

## VISION

That all differently abled children will be safe and enjoy equal opportunities

## MISSION

To reach out to abandoned differently abled children in need of care and protection

To protect and promote the rights of such children

To socially equip them and the community for integration into society

## GUIDING VALUES

Emphasis on ability rather than disability

Transparency

Credibility

Equality

Compassion

Dignity

Inclusion



Nurture  
Rehabilitate  
Restore

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Anniversary Edition  
Annual Report 2016/2017



**SRI ARUNODAYAM**  
Home for Mentally Challenged Destitute



# MESSAGE

A grace-filled year!



This year has been momentous - in both positive and negative ways. For the world, and for us. Despite calamity and political unrest, the resilience of the human spirit is sacred and something to be admired. Our ability to seek for the positive amidst the negative, is truly the work of grace. A gift from the One above.

For us at Sri Arunodayam, we have reached a special milestone as we commemorate our 15th year of service to the most marginalized section of society - abandoned, differently abled children. Our vision guides us through the darkness of rejection and abandonment, leading us into the brightness of hope as manifested every day in the lives of the 104\* precious children in our care.

Although our country's policies may still remain unclear in terms of the rights and privileges for these children, the silver lining is that the number of disabilities now listed has risen from seven in the 1995 Act through 19 in the 2014 bill, to 21 after the recent amendments, including acid attack, haemophilia, sickle cell disease, dwarfism and Parkinson's disease. And although there is a stipulation for making national and state funds available for financial support to persons with disability, the 2016-17 budget announced by the Government appears to show no such provision. Again, another reason to patiently continue the good fight for justice for the marginalized.

We count it a blessing to be able to care for these precious children - to give them the dignity and respect they deserve, and a good standard of living which is their right. And we know that we could not have made it without you. So, thank you dear friends and benefactors for journeying with us these past 15 years. As we commence our 16th, we look forward with hope to reach more children as you continue partnering with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iyyappan Subramaniyan'.

**Iyyappan Subramaniyan**

Founder & Managing Trustee

\* As on March 31, 2017



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Mainstream Education



Eight children have joined mainstream schools this year after passing a psychological evaluation – testament to the exceptional work done by our Special Educators. Shantha, Shobia, Srimathy, Narmatha, Naresh, Anubam, Madavan and Sridhar are studying under the 'inclusive learning' program at their schools.



Sixteen year old Ankeeth has been enrolled in a one-year Diploma Course at the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre (VRC) at Guindy, Chennai, learning computer hardware and operations. Ankeeth came to us when he was just 3 years old! Physiotherapy and special education transformed him into an able and intelligent young man. He helps in the office and operates the computer on his days off. He is independent and travels to the center by public transport.



Mukesh is blind but highly intelligent. ChildLine found him begging with his mother who was certified mentally ill. With special education Mukesh showed tremendous improvement, so we placed him in St. Louis School for the Blind. He is now in the 9th grade. Mukesh is learning music at the school which is very famous for its orchestra of blind students. He does well in his exams and appears to have a bright future.

We are excited about the opportunities that these children might create for themselves and for the people around them. This reiterates our belief that children with special needs can become a part of mainstream society and do great things!

## Special Advocacy Program: International Day of Persons with Disabilities



In solidarity with persons with disabilities, we commemorated December 3, 2016 through carefully planned advocacy programs. We released a **powerful short film** on the rights of the differently abled through YouTube and Facebook channels which went viral with over 90,000 views on FB alone! The special child and the elderly man in the film very skilfully emoted an important message worth repeating: "the intellectually challenged don't have a choice about their condition, but we have the choice to accept them unconditionally!"



Early evening, we conducted an awareness rally around the Labor statue on Marina Beach from 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm together with around 50 of our children, caregivers, staff, and volunteers from Good Shepherd School, Nungambakkam. We carried bi-lingual placards (in Tamil and English) with key messages on the subject of mental retardation (MR) and engaged the public on predominant issues in this area.

Mrs. Sudha Ramalingam, a prominent Social Activist & Senior Advocate was our Chief Guest, and Actor Shanthanu Bhagyaraj was our Guest of Honor for the event, which drew a large crowd of media personnel and passers-by.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## New Projects

### PLANT NURSERY



At present we nurture and sell ornamental plants, but as the project matures we hope to introduce varieties of exotic fruit and vegetable saplings. In this project, the children learn through activities like digging and preparing the soil, studying about seeds and their types, planting, potting, watering, fertilizing, pruning, using mulch and soil conditioners, general maintenance of the nursery, and using appropriate gardening tools.

Manning the organic shop on our premises also gives them the chance to interact with the public and handle trade transactions in a controlled environment.

### DAIRY FARM



Our children are given milk twice a day through 4 cows that were donated to us this year. (Unfortunately, we lost 2 cows to infection despite the intervention of the veterinary hospital). The cows' manure is being used as fertilizer for our kitchen garden and the nursery. We are also considering using the manure in lieu of firewood as it is odorless and produces slow, even heat for cooking. Cow urine is being processed with turmeric or neem leaves and is proving to be an effective natural pesticide for garden plants.

Through this project, the children are learning about nature and how to be responsible for other living creatures.

### SENSORY INTEGRATION



The process of educating the differently abled is a lifelong one. We try and make every class as interesting as possible because the children cannot be forced into learning. If they lose interest in a subject, we need to introduce a distraction before we take up the subject again so that they are not mentally taxed.

We've been updating our teaching aids as our primary aim is to mainstream as many children as we can, so that they enjoy equal opportunities as they grow.

### CLASSICAL DANCE & YOGA



Six girls have been enrolled for classical dance. With training provided thrice a week for six months, they have already presented six public performances so far. The classes are therapeutically beneficial having reduced their hyperactivity and improved their concentration levels. The children are able to remember long slogans, pieces of music and full dance sequences, which is quite amazing considering their challenges. Their observation, intellectual, and physical skills have tremendously improved.

The dancers share a special relationship and have begun looking out for each other, encouraging and helping each other learn. All the children perform yoga daily and the incidence of violence and hyperactivity has reduced.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Our Special Mom Award - the only event of its kind in India!



We are proud to announce the launch of a 'transformation' program this year – our 'Special Mom' Award. Although there are several awards honoring mothers, ours is unique in that we honor mothers of 'special' children. This has never been done before in an Indian context and therefore became a truly unique platform for advocacy on issues such as mental retardation and intellectual disability.

In December 2016 we launched our 15:15:15 campaign as a run-up to the event. Commemorating 15 years of service, we sought out 15 incredible mothers of 'special' children, honored them with a cash prize of INR 15,000/- each and promised them a lifetime of free services through a Special Lifetime Pass. The campaign culminated in the Awards event held on Mother's Day, May 14, 2017 at New Woodlands Hotel, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai.

This is going to be an annual event as we quest for 15 deserving mothers each year – mothers who remain committed to their 'special' children. Sri Arunodayam received over 100 applications from mothers across South India and a group of eminent panellists screened each one carefully to arrive at the finalists for 2017. ([Read our Special Moms stories](#))

Mr. A J Suriyanarayana, Director of Karur Vysya Bank - our Guest of Honor, and Dr. Sumitra Shanmugam, an eminent Gynaecologist and the President of the Tamil Nadu Woman Doctors Association together with Sri Arunodayam's benefactors gave away the awards and a host of prizes to the 15 finalists.

Each mother's story, captured on film moved the audience to tears as we witnessed the true essence of motherhood brought to life through hardship.

The mothers, their children and around 150 of their family members enjoyed a wonderful evening together with our staff and children, donors, benefactors and a large crowd of well-wishers. Our children gave an exhilarating dance performance and an exciting entertainment program followed. Typical Chennai South Indian meals were served, which was much appreciated by all.

We want to bring about a transformative change in society through this program. When we empower a mother, we help change an entire family. These mothers can become powerful agents of change in society - with just a little help.



I never imagined that I would be recognized for my role as mother to a 'special' child. Who would even think to do this? I am humbled and so grateful that Sri Arunodayam helped me see my own worth. My family is deeply touched by the warmth, affection and honor we received. It's something that can't be described. We were always worried about the future of our special children but after this wonderful program our fears have been laid to rest, because we know that Sri Arunodayam will honor its word. I'm so happy to be part of the Sri Arunodayam family.

### Thilagavathy D

Mother of 2 special children, and one of the Special Mom Finalists



I thank the Sri Arunodayam team for giving me this rare opportunity of sharing my views with the Special Moms who are stressed and really need moral support. Being my first interaction with these mothers, I am really pleased at the way this program is arranged with a view to enlighten them on the need to take care of their own health in order to support their special children.

I wish that Sri Arunodayam organizes more such interactive sessions. I wish the team all success!

### Dr. Sumithra Shanmugham

President of the Tamil Nadu Woman Doctors Association; Recipient of the Best Woman Doctor and the Lifetime Achievement Award from Dr. MGR Medical University



Brilliant! Kudos to the team that worked behind the scenes for months to mark a special day for the Special Moms and a special event for Sri Arunodayam! How I miss bringing every one of my friends and relatives to this wonderful event. Iyyappan, Jayachitra and the team continue to amaze me with their relentless pursuit of excellence in everything they do – and doing it all with a smile. I take a bow!

### Nanda Kumar Nagarajan

A software professional for over two decades, and one of Sri Arunodayam's Trustees



No mother wants to relinquish the child she has given birth to. Poverty, lack of knowledge, guilt, judgement, discrimination - all impact on mothers to relinquish their differently abled children. Disability remains a misunderstood issue.

By providing advocacy for mothers of special children, Sri Arunodayam has brought about a cultural alteration. In order to support a child living with a disability, society must first support the mother. The best carer for any child, irrespective of capacity is the mother. This is an astute long-ranging initiative from the Sri Arunodayam team. The organization serves in congruence with its core values - working towards the well-being of differently abled children. This Sri Arunodayam Charitable Trust (SACT) concept has the potential to influence thinking, nationally and internationally. Congratulations SACT!

### Marie Mills

An Australian Medical Professional and a Volunteer



When a person's life gets entwined in an unresolvable situation, it takes a lifetime of coping - all by oneself. The mother of a special child gets little or no support. On the contrary she faces severe ostracism from friends and family. Somewhere deep inside her crippled spirit, she finds the courage and conviction to dedicate her entire life for the child. She becomes not just mother but God to the child, for without her, the child cannot survive.

For almost two decades I have been associated with several organizations involved in caring for the intellectually disabled. My life has been immeasurably enriched simply by getting to know many such special mothers. Isolated and with no frame of reference, they must often go through moments of extreme doubt on whether they are doing the right thing. But for Special Moms at the awards evening, all their doubts would have been vanquished forever because they themselves would never have realized the magnitude of the nobility they have achieved so silently and selflessly. I pray that this event becomes the frame of reference for all such mothers - an infinite pool of strength and support in their moment of need. I commit myself to this cause heart and soul.

### Niranjan Arcot

Film Creative Consultant, Chennai



# STORIES

## Child



Sri Arunodayam is a secular organization with zero tolerance for discrimination against children, whether on the basis of caste, creed, religion, status, color, or gender orientation.

We only employ staff who are congruent with our core values of working towards the well-being of differently abled children. That's why we are able to witness new miracle recoveries each day! Shantha's story is a testament to this decision.

### Shantha

An extraordinary child at our home

Shantha is an 11 year old little girl with mild intellectual disability. She also lives with hydrocephalus – a condition in which there is an accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in her brain causing increased pressure inside her skull. Unable to care for her on account of poverty, her parents had surrendered her to the Government Cradle Baby Center in Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu State, when she was a little child. She came to our home when she was 4.

Sustained special education and physiotherapy brought Shantha up to speed over the years, but more especially in the past year where her progress has been simply phenomenal! The role of the speech therapist was very critical in helping her express herself coherently. She is a quick learner. Around 6 months ago, Shantha passed a psychological evaluation that found her fit for mainstream education and she was enrolled in the 3rd grade at a Government school under the 'inclusive learning' program. Apparently, Shantha has a lot of hidden potential which needed some tapping into! In the past year she took up drawing, making small pieces of jewelry and painting colorful diyas.

As if this weren't achievement enough, Shantha began to excel at classical Indian Bharatanatyam dance (which can be quite challenging for 'normal' children too!). We had introduced dance classes at the home less than a year ago and at first it didn't appear that she would stick with it because of hyperactivity and body imbalance issues. But Shantha took us all by surprise! Not only has she overcome her challenges but she is able to remember long and complex dance sequences and lyrics, and is well on her way to becoming a wonderful classical dancer who has made 6 public appearances already!

This is very exciting for us! A child written off by society but with a fighting chance to make it big one day! Thanks to her special educators, speech and physiotherapists, she is reaching her fullest potential!

Watch her dance at:

<https://www.facebook.com/deepakraj.sethuraman/videos/vb.100001987497694/1244219412320963/?type=3&theater>

Shantha also performed at our Special Mom Award ceremony on May 14, 2017. You'll find pictures of her and the rest of the troupe under the **"Picture Gallery" (Welcome Dance by our Children)** section at:

<https://sriarunodayam.org/special-mom-post-page/>



# ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

This year we complete 15 years of service – of providing a safe and caring environment for differently abled children in Chennai, India. These children were abandoned in hospitals and crowded public places such as railway and bus stations – at times, even in dustbins! At our home they are welcomed, nurtured and loved. Miracle recoveries happen each day through gentle rehabilitation therapies that we've honed through the years. Our aim is simple: We want to give them what they have lost – a home and a family!

## Working with

The Department of Social Welfare  
Child Welfare Committees  
Police  
ChildLine

### NURTURE

The children have endured rejection and unimaginable hardships. Some have even been abused. Most arrive in bad shape and need immediate medical aid. At our home they are treated, comforted, nurtured and loved. When ready to interact, we move them to the next phase of rehabilitation.

### REHABILITATE

Rehabilitation work is ongoing. On recovery, physiotherapists, speech therapists and special educators begin to coach them and individually assess their progress. Goals are set, which they are encouraged to attain at their own pace, and depending on their progress they are moved into Early Intervention, Pre-Primary and Primary, or Vocational programs. Through Prayatna - our vocational training unit, older children (18 years and above) are provided training in vocational careers and are helped to integrate into society and become self-sufficient.

### RESTORE

We believe that a family set-up is the best environment for a child to develop. Therefore we make every attempt to trace a child's family and try and reunite them. For parents who abandoned their children on account of poverty but are willing to be reunited, we provide counsel and help them get financial aid from the Government. Our legal department works on such cases and 78 children have been re-united with their families, so far.

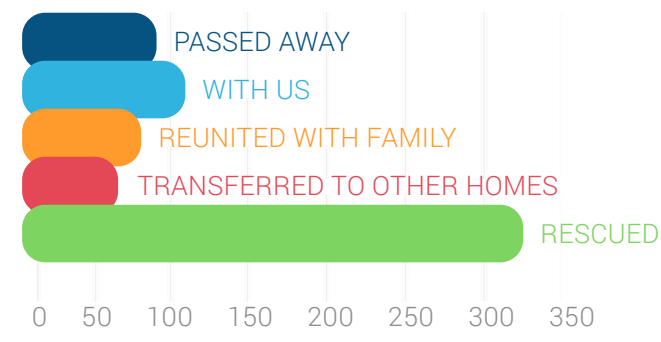
Click on the links for a quick roundup on :

**Child development programs:** <https://sriarunodayam.org/development-programs/>

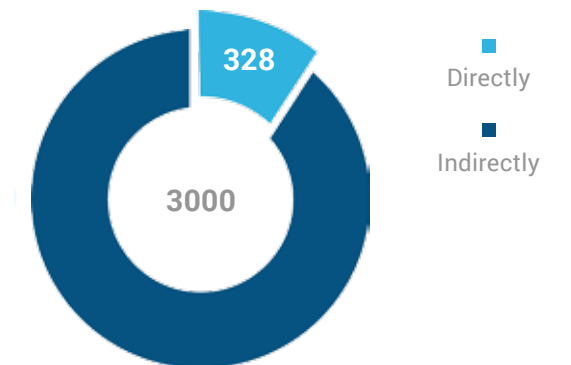
**Vocational programs:** <https://sriarunodayam.org/prayatna/>

**Advocacy programs:** <https://sriarunodayam.org/special-mom-post-page/>

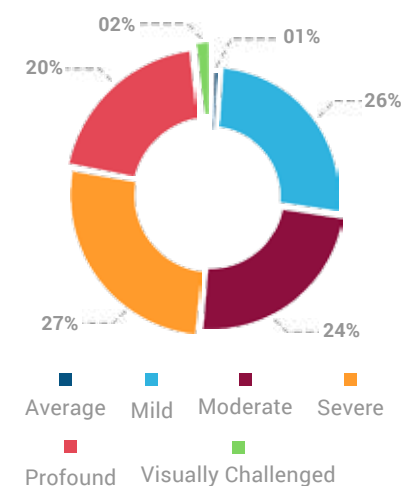
### SINCE 2003



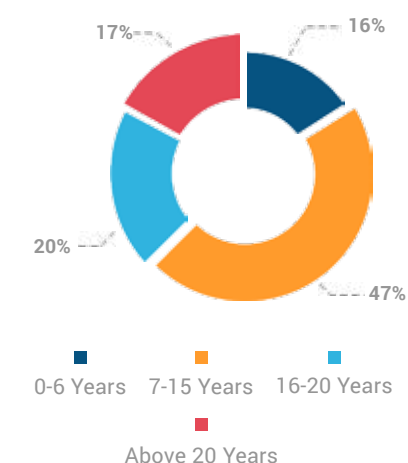
### CHILDREN SERVED



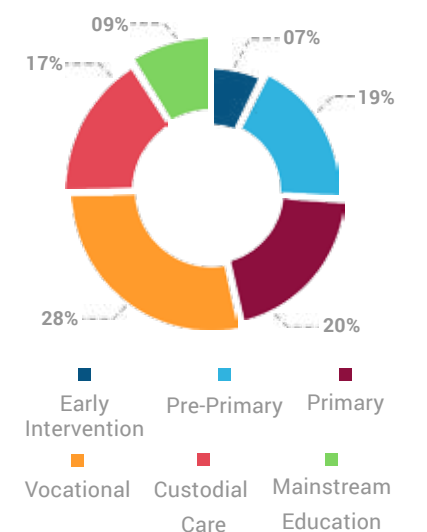
### DISABILITY LEVEL



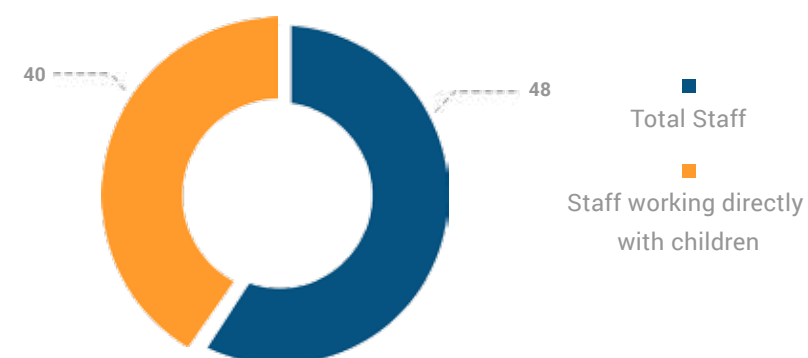
### AGE-WISE SEGREGATION



### PROGRAMS



### STAFF



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Iyyappan strongly supports creating opportunities for differently abled children. An avid champion of children's rights, he places great emphasis on advocacy and has strategized several societal transformation programs.

As Sri Arunodayam's Founder & Managing Trustee, Iyyappan leads the Board of Trustees and the workforce while being directly responsible for developing child policies and welfare programs, budgets and financial planning, and project strategy and implementation.

Iyyappan has Bachelor in Psychology and Bachelor in Law Degrees, and is a Post Graduate in Law specializing in Constitutional Law and Human Rights.

- Iyyappan Subramaniyan



Ranganathan is passionate about helping the downtrodden. With his connections, he is able to make considerable impact in their lives by providing timely guidance and help.

Ranganathan is one of our Trustees and a Chartered Accountant by profession. He has over 36 years of experience with Chartered Accountants Chevala & Company. He is associated with many service organizations including Lions Club International, Vasavi Clubs International, and International Vaish Federation (IVF). Ranganathan is also the Treasurer of BSHIP Chennai Innovators - an organization for business networking of the Arya Vysya Community, and is associated with VASAVI WEB TV.

- C Ranganathan Chetty



Radha is a mother figure at Sri Arunodayam. The children love to be in her company as she sings to them and teaches them valuable life lessons. Radha is a very active social worker.

An educationist by profession, Radha is one of our Trustees. She is a retired headmistress from Padma Sarangapani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Villivakkam, Chennai. She is very well connected in the education field and highly recognized and acclaimed by the Lions Club. Radha espouses social causes, drives campaigns, and mobilizes funds for social welfare projects.

- K Radha Krishnan



Nanda Kumar is making a foray into the world of social service. He is a thoughtful person espousing several social causes. He has been a close friend and supporter of the home and considers it an honor to be on the Board of Trustees and be associated with what Sri Arunodayam represents.

Nanda Kumar was an IT Software Engineer by profession. He is a Post Graduate in Information Technology with close to two decades of experience, working primarily in India, the United States and the UK. Nanda Kumar has been associated with Sri Arunodayam since 2004 and is associated with some of our transformation programs.

- Nanda Kumar Nagarajan

Sri Arunodayam is a Registered Charitable Trust, governed by a group of Trustees whose approval is required for all Trust activities in relation to the children.

The Board also ensures that all policies aimed at the betterment of the home and compliance and credibility norms, are met.

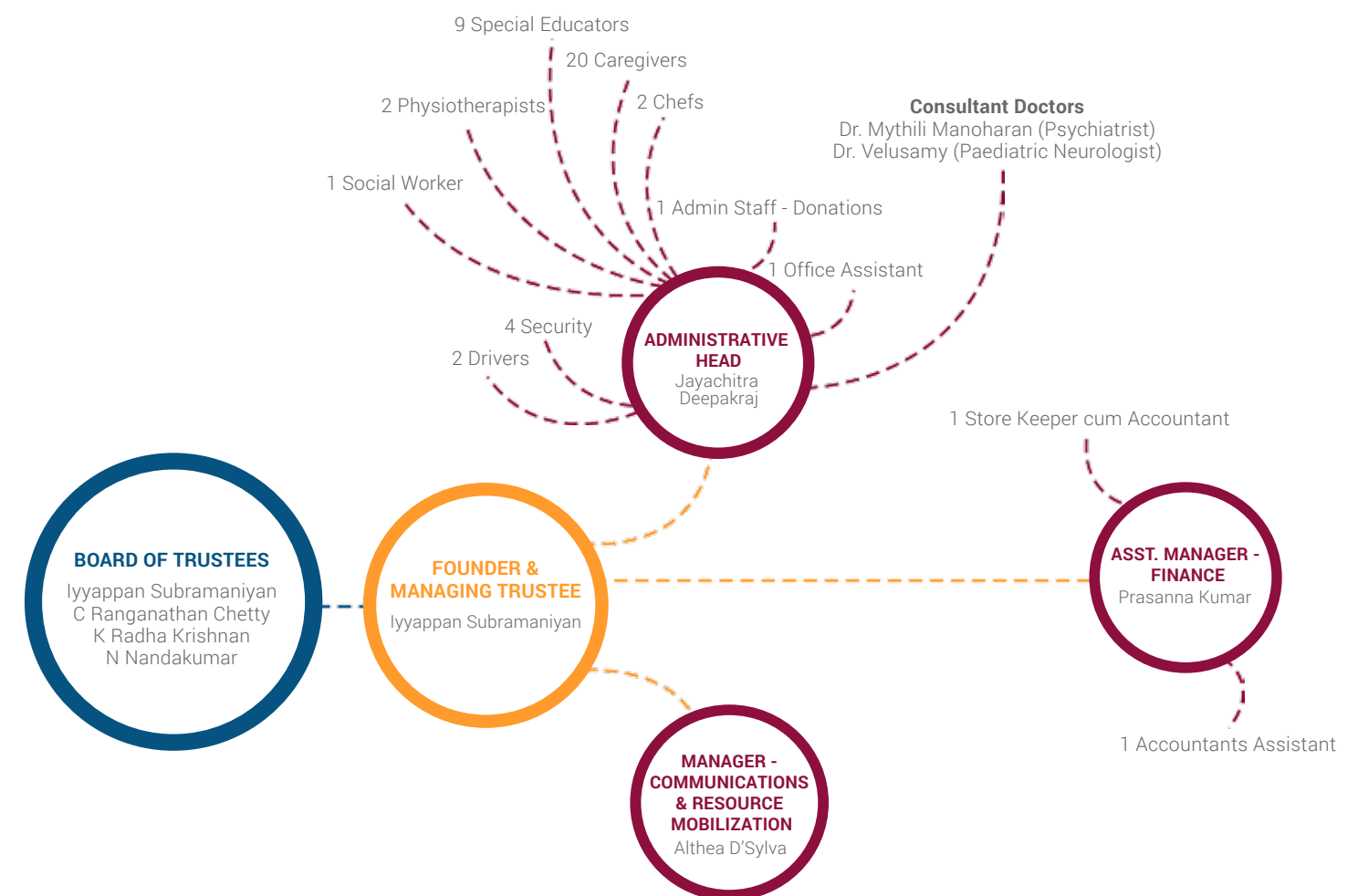
**Legal Advisors** - T Thangavelu - An Advocate in Chennai's High Court.

**Auditor** - A qualified DISA, M Subaschandran is our auditor and a partner in K M Mohandass & Company. He is very experienced in capital market transactions, government and bank audits, and finance and taxation. He has been instrumental in taking his firm to great heights and strategizing its expansion into new fields.

# WORKFORCE

This year, much attention went into building up a highly skilled team especially in the areas of caregiving and physiotherapy. A good fit with the organization and its guiding principles is mandatory for any person seeking to make positive impact at work - more especially in the upbringing of little children. Through frequent reviews, trainings and refresher programs we equipped the team to quickly adapt to the changing needs of the children, which is our top-most priority.

## STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP





# STORIES

## Physiotherapist



Dr. Kannan is a post graduate in Physiotherapy and practicing at reputed orthopaedic hospitals over the past 17 years. There has been a remarkable improvement in the children's mobility and outlook since he joined us. Physio is no longer a scary word for them because he has managed to motivate them into becoming the best that they can be despite their circumstances.

**Dr. Kannan**  
Physiotherapist

"I'm impressed with this home's child-centric approach and it's no compromise stance on personal hygiene, cleanliness and safety. A fully equipped physio center of CP tables and chairs, walkers, stationery bicycles, parallel bars, rowing machines and more, only added to my delight because a physiotherapist relies on such tools to help persons overcome their disability. The children receiving physiotherapy everyday have shown the most improvement in a short span of 4 months. The bedridden turn over and roll on their own and some have begun to stand with assistance and walk with walker support.

I believe this is because they've overcome their fear of physiotherapy, which was brought about through education, reassurance and activity encouragement techniques. Education and reassurance are simple interventions we use to help the children understand why physiotherapy is necessary and how it will help them get better.

We reassure them by outlining a recovery path that appears personally exciting to them – such as the ability to be able to go outdoors one day to play with other children they see through the window. The children are differently abled but not emotional cripples, and the desire to become mobile is a powerful motivating factor that gives them the resilience to undergo physiotherapy despite discomfort. "The goal of physical therapy is to motivate someone to do the work they need to do to improve their conditions," says physical therapist Lori Monson. I couldn't agree more!"



# STORIES

## Child



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### Sudarshan

An extraordinary child at our home

Abandoned by his parents in 2014, Sudarshan was found on the streets of Trichy, a metropolitan city in the state of Tamil Nadu in South India. He was only 9 months old at the time.

Sudharshan was rescued by ChildLine volunteers who contacted several organizations, but none would accept him. He finally came to us and a psychological evaluation revealed that he lived with intellectual disability. But Sudarshan has another unique problem. He is a hermaphrodite - more commonly known as an intersex person, because he has both male and female genitalia. This condition occurs approximately once in every 5000 births where a baby seems to have a mixture of both female and male parts. (The causes of ambiguous genitalia include genetic variations, and hormonal imbalances and malformations of the fetal tissues that are supposed to evolve into genitals.)

We were initially perplexed because we had never faced a challenge of this kind. But after consulting some of the best medical minds in the city, we learnt to deal with the situation and Sudarshan has happily settled in with loving caregivers.

When he came to us, Sudharshan was immobile and remained bedridden for quite a while before we gently coaxed him into an early intervention program which involved regular physiotherapy and sensory integration exercises. Today, thanks to his dedicated physiotherapist - Kannan, Sudharshan can walk with assistance and is getting steadier in his gait. We are particularly thrilled because he has begun to communicate - although, in monosyllables.

[Another recent remarkable change is that Sudharshan no longer has female genitalia! His body has slowly and naturally transformed in the past year, although now he has a gonadal agenesis condition. We do not know the next stage of his natural evolvement but we will continue to give him the dignity and support that he rightfully deserves].

Here's a [short clip of his first walk](#) posted by his special educator, Pandi Ganesh.



# COMMUNITY IMPACT

In the past year **13** children placed under Individualized Education Program (IEP)

We see that the younger the child is when a sensory program begins, the less retarded or delayed s/he will be when s/he is older.

**92/104**

Children receive special education & speech therapy

It is more difficult for intellectually challenged children to experience the world around them. For their mind and body to develop as early and fully as possible, we structure special programs that provide easy and enjoyable ways to learn.

**30** children participate in sports programs;  
**80%** are recurrent prize winners

Sports is encouraged for its positive effect on their overall development and morale. It is healthy exercise, producing sharpened sensory perception through interaction, and striving toward stated goals.

**34** children receive vocational training

in making candles, diyas, paper bags, notebooks and jewellery. Training is a form of occupational therapy helping them develop the necessary interactive social skills to become productive citizens of society.

**40**

children receive physiotherapy everyday

They receive 24-hour posture care and long-term condition management which is helping improve their mobility, functional ability and quality of life.

**900** donors celebrate their birthday with us

A rising trend in the past couple of years. Donors want to make their special days count in more meaningful ways!

**9%**

of children enrolled in mainstream schools after passing a psychological evaluation

We are excited about the opportunities that these children could create for themselves and for the people around them! This reiterates our belief that they can become a part of mainstream society.

**7**

girls learn classical Indian Bharatanatyam; made

**6** public appearances

The girls are much in demand. Dance is therapeutic, helping them overcome hyperactivity, gait imbalance and memory issues.

**70%** of children receiving health boosting vitamin supplements

highly recommended for healthy bone and brain development, as well as for decreasing anxiety, moodiness and disruptive behaviours associated with their condition.

**384**

donors honor the memory of deceased loved ones

by sponsoring the children's meals on the death anniversaries of their loved ones.

**180**

donors celebrated their wedding anniversary

with the children and sponsored their meals.

**12**

psychiatric/neurological evaluations made on

**38** children

displaying psychiatric disturbance, fits and disruptive behavior. Regular evaluation helps ensure that the children are neither over- nor under-medicated, which would be detrimental to their health and overall progress.

new entrants  
(4 girls & 8 boys)

**12**

Enrolled in the home's medical and rehabilitation programs. They live with mild to moderate intellectual disability and the older children have been inducted in to our vocational center.

Involved

**2900+**

school children and college students in advocacy on MR and intellectual disability

**3500**

visitors/donors pay us a visit

Each opportunity to interact with visitors appears to boost the children's self-confidence. They show an increased willingness to socialize.

**27** children receive splints and callipers

providing firm support, which is improving their gait and reducing the amount of effort required for walking.

Over the years... **80%** of our donor base are individuals

**70%**

repeat donors

Benefactors across

**6** countries

**328**

children rescued and rehabilitated

**78**

children restored to their families

**25000+**

hours of physiotherapy provided to the home's children through the rehabilitation program

**5500**

home built for 85 boys

**sq.ft.**

**50000** meals,

**5000** ration kits &

**2000**

school kits prepared and distributed to affected poor communities during the 2015 floods

**26000**

hours of special education constituting a part of the home's rehabilitation program for children

**75**

donors with us since the home's inception

**350+**

volunteers worked directly with us in disaster management during the Tsunami

Centralized kitchen providing

**130+ nutritious meals 3x/day**

**1200+**

hours of staff capacity building trainings and workshops

**90000+**

hits on a single advocacy instance on Facebook alone

**98%**

of donors believe that their sponsorship makes a direct and tangible impact on the children

**96%**

of volunteers say that volunteering with us enriches their sense of purpose in life

**15+**

key recognitions from the Government and International Agencies

**50000+**

kgs of vegetal waste recycled as garden fertilizer at the home



The Mission to Serve

<https://sriarunodayam.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/15th-Year-Founders-Day-Celebrations-Feb-2017.pdf>



Rehabilitation Programs

<https://sriarunodayam.org/what-we-do/>



Development Programs

<https://sriarunodayam.org/development-programs/>



Vocational Programs

<https://sriarunodayam.org/prayatna/>



Saving Lives

<https://sriarunodayam.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/May-2017-Sri-Arunodayam-rescues-3-orphan-adults.pdf>



Unique Advocacy

<https://sriarunodayam.org/special-mom-post-page/>



Community Involvement

<https://sriarunodayam.org/fundraise/>



Channel Activism

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCioq0rcGYqF6Y02UlwTUX8g>

annual report  
2016/2017



# STORIES

## Special Educator



Pandi Ganesh has a Master's Degree in Social Work and a Diploma in Special Education Mental Retardation (DSEMR). His dedication has won him several awards over the years – the more recent one being the *Teacher's Excellence Award* from the International Association of Lions Clubs District 324 A1. But Pandi's most priceless recognition appears to come from the very children he coaches who grow from strength to strength – living testaments of his dedicated work.

### Pandi Ganesan

Special Educator

"I volunteered at Sri Arunodayam back in 2008. The work so motivated me that when Iyyappan offered to fund my studies as a special educator, I jumped at the opportunity. There's been no turning since!

I'm no stranger to the world of disability; a couple of family members live with this condition, which was another motivating factor in my choice of career. That's why I feel at home at Sri Arunodayam and am a resident teacher there.

It is the home's policy that all children - regardless of the nature and severity of their handicap, be provided appropriate education. This means that the diverse educational needs, cognitive abilities, behavior patterns, and learning styles of each child (limited by the level of disability) must be met through individualized education plans (IEP), which are tailored to address each child in a manner that all feel equally valued!

Our children live with autism, mental retardation, visual and aural impairment, emotional disturbance, multiple disabilities, orthopaedic impairment, traumatic brain injury, and a host of other conditions that I'm constantly amazed at their resilience through the learning process! They don't give up. Neither should we. In the end, it really boils down to being committed to fully understanding the symptoms and causes, and evaluating, diagnosing, and prescribing a remedy – which must be shared with related professionals in the team – so that each child is developing holistically."



# STORIES

## Child



Sri Arunodayam is a secular organization with zero tolerance for discrimination against children, whether on the basis of caste, creed, religion, status, color, or gender orientation.

We only employ staff who are congruent with our core values of working towards the well-being of differently abled children. That's why we are able to witness new miracle recoveries each day! Ankeeth's story is a testament to this decision.

### Ankeeth

An extraordinary child at our home

Abandoned by a roadside in Chennai when he was just 3 years old, Ankeeth - a differently abled child was rescued by ChildLine and sent to us. The whereabouts of his family remain a mystery (as with most of our children) and Ankeeth calls Sri Arunodayam his "home". He is 16 today and has blossomed into a remarkable young person.

Despite his disability, Ankeeth remains a happy child with an impish smile that is rather infectious. We've elatedly watched his progress over the years with regular physiotherapy and special education, which so completely transformed him that one would never guess his rather late start in life. And because of his intelligence and articulacy, we enrolled him at the Government Vocational Rehabilitation Centre (VRC) for a one-year Diploma Course in computer hardware and operations – a subject he is keen about and very good at! Ankeeth helps us operate the computers at our office and is quite the trouble-shooter. He is very social and loves learning new languages which he practices on visitors to the home.

Ankeeth has made many new friends at College - to which he travels independently by public transport. His story is truly an inspiration to other differently abled youngsters at the home and to us too!



# A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

"Sometimes a short walk down memory lane is all it takes to appreciate where we are today."

- Susan Gale

We are taking that short walk now, remembering and giving thanks for all the graces received in the past 15 years. It appears an incredible journey today, but it all started with a single, bold step.



## THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Iyyappan's story is one of extraordinary conviction. It inspires hope against all hope when examined against a backdrop of stigma, ignorance and indifference to the suffering of the differently abled in India around 15 years ago. The pain of rejection and ostracization that Iyyappan and his family faced in his village in Thiruvavur District on account of his brother with Down syndrome, forged a conviction so strong that he pledged his life to this cause.

It took courage to leave familiar surroundings and head for the city to pursue this desire. But once there, Iyyappan completed his studies at MITHRA, training directly under its Founder, the late Rev. Sister Mary Theodore (recipient of the Medal of the Order of Australia, and the Dunlop Asialink Medal), and in February 2002, registered his Trust with just INR 1500 in his pocket! There weren't any homes for the intellectually challenged at that time, and opening one entailed a lot of legal prerequisites.

Yet, Iyyappan started off on his own. Renting a tiny room (which was all he could afford), he received the first abandoned child in May 2003. Soon more little ones came through the doors of what they would call their 'home'. Witnessing his tireless efforts first-hand, the Government decided to assist him in a small way at first.

The home's most significant recognition came in 2008 from the Government of Tamil Nadu after rigorous due diligence. Sri Arunodayam was certified a Government Reception Unit for intellectually challenged children, and support groups such as the Department of Social Welfare, the Police, and ChildLine became the main channels through which children reached the home.

## HUMBLE ORIGINS



## PEOPLE TO THE RESCUE

Mr. Seshagiri Rao, a college professor was instrumental in helping Iyyappan get Sri Arunodayam registered. It's his home that remains our girl's home till date! Mr. Ranganathan Chetty (Chartered Accountant and Sri Arunodayam's Trustee) helped get the 80G tax exemption status after convincing the IT Department to experience the home for themselves - which they did - and promptly passed the certification together with a large donation!

Till date, committed individuals make up the majority of funds we receive. They take care of the children's daily needs - especially medical aid, food, and clothing. Kind institutional partners like Rangoonwala Foundation India Trust, Dishaa, United Way Chennai, World of Children @, GiveIndia and GlobalGiving have sustained and supported our child development programs through the years. Thousands of volunteers have passed through our doors - and a good many still remain!

We are grateful to each one for their kind actions towards us, for good words they've spoken on our behalf, and for every positive idea they generated that has led to much innovation for our cause.

Since 2003, the home has rescued 328 children of which 78 were reunited with their families, and 56 were transferred to other homes for specialized care. At present, we have 104\* in our care. In 2018, plans for a new home to shelter 100 little girls will materialize with help from World of Children, Inc.

The programs continue every single day in congruence with the home's policy that all children - regardless of the nature and severity of their handicap - must be provided appropriate education. More and more children are being prepared for mainstream education.

New transformational ('Special Mom') and advocacy programs have begun to make an impact on our community. From the feedback we receive, we understand that these concepts are influencing thinking at all levels, and at national and international levels.

More recently, the Chennai High Court directed a petitioner to donate to Sri Arunodayam as a precondition for anticipatory bail, indicating a new and positive trend in governmental policy towards the marginalized. This also indicates the level of recognition that the home enjoys today.

## SOCIAL IMPACT



## LOOKING AHEAD

These days, Government grants are being extended to homes willing to undertake this work. But when Iyyappan started his home back then, this wasn't the case. It was an uphill climb with no support or recognition in sight - undeniable proof of his resoluteness in the face of all odds.

Luckily, Iyyappan was never alone. Kind benefactors have always been the home's mainstay. Their regular support in cash, kind, and time means that they understand the valuable nature of the work being carried out. It's because of their goodness that Sri Arunodayam can keep helping children in distress as their donations help make up for any cuts in local government funding.

Truthfully, we could never have made it this far without you, dear friend, and so we and the children we serve, sincerely thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your committed support is creating miracle recoveries every day as you help children receive healing through lifesaving medicines, gentle rehabilitation therapies, and much more!

\* As on March 31, 2017



# STORIES

## Mentor



Governance Counts is an organization that helps strengthen the Boards of NGOs by helping them self-evaluate their processes through governance reviews, articulate the role of their Board members, and develop their governance policy. Governance Counts also helps identify competent individuals as Board members, and individuals who can form Advisory panels or act as mentors and technical experts at Board level.

### **Aarti Madhusudan**

Founder - Governance Counts

"I have known Iyyappan for nearly 15 years or from the time that he started Sri Arunodayam. My earliest memory of him is the passion with which he spoke about starting a centre for abandoned children with special needs. A simple young man with dreams of touching thousands of lives! I have had the privilege of seeing the organisation grow and evolve, floundering at times - as it took baby steps to become a stronger, well run organisation...always managing to seek out the help that was needed to address the challenges of growth.

I have always gained from my association with the people at Sri Arunodayam – the commitment of the staff, the resilience to deal day after day with individuals who are in pain, ill health and often dying; to take from the worst of human nature where a helpless baby is abandoned, and to create a context of love and care that comes, I believe, from a place of pure goodness which Iyyappan and everyone at Sri Arunodayam has.

I wish the organisation and its people a lifetime of success and joy."



# STORIES

## Partner



Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust is a Mumbai based, non-political, not-for-profit development organization committed to sustainable people-centered inclusive development. Its vision is an inclusive society where marginalized communities are vibrant, dynamic and self-sustaining, and its mission is to enable these communities to sustainably help themselves. Its development programme focuses mainly on the issues of education, health, livelihoods and community services across population groups, including the multiple-disabled.

### Nisreen Ebrahim

CEO, Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust

"Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust [RF(I)T] has partnered with Sri Arunodayam since May 2009. Caring for special, abandoned children is a challenge indeed. Sri Arunodayam does this in its own special way - by not only caring for, but nurturing each child, focusing on their development in a loving, happy and facilitative environment.

It is the human capital of Sri Arunodayam that enables them to do what they do. We are proud to say that this has been the core of our support since the beginning of our partnership.

Over the past eight years our partnership has grown from giving the organization the stability of providing core caregiving and therapy support, to advocacy and networking, to community outreach and vocational skill building. We have challenged them to do more and they have risen to each challenge! This comes from a committed leadership with a vision for the future, which Sri Arunodayam is fortunate to have in Iyyappan.

Our best wishes to the Sri Arunodayam family. May they remain as focused, grounded and dedicated to their cause and the children in their care, ALWAYS!"



# FINANCIALS

## BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2017

### LIABILITIES

	As on 31.03.2017 ( INR )	As on 31.03.2016 ( INR )
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
Opening balance	68,274,516	60,544,168
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	13,240,216	7,730,348
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,514,732</b>	<b>68,274,516</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES &amp; PROVISIONS</b>		
Sundry Creditors	237,388	-
Outstanding Expenses	56,745	93,094
TDS Payable	12,890	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,821,755</b>	<b>68,367,610</b>

### ASSETS

	As on 31.03.2017 ( INR )	As on 31.03.2016 ( INR )
<b>FIXED ASSETS - AS PER SCHEDULE</b>	<b>53,875,306</b>	<b>51,102,336</b>
<b>FIXED DEPOSITS</b>	<b>18,933,904</b>	<b>12,709,196</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS, ADVANCES &amp; DEPOSITS</b>		
Advances & Deposits	208,734	11,820
Tax Deducted at Sources	44,877	7,775
Telephone Deposit	2,000	2,000
Electricity Deposit	23,880	23,880
Rent Receivable	53,500	-
Interest Receivable	390,033	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash in hand	84,497	80,415
<b>CASH AT BANK</b>		
Bank of Baroda - A/c No 2763	11,941	11,589
ICICI Bank - A/c No 7045	2,144,358	185,848
Indian Bank - A/c No 9699	4,116,988	924,061
State Bank of India - A/c No 5847	1,721,024	3,308,689
HDFC - A/c No 10687	210,712	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,821,755</b>	<b>68,367,610</b>

For SRI ARUNODAYAM CHARITABLE TRUST  
(Managing Trustee cum Treasurer)

Place : Chennai  
Date :

For K.M.MOHANDASS & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

(R.SETHU MADHAVAN)  
Partner

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2017

	Year ending 31.03.2017	Year ending 31.03.2016
<b>INCOME</b>		
By Donation [FCRA]	7,435,907	6,257,431
By Donation General	12,717,694	12,948,895
By Government Grant	7,301,896	4,279,560
By Interest Received on FD & SB A/C	1,367,080	777,536
By Interest Income - FCRA Fixed Deposits	782,465	-
By Prayatna Income	151,789	24,789
By Rental Income	283,500	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,040,331</b>	<b>24,288,211</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
To Administrative Expenses	11,350	14,606
To Advertisement	32,414	13,532
To Audit Fees	35,886	31,250
To Bank Charges & Commission	40,812	9,925
To Children Welfare Expenses	2,275,529	2,563,355
To Children Medical Expenses	484,506	1,109,223
To Communication & Fundraising Expenses	247,310	-
To Electricity Charges	185,767	209,476
To FCRA Renewal Expenses	-	24,200
To Fees & Subscriptions	4,360	-
To Fixed Assets Written off	-	480,790
To Flood Relief Expenses	-	288,619
To General Expenses	45,228	84,859
To Insurance Charges	92,046	-
To Loss on Sale of Vehicle	-	177,125
To Office Equipments	13,928	28,845
To Postage & Courier	42,577	29,708
To Prayatna Expenses	260,131	104,555
To Printing and Stationery	118,973	90,192
To Rates and Taxes	48,006	160,910
To Rent	300,000	300,000
To Repairs and Maintenance	785,672	366,173
To Salary and Wages	6,082,993	5,182,035
To Staff Welfare Expenses	56,489	49,886
To Telephone Expenses	100,605	86,041
To Travelling & Conveyance	198,263	121,470
To Vehicle Maintenance	403,721	444,098
To Depreciation	4,933,549	4,586,990
To Excess of Income over Expenditure	13,240,216	7,730,348
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,040,331</b>	<b>24,288,211</b>

For SRI ARUNODAYAM CHARITABLE TRUST  
(Managing Trustee cum Treasurer)

Place : Chennai  
Date :

For K.M.MOHANDASS & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

(R.SETHU MADHAVAN)  
Partner



# FINANCIALS

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2017

	Year ending 31.03.2017 ( INR )	Year ending 31.03.2016 ( INR )
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>To Opening Balance:</b>		
To Cash	80,415	39,551
To Bank of Baroda - A/c No 2763	11,589	10,957
To ICICI Bank - A/c No 7045	185,848	735,813
To Indian Bank - A/c No 9699	924,061	792,361
To State Bank of India - A/c No 5847	3,308,689	137,459
To Donation (FCRA Main)	7,435,907	6,257,431
To Donation (General)	12,717,694	12,948,895
To Government Grant	7,301,896	4,279,560
To Fixed Deposits Matured	-	13,892,969
To Interest Received on FD & SB A/C	497,702	777,536
To Praytna Income	151,789	24,789
To Rental Income	230,000	-
To Rental Advance	225,000	-
To Sale of Fixed Assets	-	610,000
To Staff Advances (Net)	-	27,855
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,070,591</b>	<b>40,535,177</b>

	Year ending 31.03.2017 ( INR )	Year ending 31.03.2016 ( INR )
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
To Administrative Expenses	11,350	14,616
To Advertisement	32,414	13,532
To Bank Charges & Commission	40,812	9,925
To Children Welfare Expenses	2,269,628	2,563,355
To Children Medical Expenses	484,506	1,109,223
To Electricity Charges	185,767	209,476
To FCRA Renewal Expenses	-	24,200
To Fees & Subscriptions	4,360	4,450
To Flood Relief Expenses	-	288,619
To General Expenses	45,228	84,859
To Insurance Charges	92,046	130,033
To Office Equipments	13,928	28,845
To Postage & Courier	42,577	29,708
To Prayatna Expenses	260,131	104,555
To Printing and Stationery	118,973	90,192
To Rates and Taxes	48,006	26,427
To Rent	300,000	300,000
To Repairs and Maintenance	785,672	366,173
To Salary and Wages	6,042,571	5,182,035
To Staff Welfare Expenses	56,489	49,886
To Telephone Expenses	100,605	86,041
To Travelling & Conveyance	198,263	121,470
To Vehicle Maintenece	403,721	444,098
To Communication and Fundraising Expenses	247,310	
To Fixed Assets	7,768,363	21,925,916
To Fixed Deposits	5,000,000	2,500,000
To EB Deposit	-	4,900
To Staff Advances (Net)	191,621	
To Other Advances (Net)	5,293	
To Outstanding Expenses	31,436	312,040
<b>To Closing Balance:</b>		
To Cash	84,497	80,415
To Bank of Baroda - A/c No 2763	11,941	11,589
To ICICI Bank - A/c No 7045	2,144,358	185,848
To HDFC - A/c No 10687	210,712	
To Indian Bank - A/c No 9699	4,116,988	924,061
To State Bank of India - A/c No 5847	1,721,024	3,308,689
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,070,591</b>	<b>40,535,177</b>

For **SRI ARUNODAYAM CHARITABLE TRUST**  
(Managing Trustee cum Treasurer)

Place : **Chennai**  
Date :

For **K.M.MOHANDASS & CO.,**  
Chartered Accountants.

(**R.SETHU MADHAVAN**)  
Partner

## CREDIBILITY ALLIANCE NORMS COMPLIANCE REPORT

### GOVERNANCE: DETAILS OF BOARD MEMBERS (AS ON MARCH 31, 2017)

Sri Arunodayam is governed by a group of Trustees

No	Name of the Trustee	Position Held (2016-17)	Contact Details
1	Iyyappan Subramaniyan	Founder, Managing Trustee Cum Treasurer	sriarunodayam@gmail.com / +91-9444915803
2	C. Ranganathan Chetty	Trustee	chevala_audit@yahoo.co.in / +91-9841058227
3	N. Nanda Kumar	Trustee	ngknanda@gmail.com / +91-9841432359
4	K. Radha	Trustee	Radkris2006@gmail.com / +91-9840798207
5	Rammohan Krishanaswamy	Trustee	rammohan@rediffmail.com / +91-9884003087

### Accountability and Transparency

- ▶ The Board of Trustees met on the following dates: 10th April 2016, 31st July 2016, 6th November 2016, and 10th April 2017.
- ▶ The minutes of the Board meeting are documented and circulated among the Trustees.
- ▶ The Board of Trustees approves programs, budgets, annual reports, audited financial statements, policies and the honorarium for the head of the organization. The Board also ensures that the organization is in compliance with all required laws and regulations.
- ▶ The Board of Trustees does not receive travel allowances to attend Board meetings.
- ▶ No expenses are reimbursed to Board members, or to staff and volunteers on national and international trips.
- ▶ Statements of account have been prepared on accrual basis.

Gender	Full time paid	Part time paid	Unpaid volunteers
<b>STAFF DETAILS (AS OF MARCH 31, 2017)</b>			
Male	13	-	-
Female	30	1	-

Slab of gross salary (INR) plus benefits paid to staff (per month)	Male Staff	Female Staff	Total Staff
<b>STAFF SALARY LEVELS (AS OF MARCH 31, 2017)</b>			
Less than 5000	-	1	1
5,000 – 10,000	7	26	33
10,000 – 25,000	4	4	8
25,000 – 50,000	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>44</b>

### STAFF REMUNERATION (IN INR IN 2016-2017)

Head of the organization: (Honorarium) Rs. 5,90,485 per year  
Highest paid person in the organization: Rs. 4,20,000 per year  
Lowest paid person in the organization: Rs. 48,000 per year



# STORIES

## Donor



Dishaa is a federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-discriminatory, non-religious, non-sectarian organization incorporated in the State of Maryland, USA in April 2003. Dishaa in Sanskrit means direction/path, and as the name suggests, the organization's endeavour is to help change the direction or path of young students, differently abled children and senior citizens, in a meaningful way.

### Suresh Rajagopalan

Founder & Director, Dishaa Charitable Trust

"It is my pleasure to write about my experience with Sri Arunodayam and the great work the team does. We, at Dishaa have been supporting Sri Arunodayam for over 12 years in various ways. I have seen them grow in terms of the number of children, infrastructure facilities, public support and recognition, and more importantly – in the ever increasing affection and care that they provide for these destitute children.

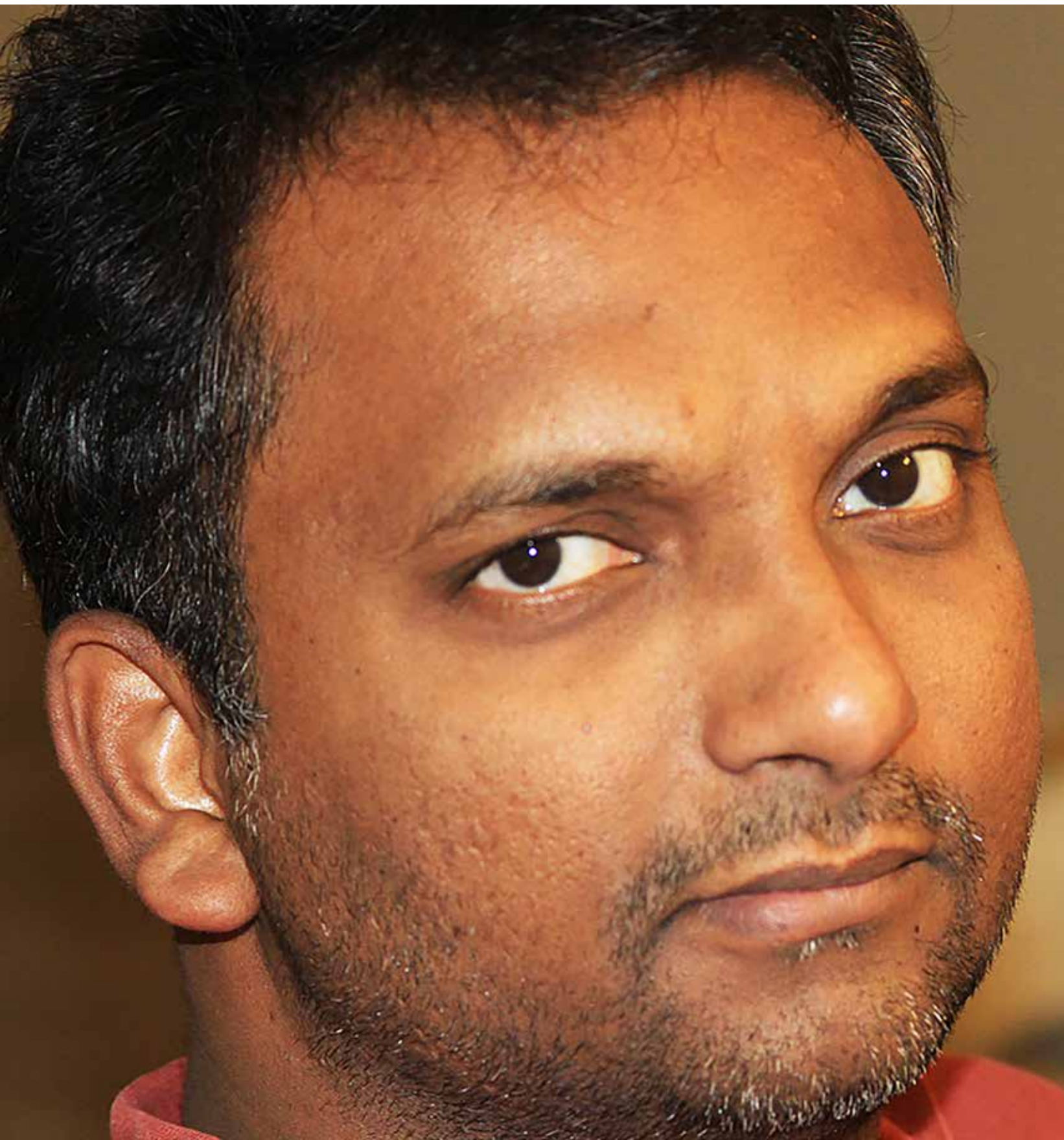
Over the years I have seen many children being taken in and witnessed their remarkable transformation. The smiling faces of Iyyappan, Chitra, Pandi Ganesh and the many volunteers and family members supporting them in the cause is just incredible! Iyyappan and Chitra have an abundance of energy - which we all wish we had in our lives! Their quest to do something for these children should be greatly appreciated and supported by one and all. I wish them the very best and hope that they spread their wings and do more with all our support.

Special mention must be made of their other social causes – especially the Chennai flood relief work that Iyyappan, Chitra, Pandi Ganesh and the team carried out. This was a phenomenal effort by Sri Arunodayam, which so impressed the Tamil Nadu Government that they adapted their own relief processes based on this. Words cannot express the gratitude from all of us to this team for their awareness and care for society and for our fellow citizens."



# STORIES

## Trustee



Nanda Kumar Nagarajan, a native of Vellore, worked in India and abroad in the field of Information Technology for two decades. He is now a certified, full time yoga teacher and is the founder of YogaBandham, a group that focuses on transmitting Classical Hatha Yoga.

### Nanda Kumar N

Trustee

In the summer of 2004, an acquaintance at work demanded my time on a Saturday morning without giving me a hint of where he was taking me. That was my first visit to Sri Arunodayam, a home for abandoned children who were deprived of certain mental capabilities by the creator.

I have witnessed visits to Sri Arunodayam being an emotional, overwhelming and sometimes traumatic experience for many. Instead, it was a heart-warming, thought provoking and mostly home coming kind of experience for me. Iyyappan, a young, medium built, then 21 or so year old man with a very gentle demeanor, would go on to say that day, "God has created these children for whatever reason. I want to ensure that they live and die with dignity". For me it felt that the creator seemed to have had a plan in place for the children through Iyyappan, and an angel in disguise – Chitra.

From that day, till today, I have witnessed that everything being done at Sri Arunodayam is only to enhance the quality of life of the children; striving to integrate them into society, to a point where they can even earn their own living.

Sri Arunodayam purely runs on public charity. From being an organization with humble beginnings to now taking care of more than 100 children, we have seen the crests and the troughs. From being certified by the Government of Tamil Nadu as a Reception Unit, to how a natural calamity like the Tsunami of 2004 or the Chennai floods of 2015 would not only affect millions of lives but also impact the home's children adversely as funds are routed to the most urgent need. That said, Sri Arunodayam is one NGO that can jump into immediate action whenever disaster strikes.

Little did I know that my involvement with Sri Arunodayam would honor me with the responsibility of a being Trustee. It is a privilege and an honor which I still wonder if I deserve.

That acquaintance is a very dear friend now, and I can't thank him enough for introducing me to a social organization that's run with love, ethics and integrity.



    <p><b>April</b></p> <p>12 ● Welcomed 5 young adults - Siva, Kandasamy, Basha, Moosan, and Kumar - into the home. Sent from home to home, they finally found their true home with us!</p>	   <p><b>May</b></p> <p>10 ● Launched our new website and stepped into the digital world! It has received much attention and favourable reviews till date, but we are always open to new suggestions and ideas.</p> <p>17 ● Launched new volunteer schemes through the website, and now they help in more ways than we thought possible!</p> <p>24 ● Yalini Dance Studio, Kilpauk commences dance classes for the children.</p>	     <p><b>June</b></p> <p>01 ● The Chennai Volunteers Team conducts drawing classes helping the children express themselves through art.</p> <p>09 ● Long-standing donors, Marc Sauquet Foundation visit the home. What pleased them the most is that the children are happy and eager to engage with people.</p>	   <p><b>July</b></p> <p>08 ● Pet Therapy begins as Kittu, a sweet natured Labrador joins the family!</p> <p>17 ● The children bag 3 gold, 3 silver and 4 bronze medals at Vegam 2016 - an event for special children organized by Chennai Social Service.</p> <p>28 ● We sell Prayatna's lovely products at the 8th Hindu Spiritual &amp; Service Fair.</p>	  <p><b>August</b></p> <p>05 ● Our joy doubles as Dhanalakshmi and Bhagyalakshmi (2 young cows) are donated to our home.</p> <p>15 ● The children celebrate India's 70th year of Independence joined by members of our Residential Welfare Association and Mr. Siva Jaikumar, Chennai District Child Protection Officer.</p> <p>30 ● We are delighted as Sharing Smiles USA, and Wafa and Abid Ali Junaid sponsor 45 cerebral palsy chairs for the home in response to a web campaign.</p>	<p><b>September</b></p> <p>05 ● The children celebrate Vinayagar Chaturthi and kind donors sponsor meals.</p> <p>10 ● Pandi Ganesan and Valli Ramachandran - our Special Educators honoured with the Best Teacher Award by the Lioness Council - Lions Club International District 324 A1.</p> <p>11 ● The children bag 10 gold and 5 silver medals at a sports event organised by Amateur Sports Academy, Chennai.</p> <p>22 ● The children are champions at yet another celebrated sporting event in Chennai, organized by the Tamil Nadu Special Children's Sports Academy.</p> <p>29 ● Our boys teach the employees of Tata Communications, Ambattur how to make candles, diyas and paper bags.</p>	<p><b>October</b></p> <p>02 - 08 ● We celebrate Daan Utsav week through a host of programs in which we gave and received</p> <p>03 ● We conduct an awareness rally about the differently abled, at the Pudhur Bus Stand and initiate conversations with people.</p> <p>04 ● We conduct information campaigns through stalls at Olympia Tech Park and IOC Bunks.</p> <p>05 ● Our youngsters visit Cancer Institute and teach 40 mothers of children with cancer how to make lovely paper bags.</p> <p>06 ● We collect over 3000 kilos of rice and distribute it to special schools, orphanages and old age homes in rural areas.</p>	  <p>08 ● The children distribute fruit to gypsy and Irular children from very impoverished backgrounds.</p> <p>23 ● The children went to cheer CEOs in the CEO Run at the Chennai Marathon event conducted by United Way Chennai.</p> <p>25 ● The children celebrate Diwali with much excitement. Kind benefactors sponsor delicious meals and new clothes.</p> <p>27 ● Iyyappan - our Founder, receives the World of Children® Award at an Awards Ceremony in New York City, USA.</p>
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## November

- 11 ● Madhavan, one of our boys is honored by the District Collector for bagging many medals at the Differently Abled District Level Sports Meet.

- 14 ● The children enjoy **Children's Day** programs and squeeze in a visit with the aged at Premapuri, an ashram at Thirumullaivoyal.

- 15 ● The children enjoy an evening at the beach.

- 20 ● We officially launch Prayatna on **FB** and our **website**.

- 20 ● The children begin Bharatanatyam dance classes with Reshma Gunasekar - an accomplished Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dancer.

- 26 ● Sahi Cafe celebrates their first anniversary by inviting the children for high tea at the Café.

- 27 ● A team of 40 staff from Deloitte spend a day with the children, interacting through entertainment and skill training programmes.



## December

- 01 ● We launch our '**Special Mom**' **15:15:15** campaign at a function opened by a prominent social activist and well-wisher - Mrs. Badrunnisa Mahadevan.

- 03 ● We conduct digital **awareness campaigns** on **FB** and **YouTube** on International Day of Persons with Disabilities, and an Awareness Rally at the

- 25 ● We celebrate Christmas with a magic show and loads of fun activities for the children together with Madras Roundtable 95 and 6.in surprise planners.



## January

- 09 ● The children bag 4 gold, 2 silver and 6 bronze medals at a sporting event organised by Inner Wheel Club of Madras Fort, at the Rajaratnam Stadium, Egmore.

- 13 ● Pongal is celebrated with much joy! The children learn about this harvest festival through skits and plays.

- 26 ● We celebrate Republic Day, teaching and enacting this historical event through skits.

- 27 ● We commence sugarcane cultivation - an initiative by the Prayatna boys



- 27 ● Sri Arunodayam is vetted and declared a Top Ranking Organisation by GlobalGiving, USA

- 28 ● Going digital, our website is robustly equipped with an **online payment facility** to accept donations via credit and debit cards



## February

- 04 ● The children stage a play to emphasise the importance of a clean India, in Javate - a cultural show organised for special children by Lady Andal School, Chennai.

- 07 - 10 ● We showcase Prayatna products at Pratibimb - an exhibition-cum sale organized by Rangoonwala Foundation at Mumbai

- 26 ● We celebrate Founder's Day - a milestone year for Sri Arunodayam as we **commemorate 15 years** of service



## March

- 20 ● The children have a fun day at the Children's Park, Guindy



# SPECIAL THANKS TO



## THE GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

and especially – the Director/Commissioner for Social Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu; the Commissioner for Social Defense, Government of Tamil Nadu; and the State Commissioner for the Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu.



## COMMITTED INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Mr. Abid Ali J, Chennai; Mr. Anand Vasudevan, Mumbai; Mrs. Amrita Saxena, Chennai; Mrs. Aarthi Madhusudan, Chennai; Dr. Chitra, Chennai; Mr. Dhandapani V, Bangalore; Mr. Erode Chandrasekaran S, Canada; Mrs. Indira, Chennai; Mr. Jaffer, Chennai; Mr. Jeganathan, Sydney, Australia; Mr. Karthik Govind S, USA; Mr. Kiran, Chennai; Mr. Kajamohideen and Noorunnisa, Chennai; Mr. Kareem Syed, Chennai; Ms. Karpagam R, Chennai; Mr. Mahadevan M, Chennai; Mr. Marireddy Prabhu, Chennai; Mrs. Ponnammal, Chennai; Mr. Prabhakar S, Chennai; Mr. Ramarao V K, Chennai; Mr. Rajasekhar Chemalli, Mumbai; Mr. Ramaswamy K R, Chennai; Mr. Ravikumar Namballa (Chennai); Mrs. Rinku Mecheri, Chennai; Mr. Raman Ravi, (Chennai); Ms. Sarala S, Chennai; Mr. Sathish M, Chennai; Ms. Sharadha, Chennai; Mrs. Sasirekha Natrajan, Chennai; Mrs. Saraswathi Karthick S J, Chennai; Mrs. Sanyuktha Gupta, Chennai; Dr. Sollin Selvan, Chennai; Mr. Sriram, Chennai; Mr. Srikanth Venugopal, Canada; Mr. Subramanian S, Bangalore; Mr. Subramanian R, Chennai; Mr. Suresh Kumar R, Chennai; Mr. Suresh Rajagopalan, Chennai; Mr. Sunder Palanisamy, Singapore; Mr. Sridhar Kulasekaran, Chennai, Ms. Veena Dhandapani, Chennai; Mr. Vignesh Kanna M, Chennai; Mr. Vijay Anand, Rotary Club of Chennai Chola; Mr. Vijay A R, Chennai; Mr. Vijayalakshmi Ganesan, Chennai; Ms. Vijayalakshmi Boovarangan, Chennai; Mr. Venkat Babu K S, Chennai; Ms. Visalakshy Swamy, Chennai.



## INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Adroit Urban Developers, Chennai; American Online Giving Foundation – Benevity, USA; Amrita Vidyalayam School, Chennai; M/s. Bhoomika Trust, Chennai; Battle of the Buffet (BoB), Chennai; CIOSA, Chennai; Chennai Mission, Chennai; Chennai Volunteers, Chennai; Christmas Fair Association, Chennai; Dishaa Charitable Trust, Chennai; Daan Utsav; Fundacio Privada Marc Sauquet, Spain; Good Shepherd Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Nungambakkam, Chennai; Global Fund for Children, USA; Give India Foundation, Mumbai; Global Giving Foundation, USA; Google Matching Gifts Program; IOWA State University, USA; Jeppiar Remibai Charitable Trust, Chennai; Madras Parsi Association, Chennai; NJM Business, Chennai; Primal Patterns Holistic Fitness Studio, Chennai; Rangoonwala Foundation India Trust, Mumbai; Ramjidass Charitable Trust, Mumbai; Sharing our Smiles, USA; Sri Sai Darshan Trust, (Chennai); Solai Charitable Trust, (Vellore); Soka Ikeda College of Arts & Science for Women, Chennai; Lions Club of Golden Roses, Chennai; Temple Renovation Education & Annadanam Trust, Chennai; United Way Chennai; Vummidi Bangaru Jewelers, Chennai; Vivekananda Vidyalaya Group of Schools, Chennai; World of Children, Inc.



## DOCTORS RENDERING FREE SERVICES TO THE CHILDREN FOR SEVERAL YEARS

Dr. A. P. Mythili, Senior Psychiatrist, Kilpauk Medical College & Hospital, Chennai;

Dr. S. Velusamy, Senior Neurologist, Stanley Medical College & Hospital, Chennai;

Dr. C. Arumugaswamy, Managing Director – Retteri Sri Kumar Health Center.



## HEALTHCARE SPECIALISTS

The Dean & Doctors of The Stanley Medical College & Hospital, Royapuram, Chennai; The Dean & Doctors of the Kilpauk Medical College & Hospital, Kilpauk, Chennai.



## MEDIA

The Hindu, The New Indian Express, The Times of India, Dinamani, Dinamalar, Rajasthan Patrika

# UNIQUE ALLIES

## KOKILA



Kokila is an 80 year old lady who contributes to our home each month by collecting excess rations from her neighbors and friends.

Her faithful and completely voluntary service is outstanding for a person her age, proving that where there is a will, there is a way!

## NIVEDIDYAA



Nivedidyaa is a student from Velammal Vidyalaya School who saves her pocket money all-year-round, donating it to the children on her birthday each year.

She is getting a priceless education in practicing the beautiful virtues of discipline and charity very early in life.

## GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL, NUNGAMBAKKAM



The students of Good Shepherd School have been our children's constant companions these past 6 years. They support Prayatna through several training programs and by patronizing its products.

They volunteer for our in-house programs and external events. They also support the home by providing provisions and grooming items for the children.

## AMRITA VIDYALAYAM SCHOOL, VIRUGAMBAKKAM



The students of Amrita Vidyalayam School have been regular annual visitors to the home, especially around the season of Diwali, for over 5 years.

They provide provisions and help with spiritual exercises such as conducting bhajans for the children around Diwali time.

These are examples of wonderful people from all walks of life, chipping in to support in their own unique way. We are truly grateful to them. They occupy a very special place in our hearts!



# RECOGNITIONS



## Iyyappan wins 2016 World of Children @ Humanitarian Award

Iyyappan received the prestigious 2016 World of Children® Award at a special function held in New York City, USA on October 27, 2016. The award is internationally recognized as the 'Nobel Prize for Child Advocates', and awardees receive a grant to help their initiatives grow and impact the lives of more children.

Iyyappan was one among only Five Child Advocates from across the world to be chosen for their heroic work with vulnerable children. Iyyappan was also the first person to receive the Humanitarian Award – a new category introduced by World of Children® in 2016. The Honourees' work span a wide range of issues from supporting children living with debilitating and chronic diseases, to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, to survivors of sexual abuse.

### Sri Arunodayam's Credentials

- ▶ Recognized under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act 2006, as a children's home for the mentally challenged destitute
- ▶ Registered under the National Trust Act 2000
- ▶ Recognized by the Government of Tamil Nadu (under the Juvenile Justice Act by the Department of Social Defense) as a Reception Unit in 2008
- ▶ Declared a fit institution by the Child Welfare Committee, Chennai, Government of Tamil Nadu
- ▶ Registered with Credibility Alliance, Mumbai
- ▶ Recognized by Give India Foundation
- ▶ Recognized by Global Giving Foundation, USA
- ▶ Proud partner of Global Fund For Children since 2010
- ▶ Registered under the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995
- ▶ Given 12 AA and 80 G tax exemptions by the Income Tax Department under the Income Tax Act 1961
- ▶ Registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) 2010 to receive overseas donations
- ▶ Licensed under the Food Safety & Standards Act 2006

On the personal front, Iyyappan's ground-breaking work with the differently abled has been recognized both nationally and internationally.

- ▶ Honored with the prestigious World of Children Humanitarian Award in 2016
- ▶ Nominated by International Youth Foundation as a Global Fellow in the Youth Action Net Global Fellowship Program in 2008
- ▶ Nominated as a Changeloom Fellow in 2008
- ▶ Invited by the U.S. State Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs for the International Visitors Leadership Program in 2010
- ▶ Nationally recognized and awarded several times by the Lions, Rotary, and Round Table Clubs

# SPONSORSHIP

Running a home for children with special needs can be quite a challenging task, but thanks to your kindness we are able to meet the children's day-to-day expenses. There are times, however, when we tend to run short and a fixed monthly income provides the much needed stability. That's why we build reserves each year to help us tide over contingencies.

There are many programs to sponsor and many ways to do it! Check out the list of special projects here.

### For all 115\* children (in INR)



#### SPONSOR A MEAL

Breakfast - 2,500/-  
Lunch - 3,500/-  
Dinner - 2,500/-



#### SPONSOR VEGETABLES FOR A DAY

1,500/-



#### SPONSOR A CUP OF MILK

1,000/-



#### SPONSOR VEGETARIAN MEALS FOR A DAY

8,500/-



#### SPONSOR AN EVENING SNACK

1,500/-



#### SPONSOR A RECREATIONAL OUTING

10,000/-

### For a child (in INR)



#### LIVING EXPENSES FOR A MONTH

3,000/-



#### DIAPERS FOR A MONTH

1,000/-



#### PSYCHIATRIC MEDICINES FOR A MONTH

1,000/-



#### SPONSOR AN ANNUAL CHECK-UP

3,000/-



#### SPONSOR A DRESS

1,000/-



#### SPECIAL EDUCATION TRAINING FOR A MONTH

1,000/-



#### PHYSIOTHERAPY TREATMENT FOR A MONTH

1,000/-

Considering volunteering?

Want to help raise funds?

Want to donate?

<https://sriarunodayam.org/volunteer/>

<https://sriarunodayam.org/fundraise/>

<https://sriarunodayam.org/donate/>

\* As of writing this report.