



ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

Society for Serving Humanity



Enabling communities,
Empowering women,
Educating children

1988 - 2012: 25 years of service, a world of difference!
Celebrating our success with the community

Dear friends,

This year, having completed 24 years, we have reached a great milestone.

In the first five years, when SSH spearheaded women groups and children clubs in villages – we built the platform for the community to unite and work together. In the second five years – by establishing avenues to create micro credit and opportunities for women to learn different skills – we gave the women, the power to meet challenges and discover the potential within them. In the third five years, we worked to federate women groups into Bharathi Women Federation and the children into Little Flower Children’s Network – we gave them a new identity to move forward. In the fourth five years, we worked on food security and sustainable agriculture to increase farmers’ income by creating access to productivity enhancing inputs and demonstrating ways to improve crop yields. And presently, we are working to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, initiating health programmes to improve the lives and well-being of women, men and children living with HIV/AIDS and creating opportunities for them to earn an income and lead a healthy life.

During the year 2011-2012, we provided education to children living with HIV/AIDS under FCP and ensured all 450 children continue their studies. Under CBR, we helped 20 per cent of the PLHAs to become entrepreneurs. Through Little Flower Children Network we ensured benefits to 2496 children. We raised ₹3,25,000 from 300 community members. There was 0 per cent drop-out in our ALC Centres and through the rest of the programmes too, we achieved measurable impacts.

Behind each number is a story of a life transformed and hope restored. All this was made possible through the continuous support from all our donors and the dedication of more than 47 staff on the ground in Dindigul and Nammakal districts covering 550 villages.

As we embark on the next 25 years in 2013, we acknowledge individuals, corporations, foundations and government organisations that were a part of our first 25 years celebration. With your support we will continue to grow and maintain an organisation that will educate the future leaders, empower the women to be the agents of change, transform the community to lead a meaningful life and create a green environment.

I hope you enjoy reading our annual report.

Sincerely

Dr Britto Selvaraj
Secretary

Vision

“We aim to ensure new social order through integration of women, children, small farmers and farm labourers, implementation of eco-friendly approach, strong coordination and cooperation of communities and service providers.”

“We work to create hunger and disease free society for the disadvantaged women and children to enable them to lead a life with justice and equality.”

Mission

Foster a Child Programme (FCP)



Children enjoying their picnic.

Reaching the most vulnerable children

SSH strives to prevent spread of HIV and cares for children and families affected by it. We support 450 children living with HIV in the districts of Namakkal and Dindigul in the areas of education, health and thus create an enabling environment to live.

Developing the potential in each child

In the districts of Namakkal and Dindigul, children living with HIV/AIDS find it difficult to attend school because their parents cannot afford to pay their fees or are left as orphans.

SSH enabled children living with HIV enrol in schools, provided school uniforms, bags, writing tables and books stands to ensure regular attendance. We enhanced their potentials and talents through competitions and life skill education training, sharpened their skills and knowledge through training in yoga, leadership, child rights and computer and boosted their enthusiasm by taking the children on picnics.

Our efforts to reintegrate drop-out children into formal schools ensured children like Veeramani who was forced to drop out of his school from 9th standard due to poverty, to continue his education.

SSH provided health education, health care services and psychosocial support. We referred children to care centres for further guidance, counselling and treatment to the centres.

450 FCP children are continuing their education

14 students have successfully passed their 12th standard exam.

34 students successfully passed their 10th standard exam.

20 children secured marks between 301-450 out of 500

Programme achievements

3 students secured more than 450 marks out of 500

1 student secured first rank scoring 482 marks out of 500



Happy children with their gifts from local donors!

Advocating for action

We conducted eight motivational workshops and seminars on child rights and child development to Self Help Groups (SHGs), youth clubs and community leaders to understand their responsibility and extend their support towards child development.

Sustained advocacy among school teachers, health care providers, government officials and community leaders led to the people availing different government schemes and obtaining voter identity cards, house patta and ration cards. Three parents were awarded a house each, under the Chief Minister's Housing Programme.

Maya's* Dream

Maya is one of the most successful students under FCP programme. The 8th grader wants to be a teacher. But two years ago, Maya almost had to give up that dream because she couldn't afford school fees.

"It's always been part of my dream to be a teacher" Maya says. "It pained me to think of having to give that up".

Maya's mother, an HIV positive, is a widow. Maya's elder brother and her two younger sisters were sent to a government hostel. Her mother's daily earning of ₹80 at a tannery in Dindigul was hardly sufficient to run the home and send Maya to school. Maya's mother decided to discontinue her studies and send her to a mill for work.

When SSH staff identified her, Maya was very depressed. After regular counselling to both, Maya enrolled herself in FCP programme and is progressing well.

** All names of people mentioned in stories have been changed to protect their identity.*



Community Based Rehabilitation Programme (CBR)

"Now I am bold enough to speak to other community members on HIV positive status, care and support services available." - **Kaliyamal, Peer educator.**



Women enjoying a 'Stress Therapy' session at a pilgrimage centre.

Strengthening community, saving lives

SSH builds awareness to combat HIV/AIDS and prevention measures, provides nutritional food, medical and educational assistance, builds skills of women as well psycho social support to 600 People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs) and 500 children in five unions each in Dindigul and Namakkal districts.

Through our 20 Alternative Learning Centres we enrolled nine drop out children into formal schools.

We have formed 126 children clubs with a total membership of 2120, strengthened 40 children support groups and have taken 397 children on a get-together programme.

Caring and protecting the vulnerable

We have trained 100 members of Family Affected by AIDS (FAA) on home based care, basics on HIV/AIDS, problems of PLHAs/CLHAs (Children Living with HIV/AIDS), Opportunistic Infection (OI) management, ART (Antiretroviral Therapy) adherence, palliative care and referral to the necessary care centres.

Building the future leaders

We provided school bags, uniforms, note books, stationery and dresses to 250 children to ensure continuity in education and reduce the drop-outs.

94% PLHAs have become members of local SHGs

84% PLHAs have joined the regional level women network called Bharathi Women Federation

₹75,000 collected by SHGs towards local resource mobilization

40% of PLHAs have become peer educators

Programme achievements

20% of PLHAs have become entrepreneurs

90% of PLHAs are integrated with Positive Networks in Dindigul and Namakkal districts

20% of our children have become peer educators



Our counsellor talks to students of Narasingapuram Govt. Higher Secondary School about prevention & spread of HIV/ AIDS and adopting healthy life styles.

We provided health care and nutrition support to 280 and 200 children respectively.

We have conducted HIV/AIDS and environmental protection awareness programmes in 30 schools.

Empowering the women

We have trained the PLHAs as peer educators, forming 40 PLHAs support groups who are inducted into Self Help Groups and Bharathi Women Federation. All community groups established by the project have strong women representation, allowing them to

learn from each other and share concerns with project and government officials.

To improve the abilities of PLHAs to earn a sustainable income we provided skill training in small entrepreneurial activities.

Shanthi who was helpless after losing her husband six months back is a confident woman today. With a loan of ₹10,000 from SSH and ₹5,000 from the local SHG, she purchased a cow. She says “Every day I get 8 liters of milk and earn ₹200/- per day.”



“It was great to get this loan to buy a cow,” says Shanthi, who comes from a small village called Malaiveppanguttai.”

A new house and new life



Maheshwari's house – prior to our intervention



A happy and healthy Maheshwari and her husband with their new house

The mere thought that she and her family wanted to commit suicide sends shivers down Maheshwari's spine. “I was depressed when I realized that my husband and I are HIV positive. We spent all our money on wrong treatment. With no hope, I thought ending our life was the best decision. Today with the support of SSH, we both are healthy, taking proper treatment and my children are progressing well” says Maheshwari.

Maheshwari is from Nellur, Athoor panchayat union and has two school going children.

With regular counseling, both recovered well. But, due to poor housing conditions, she fell sick often. We gave her ₹10,000 to repair the house.

“We sleep peacefully now and my children can study. Now I am confident to educate our children and prolong our life with ART adherence.”

Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Working with the community through clubs and federations

Our CBOs such as Children Clubs, Children's Support Groups, PLHAs Support Groups, Little Flower Children Network, Self Help Groups and Bharathi Women Federation create awareness on HIV/ AIDS and related diseases, fight against discrimination, promote healthy life styles, adopt a green environment and increase community support. These groups are independent in nature with different roles and responsibilities.

Little Flower Children Network

This federation has 149 Children Clubs (CCs) under its wings with the total membership of 2486 members.

There are Children Support Groups and PLHAs Support Groups with 303 and 280 members respectively.

149 children's clubs in both Dindigul and Namakkal.

2486 children benefit through LFCN

3 LFCN members received gold medal in Dindigul District Science Forum festival

450 tree saplings planted by CC members

Programme achievements

2 child marriages prevented

192 kitchen gardens promoted in their houses

3 children re-enrolled in regular school

Self Help Groups (SHGs)



With a loan from SSH, Karthika runs a vegetable shop.

Power of women

SSH supports especially women, and provide platforms for them to come together, access services, exchange information, analyse and raise awareness on economic, social, legal, gender and other issues concerning their daily lives and their communities.

SSH enrolls the women to the microfinance groups and provides loans and guidelines to start a business or enhance their existing enterprise. We also provide health services, agricultural and livestock support. SSH has organised 25 SHGs in rural areas.



As SSH's work evolved over the decades, we have come to recognise the unique position women hold as daughters, wives, mothers, citizens and workers. We firmly believe that social status of women is a reliable indicator of the social development of a society.

Shanthamma talks to other members on leadership qualities, gender sensitivity and saving habits. She guides them to build healthier relationships, stronger families, more vibrant communities and more just societies.

Bharathi Women Federation (BWF)



A few members of Bharathi Women Federation at a meeting

A platform for women to come together

BWF (Bharathi Women Federation) is the common forum in which all the SHGs of SSH take part by paying ₹100 each as entrance fee and contribution to the Federation. BWF has 2210 women as members. We conduct various training programmes on child rights, child development and motivate them to involve in micro credits, entrepreneurship, marketing and local resource mobilization initiatives.

Programme achievements

- Addressed and solved issues on seasonal work, unemployment, denial of property rights, stigma and discrimination, child labour, gender disparity, malnutrition and open air defecation.

- Used participatory approach like school awareness, cultural events, community sensitization, advocacy and lobbying, trainings, workshop and seminars to address and solve core issues
- Acted as platforms for bringing about major policy changes to empowerment of women and children and other disadvantaged groups in the community.
- Initiated equal pay for PLHAs under NREGS scheme, double nutrition for CLHAs under anganwadies, special groups for PLHAs under new life scheme
- Raised local resources of ₹2,50,000



Children with the gift from the community on our Local Resource Mobilisation Day.

We raise funds together
We mobilized ₹3,25,000 from 300 community members.

SSH staff identifies local donors and philanthropists, meets each person face-to-face and talks to them about the situation of children and women living with HIV. They give out brochures and close with an invitation to visit their work.

We raised funds from:

- Faith-based organisations
- School teachers
- Community members
- Anganwadi workers
- Self-Help Groups
- Panchayat Presidents
- Poultry Owners' Association and Lorry Owners' Association
- Lions Club, Rotary Club, Youth Club
- Donation boxes in schools and colleges
- Medical associations
- Jewellery shops, textiles and stationery shops

₹3,25,000
raised from 300 community members

Programme achievements

Alternative Learning Centre (ALC)



Children at one of our ALC.

Learning to succeed through different methods
SSH formed 20 ALC centers in Dindigul and Namakkal Districts with the concept of socially integrating and creating

supportive environment for the children living with and affected of HIV/AIDS and child labourers. We have 25 to 30 children in each centre. A teacher covers each centre. We ensure to enroll the drop-out children into regular schools.

Students are taught a curriculum that encompasses basic primary education as well as relevant life skills, awareness on HIV/AIDS prevalence and child labour. We provide psycho-social support, strengthen their coping mechanism towards prevention of HIV/AIDS and care for other children in the community.

0% drop-out among students

Programme achievements



Kitchen Garden

Garden fresh vegetables

The aim of the kitchen/ nutritional garden is to encourage rural communities, particularly women, to grow vegetables in their gardens to have access to fresh and nutritional food and save money. We provided seeds and saplings to 300 children and their family members last year.

Spinach, tomatoes, ginger, and a vast array of other vegetables, are turning around the lives of villagers in Dindigul and Namakkal districts. Sumathi from Thuthikulam village gives fresh vegetables and a nutritional meal to her family!

Safe Drinking Water



The women of Akkaripatti get clean water.

Clean water changes every thing

Due to failure of monsoon for three consecutive years there has been a shortage of drinking water in both the districts. Women and girls need to walk long distances to fetch water, which

is contaminated. With the community support, we have installed six bore wells in six villages.

A key element of the project is the active participation of the rural communities that benefit from the project. They help select, plan, share the cost, implement, operate, and maintain the facilities.

3 pots of drinking water for each family daily.

Time spent on fetching water is utilised in income generation activities and children are able to attend school on time.

Programme achievements

300 kitchen gardens created

Reduction in water-borne diseases



"I'm no longer dependent only on my husband's income," says Mallika, who sells saress and other materials at the village. "There will come a day when my children will go to university."

Income Generation Programmes (IGP)

Humble beginnings make strong entrepreneurs

Hope, confidence, peace of mind, and progress are just some benefits parents and care takers of children living with HIV/AIDS in Namakkal and Dindigul districts received from income generation programmes of SSH.

We provided ₹4,000 to 170 parents and care takers to start their own small self-employment trades to ensure sustained income to support their families.

The ChildPlan Academy in Namakkal



Education for all

We are in the process of completing our academy at Pottanam Village, Namakkal District which will provide quality education at affordable price and sustain our FCP project. We plan to open the school in 2013.

We envisage 600 children to get quality education in a child friendly school environment. Our preference is to educate girl children and hope to provide the facility to 300 girls who will be studying at this school by June 2015.

Apart from our regular school syllabus and scholastic programmes, we plan to have the following facilities at our school campus:

- Counseling centre.
- Vocational training.
- Evening classes for children going to other schools and child labourers living nearby.
- Spoken English classes for disadvantaged children in the evening.

Credibility Alliance Norms Compliance Governance

Executive Committee & Annual Gross Remuneration paid

Name & Address	Designation	Gross Remuneration per annum (₹)
Mrs.N.Sumathi	President	Nil
Mr.G.Antony Sahayaraj	Vice President	Nil
Dr.A.Britto Selvaraj	Secretary	154,841
Ms.Punitha	Member	Nil
Mrs.L.Mettilda	Member	Nil
Mr.Muthukumar	Member	Nil
Mrs.P.Athilakshmi	Member	Nil

No Travel reimbursements were made to Board members to attend Board meetings

Accountability and transparency

Distribution of Staff according to salary (as on March 31, 2012)

Salary plus benefits paid to staff	Male	Female	Total
<5000	0	1	1
5000 to 10000	8	35	43
10000 to 20000	2	1	3
Total	10	37	47

Remuneration of two highest paid employees:

₹10,000/-Head of the Organization

₹10,000/-Project Coordinators

Remuneration of Lowest paid Staff members :

₹4,000/- for Office Assistant

Staff details as on March 31 2012

Gender	Paid full time	Paid part time	Paid Consultants	Volunteers
Male	10	0	0	0
Female	37	40	0	20
Total	47	40	0	20

Total cost of International travel by all staff during the Year- Nil

Give India Foundation

We received a sum of ₹58,413.64/- from Give India Foundation for Care and Support project. It supported two women and 46 Children.

Finance

Statement of Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Year Ended March 31, 2012

Receipts	2011 (₹)	2012 (₹)
To Opening Balance	1,076,063.00	1,383,571.63
To Total Fund Received	11,612,426.63	34,067,241.72
Total	12,688,489.63	35,450,813.35
Payments		
By Programme Expenses	11,304,918.00	29,392,292.00
By Closing Balance	1,383,571.63	6,058,521.35
Total	12,688,489.63	35,450,813.35

Statement of Income & Expenditure Accounts for the Year Ended March 31, 2012

Income	2011 (₹)	2012 (₹)
Indian Sources	3,424,426.35	1,469,238.91
International Sources	8,884,528.00	22,309,804.00
Bank Interest	42,027.05	131,155.13
Total	12,350,981.40	23,910,198.04
Expenditure		
Project Expenses	12,197,368.40	23,387,243.04
General & Management Expenses	153,613.00	522,955.00
Total	12,350,981.40	23,910,198.04

Balance Sheet as at March 31 2012

Liabilities	2011 (₹)	2012 (₹)
Capital Funds	4,953,238.97	22,507,095.05
Ongoing projects amount	1,365,939.40	5,936,303.04
Total	6,319,178.37	28,443,398.09
Assets		
Fixed Assets	4,935,606.74	22,384,876.74
Cash & Bank Balances	1,383,571.63	6,058,521.35
Total	6,319,178.37	28,443,398.09

Identity and Values

Society for Serving Humanity is registered under the Societies Registration Act, Foreign Contribution Regulation Act and Exempted from Income Tax Under 12-A.

Registered Office

Madurai Road,
Sempatti - 624 707,
Dindigul District,
Tamil Nadu, India.

Bankers

Canara Bank,
Main Branch, Salai Road,
Dindigul - 624 001,
Tamil Nadu, India.

Auditors

Mr.M.S.Chandra Mohan,
B.A.,F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
8/6, Padma Complex,
II Floor, Gobala
Samuthiram West Bank,
Dindigul - 624 001,
Tamil Nadu, India.

Mr.A.Francis, B.Sc.,F.C.A,
Chartered Accountant,
29, LIG Colony,
Anna Nagar,
Madurai – 625 020.



Thank you!

- Andheri Hilfe e.v.,
- Net4kids
- Wilde Ganzen
- Kindermissionswerk
- JAFS
- Give India
- Local donors and our community
- And our staff that has been so encouraging

Our future plans

- Education for ALL
- Poverty Alleviation
- Health related projects especially HIV/AIDS, Adolescent Health etc.
- Inaugural of The ChildPlan Academy in Namakkal district
- Sustainable agriculture
- Natural Resource Management (NRM) & Disaster Management

Visit us!

Please call us in advance to arrange
a mutually convenient time

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