

# **SHANTHI NILAYAM**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2020-2021**

## ABOUT SHANTHI NILAYAM

Shanthi Nilayam was established in 1993 at Paruthivilai, Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu by SABS Sisters under the guidance of Kanyakumari Social service society of Diocese of Thuckalay, in accordance with the vision of our heavenly Patron Mar Thomas Kurialacherry, who had very high ideals about the education of women and children, the poor and the less fortunate people in society. Shanthi Nilayam was legally registered on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1998 under the Tamilnadu Societies Registration Act 1975. We are working for the education and rehabilitation of persons with intellectual disabilities. Total No of Beneficiaries of Shanthi Nilayam during year 2020-2021 were 185 Intellectual disable children and their families from rural and semi-urban areas of Kanyakumari district in Tamilnadu are benefitting from this organisation.

### **Our Vision**

Develop the potential of each individual and stretch it to the maximum

### **Our Mission**

To draw out the best in each person through progressive training and therapies, thereby improving the quality of life of deprived children.

## **Objectives of the Organisation**

- To identify the need of intellectually challenged children of various stages.
- To provide multi-disciplinary intervention facilities with the guidance of Qualified Professionals.
- To enable the children to develop independence through digital training and employment facilities.
- To empower and support the intellectually challenged people to exercise their rights.
- To protect human rights and maintain the dignity of intellectually challenged people and obtain a rightful place for them in the family and society.

## **MAJOR ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT**

### **A. Early Intervention Centre (EIC-MR)**

The children with delayed milestones are identified at the earliest and necessary intervention techniques are used to enable them to achieve a normal life. It consists of children from 0-6 age. **54 children** are benefited from the early intervention programme during 2020-2021. Since covid-19 threatened children not to come to the centre these children were supported by our staff through house visits and guided through WhatsApp and telephonic conversation.



### **B. Special School Programme:**

Children above 6 to 18 years, who could not cope with the regular school curriculum, join in the special school programme, where they learn, functional skills, basic academic skills, Personal & Social skills. **76 children** got benefited through special school programme during 2020-21.



**C. Vocational Rehabilitation Centre:** Above 18 Years of children are given Pre-Vocational Training and then they are trained in vocational trades like Photo frame making, Phenol making, Paper cover making star-making, tailoring, handkerchief making, art and craftwork to become an independent and self-reliant individual to lead a life with dignity. **60 students** got benefitted from the vocational programme last year.



### **E. CBR (Community Based Rehabilitation Centre):**

As an outreach Programme A CBR centre is functioning at Puthalam which is self reliant and cater to the needs of Mentally Challenged individuals around that Coastal area. 10 individuals are benefitted through this CBR Centre.



### **Other Services**

#### **Speech Therapy**

Speech Therapy is the most important part of intervention services for children with a developmental disability for their cognitive and social

development. Apart from having intellectual challenges, they also have associated speech problems in the articulation of speech, social communication and social interaction. Speech therapy is given by the trained speech therapist and children are getting improvement.



### **Physiotherapy**

Physiotherapy is conducted regularly for our children. The main aim of this therapy is to reduce their physical deformities and increase their mobility. Children who were unable to walk in the beginning stage can now walk by the training provided by our institution. Children show interest to get physiotherapy. Parents also are happy to send their children to school.



## **Occupational Therapy**

Occupational therapy is given to help the students to increase their functional independence in daily life. Periodical assessment is conducted by an Occupational therapist. Through this therapy, students have benefited in general activities of daily living, sensory processing issues. Children with autism spectrum disorder have shown improvement in their eye-hand coordination and Visual perception activities.



## **Medical Check-Up**

Medical check-up is conducted regularly for the children and medicines are provided for the diagnosed children. Parents are advised to give medicine regularly at home. Our medical team takes care of the children when they are having any health problems.



### **Niramaya Health Insurance**

Shanthi Nilayam is a registered organisation under National Trust Act. We have initiated this year implementing Niramaya - health Insurance Schemes of National Trust . We created awareness among the parents about the benefit of Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme. Initially parents did not show any interest to get niramaya card. 30 Intellectual Disabled children are enrolled under this Niramaya scheme during the year 2020-21.

### **Guardianship**

36 students above 18 years have got legal Guardianship certificates with the support of District local level committee.

### **Awareness Generation**

Awareness Programmes are conducted for the Nursing College Students, B.Ed College Students and art & science college students as a



Social responsibility to reduce the birth of children born with Mental Retardation, especially to avoid marriages within their close relatives and to take necessary precautions and regular check-ups to the pregnant mothers. The normal school students are also encouraged to come and spend a day with our Special Children to create an inclusive set-up in which they learn to treat our differently-abled children with due courtesy and respect and not to leave them if they find anything abnormal, but to accept them and support them to lead a near to normal life.



### **Cultural Celebration:**

All-important festivals like Pongal, Onam, Christmas, Dewali are celebrated with its due importance to impart their Cultural values. Children's day, Teachers day, School Sports day and Annual day Programme are also celebrated and the values of these celebrations are also made known to them. Apart from these celebrations the children are encouraged to take part in various competitions like sports, Quiz Programme, Painting & Drawing, Dance, Etc. And they also win Prizes. These activities enable them to take

part and enjoy these occasions and also helps them to develop self-esteem and confidence. We organised a district Special School talent competition on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 in remembrance of our Founder Mar Thomas Kurialacherry's Birthday. This year we conducted a fancy dress competition for children and story writing for teachers through virtual mode. We distributed prizes for the winners.



### **Training and Special Orientation Programme for Teachers**

Training programmes help the teachers to develop new strategies using the new trends and techniques. This programme creates a platform for the teachers to express their difficulties in teaching and to get suggestions and improvements. Once a month Teacher's meetings and orientation programmes are being conducted to assess the growth of students. Teachers get guidance to create an action plan for every month. Teachers participate in CRE-Training Programme (Continued Rehabilitation Educational Programme) conducted in our district and other districts by NIEPMD (National Institute of Empowerment of the person with multiple Disabilities).



### **Covid-19 Relief Work**

Both schools distributed Food materials to Disabled children's families during the covid-19 lockdown period. Nearly 50 poor and most vulnerable families were identified and supported through food package. Our staff made Mask at home and distributed them to disabled children families. We provided counseling service during the covid -19 lockdown period to parents who had undergone depression problems and were hard in handling Intellectual disable children at home, received counseling over the phone. Since the Hyperactive children were uncontrollable at home. It was a great challenge for the parents in handling these children at home. Our staff visited the houses of needed children's families and provided psychosocial counseling to the parents.



## **KEY OUTCOMES & IMPACT OF THE YEAR**

- 10 Vocational trained students are being placed in different agencies such as mechanical shops, helpers at hospitals, office assistants, helpers in medical stores, vehicle cleaning etc.
- Through the inclusive Education Programme, 15 students were admitted to Regular schools in 2020-2021.
- 6 students have passed in 10<sup>th</sup> Exam. 4 of them have applied for higher studies in technical Institutions.
- Through Vocational products, we could raise minimum local contributions.
- Through physiotherapy, children can stretch their limbs and remain fit. It has improved the mobility of children in running and walking. The general health of the children is improved and physical fitness is increased.
- Speech therapy has developed confidence in students to speak or at least to utter words. Students have developed their skills in verbal and nonverbal communication.
- The children have been infused with self-confidence and a sense of satisfaction of being useful in one way or the others.

## **LEARNING, CHALLENGES & FAILURES OF THE YEAR**

### **Learning**

- Digital exposure of students, teachers got improved

- Working with Niranthara bought new thinking and improved the quality of our organization
- Compliance & fundraising plays a vital role in the development of the organization
- Special Educators updated their Knowledge through attending Continuous Rehabilitation Education programmes organised by NIEPMD and other organisations.
- Learned to develop a new strategy and methodology for teaching special Children.

### **CHALLENGES & FAILURES**

- ❖ Switching from the normal mode of teaching to digital mode was a big challenge we faced this year.
- ❖ We were unable to provide job placement during the year as planned.
- ❖ Maintaining financial stability was a big challenge during the covid-19 Pandemic period.
- ❖ Unable to market the products made by disabled persons.
- ❖ We faced a financial crisis to pay salaries to teachers.

### **STATE LEVEL BEST EIC-MR TEACHER AWARD:**

Shanthi Nilayam staff Mrs. Delecta Jesy received the best Early Intervention Teacher Award 2019-20 from the chief minister of Tamilnadu Government, organized by State Commissioner for the welfare of the differently-abled.

- Working with Niranthara brought new thinking and improved the quality of our organization
- Compliance & fundraising plays a vital role in the development of the organization
- Special Educators updated their Knowledge through attending Continuous Rehabilitation Education programmes organised by NIEPMD and other organisations.
- Learned to develop a new strategy and methodology for teaching special Children.

### **CHALLENGES & FAILURES**

- ❖ Switching from the normal mode of teaching to digital mode was a big challenge we faced this year.
- ❖ We were unable to provide job placement during the year as planned.
- ❖ Maintaining financial stability was a big challenge during the covid-19 Pandemic period.
- ❖ Unable to market the products made by disabled persons.
- ❖ We faced a financial crisis to pay salaries to teachers.

### **STATE LEVEL BEST EIC-MR TEACHER AWARD:**

Shanthi Nilayam staff Mrs. Delecta Jesy received the best Early Intervention Teacher Award 2019-20 from the chief minister of Tamilnadu Government, organized by State Commissioner for the welfare of the differently-abled.



**STAFF DETAILS - 2020-2021**

Sl.no	Category	No. of Staff
1	Special Educators	20
2	Therapists	4
3	Helpers	9
4	Drivers	2
	Total	35

**BENEFICIARIES DETAILS - 2020-2021**

Sl.No	Units	No. of Beneficiaries (Intellectual Disability)
1	EIC - MR	54
2	Special School - MR	76
3	Vocational Training Centre - MR	45
4	CBR Centre - MR	10
	Total	185

*Sr. Betty Mathew*

**SECRETARY**  
**SHANTHINILAYAM**  
 Paruthivilai, Erumbukadu P.O.  
 Nagercoil, Pin 629004  
 Kanyakumari Dist.