North Jersey & Westchester: National LEAD Convention
July 31, 2021

The Sewa North Jersey LEAD participants took part in the first ever National Lead Convention (NLC). The event lasted for 4 hours and was attended by LEAD participants all over the United States. The event started off with a spectacular Sewa Geet choreographed by the Sewa Wisconsin and Washington DC chapters. The program was graced with the following special guests: Mananiya Soumitra Ji Gokhale, Shree Shreenath Ji, and Himaja Nagireddy. In addition, each of the 18+ chapters presented what their chapter has been doing to serve society. There were 10 breakout sessions conducted on various topics such as teenage mental health and building an inclusive society. The National LEAD convention concluded after passing a resolution affirming that child safety and education should be a fundamental right. This resolution was unanimously passed in the conference and will be shared with the US and Indian government, United Nations, and embassies.

North Jersey: Conversations to Remember

The North Jersey chapter partnered with a non-profit organization named “Conversations to Remember”. As part of their senior support program, the LEAD participants do regular check-ins over Zoom calls with senior citizens. This month the LEAD participants created 300 handmade cards which were delivered to the Senior Citizens across New Jersey.
Origami Workshop Fundraiser
July 12, 2021-July 16, 2021

As part of a high school fundraiser, 2 LEAD participants taught 5 origami classes to younger children and made origami Cranes, Swans, etc. All the funds collected were donated to Sewa International.

STEM Summer Program Fundraiser

4 LEAD participants taught STEM classes including Web Design, Coding principles, Java and Python programming and more over 4 weeks. All the funds collected were donated to Sewa International.

Rubik’s Cube Fundraiser

1 LEAD participant taught fun ways to solving various Rubik’s cube challenges. Funds collected were donated to Sewa International.

Sewa Leadership Team Meeting
July 17, 2021

Sewa North Jersey’s LEAD participants had the opportunity to meet with the Sewa International leadership team and learn from them about Sewa International as an organization and the work that is being done. The meeting was conducted virtually, and a total of 240 LEAD participants from all over the country joined.
Westchester: Monthly Food Drive

On July 20th, 2021, Sewa Westchester held its second food drive of the new year. Six families and 20 volunteers contributed to this drive. Together, 60 PBJ sandwiches along with a crate of water bottles and assorted cleaning supplies were donated to the Open Arms Shelter, White Plains, New York.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, volunteers took safety and hygiene precautions while making sandwiches: each participant wore masks and gloves while preparing and packaging the food.

Sewa Westchester’s aim is to serve those in need, especially during such trying times.

North Jersey: Monthly Food Drive

Sewa North Jersey delivered 1475 pounds of food to the Morris Plains Interfaith Pantry, Lake Hiawatha food pantry and Montville Kiwanis food pantry for the month of July.

Volunteer Spotlight: Kuldeep Ji Gahlawat

Kuldeep Ji Gahlawat became a volunteer for Sewa International, North Jersey, one year ago. Kuldeep Ji found out about the organization from a friend in Massachusetts. He has enjoyed his association with Sewa, and over the last one-year Kuldeep Ji served as a member of the Grant Track. Kuldeep Ji also took part in calling and interacting with people from America who were donating to Sewa International to support its efforts in Bharat to fight the second COVID-19 wave. Kuldeep Ji is currently involved in the Cricket for Sewa Project.
Upcoming Events

1. Independence Day Parade 8/8
2. iMela Service 8/28
3. River and Park cleanup 8/29
4. Ongoing support local Soup kitchens. Contact us for the closest location to drop off donations.
5. Habitat for Humanity Service
6. Ongoing #KeepMyStreetClean

North Jersey & NY Metro Chapter will run the Annual Sports Tournament again this year!
All the proceeds from the event go towards Sewa’s Sponsor a Child program.

Please spread the message and participate in this fun event while supporting a cause.
Cricket for Sewa registration is open. The tournament will take place from Sep 11 - Sep 18.
To register visit: sewausa.org/event-4353039

Visit our Chapter Website, Facebook, and Instagram Pages:

https://sewausa.org/Chapter/NewJersey
https://www.facebook.com/SEWANorthNJ
https://www.instagram.com/sewanorthjersey

Sewa urges everyone to practice social distancing, follow CDC guidelines & remain safe.

Helpful Links:

https://www.cdc.gov - Official site to get updates on COVID-19
https://nj.gov - New Jersey State update on COVID-19
https://www.ny.gov - New York State update on COVID-19

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” ~ Mother Teresa

Om Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah