Thirupathisaram & P.O.

K.K. Dist.

## ANNUAL REPORT – 2005

# This report is to brief KARD’S activities with regard to the prevention of Disability and Rehabilitation of the Disabled. KARD has involved in the prevention activities by conducting awareness on disability at various forums and attempted to rehabilitate the persons with disabilities by providing special education, mobility appliance etc. We have presented here the various activities of KARD to achieve its mission of “Prevention of disability and rehabilitation of the disabled”.

## I. Aim of the program:

We have been working for the disabled to prevent the problems of the disabled, arrest

disability, enable their mobility, to fulfill their basic needs, and to integrate the persons

with disabilities with the community they are living, through various programs.

## II. Programs supplemented:

* School for the Mentally Retarded.
* The Spastics Center of Kanyakumari.
* Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded.
* Kanya Institute on Mental Retardation Studies.
* Resource Development Department.
* Community Based Rehabilitation programs.

### III. Activities Carried out:

1. Regular personal contact.
2. To bring the dropout children to the special schools.
3. Conducting of parents meetings.
4. Evaluation of the program activities.
5. Celebration of feasts and festivals.
6. Providing recreation to the PWDs.
7. Conducting staff training programs. (existing and new staff)
8. Taking the children for outings.
9. Providing special education.
10. Conducting health camps for the PWDs.
11. Conducting staff meetings.
12. Mobilizing local resources.
13. Providing mobility appliance.
14. Conducting program coordinators meetings.
15. Exploring the possibilities / needs for new decentralized centers for the mentally challenged.
16. Conducting assessments and review camps.

In older to reach our aim of ‘Total Rehabilitation’ we have carried out the abovementioned activities through the proposed programs of KARD.

### IV.Completed Activities:

It is true that we have applied different strategies, and techniques to execute these activities through the abovementioned programs. We have given below the activities completed this year.

## (a). Regular personal conduct:

In order to execute the activities and reach the aim of KARD we have to develop

good report with the disabled, their parents and also with the community people. We

visit them regularly and the discussions held during these visits helped to develop a

friendly relationship with these people. After having understood the respective family

situation, we have given them special education, we have also explained their

parents and community people, after having given special education and therapies in

special schools, these visits have enabled the staff of the program to observe the

developmental stages in the behavior and attitude of the children and the community

people to wards each other. In this respect 1722 visits have been made to the children

and their Parents of Nagercoil Municipal area and 526 visits have been made to

the PWDs of Thovalai Block. The tabular column given below gives you more details

in this regard.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SI.No: | *Geographic Area* | *PWDS Visited* | *Parents visited* | Community people visited |
| 1. | Nagercoil, Municipal Area. | 1722 | 1722 | 3922 |
| 2. | Thovalai Block | 526 | 526 | 2117 |
|  | Total | 2248 | 2248 | 6039 |

## (b). To bring the dropout children to special schools:

Since least priority is given to the mentally challenged children with in the family and in the community the regularity to attend the schools, unlike the normal children is affected. The parents and the community people pay very little attention to send the mentally disabled children to special schools in spite of our regular visits and help to send their children to schools. We have to give motivations repeatedly at every now and then to the parents and the community people in this regard. The tabular column given below gives you more details.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SI.No: | Name of school / Hostel | Children in the roll | Dropouts | Brought back to school | New students  attending |
| 1. | SMR-Thirupathisaram. | - | - | 68 | 24 |
| 2. | SPASTI  Nagercoil | 166 | 77 | 89 | 14 |
| 3. | ‘BLOSSOM’ Hostel | 8 | - | - | - |
| 4. | KIMS- Aralvoimozhi | 17 | 3 | 14 | 11 |

## (c). Conducting of parents meetings:

# In order to educate the parents on the different rehabilitation strategies to be adapted to their respective children, and also to give orientation and reorientation to them on disability and rehabilitation, we have been conducting parents meetings every mouth in each programs. The respective staff of the program sit along with the parents and hold discussions on these, which helps the parents to understand the disability of their children, the development stages in the behavior and attitude of their disabled children and also the community people towards their disabled children, after his attending the special school. We have given below the number of parents meetings conducted during the reporting period, in the respective programs.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SI.No: | Name of the program | Proposed PTA meetings | *Conducted PTA* | No of Parents attended |
| 1. | SMR | 12 | 11 | 114 |
| 2. | SPASTI | 3 (Quarterly) | 2 | 76 |
| 3. | KIMS | 6 | 2 | 12 |
| 4. | BHMR | 4 | 2 | 14 |

## (d). Program Evaluation and Review :

In order to find out and check whether we are going in the right track in the

rehabilitation process, we conduct these program evaluation every mouth. During these

evaluations, we review the work completed, the hurdles crossed and uncrossed, the

means to remove the hurdles etc. and also we plan out our work for the next term. We

have put the details in the tabular column given below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SI.No: | *Name of the Program* | *Proposed Evaluation* | *Conducted Evaluation* |
| 1. | SMR | 13 | 13 |
| 2. | SPASTI | 11 | 11 |
| 3. | BHMR | 13 | 13 |
| 4. | KIMS | 11 | 11 |

## (e). Celebration of Feasts and Festivals :

With the intention to bring out the skills and talents hidden within the mentally challenged children and also to make the parents and the community people realize that

these mentally disabled children also can perform cultural programs like normal children, we celebrate the common feasts and festivals in which, cultural programs performance on the stage is an integral part. This provides an opportunity for the children to enjoy and their parents to witness their children performing stage programs.

## (i) The Spastics center of Kanyakumari (SPASTI)

We have celebrated the school Day of ‘SPASTI’ on 11-3-2005 in which Mr. Georgedhas, Junior Rehabilitation officer, and Rev. Sr. Sandra, Superior, Holycross Hospital, Nagercoil participated as resource persons and felicitated.

On 22-9-05 we have celebrated the ‘World Day of the Disabled’ and Dr. Nagarajan,

Medical officer, ICDS, Nagercoil, Rev. Sr.Shiny, Superior, SDS convert, Nagercoil and Mr. Arunachalam, from PTA of SPASTI attended as resource persons and celebrated the function.

X’mas day was celebrated on 22-12-05 and Mr. Baskaran, Senior Manager, IOB,

Nagercoil and Rev. Sr. Scholastica, Headmistress, Little flower Girls Higher Secondary

School, Nagercoil attended and gave the x’mas message.

In all these functions, sports and games were conducted to the children and prizes

were distributed.Special focus was given to cultural programs and children were made

to perform stage programs. These programs were telecast on the local T.V. channels in

order to create awareness on disability and disabled among the community people.

## (ii). School for the Mentally Retarded (SMR)

On 14-1-05 we have celebrated ‘Pongal Day’. The children dressed in new cloth

enjoyed participating in sports and games. Cultural programs were conducted in the

evening. Republic Day was celebrated on 26-1-05 in which Mr.P. Viswanathan,

president, Thovalai panchayat union hoisted the national flag and distributed sweets to

our children, Mr.I.C.Selvam, vice president, Thovalai panchayat Union, and

Mr.Boothalingampillai, Ex. Serviceman also attended the function along with the

president.

School Day was celebrated on 3-4-05 in which, Mr.Selvarajan, Project officer,

DRDA, Nagercoil, Mr. Joseph Benedict, Vice President, Nagercoil Bar Association,

Mrs. Malar Jose, Professor, Nesamony Memorial collage, Martandam, Mrs. Parvathy,

Headmistress, govt. High school, Thirupathisaram attended as resource persons to

celebrate the function.

On 15-8-05 Republic Day was celebrated and Mr.Maharajan, president,

Thirupathisaram panchayat,presided over the function and hoisted the flag.

## (iii). Blossom Hostel for the Mentally Retarded (BHMR)

‘Hostel Day’ was celebrated on 2-11-05 at Blossom Hostel premises. The parents

along with the other children of the family attended the function, Mrs. Vimala Rani,

B.T. Assistant, govt.High School, Madanpillai Tharmam, Mr. Arumugam, Rtd.

Teacher, Mr. Arunachalam, Rtd. Headmaster, attended the function and

Celebrated.

## (f). Providing recreation to the PWDs :

We have leveled the ground of the school premises and erected, swing sea saw etc.

Students enjoy playing in it. Also we have encouraged them working in the garden.

Watering the plants in the evenings, maneuvering, observing the growth of the plants

etc. provide them some recreation and also make them enjoy natures creation. In all the

programs we have developed gardens and make the children spend time in the garden

every day.

## (g). Conducting staff training programs :

It is essential to refresh the skills and talents of the program staff. Hence we organize

in service trainings to the existing staff of the respective programs. On 15-2-05 a one

day training program was organized for the program co-ordinators on ‘Lesson plan

preparation and ‘Teaching special Education’. Six persons of the programs participated

in this training program. These program co-ordinators in turn will train their respective

program staff.

On 22-2-05 a training program was organized to prepare ‘Teaching Aids for the

Special Children’.

We have to give orientation, motivation, and training to the new staff at every now

and then on Disability Rehabilitation and Special Education. This year we have

conducted a six days residential training program for the new candidates from 18-4-05

to 23-4-05. Eleven candidates attended the training program. Apart from the theoretical

part, the candidates were made to visit special schools on various disabilities and

Community Based Rehabilitation programs. We have also conducted training programs

for the new candidates from 10-1-05 to 15-1-05 and from 24-1-2005 to 29-1-05 in which

14 new candidates attended the training program. Prevention of disability, its causes,

various rehabilitation methods, need for special education etc. were dealt with in the

training programs.

## (h). Taking children for outings :

Special children never had a chance to visit tourist places, temples, churches, park

etc. unlike the normal children of the same family. These children will be left at home

when the other members of the family attend functions like, wedding, house warming

etc. This isolates the mentally challenged children from the other members of the

family. Hence we organize outings for these children and in this respect on 19-2-05 we

have taken the children to kanyakumari, Vattakottai, Suchindreum temple etc. On 19-9-05 the children were taken to

Mukudal dam-where they enjoyed seeing the dam, enjoyed in the park

and also enjoyed sight seeing.

## (i). Providing Special Education :

In order to improve the standard of living of the mentally challenged

children, and change the attitude and behavior of the special children

and the community people, towards each other, we have

been providing special education by preparing a separate syllabus, and

we teach them in a non formal way. The curriculum includes, literacy,

numeracy, number concept, color identification, time concept, money

concept, etc. Apart from this we also give the needed therapies and small

vocational trainings. This year 89 children attended SPASTI, 51

children attended SMR, Thirupathisaram, 11children attended, KIMS,

Aralvoimoyhi, 8 children stayed in the BHMR, Nagercoil.

## (j). Conducting staff meetings :

We organize monthly staff review and evaluation for each and every

program. In between, we conduct staff meetings to review the planned

monthly work. In this respect we conduct staff meetings on the 15th of

every month in each program in which the respective program staff sit

together to resolve the hurdles and the problems they face while

implementing the planned monthly work. The tabular column given

below gives the details of the staff meetings conducted this year.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SI.No: | *Name of the program* | Number of staff meetings | Number of staff attended | Date of meeting |
| 1. | *SPASTI* | 11 | 8 | 15th of every month |
| 2. | SMR | 18 | 6 | 15th of every month |
| 3. | BHMR | 16 | 4 | 15th of every month |
| 4. | KIMS | 7 | 3 | 15th of every month |
| 5. | Adm. Office | 12 | 4 | 15th of every month |

## (k). Mobilizing Local Resources :

Even if we get help from abroad seldom, we impart help and support

from the local community people. This helps us to sensitize the

community people and make them aware of disability and Rehabilitation

especially rehabilitation of the mentally challenged children. We have

been running the SMR – with 53 inmates purely with the generosity of

the community people. They provide meals, dress, medical help, mats,

rice, cash etc. on request by our staff. We are thankful to the donors for

their generosity without which we can not run this residential special

school with 53 inmates. This school we have been running for the past

seventeen years. For the other programs also we forget not to extract

co-operation and support from the public in each and every activity.

For example for celebrating the feasts and functions we get donations,

for taking the children for outings we get local contribution, even for

purchasing things like fans, T.V. etc. we go to the public and the parents

and have got it.

(l). Conducting coordinators meeting **:**

To review and check whether the organization is implementing

activities in older to reach its aim of “Prevention of Disability and

Rehabilitation of Disabled” we have been conducting program

co-ordinators meeting, every month in which the respective program

co-ordinators submit the report of activities for the respective month.

He/She has to explain how he implemented it, the obstacles or the

hurdles crossed while implementing the activity etc. so that, this will be

an information for the other co-ordinators. Also they will have to explain

the future plan of activities for the next month for their respective

program. This year we have conducted 11 co-ordinators meeting.

## (m). Exploring the possibilities/ needs of new decentralized centers for

## the mentally challenged :

As far as the mentally disabled are concerned there is very little scope

and very few programs in Kanyakumari District. So they are simply left

at home idle, uncared and they are denied of even food, clothing,

medicine etc. Most of them come out on the streets for begging for

their food. So KARD has initiated programs for the mentally

challenged. Since we have the basic things like experience, expertise,

and infrastructure and since no other NGOS come forward to

implement programs for the PWDs, KARD has engaged itself in this

activity. When we receive requests from the parent of the mentally

challenged children from the nearby areas, we conduct door to door

survey and start visiting the parents, children, and the community

people. This year KARD has surveyed in two areas and have stated

one (KIMS) special school for the mentally disabled. This process will

be continued in the future years also.

## V.Activities which we couldn’t complete:

# Of course we admit that we faced some hurdles and obstacles while implementing these activities. Due to various reasons we couldn’t complete certain activities. We have listed below those planned activities, which are not completed.

## (a). Conducting Health camps :

# This activity has been planned to be implemented in our special

schools after having reviewing the health problems of the children who

are attending our special schools. Since we received very little

co-operation from the parents and since we couldn’t generous medical

officers, we couldn’t conduct medical camps.

## (b). Assessments and review camps :

Since the CBR activities have not been carried out fully, due to lack of

funds, we couldn’t conduct assessments and review cays.

## (c). Attending meetings and trainings in other NGOs and groups :

Except very few meetings in spastics society of TamilNadu (Chennai)

our staff didn’t attend meetings and trainings within the District. Very

few NGOs are implementing rehabilitation activities for the disabled.

Actually this activity was planned, since KARD has experience and

expertise. In order to help the other NGOs who are in the process of

implementing rehabilitation programs for the PWDs. Hence, since no

request came from the other NGOs we couldn’t make any remarkable

work in this activity.

# VI.SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

## (a). Providing school uniforms :

###### **We have children who hail from very poor families who are not able to**

spend for their special children. For these children we have been

providing school uniform. We have contacted the well wishes and

generous people and have got uniform cloth and have distributed them to

the poor children who attend our special school. 44 poor children of

‘SPASTI’ and six poor children of SMR, and five poor children of

‘KIMS’ have been provided with two sets of school uniform this year.

## (b). Tsunami Assistance :

The natural disaster which affected the costal people also affected our

target people. Immediately we provided mobility appliances to the

PWDS.

At a function organized at ‘SPASTI’ on Most. Rev. Leon.A.Dharmaraj

Bishop of Kottar Diocese distributed 10 tricycles and six wheelchairs to

the ‘Tsunami affected’ PWDS. The Adl. Collector. Mr. Prakash IAS.

who was in charge of the Tsunami activities and Mrs. Jemila James,

former Municipal Chairman also attended the function.

Another function organized by KARD in the costal village called

Muttom, the Superintendent of Police Mr.Ramasubramani, IPS.

distributed 13 tricycles and 3 wheelchairs to the Tsunami affected

PWDS.

We have also distributed another twelve tricycles and three

wheelchairs to the Tsunami affected PWDS.

Six mentally disabled children from the ‘Tsunami’ affected area were

also admitted in our school for the mentally retarded.

The mobility appliance supplied to the ‘Tsunami affected PWDs” were

received though the Spactics Society of TamilNadu, Chennai.

## VII.Future plan of Activities :

* Regular personal contact
* Providing special education
* To bring out dropout special children
* Conducting parents meetings
* Conducting staff meetings/ evaluations
* Celebration of feasts and festivals
* Recreational activities for children
* Outings for children
* Staff exposure visits
* Conducting Health camps
* Organizing Training Programs for existing / new staff
* Imparting local contribution
* Providing therapies to children
* Providing trainings for other NGOS
* Conducting Co-ordinators meetings
* Conducting assessments and review
* Exploring the needs/ possibilities of decentralized centers for the special children
* Providing repaired/new mobility appliance

It is our duty to thank our well wishers, donors, local community

people, parents of special school children, resource persons, guests for their co-operation and generosity with out which we would not have run these programs.

We are thankful to our staff team for their sincerity and efforts to implement the activities planned.

Our special thanks goes to the well wishers who motivated us to start and implement rehabilitation activities for the disabled.

**Thank you**

DIRECTOR