

# June 2023 Newsletter



play  quity

**Building equity through play  
by inverting gender roles**

# President's Message



Dear Playquity family,

Since our last newsletter, we have been working diligently to provide our girls with the tools they need to succeed - in Playquity and beyond. We are delighted to seem improve their frisbee skills and developing critical life skills that will serve them well in the future.

In this issue, you will hear updates from the field, get introduced to new partners and learn about the impact our programs are having on the girls you support. They are growing in confidence, and their self-esteem is soaring. They are developing leadership skills, learning teamwork, and experiencing the joy of sports. We are confident that, by the end of the program, they will achieve their full potential and become positive role models in their communities.

None of this would have been possible without your continued support. We are truly grateful for your generosity and commitment to our mission. We hope you will continue to support us as we work towards our shared goal of empowering young girls through education and sports.

With love,  
Swapnaa

# Coaches' Corner

## Mothers' Meet-ups

This is a significant and recent initiative that is wildly successful. The first meet-ups were hosted in Arasampattu by Coach Kavitha and Udaipur by Coach Joshila. We invited all the parents of our participants to come together for a presentation and discussion.

These meet-ups enable parents (mostly mothers) of Playquity girls to unite and discuss their daughters' progress, and share concerns and challenges they may be facing.

Such opportunities to hear directly from parents will be incredibly valuable for us to and understand their perspective on program and the participants' wellbeing.



# Coaches' Corner



## Home Visits

Similar to the Mothers' Meet-ups, Coach Anjona is implementing Home Visits in Chabua. The coach visits the homes of the girls we support to discuss their progress and any challenges they may be facing. These visits are essential to building a strong relationship with the girls' families (intergenerational, typically), and allows us to provide support and assistance as needed.



The home visits and parent meetings are designed to solicit active family participation in our programming so that we are always working closely with the community. They allow us to share success stories and learn about potential issues. By building a strong relationship with parents, we are tailoring Playquity programs that address the needs and expectations of each unique community we work in.



# Coaches' Corner

## Summer Camp

In Auroville and Arasampattu, Coach Selvi and Coach Kavitha hosted summer camps for their communities. The camps were a great success, and the girls enjoyed a range of activities, including frisbee, nature walks, reading, and team-building exercises. They provided an opportunity for the girls to build their self-confidence, make new friends, and develop new skills.

## Academic support

Finally, we've been able to provide academic support to the Playquity girls in Chabua and Arasampattu. Coach Anjona and Coach Kavitha work closely with the girls to identify areas where they need additional support, and provide guidance on reading and homework. By providing this space, we hope to give these girls the tools they need to balance school and Playquity.



# Partnerships



## Welcome to the family, SPS!

We are thrilled to announce our tenth Playquity partnership with Samaj Pragati Sahayog (SPS), a non-profit working towards women's empowerment, water, and livelihood in the central Indian Adivasi Belt. SPS has been working since 1990, inspired by the late Baba Amte's vision of social justice.

SPS's slogan, "everyone contributes their best for the success of the whole," reflects their values of compassion, balance, gratitude, humility, and forgiveness. They have been working in the districts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra for the last 30 years, empowering around 55,000 women, including 14 federations of women, through various initiatives such as self-help and solidarity.



# Partnerships



We are particularly excited about their joyful approach to bringing change through sports. Many women in the communities they work with have never had the opportunity to enjoy sports. As part of their collaboration with us, SPS will focus on menstrual health while implementing the Playquity modules.

The intended outcome of our collaboration is to make women stronger and give them agency in their lives, making them the backbone of their society.

During the second week of May, our team visited SPS to kickoff the partnership and introduce 40+ women to Ultimate Frisbee. We are thrilled about the possibilities this partnership presents and look forward to working together to make a meaningful impact.



# Field Partners

★ **Headquarters**

📍 **Community Site**

## **Assam:**

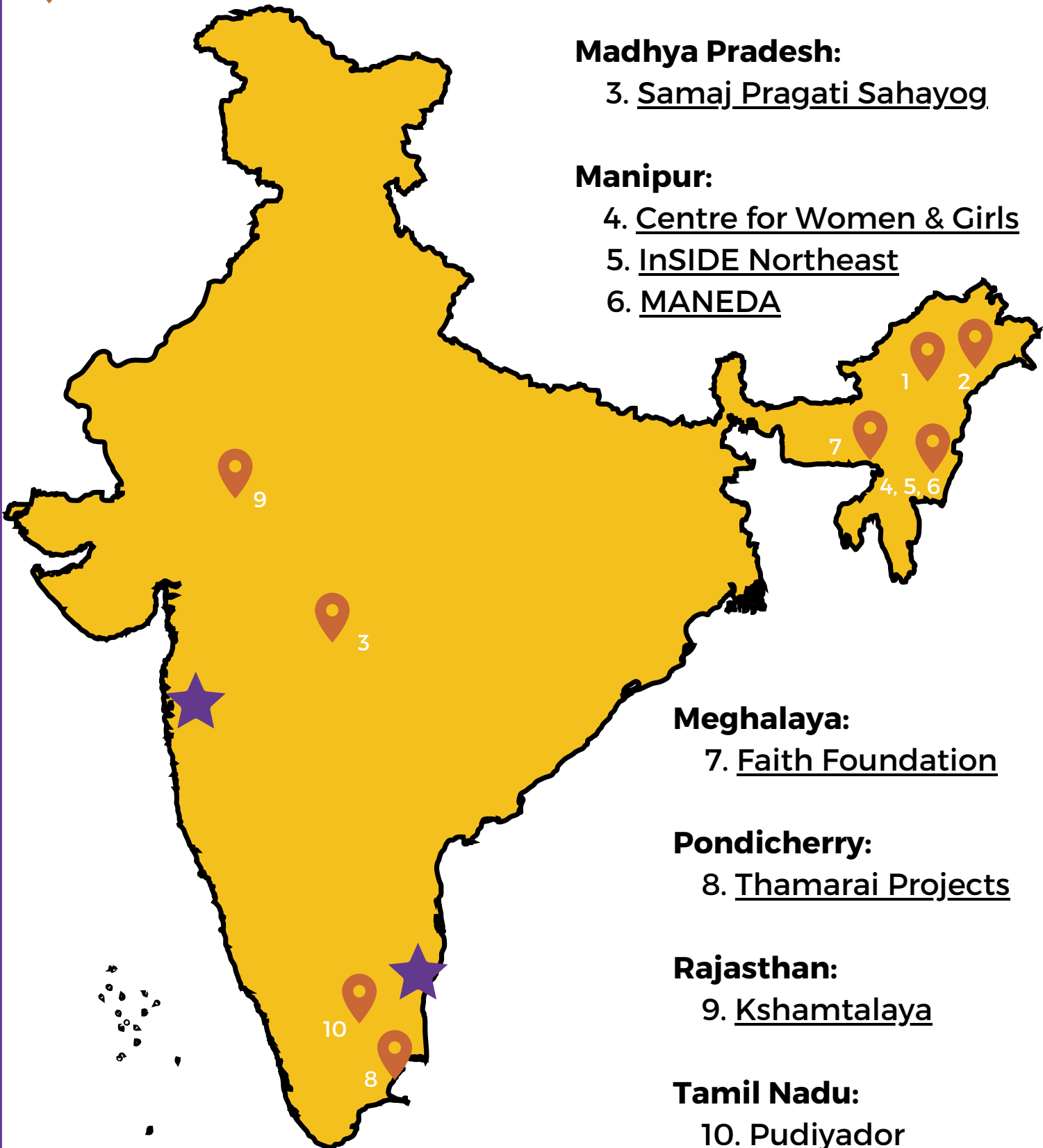
1. Jeevan Shiksha
2. Rural Volunteer Centre

## **Madhya Pradesh:**

3. Samaj Pragati Sahayog

## **Manipur:**

4. Centre for Women & Girls
5. InSIDE Northeast
6. MANEDA



## **Meghalaya:**

7. Faith Foundation

## **Pondicherry:**

8. Thamarai Projects

## **Rajasthan:**

9. Kshamtalaya

## **Tamil Nadu:**

10. Pudiyador



# Impact



**In 2023**  
300+ Participants  
10 locations  
1 New NGO Partner  
600+ Hours of Sessions  
200+ Strength & Skills Assessments  
5 Community Tournaments

Sunaina Yadav, a student at Down To Earth NGO in Mumbai, joined the Playquity team as an intern in May. During her internship, she participated in an introductory workshop conducted at Samaj Pragati Sahayog organization.

"I was fortunate to have got the opportunity to be part of Playquity, Jyoti didi's leadership left a deep impression on me. Her dedication and guidance have ignited a desire within me to boost my confidence and work towards becoming a good leader in the future. I learned valuable lessons about kindness and unity by witnessing the caring nature of the women I had the pleasure of meeting." - Sunaina Yadav



**Our Chabua site received 30 discs and jerseys donated by Photographer Kaveer Rai and Portland Ultimate - thank you!**





# Impact

Our coach, Joshila from Mount Abu and the Kshamtalya Foundation shared her inspiring experience of learning how to ride a bicycle during the Playquity Academy 2022. She overcame challenges and mastered the skill, and now is teaching Coach Hansa how to ride a bicycle as well.

Rashmi was introduced to Playquity as a participant during an training session with the Rural Volunteer Center in Assam. Similar to other girls and young women in her community, she faces many obstacles in continuing her education. Despite her family's financial constraints and her father's hearing impairment, Rashmi displayed curiosity, enthusiasm, and dedication.

Today, she is a Coach In Training and is actively implementing the Playquity project in her village, Buristi Nalapara. Her story exemplifies the transformative impact of our initiatives on upcoming women leaders.





# Looking Ahead

**This summer, we are beginning our partnership with Kickoff Solution's Rural Girl Coach project in Chabua, Assam.**

The ambition of the Rural Girl Coach project is to enable an ecosystem at the grassroots that builds the capacities of female sports coaches in order to maximize the potential of young female athletes within and beyond sport, while changing the perceptions of key grassroots stakeholders towards the participation of girls in sport.

As leader, Coach Anjona will play a crucial role in organizing and implementing the initiatives of the Rural Girl Coach Project. Her passion for ultimate Frisbee and commitment to empowering girls in her community will drive the project forward. She will be responsible for training and mentoring the girls, helping them develop their skills, and fostering their personal growth. The collaborative effort of Kickoff Solutions and Playquity have a strong foundation for success.



# Looking Ahead

**Announcing the commencement of the 2023 Playquity Academy on 23rd June! All the coaches from our ten locations gather to learn new Frisbee skills, build a strong sense of community, and continue the success of last year's momentum.**

This year's academy integrates new coaches and those in training, fostering collaboration and fresh perspectives. Together, we are empowering girls, expanding our Playquity community, and creating a future where every girl can thrive.



# Looking Ahead

playquity

building equity  
through play



Playquity is growing! We are looking for an inspiring woman to serve as our next **Director of Operations**. She is someone who cares deeply about equity and empowerment, wants to work with a passionate and high-energy team, is not afraid to ask tough questions, boldly speaks truth to leadership, and brings unique perspectives from her experiences.

Are you passionate about Playquity's mission?  
Do you want to lead a robust growth-phase organization?  
Do you enjoy building partnerships, solving complex problems?

**If yes, apply by June 18!**

Your responsibilities will include:

- Driving the vision by growing resources such as staff and funding
- Managing operations in 6 states with 10 rural NGO partners
- Strengthening programming and curriculum development
- Expanding and sustaining new partnerships



sport-for-  
development  
experience  
is a plus!



Send your resume to: [jobs@playquity.org](mailto:jobs@playquity.org)

# Get Involved

## Coach/ Volunteer

Playquity welcomes individuals and groups interested in our project. We accept volunteer coaches, trainers, and those who are hoping to get involved!

## Follow us

Follow us on social media and share our organization with your network!



Playquity @Playquitysocial

## Donate

Your contributions ensure that Playquity's operations continue to empower and maintain ongoing programming for our girls and members of the community.

## Partner

Help us partner with organizations you know so we can conduct events and start new projects!

## For more information:



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