PICTURE THIS!

Rahul, a young child on the autism spectrum is enrolled in a regular school. There are 35 children in the classroom and the noise level during the unstructured portion of class-time (break time, practice for school events, music and sports class, extra-curricular activities like drama class and art class) is challenging for him. He seeks a quieter environment and a more predictable routine. Unable to express his wants but trying to communicate with them, he approaches the other children and pushes them apart.

He then runs to the teacher and starts to poke and prod her, hoping she will intervene and support him. Instead, he is made to stand facing the corner. He is later taken to the principal’s office and is scolded for not owning up and apologizing. He experiences confusion about what happened, but knows he is a bad boy and that no one will play with him today. He feels sad and unhappy.

In order to support children like Rahul, Ummeed is launching the Ummeed Inclusion Fellowship Program (UIFP) in 2021.
UMMEED INCLUSION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

UIFP is an immersive two-year experience during which the fellows will be placed in different under-resourced schools within the city of Mumbai. The objective of the UIFP is to build a cadre of Inclusion Champions who will get an opportunity to understand the grass root realities of India’s education system in the context of inclusion and strive to create an ecosystem of inclusive spaces in mainstream education.

THE INCLUSION CHAMPIONS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO:

- Create, promote and implement effective inclusive practices.
- Create and facilitate effective trainings for different stakeholders.
- Support teacher’s/ resource persons to identify challenges faced by students with varied needs by conducting informal assessments and observations.
- Support teacher’s/ resource persons to create and implement individualised education plans for children with varied needs.
- Support stakeholders by creating safe spaces to facilitate reflective conversations.
- Identify partners and leverage shared strengths to deepen and scale impact.

UIFP COURSE

UIFP is a 2-year full time program [6 days a week] where fellows spend 5 days in a school (as per school timings) and 1 day at Ummeed.

FOCUS AREAS:

- Inclusive Education
- Child Development
- Developmental Disabilities
- Social inclusion
- Academic Inclusion
- Case Discussions
- Peer Learning
- Reflective Discussions

Location: Mumbai
**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

- Minimum B.Ed. / Masters in Special Education / Masters in Counselling **AND** Minimum 2 years of teaching experience.
- **OR**
- 2 years of Fellowship in the space of Education (Candidates with volunteering experience in the space of Inclusive Education are also welcome to apply)

**SKILLS REQUIRED**

- Belief in the philosophy of inclusion and that all students can learn irrespective of their diverse needs.
- Creativity and flexibility in supporting children within school systems
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to collaborate with diverse teams
- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal
- Excellent documentation skills
- Attention to detail and strong planning and organization skills
- Ability to be reflective

**SKILLS PREFERRED**

- Fluency in Hindi/Marathi
- Knowledge of different types of school systems

**APPLICATION**

- **ONLINE APPLICATION**
- In-Person Interview Round 1
- In-Person Interview Round 2

If you want to be a change-maker who aspires to re-define what inclusion looks like in our country, this is your opportunity!

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON UIFP,**

- Contact: fellowship@ummeed.org
- Mobile: Sajida 9819406723, Deepti 9920016826
- https://ummeed.org

Stipend will be given during the course of the program.

**FOR APPLYING FOR THE UIFP PLEASE CLICK HERE!**
Rahul, a young child on the autism spectrum, goes to an inclusive school. There are 50 children in the classroom. The class teacher knows that there will be noise and unpredictability during classes like music, sports, and drama. She takes him aside in drama class and seats him close to her with his work before instructing the class to break into groups and begin their work. She has made a plan with him to give her a non-verbal signal in advance whenever he feels that the environment is getting too loud or that he needs to be by himself. She will call out to him and give him the option to sit by her whenever he gives this signal. The class completes their work and they are all called to enact their pieces. He loves reciting and has a gift for memorising long paragraphs. He does an excellent job and the whole class claps. It is break-time and another little boy takes his hand and they move toward the lunchroom together.

The Fellowship hopes to create a world like this for Rahul, where the environment is welcoming and his unique abilities are celebrated.

UMMEED CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Ummeed is one of India’s premier non-profit organizations providing specialized family-centered care to children with developmental disabilities and their families and is active in training, research, and advocacy. It believes that all children with developmental disabilities can reach their maximum potential and be included in society, if given the chance. As care providers with a commitment to supporting children with disabilities to perform to the best of their potential, Ummeed cannot ignore the functioning of our children in schools. Ummeed’s School Outreach team works both with mainstream and special schools to promote the development of inclusive environments and practices within schools.

OFFICIAL / CLINICAL FACILITY

Ummeed Child Development Center, Ground Floor, Mantri Pride 1-B, 1/62, N.M. Joshi Marg, Subhash Nagar, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400 011

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