

### Getting Organized

For being more effective SAA has adopted three main objectives (a) create awareness about schizophrenia and other mental disorders in the community (b) promote SHG activities for shubharthis and shubhankars and (c) network with other NPOs, wedded to the cause of mental health care.

### Managing To Motivate

SAA's affairs are overseen by an elected Managing Committee, consisting of seven office bearers - President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer. SAA's services and activities are manned by a team of dedicated, experienced and trained staff and volunteers. The growing response and participation by stake holders is very encouraging and conducive to further expansion.

SAA's mouthpiece, Ekalavya, a quarterly newsletter in English & Marathi, produced by a dedicated editorial team, has been receiving encouraging feedback from the readers. One of our articles was reprinted in the monthly, HRD TIMES, Chennai. Our editorial on Erawadi tragedy was excerpted in Recovery Inc.'s international newsletter published from Chicago.

### Non Formal Training Program in Psychosocial Rehabilitation

Schizophrenia Awareness Association is working in the field of psychosocial rehabilitation for the recovery of persons with mental illness. SAA has been conducting mental health awareness programs, training programs, workshops for professionals, lay persons, volunteers and caregivers. There is an urgent need to create training facilities in the field of mental health, as there are inadequate professionals in this field. As a response to this need, SAA started a Non Formal Training Program in psychosocial Rehabilitation. Its 1<sup>st</sup> batch of 10 students passed out in December 2016. The eligibility for the course is graduation in social science, volunteers working in mental health field and caregivers. The course content includes subjects like General Psychology, Mental Disorder, Counseling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Rehabilitation. The faculty for the course is a panel of experts from the mental health field. SAA offers practical training facility in the Day Rehabilitation Center of SAA; hence the trainees are exposed to not only theory but also practical experience of dealing with mental health care issues of patients and their families.

