

MIST LGBTQ NEWSLETTER



April 2025

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Empowering Dialogue: Team Mist LGBTQ Foundation Engages with Pune's Trans Community



On April 4, 2025, Team Mist LGBTQ Foundation had a meaningful dinner meeting with Pune's vibrant transgender community, comprising trans men and trans women, at Radisson Blu Kharadi. The gathering provided a platform for open discussions on pressing issues affecting the community. Key topics included current needs, medical support, upcoming events, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Through this engagement, Team Mist aimed to foster a deeper understanding of the community's requirements and explore ways to provide meaningful support. The initiative reflects the foundation's commitment to promoting inclusivity and addressing the unique challenges faced by the transgender community. By facilitating dialogue and collaboration, Team Mist LGBTQ Foundation is working towards creating a more supportive environment for Pune's trans community.

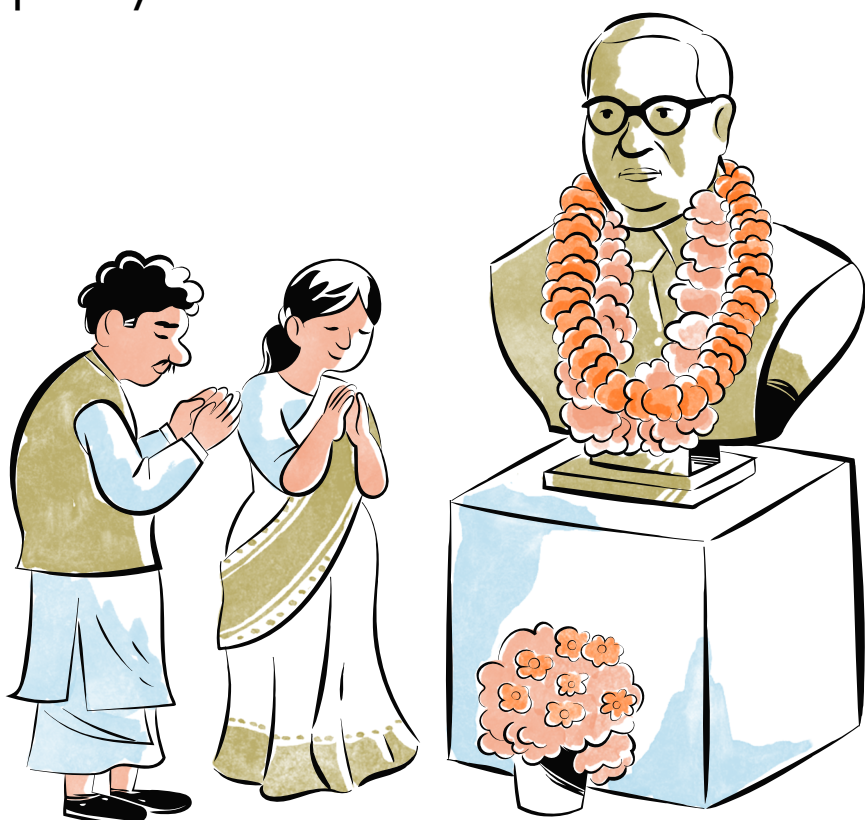


The event marked a significant step in building stronger relationships and driving positive change.

Mist LGBTQ Foundation Celebrates Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti with Local Community

On April 14, 2025, Mist LGBTQ Foundation marked Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti by collaborating with the local community to promote equality, justice, and social reform. The event, was organized in collaboration with Stories Cafe, a community-owned space supported by Mist LGBTQ Foundation, Stories provided food and warmth to all attendees. This celebration honored Dr. Ambedkar's legacy while showcasing the power of inclusivity, unity, and collective love.

The Mist LGBTQ Foundation's initiative demonstrated its commitment to fostering a sense of community and promoting acceptance for all. By working together with local community members, the foundation continues to make a positive impact in the pursuit of equality.



Empowering Community through **Holistic Wellness**



Team Mist LGBTQ Foundation recently attended the Anandi Anand Gade – Joy for All event, a three-day residential conclave held at the Serene Nisarg Gram Campus of the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN), Pune. Organized by Anam Prem in collaboration with NIN, the event focused on emotional wellbeing and peer support, celebrating Mahavir Jayanti with warmth and inclusivity.

The conclave featured insightful sessions, including an introduction to naturopathy by Dr. Pranav Khavle, which highlighted the importance of nature-based practices in achieving holistic health. Participants also explored the campus, discovering state-of-the-art therapeutic treatments and eco-friendly accommodations.

A highlight of the event was a session on empowerment through skills and enterprise, led by Dr. Vrishali Randhir More and Mr. Nitin Patil (IAS). They emphasized the importance of dreaming big, staying resilient, and leveraging government initiatives to build skills and entrepreneurship. Notably, Mr. Patil highlighted the www.mahaswayam.gov.in platform, which offers over 2,000 courses and allows individuals to self-identify as transgender. Team Mist LGBTQ Foundation was inspired by the event's focus on community empowerment and holistic wellness. We look forward to continuing our work in promoting inclusivity and supporting the LGBTQ+ community.



Pune Queer Sports Club Celebrates Pride through Art at Stories Cafe

On April 13, 2025, the Pune Queer Sports Club organized a vibrant painting event at Stories Cafe, a community-owned space supported by Mist LGBTQ Foundation. The event featured two themes: free-hand and Pune Pride. Participants unleashed their creativity, drawing and painting illustrations that showcased diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as the challenges faced by the LGBTQ community.

The Pune Pride theme sparked meaningful conversations and raised awareness about the community's struggles. Through art, participants conveyed powerful messages about acceptance, love, and inclusivity. The event fostered a sense of community and belonging among attendees, highlighting the importance of creative expression in promoting understanding and empathy.

The painting event was a fun and engaging way to celebrate Pride, providing a platform for self-expression and advocacy. By harnessing the power of art, the Pune Queer Sports Club and Mist LGBTQ Foundation continue to promote a more inclusive and accepting society.



16 Years of Love & Support: Mist LGBTQ Foundation Expands with **Mental Health Services**

WELCOMING AISHWARYA SINGH TO MIST



As part of our 16th Anniversary celebrations, we're excited to welcome Aishwarya Singh, a therapist who is:

- ✓ Kink- affirmative
- ✓ Queer - affirmative
- ✓ Trauma - focused
- ✓ Neurodivergent - friendly



Aishwarya will be available for in-person sessions at our office and online starting **24th April 2025**, and will be with us every Thursday.

To book your session visit - www.lgbtq.co.in or contact us on 080-69409491

Support Mist LGBTQ Foundation: Donate Now to Sustain Critical Operations Amidst Uncertain Times

*When Support Fades,
Solidarity Shines Brighter*

The rollback of DEI policies in the U.S. threatens global support for LGBTQ+ initiatives, including Indian organizations like ours. To sustain our work in healthcare, employment, and advocacy, we seek your support.



Account Name - Mist LGBTQ Foundation
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In India, where LGBTQ+ rights are still evolving, and legal protections are limited, the withdrawal of global support could set back many community-driven initiatives that rely on external funding.

As we face uncertain times, we rely on your support to sustain our operations. Mist LGBTQ Foundation has been at the forefront of promoting LGBTQ+ rights and inclusivity in India. Donate to us today and help us continue our critical work, including advocacy, community support, and education.

Your contribution will make a tangible difference in the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals in India.



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