

MOVE-Regional-Centre of Excellence



Johann Gottfried Herder-Landesschule
for physically handicapped children
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MOVE-Consultant Claudia Penn
MOVE-Trainer Christian Berndorfer
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Third Annual International Forum on Children with Special Needs “Sport and Ability” April 19 – 22, 2008 in Doha, Qatar Under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Bin Abdullah Al Missned



We were picked up at the airport and they brought us to the very exclusive hotel Ritz-Carlton in Doha .

The first safari. It impressions participants



day we were invited to a sand dune was great fun and we got our first of Qatar and got to know some of the of the Forum.



250 participants with different professions from all over the world met in the evening to the first presentation by UNESCO „ A World of Inclusion – Ensuring education for All through the UN disability Convention”



The opening ceremony took place the next morning at Shafallah Center for children with Special Needs, under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser with a speech of Hassan Ali Bin Ali dem Chairman of Shafallah Center statt.

We observed presentation from different people amongst other a speech of Cherie Blair und handicapped athlets, who were talking about the participants of handicapped people in sporting activities and their problems. They were also talking about the importance and chance of sport for handicapped to be more easily integrated in social life and the community.



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One of the most impressive presentations for us was a Sled Hockey Event at the City-shopping-centre in Doha. Organised by the „Northeast Passage – a programmd of the University of New Hampshire“ in c cooperation with „Challenge Alaska“.



Pupils from the Shafallah Centre had the opportunity to try this special sled together with a handicapped athlete from New Hampshire. We were impressed and they had big fun!



Next day started with a tour of Shafallah Centre, a centre for children from the age of 3 to 21 with mental-retardation, physical disabilities and autism spectrum disorders.

Apart from the school programs, they provide clinical and therapeutic services as psychological services, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy and different workshops.

The centre is quiet modern and exclusive. Within this tour, we got in contact for the first time with the physiotherapists of the centre.



For us the remaining day was marked by our exhibition:

We set up our booth with our photos of students in sporting activities, posters from MOVE-Europe and informations how our students are working on their sport-goals with the MOVE-programme.



Rifton sent a pacer and a dynamic stander from the USA directly to Doha. Mr. Atif Al Assal from AMT in Dubai (the general-importer of Rifton-equipment in the Arabian Region) brought us this equipment directly to Shafallah-Centre.

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With his support it was possible for us to work with the children from the Centre, to talk with the physiotherapists, what MOVE is all about and to try out the pacer and the stander with children.

The physiotherapists and the doctors of the centre were very impressed, especially after a severe handicapped girl started to walk for the first time independent with the pacer for about 25 meters. It was fantastic. She beamed with joy! Although the director of Shafallah was very impressed about our work with MOVE.



A lot of Forum-participants visited our booth to inform themselves about MOVE and the equipment! We handed out a lot of information-materials about MOVE.



In the evening we were invited to the Gala Dinner at Aspire-Stadium. It was started by a wheelchair basketball event and speeches from

Cherie Blair and the Chairman Hassan Ali bin Ali und Paralympic-winner Ade Adepitan.



Then we enjoyed the delicious dinner.

The last day the physiotherapists and doctors came to us to talk again about MOVE and working with more children from their Centre. This has been a great honour and pleasure for us. They are highly interested in MOVE!

We took part in more presentations from participants from all over the world

After the closing ceremony and dinner our plane started at 1.00am in the morning at brought us back home.

It was a great honour to present MOVE at such a big international Forum for handicapped children in Doha and a special experience for us to meet so many different people from all over the world!

Thanks, Peter, Christine and Conchita for all your help and support that we could take part and present MOVE at this international forum.

Claudia Penn, Christian Berndorfer, Elisabeth Ringer-Neumann