

KUKMU

WEAVING THROUGH THE DREAM

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Quarterly Newsletter Akam Foundation

Jan-Mar, 2025



Queer Xanjug

Connecting Young Queer*, Ally for Gender Justice in Assam

The nine month long Queer Xanjug program has progressed with its 4th phase of online workshop on understanding social action with various activists through their journey and contribution to the queer movement in Assam. The online workshop aimed to provide the participants a vision and critical thinking lenses on understanding and conceptualizing their social actions as per required.

18th March 2025: Conducted Queer Xanjug Webinar Series with Speaker: Mr. Milin Dutta, Founder: Anaajoree, Queer Rights and Environment Activist.

22nd March 2025: Conducted Queer Xanjug Webinar Series with Speaker: Shivalal, Founder - Xommonoy, Trans* Queer Social Activist.

25th March 2025: Conducted Queer Xanjug Webinar Series with Speaker: Kumam Davidson, Founder - President Matai Society; A grassroot queer, trans and women organisation in Manipur.

28th March 2025: Conducted Queer Xanjug Webinar Series with Speaker: Sawang Wanchha, Founder, AP Queerstaion, Graphics Designer.

One Billion Rising:

One Billion Rising is a Worldwide Movement against Gender Based Violence on Women, Trans and Other Fluid People.

In 2025, on **14th February**, we marched with the theme of *"Rise for Diversity, Inclusion and Dignity For All,"* organized in collaboration with Uttarang, Tata Institute of Social Science, Guwahati.



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Address: Akam Foundation, TV Center, Development Area,
Mancotta Road, Dibrugarh, Assam-786003

Library Programs by Akam Foundation

Chandraprabha Saikia Feminist Library and Resource Centre

Chandraprabha Saikia Feminist Library has provided safe space for youth engagement with the queer community and ally members from Upper Assam. The space has been engaging with feminist discussions as well promoting open interaction session with the youth on social change and movement building in Assam. Growing as a safe space and resource centre, the library has become a hub for discussions on trending topics and essential

Daily Reader- 8-10

Overall Footfall-100+

Library at Community

Location 1: Alubari, Jalan Nagar, Dibrugarh.

The community library at the tea estate has seen a noticeable increase in children's interest and enthusiasm for books. Fostering love for books among readers, with a visible shift from reading one book to two. Our art classes in the library are also thriving, as they engage more readers and contribute to their individual growth.

Read aloud sessions: 4

Story telling: 1

Reading circle: 5

Book circulation: 28

Art Session: 4

Book Reading: 86

Total no. members: 43

Overall footfall: 43

Location 2: Kali Bari Road, Koila Patty, Dibrugarh

At Kalibari, readers are actively engaged in a variety of library activities. The library serves as a vibrant community hub where children can explore different genres, take part in interactive storytelling sessions, and develop essential skills through ongoing engagement with books, including read-aloud, book circle sessions and art activities.

Read aloud sessions: 2

Story telling: 1

Reading circle: 1

Book circulation: 34

Art Session: 1

Book Reading: 19

Total no. members:- 87

Overall footfall:- 27



District-level Advocacy Programs:

11th February 2025: Organized an Interactive Program on "The Transgender Persons" in collaboration with SANKALP: Hub For Empowerment Of Women under the District Social Welfare Department, Tinsukia.

Attended by: 27 individuals

15th February 2025: Organized an Interactive Program on "The Transgender Persons" in collaboration with SANKALP: Hub For Empowerment Of Women under the District Social Welfare Department, Sivasagar.

Attended by: 31 individuals

24th March 2025: Organized a One-day Training Program on "The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, & Rules, 2020" in collaboration with the District Social Welfare Department, Dibrugarh.

Attended by: 39 individuals

25th March 2025: Organized a One-day Training Program on "The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, & Rules, 2020" in collaboration with the District Social Welfare Department, Golaghat.

Attended by: 72 individuals



Events at Akam

3rd February 2025: Hosted and conducted a Library Exposure Visit for the members of Jeevan Shiksha NGO, Chabua.

Attended by: 61 Individuals

15th February 2025: Organized a Health Camp in collaboration with the HUMSAFAR Trust at Chandraprabha Saikiani Feminist Library and Resource Centre, Mancotta Road, Dibrugarh.

Attended by: 22 Individuals



Engaging with Higher Educational Institutes:

17th March 2025: Organized a Workshop on "Gender, Sexuality & Intersectionality" in collaboration with the LGBTQIA+ Internal Affairs Committee, Dispur College, Guwahati.

Attended by: 28 Individuals

18th March 2025: Organized a Discussion on "Promoting Gender Inclusivity and Diversity in Higher Educational Institutes" in collaboration with the LGBTQIA+ Internal Affairs Committee, Dispur College, Guwahati.

Attended by: 55 individuals

Drishti Queer Meetups



Drishti has been independently organising community meetups in various districts from Assam.

7th January, 2025: Queer Community meet-up in Dibrugarh

1 February 2025: Queer Community meet-up in Jorhat

4 February 2025: Queer Community meet-up in Dhemaji

9 February 2025: Queer Community meet up in Chabua

15 February 2025: Queer Community meet-up in Sivasagar

17 March 2025: Queer Community meet-up in Lakhimpur



Glimpse of Empowering Team's Strength:



Empowering Team's Strength:

16th January to 18th January 2025: Organised Team Capacity Building and Yearly Planning Workshop with Team members at Ayang Okum at Majuli, Assam.

18th January 2025: Team members visited RIGBO, a local youth-oriented organization based in Majuli, Assam, for new perspectives and inspiration for community development initiatives.

22nd & 23rd January 2025: Team member Bhukhan attended "Convening North East India" organized by SAWF In

13th & 14th February 2025: Team member Lipi attended the "Many Mirrors, Many Masculinity" Conclave organized by the YP Foundation

1st & 2nd March 2025: Team member Bhukhan & Nabajyoti attended "Financial Management Training" organized by NFI

7th March to 10th March 2025: Team member Lipi participated in the "SAFE Youth Leadership Program" organized by the YP Foundation

19th to 21st March 2025: Director Rituparna & Team Member Lipi attended the "Peer Support Practice" Training organized by Mariwala Health Initiatives



Bank Account Details:

Account Name:
Akam Foundation
A/C No. 41602398933
State Bank of India
Kataki Pukhuri, Jorhat
IFSC: SBIN0009192

Swabalamban

Bringing Sustainable Livelihood for Trans* Queer Community in Assam

In this quarter, we progressed the program with need assessment of our livelihood champions, followed by comprehensive livelihood support to them.

Support Handover to Champions for Trans* Livelihood 2024-25

As per community need, we provided comprehensive livelihood support and asset-building assistance to five transgender individuals across different districts to help them establish or enhance their ventures:

Tinsukia: Tailoring venture support

Dibrugarh: Beautician toolkit support

Karbi Anglong: Beauty and wellness toolkit support

Sivasagar: Tailoring venture support & Renovation and display unit modification for a fast-food stall



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