

## NEWS LETTER – QE: 12 SERIES

Jan2011-March 2011.

The 12<sup>th</sup> series of our e-News Letter is coming to you, in the background of a very happy and eventful quarter for Adarsh. The reasons for our happiness will be understood as you go along the report. We hope it contains details that you would like to have, how the institution is progressing in different areas, the important activities during the quarter etc. As usual we would request for your feedback and suggestions on how to make the news letter more informative & interesting .

### “MAGIC IN ADARSH”

During the quarter, perhaps the most memorable and event of consequence was a Magic Show , held on 12th of February on behalf of Adarsh , at Gokulam Inn , a very well known hotel in Cochin. The show was conducted by Shri Gopinath Muthukad, who has established himself as one of the leading magicians of the state, perhaps even in the country. The programme was a very impressive one, with a very high degree of technical excellence and held the audience- old and young alike spell bound with its timings and variety of programmes. Shri Gopinath has already carved a niche for himself among his viewers, particularly among growing children with his apt parables and quotations from wise sayings. He is also known for his initiatives in social problems like alcoholism. He had been associated with Adarsh from September 2009 and after his very first interaction with our children had very generously offered a **FREE** programme for us. His visit to Adarsh later perhaps convinced him of our sincere efforts. But with his busy schedules in and out of the country and our own limitations, it took us over a year to organise this show. Though late, from several points of view, we are very happy that it happened . Through the large audience of over a 1000 people we could project different aspects of the problem of Disability in children- its magnitude, the need for a very scientific approach to it and the need to get all sections of society involved in the work for the maximum benefit. Collections through ticket sales, through advertisements in the souvenir brought out on the occasion, through sponsorship for the programme and through individual donations were according to our expectations- roughly over Rs 35 lakhs, helping us to add to the Corpus Fund a good amount. We are very grateful to all those who helped us. **Of course special mention has to be made of Shri Gopinath and his wonderful team and Messrs.Performa Learning Compan,Unites States of America, Shri Roshan Mathew in particular, for printing the souvenir free of cost.**

At the venue in addition to the magic show, we also arranged

- i. Release of a book by one of our students Edwin Prince ( a Cerebral Palsy affected boy) of the 10<sup>th</sup> std -“ Cricket-My Soul." Edwin has always been a keen follower of cricket and he was generously helped by his class teacher and others in this effort. **He is now waiting for financial help to get it printed and brought out.** The book was released by Shri Gopinath

Muthukad handing over a copy to Shri.K.Neelakantan, our Chairman Emeritus.

- ii. Release of the first copy of the Souvenir by Shri Haroon Rashid, Judge of the High Court of Kerala, one of our Trustees to Shri. N.Krishnan, one of our 2 Patrons who had kindly come down with family specifically for the programme.
- iii. Awarding 2 of our staff the **Ati Visishta Puraskar** the highest award we have to **Ms.Ciya George** , Head of Administration & Finance . In a short period of about a year she was able to organise the running of the Centre at Kureekad on very efficient lines and increase our contacts vastly & **Ms.Asha Babu** , Co-ordinator of our **Child Developmental Evaluation, Intervention & Research Centre** in the city. During her tenure of about 19 months, she was able to expand the activities of the centre and was able to expand the scope of the work of the Centre and to improve its financial position.

**Adarsh owes a lot to these two ladies for their sincere and efficient work.**

- ❖ **Shri Kochouseph Chittilappally is a well known personality in Kerala , not merely as the Managing Director of V Guard industries but also as a great human being.** Very recently, he donated his own kidney to someone in need but did it so very thoughtfully that virtually a "chain of kidney donors" was established, benefiting at least 4 people in the present instance. Adarsh was the lucky recipient of his munificence recently when "Thomas Chitillappilly Trust" donated Rs 9 lakhs to purchase a van for the use of our children to and from Adarsh and their homes. This has enabled us to replace a hired van till then in use for this purpose, saving about Rs.40,000/-every month. **We still have to have 2 hired vans, one a 18 seater and another a 8 seater for the Home Based Rehabilitation group.**
- ❖ **The Home Based Rehabilitation project** started in 2009, with some amount of hesitation because of its novelty, has really proved to be a great success. One team was initially set up in 2010 with a Physiotherapist in charge and two teachers. It is now attending to 40 children. Encouraged by the improvement in the condition of the children, covered by the scheme as observed by us and further bolstered by the feedback from the parents of these children, in December 2010 we embarked on a second team which is attending to another 35 children. Of course, the project was possible only by the support of BPCL -KR who have been supporting both these teams financially all through. **Shri Nandakumar ED BPCL-KR** deserves a special thanks from us. His understanding of our work in detail is what has made this project possible and its efficient running entirely due to the dedication of the staff involved-the Coordinator, the Physiotherapists and the teachers. With sufficient financial

support, we are now confident that we can extend this service to more panchayats and more children

### **ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES.**

- ❖ We started off new year 2011 with 'Bhavana 2010' at TOC-H school Auditorium, Vytilla on 08.01.2011. Our teachers had taken much effort in training and preparing our children for the competitions and they bagged many prizes.
- ❖ 40 students participated at the sports for physically challenged at St. Peters Higher Secondary school , Kadayirippu organised by Lions club. We won the Runners Up Trophy with 121 points.
- ❖ A token of appreciation for the noble services rendered by Adarsh Charitable Trust, towards the well being of children –physical disabilities. His Excellency the Governor has sanctioned functional assistance of Rs.1,25000 from discretionary grant to enable the Trust undertaking various welfare schemes.
- ❖ A total at Rs.3,58,175/- has been received from Give India in last quarter, a record in the history of our association with them for over 4 years. Their continuous support has been helping us do a lot to the needy children as well as to encourage us to forge ahead.

### **THERAPY & EDUCATION**

- ❖ Meetings with teachers of schools from schools from which children took part in the examinations under the NIOS syllabus were held to discuss the nature of examination syllabus & the other nitty gritty for proper and smooth conduct of the examination at our centre, , the only one accredited centre in the Ernakulam district. These examinations were held from 16.03.2011 to 28.03.11. 148 Students from 09 schools attended examinations for A, B & C level., including 27 students from Adarsh.
- ❖ Field work for the Autism division was arranged to Hill Palace, 35 children & 5 staff members along with the parents participated in the field work.
- ❖ Workshop on early Intervention & Integration & visual stimulation was conducted at Adarsh by Mrs.Vimala & Mrs. Sujatha experts from Vidyasagar, Chennai.
- ❖ Therapy to these Children continues to be given with greater emphasis on quality improvement by team of dedicated physiotherapists, speech therapists & well trained assistants . The improvement noticed in the children needs to be appreciated, a credit to the sincere and dedication to work of the team of physiotherapists , speech therapists & well trained assistants . Records on this are being maintained and case studies on each child is discussed at weekly staff meetings to have a proper involvement of each staff and to view where the child stands.

## **ACTIVITIES**

- ❖ Few of our Children participated in the 'Tharoltsavam' a Programme at Kairali TV & witness the shooting of the programme. This was telecasted on March. 28<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **World Women's Day**  
The team of Tharoltsavam visited Adarsh and arranged a musical gathering for our children , staff & parents. The team included Mr.Rajeev Rangan, Mr. Kiran Raj, Mrs. Beena Antony, Mr.Manoj, Mr.Ansil, Ms. Thesni Khan,. Payasam was served to all on that day.
- ❖ Monthly classes on relevant subjects be it any stream of therapy handled in the Centre are taken by teachers to the staff which is of great use in handling children and in getting a more detailed idea of the cases.
- ❖ An exhibition of products of Vocational Unit was arranged for sale in Town Hall organized by Prathyasha & Cochin shipyard. The response of the visitors to the efforts of our children gives us the encouragement that the Vocational training Unit has finally caught on and do much more.
- ❖ All the students & staff along with the parents went on a picnic to the children's park ,Ernakulam. The authorities of the park were kind enough to open the venue for our children besides their regular timings.
- ❖ Like last year, this year also we have started our day care facilities for siblings & children of our staff at the centre from March 22<sup>nd</sup> for a month. Games & activities have been organized.

## **NO OF STUDENTS**

The number of children at the Centre in Kureekad remains the same as in the earlier quarter

### **At Adarsh Rehabilitation Centre, Kureekad**

<b><u>Age Group</u></b>	<b><u>Cerebral Palsy</u></b>	<b><u>Autism</u></b>	<b><u>Multiple Disability</u></b>	<b><u>Down Syndrome</u></b>	
0-5	28	7	2	4	
6-10	24	25	30	6	
11-15	23	9	24	1	
Above 15	13	0	12	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>208</b>

### **At CDEIRC, Vennala**

Special Education - 35 students

Physiotherapy - 29

Speech Therapy - 15

**Total** - 79

However, there has been an unprecedented rush of admissions for the academic year June 2011-April 2012. 13 children have already registered for admissions, out of whom majority are affected by Autism . Our Clinical Psychologist Ms.Prabaha Ranganathan who handles the Autism Section, recently attended a seminar in I CCONS, Shoranur and during her interaction with experts and those running Autism centres elsewhere has gathered the distinct impression the programmes in Adarsh are definitely to superior to what others are offering and are more child focussed. That, perhaps, explains the increase in the number of children seeking admission to Adarsh, Nevertheless we often feel that we are ourselves still groping in the dark , being aware of the immense scope for further improvement. We would earnestly request experts, not merely technically so certified but everyone who has more ideas being a parent or having been associated with such a child to advise us on any aspect that they feel they can do so, their experiences, what they have come across etc.

### **DONATIONS**

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Shri.V.Narayanan.