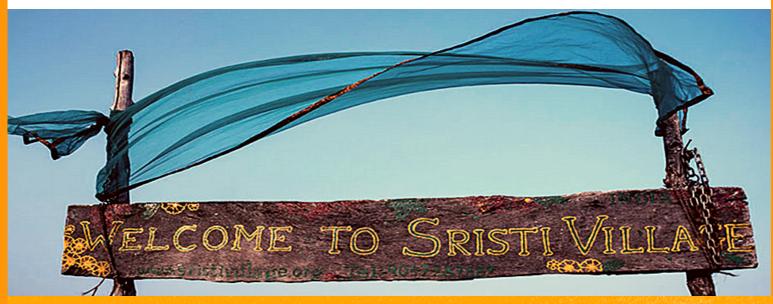




Sristi Village Newsletter | Volume 9 | Issue 4 | December 2022



WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023

Dear Friends, Greetings from Sristi Village!

I extend my warmest wishes for a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous New Year to each and every one of you who have supported us throughout the year including staff, sristi community members and their families.

This year 2022 your generosity and kindness have helped us to achieve one of our dreams of building accessible ecofriendly adult independent living houses for our community members also placing our community members in the job which made Governor of Tamil Nadu R.N. Ravi voluntarily visit sristi and we are truly grateful for each and every single supporter who journeyed with us and trusting our mission to reach the vision of creating a space for the intellectually disabled to lead an independent life in mainstream society.

With the advent of the New Year, with your support we welcome new hopes and aspirations to make a better tomorrow for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by initiating various projects like building two more group homes along with café shop, initiating livelihood project through sristi farm academy by partnering with SBI Foundation also joining hands with Enable India to initiate a placement Centre in Villupuram region for people with disabilities which will further strengthen and beautify the structure of the society.

Thank you once again to all our amazing donors, staff and volunteers for your generosity and commitment to Sristi's project of empowering people with disabilities. We wish you all a blessed holiday and a Happy New Year 2023.



<u>www.sristivillage.org</u>



With gratitude



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JOYFUL MOMENTS

SRISTI ACCESSIBLE ECO- FRIENDLY COMMUNITY RESIDENCE INAUGURATED BY GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU



We express our sincere gratitude to the **Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru R.N. RAVI** for gracing the inauguration of the independent houses that we have built for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Your presence and support mean a great deal to us, and we are truly grateful.

The purpose of building these individual houses is to provide the intellectually disabled with a safe and comfortable place to call home, and to give them the independence and dignity that they deserve. We believe that everyone has the right to live a fulfilling and meaningful life, regardless of their abilities.

We would also like to thank Thiru.D. Mohan I.A.S, Villupuram District and Thiru.E.Vallavan I.A.S, Pondicherry District Collectors and Srimath Sivagnana Balaiya Swamigal Mailam Bommapuram Adheenam 20th Pontiff Guru Maha Sannithanam, Thiru. A. Srinivasa Rao Senior Chartered Accountant, Puducherry for their presence at the event. Your support and encouragement are greatly appreciated, and we are grateful for your contributions to the success of this project.

Finally, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **LEOPOLD BACHMANN STIFTUNG Foundation, Switzerland and STICHTING ZIJN Foundation, The Netherlands** our funding partners for their support and generosity. Without your help, this project would not have been possible. Thank you for your commitment to making the world a better place for everyone.











TRANSFORMATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF INNOVATION IN FUELLING AN ACCESIBLE AND EQUITABLE WORLD

Sristi Foundation is committed to promoting inclusion and accessibility for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our vision is to create an inclusive society where all people with these disabilities are respected, valued, and have the choice to lead a holistic and dignified life. We believe in an inclusive and eco-responsible world, where everyone is given the opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of disability, race, gender, etc.

This year's theme for International Disability Day, "Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: The Role of Innovation in Fueling an Accessible and Equitable World", aligns perfectly with our vision and mission. We believe that innovation is key to creating solutions that can help us achieve an inclusive and accessible world for all. Whether it's through the construction of independent homes for the disabled, or through the implementation of incomegenerating projects, we are dedicated to finding transformative solutions that can help us build a better and more inclusive world.

GETTING READY FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Sristi constructed an eco-friendly accessible community residence that offers adult independent living training for intellectually disabled individuals. The houses in Sristi are designed to be sustainable and environmentally friendly, using renewable energy sources and sustainable materials. This not only reduces the community's impact on the environment, but also provides a healthy and comfortable living space for the community members.

In Sristi, intellectually disabled individuals are given the opportunity to learn essential adult independent living skills, such as cooking, cleaning, and managing their own finances. The supportive community atmosphere and personalized instruction provided by Sristi's staff help community members to develop these skills at their own pace.

In addition to providing a healthy and sustainable living environment, Sristi's eco-friendly design also serves as a teaching tool for the members. By living in a community that values sustainability, members can learn about the importance of taking care of the environment and incorporating sustainable practices into their daily lives.

Overall, Sristi is a unique and innovative community that provides intellectually disabled individuals with the support and training they need to learn essential adult independent living skills in a sustainable and environmental friendly environment to lead an independent life in the mainstream society.





PROJECTS UPDATE

SRISTI VILLAGE

Sristi Village is a project that aims to provide employment opportunities for people with determination through farming and adult independent living training. This project allows individuals with determination to learn valuable skills and earn a living by participating in farming activities, such as growing crops and raising livestock. In addition to providing hands-on experience in agriculture, the Sristi Village project also offers training in adult independent living, teaching participants how to manage their own finances, cook for themselves, and take care of their personal hygiene. This training helps prepare individuals with determination to live independently and thrive in their communities. By providing both employment opportunities and adult independent living training, the Sristi Village project is empowering individuals with determination to lead fulfilling and productive lives.

THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The Sristi Foundation community celebrated the bright Festival of Lights in great style. On Deepavali day, the community members came together to participate in a variety of festive activities. They lit diyas, or small clay lamps, decorated the community center with colorful rangoli designs, and shared sweets and treats with one another.

The Sristi Foundation community recognizes the importance of celebrating and sharing cultural traditions and values associated with Diwali with our members. Through storytelling, discussions, and other interactive activities, the community members learned about the significance of the festival and its underlying messages of hope and new beginnings.



As the day came to an end, the Sristi Foundation community members felt a sense of joy, togetherness, and fulfilment, thankful for the opportunity to celebrate the festival in a supportive and inclusive environment, looking forward to continue to learn and grow together as a community.

THE BATTLE OF THE BUFFET 2022

The Battle of the Buffet held in Chennai triggers your social appetite! It is an annual networking site that offers a common platform for smaller NGOs to make use of a high-profile event to raise funds without spending a penny. This year too Sristi Foundation qualified to participate in the gala fun-filled evening with great food, fantastic music, and entertainment. Our community members too manned our stall and interacted with visitors with great gusto. We wholeheartedly thank **Mr.Mahadevan** for creating this opportunity.



CHANCE TO DANCE

Every year Puducherry **Prasanna Dance Studio** conduct **Nayagan Grand Cultural Fest for Special Children.** Through this Prasanna strongly believes and strives to create a better world by fostering the acceptance and inclusion of all people. Through dance, special children discover new strengths, skills, abilities and success.

Our community members participated with loads of energy, enthusiasm and excitement. We experienced that the children find joy, confidence and fulfilment during dance and in life. We were mesmerized to see many children with special needs impeccable talent. We wholeheartedly thank **Prasanna Dance Studio** for this initiative which brings out the best of many special children's talent and skills.



ENHANCING THE SMILES

Mahatma Gandhi Dental College and Hospital, Pondicherry conducted a free dental camp and provided free dental services to the members of Sristi Foundation. The camp was a great success, with many members benefiting from the expert dental care provided by the college's dental professionals. The staff at Mahatma Gandhi Dental College and Hospital were kind and compassionate, ensuring that all members of Sristi Foundation received the dental care they needed in a comfortable and supportive environment. We at Sristi Foundation are grateful to **Mahatma Gandhi Dental College and Hospital** for their generosity and support, and we look forward to working with them again in the future.



EATON INDIA FOUNDATION - Pondicherry

Eaton, a long-term funding partner for Sristi village and farm, recently visited Pondicherry where the global chairman of Eaton met with the director of Sristi. During the visit, the director of Sristi pitched about sristi project to the chairman, and two community members of Sristi gave testimonials on Eaton's support in the areas of disability and the environment. In addition to their ongoing support, Eaton also donated a range of items including **umbrellas**, **water bottles**, **pillows**, **sandals**, **mosquito nets**, **and bedsheets** to the members of Sristi. We at



Sristi Foundation are grateful for Eaton's continued support and commitment to our organization and the individuals we serve.

JIPMER - CULTURAL AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY FOR PWDs

The Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation recently celebrated International Disability Day with a series of cultural programs and competitions. The events were well-attended by members of Sristi Foundation. The cultural programs included a variety of performances, including singing, dancing, and skits. The competitions were also a hit, with participants competing in a range of activities including games and art contests. At the end of the day, the winners of the competitions were awarded prizes by the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.



We at Sristi Foundation would like to thank the **Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation** for their support and for

helping to make International Disability Day a memorable and enjoyable occasion for our members.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS

Parents play a critical role in the lives of their intellectually disabled adult or child. Their commitment, involvement, and support are essential for the individual to thrive and reach their full potential. We at Sristi Foundation are grateful for the dedication of these parents and the efforts they make on behalf of their loved ones. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Mr.Suresh** who have generously donated water heaters for seven houses in our community.



These donations will make a significant difference in the lives of the families who receive them, providing much-needed warmth and comfort during the colder months. We are truly grateful for the support of our donors and the commitment of our parents.

SRISTI SPECIAL SCHOOL

MY VOTE MY RIGHT

The **Differently Disabled Welfare Department** organized a competition at Sristi Foundation to raise awareness about the voting rights of individuals with disabilities. The event was well-attended by community members and children from the foundation's day care program. The competition included a drawing contest and a singing contest, with participants showcasing their creativity and talent. The winners of the competition were awarded prizes by the Differently Disabled Welfare Department. We at Sristi Foundation are grateful to the Differently Disabled Welfare Department for their support and for organizing this important event. The competition was a great way to raise awareness about the rights of individuals with disabilities, and we look forward to working with the department on future initiatives.

CHILDREN ARE OUR MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE

The Indian Red Cross Society, Pondicherry recently visited Sristi Foundation and celebrated Children's Day with our community members and donated hygiene kits to the members and joined in the festivities, which included cultural and sports events for both community members and children from the foundation's day care program. The events were a great success, with everyone enjoying the fun and excitement of the day. We at Sristi Foundation grateful are the Rtn.Dr.G..Lakshmibathy, Phd, Chairman Indian **Red Cross Society** and the Indian Red Cross Society



team for their support and for helping to make Children's Day a memorable and enjoyable occasion for our intellectually disabled community members.

SPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Sristi Foundation in collaboration with Childline-1098, Pondicherry organized a series of sports events to celebrate International Disability Day. The events were well-attended by members of sristi and included a range of activities such as running, jumping, and throw ball. The athletes were enthusiastic and competitive, and the events were a great success. We at Sristi Foundation are proud to have organized these events and to have provided an opportunity for our members to come together, compete, and celebrate Disability Day. The sports events were a great way to raise awareness about the abilities of individuals with disabilities and to promote inclusion and equality. We wholeheartedly thank **Childline-1098** for issuing prize to motivate the members, we look forward to organizing similar events in the future.

SRISTI FARM

Our farm is productive and is yielding such wonderful and nutritious food this quarter. In this season we harvested a bounty of fresh vegetables including: pumpkin, raddish, varieties of spinach, snake guard, brinjal, ladys finger and some goose berries. Our farming community fully depends on rain water and this quarter we received a satisfactory monsoon. Our judiciously built rain water harvesting system and bio-septic tank supplements the water resources, and our water rejuvenating systems are supplying water for the trees and other non-vegetable fields on the Sristi Farm. Currently, post-monsoon work like weeding and pruning is underway in full swing. In the coming



month, we planned to initiate Water Management System to save every single drop of which is the most valued source by our community with the support of water experts.

MOBILE THERAPY PROJECT

ENABLE MOBILITY AND PHYSICAL INDEPENDANCE

Sristi Foundation in collaboration with Freedom trust organized an orthotics and prosthetics assessment camp at sristi foundation on 28th October 2022 for 31 children with developmental disabilities living in rural areas and issued aid today December 16th. The aid provided by Freedom Trust will have a transformative impact on the lives of the children who received it. Mobility aids includes wheel chair, calliper, walkers, crutches, splints, gaiters, CP chair, corner seat, tricycle, standing frame, rollator, modified foot wear, artificial hand, etc can help individuals with disabilities to move more freely and with greater independence, enabling them to participate in activities that were previously out of reach.



We at Sristi Foundation are grateful to the whole **Freedom Trust** Team **Dr. Sunder, Dr.Usha, Mr.Rishi and Mr.Hariharan** and his family members for their generous support and for providing this vital aid to our community. Here we would like to thank **Mr.Ram Pappu, Intellect Design Arena** for introducing Freedom Trust. We believe that these prosthetics and orthotics will make a significant difference in the lives of the children who receive them, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have.

SRISTI CELEBRATED INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY DAY

The Differently Disabled Welfare Department recently collaborated with Sristi Foundation to organize an event on December 7th to celebrate **International Disability Day**. The event was a great success, with a range of cultural programs and sports activities. One of the highlights of the event was the award of the **"Best Special Teacher"** certificate to our own **Ms. Sarala**, who was recognized for her outstanding work with individuals with disabilities. Mementos were also given to all special schools in attendance. In addition to the cultural and sports events, a job fair was also organized, and aids were issued to individuals with disabilities.



International Disability Day is an important occasion that aims to raise awareness about the rights and abilities of individuals with disabilities. We at Sristi Foundation are grateful to the **Differently Disabled Welfare Department** for their support and for helping us to celebrate International Disability Day in a meaningful and inclusive way.

GIRLS GROUP HOME FOR YOUNG ADULT WOMAN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

On striving to achieve the gender equality within the goal of achieving the equity for the Young Adult Women with Intellectual and Development Disabilities, sristi successfully functioning the Girls Group Home project since its operation. It is now gradually started witnessing certain achievements among the primary objective i.e., to make the beneficiaries in becoming independent in their personal management. This is on the background that they started to engage in preparing their own food, attending the training program obligatorily, visiting local shops for purchasing



their groceries and other domestic goods, enhancing their skills in House-keeping works on regular basis, achieving all responsibilities as team players, etc.

VISITORS TO SRISTI



Public Policy & Governance Students from Azim Premji University visited Sristi for a Week Exposure Visit



Social Work Students from Kodaikanal Christian College visited Sristi for Rural Camp as part of their studies



Agilisium brought their CSR freshers team to gain insight into the importance of social responsibility



This time KHOJI India's Great Indian Treasure Hunt program held in our community space



Child Development Centre from Pondicherry organized to spend a day for children from slum areas at Sristi



The Timbaktu Collective visited sristi to gain an in-depth insight into our methodologies and work



Katrathu Kaialahvu,Food-bloggers a popular food channel published our activities in their channel (Click Photo)



Worth Trust, a unique 60-year-old self-sustaining social organization, visited to study and encourage sristi model



Chennai Royal Riders, Riding for a Cause visited sristi

SPREADING SRISTI VIBES

PARTNERSHIP FOR PLACEMENTS

Our Founder **Mr. Karthikeyan** visited **Enable India** at their facility in Bengaluru. Enable India is a pan-India organization with 1050 centers across 28 States that focuses on enabling individuals with disabilities to get gainful employment. Their objective is zero barriers for persons with disabilities. He found synergy here with Sristi's objectives, and explored opportunities of partnering with Enable India in our Region. Enable India's Placement Team visited Sristi Village and met our members. We will be partnering with Enable India to set up a Placement Centre in the Villupuram Region.



EACH ONE REACH ONE

Eaton India, Pune is a power management company providing energy-efficient solutions that help customers effectively manage electrical, hydraulic and mechanical power. They have a known disabled-friendly recruitment policy. **Mr Karthikeyan** was invited by Eaton to Pune to address its employees under their **Each One Reach One campaign**, to create an inclusive community and promote employment. His well-received talk stressed the invaluable contribution every individual can make if they adopt one person with disability to be included into the productive workforce.



EMPOWERING THROUGH TECHNOLOGIES

Vigyan Ashram, Pune, incubates rural persons who desire to be entrepreneurs. It provides hands-on skills with technical expertise. Those who see things differently and have potential are encouraged and equipped to transform their ideas into reality. Exploring the idea of joining them in initiating the change, and to skill persons with disabilities like our Sristi community members, Mr. Karthikeyan visited Vigyan Ashram and got an overview of their skill development, IBT school and technology capabilities.



FARTHER, HIGHER, STRONGER



Our Founder-Director **Mr. Karthikeyan** completed the 1-year **Acumen Academy India Fellowship**. He wishes to thank the Academy for a comprehensive, well-rounded course in strategy execution, soft skills and hard skills.

It was an intensive, hands-on experience. He feels it will help him in strengthening his initiatives and take Sristi Foundation farther ahead.

GET INVOLVED

SRISTI FOUNDATION IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM TOO

Are you looking for a way to connect with others who share your passion for social innovation and development? Look no further! Sristi Foundation is now on Instagram!

Follow us to stay up-to-date on all the exciting things happening at Sristi, from the latest projects and initiatives to inspiring stories and events. You'll also have the opportunity to engage with our community of like-minded individuals and organizations, sharing ideas, experiences, and best practices.

SCAN & Follow us on Instagram Today!

SRISTI_FOUNDATION_2013

Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with Sristi and join our community of changemakers.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

As the world slowly begins to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, Sristi is excited to announce that volunteers are once again welcome at our village.

At Sristi, we believe that volunteering is an important way to make a positive impact in the world and to support those who are most in need. As a volunteer at Sristi, you'll have the opportunity to engage with our community and to participate in a wide range of projects and initiatives aimed at creating a more sustainable and equitable world. Whether you're looking to gain hands-on experience, learn new skills, or simply give back to your community, there are many ways to get

involved at Sristi. We welcome volunteers of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, and we offer a range of opportunities to suit your interests and availability.

If you're ready to make a difference, we encourage you to consider volunteering at Sristi. Contact us today to learn more and to start your journey as a Sristi volunteer.



Click Here to Get Involved

OUR PARTNERS















































Verein Kinderlachen

You are a Blessing! Thank You for journeying with us to Empower People with Disabilities and to attain our Vision. Your contribution is giving our disabled community members an opportunity to achieve their potential, strengthen the bonds with the community.

We can't do this without you! It's a joy and honor to partner with you in an effort to support people with disabilities to stand financially independent.

THIS IS THE SEASON OF GIVING

Make A Difference!

For Foreign Donors:

Name of the Account

Account Number

Name of the Branch

Sristi Foundation

39966172441

State Bank of India,

New Delhi Main Branch.

SWIFT Code : SBININBB104
Branch Code : 00691
IFSC Code : SBIN0000691

E-Mail ID : fcra.00691@sbi.co.in
Telephone No : 011-23374392, 23374390,
23374143, 2337421

For Indian Donors

Name of the Account : Sristi Foundation
Account Number : 33435575197
Name of the Bank : State Bank of India

Branch : **Ariyankuppam**, **Puducherry**

IFSC Code : SBIN0016563

Click Here to Donate



WE APPRECIATE YOUR KINDNESS



It takes a certain kind of person to make a difference in the world who choose to help others.

Thank You for being one of them!