



## TRANSFORMING LIVES

### Highlights for "HOPE for Autism - II" on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Oxford Bookstore (Leela Galleria).

Children with special needs need special guidance. The guidance has to be holistic and interdisciplinary in nature. Educators, parents are overburdened with the demands placed on them as they have to ensure independence of the child and integrating them into the mainstream. The ignorance of the society, schools and other parents of normal children, lack of facilities etc. places extra pressure on the parents.

Aashwasan has studied the current situation in great detail and has evolved a holistic method of supporting children with autism spectrum disorder. This category should not be considered as strict classification but is used to refer to a set of developmental problems faced by children.

Aashwasan works within the HOPE framework that stands for -**H**olistic, **O**ne size does not fit all, **s**piritual and **E**ncompass All. Spiritual Sciences is at the core of the framework and is one of the main differentiators. Using Spiritual sciences all aspects- Physiological, psychological and Spiritual of the child are touched upon. The effects are more long lasting since we touch at the very core of the being. Spiritual Sciences establishes with precision the problems, the potential and the talents of the child very uniquely. It is the usage of this aspect of the framework that allows us to coin customized and unique methods for every child.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2006, professionals and parents dealing with children of special needs came together. The program aptly named "HOPE for Autism II" was a presentation aimed at bringing out Aashwasan's unique method of helping children with special needs, supporting families and schools.

Ravi Ramamurthy Chief Advisor of Aashwasan, ambassador for the ARC project and Rashmi Aiyappa Founder, Chairman and CEO of Aashwasan brought out the Holistic approach of Aashwasan to address the needs of children diagnosed with Autism. The discussion was a rich sharing experience for both parents and professionals. During the discussion the uniqueness of each child and the need to address them at the individual level was brought out. The event outlined Aashwasan's contribution towards inclusion of special children in the society.

The event was testimonial to the fact that there is a dire need in the society to address needs of differently abled children. True answers can be found only if each stream of knowledge can contribute their part in supporting special needs children.