POOJA JHA

Sr. Program and Communication Associate

Professional Summary

Experienced program and operations professional with a strong background in designing and implementing impactful programs and managing communications strategies. Proven track record in leading successful initiatives, engaging diverse communities, and fostering organizational growth.

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EDUCATION

MA in Gender Studies

Jamia Millia Islamia 2018-2020

Thesis - A Gendered Understanding of Life and Struggles of Acid Attack Survivors in Lucknow: A Case Study

BA Hons in Hindi Journalism and Mass Communication University of Delhi 2015-2018

KEY SKILLS

- Program Development and Implementation
- Project Management
- Strategic Planning
- Budget Management
- Community Engagement
- Communications Strategy
- Team Leadership
- Impact Assessment

Experience

O 2023- May 2024 Parity Lab

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- Curriculum Development: Collaborated with partner organizations to design an acceleration program curriculum that fosters their growth and strength.
- Organizational Support: Conducting in-depth assessments of incubated organizations, gained insights into their operations, challenges, and needs. With this information, formulated tailored plans for their development.
- Theory of Change: Assisted partner organizations in crafting a comprehensive Theory of Change and Logic Models to align their strategies with intended outcomes.
- Partnership & Community Building: Discussions with national organizations to support relevant operations and facilitate the strategic growth. This includes launching a legal counseling helpline and community-building initiatives.
- Research & Impact Assessment: Tracked and measured success for partner organizations and Parity Lab, participated in strategic planning, and developed impact assessment models, including trauma-informed data collection.

2022 - 2023 Project Unlearn Senior Fellow

- Designed and implemented "Guftugu," an awareness program on sexual harassment for women over 30, focusing on both workplace and domestic issues. The program successfully engaged 10 women, leading to increased awareness and understanding of their rights.
- Organized an 8-month project culminating in a gender Mela, managing the event's budget and logistics.
- Conducted sessions on gender, sex, body positivity, and masculinity with juveniles, facilitating positive behavioral changes.
- Developed modules and provided training to Peer Fellows to ensure effective program delivery.

PUBLISHED:

<u>Vaginismus: Why Do We Disregard</u> <u>Female Sexual Pleasure And Pain?</u>

<u>Understanding Symbolic Violence</u> <u>Through Kumbalangi Nights &</u> <u>Thappad</u>

<u>My Friend's Boyfriend Hit Her For Winning</u> In Ludo

<u>Just Why Is Intimate Partner Violence</u> <u>Ignored In India?</u>

<u>The Ugly Reality Of Break-Ups And Abuse In</u> India

<u>Bridging The Urban-Rural Mental Health</u>
<u>Divide For Gender-Based Violence</u>
<u>Survivors: Insights And Solutions</u>

- Authored blogs and created content to support awareness initiatives.
- Launched and managed an independent initiative named "Guftugu" to address sexual harassment, enhancing community engagement.

2021 - 2022 Red Dot Foundation Communication Officer

- Developed and managed outreach campaigns in neighborhoods and academic institutions in Mumbai, leading to increased awareness and reporting of sexual violence.
- Led a team to execute strategic communication initiatives, enhancing organizational impact.
- Facilitated community-driven interventions to address hyperlocal issues of sexual violence, aggregating data through reporting, discussions, and sessions.
- Conducted training and capacity building for partner organizations to address sexual violence through a data-supported, communityoriented program.

Nov 2019 - April 2020 The YP Foundation Social Media Content Writer

- Developed content for the "Know Your Body, Know Your Rights" campaign, including running the hashtag #aise_ladki, which addressed slut-shaming by school staff.
- Organized the "Paint Your Pleasure" event, managing logistics and engagement.
- Enhanced skills in basic photography, video shooting, and graphic design using Canva.
- Organized and managed events, including budgeting and preplanning for effective execution.