

# THANK YOU, DEAR DONOR.

May 4, 2016

## A QUICK ANNUAL RECAP

Before we get into a quick dive of all that happened to us in the past year, we, at **Sri Arunodayam**, want to say a big “Thank You” for being our partner and friend!

We deeply value your support and hope to connect with you as often as we can.

A lot of wonderful things happened to us in the past financial year, and we are still counting our blessings!

Here’s a quick recap. We hope you enjoy it.

Please feel free to let us know what you think of it, and how we may improve on our reporting.



The children want to say a big “Thank You” to you.

## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR

Here is a quick recap of the most momentous events.

### Our fully equipped Medical Unit is up and running!

We wanted to have this operational well before summer, which is a notorious time for illness and disease. All children tend to break out with summertime diseases and suffer from dehydration. Our children aren’t spared either. And they suffer doubly on account of their disability. Among other things, the medical center now has a multipara monitor, ECG cardiac care machine, an autoclave, and an oxygen generator, thanks to donors who generously helped fund this project.

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*“The best way to reduce the cost of medical care is to reduce the illness.” – Arlen Specter*

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### We now have a fully equipped Ambulance

Thanks to the generosity of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), a much needed fully equipped Ambulance, is now ours. Our children tend to fall ill easily due to the nature of their disability. It was a challenge for us to get them to a hospital in time - especially late night or early morning - when they needed immediate medical attention. The Ambulance is proving to be a real life saver in this regard!

### Built a New Kitchen – according to Government Orders

Earlier in the year, the Government issued a diktat to all homes that the kitchen be physically separated from the home. This is a safety precaution meant to keep the children safe. Although it was an unexpected expenditure, we complied, and the advantage is that our boy’s home annexed a large dining area making it more than comfortable for them to dine now.

### Our Children open a new Organic Vegetable Garden

Nothing goes to waste here at Sri Arunodayam; the vegetable peels from the kitchen become manure for our organic vegetable garden – a project handled by *Prayatna*, our vocational training center. Ever since we began harvesting our garden, our vegetable vendor bills have almost halved!

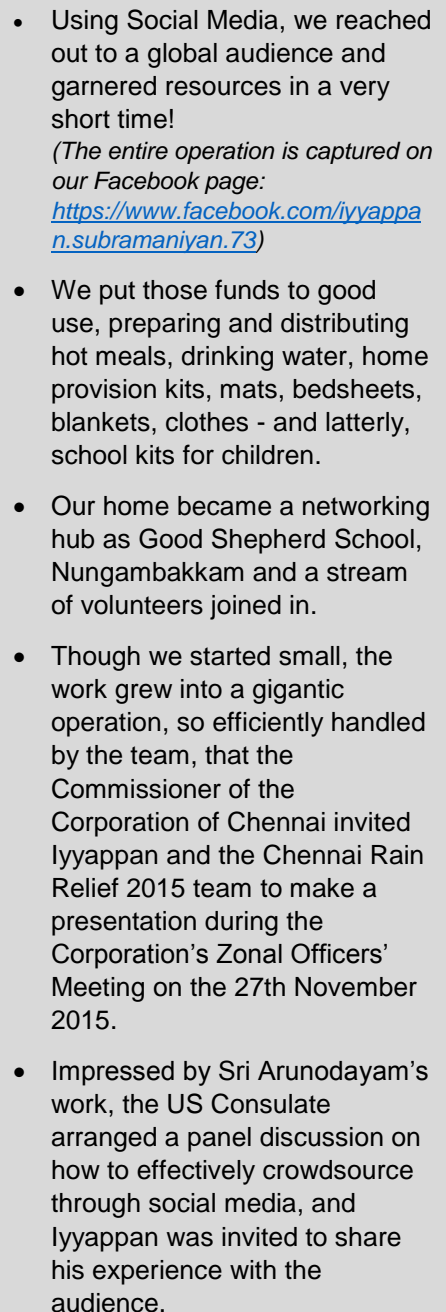
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*“Cultivate clarity, strength, vitality and power from natural, beautiful and organic living foods.”*

*– Bryant McGill*

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None of us could ever forget the devastation caused by the floods in Chennai last year. We, at Sri Arunodayam, could not turn our eyes away from suffering humanity beyond our doors. We were actively involved in rescue and relief operations, and our home became a hub where meals were cooked, and ration and school kits were assembled and distributed to the worst affected areas.



Sri Arunodayam's Team prepared and distributed

**50,000 meals, 5,000 ration kits, and 2,000 school kits!**



## AN ALMANAC OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

2015	Month	Event/Activity	Groups Impacted
	April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Carnatic musical concert</b> – “<i>Music for the Soul</i>” organized by the students of Bombay Jayashree, supported by Bhoomika Trust, Chennai, on April 15.</li> <li><b>New 1200 sq. ft. Kitchen</b> with modern amenities inaugurated; built as per new safety guidelines for Tamil Nadu homes and orphanages. (<i>Special thanks to Madras Mylapore Ladies Circle # 4 and Members of the Vasavi Club of Chennai for providing financial support for this project.</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Children, Volunteers</p> <p>Children, Donors</p>
	May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Spacious dining area inaugurated</b> for the Boy's home. The old kitchen was demolished and extra space created for comfortable dining.</li> </ul>	Children
	June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ear piercing ceremony</b> conducted for 20 girls on June 14. They were given gold earring studs, silver anklets, Pattu Pavadais (silk skirts) and flowers. (<i>Special thanks to Mr. Kannan from Singapore, his family and friends for sponsoring the event.</i>)</li> <li>Volunteers from Art of Living Foundation conducted a <b>two-day yoga training camp</b> for Sri Arunodayam's staff on 17 and 18 June.</li> </ul>	<p>Children, Donors</p> <p>Staff, Volunteers</p>
	August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Independence Day</b> celebrated on August 15. Flag hoisting ceremony held, and the freedom struggle story demonstrated to the children.</li> <li><b>Aadhaar Camp</b> held on August 28. 65 of our children have received the card till date. This is the first time that such children were included in the national identity card drive.</li> <li><b>Specialized medical camp</b> at our home, organized by a group of specialists including neurologists, paediatricians, and plastic surgeons, orthopaedic and general doctors from the SRM Medical University &amp; Hospital.</li> </ul>	<p>Children, Staff</p> <p>Children, Staff</p> <p>Children, Medical Staff</p>
	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>New Play Station</b> inaugurated. (<i>Special thanks to the Madras Round Table Ladies Circle # 4 who donated the merry-go-round and the multipurpose play set, which was installed with the support of individual donors.</i>)</li> <li><b>Teacher's Day celebrated</b> on September 5 through a special program arranged by the children who presented the teachers with gifts.</li> <li>Celebrated the <b>Vinayagar Chaturthi festival</b>; special sweets prepared and served to the children along with special meals.</li> </ul>	<p>Children, Donors</p> <p>Children, Staff (Special Educators)</p> <p>Children, Staff</p>
	October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in <b>Daan Utsav “Joy of Giving” Week</b> and raised funds through events like “Cake for a Cause” and “Battle of the Buffet” fundraising dinner.</li> <li>On October 15, our children presented a cultural program at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota to celebrate the <b>birthday of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam</b>.</li> <li><b>Diwali was celebrated</b> on October 22. Each child received two sets of new clothes from a benevolent well-wisher - <i>Mr. Subba Rao</i>. Sumptuous meals were served and the day ended with a spectacular fireworks display.</li> </ul>	<p>Children, Staff, Society</p> <p>Children, Society</p> <p>Children, Staff, Donors</p>

2016	November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively involved in <b>flood relief operations</b>. Began crowdsourcing and marshalling forces for the task ahead.</li> <li>Received a <b>fully equipped Ambulance for the home</b> (<i>Special thanks to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Chennai.</i>)</li> </ul>	Donors, Society, Volunteers Children, Donors
	December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued <b>flood relief work</b> all through December. Joined by Good Shepherd School, Nungambakkam and volunteers, we served more than 50,000 meals, 5,000 ration kits and 2,000 school kits.</li> </ul>	Staff, Donors, Volunteers, Society
	January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>New Year's Day celebrated with a twist!</b> T3 Korattur Police force visited, cut a huge cake and distributed special meals for the children.</li> <li><b>Republic Day celebrated</b> on January 26, with fun-filled events and a special lunch organized by the 3-Star Pride Hotel at Kilpauk, Chennai.</li> <li>Impressed by our relief efforts during the floods the <b>US Consulate arranged a panel discussion</b> on the use of social media. Iyyappan was invited to share his experience with the audience.</li> <li><b>Pongal celebrated</b> on January 14. All the children and staff were given new clothes and enjoyed festival treats.</li> </ul>	Children, Staff, Visitors, Donors Children, Donors, Society Staff, Society Children, Staff, Visitors
	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chennai Corporation appointed Sri Arunodayam as an approved centre for <b>a polio vaccination camp for the public</b>. Around 400 children residing nearby were vaccinated.</li> <li><b>Celebrated Founder's Day</b> on February 28, commemorating 14 years of tireless service to the children. Organized a sporting event and sumptuous meals with a variety of sweets were served to the children.</li> <li><b>Participated in Pratibimp 2016</b>, an annual marketing and networking event hosted by the Rangoonwala Foundation. Showcased our products such as bags, jewellery, candles, door mats, aprons, gloves and napkins – all made by the boys at our vocational center.</li> </ul>	Government, Staff, Society Children, Staff, Visitors Staff, Volunteers, Children
	March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Specialised infant care medical unit</b> set up for our severely disabled children. The unit has specially equipped medical beds, suction machines, oxygen pipelines and cylinders, a nebulisation machine, drip stands, BP apparatus, ENT equipment, minor surgery equipment, digital thermometers, an X-ray monitor screen, medical trolleys and a First Aid box.</li> </ul>	Children, Medical Staff, Donors



Republic Day Program.



US Consulate Panel Discussion with Iyyappan



Teacher's Day Celebrations



*Children's Playground Inauguration*



*Aadhar Card Camp*



*Dr. Abdul Kalam's Birthday Celebrations*



*Pongal Celebrations*



*Participating at Pratibimp*



*"Joy of Giving" Week Celebrations*



*Ear Piercing Ceremony for the Girls*



*New Medical Unit*



*Founder's Day Celebrations*

## LOOKING AHEAD IN THE COMING YEAR(s)...

**A home for abandoned mentally challenged girls:** The plight of the girl child in India is well known. With very few homes for abandoned girls - let alone abandoned mentally challenged girls – looking after them is hugely challenging whether for parents or for organizations that shelter them. Sri Arunodayam is planning to open a home especially for the care, protection and rehabilitation of mentally challenged girls.

**Awareness programs to galvanize society:** Sri Arunodayam is focusing on educating society to accept and integrate the mentally challenged into its communities. By galvanizing society (through its teachers/ educational institutions, government bodies, constitutional forums, and media conduits), Iyyappan is making them examine the issues, perspectives, and possibilities for including the mentally challenged into the working community.

Even as we focus on our immediate goals, we realize the importance of long-term vision.

The specific areas that we are planning for in the coming year(s) include:

**Reordering and equipping Prayatna – our vocational training unit:** Sri Arunodayam has become a “Catalyst for Social Change” among the communities across Chennai. Our Vocational Center – Prayatna is being reordered to become a one-of-a-kind inclusive vocational center and new programs and training curriculums are being developed to provide participants with sustainable trades to help them get inducted into mainstream society.

**Community-based rehabilitation services for rural disabled children:** The Trust is developing a strategy for the implementation of community-based rehabilitation services for rural disabled children. The Trust wants to implement rehabilitation, equal opportunity, and social integration practices for disabled children in poor villages so that they are empowered to overcome their limitations.



## GET INVOLVED

There are many programs at Sri Arunodayam, and you can sponsor, volunteer or help us fundraise in many different ways. Watch out for our new website which will give you all the details!

Do visit our home, see what we do, get involved, and spread the word!

It's so important to spread the good news today especially in a world that reels daily under crises. Yet, through it all, wonderful things are still happening... a lot of good is being done by ordinary people and little known organizations around the world. There are truly worthy causes to support, and compassion and love to share with those most in need.

Continue to partner with us and be a part of the solution.



**SRI ARUNODAYAM**  
Home for Mentally Challenged Destitute

### Sri Arunodayam Charitable Trust,

Plot No: 35, Sivananda Nagar,  
Kolathur,  
Chennai - 600 099 (TN)  
India

Tel : 91-44-26511450  
91-44-26511803  
Mobile : 91-9962280037  
Iyyappan : 91-9444915803

Email: [sriarunodayam@gmail.com](mailto:sriarunodayam@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.sriarunodayam.org](http://www.sriarunodayam.org)

Sri Arunodayam is a Registered Charitable Trust recognized by the Government of Tamil Nadu (under the Juvenile Justice Act by the Department of Social Defense).

All donations are tax exempted (12 AA and 80 G) by the Income Tax Department under the Income Tax Act 1961.

Registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act 2010, Sri Arunodayam is authorized to receive overseas donations.

We are deeply appreciative of our individual donors whose contributions help us meet the day-to-day expenses for the children. Running a home for children with special needs can be quite a challenging task. At times, we receive adequate funds; but sometimes we run short. A fixed monthly income provides the much needed stability. That's why we build reserves each year, to help us tide over unexpected contingencies.

### Here are ways you could help:

#### For all 106 children (in INR)

- |                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Sponsor a meal                     |          |
| a) Breakfast                          | 2,500/-  |
| b) Lunch                              | 3,500/-  |
| c) Dinner                             | 2,500/-  |
| 2. Sponsor vegetarian meals for a day | 8,500/-  |
| 3. Sponsor vegetables for a day       | 1,500/-  |
| 4. Sponsor an evening snack           | 1,500/-  |
| 5. Sponsor a cup of milk              | 1,000/-  |
| 6. Sponsor a recreational outing      | 10,000/- |

#### For a child (in INR)

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1. Living expenses for a month            | 3,000/- |
| 2. Sponsor a dress                        | 1,000/- |
| 3. Diapers for a month                    | 1,000/- |
| 4. Special education training for a month | 1,000/- |
| 5. Psychiatric medicines for a month      | 1,000/- |
| 6. Physiotherapy treatment for a month    | 1,000/- |
| 7. Sponsor an annual check-up             | 3,000/- |

You could also sponsor a special project, volunteer, or help raise funds.