

NEWSLETTER N°: 41
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Dear All,

Happy new year to every one.

2019 was a notable year for us in many ways in terms of number of associations we supported and projects we successfully implemented. We have also recruited 10 Service Civique volunteers in this year.

This newsletter presents a small slice of the varied works that we did in the year of 2019 in our bid to ensure lasting change in the lives of the needy.

ELIZABETH WALTON
President, OFI

STITCHING CENTRE FOR PLHIV



Karur district has one of the highest number of HIV cases reported in the state of Tamilnadu. GRAMIUM has initiated the program for People Living with HIV (women) (PLHIV), to enable them to access an income-generating activity through stitching training. Once the three month training is completed, half the machines will be used for production for income generation. Approximately 80 women PLHIVs will be trained per year.

SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION: MONTESSORI AT SEVAI SHANTHI SCHOOL



SEVAI Shanthi School is located in a rural town called Pettavaithalai (in Trichy Dt., TN). Most of the children here are from underprivileged families. All these years, the school has been following the traditional system of kindergarten.



For the training and implementation of this project, SEVAI has tied up with Bangalore based Indian Institute of Montessori Studies (IIMS) to train 25 teachers. OFI believes that the children learn best in their own way and at their own pace, and they learn from each another, communicate one another and improve life skills like acceptance and inclusion. Montessori equipments has been provided for 6 classes.

NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR OFI: SAMRIDHDHI BRIDGE SCHOOL



Samridhdhi Trust (ST) is an NGO located in Bangalore since 2009. They have worked with over 4,000 out-of-school children of economic migrants in Bangalore mainly from the poorest areas of north east India. Many of these children were previously engaged in rag picking, household chores, and sibling care as well as, unfortunately, drug abuse, violence, illegal and harmful activities. Schooling in Bangalore was not possible for them as no legal documents or permanent address. They have also a major issue as they do not speak any of the local languages required in the school. ST has designed a special program to bridge them and re-integrate them in regular school after one year. ST follows these children with scholarship and after-school programs till they become employable.



friendly housing options in the rural area of Tiruchirappalli district. The project also aims to train 100 artisans every year in the field of masonry.

OTHER MAJOR PROGRAMS IN 2019

- Successful completion of 3 year environment, watershed and SHG program with GRAMIUM
- School Bus for SEVAI Shanthi School
- Classroom on Wheels with Samridhdhi Trust (ongoing)
- Distribution of more than 1000 pairs of brand new uniforms at various schools with iSambhav & LDSG
- Libraries at Shanthi School & Gramium Learning Center
- New watershed programs with SEVAI & GRAMIUM
- Creation of over 700 SHGs (10000 women)
- Support for 11 foster homes of DIN

OFI IN THE NEWS (click on the logo)



Acknowledgment

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Thank you also to all the members of OFI and the volunteers who bring their ideas, energy, competencies and good mood.

THANK YOU ALL TO MAKE THESE PROJECTS HAPPEN

Through your membership and your donations!