited Sristi Village in Pondicherry to understand the initiative and meet the residents. Sristi Village was founded by G. Karthikeyan, a psychologist born and grown up in Pondicherry. Karthikeyan spent 15 years in an inclusive orphanage where disabled and non-disabled children live and grow up together.

With time, Karthikeyan observed that his intellectually disabled siblings in the orphanage were not accepted and were treated with pity rather than empathy by the outer world. This led him to build an inclusive village where intellectually disabled and marginalized non-disabled individuals can live with dignity and work together.

Sristi Village is a place where everybody is valued and gets an opportunity to live up to his/her potential and lead a holistic life in self-sustainability! The A team observed all the activities like agriculture, dairy farming, and education at the village and are currently working along with Karthikeyan to develop a revenue-generating model for the organization.

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## **GAP hosts a powerful orientation for its growing community of certified professional Coaches which now reaches a total of 107!**



Coach Aparna Mehra talks about her experience with the GAP Changemakers

GAP is growing and it was time to take in more Coaches. A 4-day webinar was conducted from March 24th-27th to take in new Coaches from across the world. 12 new Coaches underwent the orientation to support our Changemakers with their expertise. It was a profound and intense learning experience for all and the enthusiasm and commitment from the

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new coaches is already reflecting in the Changemakers they are coaching.

GAP is proud to have 107 exceptional Coaches from across the world who are impacting Changemakers in their leadership and planning capabilities. GAP Coach Aparna Mehra shares her experience of engaging with the Changemakers and how she feels about being associated with GAP. We thank all the new Coaches and extend a warm welcome for them to be part of the GAP community.

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## The 'Ideas to Impact' Challenge that GAP hosts with Imperial College London generated 3 winning teams with impactful social ideas



The Gandhi Centre for Inclusive Innovation (GCII) at Imperial College London and GAP jointly hosted the 'Ideas to Impact' Challenge on 23rd March 2018, bringing together UK wide university student teams to present their innovative ideas to solve some of the BIG global challenges we face in society and impact one million people!

Teams pitched their solutions to global challenges within the following themes: financial inclusion, agriculture, education & skills, digital, healthcare & sanitation, and climate, water & energy. The top three winning teams are set to receive start-up funds from the GCII and continuous coaching, mentoring and business support from GAP and its partners to develop their ideas further.

'Mitt Protheses' won the prize amount of £5000 for their unique, comfortable self-adjustable artificial limb for people with a limb loss. This artificial limb costs significantly less and can be self-fitted. The co-founder **Nathan Macabuag** is excited to make this available to a large number of people without limbs in the world.

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## GAP conducts a highly engaging virtual conference 'Elevate'



covering topics from entrepreneurship to leadership which enlightened and empowered many Changemakers



GAP conducted a week-long virtual power hour of learning & leadership conference 'Elevate' from April 9 to 13. Each day powerful speakers graced the conference and shared their experiences and expertise. GAP Changemakers showed keen interest and enthusiasm by participating on all the days.

Sessions by Madan Padaki on entrepreneurship, Amit Alex's on funding, Mac Mckenzie's on leadership and Sandeep Rai's on Essential ingredients of Entrepreneurs

were very well received by the audience. We look forward to bring more such events to the GAP community and infuse more learning and impact.

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**Changemaker Kalyan Tanksale talks about how GAP helped him restructure his work and evolve a better model**



*Kalyan Tanksale talks about how GAP helped him in his initiative*

Kalyan Tanksale chose to work for the marginalized sections of society soon after his degree from IIT Bombay. Kalyan is actively helping grassroots communities and development organizations to create models of sustainable development through his organization Pranali Initiatives. In a short span of 5 years, he has touched nearly 5 million lives.

He has been instrumental in enabling governance, transparency, and sustainability of women SHGs. Pranali Initiatives was one of the TOP 50 Innovations identified by the Digital India Challenge of GoI, Intel, and IIM Ahmedabad. In recognition of his contribution towards introducing systems perspective in the school curriculum, he was awarded the Srushti Mitra Award by Government of Maharashtra. Kalyan wants to be a catalyst in enabling sustainable development of 10 million people in 10 years.

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## Opportunities

[UnLtd India inviting applications for its Incubation program](#)

UnLtd India announces the launch of it's July 2018 cohort application process and is seeking applications from passionate individuals who want to bring about social change. We support change-makers addressing social problems who want to set-up or have a social enterprise or not-for-profit that is less than 5 years old, working on the Sustainable Development Goals i.e. across all sectors- livelihoods, agriculture, environment, health, education, etc.

The last date to apply is May 10, 2018

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## 9th edition of the Spirit of Humanity Awards

Spirit of Humanity by Americares India Foundation continues to be the leading national platform for recognition, knowledge and networking for NGOs, Corporates, Academia, and Government. The 9th Spirit of Humanity Awards will be presented in September 2018 in Mumbai. The nomination process is now open.

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## TCS 10K Marathon- The Majja Run

Registrations are now open for the TCS 10K - Bangalore majja run on May 27, 2018. Participants can run for a cause or an NGO. Runners will cover a distance of 6KM starting from the Kanteerva Stadium. The age limit is 12 years and above.

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## Fundraising for social impact open session

Amani Institute brings a course designed for social entrepreneurs, on July 14, 2018, to provide ideas, tools, techniques, samples, case studies and approaches to be a more effective fundraiser. The class will cover: why fundraising is important for social entrepreneurs regardless of whether the entity is a not-for-profit organization or for-profit enterprise.

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## HCL Grant Edition 4, Application Process is now Open!

Committed to establish an institutional mechanism in the field of CSR and ensure sustainable rural development, the HCL Grant keeps the legacy of rolling out its fourth edition, with applications process starting on April 4th. This edition of HCL Grant remains focused on rural development in the categories of Environment, Health, and Education.

The last date for receiving applications is June 4th, 2018.

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[gapinfo@head-held-high.org](mailto:gapinfo@head-held-high.org)

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