

Quarterly Newsletter 2

April - June 2018

# "No one has ever become poor by giving" — Anne Frank

Renowned Hollywood film actor Bruce Lee says...If you love life, don't waste time, for time is what life is made up of. One day I was going to office at 11am, when from a distance I saw one homeless man sleeping on the road side, with his face covered with a rice bag and his legs out in that hot sun. The incident caught my attention. Immediately I took my mobile phone and captured the scene. Yes, if you take a walk in Pondicherry during the day, you would notice many homeless people sleeping on the roadside in the shade or in the public places. They would wake up only when they are hungry or in need. People would mock at them for wasting their time sleeping during the day; some would say that they are drunk, some would say they are lazy, infact in some cause its true. For the homeless people, day is night and night is day. You may wonder why? Yes, they spend sleepless nights going around finding safe places to sleep because they don't have proper place to sleep, they are chased from place to place by property owners, rowdies, police officers and mosquitoes! The precious life is being wasted on streets by many, this situation has to be changed; they need our support to come out of the streets. Shall we stand to help them come out? For, they have only one life, they too have the right to enjoy life, like any of us.



Snehan means friend of all, loving and affectionate. We are the self motivated, passionate friends of our nation, standing for the "Social Change" in the society. We want to reach the unreached people on the streets of Pondicherry.

"everyone is important and valuable"

# Environmental Day The People's Day



Do you ever ponder and thank the creator for the nature? Imagine, if the tree stops to give oxygen, can anything exist? How valuable are the trees in our lives and how important it is to protect them. On June 5th, Snehan beneficiaries hung eco-friendly cotton bags on trees in the street of Pondicherry to bring awareness among the public and sold cotton bags as an income-generating activity. Let us be thankful and protect our nature by action. Say NO to plastic...Say YES to nature.

# Medical support to dying destitute



A 53-year-old man from Tirupur, became homeless after his wife remarried. While he was at work; welding, sparks fell on his clothes, caught fire, and injured about 40% of his body. He was admitted in the government hospital by co-workers but because there was no caretaker, he could not get proper treatment. With that injury, he reached Pondicherry, to locate his brother, but could not find him. He struggled for about a week without medical assistance and nothing for his physical needs. Snehan found him dying on the street and informed the nearest police station. With the help of police, Snehan admitted him in the hospital for treatment.

### Earn with Dignity inauguration



Imagine, the same homeless person stands at your front door, but this time not to beg but to sell eco-friendly cotton bags to you.

Yes, Snehan came up with a project for the unemployed homeless people to **earn with dignity**. Snehan collaborates with another organization that makes high quality environmental friendly cotton bags by unemployed rural women in South India. By stitching these bags, the unemployed women make their living and by selling these bags, our homeless beneficiaries make their living.

Therefore, Snehan initiated income-generating activities among homeless beneficiaries. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Siva Mathiyazhagan, founder of TYCL (Trust for Youth and Child Leaders).

In Pondicherry, unemployment is quite common. Much of the income is generated from tourism; many small vendors survive by selling their products on streets. Because of the tourism, the unemployed homeless people from neighbouring states reach Pondicherry to survive. Many of them are orphans, disabled, sick, and widowers. They have been living in Pondicherry for many years.

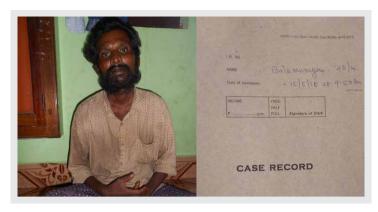
Therefore, Snehan wants to empower the homeless people to live self-sufficient life with dignity. Snehan wants to create a team of two each and entrust the bags to them to sell in the market places, worship places and the beach. On every bag, 50% of the profit will be paid to our beneficiaries (suppose the profit is Rs.50/- for a bag means, Rs.25/- goes to the seller and Rs.25/- to `Snehan to maintain the centre). Every willing homeless unemployed Snehan beneficiary can approach us to join our team in selling.

Will you be part of it? If so, do buy from our beneficiaries to give dignity of earning.

Snehan wants to bring changes in the lives of the downtrodden...



## Care and support to homeless Balamurugan



Balamurugan 42 years old became homeless due to alcohol addiction. He has two daughters and one son. He was living on the streets, very seldom he is hired for work. Due to improper food habits, he developed TB. He stopped eating solid food for last two months, takes only liquid items. He was very sick and needed medical care. Therefore, Snehan took him to Chest Hospital for medical assistance. At first, they refused to admit him in the hospital because he had no blood relatives with him. However, Snehan promised to support him in all aspects. Therefore, the doctor admitted him in the hospital for treatment. Snehan gave paid caretakers to Balamurugan during hospital admission to give care & support. After ten days, we traced his family and handed him over to his son for further treatment.

# Sharing about Snehan, to CSI Chuch

Snehan was given a chance to speak in CSI Church at PIMS. We shared about Snehan activities, how Snehan was trying to bring value to the life of homeless people. The church was surprised to know about the situation of the neglected destitute, their problems and their needs. After the 10 minutes talk, we sold our Snehan bags as a part of fundraising activity to initiative home for dying destitute. Special thanks to Dr. Peter and Pastor Ugin for the opportunity.

#### Naresh Volunteered at Snehan



Mr. Naresh is the Founder of Tharunam organization. He works with farmers to prevent farmer's suicide in Telangana. He volunteered with Snehan for 15 days for an experiential learning. He wanted to know and understand the reason behind homelessness in our country. During the stay, he had chance to interact with our Snehan beneficiaries. The practical experience gave him more understanding about homeless people. He too supported Snehan, in project writing and Snehan village mapping with clear descriptions. We want to thank him for the support and wish him all the best in the social venture.



#### **Anumuthu Receiving Memento**

The director of Goodwill Mission – Snehan,
Mr. Anumuthu received a memento on 30th of
June 2018, for the humble work done among
unemployed, disabled, destitute adults in
Pondicherry. The event was organized by Thulir,
Annapradokshana and Uyirthuli organization.
More than two hundred people participated in
this event. It was a happy movement for me to
know about other organizations who are working
to bring changes in the society.



#### New board members included





Goodwill Mission was fortunate to have Mr. Prasad and Mrs. Sheeba Rani on the board of trustees. They served and contributed their resources and time to the best of their abilities for the past two years. Due to personal reason and other commitments, they have resigend from Goodwill Mission, board of trustees. We take this oppurtunity to thank them wholeheartedly and wish them all the best. We are happy to introduce the new board members Mr. Madali Muthu and Mr. Thirunavukarasu.





"We Rise by LIFTING OTHERS"
-Robert Ingersoll

### Tricycle for Snehan activities



Mr. Theva Neethi Dhas IAS and his humble son Mr. Abishek, donated TVS XL to Snehan. We have altered the vehicle with a tricycle addition. We are so happy and blessed to have this model of transport for our street activitirs. We used to struggle so much to take our beneficiares (destitute people) to hospital and other places. Moreover sick and disabled destitute are not allowed in public transport and even auto driver refused to take them on hire, even if they agreed we had to pay a high price. Henceforth we are not dependent on them but completely independent to carry out our activities. Very special thanks to Mr. Theva Neethi Dhas IAS and Mr. Abishek.

#### Dear Friends,

The Snehan activities would not be possible without your help and contribution. Therefore, on behalf of all our beneficiaries and board members, we say thank you very much for your support. Do share our quarterly newsletter with your friends... We are looking for committed and likeminded volunteers to support us in Snehan activities, Interested candidates can apply through Snehan website. http://snehan.org/volunteer/

With warmest regards,
The Snehan team and Anumuthu

If you wish to support the work of Snehan,

You can do this – http://snehan.org/make-a-donation/



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