



The Ministry for Deaf was conceptualized by Miss Lillian Doerksen (who was working as a voluntary teacher for an Orphanage near Pune. It was Established in 1987, as Maharashtra Fellowship for Deaf (MFD). It was initially collaborated with two clubs: YMCA and the Red Cross Society in helping hearing impaired children with vocational classes as tailoring and embroidery.

Likeminded people joined her and formed a board known as the MFD Board, most of them continue till this date.

In 1988 MFD started the education program for Deaf children in a rented bungalow in Pune. The expanding ministry needs could not be managed in the bungalow. MFD approached the Government of Maharashtra for a piece of land (4 acres) in Pune where this ministry could be properly established. In response, a four acre plot was allotted to MFD at Mohammadwadi. This plot was developed in phases till the present structure. Meanwhile, another property was taken on lease in Aurangabad, because a large number of people from that region approached MFD for similar facilities. MFD Aurangabad was thus established in 1990.

Pune / Campus

The Pune Campus is situated on a four-acre land and offers residential co-educational facilities. The school has elementary classes i.e. Steps (Pre Primary), Primary School (I-IV), and Secondary School Std V to Xth, which has been recognized by the State Government.

The Aurangabad Campus

This campus is a completely residential school for Girls i.e. Steps (Pre Primary), Primary School (I-IV), this school accommodates 30 students. The campus is now well known in the locality as home for young hearing impaired students. Many local residents and students from nearby university volunteer for various activities at the campus. The junior school offers a full range of academic curriculum at par with the average hearing school.

To give opportunity for all-round development, both Schools offer Sports facilities for our students with fields for Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Cricket, and indoor games such as Billiards & Table Tennis.

MFD also provides Life skill training opportunities like Cooking, Bakery, House Keeping, Kitchen Gardening, Tailoring, Beauty Culture training, Fabrication, Electrician's Training, Computer Training.

Placements are provided through collaboration with Local Business Enterprises such as Hotels, Coffee Shops, Malls, Government Offices (data entry operators) etc.

STAFF / GOALS

MFD has a dedicated team of trained staff members. Presently, 48 in number, working in the institute. The teachers are all Special Educators. The majority of MFD staff are local and come from the city. MFD organizes training program for the staff at regular intervals. The goal is to Encourage & Train at least 10 staff members for long term commitment in the area of Moral education, vocational training, and child care. MFD wants to encourage committed staff members in the area of house fathers, house mothers and matrons and to Train 10 staff members in the area of Education, counseling and administration (including office work).

THE LILLIAN SCHOOL

The Lillian School is an English medium school started in 2015-16, where hearing impaired children with Cochlear implantation are able to study with hearing children. It's a Govt. registered school running inside the MFD campus, This school is unique in Pune, which aims at weaning the deaf child to make his/her entry into the hearing world and finally merge with the hearing society. At present 6 such children are being merged with 100 hearing children. It is so encouraging to see an attitudinal change in MFD's small society towards deaf children, and spread hope that Cochlear Implantation could bridge the gap between wholeness and handicap, and bring hope to the deaf that "The Deaf shall hear" in a whole new dimension. Our building site is under construction to further expand our facilities for new classes with a dream of "a New class Every Year".

The MFD BOARD

Chair person	: Dr. V. Sadgun (ENT & Occupational Health)
Treasurer	: Mr. K. Aghamkar (Marketing Executive)
Secretary	: Rev. B. Shejule (National Co-ordinator)
Board Members	: General Biswas (Neuro Surgeon)
	: Dr. Chitre, (Neuro Surgeon)
	: Mr. Vivek Hebbal, (Engineer)
	: Peter Gaikwad, (Sound Engineer)
	: Mrs. Sheela Samuel (Ex Principal)
Director	: Arvind Meshramkar (Master of Sociology)

The MFD Board are a group of highly successful individuals, who are dedicated to upliftment of society in every way. The Board meets on the first Sunday of Every Month for administration and brainstorming sessions aiming at new achievements. The Board mission is to accomplish the Cycle of Progress: Dream it – Try it – Apply it – Evaluate it – Improve it.

Visit MFD and you will find – it is a Beautiful World.