The Rising Stars



Newsletter

July - Sept 2023, Quarter 2

"Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire, it has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair."

Nelson Mandela



What will you find this quarter?

- 1. Hope Thru Hoops More the Merrier
- 2. Coaches and Players experience at Jr. NBA India
- 3. Pathways to Success More caps to hone
- 4. Tournament Tormentos
- 5. In the News: Hi 5 feature in Publications
- 6. Volunteers are our Heroes!
- 7. Impact Story- Testament of Changing young lives thru play

By expanding our reach to more communities in need, providing more opportunities for the youth to participate in sports and offering more specialized basketball training programs for athletes and coaches, we are confident that this academic year will be our best year yet.

Grateful for the support of our donors, partners and volunteers. We look forward to working together to make a difference in the lives of youth through play.

Welcome to the new school year! We are excited to begin this new academic journey with all of you.

Founders - Hi 5 Youth Foundation

Hope Thru Hoops - More the Merrier 2023-24

Hi 5 Youth Foundation (Hi 5) runs a FREE multiyear, multi-level basketball excellence program for tribal/urban slum area children called "Hope thru Hoops", with an aim to provide children from marginalized sections an opportunity to strive for excellence and develop character, confidence & courage.









New expansions, More lives to change thru Play in 2023-24

Update on the new expansions of Hi 5 Youth Foundations' basketball excellence program in three new locations across India:

Ramakrishna Mission School, Aalo in Arunachal Pradesh

Our association with Ramakrishna Mission School, Aalo and Arunachal Pradesh Basketball Association is going 3 months strong. With our beginner recruitment for the hostel and dayscholars, training 220 students. The program is in full - swing and we are a step closer

towards creating a world where everyone has equal access to the transformative power of sports. Stay tuned for more.







Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School, Sevalaya in Tamil Nadu

In May, we successfully piloted the program as a summer camp to engage students. We are currently training 230 students, thanks to the dedicated efforts of our Operations Manager, Mr. Sandeep Kulkarni, and the newly appointed coaches. The beginner selections and jersey distribution has been completed. This addition of the Hi 5 program has helped elevate the quality of play here.









Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh:

We are thrilled to associate with Andhra Pradesh Basketball association and Government high school. This association brings our program to even more aspiring basketball players and help them reach their full potential.





Coaches at the Jr. NBA Coaches Clinic



Our Team of coaches attended the Jr. NBA Coaches clinic conducted by Natalia Andre (Manager - NBA Asia Operations) & Mr. Fernando Bras (Technical director- NBA Basketball Academy) across various cities in India. The Jr. NBA and its partners are committed to providing resources and tools to support youth basketball coaches as they build their programs, develop young athletes, and





support their communities - on and off the court. We encourage all our coaches to attend these events, alongside working on the overall growth and development of players, Hi 5 parallelly works to help coaches with the best coaching practices since they majorly contribute to the program that allows us to shape the children to be better players and even better citizens in the community.



Newsletter

July - Sept 2023, Quarter 2



Tournaments

The Second Quarter saw a surge in tournament and game activity, and we're excited to share what's on the horizon.

Tournaments played across the states (July to Sept 23)		
Maharashtra	7	
Telangana	3	
Tamil Nadu	5	
West Bengal	4	

Hi 5's Podium Finishes (Jan 23 to Sep 23)	
1st Place	9
2nd Place	5
3rd Place	1
Semi-Finalists	4
Total	19

^{*}Table representation of all the states*

YMCA Kargil Victory Sports Fest



State : **Telangana**

Category: Krushi Home, Senior & Junior Team

Result: Winners

Jaco Dunk



State : West Bengal

Category: Hi 5 Parivaar, Under -18 Boys

Status: 3rd Place

Arjuna Cup, Beed



State: Maharashtra

Category: Hi 5 Club Under -18 Boys

Status: Co-winners (match was interrupted due to rains)

Oasis Khelo aur Khilao



State: Maharashtra,

Category: Vile Parle East MPS Under 14 Boys

Status: Runners Up







July - Sept 2023, Quarter 2

Oasis Khelo aur Khilao



State: Maharashtra,

Category: Sant Gadge Maharaj Ashram,

Vajreshwari, Under 17 Boys,

Status - Runners up

Thiruvallur Zonal Sports



State: Tamil Nadu,

Category: Sevalaya, Under 14 Boys and Girls,

Status : Winners

Category: Sevalaya, Under 17 Boys

Status: Winners, Under 17 Girls - Runners up Category: Sevalaya, Under 19 Boys and Girls,

Status: Winners

We look forward to adding to the winning streak in the upcoming tournaments.

Jr. NBA - 3x3 championship

The objective of the Jr. NBA Basketball Tournament is to impact youth players' long-term development by delivering a fun on-court experience.

Pre- covid, Hi 5 players have starred in the Mumbai All-star teams showing utter dominance in their respective age categories.

This year, the Hi 5 Youth Foundation has once again showcased its remarkable athletic



prowess in the prestigious Jr. NBA Basketball Tournament, making a lasting impact in three prominent cities across India out of the 14 cities which participated in the tournament..

With teams fiercely competing in Mumbai, Kolkata, and Hyderabad, these young athletes have not only demonstrated exceptional talent but have also exhibited unwavering determination that resonates throughout the entire tournament.





A total of **39 teams** represented the Hi 5 Youth Foundation, competing in various categories across the **three cities (Mumbai - 21, Hyderabad - 14, and Kolkata - 4)**. Among these, two teams clinched victory in their respective city categories **(U14 Boys in Kolkata and U12 Boys in Hyderabad)**, earning the honor of representing their cities at the National-level competition to be held in Noida.



Krushi Home

Regional Champions

Amar Bharti Vidyapeeth







Category: Boys Under 14

Congratulations to Coach Bhupathi of team ZPHS/Krushi Home, Telangana and Coach Digvijay of Team Amar Bharti Vidyapeeth/Hi 5 Parivaar, West Bengal for being the Regional Champions!

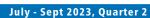
National Championship in Delhi

National Championship in Delhi - Team Krushi and Parivaar at the Jr. NBA Nationals in Delhi. The competition was fierce with regional champions from all over the country participating. While Team Hyderabad qualified for the Super League (Round 2) after winning the Round 1. Team Kolkata got knocked out the group stage.

This was the first time that many of our players got a chance to represent their cities in Jr NBA national championship and it was also the first time for many of them to fly on an airplane. Despite the losses, we are proud of the efforts of



our players and coaches. We know that this was a learning experience for everyone involved, and we are confident that they will come back stronger next year. We are committed to providing our players with the best possible training and support, and we are excited to see what they accomplish in the future.





Hi 5 Talent Shines: Players selected in the State/ District team

These player selections highlight the hard work, dedication, and exceptional passion for the game and we are confident that many more players at Hi 5 will excel in their basketball journeys.

Represented the West Bengal State team at the Nationals held in Pondicherry.



Category: Under 13 Boys

Players: Amir Hebram and Ashok Sardar

Center: Hi 5 Parivaar, West Bengal

Represented Nizamabad district at the Telangana State Inter - district championship



Category: Under 13 girls

Players: K Nikitha and Vilarath Abhingna

Center: Gandhari, Telangana

Pathways to Success

The 'Pathways to Success' is an education and counseling support initiative by Hi 5 Youth Foundation. This program is a key extension to our flagship basketball excellence program 'Hope thru Hoops'. This program aims to provide guidance and opportunities to students and helps them complete their higher education and pursue a successful career in life. It is available for the Urban Students as well as the Tribal students.

Pathways to Success - Urban

We are excited to announce the opening of our new study center, **Hi 5 Pragati**, as part of our Pathways to Success program. This center will provide our basketball excellence program students with a safe and supportive learning environment, as well as access to English Second Language (ESL) classes.



Newsletter _____

July - Sept 2023, Quarter 2





Our ESL teachers will create a fun and engaging learning environment that will help students develop their language skills and prepare them for success in school and beyond.

We believe that education is essential for



success, and we are committed to providing our students with the resources they need to reach their full potential. We are confident that Hi 5 Pragati will be a valuable asset to our program and we look forward to seeing the positive impactit has on our students' lives.

Pathways to Success - Tribal

The inaugural cohort of college graduates hailing from tribal communities, who embarked on their educational journey from the Sant Gadge Maharaj Residential School, are now poised to step into the realm of employment.

These students have been part of the Hope Thru Hoops™program since 2017 and continued to be part of the Pathways to success till their graduation. The momentous occasion unfolded at the very institution where they commenced

their educational odyssey, spanning from their early years to the completion of their secondary education, and it was marked by the presence of a distinguished gathering.

Among those in attendance were the proud parents of the accomplished students, dedicated school staff, college faculty, and the current student body.

These remarkable individuals serve as shining examples of transformative change,



Newsletter

July - Sept 2023, Quarter 2





underscoring the harmonious coexistence of sports and education. Their journey is a resounding testament to the notion that both can thrive side by side, illuminating a path of hope and achievement for others to follow.

Hi5 USA



Hi 5 USA is the fundraising arm of Hi 5 Youth Foundation India. Hi 5 USA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization set up in the USA helping the children in India for the Hope Thru Hoops basketball program and Pathways to Success, an education initiative program.

Miles 2 Smiles 2023 - RUN/ WALK/ BIKE Virtual event

Back by popular demand, our yearly fundraising and awareness initiative for Hi 5 India.

Hi 5 Youth Foundation USA invites you to participate in "Miles 2 Smiles", a sporting initiative where every mile you run, can help toward supporting our 1000 children in the "Hope Thru Hoops" basketball excellence program in Telangana. We encourage all fitness enthusiasts to participate.





Sign up here:

https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/SanJose/Miles2Smiles



Voices of Volunteers

Newsletter

Hi 5 enthusiast Ms. Srinidhi along with her daughters from Chicago visited the Krushi Home Residential Home in Telangana in August, here's what they have penned down from their experience and engagement with the players.

"I'm incredibly grateful to the Hi 5 Youth Foundation for an unforgettable experience. Sharing my love for basketball with these amazing kids left a lasting impact. Beyond basketball, the real joy came from building connections and meaningful relationships. I didn't want to leave; I could have spent hours talking and playing with them.

I want to give a huge shout out to the Hi 5 Youth Foundation and Krushi Home. In just two days, I saw the strong support system these kids have and the unity within the foundation. It's a testament to the incredible work being done. I can't wait for my next visit to work with them again" - Nisha Musunuri.

"Thank you Hi 5 Youth Foundation for letting me host a summer basketball camp at Krushi Home. The boys' impressive talents are a result of the dedicated coaching staff. Hi 5's wellorganized practices and tournaments show their commitment to success. During my visit, I was impressed by the excellent facilities at Krushi Home, providing the boys with unique opportunities compared to other village schools in India. Thanks to Hi 5 and Krushi Home, these boys are truly fortunate.

I want to express my gratitude for the unforgettable experience of spending time









with these enthusiastic boys. I'm eagerly looking forward to returning next summer." - - Niva Musunuri

"This summer, hosting the "Hope Thru Hoops" basketball camp with Hi 5 Youth Foundation at Krushi Home Residential Home was incredibly meaningful. It allowed me to share my love for the sport and spread positivity and hope among these kids, regardless of their circumstances.

The exceptional organization and resources at Krushi Home left a lasting impression on me, reflecting the care and sense of belonging these kids have in their special community. Every child was cooperative, respectful, and eager to participate throughout the camp. I cherished every moment of this experience and hope for the opportunity to do it again.

Many thanks to Hi 5 Youth Foundation and all the staff, including Mrs. Usha, Coach Bhupati, Mr. Geet, and Mr. Sham, for helping create such a wonderful memory."-Niki Musunuri.

Krishiv Masand, a high school student from Houston, Texas, volunteered at one of our centers in Mumbai, Maharashtra in early September.

He expressed saying "I am thankful to Hi 5 for giving me an opportunity to volunteer at an organization that is making a difference through the power of Basketball. Not only have I been able to share my passion for the game, but I've also witnessed the positive impact sports can have on young lives. The love was unexplainable, being along with students with the same like mindedness as me towards the game had to be motivated everyday."

Akash Sebastian and his family visited Krushi home and Sphoorti Model Foundation, in Mid August, he spent his formative years in Hyderabad until he completed his Computer Science degree at BITS. As an avid basketball enthusiast, his ultimate goal was to secure a job with the NBA in the United States. Presently, he holds the position of Coaching Analyst at the Phoenix Suns. Our Founders had the pleasure of meeting him during his visit to Hyderabad, and during this trip, he expressed a strong desire to witness the children of Hi 5 in action.





Akash is a dedicated supporter of Hi 5 and is committed to seizing any opportunity that comes his way to introduce more people to this wonderful organization.

Thank you to all volunteers, you are our heroes! Volunteering underscores the positive influence of Hi 5's programs and the commitment of our young athletes.



IMPACT STORY

Take off to the Terminal of Dreams

Do you recall the first time you spotted an airplane in the sky, perhaps mistaking it for a bird or pondering how such a massive machine can stay aloft? It's a memory shared by Hi 5's Parivaar team from Amar Bharti Vidyapeeth and the ZPHS/Krushi Home team, both of whom emerged as regional champions at the Jr. NBA 3x3 championship.

For these young athletes, earning a flight ticket to Delhi for the National Championship felt akin to securing a golden ticket to Mr. Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. However, their journey was to the basketball courts, where they would compete at the highest level.

Their flight experience was a remarkable milestone, and they've treasured their boarding passes as mementos of this achievement. At Hi 5, we are dedicated to providing every student in our program with moments of victory. These experiences, including flying on an airplane, underline the significance of Hi 5 in turning dreams into reality.







Hi 5 Feature in Publications:



Click on the links to read

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/moresports/others/andhra-pradesh-basketball-associationties-up-with-hi-5-youth-foundation-to-grow-the-sportin-state/articleshow/103844391.cms?from=mdr

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Ashok, Amir to represent West Bengal in subjunior national basketball championship



NACPUR: Ashok Sardar and Amir Hembram from Parviaar Education Society will represent West Bengal in the sub-junior (U-13) basketball nationals in Puducherry from August 3 to 9. The seven-day national championship is being organised by the Basketball Federation of India (BFI).

Both Ashok and Amir are being trained by the coaches of Hi 5 Youth Foundation under their 'Hope Thru Hoops' basketball excellence program and supported by Parivaer education society, which is West Bengal's largest free residential institution for children from deprived and destitute backgrounds.

Ashok, Amir to represent West Bengal in sub-junior national basketball championship http://toi.in/cDuz3Z/a31ga8

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Andhra Pradesh basketball association ties up with Hi 5 Youth Foundation to grow the sport in state



NAGPUR: With an aim to revolutionize the state of basketball in India from the grassroots level, Hi 5 Youth Foundation has partnered with Andhra Pradesh State Basketball Associatio APSBA). This marks the foundation's first partnership with any state association in India. Hi 5 a non-profit organization committed to fostering excellence amongst the underprivil youth in the country through its flagship 'Hope Thru Hoops' Basketball Excellence Program.

https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telanga na/a-slam-dunk-idea-to-spread-smiles-amongindias-marginalised-youth/article67049874.ece

Concluding note: More the Merrier!

As we wrap up another exciting quarter, Team Hi 5 is grateful for your unwavering support.

Our goals are set high. With 4000+ children spread across 8 Indian States already benefiting from the transformative Hope Thru Hoops and Pathways to success programs, we aim to expand our reach further, touching the lives of even more young minds bringing about a transformational change in their lives.

We are excited to announce the upcoming Intra Hi 5 League in Maharashtra and Telangana where the green brigades come together for a showdown on the basketball court.

Our mission remains steadfast: to change young lives through play.

Our Partners & Supporters



































You've received this newsletter because you'd like to be updated about Hi 5 Youth Foundation

Hi 5 Youth Foundation USA is a US 501(c)(3) public charity. EIN #82 - 2176193. Copyright © 2022. Hi 5 Youth Foundation. All rights reserved. Published by - Hi5 Youth Foundation | Written: Usha Sundar & Janvi Shinde and Editor: Reshma Sharma

Hi 5 Youth Foundation, Wing B2 - Unit 204, Kanakia Boomerang, Chandivali Farm Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai 400072, India Website: hi5youthfoundation.com Email: info@hi5youthfoundation.com Website: hi5usa.org Contact: admin@hi5usa.org

https://hi5usa.org/donate/