



Golden
Jubilee

தமிழ்நாடு அறக்கட்டளை
Tamil Nadu Foundation, USA

Rosemont Theatre, Chicago
May 24-26, 2024



TNF continues its legacy of driving impact in the areas of,

- Education
- Women Empowerment
- Rural development
- Health and Hygiene.

From any of the 4 areas, the Donors can,

- Choose the Cause
- Decide the Donation
- Choose the Support Duration
- Choose your Selection Criteria
- Choose the Project

What sets TNF Apart?

Passion | Innovation | Transparency

Charity-as-a-Service - A Digital Platform that redefines philanthropic engagements.

Using Technology Innovations as an impetus to our Community Building Initiatives

Compliance Management and Audits for Due Diligence



Gains to the TNF Community

- ✓ Maximizing Funds Utilization with highest Effectiveness
- ✓ Freedom to the Donors - Both to operate as well as to visualize their charity engagements
- ✓ Instilling Multiple Levels of Visibility
- ✓ Reporting with end-to-end Transparency

Prepared by, Veera Venugopal (President).



TAMIL NADU FOUNDATION, Inc. USA

அன்பு அறம் ஈகை
தலைமுறை தாண்டியும்
இயல்வது கரவேல்

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Ravi Subramanyam



EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear TNF patrons and Guests:

As a charity organization, the Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF) has a long-cherished tradition of connecting with its supporters annually and providing updates. On their first annual TNF gathering, only 23 families participated! In contrast, we expect over 4000 people in attendance at Rosemont Theatre, Chicago, to celebrate TNF's Golden Jubilee, a true testimony to the success of TNF in the last fifty years, its verve, vision, and vitality, and its unwavering commitment to its mission.

In drafting this souvenir, the publishing committee has done due diligence to provide the readers with a wide array of articles on various topics in addition to the conventional updates from Districts, Chapters, and the health of its Finances.

While researching history and activities, we found references to many visionaries who persisted against the odds to grow the organization. It is heartwarming and endearing to realize how noble the organization's mission is and to know of the countless patrons and volunteers who have contributed on multiple fronts to ensure TNF is successful. Articles on this year's TNF's Service Excellence Award recipients, Ram Thukkaram & P.C. Chandrasekar, will help one appreciate the type of leadership TNF enjoyed in the past and wish for in the future. In the article '50 Years and Counting,' we attempted to capture critical events in the organization's growth, aware that we would fall short in our effort.

'Excellence in Execution' and 'Endowment Funds' should help readers understand the leadership's strategic intent to ensure uninterrupted provision for all initiatives, old and new. 'Mann Vaasanai' ranks as TNF's most significant aspiration in its history and requires continued patronage of its members.

We sincerely hope the souvenir's content will generate interest among readers and identify how best they could support TNF's mission. TNF has been successful primarily with support from life members and loyalists, and it welcomes new members to augment its potency and extend its reach.

Our team took this assignment with great interest, and I thank the entire team for their support. We are grateful to the TNF board for extending this opportunity to us.

Ravi Subramanyam,
New Jersey



TNF GOLDEN JUBILEE SOUVENIR COMMITTEE



RAVI SUBRAMANYAM

Editor

Belle Mead, New Jersey

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(அதியமான் நெடுமான்
அஞ்சி)

A minor dynasty called “Velir” (வேளிர்) coexisted along with the Chera, Chola, and Pandya Kingdoms in ruling Tamil Nadu two thousand years ago. Athiyaman Neduman Anji belonged to the Velir dynasty and was equally known for his bravery and generosity; the latter earned him the coveted title of one of the “கடையேழு வள்ளல்கள்.” The great Tamil poet Avaiyar (ஔவையார்) of the Tamil Sangam period was a very close friend and confidante of Athiyaman. Chera, Chola, and Pandya kings were envious of the rising popularity of Athiyaman and wanted to end it by invading Thagadi, the capital of Athiyaman's kingdom. Sensing the futility of the impending war and the irreparable damage it would do to people, Avaiyar meets and dissuades them from acting on their warring instincts, highlighting the noble qualities of Athiyaman and the irreparable damage the war would unravel on the innocent. Chera, Chola, and Pandya agreed kings all heed to Avaiyar's advise and duly withdrew their forces from invading Thagadi.

Avaiyar comes to Thagadi to meet with Athiyaman and share the good news. Athiyaman cordially welcomes Avvai and offers a 'gooseberry' that he has fetched from the deep crevices of a nearby mountain. Upon his insistence, she consumes the fruit and finds its taste very delightful and unique. The King then divulges the uniqueness of the fruit as being 'blessed' to impart immortality to the one who consumes it. Perplexed by the secret, Avvai asks the King, “Why did you offer me the fruit? Shouldn't you have eaten the fruit as a ruler of the country rather than me, an old lady?” Athiyaman replies, “Than a King, a great Tamil scholar like you must live longer and serve the Tamil language.”

This story conveys a poignant message about Athiyaman, a philanthropist who was held in high esteem among the rulers of Tamil Nadu. He was generous in giving the mass what he possessed abundantly. But he was also willing to share his priciest possession, even if it entailed a life-limiting sacrifice. This story resonates with the mission of TNF, which is to encourage Tamilians to contribute willingly to support less privileged masses in their homeland.

Ravi Subramanyam



இயற்கைத் தொண்டு

மூதறிஞர் செம்மல் வ. சுப. மாணிக்கனார்

"மாமலர்கள்" கவிதைத் தொகுப்பிலிருந்து

நல்லாவின் பால்முழுதும் கன்றுக் கில்லை;
நறும்பூவின் மணமுழுதும் சோலைக் கில்லை;
நெல்லாகும் கதிர்முழுதும் நிலத்துக் கில்லை;
நிறைகின்ற நீர்முழுதும் குளத்துக் கில்லை;
பல்லாரும் கனிமுழுதும் மரத்துக் கில்லை;
பண்ணாரம்பின் இசைமுழுதும் யாழுக் கில்லை;
எல்லாமே பிறர்க்குழைக்கக் காணு கின்றேன்
என்வாழ்வும் பிறர்க்குழைக்க வேண்டும் வேண்டும்.

ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு: தமிழ் இலக்கிய வானில் சிந்தனைச் சிற்பியாக வலம் வந்தவர் மூதறிஞர் செம்மல் வ.சுப. மாணிக்கனார் ஆவார். இவர் எழுதிய பல நூல்கள் தமிழ் இலக்கிய வரலாற்றில் மிகச்சிறந்த ஆய்வு நூல்களாக கருதப்படுகின்றன.

"மாமலர்கள்" என்னும் கவிதை நூலில் இடம்பெறும் இந்தக் கவிதை தமிழ்நாடு அறக்கட்டளையின் நோக்கத்தை பறைசாற்றும் கவிதையாக அமைகிறது. இந்தக் கவிதை "அரவிந்த் கண் மருத்துவமனை" போன்ற பெரும் தொண்டு நிறுவனங்களின் முகப்பில் வைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. மேலதிக விவரங்களுக்கு : (https://ta.wikipedia.org/wiki/வ._சுப._மாணிக்கம்).

A Message from the President of Tamil Nadu Foundation



Veera Venugopal
President

Friends,

I have resided in the Chicagoland area for 30 years with my wife Jaya, daughter Nikita, son Nischal, and our 16-year-old pet Truffles. I hail from a middle-class farming family from a small village near Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu, where I spent most of my school and college days. My passion for serving the community was instilled in me during my youth, and my brother influenced me. I am outgoing and enjoy helping others, providing guidance, and being a leader. My father, a simple, courageous, genuine, and straightforward individual who always helped others, has been my role model. He never turned anyone away when they came to him for help. I have also learned to stand up for what I believe in, even if I may not always be correct.

My US journey began in Chicago in the early 90s. I started attending Chicago Tamil Sangam's events, where I joined as a volunteer and served on the board as vice president and president. I strived to be inclusive and supportive and make a difference in society. I have been associated with various business-focused and charity-focused organizations on the board. I led a World Tamil conference in 2019 with over 400 volunteers, following in the footsteps of past conferences led by Chief Ministers Annadurai, MGR, and Selvi Jayalalitha. I conducted many shows from behind the scenes but always led from the front while making decisions and raising funds.

My TNF association began in 2002 during the FETNA event in Chicago when my friend PK Aravazhi introduced me to the organization. I was fortunate to be introduced to two great TNF patrons, Mr. Ram Thukkaram and Mr. Manickam. This paved the way for my involvement with TNF and supporting TNF's causes. I became more active during the 2004 National Convention in Chicago, where I played a significant role in raising funds and was involved in program and stage management. I led the 2007 National TNF convention successfully, and in 2014, I was instrumental in the complete fundraising for the ABC project in Cuddalore district. I was the local chapter chairman till 2019, then moved to TNF's national team, and have been President since June 2023.

I am honored to be President of TNF, which has grown to this stature by the capable running of a team of volunteers. I have taken the time to meet with the erstwhile past leadership of TNF to learn about their visions for the organization and the steady growth of the organization under their leadership.

I have set a few goals for myself to achieve as President of TNF.

- I want to make TNF a well-recognized charity organization to the Tamil diaspora worldwide. How do we go about it? I focus on building brand awareness and sustaining association with all other Tamil organizations. These efforts are partially accomplished by TNF's associations with FETNA, ATMA, ATEA, TTEC, TEAM, and RICE. For the most part, the leaders of these organizations are willing to work with us on charitable projects in Tamil Nadu; the next step is to create an MOU to establish long-term relations.

- To make TNF a unique differentiator, I want to attach the "Charity as a Service" tagline to the TNF organization, which fits into our vision.
- To increase membership levels, I proposed a plan to decrease the membership fee from \$300 to \$200, and we worked on a membership drive. This effort helped in increasing the total count of members. In the last six months, we were able to enroll 400 new TNF members as part of this effort. I wanted to acknowledge two key players in this campaign: Ramesh Sankar from South Florida and Anbarasan Madankumar from Milwaukee.
- To increase transparency and manage communication efficiently while preserving historical data, I have initiated Salesforce implementation, a work in progress. This system offers a secure platform to store data and allows for integrated communication with donors.

To commemorate TNF's Golden Jubilee, I am happy to lead the 50th-year celebration with a world class program ably supported by our Chicago chapter team members and the teams from North America chapters.

To highlight some of TNF's recent achievements...

- TNF was recently the proud recipient of Charity Navigator, with a rating of 4 stars, a commendable achievement.
- At the start of the Covid pandemic, we had a request for help from Stanley Medical's Dean. Working with Chicago and Stanley alumni teams, we purchased and donated a new CDC machine, the first machine of its kind to be delivered in South India. This equipment is still in use and has saved thousands of lives. The Tamil Nadu government has awarded TNF for this humanitarian project.

My vision for TNF includes:

- Turn TNF into the charity of choice for the Tamil diaspora worldwide
- Associate a project (solution) to TNF that people can easily recognize.
- Groom the next generation of leaders to take on the organization's reins and lead it to success in upcoming years.
- Change the bylaws of TNF to allow a portion of funds collected to be distributed to needy local communities.
- To become a wealth generator (employment, service) organization for our Tamil Nadu communities.

I take this opportunity to thank my family for their unwavering support in allowing me to follow my passion for community service. My journey from my village in Tamil Nadu to Chicago and my success in life, which allowed me to contribute to several causes close to my heart, have been a blessing. As I reflect upon my growth as a professional, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and community leader, I want to thank all my friends and teams for their continued support and guidance. I offer my sincere thanks to Chicago and the US Tamil community for allowing me to be a part of TNF's journey.

Title Sponsor

**With Best
Compliments From**

**Jaya &
Veera Venugopal
Family**



WELCOME NOTE FROM TNF 50 CONVENTION COORDINATOR



Siva Moopanar

Vanakkam!

Friends,

As the coordinator of the TNF Golden Jubilee Convention, I am pleased to welcome you all. On behalf of the TNF Chicago Chapter, I extend our warm greetings and thanks to the TNF Board and esteemed leaders for choosing us to host and present this significant milestone event in Chicago.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to TNF's founders and leaders, whose unwavering dedication has shepherded this magnificent organization through five decades. Their efforts have not only sustained but also enriched TNF's mission and impact over the years.

Two primary objectives that emerged swiftly in planning this convention are to commemorate TNF's fifty years of exemplary service and to accentuate further the focus on empowering and engaging the Youth Force, the custodians of our future success. We cannot overstate the sense of exuberance we feel at the success of this non-profit organization, flourishing for half a century against all odds, and it is our collective hope that the ensuing generations will carry the torch of TNF for another 50 years and beyond.

Our mission was to ensure this event scales up in grandeur and resonates far and wide, especially among young adults. It also helps propagate the glorious achievements of TNF and reach out to people on the near and far shores. Steered by this motivation, we planned for this grand-scale celebration at Rosemont Theatre in Chicago, anticipating more than 800 participants, including dignitaries and artists from India and nearly 5,000 attendees. As in the past years, we have assembled various interesting cultural and artistic programs and activities for everyone's enjoyment.

Our profound appreciation goes to our TNF USA Board and its Chapters, the Chicago board, TNF life members, esteemed donors, and all volunteers who helped us organize this event. The success of this journey would have been unattainable without our dedicated team in Tamil Nadu, whose exemplary efforts in execution deserve our highest praise.

I sincerely thank the 500+ volunteers and the Project Management Offices (PMOs, organized under 90 committees) for making it possible to welcome and serve this huge gathering with their astute focus, relentless perseverance and dedicated efforts.

After months of planning, coordinating, and strategizing, we are enthusiastically launching this event. We could not be happier to have you along for the entirety of the event. Please join us in all celebrations and enjoy the programs. We hope you all will have a memorable experience.

TNF Golden Jubilee Committee Members



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Rajenderan Gangadharan
Rajesh Sundarajan
Paulson David
Ravikumar Govindaraj
Arun Thandalai
Raghuram Narasimhan
Payaniyappa Venkatachalam

TNF Golden Jubilee Committee Members

50 Years of TNF
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Murugan Kannan
Mani Periakaruppan
Seetha Krishnan
Nagammai Baskar
Prabhakar
Ravi Subramaniam
Shanthi Baskar
Sheela Ramanan
Samyukta Natesan
PRO
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Perumal Annamalai
Shree Gurusamy
Mahendran Sundarrajan
Sakthivel Kumar
Senthil
Mannar Dhandapani
Devi Annamalai
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Siva Moopanar
Murugan Kannan
Ganesan Ramaswamy
Dan Palaniswamy
Seetha Krishnan
Murugesha Kasilingam
Anbu Madankumar
Stage Management
Tony Susai
Anbu Madankumar
Lakshmi Srinivasan

Venkat Balakrishnan
Akshaya Ganesan
Muniraj Kanagarajan
Eagai
Dr. Kanniks Kannikeswaran
Geetha Venkat
Christy Chitra Susai
Rama Raghuraman
Priya Anand
Therukoothu
Director Sangagiri Rajkumar
Rajenderan Gangadharan
Anbu Madankumar
Chithic Annamalai
Pradeep Mohan
Elan Thangamani
Fusion Dance
Prasanna Jeer
Chandracala Durai
Tamil Isai
Ravishankar Subramanian
SenArt Senthil
Raghu Raghuraman
District Parade
Thanuja Natesan
Subasini Dinakaran
Porchezhian Ramaswamy
Chapter Program - Thillana Thillana
Dan Palaniswamy
Kavitha Dhurai
Meera Jeyakrishnan
Arthy Suresh
Mannar Dhandapani
Mala Gopal

TNF Golden Jubilee Committee Members

Tamil Sangam Programs
Dan Palaniswamy
Annadurai Murugesan
Rajesh Jesuraj
Village Cooking Channel
Durai Ponnalagu
Asokan Thangaraju
Senthil Kannan
Arul Prabhakaran
Vinod Samy
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3560768-0524





TAMIL NADU FOUNDATION

No.27, Taylors Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 010.

S. RAJARETHINAM, I.A.S., (Retd)

CHAIRMAN

MESAGE FROM CHAIRMAN TNF CHENNAI

Vanakkam,

Golden Jubilee celebration is an incredible milestone in the history of TAMILNADU FOUNDATION, which has touched the lives of more than 2 lakh 50 thousand families in the State. Started by a small group of five families in Baltimore in the year 1974 with noble thoughts of giving back to their native state, over the years TNF has grown exponentially in terms of numbers, resources and good will.

Strict financial discipline, scrupulous adherence to government regulations, and selfless service to the needy honouring of the wishes of the donors have all made TNF stand in good stead.

"கைம்மாறு வேண்டா கடப்பாடு" Duty demands no recompense.

TNF owes its existence to men and women of such stature who continue to support unknown beneficiaries without any recompense. Over the last 50 years, TNF has evolved as a social organisation capable of impacting the lives of the less privileged men, women, and children through 850 projects on EDUCATION, WOMEN EMPOWERMENT, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH AND HYGIENE. Since its inception, ACADEMIC BRIDGE COURSE has helped 77,774 students lacking in grade level proficiency to become achievers and join their peer groups.

On this happy occasion of the GOLDEN JUBILEE celebration, it is worth recalling the overwhelming emotional and financial support of the donors and members of TNF during the times of Natural disaster and the COVID-19.

With folded hands, I would like to record my appreciation with a sense of gratitude to members/ donors of TNF for having made it possible to preserve the legacy of TNF as a CHARITY ORGANISATION for the last 50 years

With the support from a dedicated team of volunteers and donors who spent their time and resources for a noble cause, TNF will grow from strength to strength and continue to serve as a beacon of hope for the underprivileged in the coming years.

Thank you.

S. Rajarethinam,
Chairman
TNF Chennai Chapter

Phone : 044-2644 6319 / Email : info@tnfindia.org

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சென்னை - 600 009.

19.04.2024

வாழ்த்துச் செய்தி

அமெரிக்காவில் செயல்பட்டு வரும் Tamil Nadu Foundation அமைப்பின் பொன்விழாக் கொண்டாட்டம் வருகிற மே 24, 25, 26 ஆகிய தேதிகளில் சிகாகோ நகரில் நடைபெறவுள்ளதை அறிந்து மிகுந்த மகிழ்ச்சியுற்றேன். இந்நிகழ்வில் கலந்துகொள்ள அழைப்பு விடுத்தமைக்காக எனது நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

தமிழ்நாட்டில் உள்ள ஏழை, எளியோர், விளிம்புநிலை மக்களைக் கைதூக்கிவிடும் சேவையில் தம்மை அர்ப்பணித்துக்கொண்டு, தாய்நாட்டின்மீது பற்றுடன் செயல்பட்டு வரும் TNF அமைப்பின் பணிகள் மிகுந்த பாராட்டுக்குரியன. கல்வி, பெண்களுக்கான அதிகாரமளித்தல், ஊரக வளர்ச்சி, மருத்துவம், தூய்மை ஆகிய துறைகளில் தாங்கள் செய்துள்ள பணிகள் நல்ல மாற்றத்துக்குப் பங்களித்துள்ளன.

நேரில் வர இயலாவிட்டாலும், தங்களின் நிகழ்வு இனிதே நடந்தேறிட எனது அன்பான வாழ்த்துகளைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

அன்புடன்,

(மு.க.ஸ்டாலின்)



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

Greetings!

Congratulations, Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF), on your 50th Golden Jubilee celebration!

To celebrate an anniversary such as this is a significant milestone for any organization; all that TNF has accomplished during the past 50 years makes it all the more special. Your longevity is truly a testament to the impact and relationships you have fostered through the years. I have no doubt your organization will continue to excel for years to come.

I commend everyone at TNF for their hard work, dedication, and passion; your leadership makes your community and state a better place.

It is my honor to commemorate this milestone for TNF. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for a memorable celebration and continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker", written over a light blue circular background.

Governor JB Pritzker

RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

MAJORITY WHIP

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

May 24, 2024

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Tamil Nadu Foundation's Golden Jubilee Celebrations 2024. These gatherings are a special opportunity to recognize the great work of the Tamil Nadu Foundation.

For the past half century, the Tamil Nadu Foundation has supported the underserved population in Tamil Nadu, India, through education, women's empowerment, and rural development. Their commitment to education is demonstrated by their provision of educational scholarships, textbooks, and equipment to health care institutions. Tonight's Golden Jubilee Celebrations unite the community by showcasing local artists, featuring traditional Tamil musical instruments, and sharing opportunities for youth. I applaud your commitment to the representation of Tamil Nadu culture and to the support provided to this underserved community.

Again, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to tonight's attendees for your dedication to the Tamil Nadu Foundation. Congratulations on all your work and achievements.

Very truly yours,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

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Tamil Nadu Foundation
7409 Green Hill Drive
Macungie, PA 18062

May 24, 2024

Dear Members of the Tamil Nadu Foundation:

Congratulations on your 50th anniversary! This milestone marks 50 years of serving the underprivileged individuals in the Tamil Nadu province of India.

Since its founding, the TNF has touched the lives of over 500,000 people, providing vital support to students and victims of natural disasters. Your dedication to education, women's empowerment, rural development and health & hygiene has made a profound impact on countless lives.

Thank you for your service in Tamil Nadu. As a Senator and an advocate for humanitarian causes, I am deeply grateful for your projects and the positive change you bring to the world.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable milestone. I wish you continued success in the future.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



MEMBER OF CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY
8TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

May 7, 2024

Tamil Nadu Foundation
7409 Green Hill Dr.
Macungie PA, 18062

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on the 50th Golden Jubilee celebration of the Tamil Nadu Foundation! Your organization's commitment to empowering underserved Tamilians over the last five decades is commendable. You have made an impact on the lives of people from each of the 38 districts in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, and I look forward to seeing continued success from your organization.

Congratulations again on all your accomplishments, and best wishes to your organization!

Warmest regards,

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

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VILLAGE OF
ROSEMONT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF) was established 50 years ago in 1974 to help people from their native state of Tamil Nadu in India; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation provides help and support to people during calamities such as Hurricane Harvey, and the Maui wildfire; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the TNF is to empower the underserved in the state of Tamil Nadu in India through education, women's empowerment, rural development, and health and hygiene by enriching their educational, social, economic and cultural status; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation is joyfully celebrating their Golden Jubilee Celebration in Rosemont, Illinois from May 24th through May 26th.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bradley A. Stephens, Mayor of the Village of Rosemont, do hereby salute and commend the Tamil Nadu Foundation and I proclaim:

May 24, 2024

Tamil Nadu Foundation Day

in the Village of Rosemont and encourage all residents of Rosemont to join me in recognizing the Tamil Nadu Foundation's good work and congratulate them on their 50th Anniversary.

Bradley A. Stephens
Mayor



9501 West Devon Ave.
Rosemont, IL 60018

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Fax 847-696-2717

भारत का प्रधान कौंसल
शिकागो



CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA
CHICAGO

13 May 2024

I congratulate the Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF), Inc. USA on its Golden Jubilee.

TNF, USA has developed into a front ranking NGO, setting benchmarks for others in the sectors of women's empowerment, rural development and public health. On this occasion, I also congratulate the life members, donors and volunteers, without whose dedicated work and generous contribution, services of TNF would not be possible.

I hope that TNF, USA will grow from strength to strength and further expand its services in India.

(Somnath Ghosh)
Consul General



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 429

Commending the Tamil Nadu Foundation

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 8, 2024

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation, an organization dedicated to empowering the underserved in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu through education, women's programs, rural development, and health and hygiene initiatives, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF) was founded in 1974 by a group of Tamil Americans who wanted to develop ways to support people in need in their native state of Tamil Nadu; and

WHEREAS, today, there are nearly 30 chapters of the Tamil Nadu Foundation in the United States, including a chapter serving the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, which hosted the organization's 42nd National Convention in May 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Tamil Nadu Foundation seeks to enrich the educational, social, economic, and cultural status of individuals and families in need by establishing educational scholarships, providing technical journals and other educational resources, offering emergency assistance, and acting on a variety of worthy causes impacting Tamil Nadu; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, TNF has assisted nearly a half million beneficiaries through more than a thousand projects, including nearly 100,000 students empowered through the organization's ABC Project, which is designed to help students achieve grade-level proficiency and build confidence and morale; and

WHEREAS, to commemorate its 50th anniversary, the TNF is organizing its Golden Jubilee Celebrations from May 24-26, 2024, at the Rosemont Theatre in Rosemont, Illinois, which will feature many Tamil cultural performances and other attractions to honor and celebrate this important and joyous occasion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Tamil Nadu Foundation hereby be commended on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Tamil Nadu Foundation as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's mission and achievements.

House Patron: Srinivasan


Clerk of the House of Delegates

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Program Sponsor



**Dr. Rajammal
Jayakumar Family**



TNF Excellence Award for 2024 – Mr. Pandurangan Thukkaram



**Pandurangan Thukkaram
& Rohini**

I am pleased to write this note on **Mr. Pandurangan Thukkaram**, who is very fondly known to everyone as 'Ram.' We became acquainted in 1963 at Guindy Industrial Estate as engineers at one of the best tool rooms in India. Aspiring to achieve more incredible things, Ram left Madras for Europe, then to Canada, eventually landing at Racine, Wisconsin, in 1973. There, he started a small business manufacturing die castings and taking it to steady progressive growth in the coming years. His friends in Chicago introduced Ram to TNF, and he became very interested from the start. No one knew then what a promising start and blessing it would become for TNF. Enthused by TNF's great ideals and loftier goals, he became involved in various TNF activities and projects in the Chicago metro area. He was adept at managing his company and demanding civic engagements like TNF with equal interest and dedication, and he reaped much success in both.

When TNF decided to build its facility in Chennai, Dr. Palani Periasamy took the lead and approached the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M.G. Ramachandran, for guidance and help. Mr. MGR, known for his kind heart and unmatched innate generosity, volunteered to contribute to purchasing three grounds of land and allocated it to TNF in 1983. However, TNF soon faced a significant hurdle, as a few rapacious individuals challenged the allotment and took TNF to the Indian Supreme Court with lawsuits to seize the land. Though it took years, the Truth prevailed at the end. TNF won the case, and much appreciation goes to the relentless effort of TNF Chennai Chairman - Justice Mr. Venugopal.

Even though there was a steady stream of funds sent to Tamil Nadu by individuals sponsoring programs, there was no formal process to track them. There was a need for a functional team on the ground in Chennai. In 1989, Mohanam, then President of TNF USA, requested Ram to take on the challenge to build the TNF Center in Chennai. Inadequate funds and resources posed a challenge for Ram in executing the plan. But, to everyone's surprise, Ram and his brother Santharam decided to sell their father's home in Chennai. Entire sale proceedings helped inception the building construction, and Ram even further provided additional funding to complete the construction of the first floor of the building. TNF Center was inaugurated on December 21, 1998, by the Mayor of Chennai, Mr. M.K. Stalin.

Not satisfied with the accomplishments, Ram continued his pursuit of completing the original plan of building a multi-story TNF Center. As the saying goes, "having a will without a wallet" does not yield a favorable outcome! Ram called for a meeting at his home to explore ways to raise funds. By the end of that evening, Ram was able to secure the commitment of \$80,000 from four of his friends. His determination and capability to influence others, as he stands as a great role model for others to emulate, were the main reasons he could always surmount financial needs in any situation. Thus, TNF has secured the needed funds to start the construction work.

Soon, Dr. Anandakrishnan, the TNF Chennai Chairman, carried out the next phase of the construction, secured two contractors, and influenced them to settle for the lowest possible bid. We inaugurated the Center on June 10, 2005; U.S. Consul General, Mr. Ravi Candadai, presided.

With an intent to branch out to the professional development stream, Ram came up with another creative initiative in 1989: To commence the "TNF Thukkaram Career Guidance Program" with his funding. Guindy Alumni Association assumed the administrative role for this Program. It aimed to extend necessary career guidance and counsel students to prepare, target, and attain rewarding career paths. Building on this Program as a model, TNF later introduced its own steam to high school students in another configuration, the Soft Skills Development Program. When extended to over 250 schools, the Program proved to be a great success in enhancing the vocational capabilities of the students.

Ram was also responsible for a successful TNF project, "Computer on Wheels." While DR. M. Anandakrishnan envisioned the idea, Ram took up the accompanying financial responsibilities. At a time when people were becoming conversant with just handheld calculators, TNF leaped ahead and introduced computers to elementary and high school students. TNF sowed the seed for computer literacy and I.T. business development in the late 80s. Sensing its success, TNF members provided computers to more than 200 schools.

While the TNF Center stood tall, fully engaged in its envisioned role, the head office continued to face challenges in meeting the operation costs in Tamil Nadu. Funds were limited, a problem that would persist for years. Every successive TNF President faced difficulties meeting the Chennai Center's operational expenses. Ram, Mr. Paul Pandian, a member of the Dallas Chapter, and Dr. Ananthakrishnan joined hands to pay the staff and the bills to keep the operations alive. Amidst all these challenges, Dr. Anandakrishnan worked tirelessly as Chennai Chapter coordinator for more than 15 years. Subsequently, TNF USA took remedial steps to keep the operation at Chennai buoyant and funded. The current Board has marked it as one of the critical upcoming initiatives to reduce the operational expenditure in Chennai further.

TNF flourished with Ram at its helm for two terms and received incomparable benefits from his service and contributions. Ram came up with the idea of narrowing down the myriad TNF service offerings into four significant categories after researching and analyzing completed TNF projects, resulting in the birth of the current "The Four Pillars" logo. Ram did not limit his socio-cultural reach to TNF as there were other beneficiaries. He was the two-term President of Chicago Tamil Sangam and founder and President of the US India Chamber of Commerce, Chicago — a remarkable individual with inexhaustible vigor, energy, and generosity.

Ram has won many accolades in his life, among them: The distinguished Alumnus Award from Anna University and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor USA from President George Bush are noteworthy. He has always nurtured people around him and has encouraged many to pursue their passion and dreams. He is a simple and humble man with no pretention. A very caring, friendly, optimistic person.

I feel honored to write this tributary note about Ram, the coveted TNF Excellence Award recipient.

Kandasamy Manickam
Venice, Florida



P.C. CHANDRASEKAR



TNF Excellence Award for 2024

Great community service leaders execute their work with inspiration, conviction, and unshakeable confidence and purpose in their cause and achieve great results. If we make an attempt to identify one such leader in the annals of the Tamil Nadu Foundation Chennai Chapter, P.C. Chandrasekar will rise to the top!

Fondly known and addressed as "P.C.", Chandrasekar became an integral part of the organization at a very crucial period during the construction of the Chennai building. Between 1985 and 1995, the number of projects sponsored by donors from the U.S.A. steadily increased. However, their accountability on the ground in Tamil Nadu was dismal, raising concerns and demanding an administrative office in Chennai to streamline the process. Chandrasekar tirelessly served TNF for almost two decades, between 1990 – 2009 and registered one of the long tenured service records in TNF.

TNF USA fought a long legal battle spanning over six years to hold on to a piece of land donated to the organization by the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M. G. Ramachandran. Chandrasekar played a pivotal role during all those years with his able support. It would have been a lost cause, but for the valiant effort of the Board Members and Chandrasekar. One dramatic event will demonstrate Chandrasekar's commitment: He received a panic call at midnight from Dr. Rajendran, then TNF President, fearing encroachment on the land assigned to construct the Chennai office. Chandrasekar rode his bicycle to the site at next day early morning to ensure no one claimed ownership! He immediately undertook to barricade the property with a tall fence! During the proceedings of the legal battle in Madras High Court, Chandrasekar literally lived in its corridor supporting the legal team.

After the Chennai office came into existence, the administrative efforts of Chandrasekar, albeit armed with limited resources, enabled TNF USA to sponsor countless new projects, including women empowerment, educational assistance, eye camps, toilets for girls in schools, computer centers, low-cost computer education through Indira Gandhi Open University, Ponneri library project, among others. But for his passion, the Smokeless Kitchen project would not have become a reality.

Chandrasekar was punctilious with accounting, distribution of grants and their utilization, etc., which collectively, in the long run, helped with the approval of FRCA for our organization.

We get inspiration from his journey, identify courage from his victories, and above all the current and future generation of TNF volunteers will get motivation from the way he overcame struggles. The TNF Chennai office and the parent organization in the U.S.A. will remain indebted to P.C. Chandrasekar forever, and he truly deserves to receive the prestigious and coveted TNF Excellence Award for 2024.

Ravi Subramanyam



Tamil Nadu Foundation – 50 Years and Counting

Ram Thukkaram & Ravi Subramanyam



Introduction:

For every human being, knowledge about their ancestry, heritage, history, and 'roots' helps to anchor them to this world. It is also true for an organization. If we are closely associated with one, its history helps us celebrate and wholeheartedly support its mission. Tamil Nadu Foundation is fifty years old. Many of her new members, and more importantly, the younger generation participants, may not have a deep appreciation of the struggles its founders harbored. Yet, they prevailed in evolving the organization to its current healthy state. This article is an attempt to capture their arduous journey. We will refer only to the critical events that shaped the organization, giving preference to 'accomplishment' over 'activities.' For those interested in the chronology and dates of activities, some documents are available on the websites <https://tnfusa.org> and <https://tnfindia.org>. Unfortunately, we have lost precious archive materials due to floods and other reasons.

For future reference, the Board has committed to digitizing what still exists at the hands of past presidents and leaders. (This article is an : expanded/edited version of the original article by Ram Thukkaram, published in the "Tamil Nadu Foundation – 40th Anniversary and National Convention" report (pp. 44-51., to which we have added milestones from the last decade.)

1974 – 1983 - The Beginning:

What better way to start a philanthropic organization than on Thanksgiving Day? Half a century ago, on November 29, Thanksgiving Day of 1974, a few Tamilians did just that. They planted a seed for an initiative that has blossomed and flourished over the last fifty years, providing a charitable service on multiple fronts in Tamil Nadu today. Drs. Periasamy, Perumalswami, Palanisamy, and Thyagarajan, the founders of TNF, had gathered on that day with their family for a get-together when their conversation topic drifted from local mundane events to oft-discussed topic of how they could 'give back to' Tamil Nadu, their birthplace, and help those who were not as privileged in receiving education and having a fair chance to succeed in life. Nudged by their spouses to act (and not just 'talk') on their impulse to do good, the four Alumni members of PSG College agreed to move forward in starting an organization. Dr. Periasamy led the initiative and officially registered the Tamil Nadu Foundation in Baltimore, Maryland, in December 1975 and obtained tax-exempt status in June 1976, allowing for broader fundraising and project initiation in Tamil Nadu. Before that, eight families gathered at Poconos, Pennsylvania, in July 1975 and christened the organization "Tamil Nadu Foundation."

The first fundraising event occurred on May 1, 1975, in a New Jersey High School by selling home-cooked Indian snacks! It was a very modest beginning but a zealous endeavor led by those visionaries. The group sent a large consignment of used clothes to Tamil Nadu in June 1976.

In 1976, the newly founded organization held its first annual meeting at the University of Maryland. Twenty-three families attended the conference! TNF undertook the first fund drive to help victims of Madras Flood. TNF donated \$ 400.

The attendance at the 1977 annual meeting in Ohio increased to 43 families! Dr. M. Anandakrishnan, formerly Consular in charge of Science and Technology affairs at the Embassy of India, delivered the keynote address. The third most frugal annual meeting was at the University of Michigan, attended by 35 families. The revenue of \$665 exceeded expenses by \$34! Members approved commencing the TNF Chapter.

For this first decade, TNF operated mainly from the United States. During that time, projects sponsored by members directly received the remittance. TNF focused on the socio-economic needs of places that were familiar to donors. Many successfully implemented projects included vocational training for women's self-reliance, renovating rundown schools, scholarships to poor students, and extending economic support to orphanages.

1983 - 1988

As the number of projects grew, it became apparent that TNF needed to establish a local board of trustees to monitor the projects properly. In 1983, Dr. N. Mahalingam became the first Chairman of the newly formed Chennai Board of Trustees. Without an administrative office to operate from, initially, all trustees worked out of their homes.

1989

Thukkaram funded two TNF Career Guidance Programs at the College of Engineering, Guindy, and the Periyar Maniammai College of Technology for Women in Vallam, Thanjavur district, to assist students with their career aspirations. Response from students in leveraging assistance from the Guidance Programs has steadily grown, with more than 900 students attending the program in 2014. The Career Guidance Program at Guindy celebrated its 25th year of continual service in 2014.

1991 - TNF Anna University Computer Training Program for Rural School Children

The objective of the program was to popularize the use of computers in rural areas. Dr. M. Anandakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of Anna University at that time, developed the working model of cooperation among an NGO such as TNF, a technology institution like Anna University, and the education department of the government of Tamil Nadu. The shared vision of computer training for rural children catalyzed this cooperation.

The students received 100 hours of practical training in DOS commands, WordStar, Lotus 123 D baseIII Plus, and graphics through BASIC. Within four years, more than 100 teachers and thousands of rural school children received this training in 22 Government schools in Vellore, Salem, and Trichy districts. Ram Thukkaram, TNF Center coordinator, funded the project.

This training program gained TNF recognition as one of the progressive NGOs in Tamil Nadu. The Anna University Computer Training Program for Rural School Children inspired the starting of a computer lab at the TNF center's new building. The computer center enabled TNF to convince Indira Gandhi National Open University to establish a Program Study Center to offer working adults low-cost MCA and BCA degrees through evening and weekend programs.

1990 - 1998 - TNF Center, Phase 1

The Board decided to build a center in Chennai to properly execute the growing list of member-sponsored projects in Tamil Nadu. At that time, the then chief minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M.G. Ramachandran, was in the United States on an official visit. During that visit, Dr. G. Palani Periasamy met with the Chief Minister and briefed him on TNF's plans and accomplishments. The Chief Minister was impressed by the work and offered to provide help. In compliance with the Land Ceiling Act, which redistributed land, the Chief Minister allotted three grounds of land at Kilpauk, Chennai - a prime location in the city. Dr. Periasamy's role was significant in getting the land allotted to TNF.

Mohanam, the President of TNF appointed in 1989, played a leadership role in finalizing the building plan. However, there were many roadblocks to getting this Center built. The condition of the allotment was that TNF would establish a technology center within two years from the allotment date. However, problems such as a shortage of funds and difficulty finalizing the plans for the Center put TNF in danger of missing the deadline. Subsequently, the government had the right to take back the land. In the spring of 1990, under Dr. Pitchumani's presidency, Ram Thukkaram was appointed TNF Center Coordinator, responsible for completing the Center in two phases. Phase 1 consisted of the basement and first floor, and Phase 2 added three floors, creating a 10,000 square-foot building with ten wings of 2,000 square feet each.

When Dr. Pitchumani's term expired in July 1990, Dr. A.M. Rajendran took over as TNF President. Because of the threat of losing the land, Dr. Rajendran quickly installed a new board to best deal with the land issue. The reconstituted Board included Justice Venugopal as Chairman. Other board members included Dr. M. Anandakrishnan, Dr. S. Daivamani, Dr. Arcot Gajaraj, and Prof. G. Ayyasamy. P. Chandrasekaran, who had been serving as a Special Consultant to monitor TNF projects, became Secretary of the Board. At that time, the foundation had no title or documents for the land to prove ownership. All TNF possessed was a government order number. TNF was quite fortunate to have Justice Venugopal as our counsel to deal with such legal difficulties.

TNF was also fortunate for the work of Dr. S. Daivamani, a senior executive in the government. He was able to find the government order number, along with the conditions for allotting the land to TNF for the construction of the Technology Center. By the fall of 1990, the two-year deadline had passed, and, at that point, a simple order from a revenue official could have deprived TNF of the allotted land.

TNF applied for an extension with a convincing presentation about how the Technology Center would help the people of Tamil Nadu with education, technology transfer, Health and hygiene, and rural development. TNF received the extension after explaining that there had been a delay in raising the funds for the construction in the United States. Despite this victory, another legal problem erupted.

An opportunist created a document claiming ownership of the land since TNF had not immediately occupied the land and begun construction of the technology center. The opportunist obtained a stay order from the high court of Tamil Nadu, thereby stopping TNF from proceeding with any construction activities. Justice Venugopal and the senior advocate M.N. Padmanabhan thwarted the stay order. Construction of the compound wall to the TNF center began. But the opportunist appealed against the ruling and won another stay. Construction stopped again. The legal battle continued for five years. TNF fought the battle in Madras High Court and won a favorable court order. It was a trying period, and TNF came close to losing the legal battle on several instances.

The opportunist tried to go to the Supreme Court. Justice Venugopal filed a caveat with the Supreme Court, arguing that the case should not be admitted because there was no public interest in reversing the order of the Madras High Court. The report submitted was so convincing that the Supreme Court rejected the appeal outright. The Supreme Court did not even hear the case. Finally, after five years, TNF was allowed to construct the technology center.

Whatever funds the TNF Board had at its discretion for the construction work was consumed in the protracted legal battle. In the meantime, the price of construction had increased significantly. TNF now needed \$100,000.

At that point, Thukkaram, TNF Center Coordinator, prepared a 16-page pamphlet describing TNF's activities and planned future endeavors, which was widely distributed to thousands of Americans of Tamil origin to generate interest in supporting the cause financially. Drs. Manogaran and Sounderbandian, professors at the University of Wisconsin and directors of TNF helped with the funding appeal.

Dr. Rajan K. Raj, a neurosurgeon and American of Sri Lankan Tamil origin from Oakbrook, Illinois, donated \$20,000 to sponsor a wing in the name of his deceased wife. Ram Thukkaram and his brother, Santharam, sold their ancestral property in Besant Nagar to cover the remaining project costs to complete Phase 1.

On December 21, 1998, The TNF Center inaugurated the new building. Mayor of Chennai, M.K. Stalin, presided. The final cost of Phase 1 was approximately \$ 90,000.

1994 - TNF Chemkit Project

There are several high schools in Tamil Nadu without any laboratory facilities. The Chemkit is a miniaturized laboratory kit that allows students to perform experiments necessary for their studies. Professor K. Balasubramaniam of M.I.T., Chrompet developed the Chemkit. TNF organized many workshops using the Chemkit. Many TNF members supported this project, particularly Mr. Paul Pandian. More than twenty-five schools received the kit, a testament to TNF's commitment to education.

1998 - TNF Computer Center

TNF Center opened the computer center in December 1998. TNF Computer Center helped thousands of students learn computer programs at a nominal cost. TNF helped set up computer centers in over 25 schools, reaching approximately 10,000 students in 10 districts. Working with many NGOs, TNF provided computers to more than 200 schools. TNF headed many activities to spread computer education throughout Tamil Nadu.

Due to Chennai's vast expansion of computer training centers, TNF closed the Computer Center in 2010, donating software and hardware to various schools. Mr. Thukkaram provided primary funding for the computer center.

1999 - TNF Hacin Family Foundation

For a decade, TNF was associated with the Hacin Family Foundation, supporting over 25 projects. Mr. Janez Hacin, an architect and philanthropist in Geneva, Switzerland, funded several charitable projects in Tamil Nadu -- The Kovalam self-help group, a free medical camp, the Ponnai school children project, scholarships, the Kuthambakkam toilet project, a rainwater harvesting project in Nagarkoil, the Citizen Development Center Project, the Thulir science project, were among the noteworthy initiatives.

2000 - TNF - Eye Camps

TNF has been conducting Eye Camps since 2000. Cataract surgery can help someone who is visually handicapped regain sight. TNF set up Eye Camps in several villages for eye examination and necessary surgical treatment. Arvind Eye Hospital Madurai provided therapy in most of the camps.

TNF & Ms. Pamela Walsh of Friends of India

Ms. Pamela Walsh is chairperson of Friends of India, a Geneva-based N.G.O., a longtime donor to TNF, and a driving force behind many of our projects. As part of the silver jubilee celebration of her ASC International Language School, Walsh explored suitable programs in Tamil Nadu to receive support. She visited many schools in Vellore and spent days in the classrooms, but she was troubled by the prevailing conditions. After the Vellore visit, she funded many projects to improve the infrastructure of schools. Her organization worked with the TNF Chennai Chapter to provide proper school uniforms for hundreds of students.

In addition, Friends of India donated money through TNF to Kovalam village to provide PVC water tanks, desilting village temple tanks, and repairing the toilets at Panchayat School, among many more important needs.

2000 - 2010 - Indira Gandhi National Open University & Tamil Nadu Open University at TNF Center

TNF Chennai trustees approached Indira Gandhi National Open University to qualify the TNF computer center as a Program Study Center for training students in the university's MCA, BCA degree programs. This initiative would bring recognition to the Center. One of the trustees, Prof. G. Ayyasamy, got approval with the help of Mrs. Soundravalli Kulandaiswamy, then Regional Director of Indira Gandhi National Open University. A study center must have adequate computers, software, and an approved program administrator. It also needed an academic counselor approved by Indira Gandhi Open University. Mr. Chandrasekaran managed the overall program.

The MCA, BCA, and Certificate programs from Indira Gandhi National Open University gave the TNF Computer Center credibility to run its programs. When Tamil Nadu Open University was started in 2004, TNF became their program study center and offered similar courses.

TNF conducted 6-month courses for B.Com, B.B.A., and BA Corporate Secretary programs. Nearly 6,500 students graduated at a meager cost at the Center. Funding that came about because of these programs helped the operation of the TNF Chennai chapter. It also contributed 10 Lakhs (\$25,000) towards the second construction phase.

2005 - Smokeless Kitchens

TNF invited Ms. Walsh to visit Athur in Sholavaram block in Thiruvallur district, where she wanted to establish a computer center. During her stay, she visited Anganwadi daycare centers in Tamil Nadu. These daycare centers used conventional mud chulas to cook the midday meals for the children. These chulas created a lot of unhealthy smoke, which lingered around the children. Concerned over the safety of the children, Ms. Walsh launched the Smokeless Kitchen Project.

Aided by donations from Friends of India, TNF members, and the government of Tamil Nadu, the program spread. நமக்கு நாமே திட்டம் and self-sufficiency schemes also helped. TNF was able to help spread donations from Friends of India to many districts, including Theni, Dindugal, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Ariyalur, Thirunelveli, and others. As of 2013, the initiative by Ms. Walsh has helped TNF implement more than 12,000 smokeless stoves in Anganwadi Centers in Tamil Nadu.

The government of Tamil Nadu has adopted this project and is committed to providing smoke-free stoves to all daycare centers in Tamil Nadu. Recently, the government of India suggested that all state governments help daycare centers to be smoke-free.

Tailoring Program

A tailoring program was started at the TNF Center in 2005 as part of a women's empowerment program. A full-time instructor employed by TNF has trained more than 500 women from economically disadvantaged areas. The training has helped many women get employment in garment shops. Since 2012, TNF has provided sewing machines to scores of women.

In March 2012, TNF Chennai received a Vocational Training Provider Certificate from the central government in Delhi. This certificate and registration with the government allows TNF Chennai to provide a government-approved certificate to those who finish the course. This official certificate opens many doors for job opportunities. This tailoring program is scalable in rural areas of Tamil Nadu.

TNF Center - Phase 2

The impetus for starting the second Phase of the TNF Center came from Indira Gandhi Open University. The university was considering cutting off funds because the Phase 1 TNF center did not have enough space for the number of students studying there. TNF needed approximately \$150,000 to complete Phase 2, which would give the Center additional space required for the Indira Gandhi Open University requirement. Thukkaram suggested contacting a few individuals to ask for a \$20,000 donation. For their generosity, TNF would name one wing of the Center after a loved one of their choosing.

Dr. Anandakrishnan donated \$20,000 after listening to the proposal. Paul Pandian of Dallas, Texas, donated \$20,000. M. Manickam, President of TNF- USA, donated \$20,000. Chandrasekaran, who managed the Indira Gandhi National Open University Program, generated additional funds. AC Muthiah of SPIC donated \$2,500 (1 Lakh Rupees) and Thukkaram donated the balance. The second Phase was opened on June 10, 2005, by Ravi Candadai, U.S. Consul General in South India. The approximate cost of construction was \$160,000.

2006 - Laia Foundation

TNF started working with the Laia Foundation in 2006. The Laia Foundation is an Indian Charitable Trust dedicated to building a better future for inhabitants of many villages around Vedanthangal, Kancheepuram District. TNF secretary Mr. Chandrasekaran has counseled on many initiatives of the Laia Foundation. Funds from overseas were channeled through TNF to the Laia Foundation. TNF helped the Laia Foundation deal with many government regulations, which led to the

successful implementation of many Laia Foundation projects. Luis Compte, founder of Laia Foundation, Vedanthangal, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu, is the recipient of the TNF Excellency Award 2014.

2007 - Ponneri Library Improvement

Ponneri is a small town in Thiruvallur district north of Chennai. Though the Ponneri Library had existed for a long time, it was underutilized. TNF played an active role in changing its function by providing the needed infrastructure for computer training, soft skill training, and a book bank. The progress and the promise of a functional library prompted local donors to contribute to the cause. Today, Ponneri Library is one of the most often accessed libraries in Tamil Nadu, encouraging TNF to venture into improving other libraries in the State. Significant efforts are being made to rebuild the Tiruvottiyur Library for one crore rupee (\$170,000).

Anbalayam

Anbalayam, located in the rural town of Sirkazhi, is the home for 55 special-needs children. Ms. Meerabai Ekambaram, a local resident with a compassionate heart, founded the home in a rundown rental building.

There are more than 10 million special-needs children in India. Most of the children are forced orphans, abandoned by their parents by leaving them in public places like bus stands, railroad stations, and local markets, with the hope that someone will provide care to the children. When Mrs. Meerabai founded Anbalayam in 1998, she picked up the children at the bus stand at Sirkazhi. Anbalayam's children have the typical maladies of special-needs children, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, Downs Syndrome, autism, and multiple disabilities.

Dr. Somasundaram, TNF Director, was involved with an orphanage project near Sirkazhi and was made aware of the plight of the children of Anbalayam. He visited Anbalayam in 2006 and, to his dismay, found that the children starved most of the days. The orphanage was so bad that the children had to stand along the wall when it rained because the roof leaked badly.

A focused effort by Dr. Somalay to raise funds through the Philadelphia Tamil community resulted in a new building of 3,000 square feet in TNF-owned land. Tamil Sangam of central Indiana and Dallas-based Sashta Tamil Foundation, Stage Friends, U.S.A., have set up a corpus fund for the uninterrupted running of the Center.

2008 - Kalanjiyam Pilot Project Primary Education

Fundraising at the 2008 TNF National Convention focused on preventing dropouts at primary schools. Based on a funded study, the TNF USA board showed that the dropout rate in rural areas was twenty to thirty percent. The funds collected were to be spent on a pilot project to study the problem thoroughly and eventually develop a methodology to make a difference in the primary education dropout issue.

For the pilot project, the TNF USA Board identified Kalanjiyam, a proven organization with enough experience in rural villages. It awarded a three-year contract for \$60,000 to improve primary education and reduce dropout rates in four villages chosen for their economically disadvantaged situation.

Kalanjiyam worked with local village leaders, government education authorities, and school staff. Women from the villages were hired as social workers. They also served as substitute teachers or teacher's assistants. They were responsible for improving the educational environment, including purchasing books, notebooks, and basic furniture, enabling clean drinking water and toilet facilities, providing transportation assistance to children, computer training, and sports and recreational activities.

The Kalanjiyam engagement convinced the TNF board of the need to undertake a similar program in a vastly improved, cost-effective way. The learning experience was instrumental in paving the way for implementing the TNF ABC Project.

2009 - Elathur Coaching Project to Improve Graduation of 10th Grade Students

Concern at the dismal graduation rate of 10th-grade students, raised by a school headmistress, prompted TNF to

explore a customized coaching program at Elathur government high school in Vellore District, an Adhi Dravida school functioning under the Adhi Dravida welfare department. In the year 2006-2007, the passing rate was 28%.

TNF provided four months of customized coaching in all subjects as a pilot program that employs school teachers. The late evening classes also included meals for the students. The results were phenomenal. The graduation rate increased to 82% in 2008 compared to 28% in 2007. During the school term 2008-2009, there was an opportunity for students who failed 10th grade to reappear for the examination. With the help of the headmistress, TNF recruited field staff to coach the failed students. With a few exceptions, all students were laborers. TNF gave additional coaching to all 75 failed students and enabled them to take the board examination. The graduation rate for this group was 85%. More importantly, these students continued their schooling beyond 10th grade.

2010 - First Annual TNF Chennai Chapter Conference

More than 200 guests and representatives from other NGOs attended the first annual TNF Chennai Chapter conference. Four speakers from the government and four from non-governmental organizations addressed the gathering on the real issues in Tamil Nadu, such as education, women's empowerment, Health and hygiene, and rural development. Ideas generated laid the foundation for the 'Four Pillars of TNF' to serve the underprivileged.

2011 - Soft Skill Training Program

After graduating high school, employment requires 'real-world (soft) skills' beyond academic excellence. TNF started offering a tailor-made holistic two-day program on the high school premises, with materials and trainers from a leading center (Nettur Technical Training Foundation (NTTF)) in India. Communication, Time Management, Converting weaknesses into strengths, Presentation skills, Health and personal hygiene, Confidence building, and Career planning are a few of the soft skills students get trained in the course. In the first three years, 1500 students from 33 schools in seven districts benefited from the free course.

2011-2012

From his extensive tours of schools in the Sivagangai District and meetings with the school staff, district school officials, and parents, Dr. Somasundaram identified the lack of grade-level proficiency, especially among underprivileged students, as the antagonistic force egging them to drop out of school. Class teachers could not afford to pay attention to such students during regular classes. Dr. Somasundaram piloted an education initiative, ABC, in the Sivagangai District in 2011 to provide special coaching to these students in evening classes taught by their day-school teachers to augment their learning. The outcome was promising. The grades of the underprivileged students improved, and they were on par with their peers. In the next Phase, TNF offered ABC to all students in TNF-adopted schools in the District. Encouraged by the good results, TNF launched the ABC program in a second cluster of Districts in Vellore and North Arcot, followed by Cuddalore.

2013 - TNF ART GALLERY

Tamil Nadu Foundation, working with Tamil Nadu Arts & Crafts Improvement Association, facilitated the opening of an art gallery for members of TACIA. The gallery is on one of the 2,000-square-foot wings of the TNF center. There are ten of these wings, and one was leased to TACIA at a subsidized cost. The art gallery at TNF Center was inaugurated on November 21, 2013. TACIA is the only nonprofit organization in Tamil Nadu promoting art. As of May 2014, eight art exhibitions, including two children's exhibitions, have been held at the gallery.

2014

The TNF Summer Internship, initiated by Usha Chandra, was implemented. The first batch consisted of six students from the USA volunteering in Tamil Nadu. The program allows the students to connect with their roots in Tamil Nadu and develop leadership and team-building skills.

The internship program has led to the Young Professionals Committee and the establishment of the TAYMAI Grant Program. To date, 178 students from the USA have attended the internship program.

'Trip Advisor' from the USA provided a grant of \$ 150,000 toward the construction of classrooms at the SCGR High School, Amaravathipudur, Tamil Nadu.

2015 - Flood Relief

In the forty-one-year-long history of TNF, its rapid and sustained relief efforts provided to the victims of the disastrous December 2015 Tamil Nadu flood stand out as the most impactful human endeavor of the organization. More than 56,000 people received immediate assistance, with more than 90% of the funds (five crore Rupees) directly reaching people in need and utilized for long-term rehabilitation, schools, infrastructure, housing, libraries, livelihood programs, etc. Forty-nine NGOs leveraged the support of TNF, a genuine endorsement of its credibility, to funnel their resources to the flood victims.

Dr. Rammohan, former President of TNF, spearheaded the initiative to establish a corpus fund for one crore rupees. Interest from the fund enabled uninterrupted support for the maintenance and operation of the TNF Center.

2017-19

For the first time in TNF's history, TNF received more than a million dollars in donations sponsoring mainstream projects, which does not include contributions to relief for natural disasters. Life Membership exceeded 1000! The accounting process was streamlined by employing QuickBooks, increasing the efficiency of generating financial statements, online receipts, etc.

CI-TIC, Chennai Innovation-Technology Incubation Center is an initiative of Trichy Regional Engineering College for which TNF Chennai Center provided space in their building.

We started distributing the monthly newsletter. "Eegai". We have continued the tradition of consistently sending emails on the last day of every month.

2018

Mann Vaasanai Corpus Fund: TNF launched an \$ 8 million initiative at the 2018 New Jersey Convention to empower the 32 districts in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry to support uninterrupted crucial projects on education, women empowerment, rural development, and health & hygiene – the four pillars of that are the hallmarks of TNF. We aim to raise \$ 250,000 for each District and use interest money to support the District's initiatives.

TNF Young Professionals Committee conducted the Youth Convention at NJ and established a new grant called the TAYMAI Grant (Tamil American Youth Making Impact.) It will mainly encourage interns from the past to apply for a grant to execute a program of their choice in Tamil Nadu. The grant value ranges from \$ 500 to \$ 2000 for a maximum of three winners.

TNF responded with the utmost sense of emergency to help victims of Cyclone Gaja by building several makeshift houses and repairing classrooms. Thanks to the generosity of various chapters and individual donors, TNF raised nearly ten lakh rupees.

"Libraries are Temples" is an initiative to build one functional library per District with appropriate infrastructure and computer facilities.

Launched the digital classroom project, which has been a big success and has benefitted hundreds of students. Its primary objective is to use various learning modules to teach English and Maths to sixth- and eighth-grade students and expose them to computer technology.

2019

Usha Chandra became the first woman president of TNF! Six more Districts joined the ABC project, bringing the total to 15 Districts catering to 6,600 students in the rural government schools. One hundred sixty-nine students received scholarships to the tune of four million Rupees. The student Internship program has been attracting more students, with

thirty-eight students enrolling in 2019. TNF has been harnessing the power of digital technology to supplement traditional teaching methods in schools by coaching and periodically providing refreshers for teachers.

In February 2019, the Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Banwarilal Purohit, inaugurated Mann Vaasanai at the TNF Center. Mann Vaasani was expanded to 38 Districts in Tamil Nadu. The Corpus Fund target increased to \$ 9,500,000.

2020-21 - 2021-22 (Pandemic period):

TNF activities in the USA stood a standstill from March 2020 to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual general body meeting was conducted virtually, with record attendance by past presidents over Zoom.

During that period, the TNF USA board revised the Bylaws to include electronic communications for the membership. It gave two general directors the position of Director of Youth and Director of Technology and Communication.

TNF USA raised funds for food banks in many cities in the USA as part of COVID-19 relief efforts in the US.

TNF USA conducted two virtual music concerts in 2020-21 and raised nearly \$ 175,000 for the ABC initiative and Mann Vaasanai projects.

TNF Chennai Center sought new venues to reach out to students to prevent a complete engagement shutdown. With the new virtual classes model (no virtual classes. Coaching classes were conducted in rooftops, grassy areas, alleys, and other unique areas to keep the students engaged), the following are numbers of student beneficiaries: ABC special coaching classes (1631), academically low achievers (4791), soft skills training (4604), career guidance (2693), essay writing and elocution competition (654). Overall, TNF reached out to 17,438 students from 89 schools in 26 Districts. Five hundred seven students received scholarships, including 65 who have lost their parents to COVID-19 and donated medical equipment to Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals.

In Spring 2021, TNF partnered with ATEA, ATMA, FeTNA, Indiaspora, I.I.T. Madras Foundation, IIT MANA, CTA, and many other NRI. Tamil organizations raised more than One Million Dollars to send PPE, Oxygen Concentrators, and other equipment to provide help to fight against the COVID-19 resurgence in Tamil Nadu. Many celebrities and entrepreneurs participated in the two virtual events, enhancing the appeal and plea for donations. Many corporations and individuals donated generously, attributing to the unprecedented amount generated.

2022:

TNF undertook an aggressive fund drive, generating 1.2 dollars for the Corpus Fund for "Mann Vaasanai" and another million for other programs. TNF used interest generated from the first year to support school programs for the visually challenged (8), hearing impaired (5), mentally challenged (1), physically challenged (1), music (4), government higher secondary schools (16), and district education scholarships (3).

One of the most significant accomplishments was the renewal of registration under FCRA for the next five years, which provided permission to undertake social, economic, and cultural activities.

2022-23:

For the first time in the history of TNF, convention proceeds crossed the \$500,000 mark and reached a staggering \$1.9 million at the 4th national convention in 2022. Total Mann Vaasanai corpus funds jumped from 3.66 crore rupees in 2021 to 16.45 crores in 2023, a staggering 448% growth. 11 districts achieved their Phase I goal of raising 50 lakhs rupees. It took TNF 45 years to reach the one million donation mark in 2019. TNF was able to reach the target of two million dollars in 2022. For the first time, TNF's financials were independently audited in 2023, resulting in TNF earning the highest possible rating – 4 Stars – from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. The number of schools under the ABC program doubled from 47 to 97 during 2021-2023, benefiting over 138,000 students across 27 districts. The number of educational scholarships awarded doubled from the previous years, totaling nearly one crore rupees per

year. Youth Online eXchange (YoX), a program for youth from India and the US to exchange ideas, was initiated in 2022. TNF provided life-saving equipment to 37 government hospitals and ten primary health centers across 26 districts from the funds raised during the COVID-19 pandemic. TNF inaugurated its first nutritional supplement program for 6th-grade students in 10 ABC schools, addressing hunger and malnutrition, which are the leading causes of slow learning in rural area schools.

The travails and triumphs of the Tamil Nadu Foundation in the last five decades are nothing but ordinary, aided by scores of visionaries who derived immense gratification in finding opportunities to help their native place on Earth. It is now up to the younger generation to continue to make a difference in the lives of "Lesser Children of God," for whom living is an uphill task, devoid of even bare necessities that we take care of for granted.



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VEERA VENUGOPAL



Tamil Nadu Foundation Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

As we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Tamil Nadu Foundation (TNF), it is the apt time to take a walk down memory lane to recollect our journey so far. This will give us the perspective to reflect on how we reached this stage and cherish our current accomplishments as we envision our future growth.

TNF's Inception

Tamil Nadu Foundation Inc., USA was established in 1974 at Baltimore by our esteemed founding members Dr. P.G. Periasamy, Dr. G. Palanisamy, Dr. P.R. Perumalswami and Dr. P. Thyagarajan. Their collective vision contributed to shaping and strengthening the Foundation as a recognized charitable organization. TNF USA represented the commitment of the Tamil diaspora in US with an intent to improve the quality of life for the underprivileged and marginalized communities in Tamil Nadu.

The Tamil Nadu Chapter was established in Chennai in the year 1983, as a charitable, tax-exempted, non-profit organization, with a view to effectively channelize the resources mobilized by the Tamil Nadu Foundation Inc., USA.

Dr. M.G. Ramachandran (then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu) had blessed TNF and donated three grounds of land at Kilpauk (Chennai) to the Foundation. With the support of generous donors, TNF succeeded in constructing a three storied building at that site in a phased manner thus establishing TNF's Chennai center. TNF's Tamil Nadu chapter board is served by veterans in public service (retired IAS and IPS officers, leading humanitarians, senior lawyers, and reputed industrialists) and has around 200 full time employees/volunteers.

The Foundation and it's Tamil Nadu Chapter are relentlessly pursuing our mission to empower the underserved in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu focusing on:

- Enhancing quality of education in primary and secondary schools
- Creating awareness among rural population to improve their health and hygiene.
- Assisting in creation of basic infrastructure for rural development
- Empowering women through skill development to achieve better socio-economic status.

TNF's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of Tamil Nadu enables us to work effectively with any government schools in the State. In this regard, TNF has developed a unique ABC Model which focuses on the poorest students studying in government schools. The three components of the model are:

1. Achieving academic proficiency
2. Boosting the morale of the weaker students
3. Championing for higher aspirations

TNF's Achievements

- Over 25 Chapters functioning under TNFUSA supporting almost all districts in Tamil Nadu.
- TNF has enriched the lives of 500,000+ underprivileged community members in Tamil Nadu through 800+ projects.
- During COVID-19 pandemic, TNF collected medical kits, equipment and tools from various companies/donors worth more than \$1 million USD and distributed to various needy hospitals and medical centers in Tamil Nadu.

- TNF enriches the younger generation of US Tamils by offering Service and Education Summer Internship Programs for middle and high school students. While inspiring the youth to volunteer, this program offers the added benefit of being in touch with their heritage and staying connected with the culture of the land.
- TNF USA's local chapters conduct service workshops for children and youth with focus on compassion, volunteering, charity, and leadership.
- TNF has [501 (c) 3] tax exempt status in the US, [80 G] tax exempt status and foreign currency (FCRA) approval by the Government of India.
- More than 95% of the donations go directly to the specified project. The remaining ~ 5% is invested to identify, implement, and audit humanitarian projects all over Tamil Nadu.
- TNF is equipped with adequate resources (dedicated office in Chennai with staff and regional project coordinators around Tamil Nadu) to implement and audit the projects.
- When you donate to TNF, you are not simply donating to a general cause. You are donating to a specific project of your choice and can see exactly where your money goes.
- In our 49 years, we have learned and adapted along the way. In fact, many of our projects started small and then over time gathered momentum and made a real and significantly greater difference than we originally envisioned.
- TNF is like the banyan tree, growing and spreading roots. TNF, over a period of 50 years, has expanded to include more than 1500 family members with many projects, just like roots, growing ever stronger. TNF, like the banyan tree, casts long shadows that give shelter to those in need.

TNF's Present

We are in the midst of celebrating our golden jubilee year. The Chicago chapter along with the US chapters are working tirelessly to make the event an enormous success and provide a memorable experience for everyone who attends the event. Our program objectives include:

1. All the net proceeds from this event will be contributed to a corpus fund and the interest generated will be used toward the admin cost of running our Chennai TNF Center. The goal is to further reduce our current 5% administrative costs. This will allow donors to direct more of their funds towards their projects.
2. Integrate youth and young adults into TNF. We have them take the initiative to participate in several programs and decision making. We are proud to state that around 500 plus are involved or participating in multiple events during the two-day event. TNF's Austin chapter conducted their first youth conference recently and our Youth Director is excited to develop the next set of leaders who can take over the organization in coming years.
3. Create brand awareness about TNF among Tamil diasporas. We plan to expand our current chapters among all the major cities within the US and at a global level. We have prominent team members who are setting the ball rolling in this direction. This is a long-term objective, and we will be focusing on expanding it to the next level.
4. We are making focused efforts to increase our membership numbers by media promotions of the reasons why members should join TNF and reducing the membership fees.
5. We are rolling out implementation of CRM tools where we can create more visibility among all the players who are involved in our charity Chain.
6. TNF was awarded a 4-star rating by Charity Navigator*. This is a significant milestone in our efforts to increase transparency and accountability.
7. To extend our community outreach, we partner with organizations like American Tamil Medical Association (ATMA), American Tamil Entrepreneurs Association (ATEA), Federation of Tamil Sangams in North America (FeTNA).

*For the first time, TNF's financials were independently audited in 2023, resulting in TNF earning the highest possible rating – 4 Stars – from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. Indian non-profit organizations must have a valid FCRA Registration to receive charitable funds from donors outside of India legally; TNF received its renewal in 2022. Overall, TNF is well-equipped to continue its engagement in Tamil Nadu, serving the underprivileged.

TNF's Vision for the future

Over the past half-century, the world has witnessed staggering transformations. An increasing number of individuals from our community have risen to decision-making positions in Fortune 500 companies. Our community's innovators and successful entrepreneurs have played a significant role in this worldwide shift.

To keep up with the advancements, every organization needs to reorient and keep pace. We plan to focus on the following areas to expand our footprint.

- Support our marginalized, and aspirational communities to become self-sufficient and establish themselves as contributing members of their communities. We wish to encourage them to consider 'paying back' to their community by lending a helping hand to someone less fortunate.
- Expand TNF and make it a global organization.
- Coach and encourage youth to become the cornerstone of TNF to expand the organization into the future.
- Develop a vibrant network for sharing and exchanging best practices and opportunities available to our fellow Tamils.
- Build brand awareness for TNF so that donors can associate TNF as their organization of choice for all their charitable donations.
- Modify bylaws to allow the organization discretion to fund local causes.
- Make information available to donors through mobile application.

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Jeyamariappan Ganapathy, CFA
REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR

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- ✓ Prepare balance sheet and income statements
- ✓ Book keeping
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- ✓ Investment strategy - Real estate
- ✓ Business valuation consulting

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- ✓ Tax savings consulting
- ✓ Financial planning
- ✓ Assets management 401k/IRA and brokerage accounts
- ✓ Estate planning WILL & TRUST
- ✓ College Savings
- ✓ Instate eligibility
- ✓ NRI funds repatriation from India, transferring assets from India
- ✓ Family financial risk management
- ✓ Employee Benefits and compensation consulting
- ✓ NRI migrating back to India - handling the assets in the USA

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Tamil Nadu Foundation Endowment Funds

Ravi Subramanyam

An established charity organization like TNF can be responsive and continue to engage in its committed project activities only if its finances are robust and not challenged by uncertainties. The functioning of a charity is very similar to that of a university. The main strength of major universities in the U.S.A. is their endowment funds, built on generous donations from their alumni.

In the last five decades, TNF has grown and evolved in its ability to support programs in Tamil Nadu on multiple fronts, thanks to its steadily increasing list of life members and significant donors. However, to sustain its mission, the organization is promoting the growth of the three corpus funds, which lend much-needed buoyancy to the Tamil Nadu Foundation's longevity and growth.

The details on the purpose of each fund and how they are financially supported are given below:

1) TNF Humanitarian Fund

Financed By : A 5% withholding from all donations and life membership fee dues are the primary funding sources for this Fund.

Purpose : Provide immediate assistance to victims of natural disasters, offset some operating expenses if no other sources exist, and approve any one-off project expenses by the Board.

2) TNF District Endowment Fund (Mann Vaasanai)

Financed By : Donations made to the Tamil Nadu District of their choice (38 districts and Pondicherry), supplemented by the funds generated in the TNF Conferences held in 2019 and 2022.

Purpose : We will use the interest generated from the corpus fund allocated for that district to provide financial support to the TNF projects (ABC, scholarship, supplemental nutrition, school uniform, etc.) specific to the District and fund Board-approved school projects.

3) TNF Pillar Fund

Financed By : Fundraiser conducted by TNF USA Board.

Background : Since the founding of the TNF Chennai Office, TNF USA has struggled with how best to meet the administrative cost of running it. Funds from local initiatives, such as computer classes, etc., fell short of being a steady source of income. In 2015, a corpus fund, TNF Pillar Fund, valued at one crore rupees, was established, which enabled us to commit 100% of the donation for the project and not to take out any amount for the administrative costs. Since then, the number of projects has exponentially increased, forcing us to occasionally access a fraction (1-2%) of the Humanitarian Corpus Fund, which is not a desirable option to follow in the long run.

Proposal : To increase the value of the TNF Pillar Fund to avoid accessing the Humanitarian Fund to support the expanding role of the TNF Chennai Office, we encourage TNF members to donate generously to the endowment mentioned above funds so we can continue to sustain all our projects uninterrupted.



NAGAMMAI BHASKAR

TNF Secretary



TNF SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2023-2024

Since our last General Body Meeting, the Tamil Nadu Foundation has made significant strides. Below are summarized TNF's accomplishments from June 2023 to May 2024:

- TNF has raised more than \$1.3 million in donations for the fiscal year ending on March 31st, 2024.
- We hold our regular monthly board meetings on the second Thursday. The board members actively participate in and contribute to defining the strategy and implementing TNF activities.
- Minutes from the previous board meeting and the monthly report from the Treasurer are actively reviewed before approval.
- The Chairman of the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, and the Executive Director from the Chennai Center participate in the board meetings periodically. The Chennai center also submits a detailed monthly report covering the projects and other activities for each board meeting.
- Dr. Padmini Ranganathan and Mr. Ramesh Shankar are the newly elected General Directors for the period of June 2023 through May 2026.
- A grand year-end virtual musical event conducted in December 2023 raised over \$150,000 to support the immediate relief efforts for the damage caused by the hurricanes in Chennai and the surrounding areas.
- Through the diligent efforts of several board members, about 25 regional chapters have been established throughout the US. Several chapters have organized chapter meetings, information sessions, and in-person regional charity events such as walkathons.
- 228 new life members have joined TNF during in 2023-24, bringing the total to 1,504 life members.
- During this period, the board approved twenty new projects sponsored by individuals or the board. The projects covered many areas, such as women's empowerment, educational scholarships, and flood relief.
- The TNF USA website (<https://tnfusa.org>) is enhanced and is kept up to date with relevant information on chapters, events, projects, members, and initiatives.
- The TNF Youth Committee has been very active in engaging the youth across the US in philanthropic activities through TNF, such as summer internships in India, the TAYMAI (Tamil American Youth Making An Impact) grant competition, the YOX (Youth Online XChange) program, and the Essay Writing competition. The spirit of giving back to the community ranks very high amongst the future torchbearers of TNF!



VALLI RAGHAVAN
Treasurer

TNF Treasurer's Report Balance as of Mar 31, 2024



General Body Meeting Treasurer Update – May 2024

Continue to

- Issue receipts to individual donors via email
- Issue monthly report to all project owners & chapter teams
- Donations received through credit card, Zelle, PayPal and checks
- Reimbursements are made via Zelle and bill pay service minimizing cost
- Online registrations for all TNF events
- Two consecutive years of successful auditing
- Total income 1.3M+
- Around 27% of total donations were from chapters, 19% from individual projects, 11% from Board projects, 5% from Disaster relief projects and 2% from Mann Vaasanai.
- Total donations sent to Chennai for projects is over US\$500k+
- Over 70% of donations were above \$1000
- Total donors – 2300+

	As of Mar 31, 2023	Activity	As of Mar 31, 2024
ASSETS			
Bank Balance and Equity			
Bank Accounts	\$1,073,323.04	\$345,686.82	\$1,419,009.86
Certificate of Deposit Accounts	\$255,948.60	\$8,729.03	\$264,677.63
Total Bank Accounts	\$1,329,271.64	\$354,415.85	\$1,683,687.49
Other Assets			
Stock Account			
Total Other Assets			
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,329,271.64	\$354,415.85	\$1,683,687.49
LIABILITIES			
Total Current Liabilities	\$409,332.17	(\$26,635.43)	\$382,696.74
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$679,698.56	\$247,968.43	\$927,666.99
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,089,030.73	\$221,333.00	\$1,310,363.73
EQUITY			
Life Membership-Restricted Fund	\$161,184.54	\$39,757.50	\$200,942.04
TNF Humanitarian Project (General) Fund	\$79,056.37	\$93,325.35	\$172,381.72
TOTAL EQUITY	\$240,240.91	\$133,082.85	\$373,323.76
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,329,271.64	\$354,415.85	\$1,683,687.49

Notes:

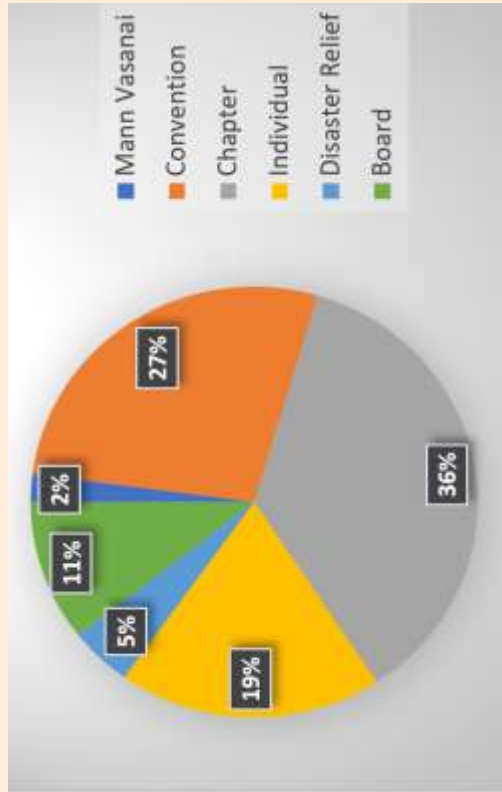
- Activities include net of donations received, transfers made to Chennai and expense paid during fiscal year.
- Amount added or subtracted to project balance (liability) during the fiscal year.
- Activities during this fiscal year includes new membership & general donations received.

Veera Venugopal
President, TNF USA

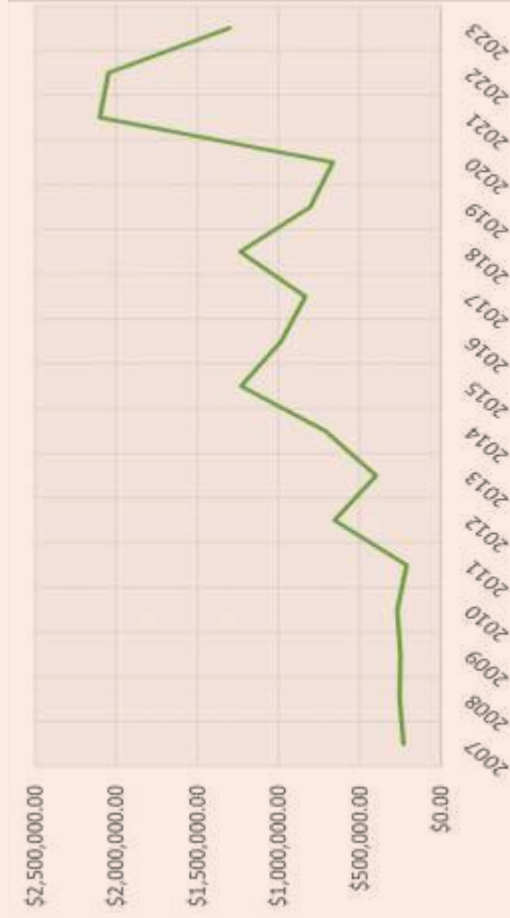
Valli Raghavan
Treasurer, TNF USA

Prabhakar Santhanakrishnan
Joint Treasurer, TNF USA

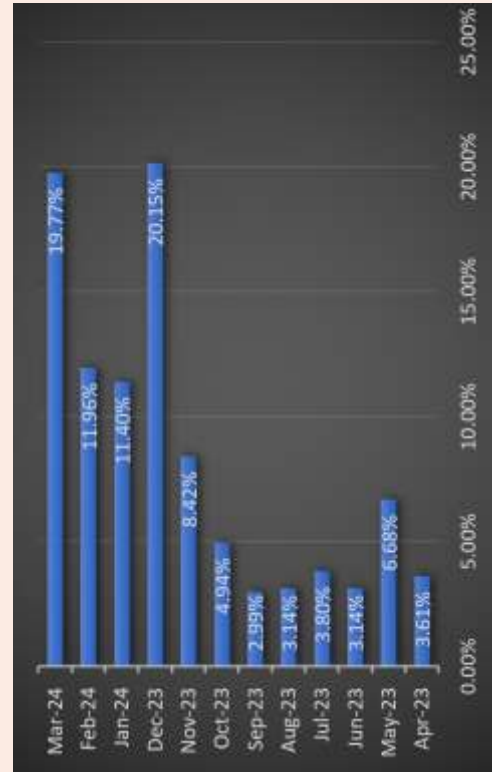
2023 - 2024 Contribution by Project



Historical Contribution and Grants
Source QuickBooks/Form 990



2023-2024 Contribution
& Grants (Month)



2023-2024 Contribution and Grants
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**SHANMUGHAPRAKASH
NATARAJAN**
VP Projects



TNF Projects Annual Report 2023-2024

Name of the Project	Name of the Donor
ESSVEE Foundation Scholarship	ESSVEE Foundation
P.A.R. Palanisamy Gounder & Mrs Lakshmi Ammal Memorial Educational Scholarship	Memorial Fund
Dhanalakshmi Rangachari - Thanjavur Kuruvikkarambai & Changamangalam ABC Project	Dhanalakshmi Rangachari
Computers for three 3 NY Chapter ABC schools	Mala Balakumar
AbbVie \$25,000 grant	AbbVie
Academic Enrichment Competition	Karthikeyan
Sakunthala Nagappan Project	Suresh Nagappan
TN Government Observatory Homes, Chennai	TNF Dallas Chapter
Thondamuthur Boys High School Scholarship	Kaliappan Gopalan
Restoration of TNF Chennai office due to floods	TNF Board
Training to make Burfi Sweets	Chandrasekara Kayambo
Thiyagarajan Vivek's Educational Scholarship	Thiyagarajan Vivek
Rama Ramalingam's Education Initiatives	Rama Ramalingam
Repairs and Renovation of Government Higher Secondary School, Silamalai, Theni District	Rajaram Srinivasan
Dr. Chandran Memorial Educational Scholarship	Chitrlekha Chandran
Pilot Project on Feminie Hygiene in Salem Distrct ABC Schools	Vanitha Selvan
One additional school under ABC project in Salem District	TNF South Florida Chapter
Implementation of ABC project in Panchayat Union Middle School, Namanur, Sivagangai District	Velmurugan Periasamy
Flood relief for Thoothukudi	TNF Board
Michaung Cyclone Flood Relief	TNF Board
Government Higher Secondary School - Yercaud & Mettupatti and Government ITI for Women, Salem	Ashokkumar
Orphanage & Education Project	Dr. Jayanthi K Peters
English Language Skills	Aparna Ravindranath
Tamil Literature Project	Mike Manickam



**MURUGANANDAN (DAN)
PALANISAMY**
VP Chapters



TNF CHAPTERS ANNUAL REPORT - 2023-2024

Chapters are the operational units in the US with the primary function of reaching out to people in the respective region and conducting fundraising events to support various TNF project activities in Tamil Nadu. Last year, TNF USA Chapters raised over \$400k+ for multiple projects, including the flagship ABC education projects. For details, please refer to the Treasurer's Reports. We are pleased to inform you of the addition of six new Chapters in the US, and revival of two from the past (shown below.) Making An Impact grant competition, the YOX (Youth Online XChange) program, and the Essay Writing competition. The spirit of giving back to the community ranks very high amongst the future torchbearers of TNF!

Chapter Fundraising Events -2023

City Chapter	Events Organized	Target Project Activities
Bay Area	Walkathon and Valentine's Day Comedy Events	2 ABC Initiatives - Digital Classroom and Nutrition Supplements
Central Ohio	Walkathon, QFR Musical, Table Tennis Events	5 ABC Initiatives - Women Empowerment Projects
Dallas	Annual Fundraiser (Nizhalin Nijam)	Government Observatory Home, Maui Wildfire Victims, and 2 ABC Projects
Washington DC	Building 18 Standup Comedy and Music Events	13 ABC Projects in three Districts
Houston	Children's Day and Mother's Day Events	6 ABC Projects
Michigan	Walkathon, Music and Sports Events	6 ABC Projects in Namakkal
New York	Building 18 Standup Comedy Event	ABC Projects
Northeast	Walkathon Event	ABC Projects, Libraries are Temples,
Ohio		Soft skill training, YOX and Loves projects
Philadelphia	Walkathon Event	12 ABC Projects and Youth Initiatives like YOX Projects
South Florida	Walkathon and Valentine's Day Banquet Events	5 ABC, Talking Pen, Female Health and Hygiene and Youth Initiative Projects
Wisconsin	Fundraising Luncheon Event	Chennai Flood Victims
Austin	Mother's Day Gala	7 ABC and Women Empowerment Projects

Active TNF Chapters as of April 2024:

State	City Chapter	State	City Chapter	State	City Chapter
AZ	Phoenix*	IL	Chicago	OH	Ohio - Central
CA	Bay Area	IL	Illinois – Central*	OH	Ohio - Northeast
CA	Sacramento*	MA	Boston	PA	Philadelphia
DC	Washington D.C	MI	Michigan	PA	Pittsburgh**
FL	Florida - Central	NC	Raleigh*	TX	Austin
FL	Florida – North*	NJ	New Jersey	TX	Dallas
FL	Florida - South	NY	New York	TX	Houston
GA	Atlanta**			WI	Milwaukee*

* New Chapters; ** Revived Chapters

We encourage you to participate in an active TNF Chapter in a city near you. If you do not find a TNF Chapter nearby, we encourage you to explore starting one. For a complete list of chapters and their activities, please visit the TNF USA website: <https://tnfusa.org/chapters/>. For any additional assistance, please get in touch with us at vpchapters@tnfusa.org.

Operational Guidelines for TNF Chapter:

- 1) A minimum of five life members should be present in a city to initiate a Chapter
- 2) The officer term shall be two years and can be extended for an additional two-year term, elected by Chapter members
- 3) Required to conduct at least one Annual chapter fundraising event (open-ended target) and support the annual national convention
- 4) The TNF VP of the Chapters should run a quarterly meeting with all the member Chapter groups to share information about TNF activities.

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LAKSHMI MUNUGOOR
VP Membership



TNF MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 2023-2024

Life Members: The Pillar of TNF

Life members form the bedrock of a nonprofit organization like TNF. The strength of our membership speaks volumes about the incredible work we do. While TNF has successfully raised millions of dollars for hundreds of projects, it's time to expand and grow our membership base to ensure an even greater impact.

Join Hands in Celebration

As part of our year-long Golden Jubilee celebration, we have launched the campaign: "கை கோர்ப்போம்! கரம் கொடுப்போம்! (Let's Join Hands, Let's Lend a Hand!)" to initiate our membership expansion drive. The campaign began on October 2nd, 2023 as we commemorated the remarkable contributions of three great Indian leaders: Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, and Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar's tireless efforts to eradicate illiteracy in Tamil Nadu laid the foundation for educational development in the state. TNF has proudly followed his footsteps, and on this significant day, we introduced our Golden Jubilee Membership Campaign.

Membership Fees

Family Membership : During this campaign, the Life Membership dues for a family was reduced to \$200 (from \$300), which entitles the family to two votes in an election.

Single Membership : For individuals, the Life Membership has become \$150 (reduced from \$200), which entitles the individual to one vote in the election.

Results & Outcome

As can be seen in the following chart, the campaign has yielded very robust results with new members joining TNF in great numbers.



வரப்புயர நீர் உயரும்
நீர் உயர நெல் உயரும்
நெல் உயரக் குடி உயரும்
குடி உயரக் கோல் உயரும்
கோல் உயரக் கோன் உயர்வான்
— “ஒளவையார்”

அறக்கட்டளையின் கிளைகள் உயர உறுப்பினர் எண்ணிக்கை உயரும், உறுப்பினர் எண்ணிக்கை உயர் நம் அறக்கட்டளை உயரும், அறக்கட்டளை உயர தமிழ்நாட்டு மக்கள் வாழ்வயரும்!



MANNAR DHANDAPANI

Director - Youth



TNF YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR 2023 - 2024

"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow." - Nelson Mandela

Celebrating our Golden Jubilee, we recognize the role of our youngsters in shaping the future of our organization. However, despite their commitment during School days, many don't return to serve later. This challenge isn't unique to us but is shared by many organizations. Nonetheless, TNF has already begun the work to address the challenge. As we celebrate our past, let's also focus on the future: *How can we prepare today's youth volunteers to become tomorrow's leaders?*

Our flagship youth program, the **Service & Education Internship**, launched in 2014, allows high school students to intern at an ABC school during summer. This initiative marked the inception of numerous youth programs, eventually consolidated under the **TNF Youth LOVES** brand. Program participants benefit by strengthening their ties with our ancestral culture, honing leadership skills, and accruing volunteer hours. Observing the excitement among visiting students at the TNF Chennai office, our co-tenant of the TNF Chennai office building, the **Center for Medical Genetics**, offered to provide a one-week STEM training program tailored for students interested in pursuing careers in Science. Participants delve into bio-genetics and engage in research activities.

Those who participate in the internship often express a change in their perspective on life's privileges they take for granted which led to the creation of **TAYMAI grants (Tamil American Youth Making Impact)**, by our **Youth & Young Professionals committee**, allowing summer interns to apply for the TNF USA board grants. The winners of the grant get to explore their ideas in ABC schools. TNF introduced a pilot program, **Youth Online Exchange (YOX)**, leveraging technology to facilitate ongoing engagement between U.S. and India-based students beyond the summer months. Initially the emphasis was STEM education, but with time the program has become a platform for mutual learning beyond STEM, including art, culture and more.

Recognizing the importance of early engagement, our youth have expanded the scope of their programs to all under 18 through the **Youth Special Occasion** project. Originating from the Central Ohio chapter youth, the program allows TNF kids to pledge to support their counterparts in Tamil Nadu schools by funding quality school supplies. They raise funds for the cause by requesting guests of their special occasion parties (e.g., Birthday) to donate instead of gifts. However, how do you help a young child make such a big decision? The **Summer Essay contest**, ideated by a junior high student from the North East Ohio chapter for K-12 students, encourages critical thinking and engagement, enabling them to think outside the box.

Charity begins at home. TNF's Serve Local program brings younger members of our chapters together to serve their own communities through activities such as food bank volunteering, garden clean-up, etc. This program instills in them the value of giving back at a young age. Many TNF youth go the extra mile and contribute their skills to raise funds/awareness about TNF through the **Serve with Skills** program.

Tamil Nadu Foundation is a certifying organization for the **Presidential Volunteer Service Award**. This prestigious honor celebrates the altruistic efforts of our youth volunteers in serving TNF, their communities, and beyond.

With the experiences volunteers gain as part of TNF initiatives, our youth become **TNF Messengers** of the future in their own communities.

We created TNF Youth LOVES two years ago to establish a brand for our youth initiatives. **LOVES** stands for *Learn/Lead; Own; Volunteer; Educate/Empower & Serve/Share*. This acronym perfectly encapsulates the comprehensive experience that youth gain through their involvement in TNF.

A couple of months ago, the Austin youth LOVES group spearheaded the inaugural TNF Youth Conference, **TNF NxGen**, which was entirely orchestrated by a team of high school students.

These are attainable with our youth's dedication and parents' support. I extend my heartfelt thanks to every parent who believes in TNF's mission and fosters it within their homes. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity TNF has given to contribute to shape its future. TNF's future. Such a significant endeavor would only be feasible with the backing of numerous volunteers, especially the Youth LOVES Coordinators who collaborate with me to implement strategies in their local chapters. I'm genuinely thankful to all the coordinators whose collaboration gives me the strength and motivation I need. With the steadfast support and dedication of all TNF members, I am confident that the day when a TNF convention is entirely run by the second generation is within reach.

Numerous youngsters will actively contribute in the next few days. Please take a moment in the Convention to greet a youth and congratulate him or cheer on their efforts.

«

»

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TNF YOUTH LOVES REPORTS - 2022 & 2023

Mannar Dhandapani, Director - Youth

TNF Service & Education Internships

As schools in the USA wind down for summer break, counterparts in India begin their academic year. For students visiting India for summer vacation, this timing offers a chance to intern within these schools. These internships provide valuable experiences where they can teach, mentor, interact, and learn from peers of similar age. A few interns also explore research conducted at the Center for Medical Genetics, Chennai. Congratulations to our 2022 & 2023 interns.

List of students who attended internship – 2022

Ananya Sundararajan, Irvine, CA	Harish Krishnan, Cupertino, CA	Shiv Narayan, Mayfield Heights, OH
Anish Krishnan, Cupertino, CA	Nehashri Natarajan, Austin, TX	Shrinidhi Ramachandran, Edison, NJ
Aravind Sathappan, Merrimack, NH	Nivetha Subramanian, San Jose, CA	Shruthika Anandakumar, Troy, MI
Deetya Vinod, Bellerose, NY	Rithika Karthikeyan, Troy, MI	Suvali Giridaran, Munster, IN
Dhwaith Shyamkumar, Macungie, PA	Samyuktha Natesan, San Ramon, CA	Tarun Jaishankar, Leander, TX

List of schools/institutions where students interned – 2022

Government Higher Secondary School, Arasangudi, Trichy	Sree Visalakshi Mills High School, Madurai
Government Model Higher Secondary School, Arumbakkam, Chennai	The Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School, Besant Nagar, Chennai
Kalyanasundaram Higher Secondary School, Thanjavur	TSA Government Higher Secondary School, Kattampatty, Coimbatore
Center for Medical Genetics, Kilpauk, Chennai	

List of students who attended internship – 2023

Aditya Mahalingam, Ledgewood, NJ	Meena Muthuraman, Pearland, TX	Saravanan Valliappan, San Ramon, CA
Ananya Iyer, Plainsboro, NJ	Nethra Gopalakrishnan, Charlotte, NC	Shrinidhi Sridhar, Georgetown, TX
Annamalai Arunachalam, Austin, TX	Niranjana Satheeshkumar, Dublin, CA	Shweta Narayan, Twinsburg, OH
Arunachalam Arunachalam, Austin, TX	Nithin Senthilkumar, Little Elm, TX	Sri Tharika Jayakumar, Ann Arbor, MI
Brinda Venkat, Pleasanton, CA	Nithya Natesan, Cleveland, OH	Sridevi Swaminathan, Troy, MI
Diya Vivekanandan, Coppell, TX	Nivetha Subramanian, San Jose, CA	Srinivas Selva, Sanford, FL
Harini Soundar, Plano, TX	Pavithra Ramaoorthy, Frisco, TX	Vaibhav Jayakumar, Fremont, CA
Heera Harikumar, Austin, TX	Raaghav Ramaoorthy, Frisco, TX	Saravanan Valliappan, San Ramon, CA
Kaeshav Krishna, Troy, MI	Raghav Gopalakrishnan, Charlotte, NC	Shrinidhi Sridhar, Georgetown, TX
Kalyan Vivekanandan, Coppell, TX	Reyna Kannan, Miramar, FL	
Kavin Velmurugan, Herndon, VA	Sanjan Bhoothapuri, Charlotte, NC	

List of schools/institutions where students interned – 2023

Government Model Higher Secondary School, Arumbakkam, Chennai	Government Higher Secondary School, Chettipalayam, Coimbatore
Government Boys High School, Mugappair East, Chennai	Greater Chennai Higher Secondary School, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai
Chennai Higher Secondary School, Alwarpet, Chennai	Greater Chennai Higher Secondary School, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai
GHSS-T.Subbulapuram, Theni	Kalyanasundaram Higher Secondary School, Thanjavur
Government Boys High School- Mugappair East, Chennai	Panchayat Union Middle School, Gundur, Salem
Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar ,Chennai	Subramaniyan Chettiar Gurukulam Higher Secondary School, Amaravathipudur, Sivagangai
Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, Chennai	TSA Government Higher Secondary School, Kattampatty, Coimbatore
Government Higher Secondary School, Arasangudi, Trichy	Center for Medical Genetics, Kilpauk, Chennai

Serve with Skills

Giving one's time and resources through volunteering and donations are widely recognized as acts of charity. Our youth elevate the concept of charity by utilizing their talents and skills to generate funds and spread awareness about TNF's mission. TNF takes pride in recognizing the efforts and contributions of youngsters.

Volunteer Name & Chapter	Serve with Skills Contribution
Annamalai Arunachalam, Austin	Offered C4C Chess online classes to raise funds for underserved and served a Financial & Logistics lead in TNF NxGen (First TNF Chapter Youth Conference)
Anu Prasad, Charlotte	Raised funds for TNF during her dance arangetram
Arunachalam Arunachalam, Austin	Piloted a TNF Merchandise store selling t-shirts for raising funds to buy uniforms for Government School students. He served as a Logistics lead in TNF NxGen at Austin, TX
Devadarshini Dhandapani, South Florida	Raised funds for TNF by presenting a dance recital
Dilan Kochar, New York	Partnered with his Dad to donate 10 chrome books to 3 ABC Schools in Vellore & set up the devices to be ready-to-use by downloading all free learning websites.
Diya Shakottai, Austin	Served as Master of Ceremonies in TNF NxGen.
Ishita Mannar, North East Ohio	Offered beginner chess classes as a way to raise awareness about TNF amongst kids in Cleveland. She also ideated the TNF Youth Summer Essay Contest.
Joan Papricia Amaraj, Austin	Raised funds by selling her craft works during 5K event and also served as Communication Lead in TNF NxGen
Krishna Nathan, Bay Area	Organized/Performed a music program in Chennai to raise funds for Bay Area chapter projects

Nikhita Ganesh, South Florida	Raised funds by selling handmade jewelry during Valentine's Day Banquet event
Pavithra Rakayee Ramakrishnan, Austin	Raised funds by selling her art works at four different TNF events
Rasika Sriram, South Florida	Raised funds for TNF using her baking skills to bake vegan carrot cake to treat the walkers at the Walk in the Park event
Sahana Sathiyaseelan, South Florida	Raised funds for TNF using her baking skills to bake Focaccia bread to treat the walkers at the Walk in the Park event.
Samyuktha Natesan, Bay Area	Performed music arangetram and donated all proceeds to Bay Area chapter projects
Shreenidhi Vasudevan, South Florida	Raised money by making bracelets that she sold at a TNF event
Shreya Viswanathan, Bay Area	Raised funds during her dance arangetram to install a RO water plant for students at Anvarthikanpet school.
Shveta Sunkar, Washington DC	Designed the marketing flyers for TNF USA online Music concert fundraiser
Shrinidhi Sridhar, Austin	Served as Marketing lead in TNF NxGen.
Srinesh Nandhakumar, North East Ohio	Used his social media skills to organize a fundraiser on Facebook to benefit TNF

TAYMAI Grants

Interns often return from their vacation with ideas for improving the schools where they interned. The TAYMAI (Tamil American Youth Making Impact) grants, overseen by the Youth & Young Professionals committee, offer a platform for turning these ideas into reality. In the spring of the following year, interns compete to win grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 and collaborate with TNF staff/volunteers to execute their projects. Congratulations to the following grant winners for completing their projects.

PT4U



Arun Chinnakaruppan, a tennis player, believes all work and no play makes one dull. He views physical activity as a motivator for children to excel in academics children to excel in academics. He has committed to sponsoring at least one ABC project a year and enhancing it by supporting sports activities in the school. He began his journey of making a difference with his humble earnings as a tennis coach and hopes to continue expanding his reach throughout his life.

EYE Education for YOU



Abirami Chinnakaruppan from Philadelphia, PA, observed children struggling to read while interning at the ABC school. She collaborated with Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, to train teachers in ABC school to conduct primary vision screening. These teachers helped screen a total of 538 students, of which 122 students were referred to further exams by Ophthalmologists. While her grant was awarded in 2020, COVID-19 hindered the implementation. However, she followed up when normalcy returned and completed her project successfully.

Enabling English Literacy for Self-Empowerment (EELS)



Preethi Bhaskar from Philadelphia, PA, a regular YOXmember noticed a lack of proficiency in English among the students from the Nerkuppai library in properly learning English. She piloted a project, EELS, where she combined the best of many worlds – Talking Pen, Bob Books, YOX Online sessions, and Mentors on the ground to devise a program with fun activities to teach English. Preethi noticed the program also boosted confidence among the children. The fun that everyone involved had led to her calling her project Fun with English Phonics (FEPS).

Enhance English Skills using Hello English app



Shiv Narayan from Cleveland, OH, interned at The Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School, Besant Nagar, Chennai. During his internship, he taught English to 7th graders and observed their struggles. Recognizing lack of motivation as a critical issue, he recalled his elementary school experience, where gadgets and entertaining tablet applications had sparked his interest. With this insight, he proposed acquiring tablets and installing the free application Hello English for the students. He believes these tablets will enhance students' confidence and facilitate their comfort and proficiency in English.

TAYMAI Grant applications received in 2024

The Youth & Young Professionals Committee members assessed applications, conducted interviews with candidates, and performed a feasibility analysis to select the winners. Announcement of the winning proposals will take place at the Convention. Subsequently, the selected winners will initiate fundraising efforts to secure at least 10% of the project cost. Once the fund raising is completed, the grant funds will be disbursed. Winners will collaborate with their parents, TNF Chennai staff, volunteers, and coordinators to execute the project. Their contributions will be acknowledged at a future convention.

Annamalai Arunachalam: Passion Finding Booklet

Develop a booklet to help middle/high school students discover their hidden talents and passions using activities/worksheets and milestones. This would help them in making decisions on their career path.

Arunachalam Arunachalam: Projecting the Future

Equip the classrooms with digital projectors that are compatible with mobile phones. This will allow students to explore the World Wide Web just in time to supplement the lessons taught.

Arunachalam Arunachalam: Attentive Awards

Motivate slow learners to focus in classes by creating a points-based reward system where they earn rewards for task completion and milestone achievements.

Saravanan Valliappan: English Learning Application

Develop a mobile app for Tamil-speaking students to learn how to read and write in English. This will help students boost their confidence as they move to higher grades or colleges.

Sridevi Swaminathan: Smart Sticks for the Blind

Provide visually impaired students with smart stick devices with built-in GPS and audible sensors. These devices will help them navigate to their destination and make them feel independent.

Srinidhi Sridhar: Power Pantry

Provide nutritious snacks to the student-athletes after a long day before they head to the ground for daily practice. An energetic sports person will excel in sports and academics.

Suvali Giridaran: SSC Prep Project

Provide supplemental preparation books for 10th-grade students who prepare for their board exams. Enhancing their reach beyond the textbooks will help students excel in their exams.

Presidential Volunteer Service Award

TNF Volunteers spend many hours doing internships at Tamil Nadu Schools or giving back in their local communities. The Presidential Volunteer Service Award recognizes their efforts. Congratulations to the 2022 and 2023 recipients of the award.

Recipients of 2022 Award

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award recipients of 2022 served a total of 820 hours.

Name	TNF Chapter	Award Level
Ishita Mannar	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Srinesh Nandhakumar	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Kanitha Mannar	NorthEast Ohio	Silver
Krish Punyam	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze
Preethi Bhaskar	Philadelphia	Bronze
Purva Punyam	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze
Samyuktha Natesan	Bay Area	Bronze
Shanthi Bhaskar	Philadelphia	Bronze
Shiv Narayan	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze
Yuvha Karthikeyan	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze

Recipients of 2023 Award

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award recipients of 2022 served a total of 2049 hours.

Award Recipient Name	TNF Chapter	Award Level
Award Recipient Name	TNF Chapter	Award Level
Annamalai Arunachalam	Austin	Gold
Arunachalam Arunachalam	Austin	Gold
Hasini Manishub	Central Ohio	Gold
Krish Punyam	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Nithya Latha Natesan	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Purva Punyam	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Saravanan Valliappan	Bay Area	Gold
Shrinidhi Sridhar	Austin	Gold

Srinesh Nandhakumar	NorthEast Ohio	Gold
Diya Vivekanandan	Dallas	Silver
Avinesh Saravana	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze
Ishita Mannar	NorthEast Ohio	Bronze
Kalyan Vivekanandan	Dallas	Bronze
Nithin Senthilkumar	Dallas	Bronze
Nivetha Subramanian	Bay Area	Bronze
Pavithra Ramamoorthy	Dallas	Bronze
Raaghav Ramamoorthy	Dallas	Bronze
Sanjan Bhoothapuri	Charlotte	Bronze
Shanthi Bhaskar	Philadelphia	Bronze2

Youth Online Exchange

Some TNF youngsters eagerly look forward to weekends as they get to connect with friends in Tamil Nadu via Zoom. The bonds they forge with their own team preparing for the session as well as the camaraderie shared with their counterparts during the sessions, offer invaluable experiences. We are pleased to acknowledge the volunteers who have consistently shown dedication by participating in the YOX program.

Ananya Anand, Bay Area	Nithya Natesan, NorthEast Ohio	Shanthi Bhaskar, Philadelphia
Dhivya Muthupalaniappan, Philadelphia	Nivetha Subramanian, Bay Area	Shreya Viswanathan, Bay Area
Kripa Senthil, NorthEast Ohio Ohio	Preethi Bhaskar, Philadelphia	Srinesh Nandhakumar, NorthEast
Krish Punyam, NorthEast Ohio	Purva Punyam, NorthEast Ohio	Sundar Subramanian, Bay Area
Krishna Nathan, Bay Area	Samyuktha Natesan, Bay Area	Vishnu Senth, Bay Area

TNF Summer Youth Essay Contest

Ideated by a Junior High Student, Youth & Young Professionals committee has been successfully running the summer essay contest for K-12. This contest provides the first steps into the amazing world of giving back to our children. Kudos to Youth & Young Professionals committee members for orchestrating the contest and Congratulations to the winners of 2022 and 2023 contest.

2022 Winners

Category/Prize	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
Elementary School	Tevona Sesuraj, Cleveland, OH	Priyamvadha, Prakash, Centreville, VA	Rithvicka Purushothaman, Cumberland, RI
Middle School	Shveta Sunkar, McLean, VA	Diya Shakkottai, Austin, TX	Kanitha Mannar, Cleveland, OH
High School	Suvali Giridaran, Munster, IN	Deetya Vinod, Bellerose, NY Leonel Sesuraj, Cleveland, OH	Krish Punyam, Cleveland, OH

2023 Winners

Category/Prize	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
Elementary School	Meera Palaniappan, Ashburn, VA	N/A	N/A
Middle School	Rebecca Kim, Tenafly, NJ	Priyamvadha Prakash, Centreville, VA	Hailey Lee, Norwood, NJ
High School	Soojin Park, Northvale, NJ	Anjana Sundararajan, Weddington, NC	Howard Lee, Norwood, NJ



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— நாஞ்சில் நாடன்

கொடை:

கொடை எனப்படுவது எவர்க்கேனும், எதற்கேனும், எவ்வளவேனும் காரண காரியமின்றிக் கொடுப்பது. மழை பொழிவதைப் போல. வேள் பாரியைக் கபிலர் பாடுவார் –

“பாரி பாரி என்று பல ஏத்தி,
ஒருவர் புகழ்வர், செந்நாப் புலவர்;
பாரி ஒருவனும் அல்லன்;
மாரியும் உண்டு ஈண்டு உலகு புரப்பதுவே” என்பது முழுப்பாடல்.

'யாரைப் பார்த்தாலும் பாரி, பாரி என்று சொல்லி அவன் புகழ் பாடிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நடுநிலைமை கொண்ட செந்நாப்புலவர் எல்லாம்! பாரி ஒருவன் மட்டுமா உளன் இவ்வுலகைப் புரப்பதற்கு? மழையும் உண்டுதானே இங்கு?' – என்பது எனது உரை.

புறநானூற்றுப் புலவன் 'கொடை மடம்' என்றே சொற்றொடர் ஒன்று கையாள்கிறான். வையாவிக்கோப் பெரும் பேகனைப் பரணர் பாடிய பாடலில்.

“கடாஅ யானைக் கழற்கால் பேகன்
கொடை மடம் படுதல் அல்லது,
படை மடம் படான் பிறர் படை மயக்குறினே”

என்பன ஆறு அடிகள் கொண்ட பாடலின் இறுதி அடிகள். மதம் கொண்ட செருக்குடைய யானையையும், கழல் அணிந்த காலையும் உடைய பேகன், கொடையளிக்கும்போது காரணமின்றிக் கொடுப்பது போல, பகைவருடன் போரிடும்போது மடம் பட மாட்டான் – என்பது பொருள்.

எனவே கொடை என்பதோர் மன விரிவின் வெளிப்பாடு. வள்ளல்தன்மையை அறிவிப்பது. தான் வணங்கும் தெய்வத்துக்கு, பெரும் பொருட் செலவில் மண்டபங்கள் அமைப்பது, திருவிழாக்களுக்கு உதவுவது, பாதசரம், ஒட்டியாணம், மணியாரங்கள், மணிமுடி அணிவிப்பது, பள்ளி கல்லூரிகளுக்கு நிதி அளிப்பது, நிலம் கொடுப்பது, கட்டிடங்கள் கட்டித்தருவது யாவுமே கொடைதான்.

தயை:

'கொடையும் தயையும் பிறவிக் குணம்' என்பார் பிற்காலத்து ஓளவையார். தயை எனில் கருணை, இரக்கம், பரிவு. தயாபரன், தயாநிதி எனும் நாமங்கள் அறிக! 'உயிர்களிடத்து அன்பு வேணும்' என்று பாரதி சொன்னது போல, வள்ளன்மை – வள்ளல் தன்மை – உடையவர்கள் கொடுத்து மகிழ்வார்கள். தன் வீட்டுக் கொய்யா மரத்தில் கொய்யாப்பழம் பறித்துக் கொண்டிருக்கும் அக்கா அல்லது மதனி, ஏதோ வேலையாய் தெருவில் போகும் சிறுவனைக் கூவி, “எலே! இன்னா, ரெண்டு கொய்யாக்கா திண்ணு” என்று கொடுப்பாளே, அது தயை.

ஈகை:

ஈகை எனும் சொல்லுக்குத் தமிழ்ப் பேரகராதி Gift, Grant, கொடை என்றே பொருள் தருகிறது. கொடை வேறு, ஈகை என்பது வேறு. ஈகை எனும் சொல் திருக்குறளில் மூன்று பாடல்களில் ஆளப் பெற்றுள்ளது. அச்சொல்லின் தீவிரமான பொருள் உணர்த்தும் குறள் ஒன்றுண்டு. அந்தக் குறள் இடம்பெற்றுள்ள அதிகாரத்தின் தலைப்பே 'ஈகை'தான்.

**“வறியார்க்கு ஒன்று ஈவதே ஈகை மற்றெல்லாம்
குறி எதிர்ப்பை நீரது உடைத்து”**

என்பதந்தக் குறள்.

வறியவனுக்கு, ஏழைக்கு, இல்லாப்பட்டவனுக்கு, கையேந்தி நிற்கும் இரவலனுக்கு, பிக்காரிக்கு ஒன்று ஈவதே ஈகை எனப்படும். மற்றெல்லாம் வேறேதோ நோக்கம் கருதி, எதையோ எதிர்பார்த்து செய்யப்படுவதாகும். எனவேதான் திருவள்ளுவர் ஐயம் திரிபு அறும்படியாகப் பேசினார்

**“கைம்மாறு வேண்டாக் கடப்பாடு மாரி மாட்டு
என்னாற்றும் கொல்லோ உலகு”**

என்று. உண்டியலில் போடும் காணிக்கை, இறைவருக்கு சாத்தும் பொன்னும் மணியும் பூவும் சாந்தமும் பாலும் தெளிதேனும் தென்னை இளநீரும் யாவுமே அவனிடம் ஏதோ வேண்டி நிற்பதன் பொருட்டே ஆகும். பிற்கால ஒளவையார் பாடல் –

**“பாலும் தெளிதேனும் பாகும் பருப்பும் இவை
நாலும் கலந்து உனக்கு நான் தருவேன் – கோலம் செய்
துங்கக் கரிமுகத்துத் தூமணியே நீ எனக்கு
சங்கத் தமிழ் மூன்றும் தா”**

என்பது அதை மெய்ப்பிக்கும். 'நான் இவை உனக்குத் தருவேன், நீ எனக்கு அவை தா' என்பது ஈகை அல்ல. ஈகையாளன் என்றாலும், ஈகையன் என்றாலும் வறியவர்க்கு ஏதும் கொடுப்பவன் என்றே பொருள்.

பம்பாயில் பைகுலா இரயில் நிலைய முகப்பின் தெற்குப்பக்கம் சாலையில் சற்று நடந்தால் எளிய இசுலாமியரின் உணவு விடுதி ஒன்று வரும். அதன் முன்னால், சாலையின் நடைமேடையில், வரிசையாக முதியோர், உடல் ஊனமுற்றோர், உடல் நலிவுற்றோர், இரப்போர், சிலவேளை பட்டினி கிடந்தோர் என ஆணும் பெண்ணுமாய் குத்தவைத்தோ, சம்மணம் போட்டோ அமர்ந்திருப்பர். அவர் ஒரு மதத்தினர், ஒரு நிலத்தவர், ஒரு மொழியினர், ஒரு இனப் பிரிவினர் அல்லர். அந்த உணவு விடுதியில் உணவருந்த சர்வலோக நாயக நடிகர், பிரபஞ்சப் பேரழகு நடிகை, இனமான முற்போக்குக் கட்சித் தலைவர், பன்னாட்டு நிறுவனங்களின் பங்குதாரர் என எவரும் நுழைவதில்லை.

சந்துக்குள் லேத் மெஷின் ஒட்டுகிறவர், பைகுலா தினசரிச் சந்தையின் காய்கறி வியாபாரிகள், சின்னச் சின்ன பாத்திரக்கடை, பிளாஸ்டிக் பொருட்கள் கடை வைத்திருப்பவர்கள், சிறிய முதலாளிகள், பழைய சாமான்கள் விற்பவர்கள் என. அந்த உணவு விடுதிக்குள் உணவருந்த நுழைபவர்களில் ஒருசிலர், கல்லாவிட இருப்பவரிடம், "பாஞ்ச் ஆத்மீக்கோ கானா தேதோ" என்று சொல்லிப் பணம் கட்டிவிட்டு உள்ளே செல்வர். வரிசையில் காத்திருக்கும் முதல் ஐந்து பேருக்கு, தலா மூன்று ரொட்டி, சப்ஜி, கால்துண்டு எலுமிச்சம்பழம், பாதி பெல்லாரி வெங்காயம் எனக் கட்டிக் கொடுத்து அனுப்புவார். மதியம் மூன்றரை மணிக்குப் பார்த்தால் வரிசையில் எவரும் மிச்சமிருக்க மாட்டார்கள்.

பைகுலாவில் என்று இல்லை. வொர்லி, குர்லா, கோலிவாடா, கர்னாக் பந்தர், மசகாவ் டாக் எனப் பல கடைகள் கண்டதுண்டு. வேலை தேடி, பசியோடு அலைந்த நாட்களில், நமக்கே தோன்றும் வரிசையில் போய் உட்காரலாமா என! ஈகைக்குணம் இருப்பதால்தானே இன்னும் இது நடக்கிறது?

ஈசுநர் என்பது சங்க இலக்கியச் சொல். எளியவர்க்கு இரங்கி ஈதல் செய்பவர் என்பது பொருள். புறநானூற்றில், அதியமான் நெடுமான் அஞ்சி இறந்தபோது, கையறு நிலையில் ஒளவையார் பாடும் பாடல் ஒன்றுண்டு. 'இனி பாடுநரும் இல்லை; பாடுநர்க்கு ஒன்று ஈசுநரும் இல்லை' என்று இரங்கும் பாடல்.

ஈதல் என்றாலும் ஈகைதான். இழிந்தோர்க்குக் கொடுத்தலே ஈதல். இழிந்தோர் எனில், பொருளாதார நிலையில் இழிந்தவர், கீழ்ப்பட்டவர், இரப்பவர், திக்கற்றவர், அல்லற்பட்டு ஆற்றாது அலைபவர் என்று பொருள். தொல்காப்பிய சொல்லதிகார நூற்பா, “ஈயென் கிளவி இழிந்தோர் கூற்றே” என்னும்.

வசதி இருக்கிறவர் ஈகை செய்வார். இரப்போர் பெற்றுக் கொள்வார். இடைக்காடனார், சோழன் குளமுற்றத்துத் துஞ்சிய கிள்ளி வளவனைப் பாடியபோது,

“உடையோர் ஈதலும், இல்லோர் இரத்தலும்”

என்பார். இருப்பவர்கள் கொடுத்தார்கள், இல்லாதார் இரந்து பெற்றுக் கொண்டார்கள்.

ஈய வேண்டும் என்ற மனது யாவர்க்கும் வந்துவிடாது. பாரதி சொல்வது போல, அதற்கு 'ஈரமுடைய நெஞ்சு வேணும்!'. செல்வத்தின் பயன் என்பது ஈகையே! புறநானூற்றுப் பாடலில், மதுரைக் கணக்காயனார் மகனார் நக்கீரனார் இதனைக் கூறுகிறார். முழுப்பாடலையும் தருவேன்.

**“தெண்கடல் வளாகம் பொதுமை இன்றி
வெண்குடை நிழற்றிய ஒருமையோர்க்கும்
நடுநாள் யாமத்தும் பகலும் துஞ்சான்
கடுமாப் பார்க்கும் கல்லா ஒருவற்கும்
உண்பது நாழி; உடுப்பவை இரண்டே
பிறவும் எல்லாம் ஓர் ஒக்கும்மே;
செல்வத்துப் பயனே ஈதல்;
துய்ப்பேம் எனினே தப்புந பலவே!”**

ஆழி சூழ்ந்த உலகை ஆளும் மாமன்னருக்கும், இரவும் பகலும் உறங்காமல் கொடிய விலங்கை வேட்டையாடக் காவலிருக்கும் கல்லாத ஒருவனுக்கும், உண்பது நாழி அரிசிச் சோறு. உடுப்பது இரண்டு துணிகள். பிற யாவுமே ஒரே இயல்பிலானவை. எனவே செல்வத்தின் பயன் என்பது வறிய மக்களுக்கு ஏதாவது ஈதல். சேர்த்து வைத்திருந்து நாளை அனுபவிப்போம் என்று எண்ணினால் பலவும் தப்பிப் போகும் (துய்ப்பேம் எனினே தப்புந பலவே!) – இது எனது எளிய விளக்கம்.

தத்தம் கருமமாகக் கருதி ஈதல் செய்பவர்கள் தவம் செய்தவர்கள். ஏழைகளுக்கு, இரந்து நிற்பவருக்கு, 'உண்டி கொடுத்தோர் உயிர் கொடுத்தோரே!' பயன் பெறுவது யார், எவர் என அறியாது பசிக்கும் கல்விக்கும் மருத்துவத்துக்கும் ஈகை செய்பவர்கள், கொடை அளிப்பவர்கள் வானுறையும் தெய்வத்துள் வைக்கப்பெறும்.

ஈகை குணமுடைய இறையருள் வாய்த்தவரை, நாம் தொழவும் போற்றவும் கடமைப்பட்டுள்ளோம்.

ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு: நாஞ்சில் நாடன் நவீன தமிழிலக்கியத்தின் முக்கியப் படைப்பாளிகளுள் ஒருவர். சிறுகதை, நாவல், கவிதை, கட்டுரை ஆகிய தளங்களில் இயங்கி வருபவர். மரபிலக்கியம் சார்ந்து எழுதியும் பேசியும் வருகிறார். நாஞ்சில் மண் சார்ந்த வாழ்க்கையை எழுதியவர். அங்கதமும் வட்டாரவழக்கும் கலந்த நாஞ்சில் நாடனின் எழுத்துமுறை பரவலாக வாசகர்களால் விரும்பப்படும் விமர்சகர்களால் பாராட்டப்படும் வருகிறது. இவர் கம்பராமாயணம் மற்றும் மரபிலக்கியம் சார்ந்து சொற்பொழிவுகள் ஆற்றுவவராகவும் இன்று அறியப்படுகிறார்.



திண்ணை தானங்கள் !

– முனைவர் நெல்லை பி. சுப்பையா

கோடை வெயிலில் தாகசாந்திக்காக அமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ள 'தண்ணீர்ப் பந்தல்' திண்ணையை நினைவுபடுத்துகிறது. பிரதிபலன் எதிர்பாராது, யாரென்று முகம் தெரியாதவர்களுக்கு 'விருந்தோம்பல்' செய்த கலாச்சாரத்தின் உச்சம் 'திண்ணை'. ஒவ்வொரு வீட்டிலும் வழிப்போக்கர் இளைப்பாறிய, இயற்கை காற்று வீசிய 'திண்ணை' விருந்தோம்பல் நாகரிகத்தின் சின்னம். வீட்டின் உரிமையாளர் இல்லாதபோதும் விருந்தாளிகள் அமர்வதற்கு இடையூறு இருந்ததில்லை.

"சோறு கண்ட இடம் சொர்க்கம், திண்ணை கண்ட இடம் தூக்கம்" என்பார்கள். இலவச தங்கும் விடுதி தேடி, வழி தவறி வந்தவர்களையும் வரவேற்கத் தயங்கியதில்லை. வீடு வீதியில் இருந்து சற்று உள்ளே தள்ளி இருந்தால், நீர், மோர் அருந்தி, ஓய்வெடுக்க அமைத்த வீடுகளின் வாசல் கட்டமைப்பை யாழ்ப்பாணத்தில் 'சங்கடப்படலை' என்றும் 'படிப்புற' என்று கேரளத்திலும் சொல்வார்கள்.

வந்தவர், திண்ணை மீது காலைத் தொங்கவிட்டபடி அமர்ந்தால் சில மணி நேரங்களில் கிளம்பி விடுவார், அவருக்கு நீராகாரம் தர வேண்டும். காலை நீட்டியபடி முதுகை வீட்டின் சுவற்றில் சாய்த்து உட்கார்ந்தால் இரவு தங்குகிறார் என்பது பொருள். அவருக்கு மூன்று வேளையும் அண்ணம் வழங்க வேண்டும். அவர்கள் கேட்க மாட்டார்கள். விருந்தினரின் முகக்குறிப்பு அறிந்த ஈகையின் வெளிப்பாடு திண்ணைகள். ஏதேனும் ஒரு திருத்தலத்திற்கு பாதயாத்திரையாக வந்தவராகக் கூட இருக்கலாம். அவர் செய்த புண்ணியத்தில் பாதியைப் பெற்றவை திண்ணைகள்.

திண்ணையிலிருந்து தெறிக்கும் தூறலை, சாரளத்திலிருந்து சாரலை அமர்ந்து ரசிக்க, குளிரும் கம்பிகளில் கண்ணம் புதைக்க, இன்றைய தலைமுறைக்கு நேரம் ஏது? அறிமுகமில்லாதவர்களிடம் நட்பை தேடும் இன்றைய ஆன்லைன் காலத்தினருக்கு, பெண்கள் கூடி, தாயக்கட்டம், ஆடு புலி ஆட்டம் என அருகில் உள்ளவர்களோடு சிரிப்பும் கும்மாளத்தோடு உதவும் உறவு முறையை ஏற்படுத்திய திண்ணையின் அருமை எப்படிப் புரியும்?

மாதக் கடைசியில் தோசை மாவு, கரண்டி அளவில் காபித்தூள் பொடி, சீனி எனக் கைமாற்றாகப் பெற்று அன்றைய நாளைக் கடத்தும் கொடுக்கல் வாங்கல் பழக்கமிருந்தது. பக்கத்து வீட்டுக்குப் போன பையன் வரவில்லை என்றால் கூட கவலைப்பட மாட்டார்கள். பாத்திரம் வரவில்லை என்றால்தான் கலங்குவார்கள். அன்றைய 'திண்ணைப் பள்ளிக்கூடம்' கல்வியை இலவசமாக வழங்கியது. வெயிலின் தாக்கமே இல்லாமல் நூறு பேர் அமர்ந்து கல்வி கற்ற குகைப்பள்ளிகள் தமிழகத்தில் உண்டு. இன்றும் கூட காற்றோட்டமில்லாமல், வெளிச்சமின்றி, பாழடைந்த குகைகளைப் போலக் கிடந்த பல பள்ளி வகுப்பறைகளைத் 'தமிழ்நாடு அறக்கட்டளை' என்ற அமைப்பு அமெரிக்க வாழ் கொடையாளர்களிடமிருந்து நிதி பெற்று சீரமைத்து வருவது குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.

'திண்ணை' காணாமல் போனதைப் போல ஈகைக் குணமும் விருந்தோம்பல் வழக்கமும் மறையத் தொடங்கி விட்டது. வீட்டு வாசலில் நாயைக் கட்டி வைக்கிறோம். நன்கு தெரிந்தவரும் கூட உள் நுழையாதபடி காம்பவுண்ட் சுவர் எழுப்புகிறோம். நேசக்கரம் நீட்டி மாநிலங்களை இணைக்க வேண்டிய ஆறுகள் இன்று தேசப் படத்தில் வரும் விரிசல்களாகக் கிடப்பதைப் போல மனதில் எழுந்த சுவர் திண்ணைகளை இடித்துத் தள்ளி விட்டது.

வாயில் கதவு அடைத்தே இருக்கின்றது. வெளியில் நிற்போர் முகத்தை மட்டும் பார்க்கும் அளவு சிறு திறப்பு மட்டும் வைப்பது, 'பாதுகாப்பிற்கு' என்று பெருமைப்பட்டுக்கொள்கிறோம். இன்னமும் சிலர் வீடுகளில், உள்ளிருந்து 'யார் வந்திருப்பது?' என்ற குரலொலி மட்டும் கேட்கிறது. மாட்டுக்குத் தண்ணீர்த் தொட்டியமும், மாடுகள் தம் முதுகைத் தேய்த்துக்கொள்ள வசதியாக ஆவுரிஞ்சிக் கல்லும், ஏற்படுத்தி வைத்திருந்த முந்தைய தலைமுறைக்குக் சொந்தக்காரர்கள் நாம். கிராமத்தில் திண்ணைகள் இல்லாத வீடுகளே கிடையாது. தற்காலத்தில் வீடுகளின் முன் 'திண்ணை' வைத்து நாம் கட்டுவதுமில்லை. இன்று திண்ணைகள் காட்சி பொருளாகக் கூட இல்லை.

திண்ணையைப் போல வடிவமைப்பு செய்து, ஒரு தொலைக்காட்சி நெடுந்தொடரே எடுத்து விடுகிறார்கள். வீட்டிற்குள் பொழுது போக்காமல் மின்சாரம் இல்லாத காலத்தில் திண்ணைகளில் பொழுது போக்கியதால் பிறந்தது தெருக்கூத்து. அதன் கலை வடிவ வளர்ச்சிகளான நாடகம், திரைப்படம், தொலைக்காட்சி, நவீன வடிவமான கைபேசி எல்லாம் தற்கால மனங்களை தனிமைப்படுத்திக் கொண்டே போகின்றன. பாட்டியின் மடியில் படுத்துக்கொண்டு திண்ணைகளில் ஆயிரம் பழங்கதைகள் கேட்ட நிமிடங்களை முதலில் ஆண்டனா கம்பிகள் அறுத்தெறிந்தன. இன்று குடும்பத்தினர்களுடனான உறவை மின்காந்த அலைகள் முற்றிலும் துண்டித்து வருகின்றன. அக்கம் பக்கம் உள்ளவர்களோடும் எந்தப் பேச்சுவார்த்தையும் இல்லாததற்குத் திண்ணை என்ற பொதுத்தளம் இல்லாததே காரணம். வாழ்க்கையை வரமாக்கியவை திண்ணைகள்.

ஒளவையார் சோழ நாட்டில் 'அம்பர்' என்ற ஊரில் தெரு வழியே சென்ற போது களைப்பின் மிகுதியால் 'சிலம்பி' என்ற தாசி குலப் பெண் வீட்டுத் திண்ணையில் அமர்ந்தார். அப்பெண் ஒளவையாருக்குத் தான் குடிப்பதற்காக வைத்திருந்த கூழினைக் கொடுத்தாள். கூழினை அருந்தியபின் அவள் வீட்டின் சுவற்றில் கரித் துண்டினால் எழுதிய இரண்டு வரிகளைக் கவனித்தார்.

குலோத்துங்க சோழனின் அவைக்களப் புலவரான கம்பர் வாயால் பாடல் பெற விரும்பிய சிலம்பி, தான் சேர்த்து வைத்திருந்த 500 பொற்காசுகளைக் கம்பருக்கு வழங்கியதாகவும், அதைப் பெற்றுக் கொண்ட கம்பர், 'தனது ஒரு பாடலுக்கு ஆயிரம் பொன் தர வேண்டும். 500 பொன் மட்டுமே தந்ததால் அரைப்பாடல் தான்' என்று இரண்டு வரிமட்டும் எழுதித் தந்திருக்கிறார். தன்னிடமிருந்த அனைத்துப் பொன்னையும் வழங்கிவிட்டதனால் அன்றிலிருந்து வறுமையில் வாடி வருகிறாள். இந்தச் செய்திகளை அறிந்த ஒளவையார், தான் அருந்திய கூழுக்கும் நன்றி செலுத்தும் விதமாக, முதலிரண்டு அடிகளுக்குக் கீழே,

"தண்ணீருங் காவிரியே தார்வேந்தன் சோழனே

மண்ணாவ துஞ்சோழ மண்டலமே – பெண்ணாவாள்

அம்பர்ச் சிலம்பி அரவிந்தத் தாளணியும்

செம்பொற் சிலம்பே சிலம்பு "

என இறுதி இரண்டு அடிகளை எழுதிப் பூர்த்தி செய்தார். ஒளவையார் வாயால் பாடல் பெற்றதும் சிலம்பியின் புகழ் நாடெங்கும் பரவியது. அவள் கால்களில் செம்பொன்னினாலான சிலம்பணியுமளவிற்குச் செல்வம் மிக்கவளாக ஆனாள்.

தமிழ்நாட்டு ஏழை எளிய மக்கள் செலுத்திய வரியில் பெற்ற கல்வி என்ற திண்ணையில் சில காலம் அமர்ந்து உயர்ந்ததை நினைத்துப் பார்க்கும் அமெரிக்க வாழ் கொடையாளர்கள் தமிழ்நாடு அறக்கட்டளை என்ற அமைப்பின் மூலம் தங்களது நன்றிக் கடனைச் செலுத்தும் விதமாகப் பள்ளி மாணவர்களுக்கு உதவி வருவது பாராட்டுக்குரியது.

ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு: பன்முகத்திறமைகள் வாய்ந்த முனைவர் நெல்லை பி. சுப்பையா அவர்கள் எழுத்தாளர் , பேச்சாளர், புத்தக ஆசிரியர், தலைவர் /இதழாசிரியர் (மகுடம் தமிழ்ப் பேரவை) மற்றும் பட்டிமன்ற நடுவர் (வேந்தர் டிவி, கேப்டன் டிவி, மக்கள் டிவி, மெகா டிவி) என்று பல தளங்களில் இயங்கி தமிழுழகில் பரவலாக அறிமுகம் பெற்றவர்.. இவரது ஆக்கத்தில் பல நூல்கள் வெளிவந்துள்ளன. 'கனவுகளை சாதிக்கலாம்' என்ற நூலுக்காக 'திரு அப்துல் கலாம்' அவர்களால் பெரிதும் பாராட்டப்பட்டவர்.



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**பேராசிரியர்
கு.வெ.பாலசுப்பிரமணியன்**

மரங்களைநாம் கேட்டதுண்டா கனிகொடுக்க
மலர்களை நாம் கேட்டதுண்டா மணம்கொடுக்க
பெருமுகிலைக் கேட்டோமா மழைகொடுக்க
பிறைநிலவைக் கேட்டோமா ஒளிகொடுக்க
தருவதுதான் இவற்றியல்பு தழைக்கும் ஈகைத்
தகைசான்ற பண்பதுதான் இவற்றின் நீர்மை
வருவதுதான் வரட்டுமென்றே வழங்குகின்ற
வள்ளல்களால் செழித்ததிந்த வையம் நன்றே!

தலைகொடுத்தான் குமணவள்ளல் புலவனுக்கே
தழைத்தமுல்லைக் கொடியினுக்கே தேரைஈந்தான்
மலைப்பறம்பின் பாரிமன்னன்; மயிலொன் றிற்கே
மனமுவந்து போர்வையீந்தான் பேகவள்ளல்;
இலையென்று சொல்வதிலே பெருமை யில்லை
ஈகையைப்போல் நல்வினையே ஏதுமில்லை
உலைகொதிக்க வெந்தசோற்றைப் பசித்தார்க் கீந்தே
உயர்வள்ளற் பெருமானார் உலகில் நின்றார்!

ஐம்பானாண் டெல்லாம் அறவினைகள்
அயராதே ஆற்றியுள்ள அமெரிக்காவின்
பைம்பொன்றேர் அறக்கொடையின் நிறுவனத்தின்
பணிப்பெருமை சொலற்கரிதே! கலைகள் கல்வி
மொய்ம்புமிக சமுதாய முன்னேற்றங்கள்
முதியவர்கள் சிறுவர்தம் மேம்பாடெல்லாம்
தொய்வின்றிச் செய்கின்றார் மகளிர் பல்லோர்
துவளாது இப்பணிகள் புரிதல் காணீர்!

இல்லறத்தின் மனைவிளக்காய்த் துலங்கு கின்ற
 ஏற்றமிகு மங்கையர்தம் பணிகளாலே
 நல்லறங்கள் செழித்திடவே காண்போம்; வேற்று
 நாட்டினிலும் நற்றமிழைப் பேணுகின்ற
 மெல்லியலார் எதிர்காலத் தலைமுறையை
 எண்ணியெண்ணி ஏராளப் பணிசெய் கின்றார்
 சொல்லவரும் எதிர்காலம் இவர்தம் தொண்டும்
 தூய்மைமிகு கடமையதும் வரலாற் றேட்டில்!

வாழியநல் அறக்கொடைநேர் அமைப்பும் நாளும்
 வளர்கின்ற மாந்தநேயத் தொண்டும் எங்கும்
 சூழ்கின்ற விருந்தோம்பற் பண்பும் நெஞ்சில்
 சூழல்கின்ற நினைவெல்லாம் தமிழே யான
 ஆழ்ந்தமெனைழி உணர்வதுவும் காண்பவர்க்கே
 அமெரிக்கத் தமிழினத்தார் மீதே அன்பும்
 தாழாத உயர்மதிப்பும் தோன்றும் அம்மா!

தரணியிலே தமிழ்மக்கள் தாழ்ந்த தில்லை
 தெய்வங்கள் தொழுகின்றார்; திருக்கோயில்கள்
 திருத்தலங்கள் சுற்றிவந்து வணங்குகின்றார்;
 மெய்வருந்தத் தமிழ்மரபு விழாக்களெல்லாம்
 விரதங்கள் எல்லாமும் மேற்கொள்கின்றார்;
 செய்கின்ற செயலெல்லாம் தூய நோக்கம்
 தொண்டெனவே செய்கின்றார்; அமெரிக்காவில்
 பெய்ம்மழைபோல் காலமெல்லாம் நற்செயல்கள்
 புரிகின்ற இவ்வமைப்பு வளர்க! வாழ்க!

ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு: முனைவர் கு. வெ. பாலசுப்ரமணியன் தஞ்சைத் தமிழ்ப் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் தமிழ் இலக்கியத் துறைத் தலைவராகவும், பொறுப்புப் பதிவாளராகவும் பணியாற்றியவர். இவர் ஒரு சீரிய இலக்கிய ஆய்வறிஞர்; சிறந்த பேச்சாளர். ஆங்கில நூல்களைத் தமிழுக்கு மொழிபெயர்க்கும் பேரறிவு பெற்றவர். தற்போது தஞ்சாவூரில் தமிழ் ஆய்வுப்பணிகளில் ஈடுபட்டுவருகிறார்.

நன்மை கடைப்பிடி. (ஆத்திசூடி)

பொருள் : நல்வினை செய்தலை எந்த இடையூறு வந்தாலும் உறுதியுடன் பின்பற்று



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நம்மை வளர்த்த
தாய் மண்ணின்
பெருமை
மேலோங்க...

Mann Vasanai (Tamil Nadu District Endowment Fund) - Project Update

Dan Palanisamy & Ravi Subramanyam

**புலம் பெயர்ந்த தமிழன்பர்களை ஒன்றிணைக்கும் மண் வாசனை – தொடக்கம்,
இன்றைய இருப்பு, நாளை கனவு**

"Petrichor" is the equivalent English word for Mann Vaasanai, meaning a pleasant smell that frequently accompanies the first rain after a long period of warm & dry weather. Like many other translations of Tamil words, it does not aptly describe the true meaning of what it conveys to a native. But this phrase brings back warm memories of our childhood growing up in Tamil Nadu, wishing we could preserve the pristine beauty of our motherland and wanting to give back to Her.

In 2018, when the TNF Board contemplated on the idea of creating a new endowment fund to provide unhindered support for all districts in Tamil Nadu. "Mann Vaasanai" became the elegant choice for the name of the initiative. The strategic objective of TNF is the continuance and financial self-sustenance of significant initiatives without being challenged to raise funds on an ongoing basis.

First option, as it exists today, is to incept and make a new program very successful and thereafter with its own mass appeal and acceptance, other agencies could willingly partake in the ongoing support and sustainment efforts, freeing TNF from continuing to fund the initiative. Prime examples are the Computer on Wheels initiative and the Smokeless Kitchen Project.

The second option is to establish a corpus fund with a required amount that could generate a steady stream of interest income catering to the program. "Mann Vaasanai" (launched as one of TNF's most ambitious and impactful initiatives at the TNF Annual Conference in Chennai on 19th February 2019) falls under this option. This initiative aims to sustain the educational and humanitarian TNF Projects specific to the thirty-eight districts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry by utilizing the interest generated from a corpus fund allocated for that District.

The set target amount to be generated is \$250,000 per District, a total of \$ 9.5 million. Funds raised will be invested judiciously in India, leveraging high-yielding investment options recommended by investment experts, deemed safe for NGOs, and complying with FCRA guidelines. A modest annual return of 8.5% would generate around seventeen lakh rupees, sufficient to fund the District projects sponsored by the TNF USA Board via the established TNF service channels namely: Education (ABC), Women Empowerment, Rural Development, and Health and Hygiene.

Since the amount is substantial, the TNF Board opted to reach the two crore rupees (approximately \$ 250,000) target by spanning out the fund generation drives into three Phases. In the first two phases, the target has been set at 50 lakh rupees, per phase for each District, The remaining 100 lakh rupees will be targeted in the third phase.

In the first three years, the Tamil community responded modestly, and TNF has received around half a million dollars in contributions for Mann Vaasanai. By ratcheting up the efforts in 2022 during the Dallas Convention (thanks to Dan Palanisamy and his team), TNF generated an additional \$1.5 million, bringing the total to \$2 million.

Thus far, from generous donations, ten Districts have exceeded the Phase 1 target, and Cuddalore District is in an enviable position of having completed Phase 1 and 2! In the Dallas Convention, the Board voted to prioritize education (ABC projects) in the initial stage to ensure it addresses the needs of all Districts. Secondly, the Board agreed to select unique and cost-effective schools/projects that could produce positive ramifications across the state.

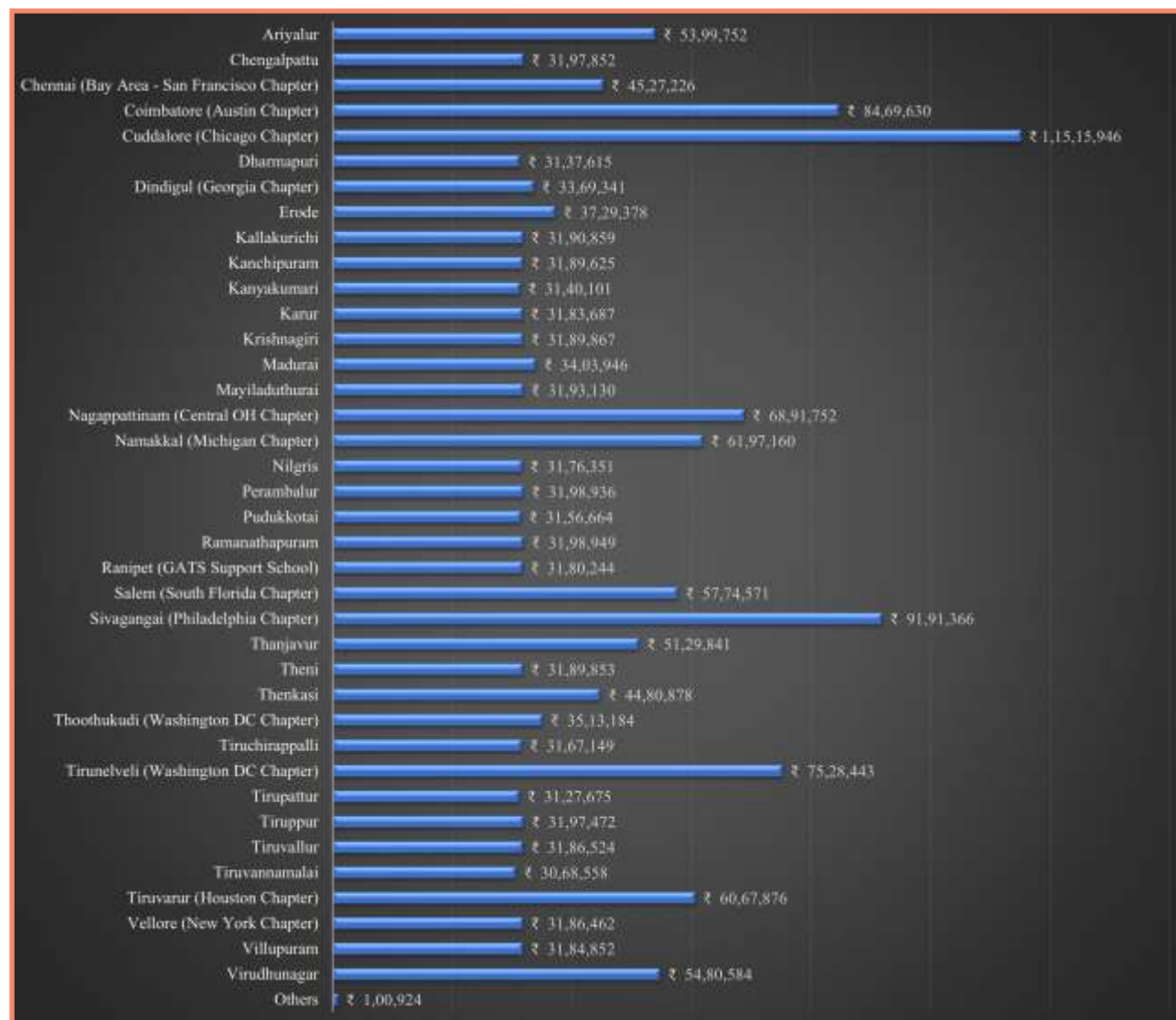
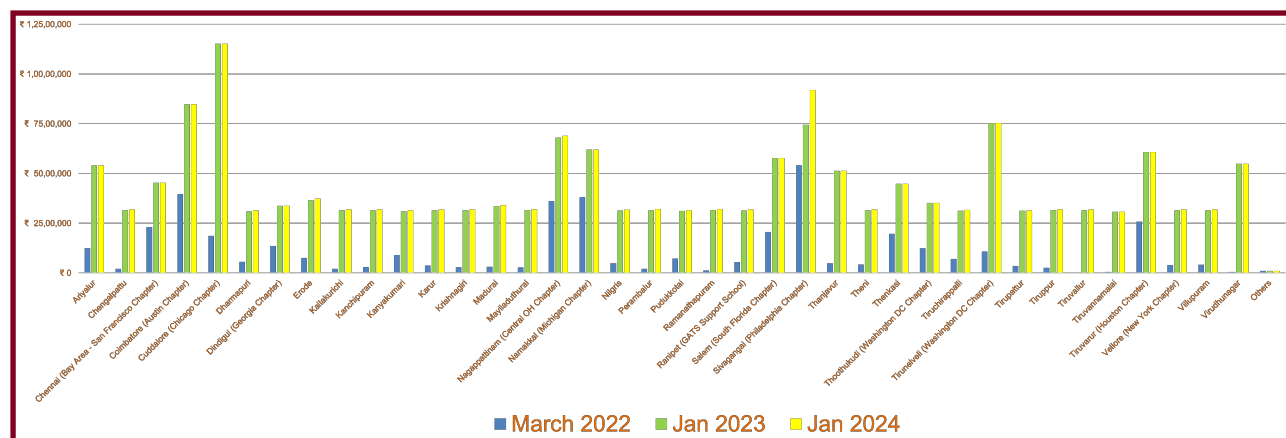
Names of recipient district and the money allocated over the years are as below. Please visit the website (<https://tnfusa.org/mann-vaasanai/>) for current status.

Mann Vasanai - District Corpus Fund Year-Wise Balance (Rupees)



S.No	District	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Ariyalur	11,14,395	11,28,340	12,33,051	53,99,752	53,99,752
2	Chengalpattu	2,01,374	2,01,374	2,01,374	31,51,600	31,97,852
3	Chennai	13,37,931	19,09,446	23,05,712	45,27,226	45,27,226
4	Coimbatore	7,07,567	7,07,567	39,56,356	84,69,630	91,47,906
5	Cuddalore	17,46,457	17,46,457	18,56,910	1,15,15,946	1,15,15,946
6	Dharampuri	4,40,697	4,40,697	5,55,542	30,91,362	31,37,615
7	Dindigul	13,36,675	13,36,675	13,52,551	33,69,341	33,69,341
8	Erode	2,99,329	7,53,076	7,53,076	36,49,378	37,29,378
9	Kallakurichi	2,01,374	2,01,374	2,01,374	31,44,689	32,91,766
10	Kancheepuram	2,29,577	2,29,577	2,90,377	31,43,372	33,62,385
11	Kanyakumari	2,03,487	8,86,104	8,99,615	30,93,848	32,34,333
12	Karur	1,17,256	1,17,256	3,63,834	31,37,434	33,32,888
13	Krishnagiri	2,87,863	2,87,863	2,87,863	31,43,615	31,89,867
14	Madurai	3,01,066	3,01,066	3,01,066	33,57,693	34,03,946
15	Mayiladuthurai			2,73,504	31,46,878	31,93,130
16	Nagapattinam	31,83,223	31,83,223	36,03,998	67,91,752	68,91,752
17	Namakkal	32,84,282	32,84,282	38,03,238	61,97,160	64,87,710
18	Nilgris	3,71,654	3,71,654	4,79,743	31,30,098	31,76,351
19	Perambalur	2,01,374	2,01,374	2,01,374	31,52,766	31,98,936
20	Pondichery	56,687	67,146	1,00,924	1,00,924	1,00,924
21	Pudukottai	6,81,404	6,81,404	7,22,004	31,10,411	31,56,664
22	Ramanathapuram	1,04,215	1,14,604	1,21,360	31,52,779	34,97,351
23	Ranipet District	5,37,855	5,37,855	5,37,855	31,33,991	32,98,034
24	Salem	18,41,395	18,41,395	20,49,679	57,74,571	60,73,052
25	Sivagangai	35,66,556	35,66,556	54,09,211	74,36,766	91,91,366
26	Tenkasi	18,73,900	18,73,900	19,58,055	44,80,878	44,80,878
27	Thanjavur	3,61,792	3,75,737	9,23,822	51,29,841	52,27,999
28	Theni	4,06,629	4,06,629	4,20,140	31,43,600	31,89,853
29	Thirunelveli	5,41,144	5,41,144	10,67,113	75,28,443	75,28,443
30	Thiruvallur	8,855	8,855	8,855	31,40,271	31,86,524
31	Thiruvannamalai	47,298	47,298	47,298	30,68,558	34,61,193
32	Thiruvarur	21,29,234	21,29,234	21,29,234	60,67,876	62,28,856
33	Thoothukudi	10,35,267	10,35,267	12,31,629	35,13,184	36,70,238
34	Tirupattur	2,01,374	2,08,530	3,47,164	31,18,424	31,27,675
35	Tiruppur	2,01,374	2,01,374	2,48,663	31,51,219	31,97,472
36	Trichy	1,72,615	1,79,588	6,99,528	31,20,896	33,90,951
37	Vellore	97,236	97,236	3,84,766	31,40,209	31,86,462
38	Villupuram	2,26,696	2,82,479	4,04,079	31,38,599	34,51,844
39	Virudhunagar	35,444	42,418	42,418	54,80,584	54,80,584
	Total	2,96,92,551	3,15,26,054	4,17,74,355	16,45,45,564	17,09,14,443

Mann Vasanai - Corpus Fund Status





Empowering the Women

Mahalakshmi, a Self-Starter, Teacher, and Beneficiary of TNF's Women Empowerment Initiative:

Chennai experienced heavy floods in November / December 2015 due to deluge of rain. Massive rescue and evacuation efforts had to be undertaken in several areas. Livelihood of thousands of families were destroyed and the Tamil Nadu Government helped many families with housing help by relocating them to new locations.

Mahalakshmi, a flood victim, took up government offered housing at Perumbakkam. For her family, day to day survival itself was challenging, and to come out of the setback and totally re-emerge as a stable family seemed an unattainable goal at that time. With two daughters to support, Mahalakshmi was desperate for any work. Knowing of Mahalakshmi's expert skills in tailoring, TNF offered her a job to teach tailoring skills to other needy upstarts. Since 2016, Mahalakshmi has minted more than 300 female students as skilled tailors and TNF has provided each one of them a sewing machine to help achieve self-sufficiency and stand on their own.



KEERTHI, Fashion Store Proprietor, Chennai

Mahalakshmi, a flood victim, availed Government's free housing offer. But for her family, day to day survival itself was challenging, and to come Keerthi, a single parent with the daunting task of earning a livelihood and dreaming big about the future of her only baby girl, is challenged by a lack of higher education and training, and yet equipped with a drive to succeed on her own. TNF has been reaching out to such deserving women and providing them with the necessary training and equipment to make a living. Keerthi now has an established tailoring business in the heart of Chennai. What is more gratifying is to note that Keerthi truly embraces the core value of TNF, the organization that helped her "நடைபயிற்சி." Currently, she offers free classes to other women who want to be self-empowered and make it on their own, just like her!



Nutritional Supplement Project

'Keerthi is a single parent supporting a baby girl and has minimum schooling and technical skills. TNF has been reaching out to such mothers and providing them with the necessary training and equipment to make them independent and earn a living of their own. Keerthi now has an established tailoring business in the heart of Chennai. Keerthi did not stop there. She now offers free classes to other women who want to be self-empowered, just like her, and make it on their own!

Coveted Professional Schooling Need not be the Privilege of a Select Few!



Prabha Devi is from a small village in the Tuticorin District. Growing up, she harbored an uncompromising passion to become a medical doctor. As a first step, with hard work, she cleared the NEET exam, scoring respectable marks. It gained her admission to Stanley Medical College, Chennai, in 2020. She belongs to a middle-class family with no bank balance to pay her tuition fees and expenses associated with board and lodging. TNF has provided her with a full scholarship channeled through the college's alumni. What is remarkable is her resolve to help other deserving students attend medical school by providing financial assistance once she becomes a professional. With students like Prabha wanting to 'give back,' TNF's vision will live forever!



Sneha, Stanley Medical College Student

Hello, I am a third-year medical student at Stanley Medical College, Chennai. I am originally from Erode, TN. For the last two years, I have been fortunate to receive a scholarship from TNF USA, which the Stanley Alumni organization facilitated. I would not have been able to focus on my studies without the generosity of TNF, and I pledge to support the causes promoted by TNF upon graduation, for instance, by offering counsel to aspiring students.



Sowmya, Support Staff, TNF Chennai

There is no better way to show gratitude than in 'deed!' Sowmya is just doing that! She holds a Bachelor's in Aviation from Bishop Heber College, Trichy, TN, and she received full financial support from TNF USA while pursuing her undergraduate studies. After graduation, she opted to work as a Supporting Staff member in the TNF Chennai office.

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A few initiatives of TNF truly stand out as one sieves through its archive! It is not based on the number of people who benefited, or the dollar value associated with it. However, their impact is compelling because they are way ahead of their time. In other instances, impressed by the outcome and their potential, the government or prestigious local universities could assume ownership of the initiative and take over the project. Two examples cited below fall squarely into these categories.

Computer on Wheels (1996)

One seldom develops an appreciation for the tools at our disposal and the comforts we derive from them until we pause to introspect. Revolution in the developed countries in Information Technology came about in the early 90s with easy access to computers and mobile gadgets. Unfortunately, India was lagging far behind the rest of the world, with minimal computer access for the privileged. Sensing the importance of computer literacy to the masses, Dr. Anandakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of Anna University & Trustee of TNF Chennai Center, recommended that Ram Tukkaram from TNF USA take action. Ram provided substantial funds to start the "Computer on Wheels" program.

Even before the TNF Chennai office opened the computer training center in 1998, the foundation commenced computer classes for students in rural government schools in 1996. Since most students in those schools were economically disadvantaged, TNF offered the courses for a bare minimum fee. It ventured into an ambitious expansion of the program to set up computer centers in more than twenty-five schools, reaching more than 10,000 students in ten districts. With assistance from many NGOs, TNF provided computers to more than 200 schools in rural areas. Anna University took an earnest interest in this initiative and spearheaded the expansion.

Computer training centers mushroomed in all Chennai parts towards the end of the century. The TNF Chennai Center decided to stop offering computer classes in 2010 and donated all its computers, software, and hardware to schools supported by TNF.



**ANNA UNIVERSITY COMPUTER
TRAINING PROGRAMME**



**COMPUTER TRAINING AT
TNF CENTRE**

"Smokeless" Anganwadi kitchens (2005)

This project stands out as a shining example of remarkable execution in the history of TNF, which was so impressive the Tamil Nadu Government embraced the idea and executed it statewide

Anganwadi is a type of rural childcare started by the Indian Government in 1975 to combat child hunger and malnutrition in rural areas. Anganwadi in Hindi means "courtyard shelter" in English.

In 2004, Pamela Walsh from the International Language School in Geneva volunteered to work with TNF to provide classrooms and computers in government schools. While discussions were happening at a school in Sholavaram, thick smoke from a nearby Anganwadi Kitchen engulfed them. Suspending the discussion, Pamela Walsh and others rushed to the Anganwadi. They were shocked to see so many children in a smoke-filled room with a cooking stove in one corner. She said Computers can wait. She wanted her planned donation to modernize the Kitchen with a smokeless cooking facility. We fitted the Kitchen with an LPG cylinder and pressure cooker in less than two months. Impressed with the outcome, Pamela promised additional funds to implement the Project in more childcare centers. In the first phase, TNF fitted more than a hundred Anganwadi with gas stoves. But LPG connections were hard to come by. We implemented the smokeless Kitchen in 3000 Anganwadi, fitting them with smokeless burning wooden stoves. The health benefits of this initiative caught the attention of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). This government agency provided the funds to supply LPG connections to all Anganwadis in the state.

TNF should continue to execute such initiatives, where we sow the seed, and the State (or Central) Government or NGOs will take over its expansion, sensing its far-reaching benefits. TNF could soon aspire for its flagship ABC project to be taken over; consequently, it would not need to be financially supported!



ANGANVADI KITCHEN, THENI



ANGANVADI KITCHEN, THENI



ANGANVADI KITCHEN, NOW



ANGANVADI KITCHEN, NOW

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Veda & Murugan Kannan Family



Geetha & Paul Pandian Family



Ariyalur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Murugan Kannan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Melanikuzhi	Melanikuzhi	2023 - 2024	1,94,579	373 Students
Nutritional Supplement Project	Government Higher Sec. School, Melanikuzhi	Melanikuzhi	2023 - 2024	24,025	99 Students
TNF Educational Scholarship for Orphaned Children due to COVID19 Pandemic (GATS)	Student	Nagampanel	2023 - 2024	5,000	1 Student



ABC Classes



Covid Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



Libraries are Temples



Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Villupuram District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Educational Scholarship (Essvee Foundation)	Student	Villupuram	2023 - 2024	50,000	1 Student



Educational
Scholarship

Chennai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF San Francisco Bay Area Chapter)	Greater Chennai Higher Sec. School, Shenoy Nagar	Shenoy Nagar			476 Students
	Government Boys High School, Mogappair East	Mogappair			
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Arvind Aravindhan)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Villivakkam	Villivakkam	2023 - 2024	6,29,648	262 Students
Distribution of Examination Kit for 10th Students	Greater Chennai Higher Sec. School, Shenoy Nagar	Shenoy Nagar			
Teacher Training Program	Government Boys High School, Mogappair East	Mogappair			
	ABC Teachers and Project Coordinators	Chennai	2023 - 2024		25 ABC Teachers and 2 Project Coordinators
Nutritional Supplement Project	Government Boys High School, Mogappair East	Mogappair	2023 - 2024	24,025	40 Students
Provision of Breakfast to Government School Students in Chennai	Arignar Anna Government Higher Secondary School	Adyar	2023 - 2024	20,100	45 Students
Digital class room (TNF San Francisco Bay Area Chapter)	Government Model Higher Higher Secondary School, CMDA Colony, Arumbakkam	Arumbakkam	2023 - 2024	1,50,000	419 Students
Awareness campaign on birth and other genetic disorder (Dr.V.G. Dev)	Birth defects and Genetic disorder	Chennai	2023 - 2024	11,58,958	452 General Public
Educational Scholarship (Manikam & Padmavathy Educational Scholarship)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	65,000	3 Students
Educational Scholarship (Savithri Rani & Venkatachalam Educational Scholarship)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	40,000	2 Students
Educational Scholarship (CM Educational Assistance and Rural Development)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	85,000	18 Students
Educational Scholarship (Gopalakrishnan Memorial)	Student	Chennai	2023 - 2024	2,00,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Sivasubramanian Memorial)	Student	Chennai	2023 - 2024	29,500	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (TN Chapter)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	33,520	2 Students
Educational Scholarship (Kavignar S Karunanandham Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	13,000	2 Students
Educational Assistive Devices for Visually Impaired Students	Visually Impaired Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	3,776	4 Visually Impaired Students
Educational Scholarship (Educational assistance to the Destitute and socially abandoned school children/ Industrial Training Institute students)	Students	Chennai	2023 - 2024	40,000	2 Students
TNF Educational Scholarship for Orphaned children due to COVID19 Pandemic	Students	Cuddalore	2023 - 2024	59,915	2 Students
Tailoring Education (TNF Chapter)	Women	Kilpauk	2023 - 2024	6,60,000	20 Women



ABC Class



ABC Teacher Training



Apparel Training and Design Centre-ATDC



Awareness Campaign on Birth Defects and Other Genetic Disorder



COVID Educational Scholarship



Digital Classroom



Educational assistive device For the visually impaired students



Educational Scholarship



Libraries are Temples



Nutritional Supplements Project



Provision of Breakfast



Soft Skills Training

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Naveena & Babu Krishnasamy Family



Sumathi & Ramprasad Gurunathan Family



Coimbatore District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC School Project (TNF Austin Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Ramanathpuram (Mannur)	Ramanathpuram	2023 - 2024	3,13,919	1,331 Students
	Government Higher Sec. School, Chettipalayam	Chettipalayam			
TNF ABC School Project (Thiru Patcha Gounder & Thirumathi Nanjammal alias Ponnammal)	TSA Government Higher Sec. School, Kattampatty	Kattampatty		2,00,874	
TNF ABC School Project (Thiru. Gopalaswamy Manokaran)	Government Higher Sec. School, Kinathukadavu	Kinathukadavu		94,302	
TNF ABC School Project (Tmt. Seetha Krishnan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Vadasithur	Vadasithur		1,44,867	
Nutritional Supplement to students appearing for Public Examinations (Tmt. Seetha Krishnan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Vadasithur	Vadasithur	2023 - 2024	38,151	302 Students
Digital Class Room Project (Tmt. Seetha Krishnan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Vadasithur	Vadasithur	2023 - 2024	70,754	250 Students
Educational Scholarship - (Er. Senthilkumar Mahadevan & Uma Senthilkumar Trust)	PSG College of Technology students	Peelamedu	2023 - 2024	60,000	3 Students
Educational Scholarship (Thondamuthur Government Boys Higher Secondary School)	Student	Thondamuthur	2023 - 2024	10,000	5 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Student	Coimbatore	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Educational assistance to the Destitute and socially abandoned school children/ Industrial Training Institute students)	Student	Coimbatore	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Rajasekaran Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Student	Coimbatore	2023 - 2024	6,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Stanley Medical Alumni) Medical	Student	Coimbatore	2023 - 2024	20,976	1 Student



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit

Cuddalore District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Chicago Chapter)	Government High School, Keerapalayam	Keerapalayam	2023 - 2024	9,43,726	500 Students
	Government High School, Sakkangudi	Sakkangudi			
	Government Adi Dravida Welfare Higher Sec. School, Maduranthagannallur	Maduranthaga- nallur			
	Government Middle School, Oodakanallur	Oodakanallur			
	Government Aided Middle School, Poonthotam	Poonthotam			
Nutritional Supplement to students appearing for Public Examinations	Government High School, Keerapalayam	Keerapalayam	2023 - 2024		122 Students
	Government High School, Sakkangudi	Sakkangudi			
	Government Adi Dravida Welfare Higher Sec. School, Maduranthagannallur	Maduranthaga- nallur			
TNF Educational Scholarship for Orphaned children due to COVID19 Pandemic (GATS)	Student	Cuddalore	2023 - 2024	25,000	4 Students
Educational Scholarship (SethuVenu Educational Scholarship)	Students	Cuddalore	2023 - 2024	40,000	8 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Student	Cuddalore	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Educational assistance to the Destitute and socially abandoned school children/ Industrial Training Institute students)	Student	Cuddalore	2023 - 2024	42,600	2 Students

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ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



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Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Chengalpattu District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Tailoring Education (TNF Chicago Chapter)	Women	Perumbakkam	2023 - 2024	1,03,244	34 Women
Tailoring Education (TNF Chapter)	Women	Perumbakkam	2023 - 2024	65,626	11 Women
Flood Relief	Perumbakkam - Tamilnadu Urban Habitat Development Board	Perumbakkam	2023 - 2024	4,31,200	1,100 Families



Flood Relief



Tailoring Machine Distribution



Tailoring Class

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**Rohini &
Ram Thukkaram
Family**



**Malar &
Bobby Balachandran
Family**



Dharmapuri District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Dr. M.N. Inbavazhu Memorial)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Pennagaram	Pennagaram	2023 - 2024	4,00,349	546 Students
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Pennagaram	Pennagaram			
Educational Scholarship (Rajasekaran Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Student	Dharmapuri	2023 - 2024	6,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (CM Educational Assistance and Rural Development)	Students	Eachampallam	2023 - 2024	25,000	25 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



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Dindigul District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF USA Board)	K.R. Government Higher Sec. School, Ottanchathiram	Ottanchathiram	2023 - 2024	4,52,984	602 Students
	Nehruji Government Higher Sec. School, Idaiyankottai	Idaiyankottai			
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial)	Student	Dindigul	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student
TNF Educational Scholarship for Orphaned children due to COVID19 Pandemic (GATS)	Student	Dindigul	2023 - 2024	5,000	2 Students
Educational Scholarship (Mann Vasanai District Corpus Fund)	Student	Dindigul	2023 - 2024	1,09,500	5 Students



ABC Class



Covid Educational Scholarship



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



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ஈகை உடையோன் எக்களிப்பு அடைவான்.

Erode District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Educational Scholarship (Senthil Mahadevan and Uma Senthil)	The Sengunthar Higher Sec. School, Erode	Erode	2023 - 2024	6,000	3 Students
Educational Enhancement (Dr. A. Dakshinamoorthy)	Panchayat Union Middle School, Siraimetanpalayam	Siraimetanpalayam	2023 - 2024	1,22,720	160 Students
Educational Scholarship (Dr. A. Dakshinamoorthy)	Government Vinobha Higher Sec. School, Dhalavaipettai	Dhalavaipettai	2023 - 2024	70,000	6 Students
Educational Scholarship (Stanley Medical Alumni)	Medical Student	Erode	2023 - 2024	55,180	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Essvee Foundation)	Student	Erode	2023 - 2024	50,000	1 Student



Educational Scholarship



Play Materials



Talking Pen Project



Kallakurichi District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Chicago Chapter)	Panchayat Union Middle School, Koothanur	Koothanur	2023 - 2024	1,27,087	25 Students
Nutritional Supplement Project	Panchayat Union Middle School, Koothanur	Koothanur	2023 - 2024	24,025	13 Students



ABC Class



Nutritional Supplements Project

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Maram Reddy Family**



**Panichelvam &
Francis Roche Family**



**Sockalingam
Suppiah Family**



Kancheepuram District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Greater Boston Chapter)	Government ADW Higher Sec. School, Injambakkam	Injambakkam	2023 - 2024	5,48,075	689 Students
	Government High School, Nazarathpettai	Nazarathpettai			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Kaliyampoondi, Uthirameru	Kaliyampoondi			
Educational Scholarship (P. Ramaswami Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Students	Kancheepuram	2023 - 2024	5,750	4 Students
Flood Relief	Paraniputhur, Malaiadivaram – Kundrathur Murugan Temple	Kancheepuram	2023 - 2024	1,45,876	370 Families



ABC Class



Flood Relief



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



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ஈயாத கருமிக்கு ஏராளச் செலவு.

Karur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Periasamy Gounder and Thirumathi Ponnammal) Panchayat	Union Middle School, Thottampatti	Thottampatti	2023 - 2024	1,00,518	164 Students
TNF ABC Project (Thirilochani Sreenivasan Family Project)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Vaangal	Vaangal		55,401	
	Governemnt Girls Higher Sec. School, Pugalur	Pugalur			
Educational Scholarship (TNF Scholarship for orphaned / semi orphaned children due to COVID19 pandemic - GATS)	Student	Karur	2023 - 2024	5,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Mann Vasanai - District Corpus Fund)	Students	Karur	2023 - 2024	1,32,872	7 Students



ABC Class



COVID Education
Scholarship

Kanyakumari District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Educational Scholarship (Girls Upliftment Educational Fund)	Nursing student	Nagercoil	2023 - 2024	27,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Mann Vasanai - District Corpus Fund)	Student	Kanyakumari	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student



Educational
Scholarship

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Padmanabhan Family**



**Vijay Babu
& Family**



**Kanak Subramanian &
Punitha Subramanian
Family**



**Adithi & Parth
Shah Family**



Krishnagiri District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Adobe Benevity Grant & TNF Austin Chapter)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Hosur	Hosur	2023 - 2024	7,17,732	722 Students
	Government Higher Sec. School, Mullai Nagar	Mullai Nagar			
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Hosur	Hosur			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Natrapalayam Government High School, Eggore Uthangarai	Natrapalayam			
Temporary shed for ABC students Natrapalayam	Government Higher Sec. School, Natrapalayam	Natrapalayam	2023 - 2024	5,56,000	109 Students
Educational Scholarship (Gopalakrishnan Memorial Fund)	Government School Students	Krishnagiri	2023 - 2024	27,500	11 Students
TNF Educational Scholarship for Orphaned children due to COVID19 Pandemic - GATS	Government School Students	Krishnagiri	2023 - 2024	65,000	26 Students



ABC Class



COVID Educational Scholarship



Educational Scholarship



Temporary Shed for ABC Students



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Soft Skills Training

Madurai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF - ABC Project (TNF USA Board)	Government High School, Pappakudipatti	Pappakudipatti	2023 - 2024	24,297	68 Students
	Government High School, Kodukkanpatti	Kodukkanpatti			
Teacher Training Program	ABC Teachers and Project Coordinators	Madurai	2023 - 2024		32 ABC Teachers and 4 Project Coordinators
Education Enhancement (TAYMAI Enabling English Literacy)	Government High School, Pappakudipatti	Pappakudipatti	2023 - 2024	24,072	65 Students
Education Enhancement (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Melur	2023 - 2024	50,586	270 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Madurai	2023 - 2024	33,000	6 Students
Educational Scholarship (Bharatiyar Arakattalai)	Student	Madurai	2023 - 2024	60,000	2 Students
Kidney Disease awareness campaign	Pappakudipatti	Pappakudipatti	2023 - 2024	31,500	100 General Public



ABC Teacher Training



Cap Distribution



Educational Scholarship



**Kidney Disease
Awareness Campaign**



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Soft Skills Training

ஈயாத புல்லர் இருந்தென்ன? போய் என்ன?

Mayiladuthurai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF - ABC Project (Tmt. Malathi Palaniappan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Korukkai	Korukkai	2023 - 2024	1,93,085	214 Students
TNF - ABC Project (Thiru. Karthikeyan Ramu)	Panchayat Union Middle School, Allivilagam	Allivilagam	2023 - 2024	1,08,389	
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Student	Mayiladuthurai	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student
Special School for Intellectually Disabled students (TNF Philadelphia Chapter, Dallas Chapter and Numerous Individual Donors and TNF Chapters)	Intellectually Disabled Students	Sirkali	2023 - 2024	12,14,561	91 Students
Special School for Intellectually Disabled Students (VTK Memorial Fund)	Intellectually Disabled Students	Sirkali	2023 - 2024	1,99,582	
Provide uniforms to deserving students of Government Schools	ABC Students	Korukkai	2023 - 2024	10,125	15 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



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**Special School for Intellectually
Disabled Students**



Uniform Distribution



Soft Skills Training

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Ponnusamy Family**

**Kannan
Sangiah &
Family**



**Priya & Sivakumar
Rajarathinam Family**



Nagapattinam District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Central Ohio Chapter)	Government High School, Ettukudi	Ettukudi	2023 - 2024	10,44,123	730 Students
	Government High School, Gramathumedu	Giramathumedu			
	Government High School, Seruthur	Seruthur			
	Government High School, Karapidagai	Karapidagai			
	Government High School, Thirupoondi	Thirupoondi (North)			
Nutritional Supplement Project	Government High School, Seruthur	Seruthur	2023 - 2024	24,025	27 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Nagapattinam	2023 - 2024	10,000	2 Students
Uniform to deserving students of Government Schools	ABC Students	Nagapattinam	2023 - 2024	69,525	103 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



Libraries are Temples



Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Uniform Distribution

Namakkal District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Michigan Chapter)	Valvil Ori Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School, Kolli hills	Vazhavan- dhinadu	2023 - 2024	16,46,544	1,373 Students
	Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School, Sengarai	Sengarai			
	Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School(Boys), Mullukurichi	Mullukurichi			
	Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School (Girls), Mullukurichi	Mullukurichi			
	Government Higher Sec. School (Boys), Erumaipatti	Erumaipatti			
	Government Higher Sec. School, (Boys) Kalappanaickanpatti	Kalappa- naickanpatti			
TNF ABC Project (Tmt. Dheepa Rammohan Maturi)	Government Higher Sec. School, Sowdhapuram	Sowdha- puram			
Nutritional Supplement Project	Valvil Ori Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School, Kolli hills	Vazhavan- dhinadu	2023 - 2024	24,025	42 Students
Nutritional Supplement Project (TNF TN Chapter)	Valvil Ori Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School, Kolli hills	Vazhavan- dhinadu	2023 - 2024	57,459	365 Students
	Government Tribal Residential Higher Sec. School, Sengarai	Sengarai			
Educational Scholarship (Gopalakrishnan Memorial Fund)	Government School Students	Kalappanai- ckanpatti	2023 - 2024	7,500	3 Students
Educational Scholarship (Arumugam & Gurunatha Educational Scholarship)	Students	Thiruchen- gode	2023 - 2024	4,89,900	25 Students
Uniform to deserving students of Government Schools	ABC students	Namakkal	2023 - 2024	81,675	121 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



Libraries are Temples



Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Uniform Distribution



Talking Pen Project

Ramanathapuram District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Memphis Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Uppoor	Uppoor	2023 - 2024	1,48,141	341 Students
TNF ABC Project (TNF North East Ohio Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Devipattinam	Devipattinam	2023 - 2024	1,96,799	
Mann Vasanai District Corpus Fund	Government Music School, Ramanathapuram	Ramanatha- puram	2023 - 2024	1,66,530	7 Students



ABC Class



Soft Skills Training



Exposure Visit

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& Family**



**Satish Venkatesh
& Family**



**Priya & Sriram
Krishnan Family**



**Dr. Rajan, Dr. Savithiry, Ram
& Bala Natarajan**



**Valli & Arunachalam
Family**



**Dr. Padmini &
Dr. Ranga Nathan Family**



**Durai Ponnalagu, Kavitha Dhurai,
Rohan Duraipandian
& Samvrudha Dhurai**



**Mala Gopal &
Gopalakrishnan
Thandavarajan Family**



Pudukottai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Dallas Chapter)	Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Thirumayam	Thirumayam	2023-2024	3,98,216	666 Students
	SKT Gandhi High School, Rayavaram	Rayavaram			
TNF Education Scholarship for Orphaned Children due to COVID19 Pandemic - GATS	Student	Pudukottai	2023-2024	20,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Student	Pudukottai	2023-2024	5,000	1 Student
Nutritional Supplement Project (TNF TN Chapter)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School Thirumayam	Thirumayam	2023 - 2024	21,128	196 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Exposure Visit



Libraries are Temples



Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training

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ஈயார் தேட்டைத் தீயார் கொள்வர்.

Ranipet District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF New York Chapter & Turbo Energy Pvt. Ltd)	Government High School, Anvarthikanpet	Anvarthikanpet	2023 - 2024	13,04,784	1,111 Students
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Guruvarajapet	Guruvarajapet			
	Adi Dravida Welfare Government High School, Elathur	Elathur			
	Government High School, Kunnathur	Kunnathur			
	Government High School, Mittapettai	Mittapettai			
	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Guruvarajapet	Guruvarajapet			
Distribution of Chrome Books with Accessories	Government High School, Kunnathur	Kunnathur	2023 - 2024		750 Students
	Government High School, Mittapettai	Mittapettai			
	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Guruvarajapet	Guruvarajapet			
Nutritional Supplement Project	Adi Dravida Welfare Government High School, Elathur	Elathur	2023 - 2024	24,025	25 Students
Educational Scholarship (Manickam & Dr. Padmavathy Scholarship)	Student	Arakonam	2023 - 2024	25,000	1 Student
YOX Program (TNF San Francisco Bay Area Chapter)	Anvarthikanpet Library Students	Anvarthikanpet	2023 - 2024	6,479	13 Students



ABC Class



Distribution of Chromebooks



Libraries are Temples

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Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Talking Pen Project



YOX

Thirunelveli District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Washington DC Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Vannikonenthal	Vanni- konenthal	2023 - 2024	4,50,504	482 Students
	Government High School, Tharuvai	Tharuvai			
Educational Enhancement (Bharatvaja Ashram)	Sri Ramakrishna Middle School	Cheran- mahadevi	2023 - 2024	20,000	65 Students



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Health Treatments



Elderly Needs

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☒ Mission

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Education is one of the most important fundamental rights of a human being. Children's right to education, at both School & College levels, should not be overlooked because of financial inabilities. Sarathi Trust intends to help such children in need by providing practical solutions to their dire problems.

Sarathi Trust also intends to play a significant role in the expensive medical treatments for low- and middle-income families (LMIFs).



Currently there are a projected 138 million elderly in India. Sarathi Trust intends to aid in their concerns, so so they can lead secure & dignified lives. The intervention programs will be focused on areas of Healthcare, Agecare, and Livelihood.

Salem District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF South Florida Chapter)	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Mecheri	Mecheri	2023 - 2024	6,38,263	1,549 Students
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, JariKondalampatti	Jarikondalampatti			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Neikarapatty	Neikarapatty			
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Mike Manickam)	Government High School, Akkamapettai	Akkamapettai	2023 - 2024	1,39,180	2,05,497
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Mani Rajendran)	Government (Boys) Higher Sec. School, Sankari	Sankari		2,05,497	
Distribution of Talking Pen	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Mecheri	Mecheri	2023 - 2024	90,860	225 Students
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, JariKondalampatti	Jarikondalampatti			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Neikarapatty	Neikarapatty			
Teacher Training Program	ABC Teachers and Project Coordinators	Salem	2023 - 2024		40 ABC Teachers and 4 Project Coordinators
Nutritional Supplement Project (TNF South Florida Chapter)	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Mecheri, Mecheri Block	Mecheri	2023 - 2024	42,396	235 Students
	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, JariKondalampatti, Panamarathupatti Block	Jarikondalampatti			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Neikarapatty	Neikarapatty			
Nutritional Supplement Project (TNF USA)	Government (Boys) Higher Sec. School, Sankari	Sankari		48,050	90 Students
	Government High School, Akkamapettai	Akkamapettai			
Educational Scholarship (PRS Educational Scholarship)	Students	Salem	2023 - 2024	30,000	3 Students
Educational Enhancement (Successful School Project)	Panchayat Union Middle School, Maramangalam	Maramangalam	2023 - 2024	51,502	225 Students
	Panchayat Union Middle School, Chinnamathur	Chinnamathur			



ABC Class



ABC Teacher Training



Exposure Visit



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Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Talking Pen Project

Tirupathur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Nutritional Supplement Project	Government Higher Sec. School, Athanavur	Athanavur	2023 - 2024	24,025	58 Students
Educational Scholarship (Padmashri Dr. M. Anandakrishnan Memorial)	Student	Athanavur	2023 - 2024	30,000	1 Student



Educational Scholarship



Nutritional Supplements Project

Sivagangai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Philadelphia Chapter)	Sathappa Government Higher Sec. School, Nerkuppai	Nerkuppai	2023 - 2024	11,33,779	782 Students
	Subramanian Chettiar GuruKulam Hr. Sec School, Amaravathipudur	Amaravathi Pudur			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Vettriyur	Vettriyur			
	Government Higher Sec. School, SS Kottai	SS Kottai			
	TPU Middle School, Vadugappatti	Vadugappatti			
	TPU Primary School, Nerkuppai	Nerkuppai			
	TPU Middle School, Konnathanpatti	Konnathanpatti			
Educational Assistance to orphaned girl children (Mr. Balaji Prakash Rao)	Children	Karaikudi	2023 - 2024	9,31,500	21 Children
Educational Support to Government aided school (Mr. Subu Ganesan)	Subramanian Chettiar GuruKulam Hr. Sec School, Amaravathipudur students	Amaravathipudur	2023 - 2024	7,90,162	118 Students
Somalay Memorial Branch Library, Nerkuppai (Dr. Somalay Somasundaram)	Somalay Memorial Library - Village Children and adults	Nerkuppai	2023 - 2024	84,894	27,619 General Public / Students
Educational Enhancement (VTK Memorial Fund)				26,800	
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Sivagangai	2023 - 2024	25,000	2 Students
EYE Education for You	Amaravathipudur and Murugappa Balamandir Primary School	Students	2023 - 2024	23,782	99 Students
YOX Program	Students	Nerkuppai	2023 - 2024		23 Students
Education Enhancement (TAYMAI Enabling English Literacy)	Somalay Memorial Library - Village Children	Nerkuppai	2023 - 2024	24,072	General
Educational Enhancement (PT4U Project)	Subramanian Chettiar GuruKulam Hr. Sec School, Amaravathipudur students	Amaravathi Pudur	2023 - 2024	1,15,657	School Students



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PT4U Project



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Talking Pen Project



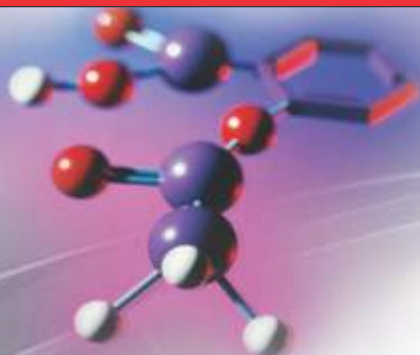
YOX



**Somalay Memorial Branch Library
- Nerkuppai**

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Tenkasi District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Washington DC Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Thirumalapuram	Thirumalapuram	2023 - 2024	7,52,253	1,027 Students
	AMC Government Higher Sec. School, Karivalam-vanthanallur	Karivalam-vanthanallur			
	G.A. Government Higher Sec. School, Sankarankovil	Sankarankovil			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Sayamalai	Sayamalai			
Nutritional Supplement Project	AMC Government Higher Sec. School, Karivalam-vanthanallur	Karivalam-vanthanallur	2023 - 2024	26,282	94 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Student	Tenkasi	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student



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Nutritional Supplements Project



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Thanjavur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF - ABC Project (TNF USA)	Government Higher Sec. School, Kuruvikarambai	Kuruvikarambai	2023 - 2024	1,79,981	476 students
	Government High School, Sengamangalam	Sengamangalam			
Educational Scholarship (UPLIFT – TNF USA)	Student	Peravurani	2023 - 2024	3,40,000	1 student
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Thanjavur	2023 - 2024	1,00,000	5 students



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Educational Scholarship



Educational Scholarship



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Thiruvarur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Houston Chapter)	Government High School, Katchanam	Katchanam	2023 - 2024	12,25,277	948 Students
	Government High School, Ezhilur	Ezhilur			
	Government High School, Thiruthangur	Thiruthangur			
	Government High School, Thalaikkadu	Thalaikkadu			
	Government High School, Maruthavanam	Maruthavanam			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Nedumbalam	Nedumbalam			
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Doss Kuppaswamy)	Sri Ganapathy Vilas Primary School, Mannargudi	Mannargudi			
Uniform to deserving students of Government Schools	ABC students	Thiruthurai- poondi	2023 - 2024	74,925	111 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Students	Thiruvarur	2023 - 2024	15,000	3 Students
Educational Scholarship (Manikam & Padmavathy Educational Scholarship)	Students	Thiruvarur	2023 - 2024	61,455	3 Students



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Thoothukudi District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF Washington DC Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Sekkarakudi	Sekkarakudi	2023 - 2024	9,45,199	1,112 Students
	SAV Higher Sec. School, Chathiram Street	Chathiram			
	Extension Middle School, New Colony	Thoothukudi			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Savalaperi	Savalaperi			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Mudivaithanenthal	Mudivaithanenthal			
	Government Higher Sec. School, Karungulam	Karungulam			
TNF ABC Project (PSK Rajaratnam Memorial)	Government Higher Sec. School, Kombankulam	Kombankulam	2023 - 2024	2,97,442	
	Government Higher Sec. School, Kommadikottai	Kommadikottai			
Educational Scholarship (Stanley Medical Alumni Scholarship)	Student	Thoothukudi	2023 - 2024	56,278	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Educational Assistance to the Destitute and Socially Abandoned School Children)	Students	Thoothukudi	2023 - 2024	32,000	2 Students
Flood Relief	Flood affected General public	Thendral Nagar/ Thalamuthu Nagar/ Alwarthirunagari block villages	2023 - 2024	5,04,174	1,120 Families
Mann Vasanai District Corpus Fund	Government Music School, Thoothukudi	Thoothukudi	2023 - 2024	1,45,000	19 Students



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Educational Scholarship



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Flood Relief



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Theni District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Dr. Bala Swaminathan)	Government Higher Sec. School, T.Subbulapuram	Theni	2023 - 2024	1,67,230	206 Students
Educational Scholarship (Dr. Bala A. Rengarajan)	Sri Krishna Aiyer Higher Sec. School	Chinnamanur	2023 - 2024	72,000	36 Students
Educational Scholarship (Rajasekaran Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Student	Theni	2023 - 2024	6,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Mann Vasanai - District Corpus Fund)	Student	Theni	2023 - 2024	20,000	1 Student



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VTK Memorial Scholarship



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Tiruchirappalli District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (TNF North East Ohio Chapter)	Government Higher Sec. School, Arasangudi	Arasangudi	2023 - 2024	1,15,349	59 students
Teacher Training Program	ABC Teachers and Project Coordinators	Trichy	2023 - 2024		31 ABC Teachers and 4 Project Coordinators
Educational Scholarship (Educational Assistance to the Destitute and Socially Abandoned School Children)	Student	Trichy	2023 - 2024	26,100	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Manickam & Dr. Padmavathy Scholarship)	Student	Trichy	2023 - 2024	22,500	2 Students



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ABC Teacher Training



Educational Scholarship



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கைம்மாறு வேண்டா கடப்பாடு மாரிமாட்டு
என்ஆற்றுங் கொல்லோ உலகு (குறள் 211)

பிறர்க்கு உதவுவது, அவ்வுதவியைப் பெற்றவர் திரும்பச் செய்வதை எதிர்பார்த்து
அன்று; ஒருவர் செய்ததற்குத் திரும்பச் செய்துதான் ஆகவேண்டும் என்றால்
மழை தரும் மேகங்களுக்கு இந்த உலகம் திரும்ப என்ன செய்துவிட முடியும்?

Tirupur District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Dr. P.K. Rajan)	Arignar Anna Higher Sec. School, Vellakoil	Vellakoil	2023 - 2024	1,52,000	169 Students
Educational Scholarship (Educational Assistance to the Destitute and Socially Abandoned School Children)	Students	Palladam	2023 - 2024	30,000	2 Students
Educational Scholarship P.A.R. Palaniswamy Gounder & Mrs. Lakshmi Ammal Memorial)	Student	Palladam	2023 - 2024	11,000	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Stanley Medical Alumni)	Medical Student	Tirupur	2023 - 2024	24,838	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Mann Vasana - District Corpus Fund)	Students	Tirupur	2023 - 2024	1,88,220	9 Students



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Educational Scholarship



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Virudhunagar District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Educational Scholarship (Sivasubramanian Memorial)	Student	Virudhunagar	2023 - 2024	35,000	1 Student
Manna Vasana District Corpus Fund	Government High School for the Hearing Impaired, Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	2023 - 2024	1,70,000	15 Students



Educational Scholarship



Nilgiris District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
Educational Scholarship (Educational Assistance to the Destitute and Socially Abandoned School Children)	students	Nilgiris	2023 - 2024	4,680	1 student



வறியார்க்கொன்று ஈவதே ஈகைமற் றெல்லாம்
குறியெதிர்ப்பை நீர துடைத்து (குறள் 221)

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Thiruvannamalai District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Thiru. Gynanasabai Muthupalaniappan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Vadailuppai	Vadailuppai	2023 - 2024	2,06,046	290 Students
Educational Scholarship (Dr. Ramadas Abboy Memorial Educational Scholarship)	Students	Cheyar	2023 - 2024	12,29,000	95 Students
Educational Enhancement (VTK Memorial Fund)	Panchayat Union Primary School, Kovilur	Kovilur	2023 - 2024	34,635	75 Students



ABC Class



Educational Scholarship



Educational Enhancement



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Vellore District

Project Name Funded By	Beneficiary Name	Village / City	Period	Amount (in Indian Rupees)	Beneficiaries
TNF ABC Project (Mr.Gynanasabai Muthupalaniappan)	Government Higher Sec. School, Konavattam	Konavattam	2023 - 2024	1,98,091	727 Students
TNF ABC Project (Mr. C.K.Mohanam)	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Katpadi	Katpadi	2023 - 2024	2,23,931	
Nutritional Supplement Project	Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Katpadi	Katpadi	2023 - 2024	24,025	58 Students
Educational Scholarship (VTK Memorial Fund)	Government Girls Higher Sec. School, Katpadi & Government Boys Higher Sec. School, Katpadi	Katpadi	2023 - 2024	30,000	4 Students
Support to Library (VTK Memorial Fund)	Thiruvalluvar Library	Katpadi	2023 - 2024	30,375	General Public
Educational Scholarship (CM Educational Assistance and Rural Development)	Student	Vellore	2023 - 2024	12,700	1 Student
Educational Scholarship (Educational assistance to the Destitute and socially abandoned school children/ Industrial Training Institute students)	Student	Katpadi	2023 - 2024	15,000	1 Student



ABC Class



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Nutritional Supplements Project



Soft Skills Training



Support To Library



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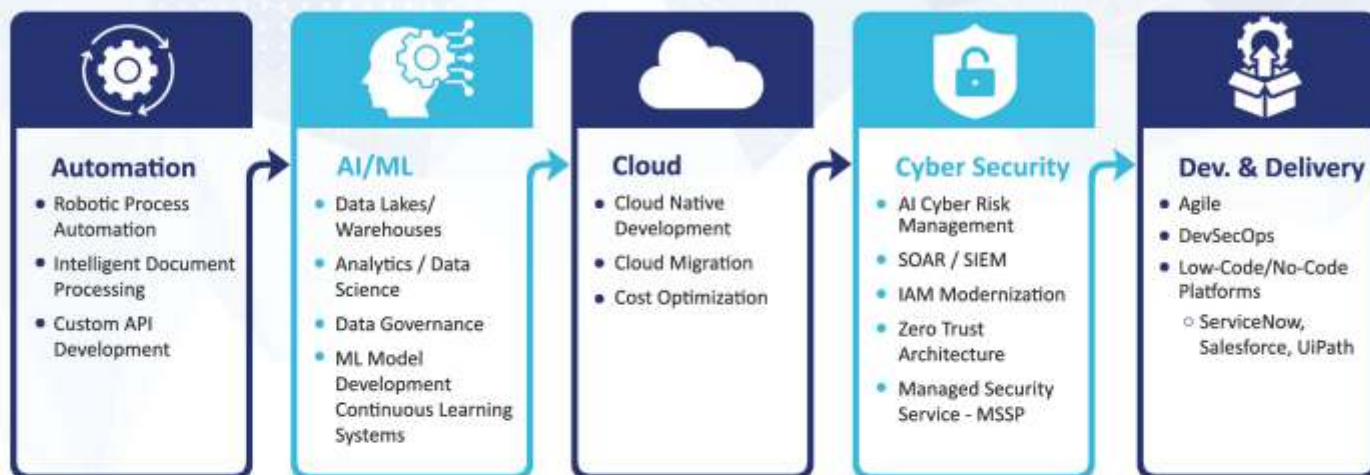
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Platinum	Ganesh Ventures			
Platinum	Jagadeesan Veerasamy	Poola	Old Westbury	NY
Platinum	Mani	Periakaruppan	Dublin	OH
Platinum	Palani	Sakthi	Rockrod	IL
Platinum	PK	Aravazhi	Lakewood Ranch	FL
Platinum	Prabakaran	Murugaiah	Ashburn	VA
Platinum	Sridhar	Srinivasan	Richmond	TX
Platinum	Srividya	Sridhar	Richmond	TX
Platinum	Velu	Palani	Coppell	TX
Gold	Ananth	Balasubramanian	Southlyon	MI
Gold	Babu	Vinayagam	Herndon	VA
Gold	Babu G	Baradwaj	Ellicott City	MD
Gold	Balasubramanian S	Muthu	Hoffman Estates	IL
Gold	Brahashitha	Gupta	Roslyn	NY
Gold	Chinna	Natesan	Rollingwood	TX
Gold	Chitrarasu	Muthiyan	Aurora	IL
Gold	Daivamani	Sivasailam	Ellicott City	MD
Gold	Dr. Manickam	Sankaran	Altoona	PA
Gold	Durairaj	Elavarasan	Frisco	TX
Gold	Elan	Thangamani	Naperville	IL
Gold	Gayathri	Podalakur	Troy	MI
Gold	Gomes Barathi	Ganapathi	Cordova	TN
Gold	Jay	Krish	Naperville	IL
Gold	KMLST	Moorthi	Burr Ridge	IL
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Gold	Mannar	Dhandapani	Mayfield Heights	OH
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Gold	Namasivaya	Suresh	Lake Villa	IL
Gold	Pitchiah "Pitch"	Balasubramanian	Queen Creek	AZ
Gold	Raj	Ponnuswamy	St. Charles	IL
Gold	Raj	Vellala	Plainfield	IL
Gold	Ravichandran	Natarajan	Naperville	IL
Gold	Sathappan	Muthiah	Merrimack	NH
Gold	Sedhu	Krishnamurthy	Long Grove	IL
Gold	Shanmugaprakash	Natarajan	Naperville	IL
Gold	Shivakumar	Kandaswamy	Metuchen	NJ
Gold	Sriram	Srinivasan	Dublin	OH
Gold	Subu	Subramanian	Chandler	AZ
Gold	Tamilmani	Kamalanathan	Plano	TX
Gold	TSR	Murugan	Fort Worth	TX
Gold	Uma M	Kugan	Chandler	AZ
Gold	Usha R	Chandra	San Jose	CA
Gold	Vaithilingam g	Dev	brentwood	TN
Gold	Vijay	Santhalingam	Aurora	IL
Silver	Alwarappa	Sivaraman	Sugarland	TX
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Silver	Anand	Gopi	Troy	MI
Silver	Anand Su	Anandan	Palatine	IL
Silver	Arasar	Arullallar	Naperville	IL
Silver	Arun Prasath	Pandiyan	Rochesterhills	MI
Silver	Asokan	Thangaraju	Brookfield	WI
Silver	Bala	dharmaraj	chesterfield	MO
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Silver	Balamurugan	Subramani	Northville	MI
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Silver	Chinnaswamy	Arumugam	Gurnee	IL

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Silver	Geetha	Pradeep	Troy	MI
Silver	Gnanasivam	Palaniappan	OFallon	MO
Silver	Gobivenkata	Balaji	Satellite beach	FL
Silver	Govindan	Somaskanthan	Bellaire	TX
Silver	Jansirani	Prabakaran	Middleton	WI
Silver	Jeyaraman	Ramalingam	Concord	NC
Silver	Kala	Selvamanickam	Houston	TX
Silver	Kaliappan	Gopalan	Munster	IN
Silver	Kanag	Kuttiannan	Ashburn	VA
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Silver	Mani	Gunasekaran	Naperville	IL
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Silver	Michael	Jeyabalan	Wixom	MI
Silver	Monkompu K	Sriram	Sugarland	TX
Silver	Murali	Venugopalan	Naperville	IL
Silver	Muthukrishnan	Govindaraj	East Brunswick	NJ
Silver	Muthuramalingam	Rammohan	Wesley Chapel	FL
Silver	Nainar	Shanmuganathan	Libertyville	IL
Silver	Nandakumar	Thukkaram	Chelmsford	MA
Silver	Natarajan	Subramanian	Woodbridge	NJ
Silver	Palanisamy	Rathinasamy	tampa	FL
Silver	Parthiban	Andi	Naperville	IL
Silver	Petham	Muthuswamy	Oak Brook	IL
Silver	Pinchi	srinivasan	New Hyde Park	NY
Silver	Prabhakar	Santhanakrishnan	Dublin	OH
Silver	Prabhu	Muthaiyan	Northville	MI

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Silver	Prabu	Krishnakumar	Farmington Hills	MI
Silver	Praveena	Varadharajan	Little elm	TX
Silver	Prem	Sundivakkam	Hawthorn Woods	IL
Silver	Rajenderan	Gangadharan	Plainfield	IL
Silver	Ram	Raghuraman	plainfield	IL
Silver	Ramananandan	Sathyamoorthy	Cary	NC
Silver	Ramanathan	Elango	Chandler	AZ
Silver	Ramanathan	Krishnamoorthy	Troy	MI
Silver	Ramdurai	Balasubramanian	Novi	MI
Silver	Ramya	Narayanan	Naperville	IL
Silver	Rathnagiri	Palamaneri Krishnamurthy	Rochester Hills	MI
Silver	Ravi	Kumar	Schaumburg	IL
Silver	Ravi Ravikulan	Ramanujam	Mount Pleasant	WI
Silver	Rekha	Sivaramakrishnan	Troy	MI
Silver	Rengaram Kuduva	Santharam	Chesterfield	MO
Silver	San	Santharam	Kenosha	WI
Silver	Saravanakumar	M	Vernon Hills	IL
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Silver	Shammu	Ravi	Prospect Heights	IL
Silver	Shanta M	Balakumar	Naperville	IL
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Silver	Sudha	Krishnamoorthy	Nashua	NH
Silver	Sundaram	Shanmugam	Tampa	FL
Silver	Thenappan (Theo)	Meyyappan	Fairfax Station	VA
Silver	Thillai K	Kumaran	San Jose	CA
Silver	Thirunavukkarasu	Varatharajan	West Bloomfield	MI
Silver	Vadiuganathan	Periyana	Bellaire	TX
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