

REPORT



SRI ARUNODAYAM
Home for Mentally Challenged Destitute

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THANK YOU DEAR DONOR!

The Sponsor a Cow Project is now officially closed!

A couple of months back we posted the *Sponsor a Cow* appeal on our website (www.sriarunodayam.org). The purpose was simple: We buy fresh milk every day for 106 children which costs a whopping INR 25,000/- a month. Although we had approached several government-affiliated vendors for better pricing we were still being charged these rates.

But now, thanks to a dear sponsor – *Sharing Smiles, USA*, we have two cows! The children have already named the animals – *Dhanam*, and *Bhagya*.

Dhanam and *Bhagya* are young, growing up into fine animals. So the children can expect to get their milk from them, shortly.

Marimuthu and Karthik young adults from our Vocational Center – *Prayatna*, have volunteered to look after the cows, and they're doing a wonderful job!

Providing a sense of purpose

Marimuthu and Karthik get up early each morning to check on their wards. They bathe, groom and feed the animals, proudly assuming all their duties. The animals look well cared for and content.

Young boys like Marimuthu and Karthik can be taught skills according to their aptitudes so that they gain a sense of purpose. This is what *Prayatna* is constantly endeavoring to do.

Creating sustainability

Nothing goes to waste at Sri Arunodayam.

The cows' manure will be used as fertilizer for our kitchen garden. In India, the manure is an efficacious disinfectant often used as fuel in lieu of firewood. The dried dung is odorless, and produces a slow, even heat, good for cooking. Smoke from a dung fire helps keep pesky flies and mosquitos away! And cow urine mixed with neem leaves is proving to be one of the most effective natural pesticides in organic farming. So, it's good news all the way!

That's why, the children of Sri Arunodayam want to say a big "Thank You" to *Sharing Smiles, USA* for funding this project.

