



Dear Friend,

As we welcome New Year 2026, we pause with deep gratitude and renewed hope to reflect on a journey that began in 2013 with a simple yet powerful dream, to build a world where **persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities** live with dignity, purpose and a true sense of belonging.

Today, Sristi has grown into a nurturing ecosystem that supports individuals across their life journey from early childhood to adulthood and ageing. This journey has been possible only because of the trust, compassion and generosity of supporters like you, along with the unwavering commitment of parents, staff and volunteers who walk beside us every day.

As we step into this New Year, our responsibility deepens. We are urgently working to build a **permanent home for women with Intellectual Disabilities who have lost parental care**.

These women face heightened risks of neglect, insecurity and abandonment. A safe and permanent home will offer them not just shelter but lifelong care, stability, dignity and a place to truly belong.

We warmly invite you to be part of this transformative journey. Your New Year contribution towards building a permanent home for women with Intellectual Disabilities will directly help create safety, continuity of care and a future filled with dignity and hope.

On behalf of the entire Sristi family, thank you for standing with us. **We wish you and your loved ones a joyful, peaceful and meaningful New Year 2026.**

With gratitude
Karthikeyan Ganesan
Founder, Sristi Foundation

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | SPECIAL FOCUS EDITION

BUILDING A HOME. UPHOLDING A RIGHT.

Women with intellectual disabilities often outlive their parents. When family care ends, safety often disappears with it. Without accessible and respectful living options, many women face neglect, insecurity and lifelong dependence not because of their disability, but because systems fail to protect their rights.

While our work continues across early intervention, education and adult support, this quarter we are spotlighting one critical priority: **building a permanent community living and skill-building home for women with intellectual disabilities.**

WHAT WE ARE BUILDING & WHY IT MATTERS?

In **2026**, Sristi Foundation will create a **Residential Skill-Building Community Home for Women with Intellectual Disabilities.**

"Not an institution, Not a shelter but a dignified community rooted in choice and belonging"

Built on purchased land with all approvals, this home will support **50 women** to live safely, gain independent living skills, access vocational training, earn income and participate fully in community life.

With referrals rising and our current home already at full capacity, the need is urgent. When women lose parental care, safety, freedom and opportunity vanish.



As Judy Heumann reminds us:

"Disability only becomes a tragedy when society fails to provide the things we need to lead our lives."

This home is our response and our commitment to transform rights into reality.

ASHTALAKSHMI'S STORY: WHY A HOME MATTERS

Ashtalakshmi is a cheerful **30-year-old woman with an intellectual and developmental** disability. After losing both her parents within two years and with a sibling who also has a disability, she was left without family care and brought to Sristi's group home.



The transition was challenging at first but with consistent care and a supportive environment, Ashtalakshmi found stability and belonging.

Today, she actively participates in daily life, dancing with friends, going to the market, buying groceries and cooking meals, building confidence and independent living skills.

Ashtalakshmi's journey shows how a safe and supportive home can transform loss into dignity, connection and opportunity and why such spaces are not optional but essential.



FUNDS REQUIRED TO REALISE THIS RIGHT



To build this rights-affirming community, we are seeking support for construction and infrastructure :

- **Rs.2,500 (30 USD) helps build one square foot.**
- You may support a living unit, training space, kitchen, or common area.
- Every contribution directly supports women's rights to housing, livelihood and community life.
- You can also support us by connecting us with CSR partners, foundations and individuals committed to gender justice and disability inclusion.

THIS JOURNEY IS NOT OURS ALONE

To our donors, parents, staff, volunteers, partners and well-wishers you are our heroes.

We invite you to stand with us in building a community that transforms rights into lived reality.

BECAUSE OF YOU, WOMEN ARE SAFER.
BECAUSE OF YOU, DIGNITY IS PROTECTED.
BECAUSE OF YOU, BELONGING BECOMES POSSIBLE.



CHRISTMAS WISHLIST

Dear Santa,

All we wish for this *Christmas*

is a *safe and loving home*

for *women with disabilities.*

You can be Santa. Donate today!

DONATE NOW

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEASON OF GIVING

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2025

CELEBRATING INCLUSION: WORLD DISABILITY DAY

Sristi Foundation celebrated **World Disability Day** in collaboration with the **District Differently Abled Welfare Department**, under the leadership of **District Collector Shri S. Shiek Abdul Rahman, IAS**. Our students participated in district-level events, won prizes, and showcased inspiring cultural performances, echoing the theme ***"Fostering disability-inclusive societies for advancing social progress."***



STRENGTHENING RIGHTS THROUGH LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP



As the **Local Level Committee (LLC)** for Villupuram District under **the National Trust Act**, **Sristi Foundation** enabled 10 families to secure **Legal Guardianship Certificates** for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

These certificates unlock access to vital government schemes and long-term security and were formally presented by the District Collector during the World Disability Day celebrations.

AN INSPIRING VISIT BY PADMA SHRI S. RAMAKRISHNAN



We were honoured to welcome **Padma Shri S. Ramakrishnan, Founder and President of Amar Seva Sangam**, to Sristi Foundation.

His visit, encouragement and reflections from over four decades of service deeply inspired our team and reaffirmed our commitment to inclusive and empowering practices.

CARING FOR THE PLANET: TREE PLANTATION DRIVE



In collaboration with **Feeding India (Zomato)**, our youth and staff planted **150 Mahogany** saplings on Diwali.

This initiative promoted awareness on ecology, sustainability and collective responsibility towards building a greener future.



HEALTH, LEARNING AND SENSITISATION



JR Medical College, Kooteripattu partnered with Sristi Foundation to organise a regular **medical camp** for our children and youth. The collaboration also provided **MBBS students** with an opportunity to understand community-based disability support.

We appreciate their social commitment and meaningful engagement.

EXPOSURE VISIT: EXPERIENCING THE WORLD OF WORK

Our members participated in an exposure visit to **Genesys Software Company, Chennai**. For many, this was their first experience of a professional workplace.

The visit helped build confidence, social skills and awareness of employment environments.

We thank the **Genesys team** for their warmth, inclusivity and support in making this experience memorable.



LOW-COST SOLUTIONS, LIFE-CHANGING IMPACT



To address limited access to assistive devices in rural areas, Sristi Foundation focuses on simple, affordable and locally made solutions such as CP chairs and standing frames.

Our team participated in **Assistive Paper Technology (APT)** training organised by **Satya Special School and MAITS UK** learning innovative methods to create low-cost

assistive devices using reinforced paper.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH THE MOBILE THERAPY PROJECT



Twice a year, parents from our **Mobile Therapy Project (MTP)**—supporting 105 children across 88 villages come together to share, learn and heal. Recent parent meetings highlighted the emotional and social challenges faced by families.



Through therapy, home visits, counselling, access to government schemes and nutrition support, Sristi continues to stand with families. We thank **Arun Praveen, Psychologist** and the MTP team for facilitating a meaningful and empowering session.

FESTIVE FLAVOURS FROM SRISTI BAKERY



Our **bakery team has been busy spreading holiday cheer!** From delicious treats to beautifully packaged goodies, our members are putting their skills to work while earning and learning. This festive season, every bite from Sristi Bakery represents **inclusion, skill and joy**.

Visit Us , Taste and Purchase to support our Mission!

GRATITUDE TO OUR HEROES



As we wrap up this year, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supports Sristi's mission.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and that the stories of growth, learning and inclusion bring you joy and encouragement. Let's continue building a world of inclusion, dignity and opportunity.

From all of us at Sristi Foundation, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026!



DONATE NOW

OUR PARTNERS



DOPAL Foundation



Murugappa education and Medical Foundation



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!



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