



(juvenile Organization of Speech and Hearing)

Hearing
impairment no
more a handicap



Juvenile Organization of Speech & Hearing

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(juvenile Organization of Speech and Hearing)

JOSH (Juvenile organization of speech and hearing) is an organization which helps to make the hearing impaired children speak the language understandable by all and tell the world that "Hearing impairment no more a handicap". Josh is a platform to give enough opportunity so that Hearing Impaired children can acquire higher education and employment in all types of Jobs and Industries and make them live life like a normal person in the Society.

We at Josh have identified the problems of Hearing Impaired children and each of these problems needs to be addressed in different ways. Late detection of hearing impairment and lack of Rehabilitation are the two identified problems in hearing impaired children. But as it is very correctly said, "Where there is a will there is a way", solution to these problems have also been identified at Josh, early detection and rehabilitation makes profoundly impaired hearing children speak normal language.

We at Josh know what the impediments are. Hearing impairment is a totally curable condition, yet very little attention is being paid by the government and the society at large. We visited few schools in Gujarat and Maharashtra, with boarding schools, where children communicate through sign language. The children hardly use speech to communicate with any one in the school. The research and development in digital

technology based hearing aids have made great difference in facilitating auditory and verbal skills. Our experience with the use of such digital hearing aids in more than 300 children in such government schools has resulted in very good quality of speech and excellent auditory Skill of the children.

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“The difference between impossible and possible is inside you”



Deep Parekh

Deep Parekh

Hearing is one of the gifted senses we were given as a privilege. We make the most of this beautiful sensation in our ears every day. The noisy traffic on the road, the voice of a loved one; are all familiar voices which we live through. But imagine with 80% hearing loss. Yes, you are right it is not easy, but does that mean we give up, stop trying. No, that is what Deep has to say.

Despite his 80% hearing loss for which an ideal situation is giving up, deep is one of the many who has etched his identity in this competitive world. Deep is currently doing photography and Photoshop and he is just moments away from accomplishing his dream of starting his own photo studio.

How does he survive? His life is as normal as you and me. He talks normally on the phone and in person. He not only completed his SSC exams but after that, he also has done 2 years of electronics from ITI and 2 years of servicing after which he has successfully completed a course in photography. Today, he is smiling amongst parties and weddings doing his job as a professional photographer.

From birth till today he has faced many problems but still stands today earning his own bread. This all was possible due to the pillar of strength provided by his family, the ease of the hearing aid and the power of yoga. Currently looking for a bride for this handsome groom, his mother is proud of the man he has become.

“The starting point of all achievement is desire”



Ritesh Shah

Ritesh Shah

A hardworking student; with an accomplishment of 70% in SSC exams and a score of 54% in HSC is Ritesh shah. He is currently doing first year in BMS and is very good with computers and graphic designing. He has the driving skills of a confident teenager boy. Its seems like the life story of an ordinary boy, but what makes his life extra ordinary is the fact that he managed all of this with 90% hearing loss. Yes 90% problems of not being able to communicate easily is an extraordinary life indeed!

When he was a 5 year old, his family discovered that he could not hear and speak. This created a major problem as his disability was identified late. This was a period of great demise and confusion. Should he be admitted to a regular school? When he was in a normal school, the principal also was convinced that he would not study further normally. Making impossible possible with hard work he made it all the way to first year BMS. He is also doing a job in computers.

Today his speech his clear, and he talks normally even on the phone. All of this was possible thanks to the guidance of Dr. Devangi dalal and the social provided to him. His family hopes that everyone realizes that with a good machine and a strong moral support anyone can overcome hearing disability just like ritesh did.

“The only limits in your life are the ones you create with your mind”



Mihir Kalpesh

Mihir Kalpesh

Most of the times being deaf is something that comes as an unfortunate package at birth. However, sometimes it happens when we expect it the least. Mihir Kalpesh, faced a bad cold at the age of 2 which resulted in his hearing loss. This was a change in fate which nor he nor his mother could handle. After consulting many doctors finally Dr. Devangi Dalal took up the challenge of making him hear and speak like a normal person does.

In such cases it is the parents support that matter the most, grooming him through all these problems was not an easy task for his mother Namrata Shah, but "There is nothing impossible in this world" if parents, and the entire family take the responsibility of their child.

Mihir after a hearing loss of a heavy 90% not only started hearing but also talking, he is fluent in English and Gujarati. His life journey has been engaging and inspiring. Completing his early education in Don Bosco High School at borivali-(w) with the school teacher and friend's support throughout, mihir passed with first class rank of 67%. Everyone was left astonished at his success. He also received first class rank and 79% in an engineering course from Shri Bhagubhai Mafatlal Polytechnic at vile parle.

He then got admission in A.C. Patil college of Engineering situated at Kharghar. Which is a tiring 2 ½ hours from his habitat Borivali. Despite his challenging travelling difficulties he stepped out of his comfort zone and with the support of the college he managed to get a first class rank scoring 65% in Electronics Engineering.

At present he successfully holds the job of "Testing Engineer" in NELCO in a TATA ENTERPRISE co. It's truly inspiring, Mihir has left a mark behind by making the most and achieving the best, he really has made music out of the terminal silence.

“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try”



Janhavi Dani

Janhavi

Will she be able to hear? Will she be able to talk? Will she be able to live a normal life? They did not have the answers to these questions. But today they can confidently answer all of them!

Janhavi's parents first realized when she was just 3.5 years old, that she had a profound hearing loss. Her parents did whatever they could to help her out; she started using a hearing aid and went to a school for deaf children. After which she was integrated into normal school, from which she passed her SSC exams.

With the guidance of JOSH, her hearing aid was switched to a more modern one. This did wonders, as her speech improved significantly. She joined courses such as computers and jewelry designing. Janhavi a master at both excelled in them. She is currently an active jewelry designer where she skillfully imitates the jewelry as per her clients wish. Her regular client is the temple situated on 10th road; where she provides the alluring ornaments.

The reason why she stands today an independent woman is because of improved technology and speech therapy. But most importantly, the sacrifices her mother has made. Her mother a dedicated textile technologist left her job and learnt the speech therapy procedure to bring her daughter, Janhavi up. It is this mutual commitment which stands for Janhavi's success and that is the reason why she can hear, talk and live a normal life.

“Stop waiting for things to happen,
just go and make them happen,”



Juhi Nikumbh

Juhi Pradeep Nikumbh

Juhi at the beautiful age of 2 was unable to hear soft voices, but she could hear loud voices. She tried speaking but her speech was not clear. After being told that, “some children speak late so wait and watch.” Her parents waited patiently only to realize upon meeting Dr. Devangi Dalal did they realize about her hearing loss (moderate). It was advised, to put her in normal school and listen with help of hearing aid and avoid lip reading and sign language. It was a very difficult task for her, as well as her parents.

Without paying attention to the constant comments that she would fail, she studied hard, and with help of her confidence, she passed SSC board exam with flying colors from Mumbai. All this was possible because of the support of her counterparts and school staff. She passed HSC board exam in 2007 in G.D. Sawant College, Nashik and finally completed B.Com in 2011 from Nashik. She has given competitive examinations like IBPS, RBI, SBI for pursuing bank jobs.

Her hobbies include dance, listening to music, travelling and exploring new places. She also participated in various dance competitions, fancy dress competitions and received awards during her school days. I was one of the selected contestants in a dance reality show “Ekapeksha Ek” which features on Zee Marathi.

Does that seem like a difficult life? With a profound hearing loss it is not easy, she used to cry and throw tantrums, refusing to wear her hearing aid. But now, with the help of speech training, she can speak very well and smoothly, she can also talk on the phone.

In her words, “The secret that kept me going throughout my journey is the precious advice and the invaluable inputs of my parents and grandmother who always taught me to face, fight and overcome the hurdles rather than run away from them. With all the encouragement and motivation to work hard, I finally passed T.Y.B.Com and crossed the crucial stage of my academic life. I became a Graduate!”

“The only disability in life is a bad attitude”



Ruchi Jobanputra

Ruchi Jobanputra

At the blissful age of three, when you learn your first few words, Ruchi found out that she was suffering from hearing loss. If it was a temporary situation it may have become easier over time, but unfortunately it was a fact neither her family nor she could change. She was diagnosed with 85% hearing loss. This meant that her life would not be an easy one.

Ruchi believes that it was the provision of good hearing aids, thus the fruit of technology, and the support from mentors of JOSH foundation, made her life simpler and normal. It is this combination that made it possible for her to study in a normal school, and not discriminate her by being forced into a special school for children with disabilities. It was even more difficult for her, as she had two siblings both sisters who did not have any such problems, but being the strong person she is, she survived and succeeded.

From then on her life picked up she did Bachelor of Arts (B.A) with home science and multiple courses in computers. She is fluent with Hindi, Gujarati and English. She loves to travel and wants to fly. Amongst the support and facilities provided to her, it is her hardworking spirit, confidence, and desire to learn anything that has made her a bold and independent woman.

Today, it is hard to ever make out that she is hearing impaired. Her parents are proud of the person she is today, the way she is so actively involved in various activities. She has recently done a beautician course and works at a beauty parlor.

“Don't let your dreams be dreams”



Dhaval Oza

Everyone has that one thing they are really passionate about, and every one has that one big hurdle that stands in the way of their passion and dream. For Dhaval Oza his passion was dance, and his big problem was that he had hearing loss. How can you dance without music, and how can you listen to music if you cannot hear it. These were the problems faced by our JOSH star.

Dhaval oza had hearing impairment and speech problems since childhood, but today he has overcome this through his talent and hardwork. He has risen like a eagle from ashes, and has achieved success, something which even normal people like you and me haven't. the mark of his success includes sharing the stage with famous singers like, Shankar Mahadevan, Rajiv Goswami, Kamal Khan, Sukhdev etc. Not only has he done shows with them, but also travelled to places like London, South Africa, Canada, Dubai and India too with his elder brother Jasmin Oza. He has also featured in a dance show called KABOOM.

Initially he could not understand the lyrics and the song, which was very depressing and hard to get past. However, without complaining or giving up he simply just started following the steps by seeing other dancers in the troupe.

Thorough practice and hard work for almost two years he got the confidence of dancing on stage and co-ordinating with the other dancers.

Till today he is unable to comprehend and understand the language of the song completely but never has he let this come in the way of his work. Through his dedication towards dance today he manages to even teach and choreograph other people. He conducts dancing classes for kids and is a hot favorite among them.

“If you accept your limitations,
you go beyond them.”

Rupali Kansara

Rupali Kansara

Rupali Kansara, a successful process executive at IBM Daksh, and an independent happily married woman. This is the profile of a hearing handicapped person, her story symbolizes that against all odds you can achieve whatever you want, and among a million difficulties you will find love and, find yourself a place in this world.

It was in lucknow that she was detected with hearing loss. she started her education in a special school for deaf children, but after a lot of struggle her parents managed to shift her into normal school. it was here that she had the opportunity to meet the President of India Dr. Abdul Kalam at the age of 14 years for tree plantation at Lucknow school. if her parents hadnt shifted her she would have never got this chance, thus her parents played a founding role in her life.

Then on her life accelerated, she completed her B.A. studies at Lucknow University. After which she completed her computer courses and fashion designing at Lucknow.

Her career life started off as an art and craft teacher at Lucknow pre-school for 2 years. On meeting Dharmin her life partner they got married and shifted to the city of dreams, Mumbai. She completed B.Ed (H.I.) course from Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (Mumbai University).

After which she has been active in arts and crafts activities including the sale of different types of Diyas (glass, flower floating, etc), candle-making, Rangoli's, croshia purses & bags, chocolate making, cake making, etc. She enthusiastically participates in all cultural programs like dance, drama, Ras Garba and so on.

“ Forget all the reasons it won't work
and believe the one reason that it will ”



Janki Lalaji



Janki Lalaji

It was just 11 months into this beautiful world, when Janvi was detected with hearing loss. With her hometown being Danu, she was out of the circumference of facilities, to help her get better. Her parents however took up the responsibility to ensure that she gets whatever it takes to lead a normal life.

Thus every day for the next 3 years her mother travelled up and down to ensure she got treatment. When she was in 5th grade, her family even took up the bold move of doing cochlear implant; they believed that even if there was a 10% improvement it would make her life better. With an improvement in her speech then on she excelled in life; scoring a 76% in her 10th SSC.

A two year jewellery designing course, specialising in accessories at the age of just 19, she is independent and has done 9 exhibitions in a period of just 10 months. She is buzzing success in ghatkopar, borivali, vapi, kandivali etc. Her house is always occupied with eager customers.

She has recently joined JOSH foundation and loves the company of friends who understand her. She enjoys all kinds of dances and is always a winner during the navratri season. Thus she stands as an example of a young woman who has been through it all.

“Nothing in life has any meaning except the meaning you give it.”



Amit Choksey

Amit Choksey

At the age of mere 9 months, Amit was detected with 90% hearing loss. This meant that the world seemed like a place haunted by dead silence. Never knowing what familiar sounds meant was very depressing a situation for a young lad waiting to discover the world that lies in front of him.

Yet he took a bold move and studied from 1st to 4th grade in Balbharti normal school, amongst other kids. 5th std onwards his mom started working so he became dull, however he did not give up and managed to pass 10th grade from this school. He did a diploma in arts from Raheja College which was a three years course after which he left studying and did not continue to get a degree as he was frustrated with the comparison and disparity between his hearing impairment and the normal kids.

Then came the most difficult period of his life, father was not working, mother was stressed so she could not give him time, and his brother did not share the same problem as him. This made him feel lonely and depressed. However, with the help of Bathadelia foundation and the guidance of a JOSH mentor, along with the heartwarming support provided by his mother, brother and most importantly his grandmother Hansaben, who was of great help, he managed to come out and shine once again.

He has now successfully completed a 3D animation course from Helen Keller institute. He is now confident and independent. A great artist impeccable in drawing, and has even worked in film shootings.

“Do not give up; the beginning is always the hardest.”



Laxmi Kedare

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"I am very excited and happy to be associated with JOSH Movement... My SUPPORT will always be there for all these children - REMO D'SOUZA





Hear Me Out

Impairment to Empowerment

Josh foundation in association with Coresport Republic
Initiated a landmark project of
Introduction of sports Education,
in the schools of hearing impaired children.

Post Introduction, there are quantifiable changes in the lives of children

- Improved concentration and alertness
- Enhanced communication and responsiveness
- Increased levels of confidence and good self-esteem
- Excellent motor skills and co-ordination
- Improved overall stamina and fitness
- Better flexibility and technical skills
- School attendance is 100% on day of sports



You too can gift the above benefits to hundreds of innocent lives by donating

Let's get together to create an empowered
future for hearing impaired kids.

Trustee: DevangiDalal

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Juvenile Organization of Speech and Hearing

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Kalpana Shah • Namrata Shah

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Rekha Lalaji	Hansa Thakkar
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Aruna Shah	Amisha Gandhi
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Bhavana Shah	Joshua Shirsath
Widex India Pvt. Ltd	Satish Mutatkar
Brijesh Shrivastava	Drishiti Gupta
Mukesh Shah	Raju Bhai Bhatt

Institutions Supported by JOSH:

- Lions Shivaji Park School for Hearing Impaired, Mumbai
- Sadhana Vidhyalaya for the deaf, Mumbai
- Disha Karnabudhir Vidhalaya, Mumbai
- Smt. Tapiben Mohanlal Rughnath Mehta Bahera Shela, Amreli
- Dhvani School, Bharuch

