Damini Butalia

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**OBJECTIVE:** To find a volunteer position that challenges me and allows me to explore my interest areas. I am interested in psychotherapy, group work, gender, communication, conflict resolution, feminist understandings, the bodymind and somatic therapies, and in realistic and sustainable ways of working with people on the margins in India.

**FORMAL EDUCATION:**

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| M.A. Psycho-Social Clinical Studies (currently in final year) | Ambedkar University Delhi | CPI 8.89 |
| PG Diploma in Management (PMIR) | XLRI, Jamshedpur | CQPI 5.52 |
| B.A. Honors in Applied Psychology | Gargi College, University of Delhi | 643/1000First Division |

**KEY PROJECTS – MENTAL HEALTH**

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| Initiated and participated in a Leaderless Peer Support Group for classmates during Covid-19 second wave  | Ambedkar University, Delhi | May – Sep 2021 |
| Provided emotional support on a crisis hotline and accompanying sexual assault survivors to hospital visits. Completed 180 hours of service and a 40-hour training program.  | Project Sister, Pomona, CA, United States | July 2019 – Feb 2020 |
| Study on how an inclusive, women-focused, body-positive practice of exercise focused on strength and well being impacts the mental health of Indian women. | I am a certified trainer, teaching exercise classes. | May 2020 - Present |

**AREAS OF INTEREST –** Psychodynamic approaches, group therapy, community and social work interventions, challenges of mental health practice in India, gender, relationships and conflict resolution. Unifying mental and physical health in practice.

**PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

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| Obtained funding from investors, re-established the business in California, and sold to reputed stores including San Francisco MoMA and Barnes & Noble. Led an in-house staff of 3 and an external sales team of 65. Managed severe product shortages through innovative strategies to ensure 95% customer order fulfillment. In 2020, handed over distribution to U.S. Toy Company to move back to India.  | President, Rubbabu LLC, California | 2015-2020 |
| Started up a US company and built a distribution network in the United States, managing all business functions, with a team of 2-3 employees. Grew the business to $0.5m in 2.5 years. | Operations & Marketing Head, Rubbabu Inc,New Jersey | 2011-2015 |
| Developed and implemented the international marketing and sales strategy for a new brand of children’s toys Rubbabu. Represented the company at trade shows and recruited international distributors.  | Marketing Manager, Iseo Chemdis Pvt. Ltd.Gurgaon | 2009-2011 |
| Summer Internship – Human Resources | Microsoft | 2008 |
| Summer Internship – Communications Consultant – Wrote narratives for award applications and key presentations.  | Development Alternatives | 2006 |
| Assistant Researcher – Posters of the Women’s Movement  | Zubaan Books | 2006 |

**LEADERSHIP AND TEAM MEMBER ROLES**

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| Member of the Social Initiatives Group for Managerial Assistance, XLRI Jamshedpur | Pioneered and headed an initiative to enable internship with social enterprises, partnering with 25 companies | 2008 |
| Member, Placement Committee, XLRI Jamshedpur | Organized two student-run campus placement processes drawing 300 job offers for a batch of 180 students. Member of a team of 8 students.  | 2007-2009 |
| President, Students’ Council,Gargi College, University of Delhi | Advocated for student rights, managed admissions volunteers, promoted, planned and managed the inter-college cultural festival with live music events for 5000 people. | 2005-2006 |

**CURRENT AVAILABILITY FOR VOLUNTEERING**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Dates | Days | Hours/week |
| February 15 – February 28 | Fridays and Saturdays | 8 |
| March 1 – March 15 | Monday - Friday | 24 |
| March 16 – April 15 | (Depends on timetable) | 8-12 |