

Annual Report 2020-2021



Sristi Foundation

Registration number: 1009/2003



FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Sristi Friends,

It is with great joy I write to you about the impact of your contributions. Your continuous generosity, partnership and support is the reason we can make our dream a reality for people with disabilities. We are grateful for your unwavering support. You make Sristi possible and for that I and every single one of the community members and their families are forever thankful.

As we step in to the new year - changes can be witnessed everywhere. As we become more established, we are undergoing development to meet our demands across many areas such as physical infrastructure, human resources, and organisational effectiveness – to ensure we can provide the best service to as many members as possible.

With time moving so fast it is important to take a moment to look at what we have achieved and what we plan to do next. This report is a summarised presentation of the major activities, developments and important events so far, this financial year (i.e. From April 2020 to March 2021).

As you read the following highlights of the important work you made possible from April 2020, I hope you catch a glimpse of the excitement and gratitude we have for you our donor.

Thank you for your time and continuous support for our mission.

Yours sincerely

Karthikeyan G

Founder and director

Sristi Foundation

*Developing skills in people with disabilities
through education,
life skills training, and farming activities*

About us

Sristi Foundation is a non-profit organisation based in rural Tamil Nadu, India. We work towards improving the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. PWDs have the right to work, but they must be given the means to enable them to exercise their right. We use a combination of education, life skill training, and agriculture as a tool to help people with disabilities who are faced with exclusion, neglect, and many other disadvantages that limit their effective participation in mainstream society. Each and every project we implement for people with disabilities facilitates income-generating opportunities, increased well-being, and reduced poverty and vulnerability so that they can lead a meaningful and independent life.

PWDs participation in economic activity is necessary not only for sustenance or for the basic survival but also to contribute to one's self-esteem and enhancing self-fulfilment. Sristi Village, Sristi Special School, Sristi Farm academy are specifically designed to foster the growth and empowerment of PWDs. Our dream is to create a society free from all types of discrimination and exploitation so that everyone can realize and utilize their potential.

Vision

An inclusive society where all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are respected, valued and have choices to lead a holistic and dignified life.

Mission

Enable people with disabilities and other marginalised groups to live as independently and as fully as possible through economic and social empowerment.

Presence

47 villages in Villupuram district, TN, and Pondicherry



Our programs

SRISTI COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown in India, people all over the country are facing hardships. COVID-19 has not just evoked fear but has also caused depression, anxiety, and hunger affecting the social fabric of the community. Many communities around us were severely affected - as most of them were from underprivileged communities. We knew we had to do something - so we started a COVID-19 relief effort. We aim to create and distribute survival packs (consisting of rice, dry provisions, hand sanitizers, and face masks) to those most in need. In collaboration with Satya Special School, Snehan for Homeless People, Arumai Handicraft, Aghavoli Foundation, VCDS: Village Community Development Society, Differently Abled Welfare Department, Tagore Government Arts and Science College, ZIJN Foundation Netherlands, Crowd funding, we reached the following communities:

1. The Sristi Families
2. Homeless people and street dwellers
3. Gypsies (Narikuravar)
4. Irular Community
5. Migrant workers
6. Disabled crafts artisans
7. Frontline Health workers from COVID-19 in Puducherry region
8. Transgender Community
9. Adiyar Community (Boom BoomMattukaran Tribe)

SRISTI VILLAGE:

Sristi Village is an inclusive residential community which offers marginalised individuals and people with intellectual disabilities the chance to live, learn, work, and generate income; allowing them to reach their full potential. At present 33 members are involved in the programme and engaged in the farming activities to productively channel their energy and to lead a good life. The village members are provided vocational, pre-vocational and secondary level of education according to their assessment result. They are divided into three groups to help them to perform their farm activities and other programmes accordingly. Our aim to enhance the lives of our community members and make them employable. In addition to empowering them career wise, we are also involved in constructing a community residence for them -- to provide a sustainable lifestyle for our community members to enjoy the luxury of choice. We laid foundation in the month of September 2020 and expect to experience the happiness of members in January 2022.

TECHNICAL AND VOCATION EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

Through our training programme, our special students have successfully completed their Adult Independent Living training and are joining Hospitality Management Course in Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College, Keezhputhupattu, Puducherry. We are deeply grateful to Rotary club of Madras East for their generous support towards this programme. We are very blessed for our agricultural community which caters the needs of the intellectually challenged to live a stress free, peaceful and satisfactory life close to nature which acts as a natural way of healing them, bring out their potential and help them complete their training in our community successfully.

Annual Program Highlights 2020-21



TRAINING CUM REFECTORY BUILDING:

A dream has come true with the grand inauguration of the Sristi Training cum Refectory Building. We have constructed accessible kitchen cum dining hall to provide quality food in a safe and hygienic environment. By this 100 people of the village which includes young, adult with disabilities, staff, parents and volunteers will be benefited. Our aim is to make the member to be independent and to learn the basic life skills. Cooking is one of the basic life skills an adult with disabled need to learn. It is a spacious independent hall which can also be used for training and workshop 100 people can accommodate at the same time. It is an environmental friendly building and we initiated solar energy for power supply and in near future we plan to construct rain water harvesting system.

SRISTI ECO FARM:

Agriculture provides great education and employment potential. In a supportive and loving environment, our members learn to manage and work on an eco-farm. To change the collective mindset towards disability, our team also involves family and local people. Our sustainable farming practices are helping regenerate the environment. As the land grows more fertile we are starting to feed ourselves. We then plan on selling the farm output to help contribute significantly to our costs.

Our long-term volunteer Shekhar Sharan, Farm Manger. Under his guidance we are overcoming challenges and the members are now also engaged in the farming supported by a graduate in agriculture discipline. He is helping us use scientific approaches to overcome multi-faceted challenges. Our soil, water resource availability, suitable crops and other factors have been examined by experts and interventions started. These include water resource management, rainwater harvesting, implementation of irrigation techniques and choosing right breed of inputs/seeds. Our wholehearted obligations are conveyed to Roland Frutig for his regular guidance.

INITIATIVES AT SRISTI ECO FARM:

At our farm, we carry out wide range of environmental sustainable activities that hugely benefits environment as well as people dependent on it.

- 1. Live fencing:** Live fence is made of trees a method of using a barrier to prevent harmful pests coming into the land. By planting different types of trees we can ensure that variety of birds, bees, reptiles can take shelter in these areas.
- 2. Miyawaki:** Sristi initiated Miyawaki technique to build dense native forests. This approach includes planting trees as close as possible in the same area which not only saves space, but the planted saplings also supports each other in growth and block sunlight reaching the ground, thereby preventing the growth of weed.
- 3. Fruit forest:** Sristi initiated Fruit forest project to build a better future in two acres of land where food and water are available, bio-diversity is safeguarded and sustainable organic fruits are provided for the wellbeing of the community throughout the year.
- 4. Poultry farming:** This project aims to empower people with intellectual disabled to earn income in poultry farming to break out of poverty and to be self-reliant to live a healthier life.
- 5. Dairy farming:** Our 'Goshala' is a haven for cows while also being a place of learning and gaining practical experience of dairy farm and its by-products. We utilize all the resources that are beneficial from the cows such as we use cow dung and urine for organic fertilizers for soil enrichment and to avoid pesticides.
- 6. Grow our own food:** For the wellbeing of sristi community we have initiated organic farming – A great change from consumption to production. This helps us to improve our health, provide quality organic food, save money, protect the environment and keep chemical off our plate.
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Annual Program Highlights 2020-21

SRISTI SPECIAL SCHOOL:

We have seen first-hand how there are no facilities for children in rural areas with intellectual or development disabilities. They were struggling to get good nutrition for their health or the right education at a key development time in their life. Sristi School fixes this gap and intervenes early to break the poverty cycle. It offers education and training to develop our members and local children with disabilities into self-reliant individuals. Sristi accommodates special children without any bias which opens wide opportunities for self-sustenance for these children. The curriculum focuses on managing basic individual functional needs (e.g. eating, reading & communication) along with behaviour, speech and physio therapy. We also involve the students in basic farm activities to optimise motor skills. Scientific methodologies are being followed and for standardisation - the Functional Assessment Check List Program (FACP) designed by National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad is used.

MOBILE THERAPY UNIT:

Sristi is taking an initiative to reach the poor people of Mailam block through community based rehabilitation to enhance their life by providing medical assistance, counselling and to conduct awareness programme's about health. To begin with we bought mobile therapy van to reach people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in rural areas to enable and to participate. With the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown, people with disabilities were facing challenges and found themselves in a tight spot. Without intervention children will lapse into their pre-therapy routine. We started giving therapies and basic requirements throughout the lockdown through mobile therapy unit. Besides intervention we have visited 60 villages with our community members to enact drama and created awareness about special needs in children and have educated the public on the importance of early detection and intervention of disabilities.

INCOME-GENERATING PROJECT:

Dairy farming provides an excellent opportunity for self - employment for the person with disability. It is an important source of income. Since agriculture is seasonal, dairy farming would help our community members earn throughout the year. Dairy farm by - products is a profitable business and it creates a good opportunity for the livelihood. To encourage self- employment among the person with disability in our community, we are taking a step forward to sell the by-products from our dairy farm as well as to approach the local community to supply milk and to process and produce Ghee, Curd and Paneer which can also be a part of commercial dairy farming. Through this livelihood programme, we enhance the social status of PwDs, so that they can become productive members in their family, and it can also increases their self- esteem and promote their individual growth.



Annual Impact Highlights 2020-21

1000

families supported through our COVID relief efforts

50

disabled artisan brethren living in Puducherry reached through COVID relief efforts

30

Primary Health Centres in Puducherry region have been given facemasks, and hand sanitizers

20

transgender in Villinoor village, Puducherry region and provided survival packs

23

survival packs provided to the Adiyar community in Irumbai village, Puducherry

45

families from Dalit community were given survival packs during COVID period

3000

native trees have been planted with the expert advice from PichandiKullam Forest

60

villages reached through awareness programmes on disability

Team member list

Board members:

G. Karthikeyan
- Managing Trustee
P. Saravanan - Trustee
V. Anandaraj - Trustee
S. Sathya - Trustee
J. Anbazhagan - Trustee

Advisory committee:

Arulmurugan Rajendiran
Brigitte Holzbauer
Saurin Nanavati
Christoph Ratz
Siva Mathiazhagan

Executive team:

G. Karthikeyan - Founder/ Director
Lakshmi Karthikeyan - Joint Director
V. N. Ebin Navis - Head of Operations
B. Prabhu - Compliance & Finance Manager
E. Ebenica - Fundraising manager



Overall Impact

300

people with disabilities become self-reliant through the seed grant provided by Sristi during the pandemic

25

People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities graduated from Sristi Village's vocational training programme

2000

rural PwDs and marginalized people of Villupuram and Puducherry districts benefited through COVID-19 relief work

88

villages, 47 panchayats, and 1 block in Villupuram District have been reached

200

people with disabilities have been linked to avail disability schemes

70

pregnant women benefitted through Healthy Pregnancy and Prevention Awareness Villupuram

1024

people with disabilities their families benefitted through community-based rehabilitation

36

staff benefitted from employee training and development programme

100

families of children with special needs benefitted through parent's association



Partners

National Partners:



Resource Partners :



SRISTI FOUNDATION
Konamangalam Village
Tindivanam, Villupuram
Tamilnadu - 604 304.

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2021

Liabilities	Schedule	Amount ₹	Amount ₹	Assets	Schedule	Amount ₹	Amount ₹
Corpus Fund				Fixed Assets			
Opening Balance		29,361,923		(As per Annexure)	3		30,965,663
Add: Additions during the year			29,361,923	Loans & Advances			
Earmarked Funds				Rental Advance		50,000	
(Created under Provisions of the trust deed or Scheme)				Gas Deposit		9,200	
Specific Purpose Fund	1	1,255,559		Fixed Deposit		16,325,000	
Fund Received against Capital Asset (Contra)	2	15,478,727		TDS Receivable - FD		21,217	
			16,734,286	Tanpanai		400	
General Fund				Salary Advance		105,514	
Opening Balance		3,737,117					16,511,331
Less: Excess of Expenditure Over Income		1,189,090		Cash & Bank Balances:			
			4,926,207	SBI - A/c No.33435575197		1,606,442	
TDS Payable			7,145	SBI - A/c No.33487079787		1,458,784	
Mohan Jayaram			1,450	SBI - A/c No.35358408208		311,928	
				SBI - A/c No.37808362518		37,598	
				SBI - FCRA A/c		63,225	
				Cash on Hand		76,040	
							3,554,016
			51,031,011				51,031,011



For SRISTI FOUNDATION

(Signature)
Managing Trustee

Sristi Foundation



Sristi Village, Konamangalam Village,
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Supported by:
Dhwani foundation
www.dhwanifoundation.org