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Ramadan Distribution

The month of Ramadan is a fulfilling time for SmartLife, where we get an opportunity to do more, reach more beneficiaries and bring more joy to our blue-collar friends. This is all thanks to the generous contributions and sponsorships from benefactors (corporates, friend/ family groups and individuals) who come together and help the community, in the true spirit of Ramadan. Moreover, we would not be able to deliver value without our dedicated team of project managers and volunteers who "make things happen"!

In the first week of Ramadan, through SmartDistribution, we reached more than 8,000 blue-collar beneficiaries, providing them Iftar, dryfood packs and hygiene items. The distributions were carried out primarily in Al Quoz with a few events conducted in Sonapur and DIP.

For the rest of Ramadan, SmartDistribution is calling all Smartlife Volunteers to be a part of out distribution activities! We have numerous events planned in April and we will need all the hands we can get!















SmartBuddy

March 2023 was marked by activities in three different work-streams of SmartBuddy

- Spoken English for school students,
- **IELTS** support for college students and
- **SmartScholarship**

As part of the English for underprivileged school students work stream, our team has been remotely supporting a group of young, talented school children to improve their English language skills. These are children of blue-collar workers whom we aim to aid early on in their education journey.

The IELTS program for underprivileged students has been working remotely with an initial group of 40 students to help them prepare for the rigorous test. The exam is a necessary step for our gifted students who may want to pursue an education or a career abroad. The students undertook a mock test in March to familiarize themselves with the format as well as understand their improvement areas. Our volunteer teachers, including Prof. Kumar from Cosmos Immigration, will continue to work closely with the college students making sure they can achieve their full potential in the IELTS exam.

For over ten years, SmartScholarship has financially assisted and mentored 15+ underprivileged students to help them achieve their goals and ambitions. In March, we held an online session with the students to discuss their upcoming exams. We were extremely pleased to see all the students being driven and committed to do their best! As we continue with the regular webinars, we are also looking to establish a 6-9 month program to assist our SmartScholarship students in target and goal setting.

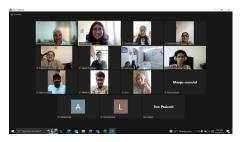
IELTS SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



SPOKEN ENGLISH FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS



SMART SCHOLARSHIP



SmartReading

A simple lesson that we taught our students in the very first class, on Zoom techniques and etiquette gave the 2023 H1 intake a great start. The past 2 intakes we have had trouble making the Freshers and Beginner's Class students particularly, rename themselves correctly with their level and section. For example, BC B Imran Khalid, which if correctly renamed can be identified as a BC student belonging to B section and within seconds the student interns manning the main room would send him to his virtual class. This has now been perfected to a T and the students are reaching their classes on time, with this first win in their pockets.

With all the 2022 H2 SmartReading prizes collected, internal graduations are being done by the participating companies, honouring their students in the presence of their senior management. The photographs being shared with us both by companies and our students make us super proud of them. It is therefore with such contentment that we continue the imparting of education, and March has been action-packed, interactive and hugely satisfying.







SmartWoman

SmartWoman had a busy and fruitful March, holding two events at two different camps.

Facilitated by expert speaker Radhika Mehta (KPMG), we held an online webinar for 30+ ladies from Ejadah's camp. The session on Healthy Eating raised awareness amongst the women attendees on the right foods to consume, foods to avoid and the overall benefits of following healthy eating habits. The audience especially appreciated learning about affordable food options that can easily be introduced in their day to day lives.

SmartWoman also conducted an on-site event at GEMS camp to celebrate International Women's Day. The fun-filled session consisted of a series of games. 80+ ladies from the camp actively participated in the event and took back prizes delightfully. Several women left with big smiles stating that it had been the most enjoyable day they had had in several months. The event ended with snacks and lunch as a takeaway, making it a day to remember!



SmartCamp

SmartCamp continued its collaboration with Al Ghurair Group, extending our work from one camp to two.

Since starting to engage with the Al Ghurair camp in Al Quoz in February, we have spent six fun-filled and informative weeks with the residents there. This included a dedicated SmartGames session followed by five weeks of education on other SmartLife projects such as SmartReading, SmartBuddy and SmartElder. The participants showed ample interest in our events and it was heart-warming to witness their willingness to learn.

In March, we also spent two weeks with residents of the Al Ghurair camp in Sonapour. We started with SmartRelaxation sessions where the team demonstrated stretching exercises, and yoga and meditation techniques. The SmartComputer team held a session at this camp teaching students the basics of a computer.

In April 2023, we will continue our work with the Sonapur camp concluding our engagement with entertainment provided by SmartBand. Our goal is to inspire and educate our blue-collar friends, supporting them on their journey to living a more fulfilling life.

SMART GAMES



SMART COMPUTER



SMART RELAXATION









SmartBand

SmartBand represents an opportunity for blue-collar workers to engage in artistic activities that they are passionate about; be that singing, dancing or other performing arts.

In collaboration with the Ismaili Center, the project has been ongoing for a month now and has been met with enthusiastic participation from both singers and dancers already part of the Smartlife network. The six dancers involved in the project have been committed to mastering various dance styles, including contemporary and fusion, with the support of experienced choreographers. Similarly, the four singers involved in the project have been receiving vocal training from an Ismaili Center coach and professional singer. They have been learning about proper breathing techniques, pitch control, and how to harmonize with one another.

The group of dedicated performers have been working hard in preparation for a public performance at the Al Ghurair camp in Sonapur in April 2023 (as part of SmartCamp). We are all looking forward to the memorable event which will be a testament to the perseverance and dedication of all involved.



Mentoring our Project Managers

As part of our learning for camp project managers, we have initiated a project that aims to cover the first section of the Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking modules of the IELTS course.

In March 2023, we held 3 weekly classes early in the month followed by take home assignments to be completed during Ramadan. The classes covered practice sessions for Listening, Reading and Writing sections with improvement areas highlighted to reduce mistakes. The attendees particularly enjoyed the Writing class where letter writing was the point of focus. The teachers shared an explanation on types of letters and key phrases to start and end a letter.

We look forward to continuing our work with the project managers in April 2023!











