

Stories Inside

- 5K training session in Johns Creek, GA
- Interns visited the Consulate General of India in Houston, TX
- Sewa signed an agreement with the Vibrant Villages Program in India
- Sewa supported SHE initiative in Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan, India
- Volunteers Plan Half-Yearly Meeting in Phoenix, AZ
- LEADs Complete Two Service Projects in Denver, CO
- Hydration station for runners in San Jose, CA
- Volunteers Organize a Chess Tournament in Tampa, FL
- Upcoming Events
- Upcoming Events

America Celebrates its 250th Birthday

See Page 4

Sewa Volunteers Support FIFA World Cup Operations in Houston, Raise Funds for Family Services



Sewa volunteers supported thousands of fans attending the FIFA World Cup matches in Houston (first photo) and were recognized at a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast (second photo).

Sewa International supported operations during three FIFA World Cup matches at NRG Stadium in Houston on June 14, June 20, and July 4 in partnership with S.A.F.E. (Security, Athletic Facilities & Events) Management. More than 120 Sewa volunteers contributed 2,051 service hours, helping welcome thousands of fans to the stadium while raising over \$35,000 to strengthen Sewa's Family Services Program.

The volunteers served in key operational roles, including fan entry screening, ticket scanning, directional assistance, and line management. Despite Houston's summer heat and occasional rain, they completed long shifts. Sewa celebrated the impact of their service during a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on July 12, where volunteers received commemorative FIFA volunteer T-shirts.

The funds raised during the event will support Sewa's Family Services Program, which assists individuals and families facing difficult circumstances, including the loss of a loved one, medical emergencies, family crises, immigration-related challenges, and support for senior citizens. The contribution will help expand the program's reach and provide timely assistance to more community members in need.

Contd... on page 5

Sewa AmeriCorps Summer Camp Enables Young Learners in Atlanta



Sewa International's Atlanta Chapter organized a four-week Sewa AmeriCorps Summer Camp, providing K-8 students with an engaging STEM learning experience in Atlanta, GA

Sewa International recently concluded its four-week Sewa AmeriCorps Summer Camp 2026 for K-8 students in Atlanta, GA. The camp combined STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, financial literacy, leadership development, civic engagement, and service-learning, attracting about 68 children. Through hands-on activities, guest speakers, outdoor learning, and collaborative projects, the camp reinforced knowledge kids gained during the school year while strengthening critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, and social-emotional skills.

The camp offered a curriculum designed to prepare students for success both inside and outside the classroom. Weekly themes included STEM exploration, civic responsibility, financial literacy, and leadership, giving campers practical opportunities to solve problems, build confidence, and develop a lifelong commitment to community service.

Contd... on page 5

5K Training Reaches Halfway Mark with Strong Community Participation in Johns Creek, GA



Sewa volunteers completed the third 5K training session in Johns Creek, GA

Sewa volunteers and participants completed the third 5K training session at the Sewa 5K Training Program in Johns Creek, GA, on July 20. The session marked the halfway point in the training series as runners and walkers continued preparing for the Sewa 5K scheduled on August 22.

Srikanth Gundavarapu, President of Sewa International USA, and Saumitra Gokhale, Sewa Global Chief Advisor, who participated in the event encouraged the participants by highlighting Sewa's service initiatives in the U.S. and around the world. Bala Indurti, President of Sankara Nethralaya USA, and Rajeev Menon, co-founder of CoHNA (Coalition of Hindus of North America), also shared insights into their organizations' community impact. Sewa thanked Coach Jack, Suma, and Gowri for leading the weekly training sessions and supporting participants throughout their fitness journey.

Interns Visit Indian Consulate during Summer Internship in Houston, TX



Sewa volunteers and interns met with the Consul General of India D. C. Manjunath (fourth from left) in Houston, TX

Nearly 40 Sewa interns visited the Consulate General of India, and met with the Consul General D. C. Manjunath, as part of the Sewa International Summer Internship Program in Houston, TX, on July 15. Sewa interns learned about the Consulate's vision and India's evolving global role through a presentation by Prashant Sona and participated in a session on yoga, meditation, and personal well-being led by Sujan Shah. Sewa thanked the Consulate team for their hospitality and for providing an enriching learning experience that many interns described as a highlight of the program.

Participants Join 5K Run & Walk Supporting Senior Mental Wellbeing in Clark, NJ



Sewa volunteers welcomed over 400 participants in Clark, NJ

Over 400 participants joined the second annual Sewa 5K Run & Walk in Clark, NJ, on July 12. The event promoted fitness while raising funds to support senior mental wellbeing programs that provide care, connection, and support for older adults. Mayor Angel Albanese of Clark inaugurated and recognized the dedication of Sewa volunteers, while Mayor John E. McCormac of Woodbridge Township attended the event. Sewa LEAD (Leadership, Education, and Development) volunteers, parents, sponsors, and chapter members worked together for several months to plan and organize the event.

Vibrant Villages Programme Partners with Sewa to Strengthen Villages in India



From left to right, second photo: Prof. Kalpesh Wandra, Managing Director, AIC-RRU and Pro-Vice Chancellor, RRU; KG Shyam Parande, General Secretary and Global Coordinator, Sewa International; and Sarita Bhatia, Director-Strategic Partnerships, Sewa International

Sewa International partnered with the AIC-RRU (Atal Incubation Centre-Rashtriya Raksha University) Foundation to support India's Vibrant Villages Programme. A partnership agreement was signed at an event in India on July 5. The collaboration combines AIC-RRU's innovation and incubation expertise with Sewa's grassroots implementation experience to execute programs that improve the quality of life in India's border and remote villages.

Through this partnership, Sewa will help implement programs that strengthen skill development and livelihoods, expand access to healthcare and education, promote women's empowerment, encourage rural entrepreneurship, and increase digital inclusion. The initiative will also support startup incubation, innovation ecosystems, and sustainable infrastructure development in border regions.

The partnership aligns with the vision of national institutions such as NITI Aayog and supports the goals of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat 2047. By working together, AIC-RRU Incubation Foundation and Sewa aim to build resilient, self-reliant, and economically vibrant border villages through community-driven and sustainable development.

Homemade Meals Prepared and Delivered in Chesterfield, NJ



Sewa volunteers prepared and delivered more than 150 homemade meals as part of the monthly Sewa Meal program in Chesterfield, NJ, on July 11.

Sewa's youth and parent volunteers prepared the meals with support from generous sponsors to help serve individuals in need. The meal included veggie pasta, salad, Portuguese rolls, chips or pretzels, and brownies or cake, which were delivered to Westminster Presbyterian Church in Trenton.

Sewa volunteers prepared and delivered 150+ meals in Chesterfield, NJ

Volunteers Support Community Cleanup in Roebling, NJ



Sewa volunteers participated in a community cleanup in Roebling, NJ

About 25 Sewa volunteers participated in the "Clean Up the Community" event organized by Councilwoman Gina Sullivan in Roebling, NJ, on July 12. The volunteers cleaned public spaces alongside residents to help keep the neighborhood clean and welcoming. Sewa joined the community-wide effort in partnership with Florence Township, demonstrating its commitment to environmental stewardship and volunteer service.

Meals and Grocery Boxes Distributed During Independence Service Event in Dallas, TX



Sewa volunteers distributed meals and groceries in Dallas, TX

Sewa volunteers distributed 50 boxes of fresh groceries, 50 packed lunch boxes, and 150 freshly made sandwiches at the Independence Day service event in Dallas, TX, on July 4. Sewa's North Texas chapter partnered with the local Hindu Temple Ekta Mandir to organize the Sewa Hindu Mobile Pantry, providing food assistance to local families and individuals in need.

In another event that day, over 80 Sewa volunteers supported the "Freedom Over Texas" celebration at Eleanor Tinsley Park in Houston, TX. The volunteers served in two shifts, assisting with gate operations, sponsor booths, the Kids Zone, and the 'Futbol Park' to help ensure a smooth experience for attendees. Despite record-breaking heat and challenging parking conditions, Sewa volunteers served throughout the event.

Volunteers Join July 4 Parade Celebrating America's 250th Birthday in Aurora, IL



Sewa volunteers participated in the July 4 parade in Aurora, IL

Sewa Chicago volunteers participated in the Independence Day parade with the City of Aurora's Indian American Community Outreach Advisory Board and the City of Aurora Government in Aurora, IL, on July 4. The event celebrated America's 250th birthday and brought together residents from across the community.

SHE Initiative Expands School Support in Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan, India



Sewa volunteers supported the SHE initiative in Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan, India

Sewa completed school toilet construction in the Lower Dibang Valley in Arunachal Pradesh and Barmer, Rajasthan, India, on July 11. Built under Sewa's SHE (Sanitation, Hygiene, and Empowerment Project for the Girl Child) initiative, these toilets offer safe sanitation facilities in schools. Establishing WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) Clubs, providing menstrual hygiene education, and distributing SHE Flow Kits are also part of the initiative. Sewa's efforts helped empower adolescent girls with the knowledge, resources, and confidence to continue their education with dignity.

Community Centers Receive Disaster Preparedness Training in Harris County, TX



Sewa volunteers conducted disaster preparedness workshops in Harris County, TX

Sewa volunteers celebrated their partnership with Harris County Precinct 4 and Commissioner Lesley Briones at the Disaster Preparedness Outreach Program in Harris County, TX, on July 10. The Sewa Houston AmeriCorps Disaster Preparedness Outreach Team conducted interactive workshops at eight community centers, helping residents prepare for hurricanes, tornadoes, extreme heat, and disaster recovery. Participants learned how to build emergency kits, create family preparedness plans, respond safely during emergencies, recognize heat-related illnesses, and access recovery resources after disasters.

Phoenix Plans Upcoming Volunteer Initiatives at Half-Yearly Meeting



Sewa volunteers planned upcoming service initiatives in Phoenix, AZ

On July 11, Sewa volunteers met for the half-yearly planning meeting in Phoenix, AZ. The team reviewed ongoing activities, discussed upcoming volunteering initiatives, and planned future community service events.

Volunteers identified priorities and planned service opportunities until December 2026. Prasad Koranne, Director, Central Region, attended the meeting.

Sewa Volunteers Support FIFA World Cup Operations in Houston, Raise Funds for Family Services

Contd... from page 1

"Our volunteers served with dedication, enthusiasm, and compassion throughout this unique opportunity. Working 8 to 10 hours outdoors during the Houston summer required commitment and resilience. We sincerely thank every volunteer for their selfless service and are grateful to S.A.F.E. Management for partnering with us to create this meaningful opportunity that will directly benefit families in need," said Srikanth Gundavarapu, President of Sewa International USA.

"We appreciate Sewa International and its team and the support and energy they brought to the World Cup in Houston," said Becca Holtgreive, Managing Director of S.A.F.E. Management. "We hope we have the opportunity to work together again."

Volunteer Vishal Khurana praised the event's organizers and said serving fans from around the world made the experience especially rewarding. Volunteer Preanka Arti, one of only 10 Sewa volunteers who served at all three matches, described the experience as physically demanding yet deeply fulfilling, saying she was proud to represent her community as she welcomed thousands of international fans.

Sewa AmeriCorps Summer Camp Enables Young Learners

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"Our goal was to create an environment where children could continue learning, build confidence, and develop a spirit of service during the summer. Watching our campers grow academically, socially, and personally over four weeks was incredibly rewarding. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and compassion reflected the true purpose of the program," said Varsha Chauhan, Program Director of Sewa International AmeriCorps Atlanta.

The closing ceremony featured student presentations, including STEM demonstrations, science experiments, community-themed skits, and engineering projects such as a solar-powered car, a mechanical hand, and Newton's Pendulum. Campers also demonstrated the yoga they learnt in the camp. Sewa recognized the contributions of its LEAD (Leadership, Education, and Development) high school volunteers, AmeriCorps members, teachers, and community partners, including Georgia Serves, local parks and recreation departments, Happy Helpings, MealsPro, and other organizations who made the camp possible.

One of the program's most inspiring moments came from former camper AJ, who shared how participating in the camp in 2023 inspired her to return in 2026 as a Sewa volunteer. Her journey from camper to mentor underscored the lasting impact of Sewa's youth programs and its dedication to cultivating future community leaders.

LEAD Students Complete Two Service Projects in Denver, CO

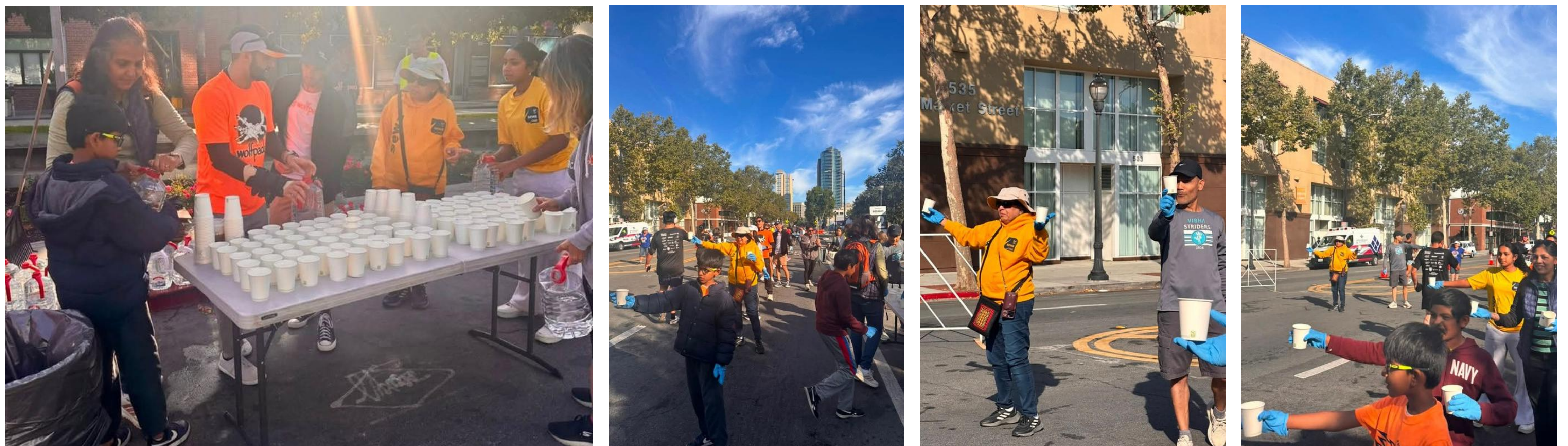


Sewa volunteers and LEAD students completed two service projects in Denver, CO

On July 17 and 18, Sewa LEAD (Leadership, Education, and Development) students participated in two volunteer service projects in Denver, CO. The students assembled Kynd Kits for children at a local children's hospital, providing comfort and encouragement to young patients and their families on July 17.

Denver LEAD participants also volunteered at The Hindu Temple of Colorado on July 18, helping prepare and serve meals for approximately 1,000 people by cooking, cutting vegetables, making *puris* (deep-fried flatbread), washing dishes, and assisting with kitchen cleanup. Through both activities, Sewa helped students strengthen leadership, teamwork, compassion, and a lifelong commitment to selfless service.

Runners Receive Hydration Support from Volunteers in San Jose, CA



Sewa volunteers managed a hydration station for runners in San Jose, CA

Over ten Sewa volunteers managed a hydration station to support the Bloom Energy Tarana Wellness Stars and Strides Run in San Jose, CA, on July 11. The volunteers distributed water to over 1,000 runners and cheered them up to keep them hydrated and motivated throughout the event. Sewa supported the fundraiser benefiting the Valley Health Foundation, which provides programs and services that improve health and well-being across the region.

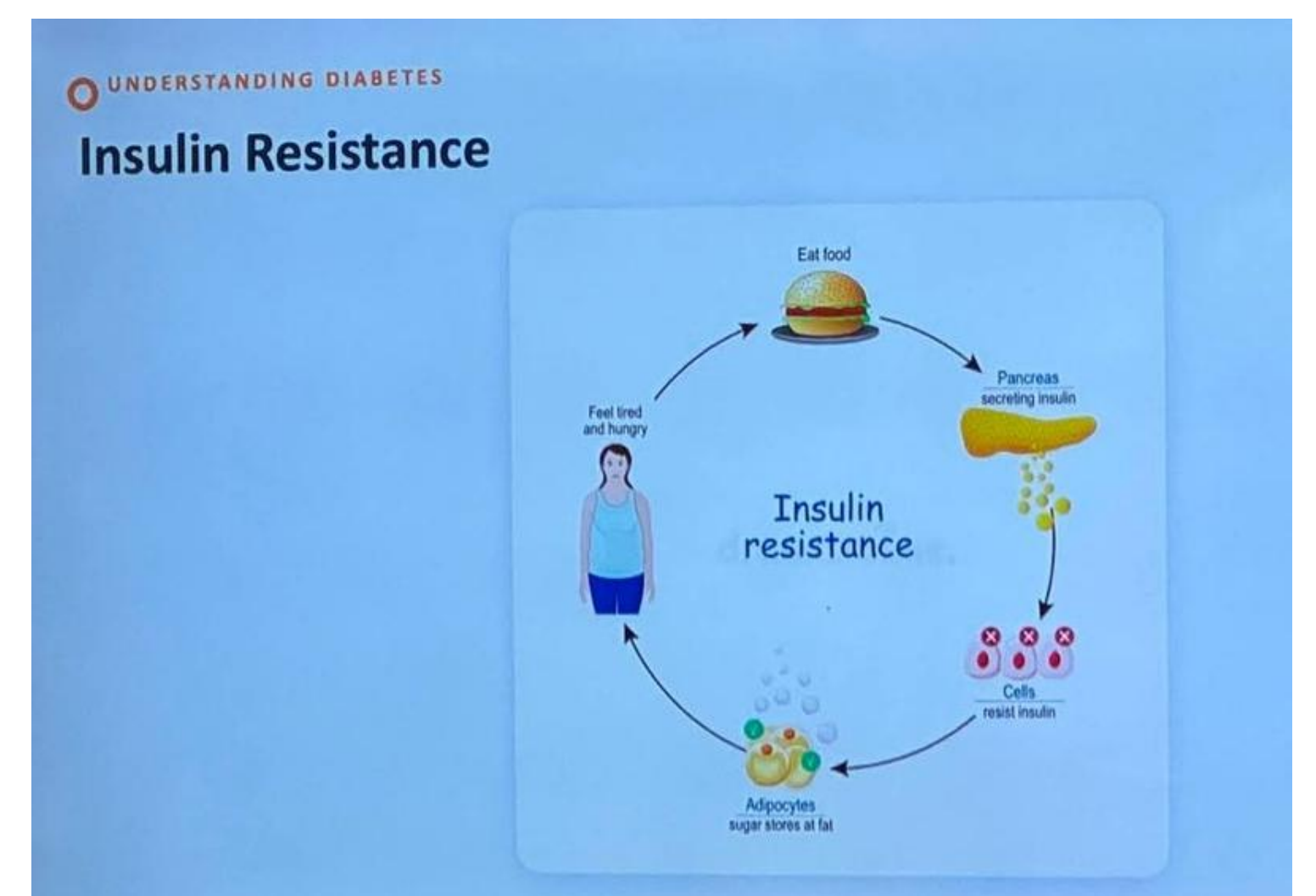
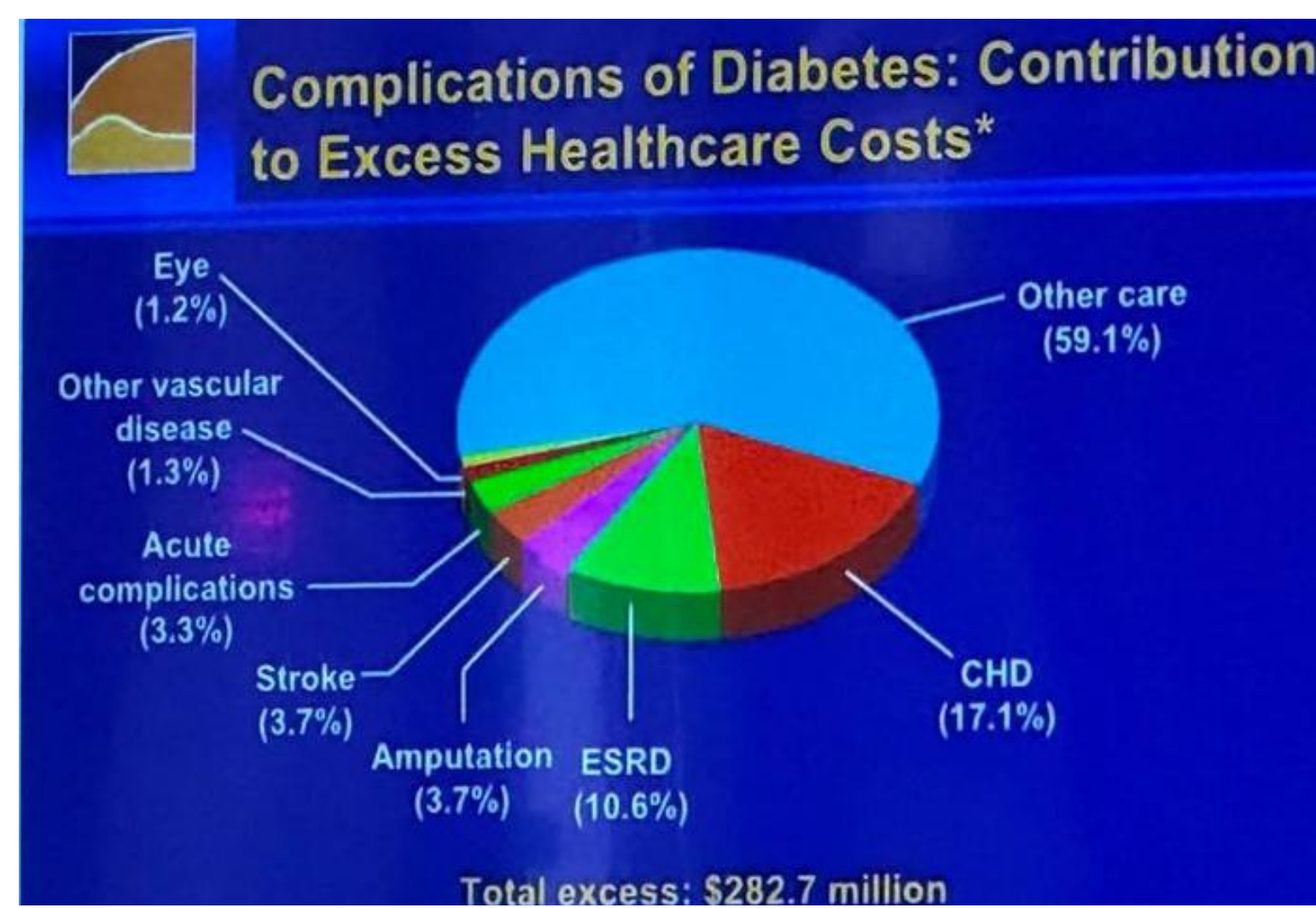
Volunteers Prepare and Deliver Meals across Seattle, WA



Sewa volunteers delivered vegetarian meals in Seattle, WA

Sewa volunteers prepared and delivered vegetarian meals at the Food Donation Drive in Seattle, WA, on July 5. Nine volunteers contributed 27 volunteer hours to serve approximately 270 individuals through partnerships with Friends of Youth, PorchLight, Sophia's Place Shelter, and Auburn. Sewa provided nutritious meals, including cooked rice, curry, vegetables, and protein-rich dishes, helping support youth, seniors, and individuals experiencing housing insecurity across multiple locations.

Participants Learn Diabetes Prevention at Awareness Workshop in San Jose, CA



Sewa volunteers organized a Diabetes Awareness Workshop in San Jose, CA

About 15 youth and adult participants attended the Diabetes Awareness Workshop organized by Sewa Bay Area, under the AACI (Asian Americans for Community Involvement) Grant in San Jose, CA, on July 11. The interactive workshop focused on diabetes prevention, management, nutrition, and healthy lifestyle practices.

Dr. Bindra explained diabetes, its types, risk factors, potential complications, and the importance of monitoring blood sugar levels and working with healthcare providers to manage the condition. Youth participants asked questions and learned about preventive health.

Volunteers Sort Clothes During Donation Drive in San Diego, CA



Sewa volunteers sorted donated clothes in San Diego, CA

Sewa volunteers collected, sorted, and organized donated clothing at the Clothes Donation Drive in San Diego, CA, on July 19. The volunteers processed about 287 pounds of clothing received between July 11 and July 19 and dedicated 12 volunteer hours to the effort. Sewa continued preparing the donations for distribution while additional clothing remained to be sorted. The drive helped provide essential clothing to individuals and families in need through the support of volunteers and donors.

Health Camps Serve Over 300 Patients from 10 Villages in Spiti Valley, India



Sewa volunteers conducted six health camps in Spiti Valley, India

Sewa organized six General Health Camps through its Sewa Aarogyam initiative across 10 villages in Spiti Valley in Himachal Pradesh, India, on July 10. The camps provided medical consultations, essential medicines, and preventive healthcare services to more than 300 patients, reducing the need for residents to travel long distances for basic healthcare. Sewa conducted the initiative with support from Bahar Infocons Pvt. Ltd., helping improve access to timely medical care for remote communities.

Tampa Volunteers Organize a Chess Tournament and Sort 12,000 Pounds of Food

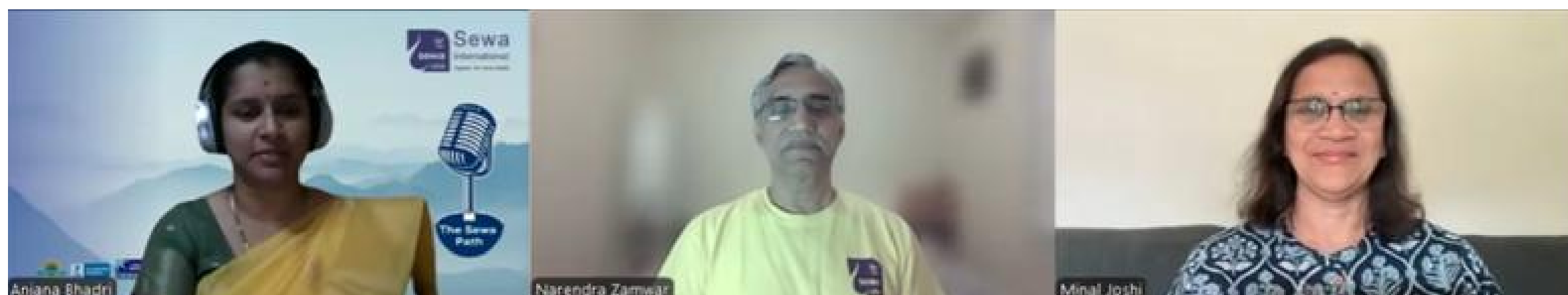


Sewa volunteers organized a Chess Tournament (first two photos) and food donation effort (next two photos) in Tampa, FL

Sewa volunteers organized a Chess Tournament at a fundraising event in Tampa, FL, on July 18, supporting HEF's (Hillsborough Education Foundation) Back-to-School Backpack Drive. The tournament brought together children and families for a day of friendly competition, while Sewa LEAD (Leadership, Education, and Development) youth and adult volunteers managed event setup, registration, match timing, and umpiring to ensure the tournament ran smoothly.

On the same day, in another event, Sewa volunteers participated in the Food Donation Drive at Feeding Tampa Bay in Tampa, FL. Nineteen volunteers, including children and parents, contributed 57 volunteer hours to sort about 12,000 pounds of food, helping provide meals for families in need.

Sewa Path – Now Streaming!



Sewa International USA launched a new virtual podcast series, "Sewa Path – Learning from Life Journeys Grounded in Values," on July 17, featuring insightful conversations with experts on topics that educate, inspire, and empower our community.

The first episode on Family Services - Supporting Families and Strengthening Communities is now available on YouTube. Sewa plans to release new episodes every month, covering health, education, financial awareness, safety, and more.

Viewers are invited to follow the series on the Sewa International YouTube channel and watch for new episodes each month.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCohN24FEC8&t=15s>

LEAD Students Help Seniors Paint Bags at a Workshop in Austin, TX

On June 24, Sewa volunteers organized a Paint-a-Bag Workshop for residents at the Seniors Sewa program at Treasure of the Hills Senior Center in Austin, TX. LEAD (Leadership, Education, and Development) students helped seniors decorate reusable bags while engaging them in meaningful conversations and creative activities.

The event primarily served local non-Indian seniors, providing an opportunity for Sewa volunteers to build cross-cultural connections through service, compassion, and shared experiences.



Upcoming Events

- August 15, 2026: Houston Food Bank | Portwall St, Houston, TX
- August 22, 2026: Sewa 5K Run /Walk | Cauley Creek Park, Johns Creek, GA
- August 29, 2026: Run for Sewa 5K /10k | Bike, Run / Walk Camino Ramon, San Ramon, CA
- September 12, 2026: Sewa Sur Taal | Dahlia St, Denver, CO

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