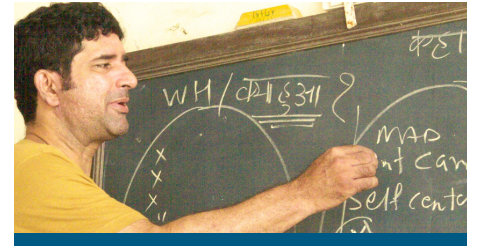


WORKSHOP: 10/10/10

Exploring stories, challenges, collaboration, and courage

THERE WAS EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR leading up to this Sunday's workshop. Everyone was eager to reconvene; it had been several months since our last community workshop. The monsoon was a difficult period for many of the Venturers - some of them lost momentum and their progress slowed significantly. Over the past few weeks, we asked them what they needed to get back on track. We built the workshop around their responses.

IGNITING MINDS Passion is a cornerstone of changemaking. But in order to mobilize people and resources around that passion, Venturers must be able to communicate in compelling ways. **Advait Dikshit of A.N.D. India led an interactive session on organizing and communicating ideas in order to generate committed action.** With Advait, participants learned how to craft stories that energize, influence, and engage others.



EXPERT MINI-PANELS Our community of changemakers comprises an incredible diversity of expertise. We brought several friends of Youth Venture to the workshop who represent a broad spectrum of corporate and social entrepreneurship perspective. **Advait Dikshit, Himanshu Vyas, Shaila Asave, Abhishek Ray, and Naresh Karmalkar all sat with small groups of Venturers, listening to their challenges and providing tailored guidance and coaching.** The result was clarity, fresh ideas, and new connections.



TEAMBUILDING Our facilitation team is made up of YV alumni - each of whom continues to run his or her own Venture. As facilitators, they open up the space for the new Venturers to understand and experience changemaking. During this workshop, they posed one of their trademark challenges to the Venturers - in two teams, transport two marbles from one end of the room to the other using only short lengths of plastic tubing. In the debrief that followed, the **participants explored how competition, frustration, and collaboration shape their Ventures and the community of changemakers.**



INSPIRATION Harish Iyer is a survivor. His uncle regularly raped him for a decade of his young life. Now he's one of India's most vocal activists in the fight against child sexual abuse and the movement for gay rights. At the workshop, **Harish told his story of transforming personal trauma into social change.** At first, many of the Venturers were shocked to hear him speak so openly about something that society is quick to sweep under the rug. But the courage that he has shown - and impact he has made - left everyone moved and truly inspired.





AND THEN WE DANCED.

It was Navrati, after all. The tubes from the teambuilding game conveniently became dandiya sticks. The talented dancers among us tried to teach the others, and while the technique might not have been perfect, it was a lot of fun.



Venture Spotlight: Dimple

Through her Venture, Dimple works with social sector organizations to help them improve capacity. She offers training, networking, and volunteer services. She recognizes that not all NGO's will have the resources to focus efficient amounts of time on critical areas, so Dimple researches the area in need and offers training to the NGO. As her first project with her Venture, Dimple collaborated with an NGO that works with children. She gathered a group of children and worked with them to develop and deliver a presentation to the organization, which provided valuable insight and perspective. Dimple also acts as a link between organizations and her network of readily available volunteers - she has a core team of about 20. One of Dimple's volunteers says, *We all would like to help. Most of us just didn't know how, but once we saw what great work Dimple was doing, it motivated us to start working with her.*

Dimple went to school in a convent. She was inspired to be a changemaker because she admired the selflessness of the nuns that provided her education. She has been involved with social service since 11th standard. Her school took a trip to Thailand where they worked with underprivileged children. She remembers the great reward she felt when she saw the faces of the children she was helping. When asked what inspired her to be a changemaker, Dimple says, *I've just always enjoyed the feeling of helping others.*

