

ANNUAL REPORT
2018 - 2019



Auxilium Rural Under-Privileged Women and Youth Empowerment

No. 1/2, United India Colony, Mazzarello Convent,
Kodambakkam, Chennai - 600 024.



*Towards an Effective Change in the Life of the Under-Privileged
Especially among Women, Children and Youth*

Message from Provincial – INM



I rejoice in the growth of ARUWYE and I recognize that this report for the year 2018 highlights some of the accomplishments and proceedings of the past year towards the well being of children, youth and women. I congratulate and appreciate the hard work rendered during the year and the efforts made to make a difference in the society especially for the vulnerable.

I wish God's choicest blessings on all the staff of the organization and those who are associated with it for the growth of this organization.

My sincere thanks to Sr. Shermila K, for her tireless dedicated service for the upliftment of the poor and the most needy.

I take this opportunity to wish ARUWYE to continue to be a beacon of hope for the less fortunate and less privileged children, youth and women in the society following the footsteps of our founders.

Sr. Nirmala Lazar

Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala
Provincial
Chennai - INM

From the Director's Desk



Dear Friends, With grateful heart I thank each and every one for making 2018 yet another remarkable year for ARUWYE! It completes a decade of service to the people. Our dedicated staff have done an incredible job by expanding our reach while strengthening our programs and services.

We have once again added more value to our services by reaching out to people in the field directly, empowering women groups, focusing on children and youth employability.

The year 2018 had been an eventful year for our Center. As an organization, we strive to do our best every day to serve the public in an efficient and an effective manner possible.

In this report, we highlight our Centre's accomplishments and activities in realising our vision to ensure quality education with the knowledge on Acts pertaining to children and women, and job placements for youth.

I hope you enjoy reading this report which gives you some insights about our work and the progress we have made as an organisation in partnership with others during 2018.

Our staff are our greatest resource and I'm proud to say that we have a committed team working for the success of our centre. I place my sincere gratitude to my Provincial Sr. Lazar Maria Nirmala and her team for the guidance, encouragement and constant support rendered towards accomplishing the objectives of our centre. Last but not the least, I thank all our supporting agencies and their contribution for helping us to move forward with our services.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sr. Kanikai Raj Shermila".

Sr. Kanikai Raj Shermila

Social Development Coordinator - ARUWYE



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Introduction

ARUWYE Social Development Centre is a Non-Governmental, non-profit voluntary organization, engaged in social activities registered under Societies Registration Act with a main objective to improve the quality of life of the underprivileged and marginalized section of the society.

We are determined to replace their despair with hope, their fear with security, and their ignorance with knowledge. ARUWYE is working among the underprivileged women, youth and children in five districts of Tamil Nadu. We strive for a structural change, at larger policy level and at community level, dealing with people's personal opinions, belief systems and choices in bringing about a transformation in the society.

ARUWYE is engaged in promoting and providing quality education among the socially and economically deprived section of the society. In addition, this activity helps us to bring out children's latent talents, promote vocational proficiency, personal character and social values so that they become self-reliant and responsible citizens. We aim to strengthen responsible people's engagement with policy-making at local and regional level.

Vision

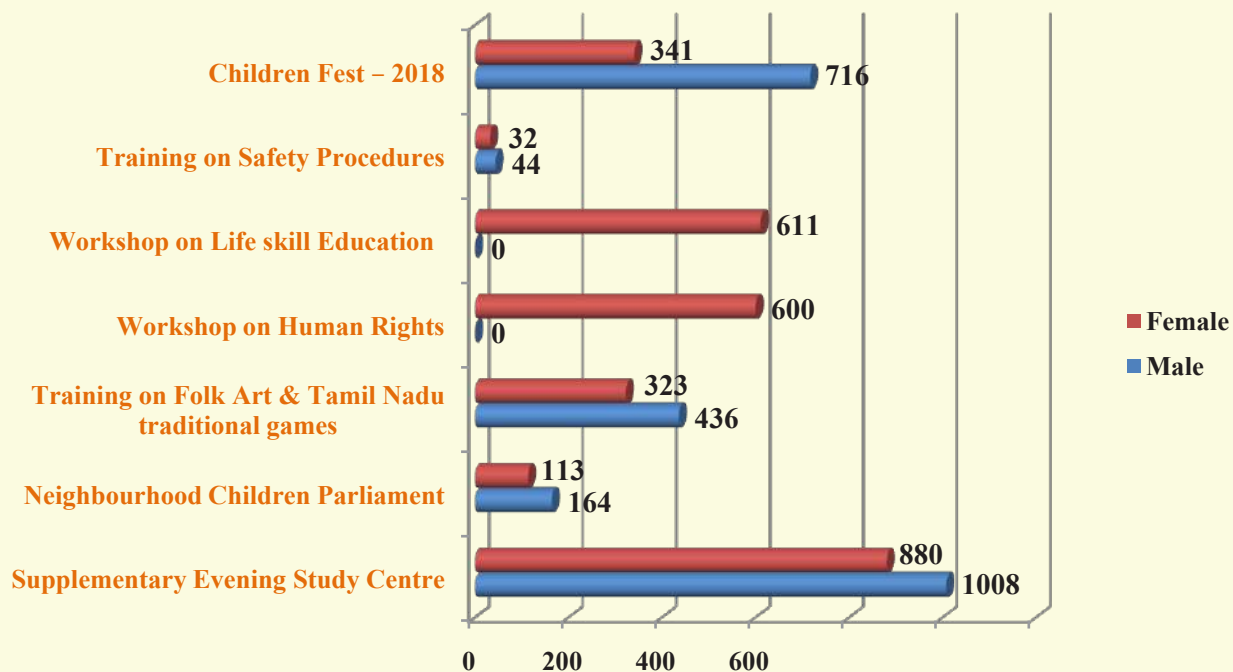
ARUWYE envisages a just, harmonious and eco-friendly society where the internal and sustainable development of the marginalized is ensured.

Mission

ARUWYE is committed to enhance the capacities of the marginalized children, women and youth by raising awareness on their rights and promoting livelihood and pro-actively engaging with state institutions that impact them significantly, by networking with likeminded groups and organizations engaging in lobbying and advocacy.



Statistical Data of Children Activities



Supplementary Evening Study Centre (SESC):

'Education and Skill Development' are the most fundamental pillars of a functional society. We have been working among children coming from the villages and the slums of Chennai Province (Chennai, Villupuram, Vellore, Thiruvanamalai and Erode) who belong to the deprived section of the society. We enable them to exercise their basic rights to acquire a secured future through wholesome education.

We provide quality education through SESC on class room subjects, basic life skills along with nutritional supplement for a comprehensive growth. Since 2002, around 25,000 poor children have been helped through this programme.



Neighbourhood Children Parliament (NCP)

A 'Neighbourhood Children's Parliament' functions at the neighbourhood level. NCP draws our attention and enhances our participation in the issues of importance. They motivate children to come together, discuss together, decide together and involve together in action with fun. These Parliaments help the children to develop their leadership skills and also contribute to community development. More than 500 children of age from 6 - 14 of both the sex take part in this activity to become responsible citizens of this country.

The benefits of NCP:

- As a group, the children can share their common concerns, debate over them and arrive at plausible solutions which can then be shared with those adults who can make a difference in the community.
- As a group, the children can gain greater importance from adults in decision making processes.
- Membership in the group can enable the children to build their confidence so that they can help other children and adults with suggestions on how to better their life conditions and prospects.
- Youth clubs are formed through Children Parliament, allowing the youth to come together for productive purposes.
- As a group, the children can engage in activities such as annual sports, village get-togethers, excursions to developed villages and regions by which they can gain knowledge and experience for their community development.



Training in 'Folk Art and Tamil Nadu Traditional Games'

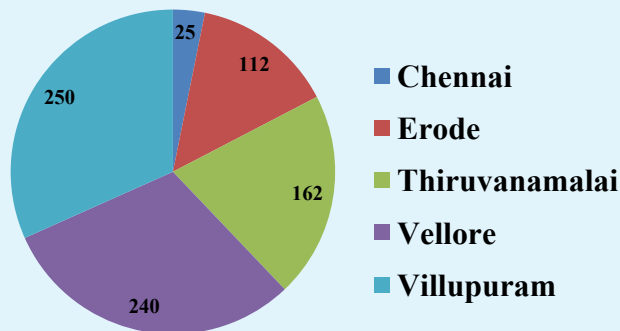
Tamil folk culture refers to folk arts and crafts of the Tamil people. Folk arts and crafts are an integral part of the Tamil culture. Tamil folk arts include music (Nattupurapattu), dance, games, crafts, food, sculpture, costumes, stories, proverbs, and mythology.

Tamil folk art is characterized by its local, participatory, and open source character. Tamil folk culture often expresses village sensibilities, where most Tamils historically lived. As this culture and art forms are disappearing gradually, there is a need for promoting them among the children today. So far, we have trained children in five districts of Chennai Province in folk art.



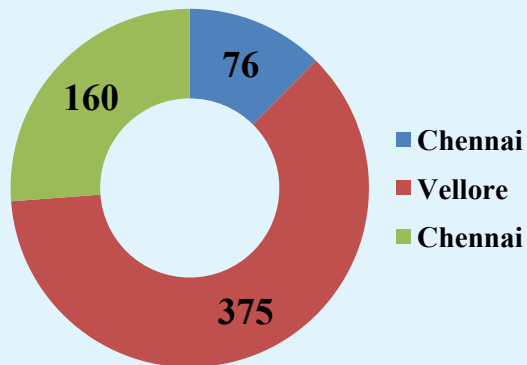
Workshop on Human Rights

A workshop on 'Human Right Education' was conducted for the girl children of Fatima Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Kodambakkam on the topics 'nature of family, nature of institution, importance of friends and elders, human values, human freedom, respect for life, equality, children rights and human rights'. Around 600 children studying from sixth to ninth standards attended the workshop.



Workshop on 'Life Skill Education'

Life skills equip children to apply the knowledge acquired in schools to real life situations. These skills help them in problem solving and decision making. Life skills or soft skills include, ability to generate alternatives to problems, communicating clearly, taking up leadership roles etc., which are as important as academic subjects.



Children Eco-Friendly

The creation of eco-friendly environment for children involve the following actions: 'Limit waste, save water, reduce electricity usage, avoid unnecessary purchases, plant more trees, reuse things instead of acquiring them again etc., We inform our children not to harm the environment but to interact with them.



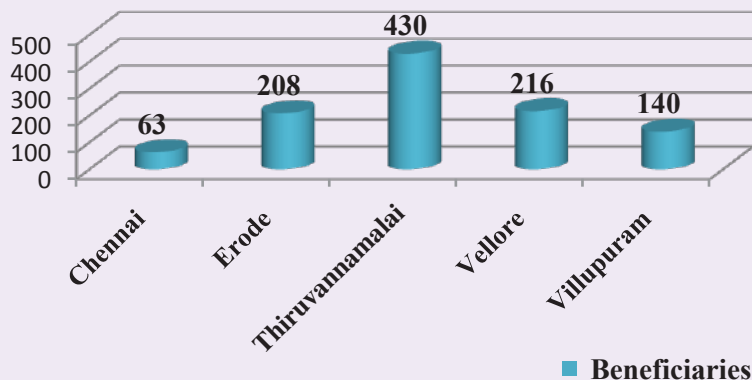
T on Safety Procedures

There are many warning signs that indicate about someone bullying or being bullied by others. 'Recognizing the warning signs' is an important step in taking action against bullying. Not all children who are bullied ask for help. It is important to talk to children who show signs of being bullied or bullying others. These warning signs can also point to other issues or problems, such as depression or substance abuse. Talking to children can help them to identify the root cause of the problem. Through this programme, children were taught on how to identify the offenders in two districts of Tamil Nadu.



Children Fest – 2018

Children Fest - 2018 was conducted in five districts of Tamil Nadu. Children participated in 'elocution competition, forming riddles, writing poems and essay writing on social issues'. Children were awarded certificates, prizes and gifts along with refreshments. The aim was to develop their skills and abilities as they need an exposure to Cognitive Development, Social Development, Emotional Development, Speech Development, Language Development, Fine Motor Skill Development and Gross Motor Skill Development.

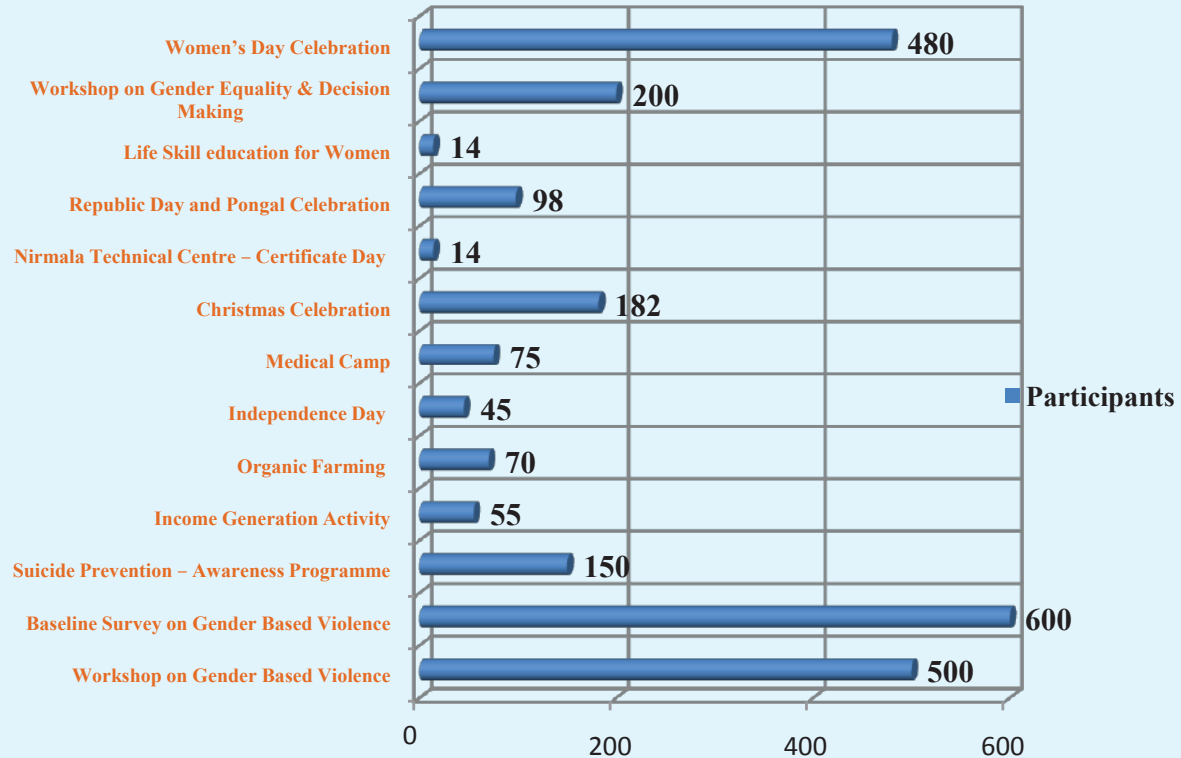


Children Sponsorship

When we sponsor a child, we achieve a special kind of giving that creates a relationship between us and the community where we work. Sponsorship provides essential aid and education to improve the well-being of children to do their higher studies and make their dreams come true. This year 210 children were sponsored to continue their studies

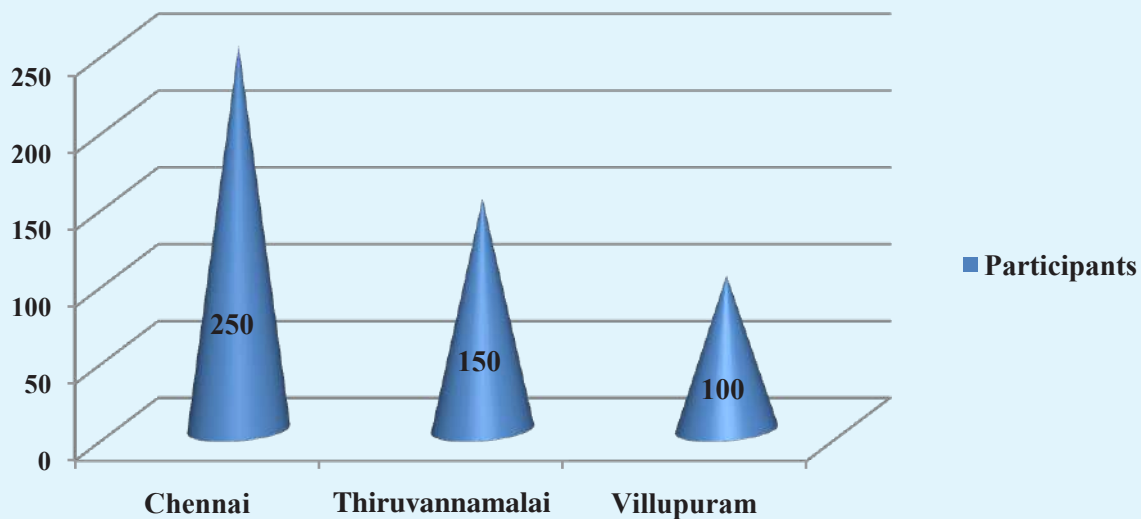


Statistical Data of Women Activities



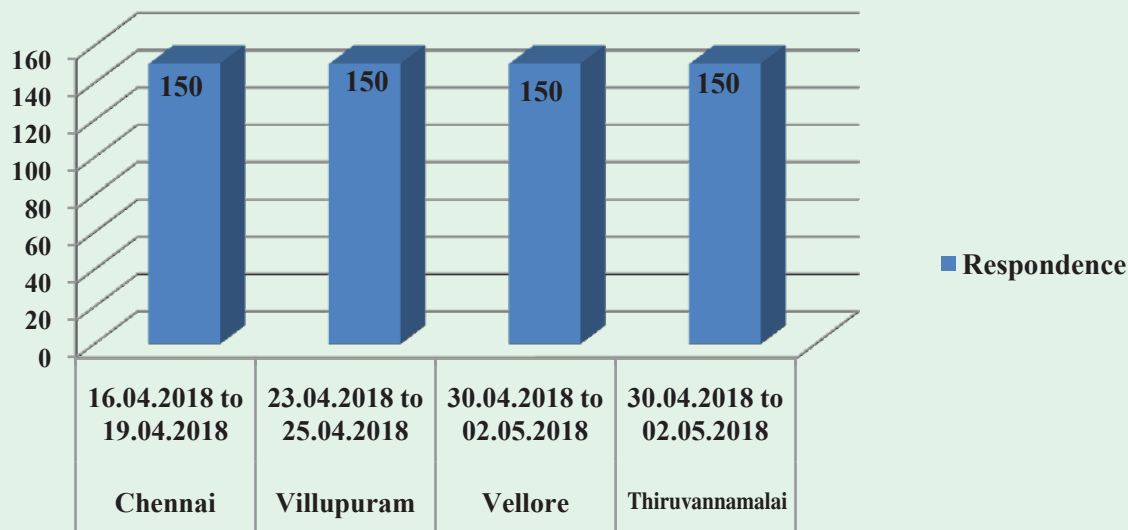
Workshop on Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Gender based violence is violence that is directed at an individual based on his or her biological sex or gender identity. It includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and psychological abuse, threats, coercion, and economic or educational deprivation, whether occurring in public or private life. Women are disproportionately harmed by gender-based violence. As majority of women in our coverage area were not aware of GBV, we introduced workshops in their locality.



Baseline Survey on Gender Based Violence

ARUWYE completed a baseline survey in four districts of Tamil Nadu on Gender based violence. The objective of this study was to provide reliable quantitative and qualitative information to enable ARUWYE and our partners to develop strategies and interventions to fight against Gender-based Violence in Tamil Nadu.



Suicide Prevention – Awareness Programme

Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. In fact, suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. Suicidal thoughts, although common, should not be considered normal but should be treated as a serious issue. A one day awareness programme was animated for the Self - Help Group members of Kodambakkam, Saidapet and Vadapalani area. Around 150 SHG members actively participated and benefited from the programme. The resource persons were Mrs. Lavanya Arul (Psychologist and Counsellor) and Mrs. Eva Roselin Santha Kumari (Advocate, High Court Madras).



Income Generating Activity

Today, many development agencies are emphasising on assisting women to secure income through their own efforts. Such approaches are often categorized as 'Income Generating Activities' which include 'small business promotion, cooperative undertakings, job creation schemes, sewing circles, credit and savings groups and youth training programmes'. During the reporting year, several income generating activities were promoted in and around Chennai.



Organic Farming

Organic farming is a method of crop and livestock production, opposite to the act of using pesticides, fertilizers, genetically modified organisms, antibiotics and growth hormones.

According to Mr. Anto, an organic farming expert, it is done to release nutrients to the crops for increased sustainable production in an eco-friendly and pollution-free environment.

It aims to produce crop with a high nutritional value. An Organic Farming training was given to SHG members in Thiruvannamalai and Chennai districts.



Independence Day

The day 'August 15' has become an important day in Indian history since 1947. It is a great day for our people to remember and thank all those who sacrificed their lives for the independence of the nation. This year, our SHG members celebrated the Independence day with 35 visually challenged students of Lotus Blind Trust, Mylapore, Chennai. They shared their happiness and love with those students on the day of freedom that brought joy in everyone's heart.



Medical Camp

The medical camp for SHG women was conducted on November 19, 2018 at Varadharajanpet, Chennai. Around 75 SHG women participated in the medical camp. Mrs. Pauline, a Staff Nurse from Vijaya Hospital was the resource person. She shared her knowledge on 'Dengue, Hand Wash, Breast cancer and Uterus cancer' with the participants.



Christmas Celebration

We celebrate Christmas by spending time with our families, decorating the house and do the shopping for our friends and relatives. Our SHG women celebrated it differently last year by collecting around Rs. 34,000/- to help the education of poor children.



Nirmala Technical Centre – Certificate Day

‘A stitch in time saves nine’. To make this proverb more meaningful, Nirmala technical centre conducted a ‘Certificate Day’ to appreciate all the young women who learnt tailoring in six months, who equipped themselves in stitching and designing. Sr. Dora the Animator of the community appreciated the young women for all their efforts. The young women thanked the centre for its contribution towards their development.



Republic Day and Pongal Celebration

The Republic day along with Pongal festival was celebrated on January 26, 2019 at Varadharajanpet, Kodambakkam and Chennai. Around 98 women from Self -Help Groups 'Thendral, Elanthendral, Pukazhmalai, Kalai, Puthupozhivu, Annai Theresa and Varadharajanpet participated in the celebration'. Coordinator of ARUWYE hoisted the tri- colour national flag.



Life Skill Education for Women

A Life Skill Training was conducted in Kodambakkam, Chennai on February 13, 2018 in which 14 tailoring women participated. The training was facilitated by Mr. Jintha. The following topics were dealt during the programme: Current Job Opportunity, Interview Patterns, Goal and Expectations and Effective Communication. The participants found the programme very useful in planning, managing time and achieving goals in life.



Workshop on Gender Equality and Decision Making

A workshop on 'Gender based violence and Decision making' was conducted for SHG members in Kodambakkam and Saidapet. Ms. Sherin D Asha, a motivational trainer by profession was the resource person. She focused on how a woman, as a nurturer of the family, can utilize her innate power positivity to influence her family and build a cordial relationship with them. She spoke from her heart with many local references which entertained as well as enlightened the participants on the topic.



Women's Day Celebration

March 8, the International Women's Day is globally celebrated to honour the achievements of women in social, economic, cultural and political arena. The day also gives a call for action towards gender equality. Our women's day celebration began with a folk dance performed by the students of Fatima Matriculation Hr. Sec School. Mrs. Kaiser, the Animator of Thanga Tharagaigal SHG and Ms. Mahalakshmi, Trainee from MCC, Tambaram had anchored the programme.

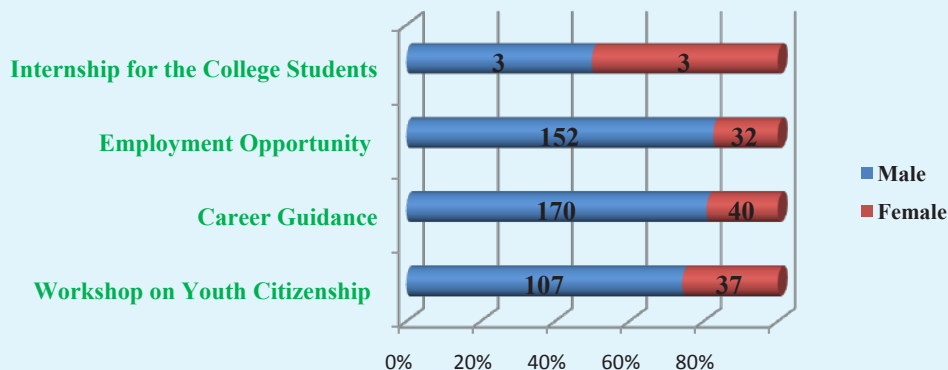
Sr. Nirmala Lazar, the Provincial of Chennai province, Sr. Mary Dora Stanislaus, the Vice-Provincial, Mrs. Ratna, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Loyola College, Sr. Noelle and Mrs. Elizabetta Murgia, Misesan Cara Project Officer, Sr. Margrate, Social Development Activity in - charge, Arni, Sr. Shermila, Social Development Coordinator, ARUWYE lighted the lamp and graced the occasion.

Around 480 women were present for the programme from Chennai and Thiruvannamalai district along with all the staff and interns of ARUWYE and the Sisters from Kodambakkam community.



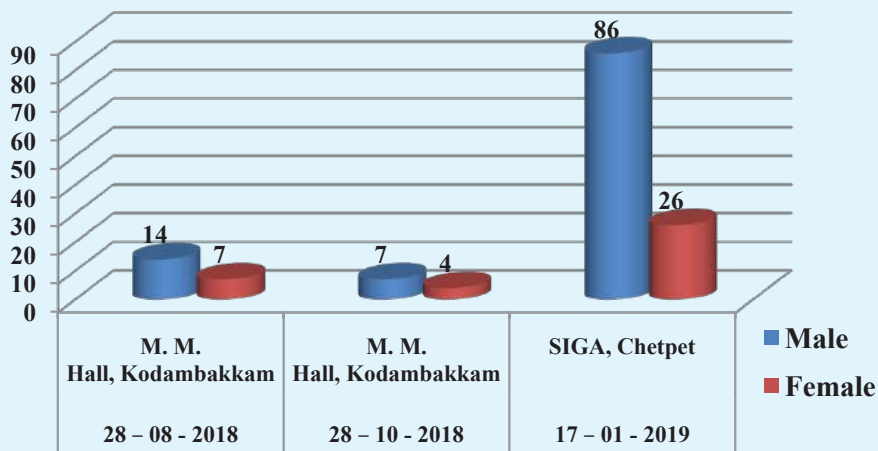
Youth Activity

Youth are the hope of tomorrow. They are one of the most energetic segments of the nation and we expect them to play an important role in nation building. With a right type of mind-set and abilities, they can contribute much towards the development of the nation. The future of a country is dependent upon its youth. This prompted us to focus on 'career guidance, employment opportunities, and responsible citizenship'.



Workshop on Youth Citizenship

The responsible citizenship of young people is essential in the present scenario. Their participation at every level of the society and their search for new prospects require democratic recognition of their status as full-fledged citizens. To help youth to reflect on this, we had a workshop on 'Youth Citizenship' in which youth from different parts of Chennai participated. 'Indian Constitution, Preamble, Synod and Technological growth' were the topics dealt during the programme. It was an eye opener for the youth to think of the society in where they live in a meaningful way.



Career Guidance

‘Career guidance’ enables young people to identify their special skills and acquire new skills to settle down in suitable jobs to make their living. We hear from the young people that such guidance should start from primary school level but most students do not get such opportunities.

Our aim with CNS is to promote innovation, creativity and skill development for youth and our plan is to help youth from Vellore, Thiruvanamalai and Chennai to identify their ability, build their confidence and to settle in relevant jobs.



Employment Opportunity

In many developing countries more than half of young people do not have jobs. Their capabilities are not used and it hampers the economic growth which leads to social instability. Meaningful employment for young people is essential to achieve sustainable economic development. The youth lack relevant market skills and also opportunities to develop them.

Mere academic education and training alone are not sufficient for a meaningful employment. Many trained young people don't have skills that are relevant to their jobs and market. They lack the inner drive and motivation. ARUWYE identified young people in rural villages who need to develop their skills and ability to secure suitable jobs and offered skill training. Around 300 young people have been helped so far to secure jobs in different sectors by ARUWYE during the reporting year.



Internship for the College Students

Students from different colleges do their internship in ARUWYE every year. During this year, four students from Loyola College and Madras Christian College did their internship in ARUWYE.



Success Story

A Filter that Saved My Family

‘The key to success is Action, and the important element in action is Perseverance’, says Mrs.Vasanthi’ a Self-Help Group Leader of ARUWYE.

‘I am Vasanthi residing at Aryagowdhar Road near Saidapet. I have two children. My husband fell sick at his early age. I was hunting for a job to sustain my family. I found my life very hard as my family was totally dependent upon me. One day I saw my neighbour stitching tea bags. I was interested in it and sooner I learnt the art. But it took years for me to find good customers to sell the tea bags. I have been doing this successfully for the past 25 years which enabled me to bring up my children with quality education. I am quite contented with this work and feel so happy about it’.



Award Winners of the Year



Mrs. Kasthuri - Puliur Tharagai Self Help Group

Kasthuri has been living in Kodambakkam slum for the past 35 years. The atrocities she faced in the family motivated her to start a mobile food shop with the support of Puliur Tharagai Self Help Group. She received a loan and started a shop close to her house. Being a good cook, she prepared tasty food and was able to attract people in and around the area. She was able to manage the family with the income she got through this business. She became self-confident and self-determined. ARUWYE feels proud in honouring Kathuri with this Award.



Mrs. Usha - Annai Indira Self- Help Group

Ushahas been residing in Kodambakkam Slum for the past 18 years. She worked as a domestic servant spending three hours a day in a house. She had to work very hard but her labour was not recognized by others and the little income she got was not sufficient to run the family. One day she decided to start her own business. Participating in a Vocational Training Programme was a great boon for her to sharpen her skills. She started a flour shop in Kodambakkam. Sooner, she expanded her business that rewarded her very well. Today, Usha stands on her own legs and shines as a symbol of self- confidence. Usha truly deserves this award.



Mrs. Kalaiselvi and Mrs. Jothi Lakshmi - Kalai Self Help Group

Mrs. Kalaiselvi and Mrs. Jothi Lakshmi hail from financially backward families. The income from their husbands' was not sufficient to meet their family expenditure. Hence both of them planned to start a snacks shop in their locality with a loan from Kalai Self-Help Group. Today they run the business very successfully getting food orders from companies and institutions. It is their realisation of their 'self- worth and abilities combined with personal values' raised them to this level. ARUWYE feels honoured to present this award to both of them.

Special Moments at Courses and Seminars



HRDC Project Visit



National Training on
Empowering the
Marginalized, Lucknow



Women's day
Celebration



NDF 15th Annual Meet,
Guwahati



Misean Cara
Project Visit



Miracle Foundation-
Review Meet



Signis Commlab,
Asia Meet



NDF Training on Sustainable
Development Goal,
Chennai

ARUWYE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE - WELCOMES YOU

Send a Money order to

Social Development Coordinator Auxilium Rural Under-Privileged
Women and Youth Empowerment, Mazarello Convent,
United Indian Colony, No, 1/2, 3rd Main Road,
5th Street Cross, P. B. 5301, Kodambakkam, Chennai - 600 024
Visit our Website www.aruwye.org and click on the 'donate' button.
Send a cheque / draft in the name of the Auxilium Rural Under-Privileged
Women and Youth Empowerment

Make a deposit in the following bank account:

BANK ACCOUNT - FCRA A/C NO - 11860 - INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK (IOB)
038 - KODAMBAKKAM BRANCH, CHENNAI

SWIFT CODE NO. IOB FOR

SPEEDY ACTION - IOBAINBB001

IFSC CODE - IOBA0000038

Bank Account No:

Name : Auxilium Rural Under - Privileged Women and Youth Empowerment

Account No : 003801000054994 - Indian Overseas (IOB)

IFSC Code - IOBA0000038 - Kodambakkam, Chennai - 600 024

Contact the Social Development Coordinator Directly :

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