

The Creations

Sristi Village quarterly Newsletter | 20th Edition | October 2021



"No one who achieves success does so without the help of others. The wise and confident acknowledge this help with gratitude." - Alfred North Whitehead

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Sristi Village Community!

We are immensely appreciative of our donors' supporters who are the backbone of our Sristi community. All your support has been key to unlocking the potential of people with disabilities to journey further in life as a whole.

In the first place, we would like to share our strong sense of gratitude, delight, and enthusiasm. We are sure that without your continuous support our journey would not be possible.



The Sristi Community sends a heart full of appreciation to your home and family. On this occasion, Sristi Community is stepping into its 9th year.

All our community highlights have been penned into the 20th edition of our newsletter "The Creations". We hope you will find something to smile at on every page you scroll through in our newsletter.

Preparing our community members for Adulthood and Work life

Sristi Created an inclusive space for young adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities providing adult independent living skills and vocational training which aims to enable opportunities for our community members for integration into the mainstream society and live a better way of life independently through employability skills, social, domestic, lifestyle, self-care activities, sex education and safety skills. To be effective at work, an adult need to be as independent as possible.



In an adult's life, work is of utmost importance. It helps to build his confidence and makes him feel valued. To develop work related skills, young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities need to learn specific skills in the work setting. In Sristi, through our organic farm and livestock community members are learning from hands-on experience. Through experiential learning our community members learn to work closely and effectively in groups, develop plans of action, utilize the unique qualities and experience their own unique skills.

Sristi's vision is to give intellectually disabled people the opportunity to learn farming skills in order



to practically apply these skills to generate their own income, become self-sustaining and independent in order to lead a dignified and holistic life and we are preparing our members through these trainings for adulthood and work life.

Currently 40 of our residential members are getting training

in adult independent living skills and vocational training.

Pre-employment independent life education and Job Skills



Sristi's immense effort has begun to bring community transformation. As we resume our vocational training - after taking both the shots of Covishield (Covid-19 Vaccination) - our team's consistent learning habits taught in our independent living facility are starting to bear fruit. Community members have adapted well and are stepping towards healthy, independent

training. Currently, the team are experimenting using their skills from all their years of learning in their lives outside our community at Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College (SVRCC). Learnings from the areas such as home science, personal management, dressing and clothing care, health care, cooking and nutrition, home management, and home safety have been practised with hands-on guidance and mentorship.

Sristi's got Talent!

At Sristi we hosted Talent Show for our community members in memory of Mahakavi Subramaniya Bharathi the great Tamil poet who involved himself actively in the Indian freedom struggle. We wholeheartedly thank Jesu Dass from Thalir, IAS Academy, CII, Inspire, and Young Indians Puducherry for organizing this event and distributing prizes to encourage our community members. Our community members participated in all the events with great enthusiasm. The event was a great liaison between member's special talents and the real world. Shared creativity can awaken and develop new talents!



Inclusive Sports Festival



Sristi's cricket team has played a part in CRICKET CARNIVAL 2021 for special athletes & Lions Club members at SLIMS cricket ground near Osudu Lake, Pondicherry organized by the Special Olympics Bharat.

Every team played with passion and a strong sense sportsmanship showcasing all their talents and capabilities. They loved the game and the ground, supported each

opponent player and their team members. We encourage and will continue to expose, train & guide them to participate in wide range of sports in Special Olympics in the upcoming weeks

Sristi- creating a sustainable farm for our future



We took a powerful step for the health of our community. Through Grow our own food for the greatest change we need to make from consumption to production. This helps us to improve our health, provide delicious organic food, protect the environment and keep chemicals off our plate and also will create income- generating opportunities for our members.

Farming expands our consciousness and helps us to appreciate all that goes into growing the food that sustains us. Our community members learn a lot in the field sowing the seeds by being with a group, supporting one another, monitoring the growth of plants, staying outdoors and being with nature. The relationship with our farm and us upshot in the cultivation.

In this season we have harvested fresh juicy fruits like watermelon, bananas and vegetables such as moringa, lady's finger, pumpkin, turkey-berry, bottle-gourd, ridged gourd. In this monsoon season, we have planted groundnuts – nitrogen fixing plants and broad beans in the fruit forest will act as a cover crop which will help to suppress weed growth and protect the top soil from erosion. Our fruit forest trees are in full bloom. We are looking forward to sharing the happiness of our harvest with you in the following months. During this monsoon season we are facing some challenges in planting the vegetables. With the support of our expert farm team we managed to plant tomato, brinjal and lady's finger.

Humans, animals and the environment depend upon trees for survival. In Sristi, we are planting more trees which help repair damaged ecosystems also to mitigate climate changes. To create a healthier biodiversity conservation, we have initiated Live fencing and Miyawaki method and planted more than 3500+ trees, the trees' growth and condition are good.

Our community members cherish these plants and take extra care of them by spending so much time on the farm happily. We wholeheartedly thank our farm workers and our energetic boys for their 100% effort.



Therapy on Wheels



Covid-19 pandemic has created a devastating impact on the livelihoods of the people with disabilities in rural villages. We are working on COVID-19 RELIEF WORK from March 2020. We focus on finding the most in need-families of Intellectually Disabled and Physically Disabled who have not been reached by the government and identified 2500 people with disabilities. Sristi got a better understanding of their struggles and hardships amid the Covid-19 crisis during relief work for that

we have initiated “Community Based Rehabilitation program” which cater to the basic needs of the Intellectually Disabled and ensure their inclusion and participation and provide them education, Physiotherapy, vocational training, social participation and other services. Through this program we ensure that they are benefited by all the government schemes. We help them to live in a hurdle free environment. Also, we give awareness on personal health and hygiene, access to medical examination and treatment and their basic rights at their door step through our Mobile Therapy Unit.

UPCOMING PROJECT

Plant a better future - 1000 trees plantation drive



Environmental sustainability is one of the core values encapsulated in our Sristi village, by aiming to serve our community and the planet for a better tomorrow. By keeping this in mind, plant our Future through Miyawaki method is an initiative by Sristi Foundation to utilize 50 cent of land to plant 1000 native trees of different types both fruits and timber trees for shades, create a bio-diversity and to attract bees and all natural insects. Besides providing a massive availability of food for our

community, it offers to address issues such as mental health of our community members by providing them a therapeutic means of livelihood.

Awards and Recognition!

Received the NS Hema Memorial Award for the year 2021!



Sristi Foundation received the NS Hema Memorial Award for the year 2021 for the outstanding service we are doing for people with disabilities. This is one of the prestigious Award in South India for the organization working in the field of Disability. At this juncture, we thank all our donors for their

continued support, without your constant support, this would not have been possible!

GRATITUDE

Your steady support and relentless compassion have always helped us to serve the cause we believe in and work for, with complete dedication. Without you, we could have never achieved so much.

Thanking you for making a difference in the lives of our young adult with intellectual & developmental disabilities.

All your contributions are highly appreciated!!!



Experience the joy of Giving!

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With full of gratitude

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karthikeyan Ganesan".



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