

FRIENDS SOCIETY AT A GLANCE



Friends Society (FS) is a voluntary organization for college students to provide need-based community services. Students volunteer their time to plan, organize, and conduct service activities, realizing self-development as they do so. Over the years, FS has made a huge impact in the lives of hundreds of beneficiaries and students alike. Established in 1969, FS will celebrate 50th anniversary in 2019. Our motto: "Self-development through service."

ACTIVITIES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Cheer Up - Educational, recreational, and sports activities for institutionalized children with physical, mental or visual challenges.

Sunday School - Non-institutionalized children with physical or mental challenges, who live across the City, are brought to the FS every Sunday. Volunteers and therapists supplement education, medical rehabilitation, and art therapy while all enjoy music, sports, games, arts.

Sunday Club - Many adults with some form of limitation, who mostly are former beneficiaries, meet once a month at the FS to discuss topics of mutual interest, share information about job opportunities, network, and enjoy each others' company.

Gunj (An echo of music) - This is a music programme by visually impaired former FS beneficiaries and by students of the Faculty of Performing Arts, MS University.

Shaurya (Feat of courage): Around 300 to 500 children with physical, visual or mental impairments from nearly 25 schools participate in this annual All Vadodara Sports Meet

ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Programme for Future Leaders - Outbound programmes, educational lectures, film screenings and a number of competitions are conducted by FS volunteers to enable high school students develop into socially responsible and effective leaders of tomorrow.

Programme for University Youth Discussions and talks on topical issues and challenges typically faced by college students.

ACTIVITIES FOR MEDICAL SERVICES

Blood Donation Programme - Blood donation camps are organized in student hostels, colleges, industries and the community at large.

ACTIVITIES FOR FATEHGANJ COMMUNITY

Balwadi - Five days a week, children from the nearby lower socio-economic communities attend a pre-school nursery at the FS campus.

Youth Club - Every day, 25 to 30 children from nearby lower-socio economic areas attend this Club at the FS in a friendly atmosphere conducive for supplemental educational programmes, arts and craft, sports and other activities; outings are held periodically

Public Reading Room and Library - FS manages the Petit Library open to the public and a reading room with newspapers and magazines.

Sewing and Embroidery Classes - The programme helps women from lower socio-economic communities learn skills that can help them earn extra income for their families.

Vocational Training for Women - Classes are held to teach women vocational skills such as mehndi art, jewelry-making, and beauty parlor work

Sahiyari Mela (Arts & Crafts Exhibition) - showcases the creativity and skills of the students from the Sewing and Embroidery classes and the Sunday School.

Donations are exempted from income tax under Section 80G(5) of the Income Tax Act 1961. We welcome your support. Please send the cheque ("Friends Society") to the address below

Friends Society
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