



SOCIETY FOR SERVING HUMANITY

INSPIRING CHILDREN

EMPOWERING WOMEN

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

A Note from the Director

Dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Annual Report for the year 2014-2015.

Combating the spread of HIV/AIDS and transforming those living/affected by HIV/AIDs is the heart of our work. The 'Year at a glance' on Page 2 reflects the impact created to transform communities, educate children and propel change in the lives of rural women.

Bringing a change in a child's life to realise her potential; a loan that gives a woman a sewing machine which ensures education to her son or the nutritional packets to boost the stamina of children living with HIV/AIDS – reflects the visible impacts in the community. Our CBOs continued to motivate and prepare the community to meet challenges. Children's Clubs have encouraged the children to play an active role in the community. Alternative Learning Centre is proving to be a success for those children who are poor in academic. And Bharathi Women Federation and Self Help Groups empowered women to be the agents of change as well initiated savings worth Rs. 1,69,400.



Besides, our fundraising efforts have been noteworthy. Support from the community and our CBOs have resulted in us raising Rs. 11,74,500.

ChildPlan Academy attributed quality education to children coupled with extra-curricular activities boosting the level of confidence and poise.

We are thankful to our donors and well-wishers for all that you have done in the past – and all that we hope you will continue to do in the future. Together we are determined to pursue our aim of helping those living with HIV/AIDS especially children and women. We would want to bring in a change in the lives of those – who live and work in very difficult circumstances to become healthy, independent and self-reliant members of their communities.

A committed Board and dedicated team of staff have been instrumental to achieve the results for 2014-2015. I am thankful to lead such a steadfast team without whom our achievements couldn't have been possible.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Britto Selvaraj
Secretary

2014-15 THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

4000

NO. OF PEOPLE
TRANSFORMED



450

NO. OF CHILDREN
EDUCATED



90 %
PERSONS
RECEIVED
ENTREPRENEURIAL
SUPPORT



32 NUMBER OF
SELF HELP GROUPS

484 NUMBER OF
MEMBERS



₹1,69,400
TOTAL AMOUNT SAVED

₹3,00,000
TOTAL AMOUNT OF LOAN GIVEN

₹1,174,500 TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED THROUGH
LOCAL RESOURCE MOBILISATION



She is on a
progressive path with
FCP supporting her
education

Foster a child programme (FCP)



The FCP programme supports children's education, primary medical care and offers income-generating skills for parents.

Educating children to bring change



Change happens to people in different forms. For Selvi*, change came through dance and music. From a shy, soft-spoken girl, Selvi emerged as a confident and bold individual." I thought I had no talents. Now, with the support of FCP, I am able to dance, sing, enact and perform boldly,' says the ever-bubbling 15-year-old Selvi from M G R Nagar in Dindigul.



Through FCP, we provide educational materials to 450 HIV-infected and affected children in Dindigul and Namakkal districts. Simultaneously, we extend special coaching to rural children and sharpen their skills to lead them to progressive growth. Besides, we integrate these children into our Children Clubs and their mothers become members of Self Help Groups.

Healthcare support spruce up progress

Malathi*, a 14-year old girl, would fall sick frequently due to the inadequate and well-balanced meal. At a desperate point of this family's journey, FCP offered to give Malathi the essential healthcare support and health education. Malathi, since then, has changed. Her report card shows marks in the 80s and 90s. SSH supports all 450 children to get nutritional food packages and access to ART (Antiretroviral) Centres and ICTCs (Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre) to maintain good health.



Promoting entrepreneurs



SSH provides training in specific skills and loans to 90 parents of the FCP children to be entrepreneurs. This support helps women discover their potential, encourage them to learn a trade and provide proper care to their children. "I look up to God everyday and say thank you for connecting me to SSH. I am an independent woman now" says Chitra* from Puthipuram village in Dindigul who has several goats.

Additionally, SSH gives the community an insight into available government schemes.

Our achievements:

- Supported 450 children to continue their education
- 50 children completed their 10th standard in May 2015.
- 29 children scored above 350/500 marks in 10th standard in Dindigul and Namakkal districts.
- 45 children successfully completed their 12th standard in April 2015.
- 22 children scored above 800/1200 marks in 12th standard in Dindigul and Namakkal districts.
- 50 children learnt basic computer skills
- 95 percent parents received entrepreneurial support
- No CLHA death incident.
- 65 percent of PLHAs (People Living with HIV/AIDs) became confident speakers.
- 86 percent of parents became members of SHG and BWF (Bharathi Women Federation).
- Helped the community to avail 9 widow pension, 14 house pattas, 14 NREGP, three free goats, eight ration cards, 14 old age pension, two education assistance from OVC Trust and 11 ART pension.

Threads of Hope



Life was smooth for Amutha* till her husband became dependent on alcohol. He filled his days with wasted activities instead of finding ways to meet the needs of his family. "My life shattered when I came to know that he is HIV positive too," says Amutha holding back her tears. In the meanwhile, the Lottery Shop that her husband worked came to a closure. Due to continuous illness, her husband is unable to work.

Amutha became the sole breadwinner. "I was even thinking of discontinuing my son's studies" she adds.

"My life took another turn when I met the team of SSH. They encouraged me to become a member of Dindigul PSG and also the Bharathi Women Federation organized by SSH. I became a member of both and attended a three months course in tailoring in Dindigul. Thereafter, I applied for an Income Generation support from SSH. I underwent a three-day intensive training on tailoring. At the end of training, I got a sewing machine too. I have my sewing unit at my house and earn an income of Rs.150 to Rs.200 daily. I can take care of my HIV positive husband and educate my son as well. I am thankful to SSH for their timely support and guidance of the FCP project staff.

Community Based Rehabilitation Programme



SSH creates awareness and educates the community on prevention measures of HIV/AIDS. Besides through CBR, we provide educational support, vocational training and strengthens the activities of CBOs.

Results that resonate

- All 800 children have support systems in place for their progress
- Teachers welcome and care for CLHAs (Children Living with HIV/AIDS) and CAAs (Children Affected by AIDS).
- 40 percent of our children excel in school and extra-curricular activities
- No death incident occurred among target children

"When I joined the CBR Project in last January 2014, my CD4 level was just only 9. But after I attended nutrition training conducted by SSH my CD4 estimation increased to 950 – more than 100 times what I had in January 2014", Eswari, a positive speaker from Chinnalapatti, Dindigul*

Propelling Change

All 1000 PLHAs have accessibility to regular medical care, food and nutrition, means of monthly income, decent housing and security measures which comprise of the Minimum Package of Service (MPS).

The CD4 level of CLHAs increased by 90% (from 700-1800)

50 percent of PLHAs became positive speakers/peer educators.

53 PLHAs work at National Rural Livelihood Mission, NGOs, Post Office, Panchayat Office and Government Hospitals.



Nutritional support given to children to overcome malnutrition



Family enrichment programme to motivate parents.

Goats bring ray of hope for Kalyani*



"I have no education – I have never stepped into a school and I didn't have any skills to do any work," says the 42-year old Kalyani who lost her husband too due to HIV.

Struggling to cope up with challenges, she approached SSH for help. She is a beneficiary of our programme since 2014 and has undergone a series of training. After counselling and ART, she gained strength to do work.

"Since I had previous experience in rearing goats, I got support from SSH to buy 4 goats. Today, I have seven goats. I am also a member of the local SHG. My children received the educational loan and all my three children continue their studies. We are happy for the changes in our lives" says the confident and comfortable Kalyani.

Community-Based Organisations (CBOs)



The CBOs formed by SSH envision to educate children, reduce the risk of HIV infection; fight stigma and discrimination; strengthen women's activities through SHGs and offer insights into available government benefits.

"I was bitter about my life after I was tested HIV positive. I kept a low profile. Fortunately, Bharathi Women Federation (BWF) counselled and motivated me," says 40-year old Nagamma*. Nagamma is now a confident speaker and a powerful voice to drive other such women in the community.

Each of our CBOs from Bharathi women Federation (BWF), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Children's Clubs (CCs), Little Flower Children Network (LFCN), Children Support Groups (CSGs) and PLHA Support Group (PSGs) are instrumental in making women and children lead a healthy and prosperous life.

As on 31 March 2015, strength of CBOs stand as follows:

S.NO	Name of CBO	No. of groups	Members
1.	CC-Children Clubs	198	3750
2.	LFCN - Little Flower Children Network	---	3940
3.	PSG-PLHA Support Group	62	310
4.	CSG-Children Support Group	67	535
5.	ALC-Alternative Learning Centre	20	847
6.	SHGs-Self Help Groups	84	1176
7.	BWF-Bharathi Women's Federation	---	3000

Bharathi Women Federation (BWF)



Bharathi Women Federation facilitates the rural women to empower themselves to come out of their shadows into a life of dignity and value.

Under the mentorship of SSH, the group meets every week to save together a small amount of money, equip themselves with practical knowledge about staying healthy, legal issues, livelihood/ income-generating activities and leadership training.

With more than two thousand women as members, BWF gains strength every day. "Recently, we held a campaign against illicit alcohol sold in the village. We are proud that we were able to stop it," says a vibrant and will-powered Katchumani*, who heads the Federation. Katchumani knows the pain of many mothers, wives and daughters who suffer abuse, exploitation in a male-dominated society that treats women as second-class citizens.

“We have found solutions to educate girls, stop the screening of obscene films in villages, demand equal wage for women laborers and eliminate hurdles in political participation of women,” adds another member. Besides, the group has fought over the encroachment on common property and damage to ecology/environment, and caste discrimination.

Availed the following facilities from the Government Schemes.

- 25 free pattas
- 20 individual toilets (worth of Rs.11,000/- per toilet)
- 4 green houses (worth of Rs.2,30,000/- per house)
- 25 widow pension
- 19 Selva Mahal savings schemes.
- 15 milch animals and 25 goats

BWF was instrumental in:

- Installing 10 street lights
- Constructing a Way Bridge
- Formation of a ration shop
- Getting educational support from unorganized sectors

BWF successfully:

- Admitted two child labourers to school
- Eradicated malpractices in a ration shop at Vadamadurai
- Prevented six early marriages
- Raised local resources of Rs 2,10,000

Kitchen Gardens



In the year 2014-15, SSH has promoted 375 kitchen gardens.

“I am proud of my kitchen garden,” says the 12-year old Shankar* displaying a variety of vegetables in his kitchen garden. What began as a hobby has started to generate a small income for the family as well.

Childrens' Club



Children's Clubs run by SSH, increase awareness of HIV/AIDS, promote fellowship, leadership, volunteerism, life coping skills among the children. It is a group of 15 to 25 children coming together from one particular village. With a membership of 3750 children, the club help each other in school curriculum and extracurricular activities; improve their leadership skills and other individual talents; involve in civic amenities for the development of village; and for social integration of HIV children with other normal children.

LITTLE FLOWER CHILDREN NETWORK- LFCN



LFCN is the apex body of children's clubs at the district level. LFCN is the common forum in which all the CCs take part by paying Rs.10 as an entrance fee for each member contribution to the network. SSH has formed children's clubs in village level, cluster level, union level and finally LFCN at the district level with a total membership of 3940 children in Dindigul and Namakkal districts.

Achievements:

- Prevented two early marriages with the support of Child Help Line and 1098.
- Planted 2500 saplings
- Helped seven child labourers to continue their studies

Children Support Group (CSG)

Children support groups provide an opportunity to share problems and offer mutual support and furnish a safe space for Children Living with HIV/AIDS to become visible. Support groups build the self-esteem and prepare them to be open about their HIV status.

20 CSGs are formed with the total membership of 104. This group provides a welcoming environment to experience a sense of solidarity to its members. Each group consists of 6-7 HIV-infected/affected children from nearby villages.

Achievements:

- Created hostel facilities for three CIA children
- Helped two dropouts CIAs rejoin school
- Six children became peer educators in Children's Club

PLHAs support group (PSG)

62 PSGs consisting of 6-8 members in each group meet once a month. They create space for sharing and exchanging new information among the PLHAs. We have formed 62 PSGs consisting of 6-8 members in each group. The total membership of these PSGs is 310.

"I didn't know about any of the government schemes available until I joined this group," says the 40-year old Hema*. She now receives all the government entitlements which have saved her from borrowing money from money lenders.

The members meet once a month and discuss their health, education, economic & social improvements and they also guide themselves towards availing Government Schemes and networking.

Achievements:

- 12 PSG groups, integrated with normal women groups have their savings accounts in Banks
- 15 PLHAs have secured employment in Puthuvazhvu Thittam, Post Office, Panchayat Office, Hospitals, and other NGOs.
- 4 PLHAs who received training in tailoring through Puthuvazhvu Thittam make a decent income

Local Resource Mobilisation



SSH has established a good rapport with local philanthropists who help us in many ways. We request these donors to contribute their resources in terms of money, labour and materials towards providing a comprehensive care and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

This year we collected the Local Resources in the form of a tailoring machine for a woman with HIV/AIDS, stationary, uniforms, payment of school fees and medical expenses for children with HIV/AIDS children to the tune of Rs.1,174,500/- (Rs.914,000 previous year). This was a collective effort by all staff of SSH and the CBOs.



Income generation programme



In Batlagundu, a PLHA finds hope in the midst of another painful situation. She recently lost her HIV-positive husband. Left with a 10-year old child and no livelihood skills, Murugeshwari*, turned to SSH's Income Generation programme for help. Through the training, she came to know the different trades she can use and the availability of credit facility. With a loan of Rs.10,000 given by SSH, Murugeshwari sells flowers making a small profit. She is confident about educating her son. "If not for SSH's help, I wouldn't know what would have happened to me and my son," says a smiling 42-year old Murugeshwari.

Achievements

- Provided Rs 10,000 each to 40 PLHAs to start their small businesses such as petty shop, selling clothes, flowers and vegetables shop, goat and cow rearing.
- Each member saves approximately Rs.200
- Health status of family members improved
- Children attend school regularly
- Health status of family members improved.
- Families have nutritious meals, including milk – previously not within their purchasing power.

Self Help Groups (SHGs)



The poor women in both Namakkal and Dindigul live in a very fragile existence. A single calamity or crisis such as an illness or death in the family can easily wipe out everything. To recover from such heavy blow, the support from SHGs help to overcome economic setbacks and be equipped to create sustainable livelihoods. Each member saves a specified amount and from the accumulated savings, members can take loans for a number of reasons, among them: to start a small business, build a house, buy a piece of land, or pay wedding expenses. As Radha*, one of the members says, "Together, we are dreaming of a future that is different from our past".

Achievements

- Total no. of SHGs 152
- No. of women involved in SHGs 3760
- No. of women who availed loan 370
- Total amount saved by SHG members - Rs 4,44,000
- Total amount saved by 125 PLHAs Rs.1,50,000
- 125 PLHAs are integrated into 37 SHGs
- Loan of Rs 5,000 each offered to 50 PLHAs at one percent of interest

Alternative Learning Centre - ALC



The remoteness of villages and poor economic status of parents prevent the wishes of children living with HIV to go for special coaching or tuition. ALC provides a comprehensive environment for children to learn through innovative activities.

Our ALC students showed a marked improvement in academic and extra-curricular activities. There is significant progress in slow learners due to the remarkable attention and coaching given by the teachers. Extracurricular activities and sports play a crucial role in shaping and encouraging the students.

Achievements

- Total no. of ALCs - 20
- Total no. of children - 801
- 2.4% of dropout children re-enrolled -20
- 72 children have passed 10th std scoring 350 marks
- 6 children securing 400 marks received prizes and certificates from Tamil Nadu Science Forum, Dindigul.
- 43 children have passed 12th std and studying higher education.
- Children from different ALCs won prizes for compiling poems, essay, Kabadi and Go-Go.



“Being in ALC has brought me pride to know that how valuable and important I am today. I have discovered my talents and am looking forward to making my dreams come true.”

Krishnamoorthi*, a student of ALC

The ChildPlan Academy



Children enjoy their
learning at TCA

The ChildPlan Academy CBSE School



The ChildPlan Academy was established in 2013 by Society for Serving Humanity (SSH).

Vision:

To provide Quality Education to children at an affordable cost.

Mission:

To produce and provide an excellent quality base for scholastic and overall development of its inmates.



193 Children in Kindergarten to Class VIII

15 Teaching staff

8 Non-teaching staff



Key achievements of TCA

Academic Excellence:

“Learning beyond books” is our theme to give the children an opportunity to have practical experience of the learning from books and classrooms. To demonstrate this, we took the children on study tours to various places including Tanjavur Brahadeeshwar temple, Kallanai dam, Sago Factory, Yercaud Botanical Garden and Museum.

To ensure our students are equipped to face any challenge, we have sessions on topics including fine arts, leadership skills, life skills enrichment program, career planning and development.

Extra-curricular activities:

- Provided Life skill training for teachers and children by various resource persons from different parts of Tamil Nadu.
- Included drawings, projects, assignments related to their subjects based on the play-way method of teaching.
- Introduced French as a language.
- Provided in-house training to teachers on personality development, counseling, teaching pedagogy and ART workshop.
- Eco Clubs of the school promoted “One Child One Tree” in the TCA Campus.
- Organised field trips/exposures related to school subjects.
- Encouraged the children to participate competitions such as Spell Bee, Quiz, District level Karate Tournament and State level Silambam.



Credibility Alliance Norms Compliance 2015

Governance

Executive Committee & Annual Gross Remuneration Paid

S. No	Name and Address	Designation	Gross Remuneration per annum (Rs.)
1	Mrs. N. Sumathi	President	Nil
2	Mr. Muthukumar	Vice President	Nil
3	Mr. A. Britto Selvaraj	Secretary	4,93,851/-
4	Ms. Punitha	Member	Nil
5	Mrs. P. Aathilakshmi	Member	Nil
6	Dr. B. Princely jeyakumar	Member	Nil
7	Mr. A. Lawrence Santiago	Member	Nil

No Travel reimbursements were made to Board members attending Board meetings.

Accountability and transparency

Distribution of Staff according to salary (as on March 31, 2015)

Salary plus benefits paid to staff	Male	Female	Total
<5000	0	0	0
5,000 to 10,000	2	22	24
10,000 to 20,000	4	20	24
Total	6	42	48

Remuneration of Lowest paid Staff members :
Rs.4,000/- For Watchmen

Staff details as on March 31, 2015

Gender	Paid full time	Paid part time	Paid Consultant	Volunteers
Male	6	0	0	0
Female	42	42	0	34
Total	48	42	0	34

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

Finance

Statement of Receipts & Payments Accounts for the Year Ended March 31, 2015

Receipts	2014 (Rs)	2015 (Rs)
To Opening Balance	3,414,797.30	3,708,522.79
To Total Fund Received	27,271,022.65	26,666,985.92
Total	30,685,819.95	30,375,508.71
Payments		
By Programme Expenses	26,977,297.16	29,198,308.62
By Closing Balance	3,708,522.79	1,177,200.09
Total	30,685,819.95	30,375,508.71

Statement of Income & Expenditure Accounts for the Year Ended March 31, 2015

Income	2014 (Rs)	2015 (Rs)
Indian Sources	4,013,014.50	6,938,406.62
International Sources	22,365,448.92	19,825,366.45
Bank Interest	104,381.81	110,477.01
Expenditure over income	900,053.44	865,137.04
Total	27,382,898.67	27,739,387.12
Expenditure		
Project Expenses	26,601,467.67	26,794,917.12
General & Management Expenses	781,431.00	944,470.00
Total	27,382,898.67	27,739,387.12

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2015

Liabilities	2014 (Rs)	2015 (Rs)
Capital Funds	24,169,117.28	25,000,902.25
Ongoing projects Amount	3,007,428.17	831,882.50
The Childplan Academy	1,289,928.00	1,398,118.00
Total	28,466,473.45	27,230,902.75
Assets		
Fixed Assets	24,521,290.66	25,506,640.66
The ChildPlan Academy	236,660.00	547,062.00
Cash & Bank Balances	3,708,522.79	1,177,200.09
Total	28,466,473.45	27,230,902.75



Visit us

Please call us in advance to arrange a mutually convenient time

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