

MICHIGAN TAMIL SANGAM (MTS) AND TAMIL NADU FOUNDATION (TNF) RAISE \$20,000 FOR NEEDY TAMILS

Dear Tamil Sangam Members,

We are delighted to inform you that the May 16th cultural program we organized along with Tamil Nadu Foundation was a great success. We have collected \$20,000 through this program and all this funding will be used to support non-political and non-religious humanitarian projects benefiting the poor and needy in our homeland, Tamil Nadu. All expenses related to the event are being taken care of through advertisements for a Michigan Indian Community Hand Book, which is under preparation.

In the 29 years of our Sangam's history, this effort is very unique and a notable milestone because this is the first time our Sangam is sending such a significant amount to Tamil Nadu for humanitarian projects.

Audience enjoyed the spectacular cultural program "Temple To Theater" by artists from various ethnic backgrounds. Mrs. Becky Douglas, President of Rising Star Outreach, made a very emotional presentation on her organization's work with leper colonies in Tamil Nadu.

The following humanitarian initiatives will benefit from our generous support:

ORPHANS: Kasthurba Gandhi Kanya Gurukulam, Vedaraniyam - Started by Mahatma's associate and freedom fighter, Sardar Vedratnam, Gurukulam is the "home" for thousands of orphan girls in Tamil Nadu. A foundation will be formed in the name of MTS and TNF and the interest derived will be used to support the food, clothing and education needs of orphan girls.

MENTALLY IMPAIRED: "Anbalayam" - Home for the Mentally Impaired, Sirkazi. Our funding will help secure a new location for 35 mentally impaired and handicapped who are now being forced by the community to leave the town.

LEPER COLONIES: Rising Star Outreach - A foundation started by Becky Douglas of Georgia is focused on serving 7 leper colonies in Tamil Nadu.

LEARNING DISABILITY: Alpha to Omega Learning Center - A Chennai-based learning center focused on learning difficulties or dyslexia.

KRUPA: Home for Tamils with development disability and mental impairment at Sriperumbudur.

WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

YOU still have time to join the rest of the Michigan community in providing a helping hand to needy Tamils. You can help bring hope to the lives of those under

privileged Tamils by:

1. Contacting Saravanan Chockalingam at (248) 888 9541 and providing your contribution.
2. Contact your friends and associates who have businesses and would like to get the maximum publicity among the Indian community in Michigan area. Request them to support us with an advertisement for the Michigan Indian Community Hand Book. This will include yellow pages and several useful information for our community. For more details contact Mr. Hari Prasad, at (248) 689-8064

MTS and TNF sincerely thank you for enabling us to reach this milestone and for reaching out to the poor and needy in our motherland.

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