



# Founder and Director's Note

**Dear Sristi Family,**

**Greetings from Sristi Foundation!**

I am happy to present the 2021-2022 annual report on core activities that were undertaken and its impact and believing even better in the near future.

As we step into the new year - changes can be witnessed everywhere. As we become more established, we are in the process of development to meet our demands across many areas.

The pandemic did not stop us from conducting new programs. Despite the challenges we continued to face in the second year of the coronavirus pandemic, our team has maintained an uninterrupted level of service and support to our community members to accomplish significant achievements.

For the past nine years we sristi are relentlessly working in creating farming as a space of wellbeing for the PWIDs which provides a secure and protected space of work where people with disability are valued as a part of our community. Through this we engage PWIDs in farming to improve their health, social and educational circumstances. Here they will be in a homely, supportive environment where they can experience nature and sustainable food production. PWID will perceive the farm to be a place that provides them inclusive environment for personal growth and to live a dignified life.

Through this report, I invite all to reflect on the range of Sristi's activities, through its emergency response relief work, development programs and reintegrating our community members back to the society and how your contributions helped many to lift themselves out of poverty and find strength to face life.

Our strategic plan at the end of the report will steer all of our work for the next three years.

We sincerely thank all our world-wide donors for your time and continuous support and loyalty towards our mission in bettering the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



**With gratitude**



**Karthikeyan Ganesan**  
**Director, Sristi Foundation**

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# Vision, Mission and Core Values

## 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 marginalized groups to live as independent and as fully as possible through economic and social empowerment.

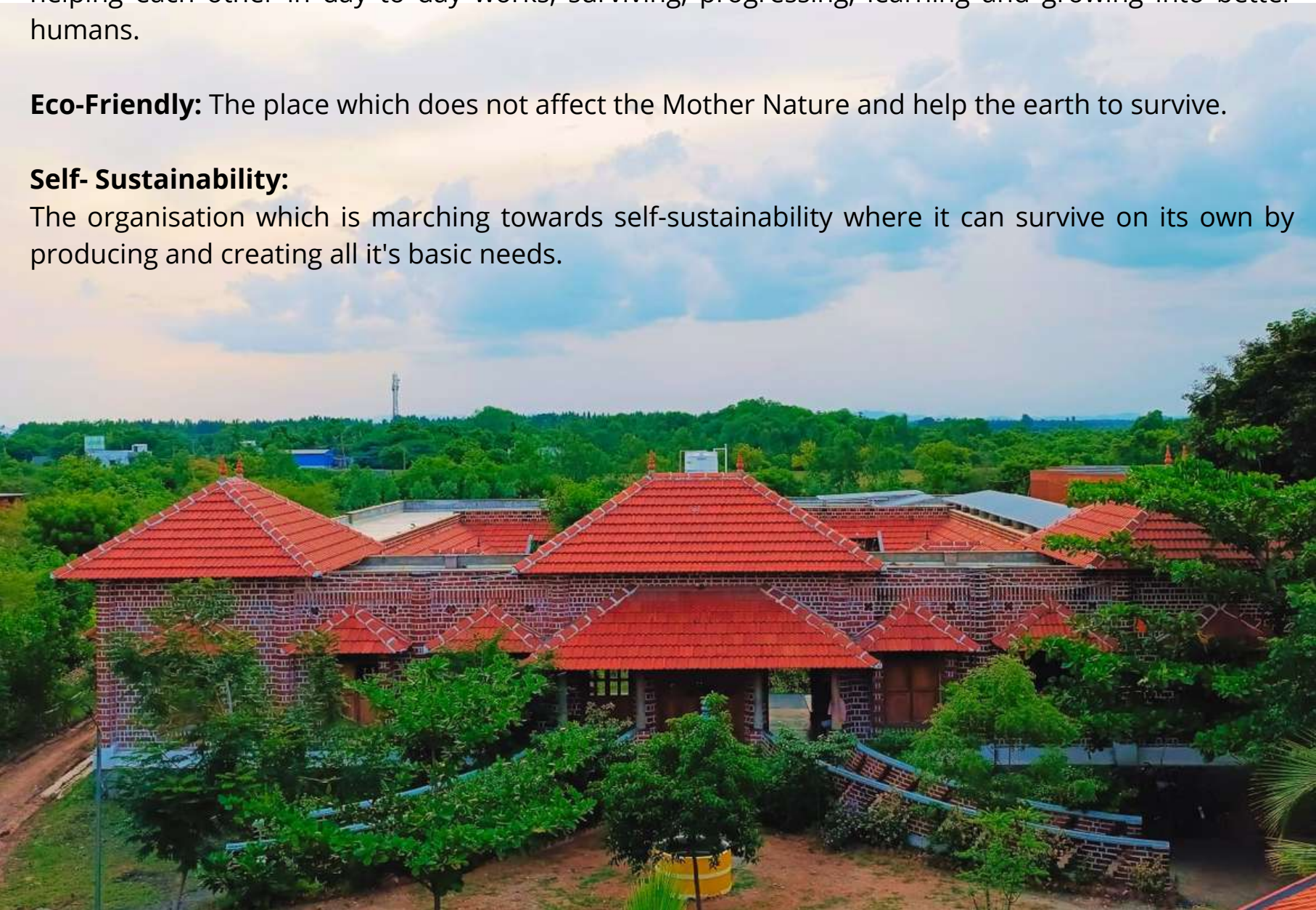
## Core Values

**Inclusive Community:** The community which consists of people from different backgrounds, some of them having some kind of disability and some of them without any disability, all live in a place helping each other in day to day works, surviving, progressing, learning and growing into better humans.

**Eco-Friendly:** The place which does not affect the Mother Nature and help the earth to survive.

### **Self- Sustainability:**

The organisation which is marching towards self-sustainability where it can survive on its own by producing and creating all it's basic needs.



# OVERALL IMPACT IN NUMBERS

**1000**

**families supported through Covid-19 relief work**

**1000**

**PPE kit issued to frontline workers in Villupuram and Puducherry district**

**200**

**disabled people become self-reliant through the seed grant provided by sristi during the pandemic**

**12**

**students from sristi community become self-reliant individuals**

**40**

**young adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities getting benefitted through sristi residential community project**

**20**

**children with special needs in rural areas getting benefitted through sristi special school**

**105**

**children with special needs getting home based services through sristi mobile therapy project**

**88**

**villages reached through 138 community awareness programs on disability and inclusion**

**223**

**antenatal care awareness sensitized to pregnant mothers in rural villages**

**2229**

**children screened in mailam block consists 47 panchayats for community based rehabilitation program for children with special needs**

**1114**

**got UDID card through sristi assistance**

**125**

**angawadi centres - sristi working along with them in identifying children with special needs with the support of ICDS department**

**861**

**got disability certificate through sristi intervention along with district differently abled welfare office**

**1075**

**indigenous fruit trees planted through miyawaki method**

# SRISTI RESPONDING TO COVID-19: RELIEF WORK

The coronavirus crisis has gripped India and millions of poor people were struggling during the lockdown with no savings or employment. The lockdown helped to save several human lives, but it had also put poor people in an existential crisis. We have never seen or experienced a calamity of this extent like the present situation. We Sristi were very worried about how these people will cope up with the situation.

We were working on COVID-19 RELIEF WORK from March 2020. In Sristi, we focused on finding the most in need-families of Intellectually Disabled and Physically Disabled and those who had not been reached by the government. On our way to relief work wherever we turned we were able to see people in need of support. There is no fear of covid-19 anymore. Only fear of death by starving. The survival pack that we gave them was hardly enough and it was heart breaking to see them suffer.

As the Covid-19 outbreak continued to spread and the second wave of the pandemic caused more disruption in our country. We aimed to distribute survival pack (consisting of rice, dry provisions, hand sanitizers and face masks) in Villupuram and Pondicherry District.

In collaboration with **Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative, December 3 movement, Uyir Erakam Trust, Satya Special School, Snehan for Homeless People, Arumai Handicraft, Aghavoli Foundation, VCDS, Differently Abled Welfare Department, Zwilling Foundation**, we reached the following communities and issued **500 survival packs** and **1000 PPE kit** to frontline workers:

- **The Sristi Families**
- **Vettaikaran Community**
- **Gypsie Community**
- **Old age people**
- **Adiyan Community**
- **Disabled Artisans**
- **Street Dwellers**
- **Single Parent**
- **Rural Community**
- **Hand Cart Laborer's**
- **Covid-19 Survivors**
- **Vision Impaired**

Thank You, **Leopold Bachmann Stiftung, Switzerland; Stichting ZIJN, The Netherlands** for playing an important role in ensuring that our communities continue to receive the healthy food and nutrition needed during these unprecedented times.



# A Story from The Relief Work

## Voice of a Disabled Child's Parent

Dharun is 18 years old and a cheerful boy. He was born with profound intellectual disability and suffers from severe epilepsy.

His father was a private bus conductor. Since the pandemic he lost his job and his family is at loss.

He has not the means to buy a wheelchair for his bedridden son. He is old and tired of searching for a daily wage work.

These disabled children require therapy everyday and the parents are forced to play the part of teacher and therapist at home.

He is perplexed and anxious about the future but has not received the money regularly by the government. He says, "***I have heard about the promised help during the lockdown, but none of the money has come to us regularly***". He pleaded to help disabled people.

Children with developmental and multiple disabilities and their families should be considered in the development and implementation of the pandemic response and the government should provide rehabilitation programs by ensuring disability inclusion during calamities.





**Dear Covid -19 Worldwide Donors,  
Thank You so much for your  
generosity and recognition at a time  
when we all need to stand together.  
  
You are all the REAL HEROES**





# ANNUAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## WE ARE POWERFUL INDEPENDENT INDIVIDUALS : SRISTI COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Sristi's vision is to give intellectually disabled people the opportunity to learn some 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. Our aim is to empower disadvantaged and disabled people to live dignified and self-supporting lives in a new and innovative way.

Our second batch of students (12) who have successfully completed their Adult Independent Living training in our Sristi community and undergone Hospitality Management Course in Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College, Puducherry. We are proud to present our 12 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who got placement in and around Villupuram District.

By seeing them stand independently and taking care of their own lives gives us confidence and inspires us and make us understand that disability is not a barrier it's a step to success. Their willingness and capability inspire us and motivate us to take charge to change many more lives and to create opportunities to make their lives better.



## **WE ARE BUILDING OUR DREAM HOME: Sustainable, Eco-friendly Community Members Residence**

Dream becomes reality with new disabled accessible home. We at Sristi have been working for the past 8 years to build our dream home for our community members and finally it has come true.

Our main aim is to provide a sustainable lifestyle for our community members to enjoy the luxury of choice.

We spent years to design our home to be perfect and easily accessible for our community members.

As we were visiting the construction site each day and watching our dream become a reality, we were blessed by each worker who entered our house.

We were overwhelmed at all the workers who put their best effort to make the reality of having our home be completed on time. We are currently constructing 5 houses and director's residence.

With the generous support of **LEOPOLD**

**BACHMANN STIFTUNG Foundation, Switzerland** we are building four accessible adult independent living home and one directors residence and **Stichting ZIJN Foundation, The Netherlands** support we are constructing one accessible independent residence.

We laid foundation in the month of September 2020 and expect to experience the happiness of members in 2022.



# SRISTI MOBILE THERAPY PROJECT - REACHING THE UNREACHED

The Covid-19 pandemic has in flame the crypt limitations of healthcare system mainly for children with special needs in deep rural villages. During the covid-19 relief work we realized that the awareness about developmental disabilities among parents is low in Villupuram district.

Corresponding to that social stigma coupled with overcrowded government health facilities pushed parents of children with special needs in difficulty to receive proper medical and therapeutic intervention.

Through labor, we witnessed that early diagnosis and continuous therapy helps in curing disabilities up to 90% level and enrolling such children in normal schools. With all these positive impacts, we initiated Sristi Mobile Therapy Unit as a pilot project in Mailam Block in the month of August 2021 to support hundred potential beneficiaries in 13 blocks of Villupuram district.

With the support of committed Community Rehabilitation Workers, we have started to screen and identify children with special needs in the mid of October and completed the process at the end of February by screening 2229 children and identified 155 children in 88 villages, 47 panchayats and filtered it to 105 beneficiaries who are eligible to receive our service.

We wholeheartedly thank the entire **Intellect Design Arena** Team for understanding our vision to reach the unreached of such isolated and discriminated people with disabilities of our society backing them and giving them strength to be self-reliant and fight for their well-deserved rights.



## SRISTI BRAND NEW DINING CUM TRAINING HALL

A dream has come true with the grand inauguration of the Sristi Training cum Refectory Building. We sincerely thank Mailam Bommapura Adheenam Srimath Sivagnana Balaiya Swamigal, Syed Sajjadh Ali (Managing Director, Electrical Sector Eaton (India)), S. Kumar (Differently Abled Welfare Officer, Villupuram District), Chandra Prasad (Honorary Director, Pathway India, Chennai), Chitra Sha (Director, Satya Special School) for your presence and for helping to made the day an occasion we will always remember.



There is one person who deserves a very special thanks without his extraordinary generosity we would not have reached this milestone and that is **JJ, ZIJN Foundation** his commitment towards our organization has impacted a way to sustainability. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are very much appreciated.



## **BUILDING OF JOY**

9 years ago, we Sristi started with a single thatched hut which was the only place to learn, eat and sleep. As we grow, we love to upgrade our village infrastructure which allows the community and its members to improve their comfort and capacity.

We are adding one more sustainable eco-friendly building to our disabled-friendly community which is a safe and secure environment that enables effective learning and prepares our young adults with intellectual disabilities for future endeavours towards service.

We wholeheartedly thank **Dr. Sasikala Akka, Vishnu, Srishti, Gokul, Dr. Anand**, and the whole family for your generous support and we are extremely thankful and grateful for our long-lasting relationship. The building was inaugurated in the presence of Dr. Anand and Mr. Gokul.



# SRISTI COMMUNITY MEMBERS UPDATE

## PREPARING OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR ADULTHOOD AND WORKLIFE

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.

Currently 39 of our residential members are getting training in adult independent living skills and vocational training.



## ACCESSIBLE VOTING FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITY

Awareness program for accessible elections for persons with disabilities held in Sristi. We wholeheartedly thank **Mr. Kumar (DDRO)** for organizing this programme and highlighting the expanded knowledge on rights of persons with disabilities to vote. We also thank **Ms. Kamatchi (Revenue Inspector)** and Ms. Kalaiyarasi (VAO) for joining the programme.

For the first time our community members experienced the voting process by using accessible devices. We at Sristi find ways to ensure every disabled person has the opportunity to access and to lead a productive life.



People with disabilities have been fighting for long for their right to vote with other citizens and it became possible by the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act. Voting is a vital role for citizenship to ensure that persons with disabilities are guaranteed the same political rights and entitlements. 12 of our community members actively participated in the democratic process of voting.

## 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 of 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 a wide range of sports in Special Olympics in the upcoming weeks.



## WHAT A PERFORMANCE!

Every year Puducherry Nadana Iyakunargal Sangam and 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.



Dancing involves both physical and mental activity and helps improve whole body coordination. We experienced that the children find joy, confidence and fulfillment during dance and in life. This platform will inspire people all over to open many hearts to a wider world through their potential. 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. This continuous encouragement will bring a life changing impact.



## LIFE TRANSFORMATION STORY

Kaliyappan is twenty-one years old. He was born with mild intellectual disability. He lived in a remote area in a rural environment devoid of basic amenities. He studied in a non-disabled school but was unable to cope up with the atmosphere because of his behavioral problem.

Later he dropped out of the school and he also suffered from epilepsy. Once he dropped out from the school, he stayed at home most of the time and was not on good terms with his father. Without proper care his situation grew worse and he became a burden to his family.

At a very young age he faced physical, attitudinal and financial barriers because of the vulnerable background. Above everything no one supported him in such worst situation.

After three years of adult independent living and vocational training in sristi, based on his skill and interest he completed 6 months hospitality management course in mainstream college. Kaliyappan got immediate placement in a successful company. He has proved to the people who rejected him because of disability that his success is based on the special skills he acquired.

Through some third person his family came to know about sristi foundation an organization for empowering people with disabilities.

At first, he found it difficult to adapt to the community but later little by little he showed interest in farming and he learnt skills like soil preparation, planting, crop treatment, preparation and use of compost, handling and storing crops, collecting and storing seeds and now at a very young age he is a well-trained farmer.

He works with dedication and a sense of responsibility in growing plants. He leads and give instructions to his fellow members. Through two years of training, he developed his self-confidence and leadership.



**"I am Capable and Powerful"**

**- Kaliyappan**

# PROJECT UPDATES BY AREA

## WHAT WE'VE DONE IN EACH OF THE SRISTI AREAS (April 2021 - March 2022)

### 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.

Young adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities are involved in the program and engaged in the farming activities to productively channel their energy and help them 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 groups to help them to perform their farm activities and other programs accordingly.

### PROTECT YOURSELF AND EVERYONE ELSE

The dreadful news was that the Covid-19 pandemic here to stay for some time, but the good news was that we have vaccines to fight it with. We were so joyful to announce that our Sristi Community members have had our first Covid-19 (Covishield) vaccination.

We have been foreseeing the day we could all benefit from receiving the Covid vaccine which is why we at Sristi were so happy to let you know we all now have the Covid vaccination. We experienced some side effects after taking the shot but are all now doing well thanks to healthy food and a normal routine.

We are very thankful and are fortunate enough to had this added protection to keep us safe from the deadly virus.



## HOTSPOT FOR CO-LIVING

Sristi Village community has generated a paradigm-changing life experience for a person who visits our community despite any nationality; which leads to a meaningful way to live. Among various events conducted in march, Laughter therapy from Mediclown academy where the Sristi community and group of young minds have come together for a co-living experience.

"People became key to each other leading to encounter individual's beautiful inherent nature". All we did is to generate a beautiful space for both neurotypical person and person with special needs to co-living for a day, and all it happened after that was **"MAGICAL"**.

Sristi village community was accommodated with mutually supportive people, sharing work and fun and care & it's a wonderful way to age in the community. We wholeheartedly thank **Fif Fernandes, Founder/Director, MeDi Clown Academy** for this amazing workshop on Laughter therapy. At the same time, we thank **TYCL , Puducherry** for approaching us for collaboration.



## ART WORKSHOP

Kumar and Patricia (storytellers) from Kaliman ArtWorkshop visited our Sristi village with a passion for sharing the importance of art for a sustainable life. Their vision is to create a thriving society with a meaningful expression, imagination, and flourishing culture in the form of art. We felt our community members connected deeply and intuitively with art and it really helps to build their self-esteem.

Our community members enjoyed the process of expressing their thoughts and feelings through art and the outcome was incredible. Sristi is a place where we encourage each person to explore and give time and space to be creative and to experiment and express.

We Sristi family wholeheartedly thank you both for bringing our members creative ideas to come alive in the form of art.



## LOCAL LEVEL COMMITTEE MEETING

We Sristi Conducted the Local Level Committee meeting under the chairmanship of Shri. D. Mohan I.A.S District Collector cum Magistrate. LLC is a district-level committee to provide guardianship for persons with autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, and multiple disabilities under the National Trust Act 1999. Sristi Foundation is an authorized LLC-



NGO member of the committee to implement the LLC activities in Villupuram District.

During this meeting, the committee approved 6 applications from the qualified applicants. Soon, we will issue the Guardianship certificates. Thanks to District Differently Abled Welfare Officer for his co-operation and support.

## GIFT OF LIFE!

Sristi Foundation collaborated with **Villupuram Government Hospital** and organized Blood Donation Camp. We would like to thank every blood donor of our camp. Your blood is truly a gift of life for many patients. We appreciate all for your supreme contribution.



Our community members encouraged the donors throughout the camp and took part in raising awareness of the need for regular blood donations for patients in need. Give Blood, Save Life....

## ACCENTURE'S ONLINE CLASS

Sristi Community generates a healthy space for curious minds to learn, and they call our land "Temple of learning".

This season, the Accenture team from Chennai was supported our community members to go one step closer to lead a complete independent life through teaching and training.



The Sristi Village community deeply appreciates **Mr. Akash, Mr. Nevate, Mrs. Akshaya, and Team** for their enthusiasm towards our community growth.

## PONGAL o PONGAL- THE HARVEST FESTIVAL

We Sristi celebrated PONGAL, the four-day harvest festival with great enthusiasm with our community members, parents, volunteers and supporters. Pongal is not a random celebration for our farming community; it is an emotion we exhibit our gratitude to the exquisite Mother Nature for her endless benediction throughout the year but also express our gratitude to donors for their loyalty and trust they have placed on our vision.

The event was designed in a manner to evoke and expose the community members inner talents and to enjoy to their fullest. The celebration started out with a pongal message by our special guest **Shri. E. Vallavan, IAS (Puducherry)**. Followed by sweet Pongal prepared by parents, community members and volunteers in a new earthen pot. Traditional games, dance, music were performed which boosted everyone's energy. Every year Eaton India Pvt., Ltd., would celebrate the day with us and provide a grand lunch. The Pongal festival celebration in our community is a true manifestation of our rich culture and tradition. We were able to experience it vibrantly.

The event was captured by a Local Media- Mercury Channel. To watch [\*\*Click Here\*\*](#)



## DISABILITY PREVENTION AWARENESS PROGRAMME

Sristi Collaborated with National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities under Govt., of India and organized a two day flagship programme which includes disability awareness and training for families of people with disabilities in Sristi community and in a Rural village. 100 people actively participated in this programme. We came together to provide opportunities and a better life for PWDs who are still excluded from societal life.



Resource persons **Mr. Gurumoorthy (Rehabilitation Officer)**, **Mr. Robert Richard (Social Worker)** and **Mr. Muthukrishnan (Principal of Sristi School)** promoted an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. Special Guest **Shri. E. Vallavan, IAS** gave awareness on Disability Prevention.

We are so thankful for your presence. We wholeheartedly thank Special guest Mr. Iyadurai (Primary School Correspondent), **Ms. Suba Nadarajan (Ward Member)**, **Ms. Brindhasakthi Murugan (Panchayat Head)** for your presence and **Mr. Sathyamoorthy** for co-ordinating the event.



## WATER THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT

In Sristi, our community kitchen is one of the busiest areas throughout the day. To maintain the safety and hygiene, 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 problem of lack of potable water shall be more appropriately called as water management crisis rather than water scarcity.

We constructed a 50,000 litres Rain Water Harvesting Tank with the support of **Paul Albiser & Family**, 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.



## IT'S ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY SAFETY

Sristi strongly believes that a safe and secure environment is a prerequisite for effective teaching and learning for that we constructed a security cabin which will assist the community to create a welcoming experience for everyone with a maximum safety. In addition, In Sristi for power, we have solar panels for 80% of the usage and 20% we need grid power to run the community 24 X 7.

To ensure the safety of our community members we constructed a proper electrical room to provide safe operations and maintenance of the equipment and create a significant impact on distributing the electrical power.



Thank you **Ms. Shanthi Akka, U.S.A, Ms. Subha, U.S.A** for being so kind and considerate. The electrical wiring and connection support was done by **Eaton India Pvt., Ltd.** We are immensely grateful Eaton India Foundation, for your loyalty and continuous long-term collaboration over the past 4 years.

# INSPIRING STORY : WHEEL THE WORLD

Stepping out of your comfort zone when you have a disability is so much more than just having the confidence to explore many. Sivagami and Anand Raj are a couple born and brought up in Pondicherry District. Both are affected with polio and cerebral palsy but that does not limit them from achieving great things.

Currently both of them reside in Sristi as a residential staff as a care giver for children with special needs. Their dedication towards taking care of the children has shown in childrens progress.

This year, NIEPMD under the Govt., of India organized a state level exhibition for people with disabilities to display products made by people with disabilities at Madurai which paved a new way for them to explore and experience without depending on anyone.

They usually travel with friends or family but always with assistance but for the first time as a married couple with his wife a wheelchair user travelled to a new place by train. This trip made them to fall in love with travel and showed them that there's so much out there in the world.

**Sivagami said:** *"If you can't stand up, stand out", I am living with this mentality daily. I might not be able to stand physically but I can stand for anything that I wish to"*





# SRISTI SPECIAL SCHOOL

We have seen first-hand how there are no facilities for children in rural areas with intellectual and development disabilities. They struggle to get good nutrition for their health or the right education at a key development time in their life.

Sristi Special 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 a wide arena to these children.

Sristi Special School has left nothing unturned from academic excellence to life skills, order to work independently, free choice to be self-reliant individuals in their own community. All these are beautifully woven in our curriculum to create an art for each child, the art called Independent Living. Today we have a team that helps children with special needs to understand the world around them to push our limits and move towards excellence with this energetic and enthusiastic team.

## **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. We are abiding 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 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.

# 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 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.

Currently our fruit forest, vegetable cultivation, live fencing, native tree plantation through Miyawaki method, chicken poultry and cattle rearing are the major ongoing activities. The farm project is also creating an ecosystem (fruit bearing trees and birds). Cultivation of cereals and millets seasonally supplement food provision to the community.

## BIO-DIVERSITY AT SRISTI COMMUNITY



Eight years ago, when our Founder/ Director Mr. Karthik has noticed the absence of a birds, especially common crow which is naturally highly populated in local areas. It was a two-dimensional intuition that things will slowly change which helped us in our journey.

Surprisingly, A biologist and a Bird watcher **Mr. Prasanth Selva** have visited and helped us to watch birds. We finally found 18 species of birds living and stopping by in our community in this off-season. Among those are 3 endangered species and 2 global travelers and 12 native species of birds found in our community.

## FROM OUR FARM TO OUR PLATE

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's happening! Our farm is productive and is yielding such wonderful and nutritious food this year. In this season we harvested a bounty of fresh vegetables including: juicy tomatoes, spinach, lady's finger (okra) and radish.

Followed by delicious mango, banana and chikku from our fruit forest. In this year (monsoon season) we planted groundnuts – nitrogen fixing plants, in the fruit forest which act as a cover crop which helped to suppress weed growth.

To create a healthier eco-system, we have started a 'living fence project' and have planted 3000 indigenous species in our 9 acres of land. We completed this tree-planting project in November 2020. Within six months we have seen excellent growth: 95% of the plants growth and condition are good. Our community members cherish these plants and take extra care of them by spending so much time in farm. 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.

## PLANT OUR FUTURE

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 neighbors 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 members 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 1000 indigenous fruit plants in Miyawaki method.

We wholeheartedly thank **Mr.Raman, Mr. Balaji, Mr.Giridhar from Rotary Club of Madras West and Ms. Rohini and team from Ideas2IT** for your valuable contributions, **Mr.Kalaimani, Vanam Foundation,** for your guidance to implement the Plant Our Future project.



# THE VALUE OF SOIL

With broad inventiveness and insight **Shekar Sharan**, our long-term Volunteer proved that small spaces can be maximized for a greater food harvest for that he created a garden around the deep well. Within months he converted the dry land soil into an eco-friendly, productive and organic garden.

This method produces a light tith, full of nutrients in the soil and we harvested delicious vegetables even in the shade or in the full sun. Various colors of bright flowers from each plant attracting beneficial insects and playing a key role in our ecosystem.

Shekar's ultimate aim is to observe and understand nature's working process instead of going against it to create self-sufficient, self-abundant systems that benefit both people and the planet.

Shekar carefully chose the plants that withstand moisture stress and he offers the plants tender loving care. We not only find ways for a better harvest but also we are working to improve and safeguard the healthy ecosystems and the many organisms that inhabit them.

Shekar we Sristi appreciate your tireless work and thank you for giving 100% effort every day.



# CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING PROGRAM

## FOUNDATION FOR A STRONGER TOMORROW

Sristi always looks for opportunities to improve and enhance its ability to achieve its mission and sustain itself over time. We have partnered with Dhvani Foundation which envisions and strives to make the development sector more efficient and transparent to create a huge impact in the society through visionaries. Dhvani surveyed and selected 32 organizations from all over Tamil Nadu choosing the right organisation to provide training.

Through Niranthara program, Dhvani helps to build the capacity of the organisation, for compliance, governance, MIS, finance and accounting, and fundraising and marketing. The program aims at empowering organizations to perform better internally and towards the community we serve.

We wholeheartedly thank **Dhwani Foundation** for understanding our vision and dream for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and supporting us to improve sustainability, strength and scalability of our organisation.



## DELL PRO BONO

"Amazing results of great minds and technology come together", 8 hours of powerful consultation; reaping impactful insights, added clarity to our 9 years of Sristi community's journey.

Taproot Foundation (France) and Dell Technologies (India) jointly have selected the top 15 non-profit organizations from India for Pro Bono Consultation and we are one of them.

We, Sristi Foundation is grateful to work with **Dipakshi Mehandru Bhatia, Tanmay Dubey, and Piyush Pushkal** for giving your brilliant consultation experience.

### Dell Technologies Pro Bono Consulting Workshop



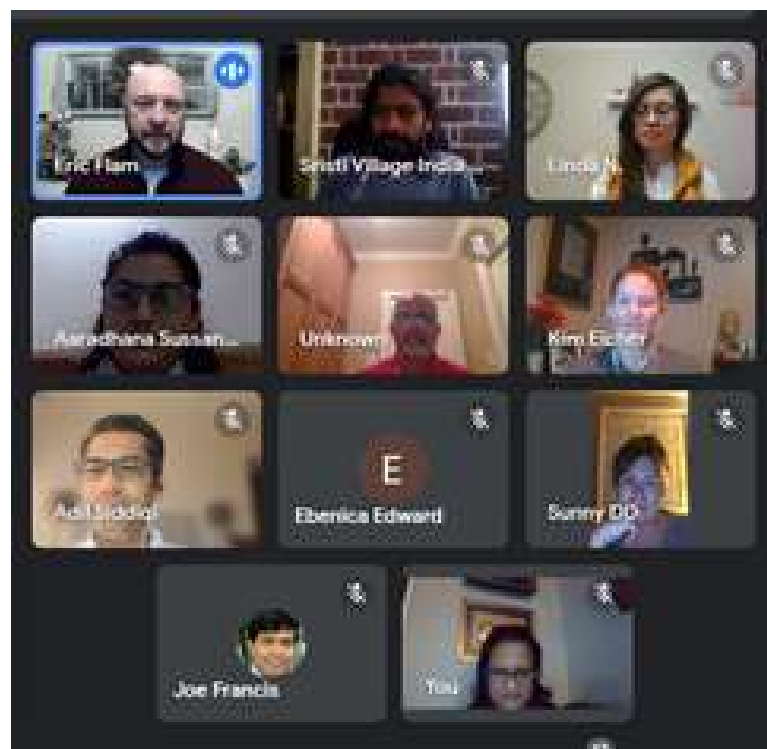
## BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

One of Sristi's dream projects is Herbal Farm and Processing Unit. To initiate this project, we were in need of a business plan and financial model for that as a blessing we found and partnered with **Bankers without Borders (USA) and Grameen Foundation** through them we got expertise volunteer support from **Wells Fargo Team**.

The team has worked with us for 6 weeks and provided a final report on **"Sristi Herbal Farming Business Plan and Financial Model"** which is a stepping resource for our project success.

We greatly appreciate the outcome and the valuable work that you have done for our community.

We would love to give a big shout-out to **Eric Flam, Kim Eicher, Adil Siddiqi, Joe Francis, Linda Nguyen, Subodh Joglekar, Sabrina Quaraishi, and Aaradhana Sussanna** for your unwavering generosity and dedication to a life-changing project for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities



# SRISTI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## PROF. YESHWANTRAO KELKAR YOUTH AWARD 2021

We want to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to **Vidyarthi Nidhi Trust and Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad** for recognizing Srستي for the outstanding service we are doing for the People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in rural areas with the **2021 Prof. Yeshwantrao Kelkar Youth Award and One Lakh Cash Prize** in memory of Prof. Yeshwantrao Kelkar who inspired thousands of students and youth for undertaking social work as a **"Jeevan Drishti (Vision of Life)"**. I feel humbled to receive the award from the great eminent person Nobel Peace Laureate **Mr.Kailash Satyarthi** an Indian social reformer who campaigned against child labor in India and advocated the universal Right to Education. It is clearly a great honor for us to receive this special award from Mr.Kailash Satyarthi which shows us that we are on the right track on building a nation without disability.



## N.S.HEMA MEMORIAL AWARD 2021

We feel immense pleasure to share the happiest news, Srستي Foundation received the **N.S 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.



We feel honored and blessed. We would like to duly recognize Srستي team who works relentlessly to reach Srستي's Vision. The award ensures that we are on the right track for the empowerment of people with disabilities.

At this juncture, we thank all our donors for their continued support, without their constant support, this would not have been possible! Thank you again for this prestigious recognition.

## ALERT BEING AWARD 2021 for - THE UNSUNG HEROES

We want to express our genuine appreciation and gratitude to ALERT organisation for recognizing Srستي Foundation with the **ALERT BEING AWARDS 2021** for the outstanding service we are doing for the People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Rural areas.



It was really humbling to receive the award from the great eminent person **Thiru. MA. Subramanian, Honorable Minister- Health and Family Welfare Government of Tamil Nadu** also in the presence of **Dr.J. Radhakrishnan, IAS - Principal secretary to the Health and Family Welfare Government of Tamil Nadu** which shows us that we are on the right track on building a nation without disability.



### ROTARY HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2021

We are deeply pleased and honored to receive **Rotary Humanitarian Award 2021**. We sincerely thank the **Rotary Club of Beach Town** for the honor. Also, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all the people who make this happen. We strongly believe that without our donor and well-wishers sristi couldn't reach this level and transform the lives of people with disabilities.

We take this opportunity to thank each and everyone who continuously supporting us and we are so grateful for the trust you have placed in us.



### UZHAVAN AWARD 2022

We are deeply pleased and honored to receive the **Uzhavan Award 2022** and the **One Lakh Cash Prize** from **Uzhavan Foundation, Chennai**. We sincerely thank **Actor Karthik, Suriya**, and their family members for their amazing hospitality, love, and support. We are so impressed with their social commitment.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the people who made this happen. We take this opportunity to thank all our donors and supporters for your continuous help and we are very grateful for the trust you've placed in us.



### GROW FUND 2022

We are delighted to share that Sristi Foundation has been selected as one of GROW's 100 – a collection of stellar grassroots organizations from across India. The GROW Fund is a first-of-its-kind initiative by **Edel Give Foundation** aiming towards building a resilient civil society and strengthening 100 grassroots organizations from across India over a period of 24 months. We are glad to be one of them!

### GLOBALEXCELLENCE AWARD 2022

Global Excellence Award is an award presented annually on International Women's Day by the **Global Trust, Cuddalore** working for the persons with disabilities that recognizes and acknowledges invincible potential of women who have contributed to the society by their great work.

Our Joint Director **Ms. Lakshmi Karthikeyan, Child Birth Educator** received **Global Excellence Award 2022** for her initiative MAGAVU (Child Birth Education Centre) which aims to empower and provide a mindful birth experience to all pregnant women and to create a healthy generation. It is a place where many families are getting educated through evidence- based knowledge by providing information for childbirth.

Also, by collaborating with Sristi Foundation Mobile Therapy Project she is raising awareness in 88 villages for the rural women on how to have a healthy pregnancy and disability prevention.





# STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2022 - 2025

We are pleased to present Sristi Strategic Plan for the year 2022-2025. It sets out the blueprint for action for the organisation for the next three years, giving the community and the Sristi team direction and inspiration to continue as a leading provider of support for the Empowerment of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in rural villages.

Our 10 years of service in the terrain has an impressive legacy, and this plan will continue to build on the remarkable work we have already achieved. Our services touch the lives of many, making a significant impact on the quality of life and opportunities for our young adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities and children with special needs.

We thank all our current partners who demonstrated their willingness to learn and adapt and shared with us the realities and limitations of work in the field in our sector.

Our special thanks go to **Dhawani Foundation** for their enormous support to build the Strategic Plan for Sristi Foundation and for their support to build the capacity of our organization through the pioneering of **Niranthara Programme**.



To Understand our Strategic Plan

[CLICK HERE](#)



# RAY OF HOPE

December 9th 2021, we launched our second documentary video **“Ray of Hope”**. We specifically focused on unpacking 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.

We just wanted to take a moment to thank you all for the unimaginable amount of support we have felt from everyone over the past 9 years. With the great support of **YATRA Media** the video has come out fabulous.

Please **[Click Here](#)** to watch and see how your contributions impact the lives of people with disabilities.



# OUR PARTNERS

***"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together" – African Proverb***

Here at Sristi, we know that partnership is key to obtaining our vision. Whether it's funding, knowledge sharing, implementation assistance or anything else. We're pleased and privileged to have partnered with the below organizations so far these years:

## National Partners

1. Aram Porul
2. Battle of Buffet BoB
3. Commissionerate for the Welfare of the Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu
4. Eaton India Foundation, Pune
5. Eaton Power Quality Pvt Ltd, Puducherry
6. FSL India
7. INCH Architects
8. Kanthari international institute
9. Keystone India
10. Loyola College, Chennai
11. Manava Seva Dharma Samvardhini Trust (MSDS)
12. Midam Charitable Trust
13. National Trust, Government India
14. NIEPMD - National Institute of Empowerment of persons with multiple disabilities
15. Orbgen Technologies, Ticket New, Chennai
16. Pondicherry University, Department of Social Work
17. Rotary club of Madras West Trust
18. Rotary Club of Madras East
19. Satya Special School
20. TYCL
21. Auroyali Sustainable architecture, Auroville
22. Intellect Design Arena, Mission Samriddhi
23. GROW Fund - EdelGive Foundation
24. Swami Vivekananda Rural Community College (SVRCC)
25. Nleague Technologies Private Limited, Telangana
26. Give India
27. Accenture
28. Sitaram Jindal Foundation
29. Dhvani Foundation
30. The Edel Give Foundation

## International Partners

1. AfID, UK
2. Ethos Agriculture, USA
3. France-volontaires, France
4. Hochschule Luzern, Switzerland
5. Kanthari Foundation, Switzerland
6. Lebenschancen (Opportunity for Life), Germany
7. Leopold Bachmann Stiftung, Switzerland
8. Planet Urgence, France
9. Verein Kinderlachen, Germany
10. ZIJN Foundation, The Netherlands
11. Bankers Without Borders, USA
12. Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Germany

# YOU HAVE THE POWER TO HELP

## Make A Difference!

### For Foreign Donors:

Name of the Account : **Sristi Foundation**  
Account Number : **39966172441**  
Name of the Branch : **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,**

: **011-23374392,  
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**



## 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!**



## **CONTACT US**

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