Volunteer Experience in India at the Resource Center for People with Disabilities Harjas Chilana, Valerie Yip, Rashni Grant, Claire Kelly, Genevieve Cyrs



Introduction:

Five Master of Science in Occupational Therapy students from Boston University participated in a one month internship at DISHA, a resource center for individuals with disabilities. They worked primarily with children at the resource center who were ages 3-18 with a range of disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, autism and intellectual disabilities. They were supervised by a certified occupational therapist at the center.

Objectives:

- 1. We will discuss the cross-cultural experience of working with an occupational therapist in Jaipur, India.
- 2. We will discuss how we created positive interactions with teachers and students when there is a language barrier and communication is difficult.
- 3. We will discuss how this experience allowed us to see other organizations that work with people with disabilities in India.