Thirupathisaram-629 901,

Kanyakumari District.

## ANNUAL REPORT – 2004

Kanyakumari Rural Development Society abbreviated as KARD has been

functioning, with Thirupathisaram – a village in Thovalai Block of Kanyakumari District as headquarters for the past twenty years. Having started in the year 1985, and having implemented a few many projects for the development of the down trodden in and around our district, have now been concentrating only on persons with Disabilities. Since we have experience and expertise in this field of Disability and Rehabilitation, we have decided to concentrate only on the prevention and rehabilitation of Disability and Disabled. We have narrated our initiatives and intervention during the past one year – 2004.

## Aim of the Project:

1. To prevent the sufferings of the persons with disabilities.
2. To arrest further deformities.
3. To provide the necessary mobility appliance for their physical mobility.
4. To make them function independently.
5. To make them integrate with the society they are living and make the community people accept them.

The project has been implemented to reach the motives stated above and make them realize that they are also useful part of the society.

### Projects implemented:

1. School for the Mentally Retarded – Thirupathisaram.
2. The Spastics Centre of kanyakumari – Nagercoil.
3. BLOSSOM HOSTEL FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED – Nagercoil.
4. Resource Development Project.
5. Orthotic Appliances Research and Development Project.

## Major Activities Carried Out:

* Regular Personal contact with PWDs and their parents.
* To bring out the MR Children who are staying at home.
* Conducting of parents meetings.
* Celebrating of feasts and functions.
* Conducting of Staff meetings and evaluations.
* To take the children involve in gardening.
* Staff training
* To make the children for outings.
* Providing Special Education.
* Educational assistance for school going children
* Conducting of Health Camps.
* Orientation to new staff.
* To make the staff attend other program meetings.
* Conducting Co-ordinators meetings.
* To make staff attend outside trainings.
* To provide new and repaired mobility appliances.
* To engage in resource development for the projects.

## Regular Personal Contact:

Inorder to understand their home situation and provide rehabilitation measures suitable for their home situation, the disabled persons have been visited at their houses and counseling has been given to them and their parents and community people. This helps them to treat the disabled especially the mentally disabled just like normal people and helps our attempt to change the behavior and attitude of the community people towards the disabled and vise versa. Our staff have been making home visits on all Saturdays. This year 2269 visits have been made to the PWDs and 2396 visits have been made to their parents. The tabular column below gives the details on house visits.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.  No. | Area | PWDs | Parents Visited |
| 1 | Nagercoil Municipal Area | 2031 | 2081 |
| 2 | Thovalai Block | 192 | 242 |
| 3 | Agasteeswaram Block | 46 | 73 |
| Total | | 2269 | 2396 |

## To bring out the PWD children who are staying at home:

The parents and the community people are unaware of the rehabilitation of the PWD children. They give least priority to the disabled children because of the only reason that they are disabled. They are denied of even love and affection of the family members and the community people too. Hence they remain at home uncared and neglected. In order to provide any rehabilitation to these neglected children, they have to be brought to any special school for the needed therapy and skills for their daily living. In our attempt in this regard, we have brought 16 children to our day care school SPASTI, this year. 4 new children have been brought to our “Blossom” hostel and 12 new children have been brought to our residential special school – School for the Mentally Retarded.

## Conducting of Parents meetings:

To educate the parents about the state of their disabled child, and the needed therapies and skills to bring up the disabled children and to prepare the needed syllabus for them understanding their ability and disability and to continue and follow up at home the therapies given in the school.

We have conducted 10 parents meetings in school for the Mentally Retarded in which 110 parents have attended. Three parents meetings have been conducted at “SPASTI” in which 146 parents have attended.

## Celebration of feasts and functions:

Inorder to bring out the talents hidden in them and to make them realise their abilities and make them enjoy the day and to make their celebrate the days in a meaningful way making an attempt to make them understand and differentiate the feasts and functions, these days have been celebrated. This year , Independence day, Republic Day, Pongal, X mas Day, School Day, Pooja, World Day of the Disabled have been celebrated. Dignitaries invited for the functions as chief guests are Mr. Selvaraj, Advocate, Mrs. Imaculate Phlip, Professor, Holy Cross College, Mrs. Shanthi Edwin, Professor, Women Christian College, Mr.Ponniyan, Mr. Maharasan, president, Thirupathisaram Panchayat. Mrs. Parvathy, Headmistress, Govt. High School Thirupathisaram, Mrs. Parveen Mathew, Mr. Boothalingam etc.

This Year we have celebrated the following feasts and functions in our institution:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.no | Date of celebrate | Name of the feast | Name of the Institution |
| 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 | 14-1-2004  26-1-2004  27-2-2004  15-8-2004  22-10-2004  22-10-2004  2-11-2004  9-11-2004  23-12-2004 | Pongal  Republic Day  School Day  Independence Day  Pooja  Pooja  Annual Day  World Day of the Disabled  Xmas Day  World Day of the Disabled & School Day | Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  School for the Mentally Retarded, Thirupathisaram.  Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari, Nagercoil.  School for the Mentally Retarded, Thirupathisaram.  School for the Mentally Retarded, Thirupathisaram.  Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari, Nagercoil.  Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari, Nagercoil.  SMR, Thirupathisaram. |

## Evaluations:

Inorder to evaluate the completed work and plan out for the next phase of work, we have been conducting evaluations at every stage – program evaluation (feast celebration, activities etc) monthly evaluations and Annual evaluation. In these evaluations, the respective program staff attended and conducted a thorough evaluation and plan out the strategies for implementing the next phase of work. The following table explains the details of the evaluation of the respective activity this year.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.No | Name of the Activity | No.of  Evaluations Conducted | No. of Staff attended |
| 1  2  3  4 | Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari  Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  School for the Mentally Retarded, Thirupathisaram.  Resource Development Department. | 8  8  7  7 | 43  24  46  18 |

Apart from this we have conducted staff meetings whenever it is necessary. In these staff meeting, he respective program staff meet to discuss the obstacles they face while implementing and also to chart out the means to tackle them. Our staff had at least one staff meeting every month and urgent staff meetings whenever need arises.

## Staff In service Training:

Every Year we have been giving staff in service trainings to our program staff. This helps them to clarify their doubts in their work and also to get more information and input which enables them to work more effectively. This year we have conducted two such trainings and it was a six days residential training on preparation of syllabus for the special children. In this training the staff were made to prepare a syllabus of our own keeping in mind the disabilities of the children. In this training 16 staff attended.

Apart from this we have conducted two one - day training program for our staff on Vocational Training to Special Children. A one day training was conducted on 17-1-2004 at Thirupathisaram and on 21-2-2004 at Blossom Hostel. The staff were given training to prepare handicraft materials so that they will give training to the Special Children.

## Picnics:

Outing and visit to other places helps our children enjoy and to a certain extent it educates them too. Hence we have included such outings and picnics in our curriculum and in this respect we have taken them for picnics twice this year. On 30-1-04 SPASTI Children were taken to the Nagercoil park and also on 3-9-2004, the SPASTI Children were taken to Sothavilai Beach, Manakudy Bridge etc.

## Conducting of Health camps:

Keeping in mind the health condition of the children who are attending our school and also inorder to help them improve in their health, we have conducted general health check up on 28-1-04 and screened all the 86 children attending SPASTI. 23 children were identified for special care for their illness and their parents have been contacted and counselled.

## Orientation to New Staff:

Since our work has been an un appreciated work by the community people very few people are willing to work for Mentally Disabled Children. Hence, it is our duty to give orientation to the community people. We give a 15 days training to the new commers and after this they have to undergo a one month Voluntary service in our organisation. After this only they will be considered as eligible staff and they will be oriented and motivated to work for the disabled and Special Children. A thorough information on various disabilities its prevention, rehabilitation will be dealt with in this period. This year a fifteen days training was conducted from 18th Jan - 2nd Feb 2004, and 10 new candidates attended the training program. A five days training program has been conducted from 4th Oct – 8th Oct 2004 specially for the Resource Development Department staff. 6 new candidates attended this training. The various skills in resource mobilisation has been discussed and explained in this training.

## Co-ordinators Meeting:

In order to evaluate the respective program, a co-ordinators meeting has been conducted on the first Saturday of every month. In this meeting the head of each program submit the report of activity of their respective department and future plans of activities for the next phase of work. The following table gives the details on the co-ordinators meeting.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.No | **Date** | Place | **Total Attended** |
| 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9 | 7-2-2004  6-3-2004  3-5-2004  5-6-2004  3-7-2004  7-8-2004  4-9-2004  9-10-2004  15-11-2004 | ‘Blossom’ Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  School for the Mentally Ratarded, Thirupathisaram.  Administrative Office, Nagercoil.  ‘Blossom’ Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.  School for the Mentally Ratarded, Thirupathisaram.  School for the Mentally Ratarded, Thirupathisaram.  Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari, Nagercoil.  School for the Mentally Ratarded, Thirupathisaram.  Spastic Centre of Kanyakumari, Nagercoil. | 9  9  9  9  9  9  9  9  9 |

## OUR SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

On 10-1-2004 the staff and students our Special Schools and hostel attended the world day of the disabled conducted by the District Rehabilitation Department at SLB Hr. Sec. School, Nagercoil.

On 23-12-2004 our staff had attended the meeting conducted to the ICDS Supervisors of Madurai District held at Madurai and distributed the training manual to them.

On 4-3-2004 our staff had attended the meeting conducted to the ICDS Supervisors of meeting at Nagercoil and distributed the training manual to them

On 6-8-2004 our staff attended the National Trust General Body Meeting held at the District collectorate.

On 29-10-2004 our staff attended the Women co-ordination meeting held at KSSS. Sunkankadai, K.K Dist.

On 25-11-04 our children attended the district level World Disabled Day sports completions and gathered 9 prizes.

On 1-12-2004 our staff attended the district level consultation to celebrate this world Day of the Disabled in our district.

## Ortho Department:

We have been providing repair facilities and new mobility appliances to the target people of our area. Since we have two ortho workshops, we could provide this facility fully. Our Multipurpose Rehabilitation. Therapist gives physiotherapy regularly to the spastic Children who attend our Special Schools. The following table provides details of the services of the Orthotic department.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S.No | Name of the appliance | Provided New | Repair | Others |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6. | Caliper  Crutches  Special Foot wear  Tricycle  Wheel Chair  Physio therapy | 16  7  3  12  5  - | 37  19  8  26  3  - | -  -  -  -  -  39 Children |

## Future Plans:

1. Regular personal contact with the target people and their parents
2. To conduct parents meetings and motivate them.
3. To conduct staff trainings and evaluations.
4. To celebrate feasts and functions.
5. To provide vocational training to the special children.
6. To provide mobility appliances new & repaired.
7. To mobilise resources.
8. To attended outside trainings.
9. To start new Special Schools.

We miss Mr. Sundar Egbert our program consultant. His sudden demise will definitely disturb us and we will have to work hard to face this challenge of identifying a new consultant to our Organisation.

We are thankful to our donors, well wishers, our staff and parents of the children who attended our special schools.

Thank you very much,

DIRECTOR