



Wish you and your family a joyful, bright, healthy, prosperous and happy New Year 2022!

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Sristi Village Community!

Whilst reflecting on the many blessings we have experienced in the past year, we at Sristi Village want to thank you for your personal investment and support in advancing the mission of our community. Because of your continuous support, we are able to deliver life changing programs and services. Our ongoing commitment to you as trusted friends and donors, is to keep you informed on how your support is impacting the lives of individuals in our community. We are able to make this difference to their lives and work toward achieving our vision because of your contribution. We work relentlessly to make sure every member in our community receives ample opportunities to live, learn, work and generate income to lead a meaningful life in mainstream society. We share our happiness through our 4th Quarterly Newsletter 2021 "The Creations".



Life Transformation, to lead a purposeful life!



Work gives young adult individuals a sense of purpose and self-worth. It helps to build their confidence and makes them 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, 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. It defines who we are and is a source of justifiable pride. Our second batch of students (12) who have successfully completed their Adult Independent Living training in our Sristi community and are now undertaking the Hospitality Management Course in **Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College, Puducherry**. Eaton Private Limited agreed to provide five placement opportunities for our members in their company based on our request. We are expecting all the 12 members to be placed in a job before the month of March 2022.

Back to School, the happiest place to learn!



When the Covid-19 pandemic hit first, many states and towns closed everything, mainly schools. We are happy to announce that we have re-opened school for our day-care children. Almost two years have gone by and it has become an urgent priority to re-start the day-care, especially for children with special needs. Of course we are abiding my all government guidelines. Vaccination of teachers and other staff is the advantage we have this year that will make the school safer.

This pandemic has made childcare services inaccessible to families of children with special needs. Sristi progresses towards ensuring that our day-care children and families have access to affordable and high quality childcare.

We at Sristi especially focus on food and the nutritional security for our day care children. During this pandemic we have always worked hard with the wider community to help with this need.

We at Sristi celebrated our children's first day at school after over 500 days leave due to the pandemic. Our community members lined up to welcome kids with balloons, music and a confetti of petals. We are blown away by the love and special bonding that our day-care children are showering upon us. Their parents are thankful and elated with joy.

Mobile Therapy Project, Reaching the un-reached!



The Covid-19 pandemic has created a devastating impact on the livelihoods of the people with disabilities in rural villages. We have been working on Covid-19 relief work from March 2020, focusing on finding the most in-need families of intellectually disabled and physically disabled individuals who have not been reached by the government. We identified 2500 people with disabilities in Villupuram district.

Sristi got a better understanding of their struggles amid the Covid-19 crisis during relief work. Based on their needs, we initiated the “Sristi Mobile Therapy Unit” which caters to the basic needs of the intellectually disabled individuals. We aim to ensure their inclusion and participation in society and we are currently supporting 88 rural remote villages and providing them special education, physiotherapy, counselling, social participation and other services. Through this scheme, over 100 people with disabilities have benefited thus far.

Through this program we work to ensure that our beneficiaries can live in a hurdle-free environment. We also provide awareness training on personal health and hygiene, access to medical examination and treatment and their basic rights.

Farm Update, Green! Green and green!



During the past three months we have received abundant blessings from mother-nature and it cheers us immensely. Unfortunately the reservoirs on our land and the heavy monsoon led to damage of some of our new seedlings. For example, the peanuts were nearly ready to harvest but it rained heavily. Nevertheless, due to the hard work of our members, we enjoyed a bountiful harvest all through the monsoon.

Sristi's biggest dream is to cultivate fresh organic vegetables and fruits for our community members from our own farm sustainably throughout the year and it is happening even in the heavy monsoon. Instead of blaming nature, our farm expert (Shekar) and his team find ways to cope with these environmental changes. The team strongly believes when uncertainty comes the ability to be flexible to embrace adaptation measures is the key to success.

Our farm looks excellent and produces such delicious and nutritious food. Our members harvested a bountiful amount of fresh vegetables including Yam, Pumpkin, Turkey Berry, Banana Flowers and fruits which includes guava and banana. Sristi was once a barren land; now we feel blessed and so happy to have an abundance of fresh produce to provide for our community members. We wholeheartedly thank our farm workers and our energetic members for their tireless work.

Growing fruit trees with children and people with intellectual and developmental disabilities offers a unique chance to teach them about the importance of healthy food and nutrition. Whether the fruit-eaters are children, animals or impoverished neighbours fruit trees take advantage of Mother Nature's natural resources system and deliver shade, soil conditioning, food for wildlife and food for humans and our livestock. And it lasts for decades! That's a lot for one simple plant to gift us with.

Plant our Future is an environmental program that was designed by Sristi as a means of conserving our environment with particular emphasis to Sristi village members (People with intellectual and developmental disabilities) and the communities around them. 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. Through this project we have planted over 1000 indigenous fruit plants.

Water the most important element!

In Sristi, our community kitchen is one of the busiest area throughout the day where cooking breakfast, lunch and dinner happens. To maintain the safety and hygiene, ingredients, utensils and work surfaces must be cleaned and washed before and after every meal. The kitchen is a place where a lot of water is consumed. To overcome this crisis we thought capturing rain water is the only significant readily available practice that can help to meet water demands that are increasing on a daily basis at Sristi Village. We find ways to utilize and implement all kinds of local resources to benefit our community. The present





problem of lack of potable water shall be more appropriately called as water management crisis rather than water scarcity.

We constructed a 50,000 liter Rain Water Harvesting Tank, by implementing the rainwater harvesting system now we are consuming 24/7 water supply in our community for drinking through proper filtration methods, for cooking and washing utensils.

Infrastructure, dreams come to life!



As we grow, we love to upgrade our village infrastructure which allows the community to improve their comfort and capacity. We are happy to share the fruits of our hard work and patience with the support of your loyalty towards our dream. This process of multiple infrastructure construction projects happening at the same time in our community has been a roller coaster of emotions. We at Sristi have been working for the past seven years to build

our dream home for our community members to provide a taste of independent living facility and ... finally it has come true!

We are currently constructing 5 houses and director's residence and we are awaiting for the grand inauguration and we are halfway there to experience the joy of our community members.

Electrical Safety in our Community



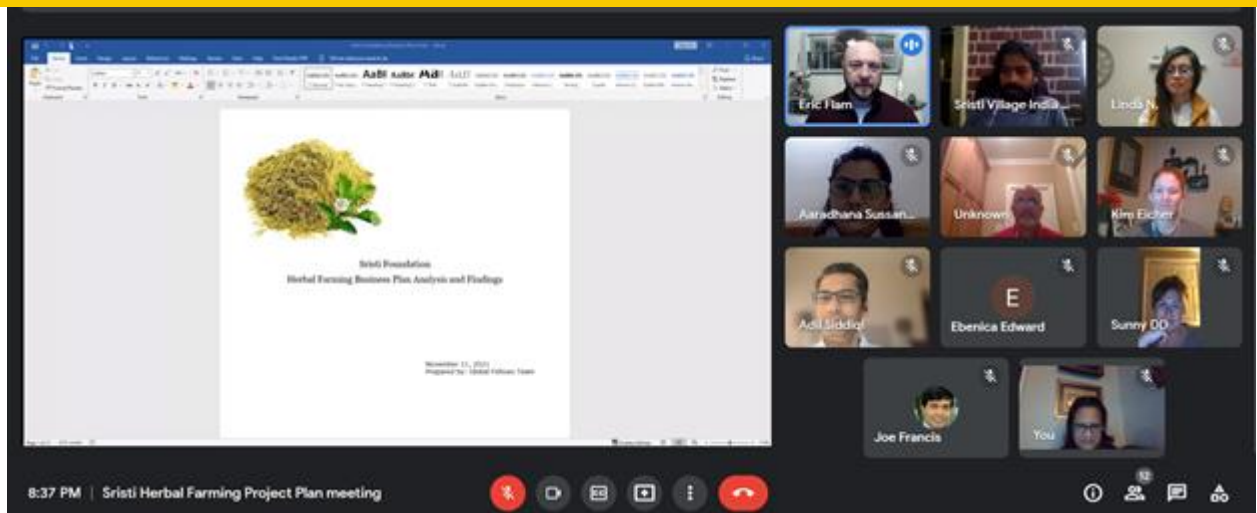
In Sristi for power, we have solar panels and bio-plantation for 80% of the usage yet we need electricity to run the community 24 X 7. To ensure the safety of our community members we are constructing a proper electrical room to provide safe operations and maintenance of the equipment and create a significant impact on distributing the electrical power.

Community Safety and Security

Sristi Foundation strongly believes that a safe and secure environment is a prerequisite for effective teaching and learning for that we are constructing a security cabin which will drastically assist the community to create a welcoming experience for everyone with a maximum safety and a secured comfort for our community members.



Volunteering the biggest gift!



Sristi's ultimate aim is to provide employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over the past eight years the eco-friendly projects we implemented have created a huge impact in the lives of our community through vocational training to get a sustainable job. Organization sustainability has been a tough challenge for us and a long-standing issue. By framing a financial plan, we could ensure resource generation over a long-term period.

As a blessing we found and partnered with Bankers without Borders (USA) and Grameen Foundation. Through these partnerships, we received expert volunteer support from the Wells Fargo Team. Two team has worked in two main areas with us for 12 weeks and provided a final report on "Sristi Strategic financial Plan and Business Model with Recommendations" which is a stepping stone resource for our project success. We greatly appreciate the outcome and the valuable work that you have done for our community.

By partnering with Bankers without Borders you will speed up and come out with valuable resources for your project and equip yourself professionally to implement the knowledge you have gained within a limited period for a sustainable social impact in the lives of many. Apart from that they have provided us many recommendations, links and contacts for the growth of our project.

We see this opportunity to explore the financial strategy and development for our organisation from the team as a professional point of view and where they are helping non-profits with no cost to scale up. We are looking forward to use the knowledge and skills gained from the team for our upcoming and other diverse projects.

Our biggest gratitude, you are behind in all success!



We wholeheartedly appreciate your support of our efforts throughout this year and we believe you will continue on this journey with us as we strive to provide a dignified life for every member in our community. We would like to recognize long-term supporters as well as the new supporters who have chosen to support for our cause. A warm thanks to all of the dedicated staff and wonderful volunteers for your commitment and our sincerest appreciation to our generous donors who helps us to travel towards our vision.

Ray of Hope, our latest documentary!

Before we close, we would like to share our latest documentary, “**Ray of Hope**” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFfQgEccKp4>. We specifically focused on why



inclusion at all levels is important and how we are preparing our community members for Adulthood and Work life to enable opportunities for integration into the community to live a better way of life. With time moving so fast it is important to record and to look at what we have achieved and what we plan to do next. Please watch and

see how your contributions impact the lives of people with disabilities.



Thank you, friends, world-wide for your donations and contributions helping us towards our dreams of changing lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please know that your support and generosity does not go unnoticed. Without your involvement all this would have been impossible to achieve. Finally, everyone at Sristi Village sends you wishes of peace to your mind and joy to your heart. We also wish you a prosperous 2022 and hope all your dreams come true.

May the blessings and joy of this season be with you and your family throughout the coming year.

Experience the joy of Giving!



Please send your contributions to:

For Foreign Donors:

Name of the account : Sristi Foundation
Account Number : 39966172441
Name of the Branch : State Bank of India,
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SWIFT CODE : SBININBB104
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e-Mail ID fcra.00691@sbi.co.in
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Account Number : 33435575197
Name of the Bank : State Bank of India
Branch : Ariyankuppam,
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With full of gratitude

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