



KOTTAYAM SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY



2021 ANNUAL REPORT
APRIL 2020-MARCH 2021

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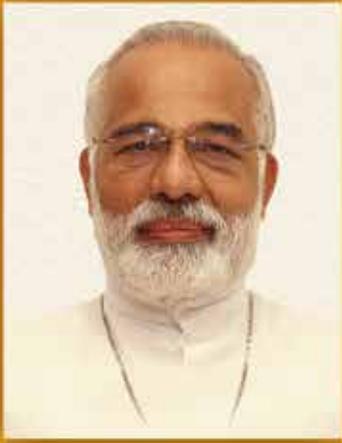
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REPORT

2020-21

KOTTAYAM SOCIAL
SERVICE SOCIETY



Patron's Message

**This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
(Psalm 118:23)**

2020-21 has been a tremendous year of learning and retreat for the whole world. In many ways we could scrutinize it and admit along with several others that 'This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.' (Psalm 118:23) The situation that COVID created, truly leaves the objective mind speechless and in awe, for the mighty works of the Lord. In this age of technology and innovation, when there is a lot to boast about, the world was caught and shaken by a tiny virus. The simplicity of the attack left the intelligent baffled and the 'Business As Usual' mode abruptly switched off and the societies went to a standstill. The simplicity of the remedial measures was equally amazing. The routines were disrupted and hygiene in breath and contact through face masks, hand sanitizers and social distancing became the keywords of the campaigns of the time.

In due course, individuals and families had to go through tough times with many succumbing to illnesses and losing their lives or their loved ones to COVID and Post COVID diseases.

All these add to the significance of the activities of KSSS during the reporting year and distinguish it from the activities undertaken hitherto. A holistic approach was adopted and health, food-security, social and economic restoration projects remained

the major thematic areas but with the difference that this year they were executed in a way that was according to the new 'normal' brought in by the pandemic.

I am happy to note that KSSS did absolutely fantastic work to reach out to those in distress caused by the bewildering and strange situation of the COVID pandemic that this generation is witnessing for the first time. On this occasion, while congratulating the KSSS team under the leadership of Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil, I wish to reiterate the messages that KSSS and like-minded organizations under the Catholic church has been vocalizing since long – 'Protect and Preserve the Environment'.

Invoking blessings of the Almighty for all readers to reflect and gain insights to respect Nature and strive with a humanitarian spirit

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt
Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam



Director's Word

Now it is evident that KSSS was flagging the Warning Signs and that the majority failed to read them or as humans we failed and continue to fail in realizing the grave situation that we are heading into from Climate Change. COVID in many ways was a time of setback but upon closer examination, we would admit that this was the only plausible and peaceful way that we would restrain from many of the disastrous activities we were engaging in the name of 'development'. People globally were kind of irrational and acting as though in some bewitchment in their race for modernism and wealth. Well, COVID brought all societies to a standstill, beyond imagination and factories and traffic were brought to a halt. Silence spread around and in the silence we could hear the voices of the Warnings of yesterday – to discipline ourselves and go back to embrace 'Mother Nature'.

Looking back I am grateful to God Almighty for the tremendous providence that He rendered during this period for KSSS to serve society. Though the ways of opera-

tion were strange and new for KSSS, it was a year of active engagement as we joined hands with government and non-government organizations to build COVID resilient communities and fight the setbacks in social and economic realms of people in society.

I take this opportunity to thank all the national, International agencies, state and central government department for all the timely and humanitarian support they extended in an altruistic way and staying conversant and vigilant about the needs of the time. I especially thank my team members at KSSS and our Patron for his extraordinary vision, guidance and closeness during this odd period in history.

Fr. Sunil Perumanoor

Board of Directors



Very Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat
President



Fr. Sunil Perumanoor
Executive Secretary



Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil
Asst. Secretary



Sr. Sheeba SVM
Treasurer



Dr. K. J. Joseph
Member



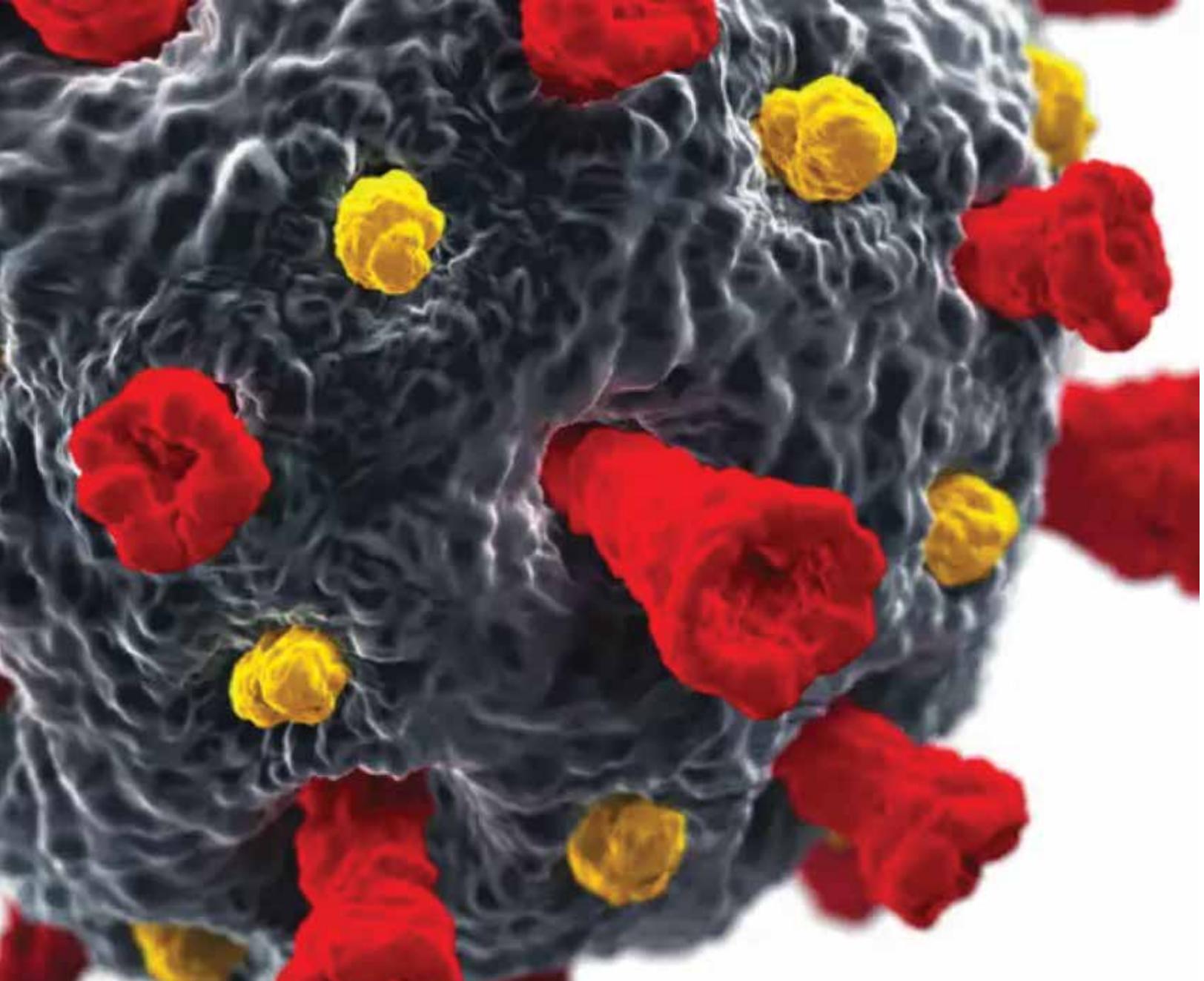
Mr. Johny K. M.
Member



Mrs. Ancy Philip
Member

KSSS Organogram





Covid 19 Mitigation, Relief & Rehabilitation Programme

Welfare Programmes for the Vulnerable

(Poor, Differently-abled etc.)

In this period of COVID, KSSS was immensely blessed to receive the support of several government and private institutions to extend services to the vulnerable and affected innumerable individuals and families. Every where and in all realms of life, as the COVID pandemic struck unexpectedly and in unforeseen

ways, the 'vulnerable section' in society amassed so many individuals than anywhere in recent times. As a result the small and big initiatives of KSSS for the welfare of the affected sections helped it to stay relevant and actively engaged in its mission.

'Jeevanam' project

The Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity India and Royal Enfield implemented the 'Jeevanam' project to support about 500 needy families in Kottayam district as part of social protection programmes to reduce the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. As part of the scheme, kits worth Rs. 2600/- were provided to the identified families in the district. In all, items worth thirteen lakhs were made available as part of the project.



8000 food kits under 'KudumbaMithra' project

As part of the society's 'KudumbaMithra' project envisioning care and protection of families in distress, Food kits were supplied to backward families in Kottayam, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam and Idukki districts. 8000 families were thus supported.





Distribution of Food kits, Grocery Kits

As part of the COVID-19 protection programmes, KSSS collaborated with the Archdiocese's Consecrated Communities of Visitation, Caritas Secular Institute and St. Joseph's Congregations to distribute food kits for poor families affected by the pandemic situation in the parishes of Edackat, Kidangoor, Kaduthuruthy and Kaipuzha Foranes. Kottayam Social Service Society in association with Muthoot Finance provided grocery kits to backward families. The grocery kits were made available in the parishes of Kaduthuruthy and Uzhavoor foranes.

Essential medicines to PwDs through 'Amrita Sanjeevini' project

The Kottayam Social Service Society launched the 'Amrita Sanjeevini' project to assist persons with disabilities who were facing difficulties in purchasing essential medicines due to the lockdowns imposed as part of the COVID 19 preventive measures. As part of the project, KSSS provided medicines free-of-cost to over 1000 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) who were members of KSSS' Community Based Rehabilitation project in the districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts.



Kit distribution under 'Athijeevanam' project

Kits worth Rs. 700/- each were distributed under 'Athijeevanam' project of KSSS in association with Oxfam India to provide care and assistance to the vulnerable sections like the poor, the sick, the disabled and burdened women in Kottayam and Alappuzha districts.



'Sahajeevanam' Project

KSSS in partnership with the South Indian Bank provided food kits to 500 selected families in Kottayam district under 'Sahajeevanam' Project. Mr. Francis P.J., Regional Head, South Indian Bank, Kottayam inaugurated the project amidst a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



Food kits under 'Swasrayamitra' project

The Kottayam Social Service Society has extended a helping hand to its self-help group members from the districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts, who were suffering due to the lockdown in the context of COVID 19. Food kits provided under the project contained rice, sugar, Bengal gram, beans and tea powder.



Kits to backward families in Ernakulam district

Kottayam Social Service Society in association with CBM India Trust provided food kits to 1000 backward families in Ernakulam district as part of COVID -19 relief activities. The food kits worth Rs. 900/- contained rice, sugar, nuts, chickpeas, peas, atta, semolina, tea powder, chili powder, coriander powder, mustard, cumin, turmeric powder, sunflower oil, bath soap, dishwashing bar and salt.



Kits of Essentials

The Vincent de Paul Society Unit of the Little Flower Church, Samkranthy under the Archdiocese of Kottayam along with Care & Share Seattle, USA collaborated with KSSS to distribute kits packed with daily-living essentials.



'Pariraksha' Scheme for the Differently-abled

KSSS implemented a welfare scheme called 'Pariraksha' with the support of Sense International India to assist persons with disabilities especially the deafblind individuals. Fifty families of persons with disabilities were provided with essential items for four months under the scheme.



'Samashwasam' project for the High Range region

As part of the project 'Samashwasam' announced for the High range region, food kits were made available to the people in the area who were suffering from non-availability of essential goods due to the strict lockdown imposed in the panchayats of Idukki district. Accordingly food kits were distributed to 1000 people including self -help group members of KSSS and parishioners of various churches under the Kottayam Archeparchy.



'Aswasakiranam' project

The 'Aswasakiranam' project was implemented by the Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI), to support 50 families of people with disabilities. Under the scheme, daily living items worth Rs. 1,000/- were distributed to these families during the months of August, September and October. The kits included rice, wheat flour, pulses, oil, sugar, mask and soap.



'Annamitra' Project

'Annamitra' project was a joint venture of KSSS, the Catholic Health Association of India and the Liliame Foundation to care for people with disabilities. Mr. Sebastian Kulathungal, President, Kottayam District Panchayath inaugurated the distribution of food kits.



Free Food Kits

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the greatest intention" – Khalil Gibran

KSSS in partnership with Sense International India distributed free food-kits for the families of persons with disabilities as part of its Community Based Rehabilitation Project. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam) inaugurated the event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. While addressing the gathering he said that such small acts were rooted in humanitarian values of brotherhood. The kits included an assortment of essential cooking spices, sugar, wheat flour, semolina, cooking oil and bathing soap. The food kits worth Rs. 2100/- each were distributed for 3 months among 30 families of persons with disabilities.



Food Security Initiatives

With the COVID 19 pandemic tightening its hold on humankind around the globe the agricultural production was also affected. In many parts of the country and the state of Kerala normal farm operations were disrupted and farming season operations went untimely. Naturally this had its toll on the overall yield and food sufficiency.

In view of these probable consequences on food security of the state, several initiatives were supported at the field level to promote food production at a decentralized level and comparing with the previous years, in the face of the pandemic, these efforts had all the more significance.

‘Puthuvijanam Agricultural Development Package’

KSSS had formulated ‘Puthuvijanam Agricultural Development Package’ with an

objective of strengthening the agricultural sector in Kerala during the COVID crisis.

‘Phalajeevanam’ Project distribution



‘Phalajeevanam’ was announced as a sub-project under this package and focused on promotion of banana saplings. 5000 saplings of Nendrapazham variety were distributed to farmers from Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts as part of the ‘Fruit Life’ project. The project was inaugurated by the Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese.

Kitchen Garden Promotion Project



Packets of Vegetable seeds were made available to 12000 families in order to promote kitchen gardens. The packets included seeds of long beans, lady’s finger, tomato, snake gourd, brinjal, chilli, spinach and bitter gourd were provided. The project was supported by the Knanaya Catholic Women’s Association of the Archdiocese and was

implemented for the benefit of the self-help group members of KSSS and the diocesan families. Families from Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts benefited under the scheme which was inaugurated by Metropolitan Archbishop – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt.

Distribution of BV 380 Layers and Cages

As part of COVID's survival activities, hens and cages were distributed under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society with the objective of ensuring food security in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India, the poultry units were provided to 30 backward families. A total of 6 lakhs was expended to distribute units that included 25 hens of BV380 breed and roofed cages.



Promotion of Community Farming

Planting hopes through agriculture...



Kottayam Social Service Society, the social service wing of Kottayam Archdiocese with the aim of strengthening farmers and rejuvenating the agricultural sector collaborated with LACIM to encourage farmers to undertake community farming. As part of the project, interest-free loans were made available to the farmers to overcome the COVID crisis in agriculture. The financial aid

was awarded to farming groups in the villages of Palathururthu, Kallara, S.H. Mount, Mattakara and Arunootimangalam in Kottayam District. Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese inaugurated the fund distribution program that took place at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. In his inaugural address he stated that the contribution of farming communities towards sustaining agriculture is

praiseworthy. He also pointed out that the participation of individuals and groups in scientific farming practices can contribute significantly to better food production and attaining food security. Smt. Alice Jose (Vice-President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath) presided over the program. Shri. Thomas Katoor (Vice-President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Director, Kottayam Social Service Society) and Ms. Babitha T. Jessil, Program Officer spoke at the event. The aid was made available for cultivation of tapioca, plantain, vegetables and paddy. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor assured that the Kottayam Social Service Society would also be providing financial aid to other farming communities as part of the project.

Fruit Tree Planting Challenge



Kottayam Social Service Society organized the Fruit Tree Planting Challenge as a message for environmental protection and food security on the occasion of World Environment Day. The central level inauguration of the challenge was performed at Thellakom,

Chaithanya Pastoral Center by Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan, MP. The challenge aimed to bear fruit in 57000 self-help group families under KSSS in the five districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts.

Basic Amenities Development

Family Empowerment Plan of Save a Family Plan

KSSS tied up with SAFFP to provide financial assistance for housing activities to 4 backward families in Alappuzha District aiming at their holistic development.



Sneha Housing Project

Sneha Housing Project was conceived and implemented by KSSS for ensuring basic infrastructure development. The blessing of the house constructed under this scheme with the financial assistance rendered by Rev. Fr. James Plathottathil on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of his Priestly Ordination was done. This housing assistance was provided to the family of Elamma Chacko Ramachanattu, a member of Cherpunkal Parish in the Kottayam Archdiocese.



'Snehakudaram' Housing Project

'Snehakudaram' Housing Scheme which envisaged the development of infrastructure for backward families was materialized thanks to the financial support of 4.5 lakhs given by Visitation Congregation, a community of nuns in the Kottayam Archdiocese. The keys of the house were handed over to Thottichirakkalam Mathai of Kumarakom village for whom the first house was built. Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil blessed the house in the presence of Fr. Stephen Kandarappallil, President, Kumarakom Village Development Committee.



Archdiocese of Kottayam builds houses for seven families



The Archdiocese of Kottayam supported the construction of houses for seven families in the wake of the COVID crisis. The houses were constructed for the families who lost their homes due to the catastrophic floods of 2018

as part of the flood rehabilitation activities envisioned under the auspices of the Kottayam Social Service Society. The project titled 'Chaithanya Meadows' was implemented by identifying seven families who lost their land and

houses due to the floods and providing each family with 5 cents of land and Rs. 6 lakhs each for housing. The new houses were built in the 40 cents of land in Neendoor Grama Panchayath donated by Mr. Philip Elakattu, a member of the Kaipuzha Parish. KSSS received the support of St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church, Knanaya Catholic Region, Chicago, USA to materialize this project. The blessing of the new houses and the handing over of keys was carried out by the Archbishop of Kottayam and Patron of Kottayam – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt.

Health Programmes

Protective Gear for Health Workers and COVID affected

Cognizant Foundation, Bangalore and KSSS joined hands to provide safety gear for the health workers and people suffering from COVID in the context of the pandemic spreading out. In collaboration with CBM India Trust, personal protective equipment was distributed for health workers and medical instruments were provided for the treatment of COVID patients. The PPE kits and medical equipment were made available through the Medical Colleges in Kottayam and Ernakulam districts and District Taluk Hospital, Pathanamthitta.

Equipment worth 29 lakhs were provided in the three districts. The kits made available to Kottayam Medical College were received by the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Shri. P.K. Thilothaman. Kits provided to Pathanamthitta District Taluk Hospital was received by the Minister for Dairy Development – Adv. K. Raju. Minister of Ports – Shri. Ramachandran Kadannapally, received the kits provided to Ernakulam District Medical College.



Archdiocese of Kottayam with COVID Support Task Force

The COVID Support Task Force was formed under the leadership of the Archdiocese of Kottayam with the objective of coordinating the COVID 19 relief and mitigation operations. One of the major functions of these volunteers would be to assist in the funeral services of people who

died of COVID. Knanaya Catholic Youth League (organization for the youth in the archdiocese) and KSSS took the lead role in the formation of the Task Force. The volunteers from the Youth League were trained at the central level and the task force was expanded in cooperation with the Foranes and the parishes of



the archdiocese. Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA inaugurated the central level Task Force at a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom.

Kottayam Social Service Society with special masks for differently abled

KSSS in collaboration with the Archbishop Kuriakose Kunnacherry Foundation provided special masks for the safety of the deaf and dumb persons. The Foundation was formed in memory of Late Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry, the first Metropolitan of the Archdiocese of Kottayam.



Distribution of Essential medicines to the differently-abled

The Kottayam Social Service Society distributed essential medicines to those with disabilities in the wake of the COVID outbreak. In collaboration with Kumarakom Grama Panchayath and Kumarakom Government Hospital, essential medicines were made available to people with disabilities at the Agape Day Care Center in Kumarakom of KSSS.

Corona Prevention - Health Awareness Campaign

The Kottayam Social Service Society organized a health awareness campaign with the objective of raising awareness among the general public about COVID preventive measures in the wake of the COVID crisis. Shri. Biju Kumbikan, Ettumanoor Municipal Chairman flagged off the health awareness campaign.



Digital Reach Online Physiotherapy Services of KSSS



As part of KSSS' efforts to build COVID resilient communities, modern digital technology was utilized to deliver physiotherapy services to the needy persons with disabilities. In the first phase of the Digital Reach Online Physiotherapy

training program which was designed and implemented in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India and the Liliane Foundation, around 100 differently-abled persons were included. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop inaugurated the project at a function organized at Thellakom, Chaitanya.

Personal Protective Equipment kits to Health Workers



Personal Protective Equipment kits were distributed among health workers as part of Kottayam Social Service Society's initiatives to combat COVID. The kits were made available in Kottayam, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts with the financial support of OXFAM, India and CBM, India Trust. The PPE kits included a coat, surgical gloves, face masks, shoe cover, eye-glasses, sanitizers and carry bags.

KSSS KARUNYADOOTHU SCHEME: DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICINES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Defining service through dedication...

As part of the Community Based Rehabilitation Program, the Kottayam Social Service Society organized an event to distribute essential medicines to persons with disabilities. The event which was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archeparchy). In his address he stressed on the responsibility of the society in ensuring essential services to persons with disabilities. He further spoke about the need to ensure an inclusive society and commended the efforts of the Kottayam Social Service Society to achieve the same through its various operations. Shri Biju Valiyamala (President, Athirampuzha Grama panchayath) presided over the meeting. Smt. Alice Joseph (Vice-President, Athirampuzha Grampanchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Director, Kottayam Social Service Society), Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil Asst. Director, Kottayam Social Service Society), and Mrs. Mary Philip, CBR coordinator addressed the gathering. KSSS distributed the medicines to around 50 persons with disabilities from the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India and Nanthikunnel Medicals, Ettumanoor.



Online Awareness Program

In the context of COVID 19, an online awareness program was organized by the Kottayam Social Service Society as part of its welfare activities for the differently-abled. The online webinar was organized in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India and the Liliane Foundation.

KSSS Karunyadoothu Scheme: Distribution of Essential Medicines to Persons with Disabilities

Fostering a Culture of Care

The Kottayam Social Service Society organized an event to distribute essential medicines to persons with disabilities, which was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam). He pointed out the need to foster a culture of care towards the marginalized communities at the inauguration of the 'Karunyadooth' Scheme while he was speaking at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. In his inaugural address he called upon our duty to build a strong inclusive culture to help those who belong to vulnerable sections of the society and narrow the existing disparity through generous social welfare schemes. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan, Member of Parliament who presided over the meeting commended the exemplary works undertaken by the organization for the welfare of the disabled community. Mr. Tojo M. Thomas (RTO Enforcement,



Kottayam) Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil addressed the gathering. KSSS collaborated with Nanthikunnel Medicals, Ettumanoor to distribute essential medicines to around 50 persons with disability in the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam.

Volunteer Meet and Distribution of Safety Gear

Stronger together, with a heart to act and serve.



KSSS organized a meeting of volunteers involved in the COVID relief operations. The program which was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archeparchy). In the inaugural address, he stated that the voluntary groups through their efforts can help assuage the fears and concerns of the society during the COVID-19 crisis. He urged the group to sustain their efforts in bringing relief to the lives of people affected by the pandemic. The meeting was presided over by Smt. Bincy Sebastian (Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam). Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal (Executive Director, Kerala Social Service Forum), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Director, Kottayam Social Service Society), Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil (Asst. Director) and Mrs. Bessy Joseph, Coordinator addressed the gathering. Following the awareness session held as part of the event, safety kits including protective masks and hand sanitizers were distributed among the volunteers.

Awareness Program on Health and Hygiene



Practicing good hygiene starts with you and me!

To promote awareness on hygiene measures, the Kottayam Social Service Society organized a program in association with the Nai Roshni program, a scheme implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The event was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom and inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Archbishop, Kottayam Archeparchy). In his address, he affirmed that such measures focusing on the individual-family-society model to educate people on hygienic practices contributed to raising a healthy generation and in ensuring a safe environment for them. Rev Fr. Michael Vettickat (Vicar General, Kottayam Archdiocese) presided over the meeting. Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality), Shri Biju Valiyamala (President, Athirampuzha Grama panchayath), Shri. T.C. Roy (Municipal Councillor, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayill spoke at the event. As part of the event, a class on the importance of hygienic practices in light of the pandemic was also organized.

Essential medicines to differently-abled under Karunyadooth project



As part of measures to combat COVID 19, the Kottayam Social Service Society provided essential medicines to people with disabilities under its Karunyadooth project. The Archbishop of the Kottayam Archdiocese Metropolitan Mar

Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the distribution of medicines at a function organized at Thellakom, Chaithanya. The Karunyadooth project functions to provide essential medicines to the differently-abled every month.

Disaster Management Workshop and Ashakiranam Volunteer Meet

"There's no harm in hoping for the best as long as you're prepared for the worst."

- Stephen King

As part of the Navajeevan Scheme of Caritas India, the social service organization of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India, KSSS organized a workshop for disaster management alongside a meeting of the volunteers of the Ashakiranam program (Ashakiranam focuses on bringing solace to cancer patients and their relatives). The program which was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archdiocese). In his inaugural address he remarked that an active volunteer force is vital to any disaster management operation. He also said that a conscious effort to adopt a healthy lifestyle is as important as measures to ensure food

security to fight dreadful ailments such as cancer. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Director, Kottayam Social Service Society) Smt. Sibi Paulose (Program Officer, Caritas India), Smt. Athulya Thomas (Hazard Analyst, Disaster Management Authority, Kottayam), and Mr. Avarankutty Jose, KSSS Program Officer spoke at the event. Smt Athulya Thomas headed the Disaster Management Workshop held as part of the event. Workshops were also conducted for members of the Disaster Management committees formed at the ward level at Kallara and Vijayapuram Panchayaths. The Plan of Action for Ashakiranam Cancer Care was also formed at the meeting.



World Down Syndrome Day

Educate, Support, Advocate

21 March, is observed to create a global awareness on Down Syndrome – a genetic condition which usually causes varying degrees of intellectual and physical disability. Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archdiocese) inaugurated the event organized by the Kottayam Social Service Society to observe World Down Syndrome Day at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Smt. Arya Rajan President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath), Smt. Alice Joseph (Vice-President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil spoke on the occasion. The event which was organized in collaboration with the Catholic Health Association of India was attended by children with Down Syndrome and their parents. Along with games and other leisure activities arranged for the children, a seminar was also organized for the parents as part of the event.



Training for Resource Teachers Under Rehabilitation Program for the Deafblind

Counting abilities together.....

The Kottayam Social Service Society collaborated with Sense International India to organize a one-day training program for the resource teachers from Kottayam District as part of the rehabilitation program aimed at the holistic growth of persons with hearing and visual disability. His Excellency Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Kottayam inaugurated the event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. In his inaugural address he stated that the program champions humanitarian service and social commitment to bring about meaningful difference in the lives of persons with disabilities. Prof. Dr. Rajeev Kumar N. (Head of Department of Behavioural Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University) presided over the meeting. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Mrs. Shaila Thomas, Program Officer, Mrs. Geethamma T.K. (Resource Teacher, Samagra Shiksha, Kerala), CBR animators – Mrs. Jessy Joseph and Mrs. Ancy Mathew spoke at the event.



Support for Livelihood Rehabilitation

Sewing Machine Challenge

The Sewing Machine Challenge was organized by KSSS with the objective of creating income opportunities for women in the context of the spreading of the pandemic. The concept was to sell out the idea of stitching face masks for an income and embracing tailoring as a livelihood activity. The project called 'Tailoring Mitra' was implemented in collaboration with St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church in Chicago, USA. Sewing machines were provided to 75 selected persons as part of the scheme.



'Naipunya' Enterprise Development Project

'Naipunya' project was launched by KSSS to promote self-employment ventures during the pandemic scenario. The project was inaugurated by Shr. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrisnan MLA at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. On the occasion, Rs.4,70,000/- was distributed to 31 families for supporting their enterprises. Financial assistance was distributed under the Project titled 'Naipunya' implemented by KSSS in order to create opportunities for self-employment. Rs.1,11,865/- rupees was provided to 13 families for self-employment ventures.



Buffalo Breeding Scheme

Diversifying the livelihood opportunities in the pandemic situation, KSSS facilitated a Buffalo Breeding Scheme for Farmers. As part of the scheme young and high quality crossbreeds from Haryana - namely Murrah Haryana buffaloes were made available at affordable rates. Loans were facilitated for the self-help group members of KSSS to start this as an enterprise which was named 'A Buffalo, A House'. The scheme was inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvachoor Radhakrishnan MLA at Chaithanya.



Ornamental Fish Exhibition Centre at Chaithanya



KSSS started an ornamental fish exhibition centre at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Fishes like Red parrot, Sucker, Carp, Angel Fish, Arowana, Milky Carp, S.K. Gold, Albino Oscar, Shark, Albino Pirana and Full Moon Fighter are available in the centre which was inaugurated by Metropolitan Archbishop - Mar Mathew Moolakkatt.

Financial assistance for Education, Employment and Skill-training

As part of the Family Empowerment Program implemented in collaboration with Save A Family Plan financial assistance was provided to selected families for infrastructure development, educational and vocational needs. Metropolitan Archbishop – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the distribution of financial assistance at Chaithanya, Thellakom. As part of the scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 8,21,850/- was provided to 20 partner families.

Credit scheme for income generation activities



A Credit Scheme was implemented by KSSS to encourage income generation activities during the COVID setback in society. Under the project, SHG members of KSSS from its operational villages were granted revolving funds as per their needs for starting income generation ventures. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the project at a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.

'Yuva Kerala' – Vocational Skills Development Project



The Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with the Government of Kerala and the Kudumbashree Mission launched the 'Yuva Kerala' Vocational Skills Development Project with the objective of providing scientific training and employment opportunities to rural youth. As part of the project, courses were offered for Associate Desktop Publishing (DTP), Food & Beverage Services and Retail Sales Associate. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the project at a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



Navomi Group Meet and Fund Distribution

"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean." -Ryunosuke Satoro

Navomi Group was initiated by KSSS with an aim to support and empower widows and women headed households. A meeting was organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom to celebrate their union and to distribute financial aid to the members of the group. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam) in his inaugural address stated that such schemes for encouraging self-employment would provide an opportunity to women who shoulder responsibility of their households to unleash their entrepreneurial potential. He also added that self-help groups play a vital role in the realization of such projects. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan (Member of Parliament) who presided over the meeting commended the exemplary work undertaken by the organization for the welfare of disadvantaged families. Prof. Rosamma Sony (Member, Zilla Panchayath, Kottayam), Shri. Thomas Katoor (Vice-President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhepurayil and coordinator Mercy Stephen spoke at the event. A seminar on the employment generating ventures for women was organized at the event. As part of the welfare activities organized under the Navomi self-employment scheme, interest free loans of Rs. 10,000 each were made available at a subsidized rate to assist 30 individuals in their self-employment ventures.



Indigenous Poultry Farming

Indigenous poultry farming was promoted by KSSS to ensure food security along with other COVID rehabilitation measures. As part of the scheme, 60 families in Kottayam district were provided units comprising roofed cages and 10 chickens at subsidized rates. The Metropolitan Archbishop inaugurated the project at a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



Hi-Tech Poultry Project

KSSS launched a high-tech poultry project to promote livelihood opportunities. As part of the project, 60 selected families in Kottayam district were provided with high-tech poultry units. The project was inaugurated by Metropolitan Archbishop Mar Mathew Moolakkatt at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom.



Financial assistance to Persons with Disabilities for IGPs



KSSS joined hands with Sense International India and Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives to financially support the income generation programmes (IGPs) of differently-abled individuals under their project to rehabilitate the deafblind persons. The project was inaugurated by Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Kottayam – Mar Joseph Pandarasseril. A grant of Rs. 1 lakh was provided to selected persons with disabilities in Kottayam district.

Seminar on Entrepreneurial Opportunities



Breaking limits with the right guidance and spirit.

With an aim to encourage entrepreneurial ventures, KSSS organized a seminar in association with the Nai Roshni program – a scheme implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Archbishop, Kottayam Archeparchy) inaugurated the event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. In his inaugural address he said that man should recognize opportunities that can be embraced within the scope of his living conditions. Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal (Executive Director, Kerala Social Service Forum) presided over the meeting, Shri. George Kurien (Deputy Tahsildar, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Program Coordinator - Nithya Mol Babu spoke at the event. The seminar was headed by Smt. Babitha T. Jessil (Social Worker).

Income generation projects for family empowerment



"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

KSSS organized an event to extend financial assistance to families from marginalized communities. It was envisaged under the Family Development Program supported by Save a Family Plan to equip the families to set up an enterprise for income generation. The event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by His Excellency Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Archeparchy of Kottayam. Shri. Biju Valiyamala (President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath) presided over the meeting and Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Director, Ms. Merlin Tomy, Program Officer, Ms. Leena Sibichan and Ms. Bincy Philip (community animators) spoke at the event. An amount of Rs. 2, 87,000/- was disbursed among 25 families selected for the project. The amount was used to undertake various ventures like Tailoring units, Petty shops, Fish farming, and Goat rearing.

Rural Goatery Scheme

We rise by lifting others...

The Kottayam Social Service Society in its attempt to ensure food security along with income generation envisaged a project to encourage goat rearing in rural areas. Malabari goats were made available at subsidized rates as part of the initiative. Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Mar Mathew Moolakkatt graced the occasion and inaugurated function that was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality) presided over the meeting. Shri.V.M Chacko (Regional Transport Officer, Kottayam), Shri. Biku Valiyamala

'JEEVANAM' to promote Self-employment Opportunities

Responding with Resilience

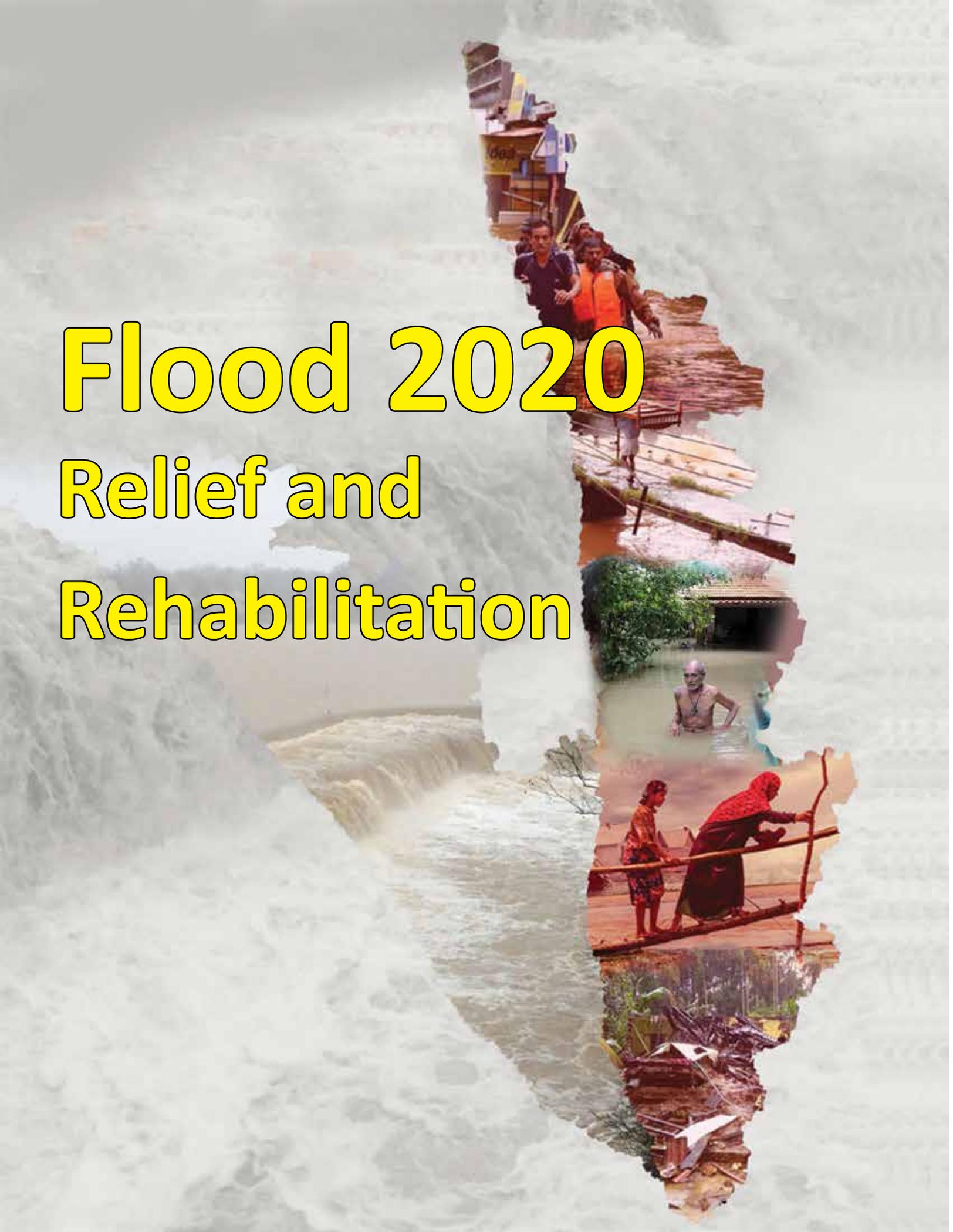
KSSS implemented the 'JEEVANAM' program to create livelihood opportunities through self-employment. Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality) inaugurated the program organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Director), Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil (Asst. Director) and Merlin Tomy (Program Officer) addressed the gathering. The eligible households with low-income from the districts of Kottayam and Alappuzha were given financial assistance to set-up diverse self-employment enterprises like vegetable shops, tailoring units, jewellery-making, cattle rearing and goat rearing ventures.



(President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and coordinator Mrs. Bessy Jose spoke on the occasion.

Flood 2020

Relief and Rehabilitation



Helping hand to the people of Kumarakom region

In collaboration with the Malanadu Development Society (social service arm of the Kanjirapally diocese) KSSS distributed bread and milk to the flood victims in Kumarakom Panchayath, Kottayam District. This assistance was provided in coordination with the Kerala Social Service Forum under the Justice Peace and Development Commission of the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council (KCBC, Kerala). The food items were supplied to around 5000 families who stayed



back in their houses without going to the relief camps owing to the existing COVID situation.

Flood Relief camp at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre

Chaithanya Pastoral Centre extended a helping hand to the families affected by the floods by opening a Relief camp for the flood affected people of Kottayam district in its premises. The camp was organized as per COVID

standards and sheltered the people especially from Neelimangalam and Samkranthy areas of Kottayam.



Assistance for Flood affected under 'Kudumbamithra' project

KSSS distributed relief kits containing rice, sugar, Bengal gram, tea powder, chilli powder and coriander powder to the victims of the flood. The flag-off ceremony of the project was officiated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam Archeparchy and

Patron, KSSS. As part of the project, around 3500 food kits were distributed to various parishes in Edackat, Kidangoor, Kaipuzha, Kaduthuruthy and Malankara Fornes of the Archdiocese.



Flood Assistance to people of Kuttanad under 'Karuthal' project of Kottayam Archeparchy

The Kottayam Archeparchy launched 'Karuthal' project to bring solace to the flood affected people of Kuttanad amidst the COVID circumstances. Relief kits supplied under the project in upper and lower Kuttanad included food kits to 1000 families, Sanitizers to 500 families, hand wash kits to 500 families, face masks to 1000 families, kitchen garden seeds and saplings to 500 families, computers to students, fruit saplings and income generating schemes such as poultry and sewing machine units. The distribution of food kits as part of the project was inaugurated by Metropolitan Archbishop – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt. Auxiliary



Bishop of the Archdiocese – Mar Joseph Pandarasseril, Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat, Vicar General of the Archdiocese, Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil were also present on the occasion.

As a sub-activity of 'Karuthal' project, food kits were specially provided to 50 families of differently-abled in Veliyanad, Kavalam and Kunnamkari areas of Alappuzha district.

'Pariraksha' project – Second phase of food kit distribution to the differently-abled

Food kits were distributed to the differently-abled as part of the second phase of KSSS' 'Pariraksha' project. The food kits were distributed to 50 families of differently-abled individuals. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor inaugurated the food kit supply.



Food kit distribution in Malankara region

KSSS distributed food kits to the families in the parishes of Malankara region. Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Kottayam – Geevarghese Mar Aprem flagged off the food kit distribution project. Food kits containing rice, sugar, wheat flour, chilli powder, coriander powder and tea powder were distributed to around thousand families in the Malankara region.



The background is a dark purple gradient. On the right side, there are several colorful balloons in shades of orange, green, and teal. The left and center areas are filled with a pattern of light purple stars and squares of varying sizes, creating a bokeh effect. A single white dot is visible in the lower-left quadrant.

Special Events



Women's Day Celebration

'Choose To Challenge' - Theme of International Women's Day 2021



KSSS observed International Women's Day at the central level following COVID protocols. The program was kickstarted by a sack race and slow scooter race. In the afternoon a seminar on women empowerment was led by Prof. Rosamma Sony. The social gathering which followed was inaugurated by Smt. Nirmala Jimmy (President, Kottayam District Panchayath). In the inaugural address she stated that any advancement in society must be aligned with safeguarding the rights of women. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam) who presided over the meeting stressed the significance of celebrating the achievements and contribution of women. He also added that the power of resilience in women was tremendous. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt also honoured the members of the Women's self-help groups (SHGs) for their selfless service in the fight against the pandemic.

Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat), Smt. Bincy Sebastian Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam), Smt. Lovely George/

Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor). Smt. Divya K.B (Development Manager, Kottayam, NABARD), Smt. Preethi Josephi Asst. General Manager, Minority Development Cooperation, Kottayam), Sr. Karuna S.V.M (Mother General, Sisters of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Kottayam), Ms. Lisy John Mudakkodil Directress General, Caritas Secular Institute), Dr. Mercy John Moolakkatt (President, Knanaya Catholic Women's Association), Smt. Alice. Joseph (Vice-President, Gramapanchayat, Athirampuzha), Smt. Teena Anna Thomas (Principal, B.C.M College, Kottayam), Ms. Babitha T. Jessil (Program Officer, KSSS) and Smt. Lissy Lukose (Secretary, Women's Self-help Group Central Level Federation) spoke at the event in the presence of Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Director, KSSS) and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhapurayil (Asst. Director, KSSS).

A plan of action that KSSS would under take to ensure the empowerment of women in the society was issued. A fancy dress competition embodying the message of women empowerment was held as part of the event. The first and second prize for the slow-scooterrace was bagged by Ms. Princy Thomas, Kothanalloor and Ms. Roofi Mathew, Samkranthy. Ms. Biji Binoy, Arunoottimangalam and Ms. Anumol V.S., Caritas came first and second respectively for the sack race. A flash-mob performed by students of the YUVA Keralam skill training program added to the grandeur of the event.



Leadership Meet and Learning Workshop for Empowering the Differently-abled

A Leadership Meet and Learning Workshop was organized by KSSS under its Community Based Rehabilitation Project aiming at the holistic development of persons with disabilities. The meet which was organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam). In the inaugural address he said that social rehabilitation has helped expunge the stigmatization associated with differently-abled persons and ensured they receive social recognition and respect at the personal and public front. His words also encouraged persons with disability to overcome challenges and realign their attitude for a stronger and dignified future.



Rev. Fr. Michael Vettikcat (Vicar General, Kottayam Archdiocese) presided over the meeting. Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality), Shri. Biju Valiyamala (President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath), Shri T.C.Roy (Kottayam Municipal Councillor), Fr. Sunil

Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil spoke at the event. An action plan was unveiled and a seminar was organized for the betterment of the lives of persons with disabilities. The learning workshop for children with disability held at event was led by Sr. Keerthana S.G.C. (Social Worker).

Leadership Conclave for Self-help Groups

“While we may be individually strong, we are collectively powerful.” - Rakhivoria

A leadership conclave was organized by the Kottayam Social Service Society as part of the Nai Roshni scheme for Leadership Development of women implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The event was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom and inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Archbishop, Kottayam Archeparchy). In his inaugural address he stated that self-help group is the quintessence of self-reliance in society. He also commented that they are vital in fostering leadership skills in individuals and families alike. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan (Member of Parliament) who presided over the meeting remarked that self-help groups have brought about revolutionary shifts in ensuring organized women empowerment. Prof. Rosamma Sony (Member, Kottayam District Panchayath), Shri. Thomas



Kattoor (Vice President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil and KSSS coordinator – Ms. Bessy Jose spoke at the event. This was followed by sessions on the significance of self-help groups and building leadership skills.

Observing World Cancer Day

"You beat cancer by how you live, why you live and the manner in which you live." - Stuart Scott



KSSS observed World Cancer Day on 4th February and disbursed financial aid for the treatment of cancer patients. Shri Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA inaugurated the event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom in association with Ashakiranam Cancer Care campaign undertaken by Caritas India the social service organization of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India. In the inaugural address he applauded the extensive efforts taken by

the organization to help the disadvantaged populations in society. He also added that the observance of World Cancer Day would rekindle hope in the many debilitated patients and help them find solace in despair. Mar Mathew Moolak-

katt who presided over the meeting noted that such welfare activities entrenched in altruism along with measures to ensure food security would help build resilience against the dreadful ailments like Cancer. Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath), Shri. Biju Valiyamala President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath), Shri.Sabu Mathew (Municipal Councillor, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil and Mercy Stephen, KSSS Coordinator spoke at the event. The Cancer Care Awareness seminar organized as part of the event was led by Dr. Jose Joseph [Principal (Retd.) Medical College, Kottayam]. Financial aid was given to 50 patients suffering from Cancer. KSSS encouraged projects to start vegetable gardens, seed banks, volunteer programs and awareness programs to promote food security.

Digital Literacy Campaign

A step towards informed learning and living

DIGITAL LITERACY

KSSS organized a Digital Literacy campaign as part of the

NaiRoshni program implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs with an aim to promote computer literacy among women. Mar Mathew Moolakkattinaugurated the event that was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. In his address he said that technology and the digital world should be made increasingly accessible for the common man. He also stated that educating



women on Internet security in addition to computer literacy will strengthen the mission of women empowerment through digital literacy. Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal (Executive Director, Kerala Social Service Forum) presided over the meeting. Shri Biju Valiyamala President, (AthirampuzhaGramapanchayath), Shri George Kurien (Deputy Tahsildar, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil addressed the gathering.

Observing World Day of Social Justice

“Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice”

On Account of World Day of Social Justice on February 20, KSSS organized a public convention at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the event and observed that the principles of social justice would be meaningfully upheld only when the voices of the marginalized to be heard and their rights to be protected. He also commented on the need to join hands in universal brotherhood to attain social justice and pave a better future. The seminar organized as part of World Social Justice Day observation was led by motivational speaker Smt. Shiji Johnson.



Helen Keller Memorial Day observation

June 27 is Helen Keller Day and the day was specially observed by KSSS in collaboration with Sense International India and Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives for the overall upliftment of those with deafblindness. Shri. Saji Thadathil, President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayath inaugurated the event held at Chaithanya Pastoral Center.



Institutional Development Milestones

Vocational Training Centre



The Vocational Training Centre at Chaithanya, Thellakom was started with the objective of providing opportunities for scientific vocational training. The job training center was inaugurated by the Metropolitan Archbishop – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt.

Inauguration of Impact Centre

The newly constructed Impact Center at Mutholath Nagar, Pala Cherpunkal was blessed and inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP presided over the function. Rev. Fr. Abraham Mutholath, Former Director of KSSS, built and offered the centre to KSSS as part of the Ruby Jubilee of his Priestly Ordination. The Impact Center will be used for residential training programmes of people with disabilities, residential camps under the Archdiocese and its Pastoral services, accommodation facilities in relation to the functions hosted at the Mutholath Auditorium. Moreover, the state of the art facilities may be utilized for the needs of non-residential immigrants arriving in Kerala for holidays.



“NAI ROSHNI”-A Leadership Development Scheme for Minority Women at KSSS

Making way for women to lead

The Nai Roshni scheme - an initiative by The Ministry of Minority Affairs under the Central Government for the betterment and the welfare of women from the minority communities was launched at the Kottayam Social Service Society, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Mar Mathew Moolakkatt graced the occasion and inaugurated the function. In the inaugural address he lauded the scheme which aimed at the social empowerment of women from minority communities. He added that he was confident that the project would ensure their holistic development and equip them to bring a visible change in the society through their leadership skills. Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality) presided over the meeting. Shri. V.M. Chacko (Regional Transport Officer, Kottayam), Shri. Biju Valiyamala (President, Athirampuzha Gramapanchayath), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and Shri. Justin Lukose, Program Coordinator spoke at the event. As part of the



project, 175 women belonging to minority communities from various parts of Kottayam district were selected and divided into 7 batches. The training comprised of multifarious modules like Leadership skills, Educational Empowerment, Health and Hygiene, Swachh Bharat, Legal rights, Life skills, financial literacy, Digital literacy and COVID-19 awareness. The classes were conducted by qualified trainers over a span of six days. Certificates were awarded to those who successfully complete the training.

International Volunteers Day

KSSS organized a Volunteers' Meeting as part of the International Volunteers Day in collaboration with Kerala Social Service Forum under Justice, Peace & Development Commission. The meeting was inaugurated by the Executive Director of Kerala Social Service Forum – Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal.

World Water Day Observation

Valuing Water – Reduce and Reuse

On March 22nd, KSSS organized an event to observe World Water Day. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the event that was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. In his address he stated that conserving sources of water was a social obligation and that everyone should consciously work to preserve the natural resources for future. Smt. Lovely George, Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality presided over the meeting. Smt. Rosamma Sony (Member, Kottayam District Panchayath), Smt. Lissy Kurien (Municipal Councillor, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and



Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil spoke at the event. Shri. Ramesh P. (Coordinator, Haritha Kerala Mission, Kottayam) led the seminar on 'Tackling the Global Water Crisis through Water Conservation' as part of the event.

Kottayam Social Service Society

Balance Sheet

Opening Balance as on 01.04.2020	Liabilites	Additions/ Deductions	Closeing balance as on 31.03.2021
27161222	Capital Account		
	Add Excess of Income Over Exp	4375390	31,536,612.00
113841819	Corpus donation received		113,841,819.00
50000	Staff welfare fund		50,000.00
19053560	Jeevakaruniya nidhi Funded	-1378380	17,675,180.00
225000	Karshaka Award fund		225,000.00
	Current Liabilites		
10420051	Project Money Pending Uttalization(FC)	-3612094	6,807,957.00
3587768	Loans,Advances,Expenses payables		3,587,768.00
	Loan from KSBCDC for Micro Credit to Backward		
583683	and Minority	3118093	3,701,776.00
174,923,103.00	Total		177,426,112.00
Opening Balance as on 01.04.2020	ASSETS	Additions/ Deductions	Closeing balance as on 31.03.2021
108403197	Fixed Assets	-158422	108244775
	Current Assets		
77800	Deposits for services		77800
8939921	Loans & Advances Given	-228745	8711176
730990	Micro Credit Loans to SHGS	3000010	3731000
327386	Income tax TDS refundable	-182700	
	Add- Current year	581064	725750
467960	Advance -Granny Grandad Scheme		467960
118000	Income Tax Appeal deposit		118000
2251667	Housing Scheme -Excess of Expenditure		2251667
2854792	Advance to Agape Center Cherpunkal	-630300	
	Less Excess Of Expenditure	-485585	1738907
9403436	Advance to SRC -Cherpunkal	5527112	
	Less -Excess of Expenditure	-1159522	13771026
134407	Advance -Suppliers & Individuals	257718	392125
	Cash & Bank Balance		
38314895	Fixed Deposit		25735248
2756413	Bank A/c		11382917
142239	Cash		77761
174,923,103.00	Total		177,426,112.00

Kottayam Social Service Society Income & Expenditure Statement

Particulars	Income	Exp
Project Donations & Exp		
DDU-GKY Project Grand & Exp	5950930	1327082
DDU-GKY(Yova Kerala) Project Grand & Exp	3202984	1692960
Donation Received for Sustainable Livelihood Development Programme for Women Headed Families	2310276	
CBM India Covid 19 -Income & Exp	1653830	1654638
Habitat Covid 19 -Income & Exp	1364050	1364050
Income generation Programme -Workshop	1497700	1094241
Rotenburg Livelihood Project Income & Exp	2211458	2216500
Deaf Blind Project (SENSE International)	1988562	1955134
Welfare of aged,Widows & poor	1059845	1098304
CBR Programme for Children & Youngsters	201667	1580381
House aid programme	857362	800000
Muenster Dioces- Livelihood Project	930400	930400
Give to Asia Covid 19 -Income & Exp	928920	930920
Other Social & Rural Development Programmes	4924573	11567430
Administrative Income & Exp	5733094	4195208
SRC Income & Exp	804359	1963881
Agape Income & Exp	1399042	1193583
Opening Stock (01.04.2020)		1689354
Closing Stock (31.03.2021)	998310	
FC Project Money to be Utilized transfer to Balance Sheet	3612094	
Excess of Income Over Expenditure		4375390
Total	41629456	41629456

Research & Documentation



മച്ചിനിയിലെ കൊറോണ വൈറസ്

IMPACT CENTRE മുൻനിര കർമ്മ പ്രവേശനം

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS) ന്റെ ഇടവകാശിമാർക്കായി



കുടുംബശാക്തീകരണ പദ്ധതി

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

വിട്ടിൽ ഒരു പോത്ത് പോത്ത് വളർത്തൽ പദ്ധതി

കോട്ടയം അതിരൂപത

ലാൻറ് ടു ലാൻറ് ലൈൻ പദ്ധതി

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

LEGAL SERVICE

Break the Chain

COUNSELING SERVICES

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

സ്ത്രീസുരക്ഷ നിയമസഹായ സെൽ

മിഷൻ, പാസ്റ്റ് നിയന്ത്രിത ഉപകർമ്മങ്ങൾ 2 മുതൽ 5 നേര രാവിലെ മുതൽ വൈകുന്നേരം 5:00 വരെ

സഹകരണം : കേരള സമ്പന്നൻ സമാജം

കോട്ടയം അതിരൂപത

തൊഴിലുറച്ചവർക്കുള്ള - ഭവന നിർമ്മാണ പദ്ധതി

പുതിയ ഭവനങ്ങളുടെ വെബിനാർ കർമ്മവും താക്കോൽ ദാനവും

2020 ജൂലൈ 27 തിങ്കൾ 4:30pm, കൈരൂപ

പദ്ധതി നിർവ്വഹണം: കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

കുടുംബശാക്തീകരണ പദ്ധതി

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കൊറോണ പ്രതിരോധം ബോധവൽക്കരണ വീഡിയോ

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

ഇന്ത്യൻ മെഷീൻ മലമ്പ് പദ്ധതി

തയ്യാർ മിറ്റായ

മിഷൻ നിയന്ത്രിത കർമ്മങ്ങൾ

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

ഇന്ത്യൻ മെഷീൻ പദ്ധതി

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

Give2Asia

കൊറോണ (കോവിഡ്-19)

ആരോഗ്യ മാതൃക ക്യാമ്പയിൻ

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

NAVAJEEVAN DISASTER CLINICS

Caritas

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

ഫലവൃക്ഷത്തെ നട്ടിൽ ചലഞ്ച്

ഗുഡ് സമിറ്റിൻ റിസോഴ്സ് സെന്റർ

IMPACT CENTRE

കാരുണ്യത്തിന്റെ കരുതൽ റെക്കി

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

ചികിത്സാ സഹായ പദ്ധതി

കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്

പരിരക്ഷ പദ്ധതി

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

Mission Covid 19

പുതുജീവനം

കാർഷിക വികസനപദ്ധതികളെ

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കാരുണ്യദൂത് പദ്ധതി

ദിനശേഷിക്കാർക്കായുള്ള അവശ്യ മരുന്നുകളുടെ വിതരണം

സഹകരണം : നന്ദികുറുപ്പൻ മെഡിക്കൽസ്

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

Give2Asia

ബെഹെടക് ക്രോഴി വളർത്തൽ യൂണിറ്റ് വിതരണം

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS)

Give2Asia

Mission Covid 19

NAVAJEEVAN DISASTER CLINICS

Supported by - CARITAS INDIA

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS) ന്റെ ഇടവകാശിമാർക്കായി

WHAT'S NEW AT KSSS

RATION KIT DISTRIBUTION COVID-19

RATION KIT

കോട്ടയം അതിരൂപത

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കരുതൽ

കുട്ടാനാടിൻ ഒരു കൈതാൻ പദ്ധതി

ദിനശേഷിയുള്ളവർക്കായുള്ള ഭക്ഷ്യകിറ്റുകളുടെ വിതരണം

കോട്ടയം സോഷ്യൽ സർവീസ് സൊസൈറ്റി (KSSS)

കരുതൽ

വിവിധ രീതികളിൽ പരിശോധനാ വിതരണത്തിനായി കെ.എസ്.എസ്.എസ്



Word of Thanks

I am with immense gratitude for all the well-wishers and humanitarian agencies which contributed towards COVID relief and rehabilitation activities during this dramatic and historical year. As it was a time of social distancing, confinement and restricted travel, it was an appropriate time for 'Family Time' and inter-generational influence. I do hope this extraordinary opportunity for strengthening familial ties was well utilized. Besides it was a time for the older generations especially to taste virtual technology and build connections online as most of the interactions outside the family were over the virtual platform. A big and unending Thank You to God Almighty for His love and concern towards

KSSS for remaining active and relevant during this pandemic.

I end with a request to all readers to continue to pray for KSSS and its leaders as it strives for achieving a just and peaceful society.

Fr. Valiyaputhenpurayil

Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil
(Asst. Director, KSSS)

Core Network Partners

We extend our sincere thanks to all the partnering and networking organizations for their continued support in delivering successful and quality service every year. KOSOSOS acknowledges the effort and resource contribution of each partner to programmes.





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Website: www.ksss.in



AVOID



KEEP CLEAN

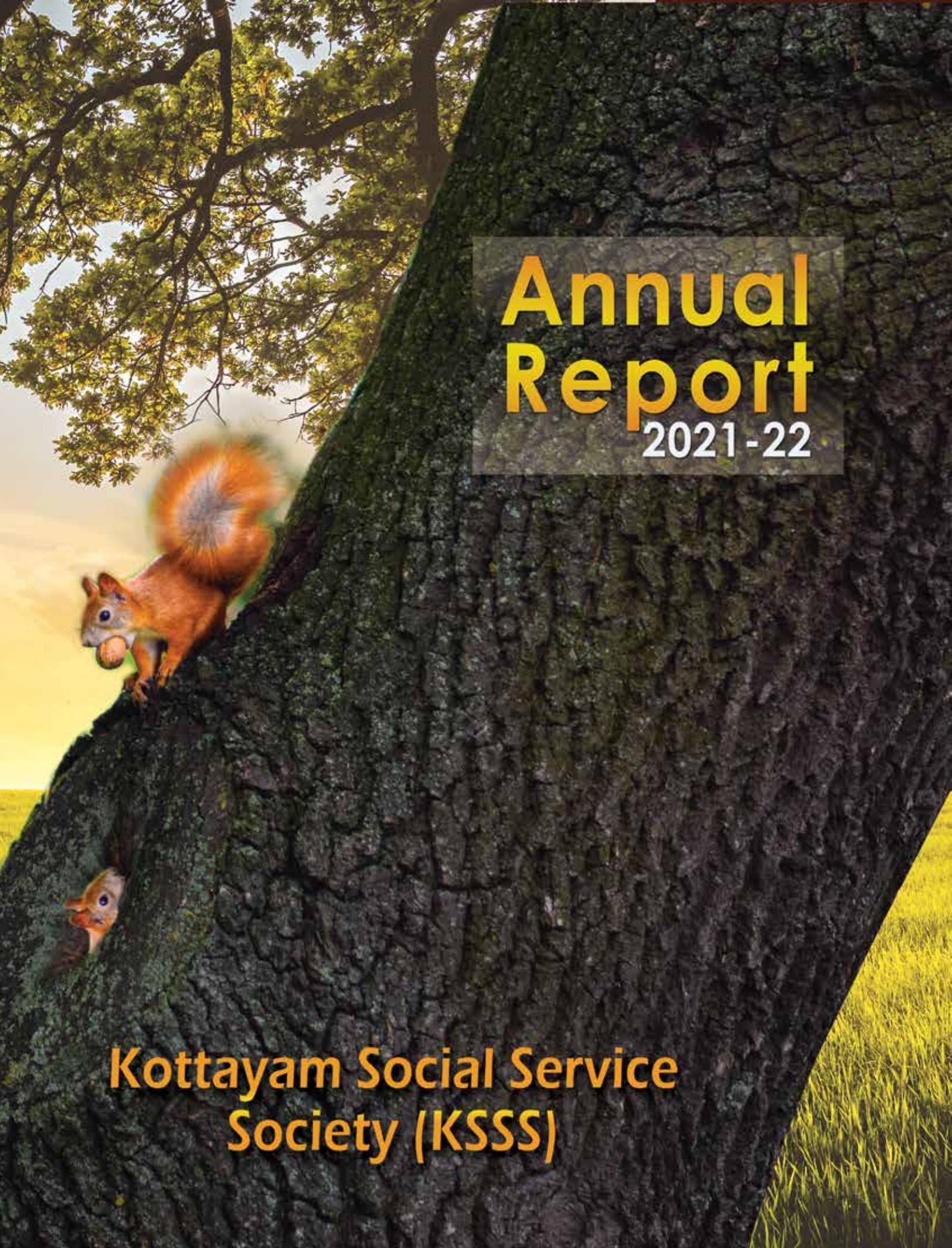


DISINFECTANT



SYMPTOMS AWARE



The background of the cover is a large, dark tree trunk with rough, textured bark. A squirrel with a reddish-brown body and a bushy tail is perched on a branch on the left side, holding a nut. Another squirrel is visible peeking out from a hole in the tree trunk lower down. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky and a grassy field at the bottom right.

Annual Report

2021-22

**Kottayam Social Service
Society (KSSS)**



REPORT

2020-2021

KOTTAYAM SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY



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Patron Message

The pursuit of happiness is a fundamental goal in human life, although the paths individuals choose to achieve it may vary. Nevertheless, it is indisputable that happiness is closely linked to recognizing the divine presence within oneself and living in harmony with it. It is both a striking reality and a marvel how almost anyone, regardless of their social status, wealth, or health, can attain happiness as long as they have their basic needs fulfilled.

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) is dedicated to facilitating the state of happiness for everyone in the areas where it operates. This commitment stems from its deep-rooted affiliation with Christianity, under the guidance of the one, holy, and apostolic Catholic Church. Hence the organization's vision is based on gospel values and we sustain in His words, "With faith as our anchor, let us continue to serve with compassion and dedication, guided by the teachings of Jesus: 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.' (John 13:34)".

Over time, individuals and families have endured challenging circumstances, with many losing their lives,

their loved ones, their dwellings and all their lifelong earnings and falling ill due to the natural calamities and post-COVID diseases. All of these factors contribute to the importance of KSSS's activities during the reporting year. KSSS embraced a comprehensive approach, focusing on health, food security, livelihood, social well-being, and economic recovery projects as the main thematic areas. However, this year, these initiatives were executed in a manner that aligned with the new "normal" brought about by the pandemic and flood. I am delighted to highlight that KSSS has accomplished remarkable work in extending support to those encountering distress amidst the bewildering and unfamiliar circumstances brought upon by the disasters and the management of the COVID pandemic.

In the days to come, we eagerly anticipate bringing forth even greater consolation and happiness to a larger number. It is with great joy that I extend my congratulations to Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary and the entire efficient team of KSSS for their committed and dedicated work. I also appreciate the well-wishers and funding agencies for supporting KSSS in fulfilling this mission through their selfless efforts. I extend my blessings to their endeavours, which are poised to flourish in the forthcoming year, especially in the coming Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Community Based Rehabilitation programme for Differently Abled and their families.

Prayers and best wishes,

Mar Mathew Moolakatt
Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam

**Whoever is kind
to the poor lends
to the Lord, and he
will reward them
for what they have
done." -**

Proverbs 19:17

Directors Message

The year 2021-22 proved to be another milestone for KSSS. It was also a challenging period for the communities in Kerala, as they were confronted with the devastating consequences of floods and landslides. As the region battled the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the added burden of these natural disasters exacerbated the already difficult circumstances.

Countless individuals and families were forced to endure unimaginable hardships, with many falling victim to illnesses and losing their lives to COVID-19 and its aftermath.. As humans, we have continuously failed to grasp the severity of the grave situation we face due to the impact of climate change. The COVID-19 pandemic, in many ways, served as a sobering setback, forcing us to reassess our actions. Despite the immense challenges, KSSS remained committed to its mission of assisting the marginalized communities affected by these crises. The organization recognized the urgent need for intervention and pledged to continue its efforts to address the forthcoming needs of these vulnerable families.

I thank the almighty god for his immeasurable benevolence and indescribable blessings bestowed that enabled KSSS to serve society during this period. This is a year of active engagement as we collaborated

with government agencies, non-governmental organizations and funding partners. Together, we endeavoured to build resilient communities and mitigate the social and economic setbacks faced by the people in society due to the pandemic.

As we move forward, it is crucial that we learn from these experiences and prioritize the well-being of our communities and the environment. By doing so, we can work towards a future where the destructive impacts of floods, landslides, and other calamities are minimized, and where the well-being of all individuals and families is safeguarded.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all the funding agencies, donors, well wishers, Government of India and various benefactors from the worldwide. Their timely and humanitarian support, offered selflessly while remaining attuned and vigilant to the needs of the time, has been invaluable. I extend special gratitude to our esteemed Patron for his extraordinary vision, guidance, and unwavering support. I gratefully acknowledge the support and cooperation I got from my dedicated staff members at KSSS office and field during this unprecedented period.

Together, let us persistently draw wisdom from the experiences of the past, embracing them as valuable lessons that propel us towards a more promising future, one that shines brightly for the betterment of all.

With deep gratitude and hope...

Fr. Sunil Perumanoor
Executive Director

“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.”
- Socrates

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Very Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat
President



Fr. Sunil Perumanoor
Executive Secretary



Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil
Asst. Secretary



Sr. Sheeba SVM
Treasurer



Dr. K. J. Joseph
Member

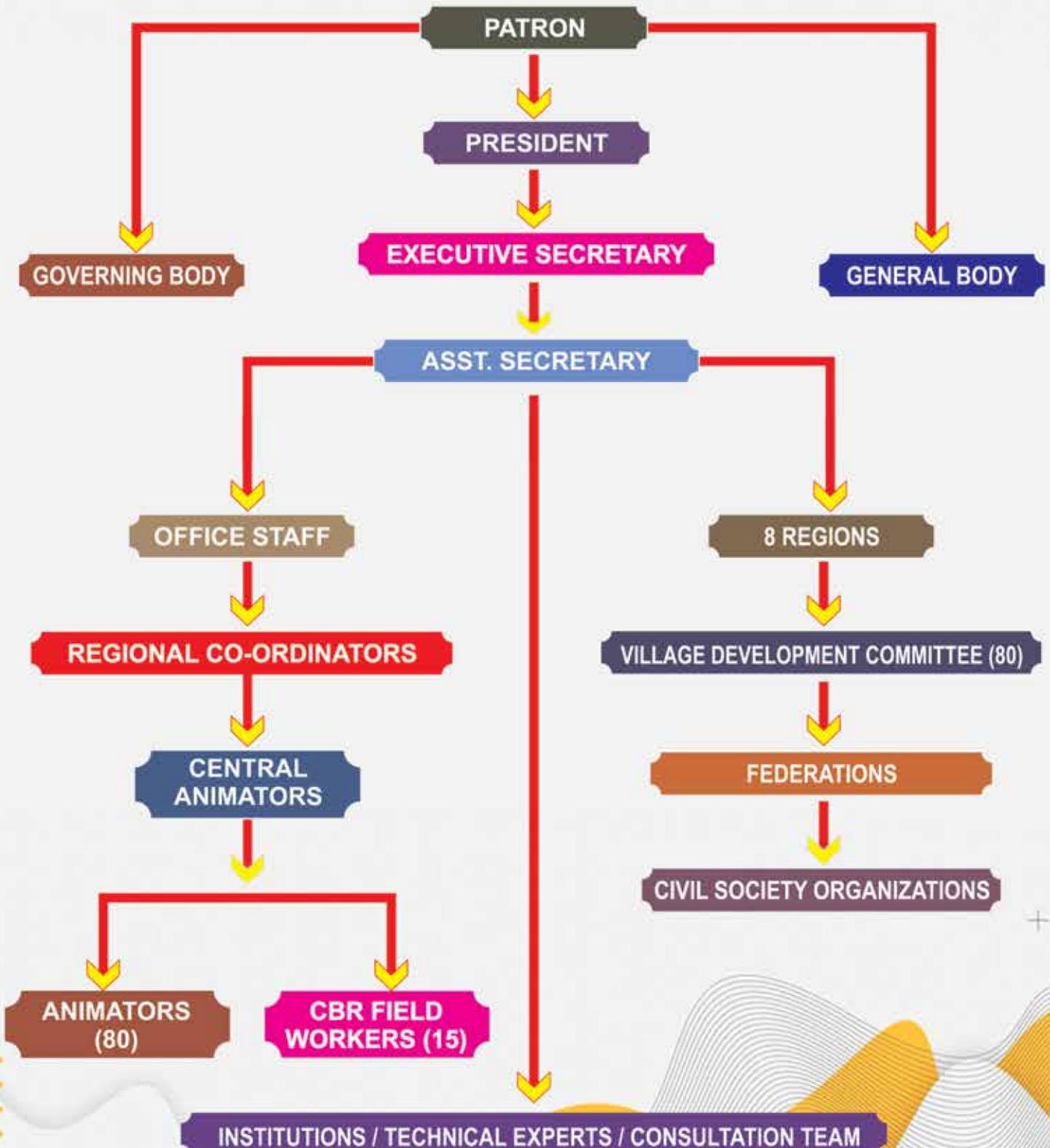


Mr. Johnny K. M.
Member



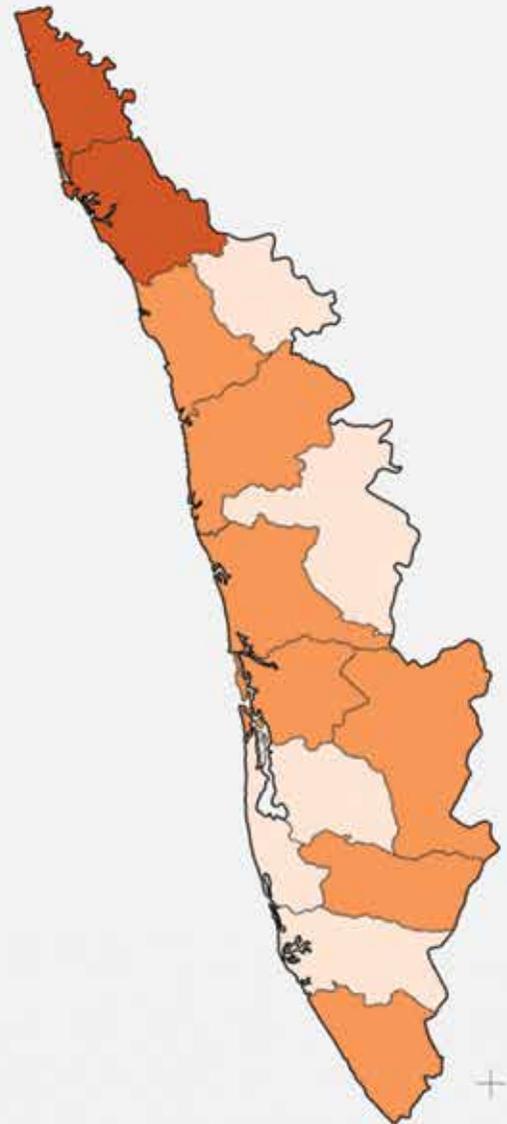
Mrs. Ancy Philip
Member

KSSSS OrgChart

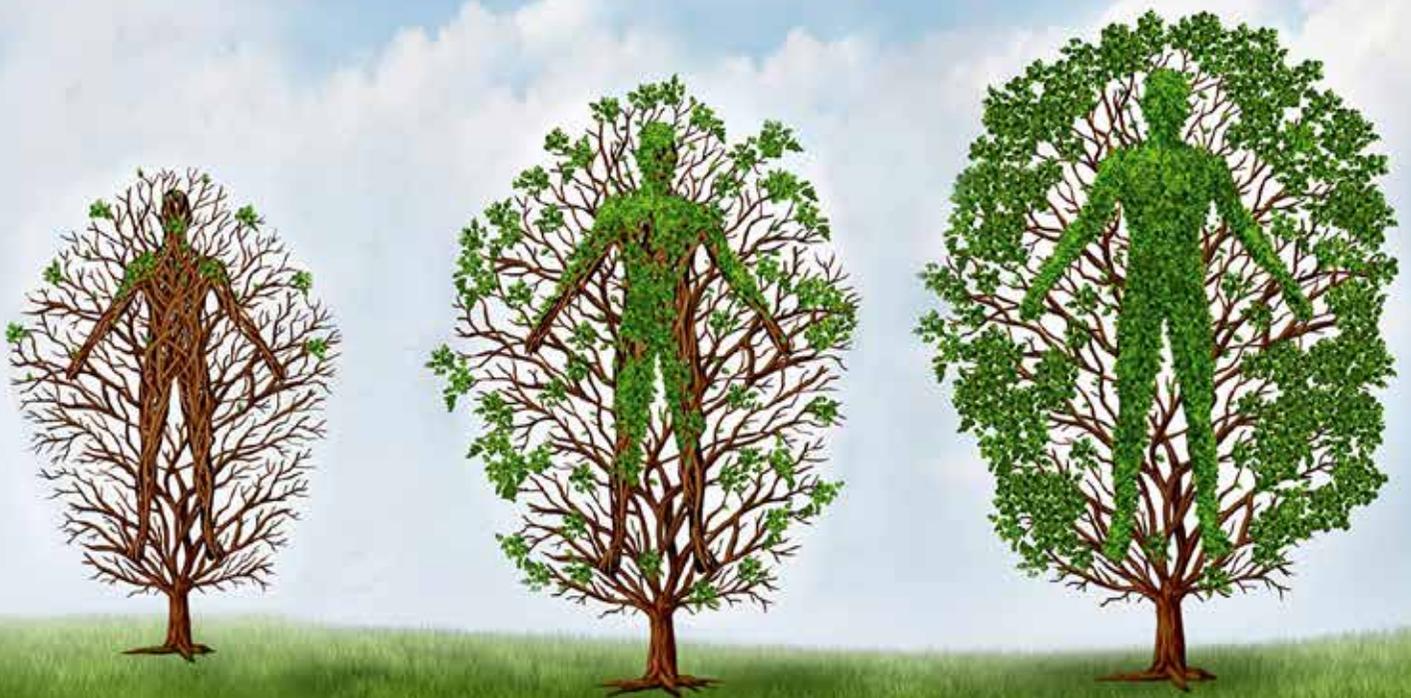


SILHOUETTE

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) is a registered charitable organization (Reg. K-15/1964) under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies' Registration Act XII of 1955. The organization was registered in the year 1964 by the Archdiocese for delivering its social ministry. The activities of KSSS are spread mainly in the five districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Alappuzha and athanamthitta covering 80 rural villages. The main focus of the organization is the empowerment and improvement in the quality of the poor and other vulnerable sections in society. It has now completed five decades of dedicated services in the development sector and has a rich experience in facilitating capacity building, community health, promotion of grass-roots level organizations, watershed development and other community level organizations for social change and transformation. More than 56000 families are directly linked with the organization through its network of Community Based Organizations.



HUMAN & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT



“Empowerment of individuals is a key part of what makes open societies work. And empowerment is only effective if individuals have the right skills and knowledge.”

Staff Training and Organizational Development

Capacity Building and Training are the keystones that lead any organization to exemplary performance. KSSS organizes periodic training for the staff with the aim to improve skills and enhance knowledge for the delivery of quality services in the field. It involves mostly the acquisition of knowledge needed for staff to function effectively.

KSSS Foundation Day Celebration and Food kit distribution Project inaugurated.

On 14th September 2021, Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) celebrated its 58th Foundation Day. The society was registered in 1964 under the Societies Registration Act, initiated by the great visionary Mar Thomas Tharayil, with the goal of bringing several sections of people who were on the fringes of society to the mainstream. Comprehensive development activities are being implemented under the leadership of KSSS through self-help groups in five districts of central Kerala - Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, and Ernakulam.

To mark the Foundation Day, Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Director of KSSS, hoisted the flag at Chaithanya Pastoral Center, where KSSS is headquartered, in the presence of the KSSS staff team members. The observation of KSSS foundation day was inaugurated by Mr. V.N. Vasavan, Honorable Minister for Cooperation and Registration, in the presence of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese, Mar Joseph Pandarassery, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdioceses, Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Arch Dioceses, Mr. Thomas Chazhikadan, M.P, Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA, and Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat, Vicar General of Kottayam Archdioceses.

The inauguration of Food Kit Distribution Project was also commenced, and a food kit worth Rs 1250/- was given to 50 families living in utter poverty.



Federation Meeting



KSSS has Village level, Regional level and Central level federations. The office bearers of the Federations are always invited to the pre planning meetings organized ahead of Chaithanya Agri Fest for democratic planning and implementations of the programme. Various action plans to be carried out for the sustainability of SHGs and participation of the members in the Fest was planned. The Federation office bearers from Kottayam, Alapuzha, Idukki, Ernakulam and Pathanamthitta participated in the meeting conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom.

Volunteer's Meeting

A volunteer meeting was organized under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society. This meeting was organized prior to 22nd Chaithanya Agri Expo and Annual SHG Fest. In the meeting Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Director, KSSS discussed about the programmes in the Fest and requested their cooperation in the smooth functioning of the Agri Fest.



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was summoned by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese. In the meeting Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Director, K.S.S.S presented the brief of the activities conducted to the members. Evaluation was conducted of the programmes and future action plan was formulated. The members contributed their ideas for the effective functioning of KSSS.

Celebrating Excellence: KSSS Honours Top-Performing Students in the 12th Standard Examinations

The students who had secured the excellent results in the 12th standard examinations were awarded for their outstanding performance by Kottayam Social Service Society. The award-giving ceremony was conducted at Chaithanya, Thellakom, adhering to COVID-19 norms. The inauguration was graced by Mar Mathew Moolakatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. In his opening speech, he stated that children can achieve success in life by pursuing their passion with hard work. Dr. Sabu Thomas, the Vice-Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, presided over the function. He emphasized that individuals with high aspirations must learn to adapt and move forward by turning negative situations into positive ones.



The event recognized students who obtained A Plus in all subjects in the Higher Secondary Examination from the regions of Kidangoor, Kaduthuruthy, Kaipuzha, Malankara, Uzhavoor, Idukki, and Chunkom, which come under the KSSS. The children from self-help groups in the villages of these regions were honoured for their achievements.

K.S.S.S Recognizes Outstanding Performers in SSLC Exams

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) held a prestigious ceremony to honour the brilliant students who achieved outstanding results in the SSLC examination. The event was conducted with utmost care and caution, adhering to Covid protocols, at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The esteemed Mar Mathew Moolakatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, graced the occasion as the chief guest and inaugurated the ceremony. The meritorious students were recognized for their exceptional performance in the SSLC examination. The children who secured the highest grades in the examinations from Edackad, Kaipuzha, Uzhavoor, Kaduthuruthy, Kidangoor, Malankara, and Chunkom regions of KSSS were honoured. The children from Self Help Groups in these areas were fe-



licitated for their outstanding achievements, further motivating them to excel in their future endeavors.

KSSS Released: A Handbook of Action Plan of Social Welfare Programmes 2022-23

KSSS released a handbook detailing the action plan for its social welfare programs in the year 2022-23. This comprehensive guide outlines the initiatives and activities that will be undertaken by KSSS to bring about positive social change. The action plan encompasses a wide range

of programs, including Covid-19 Prevention Initiatives, Welfare Programs for Individuals with Disabilities, Family Empowerment Activities, Entrepreneurship Skill Training, Development of Basic Amenities, Food Security Measures, Promotion of Livelihoods, Promotion of Agriculture, and Microcredit and loan events. By implementing these programs, KSSS aims to make a significant impact on the lives of the villages and communities it serves.



Exposure and Study Visit of Nursing Students



A study visit was organized at Kottayam Social Service Society by the S.H. College of Nursing, Kottayam for the B Sc Nursing students. The study visit was a very good learning for them to understand the social welfare activities implemented under the leadership of K.S.S.S to empower and improve the quality of the poor in the society. The various activities facilitated by K.S.S.S to develop capacities, skill and sustainable development was introduced to them. The students were sensitized about the rehabilitation activities implemented by K.S.S.S for the persons having deafness and blindness (Deafblind) as the extended programme of Community Based Rehabilitation for Differently Abled and the challenges of the disability was a new learning for the students. The classes were led by Mrs. Shaila Thomas, K.S. S.S Programme Officer and Sr. Simi DCPB, Special Educator.

Study Visit for Nursing Students



K.S.S.S facilitates opportunities for students to learn the problems of the less privileged people and the possible interventions to empower them and mainstream them in society. A study camp was organized for the B Sc Nursing students of Caritas College of Nursing, Kottayam with the objective of familiarizing them with the social welfare initiatives undertaken by K.S.S.S. The study camp focused on the various areas of emphasis and social welfare activities implemented by K.S.S.S for the upliftment of economically backward vulnerable families in the society. The rehabilitative services provided to Deafblind persons and their challenge. The study visit contributed to a good exposure for the students to understand the various programme conducted to mainstream the marginalized people. The study visit was led by Mrs. Babitha T Jessil, K.S.S.S Programme Officer and Sr. Simi DCPB, Special Educator.

Knanaya Malankara Reunification Centenary Celebrations



The Knanaya Malankara Reunification Centenary Celebrations marked a significant milestone, and in light of this occasion, a range of welfare programs was envisioned to be conducted in association with Kottayam Social Service Society. These programs aimed to implement various social welfare initiatives within the Knanaya Malankara Catholic Archdiocese of Kottayam community.

To foster the well-being of the community, several activities were announced, including the establishment of a Tailoring Training Center, a Marketing outlet for alternative lifestyle products such as Soap, Lotion, Phe-

nol, Harpic, Vinegar, Hand wash, Ujala, Vicks, Starch, Ragi, Notebook, Candle sticks etc. The other projects envisaged are Promotion of Kitchen Garden Project extended to 500 families, Provide Poultry Units to 100 families, Distribution of Tailoring Machines, Vocational Skill Development Trainings and facilitate Income Generation Activities.

The centenary celebrations were inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakatt, Archbishop and the proceedings were presided over by Mar Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam.



COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMMES

“Health is the foundation upon which all else is built. Without it, we cannot hope to achieve anything.” – **Mahatma Gandhi**

Health promotion is about raising the health status of individuals and communities. Health promotion programs aim to engage and empower individuals and communities to choose healthy behaviors and make changes that reduce the risk of diseases. As individuals and families have major responsibilities and contributions to perform for the promotion of health in the community.

World Health Day 2021

With the aim of “Building a fairer, healthier world,” KSSS organized World Health Day celebrations at Chaithanya Pastoral Center. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that everyone has equitable and unrestricted access to essential healthcare facilities. Understanding the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic situation, ensuring universal access to health services becomes paramount for the well-being and safety of all individuals.. The World Health Day program was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkat, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese,



and presided over by Ms. Bincy Sebastian (Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam). Dr. Twinkle Prebhakaran, Medical Officer at the T.B Center, Kottayam, was the chief guest in the program. The participants took a health care pledge to adopt healthy and active living. Dr. Amrutha, from the Community Oncology department at Caritas Hospital, conducted a seminar on the topic “Need for Health Care.”

Observation of World Cancer Day

Cancer is a dreadful disease, and there is a rapid increase comparatively in the number of cancer-affected people in the state. Cancer awareness and prevention programs are the key to early detection and healthy lifestyle behaviors. KSSS observed World Cancer Day on 4th February and released an action plan for cancer awareness and facilitating early screening. The program was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. The day was observed jointly with Caritas India Ashakiranam Project. On this occasion, Kottayam Social Service Society envisaged an action plan to be executed. The action plan included programs - Distribution of medical aid to 100 cancer patients,



Community formation of Cancer Survivors, Cancer and Food Kits for Families with Sick People, Distribution of COVID Prevention Kits and Hair Donation Campaign, Cancer Awareness Programs and Detection Camps, and Volunteer Units Formed to lead Cancer Safety Activities.

Oxygen Concentrator to Kottayam Municipality

Smt. Bincy Sebastian, Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam Municipality received the Oxygen Concentrator provided by Kottayam Social Service Society from the hands of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Archbishop in a function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The equipment was bought with the financial aid from Give2Asia.



Oxygen Concentrator to Uzhavoor Grama Panchayath



An Oxygen Concentrator was provided to Uzhavoor Grama Panchayath with the financial support from Knanaya Catholic Association, New Zealand on the occasion of their

tenth anniversary. The event was held at the Village Panchayath hall and inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA.

COVID-19 Preventive Kits for Differently-Abled and Oxygen Concentrator for Kallara Grama Panchayath

KSSS distributed COVID-19 preventive kits containing masks, sanitizers and soaps to 175 families of differently-abled with the support of the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI). Oxygen Concentrator was also made available to Kallara Grama Panchayath by KSSS on the occasion. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the programme.

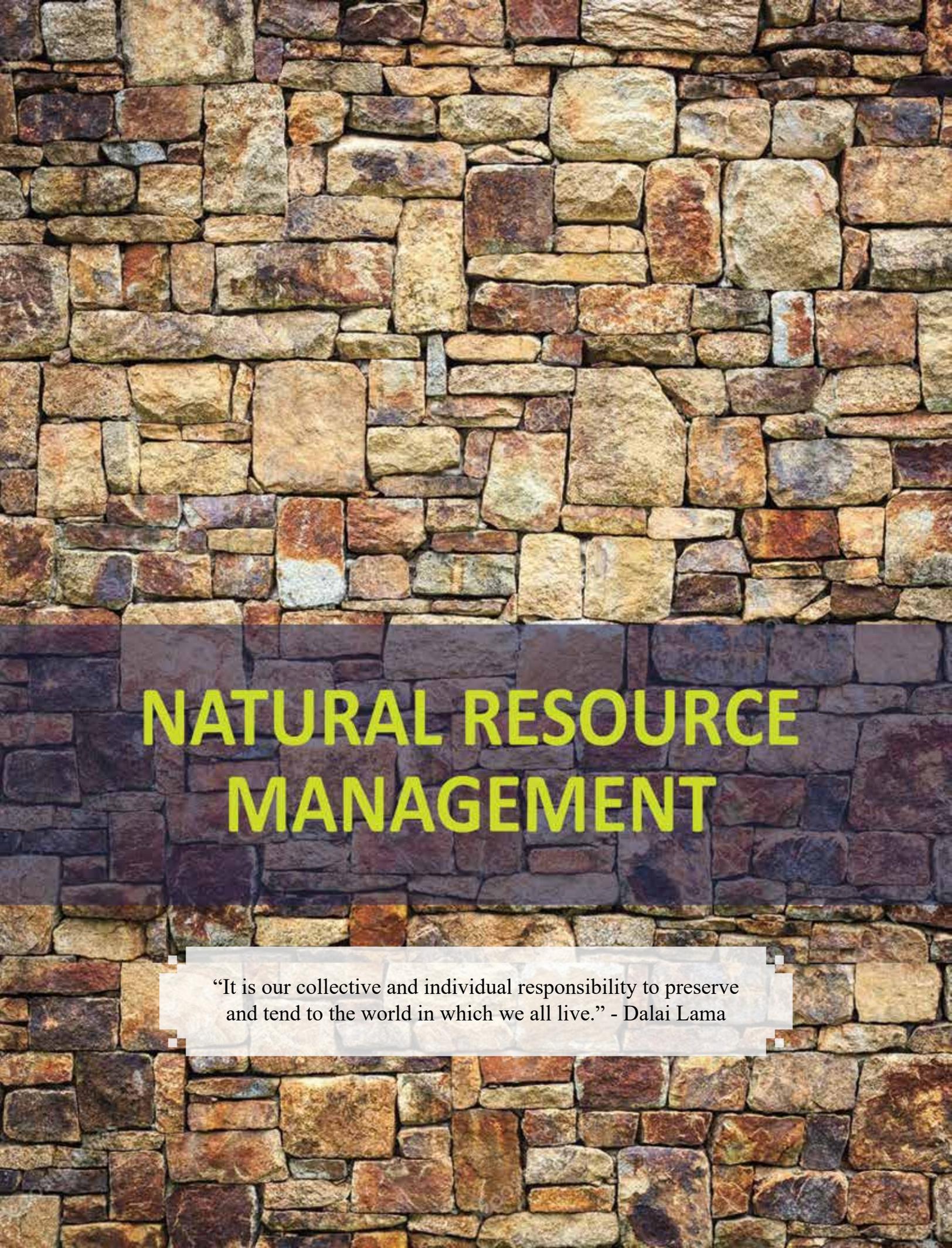


Staff Meetings

KSSS believes staff meetings are integral to the effective functioning and success of any organization. They serve as a platform for sharing information, planning and addressing challenges, thereby contributing to the achievement of the organization's mission. At KSSS, regular meetings for different levels of the organization is organized. Staff Meetings at central level, Coordinator's meetings and Regional Meetings at regional level. The monthly Animator's meeting and Village Development Committee meetings are systematically conducted. These regular meetings at Central level as well as Field level contributes to evaluate the progress against goals and



milestones and ensure the successful execution of its diverse programs.



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

“It is our collective and individual responsibility to preserve and tend to the world in which we all live.” - Dalai Lama

KSSS Organizes Farmers' Day Celebrations

KSSS believes that farmers are the backbone of any agrarian economy. August 17th is celebrated as Farmers' Day in Kerala, and it is also the New Year for the Malayalam calendar Chingam I. Therefore, every year, KSSS celebrates Farmers' Day. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Dr. Sabu Thomas, Vice-Chancellor, M.G University emphasized the importance of a multi-cropping system and crop insurance culture for the growth of the agriculture sector in the presence of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam. Other dignitaries on the dais were, Mr. Tojo M Thomas, Regional Transport Officer and Mr. Anil Varghese, Kottayam Agricultural Department Deputy Director. The project 'Plant a Fruit Tree' was inaugurated by Dr. Sabu Thomas by giving saplings of fruit tree to Mr. Babu Stephen Puramadathilin, a Federation Member of SHG for Men. Exemplary farmers Mr. Georgekutty Cyriac, Mr. E. M Thomas, Mr. Philip Kurian, Mr. Johnson Baby, Mr. Shajimon,



and Mr. Suryanarayan Pilla, selected from various villages of KSSS, were felicitated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt by wrapping 'Ponnada.' Dr. Devi V.S, Assistant Professor, Krishi Vijnan Kendra, Kottayam, spoke at the seminar conducted during the program.

KSSS Launches Kitchen Garden Extension Project

KSSS envisaged various welfare programs on the occasion of Knanaya Malankara Reunification Centenary Celebrations. As part of the Natural Resource Management Program, the Kitchen Garden Extension project was launched at the centenary celebrations held at St. Mary's Knanaya Malankara Catholic Church, Kuttoor. Under the project, vegetable seeds and grow bags were distributed to 500 families. The centenary celebrations were inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkat, Metropolitan Archbishop



and was presided over by Mar Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam,

World Environment Day Celebrations

World Environment Day is observed worldwide to encourage awareness as well as action to protect our environment. KSSS observed World Environment Day on June 5th by organizing an array of Environment Conservation Activities. The programs were inaugurated by Mr. Thomas Chazhikadan, Member of Parliament, in the presence of various dignitaries. The Self-Help Group members from Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, and Ernakulam districts participated in the



program. The participants were distributed plant saplings to plant in their homes.

International Day of Forest

“Let’s nurture nature so that we can have a better future.”



Forests have a valuable contribution and significance in balancing the life cycle on earth. March 21 was observed as International Day of Forest to understand the value, significance, and contribution of forests in balancing the life cycle on earth. The day was celebrated to highlight the significance of forests and raise awareness about forest restoration. The day serves as a reminder of the vital

role that forests play in our daily lives. Thus, the day’s celebrations aimed to create awareness of issues raised against deforestation. The celebration was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, symbolizing a significant start against deforestation by offering saplings to the participants.



LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

“Income generation is not just about financial returns, it’s also about empowering individuals and communities to take control of their own lives and destinies.”

Kottayam Social Service Society has been promoting Livelihood Development Programmes to ensure that marginalized families can have a sustainable income and improve their quality of life. By facilitating livelihood opportunities, K.S.S.S aims to empower the SHG members and encourage active participation in society. In the current scenario of the COVID-19 pandemic, KSSS aims to support struggling families to overcome the financial crisis caused by the loss of livelihoods.

Promotion of Livelihood through Duck Rearing Programme



The COVID-19 situation has caused an economic crisis for marginalized farming families, and they have lost their livelihoods. In order to offer solace to struggling families, Kottayam Social Service Society initiated a Livelihood Promotion Programme. Along with resilience, this project also provides an opportunity for entrepreneurship for rural families. As part of this project, financial aid was given to deserving farmers for a duck rearing programme. The farmers of Kaipuzha and Malankara regions were selected for this aid.

Livelihood Promotion Programme for COVID-Affected 25 Families



The COVID-19 situation has caused an economic crisis for marginalized families and it has hampered their livelihood activities. In order to offer solace to struggling families as part of Livelihood Restoration, Kottayam Social Service Society distributed Hi-tech Poultry Units to 25 deserving families. Poultry farming will be an alternative income generation and also a solution for food security. The selected families who lost their income from Kaduthuruthy, Kaipuzha, Kidangoor, Malankara, Edackatt and Uzhavoor received the poultry units.

Employment Skill Development Training – Certificate Distribution



With the aim to promote employment opportunities for rural youth, Kottayam Social Service Society, in association with the Ministry of Rural Development and Kudumbshree Mission, is providing scientific skill training as part of the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gramin Kayashalya Yojana project. Candidates are receiving free skill training for courses in Food & Beverage Service, Soft Skills, English, and Computer Knowledge. The graduation ceremony function was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom, and certificates were conferred by Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Director of K.S.S.S.

Skill Development Training Program - Opening of New Batch



The opening ceremony of the New Batch of skill training course of DDU-GKY project was conducted at the Impact Centre, Cherpunkal. The course for Food and Beverage Services was opened for the new batch. After completing the course, candidates are placed in jobs. The inauguration of the Food and Beverage Services course and the graduation ceremony of the previous batch were inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aphrem, Malankara Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam..

Launch of Income Generation & Entrepreneurship Programme

To develop self-employment opportunities, K.S.S.S, in association with the Kerala State Backward Class Development Corporation, organized an income generation 'Loan Mela'. As part of this programme, in the first instalment, a fund of Rupees One Crore was allotted for small-scale entrepreneurship activities at a nominal interest rate. Through this programme, KSSS aims to develop the skills of the beneficiaries and provide them with self-employment opportunities to attain self-reliance. The 'Loan Mela' was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese.

Launch of Karuniyakiranam Project

A house is not only a dream but also a basic necessity of life for any person. Kottayam Social Service Society has been facilitating funds for SHG members to enable the target groups in remote areas to enjoy basic amenities for development, such as house construction, toilet construction, infrastructure utilities, and social amenities and to help them join mainstream development. Once again, K.S.S.S has launched another project called the 'Karuniyakiranam Project' to

provide financial assistance to marginalized SHG members. The financial aid is provided for two development programs: Basic Amenities Development Programs and Skill Training Schemes. Under the Basic Amenities Development Program, K.S.S.S has extended assistance for house construction. Needy persons submitted their applications and based on the underlying norms, selection was made for the less privileged families. The Skill



Development Schemes involved funding for goat rearing, cow rearing, poultry farming, and micro-entrepreneurship activities. The Karuniyakiranam Project was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam.

Chaithanya Sambrambhanidhi Disburse & Entrepreneurship Training

Chaithanya Sambrambhanidhi is a micro credit programme initiated aiming economic independence. A loan amount is distributed to the SHG members in minimal interest and it supports them to undertake micro enterprises to generate income for the family to attain financial indepen-

dence. An amount of Rs 25 lakhs was distributed for the selected SHG members for undertaking entrepreneurship activities. Along with the financial assistance, Entrepreneurship Development Trainings was also conducted.

Financial Support for Dairy Farmers

Selected Dairy Farmers from Kaipuzha, Edackat, Chunkom, Uzhavoor, Kaduthuruthy and Kidangoor regions of Kottayam Archdiocese were given cash support to ensure that their income generation activities survive through the COVID hardships. In a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom Gheevarghese Mar Aprem inaugurated the fund distribution programme.



Inauguration of Second phase of Micro-Enterprise Development Loan Fair and distribution of Oxygen Concentrator

The inauguration of the second phase of the Micro-enterprise development Loan Mela organized with the support from the Kerala State Backward Class Development Corporation and the handing-over of the Oxygen Concentrator made available to Kumarakom Grama Panchayath was done by Shri. V. N. Vasavan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration, Kerala in a august function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt presided over the function. 50 lakhs was made available and distributed as part of the Loan Fair. Smt. Dhanya Sabu, President, Kumarakom Grama



Panchayath, received the Oxygen Concentrator which was funded by the Knanaya Catholic Association of New Zealand on the occasion of its 10th anniversary, from the hands of the Minister.

Sewing machine units for 20 families

As part of COVID rehabilitation efforts in the livelihood sector, KSSS distributed 20 Usha sewing machines with motor for women with the financial contribution from Religious sisters of the Visitation Congregation. The distribution event was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom and inaugurated by Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese.





COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION OF THE DIFFERENTLY-ABLED



Inter Face Meeting with PRIs

An Interface meeting was organized for the persons with disabilities under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society. The Interface program aimed at providing opportunities to sensitize the three tier panchayat officials about the needs and rights of differently abled persons in collaboration with Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat. The programme was organized at St. Stephen's Forane Church Hall, Uzhavoor with the participation of PwDs and their family members of Uzhavoor Block. Mr. P. M. Mathew, Member, Uzhavoor Division Kottayam District Panchayat inaugurated the meet and Mr. Johnis. P, President, Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat presided over the function. Along with the representatives from three tier panchayats - village, block and district panchayats, Mr. Raju K, K.S.S.S. Navachaitanya Vikalanga Federation Secretary, Panchayat Ward members and officials of health, Social Justice etc participated in the program. This programme was also an opportunity for the panchayat representatives to understand the needs of differently abled persons especially of deafblind per-



sons to plan better schemes for them along with the protection of the rights of the differently abled. The persons with disabilities and their parents shared their concerns in the programme and welfare activities were planned for the differently abled persons.

Deafblind Rehabilitation Programme - Networks Meet

As part of the Deafblind Rehabilitation Programme, KSSS in association with Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation organized a one day State Network Meet for Parents of Deafblind persons, Adult Deafblind Persons, Special Educators and CBR Field workers.. The meet was designed to offer services to meet the unique needs of parents of deafblind who are in need of support, resources and information. The network meeting facilitated interaction experts from various fields. The State Network Meet



was organized on 28th October, 2021.

Downsyndrome Day Organized

‘Leave No one Behind’

March 24 is the World Down Syndrome Day for the children born with a genetic defect during mutation. Down syndrome has become one of the most recognizable forms of mental disability in the world. According to the United Nations, Down Syndrome affects 1 out of every 800 births in the world. Down Syndrome Day was organized under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with Catholic Health Association. Mr. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, MLA inaugurated the day conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. Mrs. Lovely George, Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor, presided over



the meeting. The aim of the programme was to raise public awareness and create a single global voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and well being of people with Down Syndrome. The day was celebrated with lot of fun activities and cultural programmes by Children with Down Syndrome.

Career awareness for the Differently-Abled

Kottayam Social Service Society has always taken a lead role to provide career opportunities for differently abled person to attain self reliance. A one day Employment Awareness and Special Employment Registration workshop was organized by K.S.S.S in association with Kottayam District Special Employment Office at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. The workshop was inaugurated by Mar Joseph Pandarasseril, Auxillary Archbishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam and presided over by Mrs Lovely George, Ettumanoor Muncipal Chairperson. The public meeting was followed by seminar on ‘Employment Opportunities and Special Coaching Services for Persons with Disabilities’ by



Mrs Sonia A.M, District Special Employment Officer. Umbrella Registration was conducted for differently able persons for new registration as well as for renewal of registration.

State Level Advocacy Meeting Organized Under Deafblind Rehabilitation Project

Deafblindness is a severe disability and deafblind people face huge challenges due to the severity of their disability but they don't have much access to the required support and not much support exists. State Advocacy Events are organized to ensure the appropriate rehabilitation and develop innovative approaches to address the rehabilitation needs of people with deafblindness. K.S.S.S organized State Level Advocacy Meeting on Deafblindness in collaboration with Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation to converge with initiatives of relevant state government departments and civil society organizations for inclusion of persons with deafblindness.

The state event was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxillary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese and was presided over by Dr. Rosamma Soni, Member, District Panchayat.

In the meeting Shri S.H. Panchapakesan, State Disability Commissioner interacted with the Federation Members and shared that UDID will be the only identifica-



tion document for the differently abled person in coming years. Mr Parag Namdeo, Senior Advocacy Officer, Sense International India shared the recent initiatives implemented by different state as part of RPwD act. The deafblind persons, their parents and special educators from K.S.S.S and other state partners Malankara Social Service Society and Shreyas, Bathery interacted with government officials from Samagra Shiksha Kerala, Social Justice Officer, from Social Justice Department and State Project Coordinator, State Initiatives for Disabilities to find solution for the rehabilitation needs of persons with deafblindness. The collective mission is to ensure that every person with deafblindness has access to good quality appropriate rehabilitation options and inclusive environment.

Workshop on Inclusive Disaster Preparedness and Response

Kerala is a state prone to disasters and every year experiencing natural calamities, hazards and disasters. A well prepared an inclusive contingency plan need to be in place for better preparedness and response to reduce the risk of disasters. A two-day contingency planning state level workshops was organized jointly by State Disaster Management, Sphere India and CBM India at KSSS on 30th & 31st March, 2022. The representatives from State Disaster Management Authority, DPO leaders, KSSS Navchaithanya Federation members and participants from different organizations in Kerala participated in this workshop. The workshop on 'Training and Capacity Building on Inclusive Disaster Preparedness and



Response' was organized with an aim to enhance knowledge and capacities of NGO partner organizations in Kerala, on inclusive humanitarian contingency, preparedness, response, and development of a Community of Practice on disability inclusion. The workshop was moderated by Dr. P.T. Baburaj, Director of Disability & Joe John George, State Project Officer, Disaster Management Authority.

Food kits for Deafblind People

KSSS partnered with Sense International India to extend 'care' to the most deprived families of deafblind persons by distributing food kits. The support of food kits was a great solace to the vulnerable families during the dreadful pandemic.

The food kit had rice, sugar, peas, beans, wheat flour, coriander powder, chilli powder, cooking oil, bath soap, laundry soap, salt and turmeric

The food kits were given to for 62 families of Deafblind Persons



Training for Resource Teachers under Rehabilitation Program for the Deafblind Persons.

Trainings are the process by which individual and organizations obtain, improve and retain the skills. It is the key stone towards acquisition of knowledge required for improving the quality of services. Kottayam Social Service Society in partnership with Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation organized a one day training workshop for the Resource Teachers of Samagra Shiksha Kerala with the objective to provide enhanced quality of rehabilitative services towards the holistic development of deafblind children in the state. The training capacitated the Resource Teachers and envisions to strengthen the government system so that deafblind children get better access to inclusive education. His Excellency Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Kottayam inaugurated the event



held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. Prof. Dr. Rajeev Kumar N. (Head of Department of Behavioural Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University) presided over the meeting.

Distribution of essential medicines to the differently-abled

'No one care until someone cares be that one'

Under the Karuniyadoot Project, neurological medicines are given every month to the children after consultation by Neurologist. The aim of the programme is treatment as well as regular follow up of the treatment. It helps to ensure

continuous intake of medicines and resulting reduction in incidence of seizures or severity of seizures. The inauguration of the project was performed by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam.

Support of Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities

Assistive Devices plays a vital role to facilitate the functioning and independence. KSSS, through its Community Based Rehabilitation Programme works with the motto for inclusive society. To ensure active participation of differently-abled persons in the society KSSS in association of India (CHAI) with Catholic Health Association distributed aids and appliances for differently abled person.



Teacher's Day celebration - Honoring Exemplary Services of CBR staff in the field of disability

On the occasion of Teachers Day on 5th September, the Day was celebrated honouring the teachers of CBR programme for their exemplary and dedicated services towards the differently abled children. The day's celebrations were held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Teachers Day celebrations conducted by KSSS in collaboration with the Catholic Association of India (CHAI) of India was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam. In the inaugural address he said that good trees which help the students to accomplish their dreams. He appreciated the CBR staff for their dedicated services towards the differently abled people to mainstream them in society and attain self reliance. Mrs Arya Rajan, President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat presided over the meeting. Other dignitaries were Dr. P.T. Baburaj, Head of the Department, School of Behavioural



Science, Mahatma Gandhi University and Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavungal, Executive Director, Kerala Social Service Forum.

The Special Educators and CBR staffs – the Special Teachers who are the trainers for differently abled children were honored by Mar Mathew Moolakattu, Metropolitan Archbishop, with a medal and a plaque.

Case Study

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.” - Helen Keller



Seven-year old Ann Mariya Manoj was born with vision and hearing impairment. When the doctor informed them the child is affected by Rubella syndrome and has vision and hearing problem. Then only the family realized their daughter could neither see nor hear and they were very desperate. The family resides at Malantharam, Tripunithara. Ann Mariya is the youngest child of the family. She has a elder sister.

The Ophthalmologist suggested for cataract surgery. So the age of two months she underwent cataract surgery and it was followed by heart surgery. Her father Mr. Manoj is the only bread winner of the family and is a daily wage labour. The two surgeries and the medical treatments drawnd the family into financial debts.

Her mother was unaware of the disability therefore she could not manage her little daughter. After 6 months they realized the child is also having delayed milestones. But no proper interventions was given. In this point through the Anganwadi worker Sr. Simi, KSSS Special educator visited their house.

When the Special educator of KSSS deafblind programme located the child she had behaviour problems. The child had no response and poor motor skills with delayed milestones. Her mother cared the child well but she was unaware of the trainings. So the family was first counseled about deafblindness and the possible interventions and the family was very cooperative towards the staff.

The family was informed by the special educator about the Cochlear implantation programme under Social Security schemes and the benefits of Cochlear implantation. Ann Mariya underwent cochlear implantation under the government scheme. The regular trainings brought developmental changes

in the child in the areas of communication, motor, vision, cognitive and auditory. At present the child has improvement in vision, she can express all her needs by pointing things and she can match common vegetables like green chilli, tomato etc. Her expressive and receptive communication has improved.

Ann Mariya's mother Shybi shared that when the doctor told us that our daughter can neither see nor hear the world crashed down for us. I was unaware of the disability but the intervention of Sr. Simi, Special educator from KSSS has changed the life for us. The counseling sessions by her helped us to understand the disability of our little angel and how we can help her. The continous interventions of the Special educator has brought significant changes in her vision, fine motor skills, now she communicates her needs through pointing and helps her mother in household chores. We are obliged to KSSS and Sense International India for initialing services for deafblind people which is a real relief for parents like us'.

Through the Parent's Networks under the advocacy initiation of KSSS, Ann Mariya has availed the like Disability Certificate and Niramay health insurance.

In this short span Ann Mariya has learned a lot but there lot more her to discover in this world and the journey continues.

The KSSS team and Ann Mariya's parents are confident that the intense trainings will help him to win over her disability and live independently. Her family is grateful to KSSS and Sense International India for the wonderful support extended as it is a blessing that arrived in the midst of distress.



CBOs for Community Development

“Family is the most vital institution on earth. It is the cradle of life, the training ground for growth, and the foundation of society.” - **James E. Faust**

Family Development Programme Under the Save A Family Plan

Families serve as the backbone of societies, and the bonds forged across generations ensure the continuity of this invaluable heritage. Kottayam Social Service Society is one amongst the partnering organizations that implements the Family Development Program partnering with Save A Family Plan Project, Canada, to uplift the backward families. The program aims at building self-sufficient communities by empowering families through timely support and financial assistance. The Family Development Program works to partner with the under privileged societies in India. Each partnering family is aided for a period of 6 consecutive years. Every year, the lives of hundreds of families are changed through the incredible



generosity of our caring donors. Save A Family Plan continues to shower blessings upon hundreds of families through the generosity of our benefactors, coordinators, animators, and field workers. KSSS activities help to empower families to break out of the poverty.

Annual Meet of SAFF Partner Families

The healthy development and happiness of all families within society form a strong foundation for individuals to thrive and grow together. With the aim of comprehensively uplifting backward families, an Annual Meeting of the partner families and enrichment program have been organized. The programme was

conducted by Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with Save a Family Plan at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The day started with a seminar and was followed by discussions and evaluations. The meeting was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph, MLA and was presided over by Geevarghese Mar Aphrem, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam. K.S.S.S is empowering 280 families through Family Development Program of Kottayam Social Service Society.



Family Development Training Programme for Newly Selected Partner Families of K.S.S.S



K.S.S.S organized training programme for the newly selected families under the SAFFP programme. The aim of the training was empowering the economically backward families to realize their potential and to contribute to poverty reduction as well as ensure their own social upliftment through right for education, health, shelter, food and other basic needs. K.S.S.S through the Family Development Programme encourages the partnering families to initiate sustainable income generation activities. By empowering families, we not only improve their well-being but also create stronger and more resilient communities as a whole.

The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, MLA and presided over by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Archbishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam

Educational Support to Children – Distribution of Mobile Phones



As part of the fifth phase of the Mobile Phone challenge, 10 most needy children were provided with mobile phones to support and facilitate their online education. The outbreak of the pandemic and the subsequent restrictions led to a shift from physical education to virtual modes. However, economically disadvantaged children faced difficulties and were unable to participate in online classes. This situation caused significant stress among these students and their families, who lacked access to mobile phones and had to discontinue their education. In response to this issue, KSSS collaborated with Care and Share USA to make mobile phones available for these children.

The distribution was inaugurated at a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop and was presided over by Nirmala Jimmy, President, Kottayam District Panchayat in presence of Mrs Arya Rajan, Panchayat President, Athirampuzha, Fr. Sunil Perumanur, Executive Secretary, K.S.S.S and Mr. Sijo Thomas, Programme Officer, K.S.S.S.

Mon. Augustine Kandathil Commemoration and Distribution of Funds

To mark the remembrance of Mon. Augustine Kandathil, Kottayam Social Service Society in association with Save a Family Plan India, distributed funds for Livelihood Development and Housing project to the children belonging to economically backward families. Mon. Augustine came up with the 'Save a Family Plan' for India in 1965 with the aim of improving the condition of marginalized groups.

The commemoration meeting was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom and Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop inaugurated the distribution of financial aid programme. In his opening speech, Archbishop highlighted how the Save a Family Plan has paved the way for family empowerment and comprehensive progress of poor people. He also mentioned how the envisaged project can give new hope to thousands of families.

The Save a Family Plan aims to uplift marginalized groups, and with this initiative, the distribution of financial aid will help poor families to initiate Livelihood Activities. These activities they got a sustainable income and their children had access to better educational opportunities, leading to their holistic development. The Family Development Project implemented by KSSS aims to provide an opportunity for progress in employment, education, health, and self-development to the families selected for the scheme. Monthly financial assistance is available to these families to support their infrastructural development, educational, health and employment needs. The overall objective of the project is to improve the living conditions of the selected families and empower them to lead a sustainable life.



“You decide your own level of involvement”



Suja Mahesh stays in Memury village of Kottayam District with her two daughters Soorya and Kavya. Her husband deserted them when the younger daughter was only 6yrs old. When he left the family he had taken debts from local financiers and loans from the bank. Thus the family was immersed with debts. She had no job and income. For Suja the situation was very fearful and it was impossible for her to meet the expenses of the family and education of her children along with the additional financial liabilities her husband had left on her. In midst of the huge challenges of these liabilities, she was very desperate and believed suicide is the only option. In this situation KSSS animator visited her and enrolled Suja in the ‘Save A Family Plan’ programme. Through this programme, KSSS provides assistance to the economically backward families for Livelihood Development Programmes. During this time a two months tailoring training course was conducted by KSSS for women and animator motivated Suja to join the training programme. After completing the tailoring course she was given a motorized tailoring machine with a sewing tool kit from KSSS.

This brought new rays of hope in her life. She started her own tailoring unit and had been running the small business very successfully. The income helped the family to repay their debts and to manage the family expenses. Her children could continue their education and this also improved their living standards. She

learnt new patterns in stitching and also learnt to stitch cloth masks, N95 masks. Today she can finish stitching works within one hour, early she has taken more time for finish her stitching work. She is very happy to become a part of the Society for fighting against Covid-19 by stitching masks. She is highly satisfied and very much

*Happy
Suja said, “Now,
I have own tailoring unit
and I stitch cloth bags, masks
by getting bulk orders from nearby
shops. This tailoring unit help me to earn
a good source of income. I am really thankful
to KSSS Animator for helping me to overcome
my crisis and to be a confident entrepreneur.
Today I am proud and very happy and able
to take my responsibilities well. Life has
taught me that any crisis in life can
be overcome by hard work, we can
change our own destiny”.*

happy with her life.

During the time of Covid-19 pandemic situation, she is stitching surgical mask, cloth masks for shops. Suja is very much happy for the reason that the Government has issued the order to ban plastic bags. She works to promote cloth bags. She believes that her mission is to battle against plastics; she is stitching cloth bags for wholesale shops. She attended three days training classes

for detergent making business in KSSS. Now she is also making hygienic materials like phenyl, harpic, liquid soap, etc. Thus, now she is getting an alternative good income from the marketing of hygienic materials.

Suja has become a confident woman now and is the Secretary of the Self Help Group for women. She actively took part in all of the meetings conducted in KSSS. She attending trainings conducted by Self Help Group for various initiatives. This enabled her to bring the powerful woman inside her to the in front. Now she has developed a positive attitude in the midst of all her miseries. She got enrolled in the Tailoring Workers Welfare Fund Board and thus she is availing government benefits.. She is enough confident to face the challenges in her life.

She gained self- confidence and she has the courage to face anything in her life. There is change in quality of her living. She had developed Leadership quality, boldness in speaking and she got respect from others. Increase confidence level and dedication in her work. She is well with handling crisis situation. Now she is strong-willed to take up risks and discover more of her skills. Suja became able to lead a prosperous life ahead.



COVID-19 Pandemic Management



Relief Materials

Food

Food kits were distributed in tie up with different agencies on various occasions to support the families with the COVID disease and the stringent Lockdown measures.

Distribution of food kits to volunteers



KSSS partnered with Give2Asia to distribute food kits to volunteers serving in the COVID Task Forces. Kottayam Regional Transport Officer (Enforcement) – Mr. Tojo M. Thomas inaugurated the event organized at Chaithanya Thellakom. The kits were provided to 150 village level volunteers contained Rice, sugar, cooking oil, chickpeas, chickpeas, green gram, chilli powder, coriander powder, mustard, turmeric powder and tea powder.

Ashwas Food Kit Distribution Scheme



Under the Ashwas Food kit distribution scheme, needy families who were struggling to survive the COVID crisis were provided food kits. Selected families from the parishes falling in the Forane regions of Kaipuzha, Malankara, Chunkom, Edackat, Kaduthuruthy, Piravom, Uzhavoor and Kidangoor under the Kottayam Archdiocese benefited under the scheme. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan

Archbishop of Kottayam Archdiocese inaugurated the function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom. 700 families were supported under the scheme with kits containing rice, sugar, tea powder, chilli powder, coriander powder, salt, mustard, turmeric powder, chickpeas, green gram, cooking oil and wheat flour.

Food Kit Distribution Yatra

While the COVID second wave was breaking out, families struggling under COVID pandemic circumstances from the districts of Kottayam, Idukki and Ernakulam were supplied with food kits containing rice, sugar, chickpeas, green gram, tea powder, chilli powder, coriander powder, mustard, turmeric powder, wheat flour, bathing soap and salt. The distribution trip was flagged-off by Smt. Lovely George, Ettumanoor Municipal Chairperson.



Food Kit Distribution



In order to offer solace to the families affected with floods under the COVID circumstances, KSSS arranged distribution of Food kits containing Rice, sugar, wheat powder, tea powder, chilli powder, coriander powder, turmeric powder, salt and mustard. Smt. Bincy Sebastian, Kottayam Municipal Chairperson inaugurated the distribution programme which was envisaged for the flood affected people of Kumarakom, Olessa and Chelanam areas.

Food Kit Distribution Under Athijeevanam Project

KSSS collaborated with Pizza Hut to distribute food kits to 300 families as part of Athijeevanam Project. The inauguration of the programme was done by Shri. V.N. Vasavan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration. The Athijeevanam project was envisioned to support families affected by the 3rd wave of the COVID pandemic.



Food Kit Distribution for Differently-Abled



Malankara Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese – Geevarghese Mar Aprem inaugurated the COVID food kit distribution programme organized exclusively for differently-abled in a function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The programme was part of KSSS' interventions for the holistic development of the differently-abled being implemented in collaboration with Sense International India.

Educational Support

Inauguration of 'Mobile Phone Challenge' Project

Foreseeing the challenge of students from poor families to own a phone for receiving quality education as the nature of schooling shifted to online means during the COVID circumstances, KSSS announced the 'Mobile Phone Challenge' Project. Inaugurating the project amidst a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom Metropolitan Archbishop Mar Mathew Moolakkatt said that disadvantaged children were facing a crisis as they had no mobile phones when every school switched to online teaching methods. He reminded that there were positive as well as negative consequences to online education and



parents elders and students themselves had to be careful in this regard. Ten deprived children were given quality mobile phones in collaboration with LACIM on the occasion.

2nd Phase of the 'Mobile Phone Challenge' Project

Mobile phones were distributed to 10 students as part of 2nd phase of the Mobile Challenge Project in partnership with Rotary Club of Carolton, America. Mar Joseph Pandarasseril, Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archdiocese inaugurated the event at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



3rd Phase of Mobile Phone Challenge Project

The third phase of the project was inaugurated at Chaithanya, Thellakom by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam. The event was chaired by Dr. Sabu Thomas, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University. 10 mobile phones were distributed with the financial support of Cherupushpam Mission League Unit of St. Mary's Knanaya Church, Detroit, USA.



Mobile Phone Challenge Project – 4th Phase

Kottayam Social Service Society distributed 10 mobile phones as part of the fourth phase of the Mobile Phone Challenge Project with the financial support from Cherupushpam Mission League Unit of St. Pius X, Knanaya Catholic Church, Los Angeles, USA. The distribution event was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom and inaugurated by Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam – Mar Mathew Moolakkatt.



Financial Assistance for Educational and Health Activities of COVID affected

In an attempt to ensure well being of economically backward families in the context of the COVID crisis, Kottayam Social Service Society extended financial assistance to the families selected under its Save a Family Programme for fulfilling their educational and health needs during the COVID times. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Malankara Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese inaugurated the financial aid distribution at a function organized in Chaithanya, Thellakom. Financial assistance



was made available under the scheme to 50 families.

Financial assistance to 50 families under Self-Employment EDP



Financial assistance was made available by KSSS to 50 families under its Self Employment / Entrepreneurship Development Programme to support the entrepreneurs who were affected by COVID. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt Archbishop Kottayam inaugurated the financial-aid distribution.

Financial Support for Goat-rearing



25 families who undertook goat-rearing as an income generation activity were given cash assistance as part of KSSS' efforts to ensure Livelihood Restoration among families struggling under COVID circumstances. The fund distribution was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt Archbishop of Kottayam in a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral. The 25 families were selected from Kaipuzha, Edackat and Uzhavoor areas.

Goat-rearing Scheme 2nd Phase support

Promoting food security and income generation activities in spite of the COVID circumstances, KSSS extended financial support to 25 families from Kaduthuruthy, Malankara, Kidangoor and Chumkom regions of the Archdiocese who engaged in goat-rearing. The financial assistance distribution was inaugurated by Geevarghese Mar Aprem, amidst a meeting organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom as part of the second phase of Goat-rearing support scheme.



Hi-Tech Poultry Farming Units

Hi-Tech Poultry farming units were made available to selected families as part of the envisioned project to ensure food security and IGPs in poor families during the COVID circumstances. Egg-laying BV 380 variety of chickens was supplied along with these scientifically designed cages. Geevarghese Mar Aprem Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam inaugurated the distribution programme..



SAMASHVASAM- Livelihood Restoration Scheme inauguration and Distribution of Poultry rearing units

Poultry rearing units were distributed amidst the inauguration of SAMASHVASAM – Livelihood Restoration Scheme envisaged by the Kottayam Archdiocese and implemented by KSSS as part of ensuring IGPs and food security in poor families living under the COVID circumstances. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop inaugurated the programme organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom. Gramapriya variety of chickens was supplied along with the cages distributed as part of the project. The units were distributed to 94 families belonging to various parishes of Kidangoor, Kaipuzha, Edackat,



Kaduthuruthy and Uzhavoor foranes of the Archdiocese.

Hi-Tech Poultry Units to 25 families

Distribution of Hi-Tech Poultry Rearing Units to 25 families as part of Livelihood Restoration Scheme of KSSS was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Archbishop of Kottayam at Chaithanya, Thellakom. Selected families from Kidangoor, Kaduthuruthy, Uzhavoor and Malankara regions of the Archdiocese benefited from the scheme.



Inauguration of Second phase of Micro-Enterprise Development Loan Fair

The inauguration of the second phase of the Micro-enterprise development Loan Mela organized with the support from the Kerala State Backward Class Development Corporation was done by Shri. V. N. Vasavan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration, Kerala in a august function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Archbishop of Kottayam presided over the function. 50 lakhs was made available



and distributed as part of the Loan Fair.

Third Phase of Micro-Enterprise Development Loan Fair

The third phase of the Micro-Enterprise Development Loan Fair was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam. at Chaithanya



Pastoral Centre. Ten lakh was distributed as part of the fair to support various self-employment initiatives.

Distribution of Sewing machines under Tayal-Mitra Scheme

In pursuance of its dedicated efforts to restore self-employment activities during the COVID circumstances the Archdiocese of Kottayam through Kottayam Social Service Society supported the distribution of sewing machines under Tayal-Mitra scheme. Selected families under the scheme received USHA sewing machines with motor. The distribution event was organized



at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom and was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam.

Distribution of Sewing machines under Tayal-Mitra Scheme - 2ndPhase

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam. inaugurated the distribution of sewing machines organized as part of the second phase of the Tayal-Mitra scheme organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom.



Tailoring Machines for 20 Families

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the distribution of Tailoring machines for 20 women as part of KSSS' self-employment promotion initiatives during the COVID circumstances at Chaithanya, Thellakom. Tailoring machines of Usha Company with motor were distributed on the occasion to the 20 women from the regions of Kidangoor, Kaduthuruthy, Chunkom and Uzhavoor under KSSS' operational area.



Distribution of Tailoring Machines and COVID Prevention Kits

As part of KSSS' Vocational Skill development programmes conceptualized under Knanaya Malankara Reunification Centenary Celebrations 25 women were provided sewing machine units. The meeting was organized at St. Mary's Knanaya Malankara Catholic Church, Kuttoor and inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt. Archbishop of Kottayam, Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop presided over the function in which COVID prevention kits were also



distributed.

Treatment and Preventive Measures

Oxygen concentrators to Grama Panchayaths

On various occasions, in tie-up with various agencies KSSS provided Oxygen Concentrators to different local self-government institutions in its operational areas

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt inaugurated the distribution of Oxygen Concentrators made available to Kidangoor and Kaduthuruthy Panchayaths with the financial support of Give2Asia. The programme was held at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



Distributed PPE Kits and Masks for Health Workers

KSSS distributed PPE kits and masks for health workers of Kottayam district. Mar Joseph Pandarasseril, Auxiliary Bishop distributed the items in a function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The kits were financially supported by Give2Asia.



Covid Prevention - Masks Distributed

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt Archbishop inaugurated the distribution of masks to 1000 families in a function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The activity was done with the financial support of Reliance Foundation.



PPE Kits for Task Force Members

Shri. Roshy Augustine, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala inaugurated the distribution of PPE kits to COVID Task Force members at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. He appreciated the efforts of the youth and organizations like KSSS in the field of COVID prevention and mitigation. The PPE Kits were made available with the support of Give2Asia.



Distribution of Medical Equipments

On various occasions KSSS distributed medical equipments to various hospitals during the COVID restrictions with the support of different agencies such as...



As part of the COVID prevention programme Medical equipments were made available to local self-government institutions namely, Kottayam Municipality, Ettumanoor Municipality, Kumarakom, Aymanam, Athirampuzha, Kallara, Neendoor, Uzhavoor, Kaduthuruthy and Kidangoor Grama Panchayaths. The Medical equipments that were distributed to these institutions include 20 pulse oximeters each. Ettumanoor Municipality and Athirampuzha Grama Panchayath received one oxygen concentrator also.



To strengthen the Hospital system and support the COVID 19 treatment KSSS distributed medical equipments. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt Metropolitan Archbishop inaugurated the distribution of medical equipment kits containing Surgical Gowns, Digital BP Apparatuses, NRB Masks, PPE Kits made available to LLM Hospital, Kidangoor and MUM Hospital, Uzhavoor. The event was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.

200 Pulse oximeters were distributed in the Edackat, Kaipuzha, Malankara, Chunkom, Uzhavoor, Kidangoor and Kaduthuruthy Foranes of the Kottayam Archdiocese. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt Metropolitan Archbishop inaugurated the event.

Online Tele-Counselling Services
Kottayam Social Service Society provided Online tele-counseling services to COVID patients, family members and differently-abled persons under the circumstances of the COVID pandemic. The counseling services were available to those suffering from mental stress in the context of COVID.



Hygiene kits containing sanitizers and masks were distributed to 1000 families in collaboration with Reliance Foundation. Shri. Roshy Augustine, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala inaugurated the event.



756 Steam Inhalers, 20 pulse oximeters and 66 PPE kits were distributed in the villages of Kaduthuruthy, Pazhuthuruth, Arunootimangalam, Karipadam, Kothanalloor, Kuruppanthara, Njeezhoor, Poozhikol, Thottara, Piravom, Mankidappally, Ramamangalam, Vellore, Uzhavoor, Amanakara, Areekara, Chettukulam, Edakoli, Monipally, Pious Mount, Puthuvely, Veliyanoor, Kidangoor, Cherpunkal, Cherukara, Kattachira, Koodalloor, Etumanoor, Neerikkad, Punnathara, Maridom and Mattakkara. Covid prevention kits containing steam inhalers and PPE kits were distributed in the Chunkom region in the villages of Chunkom, Karimkunnam, Muttom, Mrala, Marika, Vadakkumury, Manakkad, Parampanchery and Varapetty.



KSSS spearheaded majority of the COVID Prevention Activities of the Archdiocese of Kottayam by collaborating with various agencies to supply oxygen concentrators, Pulse oximeters, Steam Inhalers, Personal Protective Equipment kits for Health Care Workers and Volunteers, , masks, sanitizers hand wash etc. Poor families and families with differently-abled members were specially provided food kits. Very Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat, Vicar General, Kottayam inaugurated the distribution of steam inhalers, pulse oximeters and oxygen concentrators for the villages of Kaipuzha, Neendoor, Kallara Old, Kallara New, Kurumulloor, Kaduthuruthy, Peroor, Edackat, East Nattassery, Olessa, Kumarakom, SH Mount, Kidangoor and Uzhavoor.

COVID vaccine registration help desks were set up by KSSS to help those who were computer or mobile illiterate and could not register by themselves for COVID vaccination.



Ayurvedic kits containing medicines like Indukanthamkashayam, Vilwadi tablets and Aparajitha Dhoopachooram for Covid prevention were distributed in partnership with Caritas Ayurveda Hospital.



KSSS distributed COVID prevention kits containing Pulse oximeters, Steam Inhalers, Personal Protective Equipment Kits and Ayurvedic Homeopathic Medicines in the villages of Chingavanam, Eraviperoor, Ranni, Vakathanam, Pachira, Veliyanadu, Kallissery, Kuttoor, Thiruvamvandur, Thurutthikada, Tengeli, Katoddu, Othara under the Malankara region of the Kottayam Archdiocese. Many of these villages were also flood-affected. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Malankara Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam inaugurated the event.



Under Navajeevan DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) project being implemented by KSSS in tie-up with Caritas India – the social service wing of CBCI (Catholic Bishops' Conference of India), 225 Migrant guest workers in Kottayam district were given COVID prevention kits containing masks, Sanitizers, bath soaps, washing soaps and detergents. The event was inaugurated by Shri. V. N. Vasan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration, Kerala.

Farmers under KSSS SHGs in the Arunootimangalam village of Kaduthuruthy region distributed food kits, masks, hand wash and daily living utilities such as soaps among needy people in their locality. Adv. Mons Joseph MLA inaugurated the distribution

KSSS also distributed homeopathic medicines for COVID prevention like Arsenicum album for 2400 families in the villages of Caritas, Malloossery, Kanankara, Chengalam, Charamangalam, East Nattassery, Kumarakom, Olessa, Samkranthy, Peroor, SHMount, Edackat, Palathuruth, Chamakala, Eravimangalam, Mannanam, Makudalayam, Memury, Kaipuzha, Neendoor, Kallara Old, Kallara New, Kurumulloor and Vechoor. Steam inhalers and PPE kits were also distributed to help with COVID prevention.





KARUTHAL project was conceptualized by KSSS in collaboration with Give2Asia to ensure safety of people from COVID. The project was inaugurated by Shri. Roshy Augustine, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala, amidst an august function held at Chaithanya, Thellakom. As part of the project, Digital B. P. Apparatus, Surgical Gown, N95 masks, 500 pulseoximeters and 5 oxygen concentrators were given to hospitals. 1000 families were given Steam inhalers, 500 PPE kits were given away, 1750 families were given food kits. COVID Awareness Programmes were organized and Help Desks were formed.



KSSS distributed COVID prevention drugs of Ayurvedic and homeopathic systems of medicine in the villages of Kaduthuruthy, Piravom, Uzhavoor and Chunkom regions of the Archdiocese of Kottayam



In the context of the stringent COVID lockdown measures, KSSS made arrangements for home-delivery of Essential medicines for differently-abled people who were especially affected. The activity was done in collaboration with Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI) and Nandikunnel Medicals, Ettumanoor under the leadership of volunteers in the COVID task force of KSSS.



KSSS distributed PPE kits and sanitizers for its volunteers and COVID Task force members with the financial support from Church in Need in Germany ACN. The recipients were members of KCYL (Knanaya Catholic Youth League) – a pious organization of the Kottayam Archdiocese for youth – who volunteered in the COVID task force of KSSS for assisting in the burial services of COVID affected victims. The event was inaugurated by Shri. V. N. Vasan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration, Kerala at Chaithanya, Thellakom.

As part of COVID mitigation activities, KSSS in collaboration with Sense International India distributed food kits among 200 families of persons with deafblindness living in the Kottayam and Alappuzha districts. The event was inaugurated by Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The kits contained Rice, sugar, wheat flour, semolina, chickpeas, green gram, mustard, chilli powder, coriander powder, cooking oil and tea powder.





Ultraviolet disinfection technology was installed at Mutholath Auditorium, Cherpunkal to reinforce COVID prevention measures. Shri. V. N. Vasan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration, Kerala inaugurated the event. The new technology which was developed by TICEON-HSE, Chingavanam, Kottayam district was endorsed by the Council of Scientific, and Industrial Research Disinfection and

the Minister handed over the Certificate to Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam in the event. Pureosoul UVC Air Disinfection System which was successfully installed in Mutholath Auditorium was expected to prevent the spread of the COVID virus, bacteria, fungi etc.



5 Pulse oximeters each were distributed in 14 Primary Health Centres of Kottayam district as part of COVID mitigation interventions of KSSS. Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA inaugurated the event organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom.



COVID prevention kits were provided to the volunteers under SUDHIR project being implemented by KSSS in partnership with Kerala Social Service Forum. The project aimed at creating awareness about COVID symptoms, prevention and mitigation measures using virtual media such as whatsapp and phone services. Masks, gloves, faceshields and hand wash were included in the kits.

64 COVID affected needy families in the Archdiocese of Kottayam were given treatment assistance under Samashvasam scheme of KSSS. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Malankara Auxiliary Bishop inaugurated the distribution programme.



Disaster Rehabilitation



Distribution of Emergency Kits under Navajeevan Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Project



Kits containing Life jacket, Torch, First-aid Kit, Rope, Belt, Gloves, Emergency Bag, DRR Standard operating procedures etc. were distributed among the Village DRR Task Force members in order to equip them for emergency intervention in the event of a flood. The activity was part of the DRR Project being implemented by KSSS with the financial support of Caritas India. The function was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom and inaugurated by Shri. Roshy Augustine, Minister for Water Resources, Kerala. In his inaugural speech, he acknowledged that effective execution of disaster risk reduction activities wonderfully served to extend humanitarian concerns, especially to those in distress. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Archbishop of Kottayam presided over the function which was attended by various dignitaries including Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, District Panchayat President, Kottayam, KSSS Ex. Director, Fr. Sunil Perumanoor,

Distribution of Food kits to 600 Flood-affected families

KSSS delivered food kits to 600 flood-affected families from Kumarakam, Aymanam, Arpookara and Athirampuzha Grama panchayaths in tie-up with Oxfam India. The inaugural function was organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom and was inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA. These kits worth Rs. 3000/- consisted of Rice, potato, onion, coconut oil, sugar, salt, tea powder, turmeric powder, chili powder, sunflower oil, semolina, coriander powder, puttu powder, masks, hand wash, bathing soap, laundry soap and sanitary pads. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Malankara Kottayam Archdiocese presided over the function. Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, Kottayam District Panchayath President, Mr. Basab Sarkar, Humanitarian Program Coordinator, Oxfam India,



Relief Support to Flood and Landslide Affected Inhabitants of Kootickal Panchayath

The Kottayam Archdiocese steered a round of relief support to the flood and landslide stricken people of Kootickal in Kottayam district through KSSS. Food kits, COVID preventive kits and cleaning kits



were distributed to the disaster affected population who took refuge in the local relief camps.

Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam led the KSSS Disaster Assessment team including Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Director, KSSS and KSSS personnel to visit the disaster stricken areas of Kootickal, Yendayar, Elangadu, Kavali and Plappally and the local relief camps.

Relief Food Kits to flood victims in collaboration with Emmanuel Hospital Association

KSSS provided relief foodkits to 500 flood affected families of Kottayam district with the financial support of Emmanuel



Hospital Association, New Delhi. The inauguration was done by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA, amidst an august function organized at Chaithanya, Thellakom presided over by Malankara Auxiliary Bishop Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Kottayam Archdiocese. The kits worth Rs. 1000 each consisted of Rice, sugar, wheat flour, chickpeas, green gram, semolina, tea powder, mustard, cooking oil, chilli powder and coriander powder.

Relief kits to 1200 flood and landslide affected families with support of Reliance Foundation



Kottayam Social Service Society partnered with Reliance Foundation to provide assistance to 1200 flood and landslide affected families hailing from Kottayam and Idukki. The distribution of essential kits worth Rs. 2000 each was done in Kokkayar and Peruvanthanam panchayaths of Idukki district and Manimala, Mundakayam, Kanjirapally, Kootickal, Parathode and Chirakadav panchayaths of Kottayam district. Each kit contained mat, bed sheet, nightie, lungi, towel, floor cleaning lotion, mop, bathing soap and laundry soap. The Grama Panchayath Presidents inaugurated the distribution of kits in their respective Panchayaths. The kits were distributed with the cooperation and participation of Grama Panchayath members and volunteers.



Food kits to 500 flood affected families in Kottayam district with support of CBM India Trust

Adv. Mons Joseph MLA inaugurated the distribution of food kits for 500 flood-affected families of Kottayam district at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The kits worth Rs. 1000 each consisted of rice, sugar, wheat flour, chickpeas, green gram, semolina, tea powder, mustard and cooking oil and the project was financially supported by CBM India Trust. Malankara Auxiliary Bishop Geevarghese Mar Aprem presided over the function.



Chaithanya Meadows Housing Project – Laying of Foundation stones for nine new houses



KSSS, in yet another flood rehabilitation initiative of the Kottayam Archdiocese spearheaded the Chaithanya Meadows Housing Project. The foundation stone laying ceremony for 9 new houses was carried out at Karimkunnam in Idukki district where the Housing project is envisaged. Under the second phase of this project, 9 deserving families will be identified and given 5 cents of land each along with Rs. 3 lakhs for construction of houses. Each family will also be getting 3 cents of land for farming subject to terms and conditions. The project is being implemented in 2 acres and 35 cents of land donated by a priest of the Archdiocese of Kottayam name-

ly, Fr. Jacob Kalapurayil. The project is being with the support of the Knanaya Catholic Region of America. The Foundation stones were laid by Mar Joseph Pandarasseril, Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Archdiocese. Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat, Vicar General, Dr. John Chennakuzhi, Chancellor, Fr. Alex Olikkara, Vicar, St. Augustine's Church, Karimkunnam, Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil, Fr. Saiju Mekara and Mr. Biji Pachikara were present at the event. The beneficiary families have been identified from Muttom, Mrala, Karimkunnam, SH Mount, Chunkom, Kozhikode and Manakkad villages.

Blessing and Handing over of Keys of 5 Houses built Chaithanya Meadows Housing Project

The Blessing of the new Houses and Handing over of Keys was done by Mar Joseph Pandarasseril Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese. Amidst the meeting organized as part of the ceremony he said that Housing is one of the basic human needs and through this act of kindness love and care for fellow human beings was manifested in a profound way.





International Women's Day Celebration

'Gender Equality Today For a Sustainable Tomorrow'

International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8th every year with the aim to uphold women's achievements, recognize challenges and focus on the rights of women to celebrate acts of courage and determination by all those women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of any nation. KSSS made the day a memorable one by organizing different programs. The event was inaugurated by Ms. Reshmi Mohan, Jr. Superintendent, Ayarkunnam Panchayath, who received the National Award as the best differently abled employee of Central Social Justice Department from the President of India. Sr. Marini A.C, Director Fathima Giri



Social Service Society, Nilamboor, led the women empowerment seminar held as part of celebration. In addition Women's Arms Wrestling and Fancy Dress competitions were conducted.

Helen Keller Day Observation

Helen Keller Day commemoration was organized on 26 June under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society – the State Learning Centre for Deafblindness in collaboration with Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation. The event was held to remember Helen Keller, an exemplary figure who defeated deafness and blindness and became a model for persons having deafblindness all over the world. The ceremony was inaugurated by Shri T.N.Vasavan, Hon'ble Minister for Cooperation & Registration. In his inaugural address the Minister remarked that there will be many crisis in our lives but we should go ahead as Helen Keller. He added Helen Keller's life should be a model for all of us. The meeting was presided over by Bishop Mar

Mathew Moolakattu Metropolitan Archbishop, Archdiocese of Kottayam in presence of Mr. Thomas Chazhikadan, M.P, Very Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickatt, Vicar General, Kottayam Archdiocese & Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanur, Executive Director K.S.S.S.

During the event, a comprehensive and uplifting program was organized for individuals with disabilities, including the distribution of medical equipment and essential medicines, education kits. Different competitions were organized for the deafblind persons and their parents.

The Best Trainer Award for Parents' was bagged by Mrs. Latha Philip and the prizes for the online competitions held for the deafblind persons were given to the winners in the meeting.



World Water Day Observation

“Water is the driving force of nature”



Water is one of the basic necessities for every living being and we can't even imagine a life without water. We cannot even dream of life without access to safe drinking water. Scarcity of drinking water is the one of the recent threat the state is undergoing. Its high time we need to work on conservation of fresh water otherwise the upcoming generation will be

short of fresh water and health will be adversely affected. To mark the importance of freshwater on March 22nd KSSS observed the Water Day with the stakeholders to create awareness about conservation and management of water resources. The event was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA in the presence of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop,

Kottayam Archdiocese, District Panchayath President Ms. Nirmala Jimmy and other dignitaries. Mr. Rejimon T Chacko led a session on the topic 'Importance of Water Conservation for the future Generations'. Raise awareness about the importance of fresh water and promote the sustainable management of fresh water resources.

Coconut Day Celebration

Kottayam Social Service Society has celebrated Coconut Day. Since years KSSS is giving skill training in coconut climbing and it contributed many youngsters to become self employed. Coconut Day was inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam Archdiocese, in the presence of, District Panchayath President Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy, Kottayam Regional Transport officer Mr. Tojo M Thomas, Kottayam Principal Agricultural officer Director Ms. Beena George etc. As part of the celebrations Coconut Olympics competition was conducted. On this day coconut saplings were distributed to the participants.



Chaithanya Agri Expo and SHG Fest 2021

The 22nd Chaithanya Agri Expo and annual grand fest of the Self Help Group members of KSSS was conducted in a spendid way from December 28 to December 31st, 2021.



Chaithanya Agricultural Fest and Annual SHG Fest is one of the best conducted Agricultural Fests in the central part of Kerala with the collaboration of various government departments. Over the years the Annual SHG Get-



Together has expanded to the status of being considered among the largest Annual SHG Get-Together in Kerala state. People from various parts of the state come to participate in the Chaithanya Karshikamela. This year the Agri fest was conducted as Chaithanya Agri Expo and SHG Fest 2021. Diverse and novel programs have been included in this 22nd Annual SHG fest and it was a forum for get together.

The major attraction of the Fest were Awareness Seminars, Crop Exhibition, Government Department Exhibition Stalls, Agriculture Competitions, Attractive Cultural Events, Exhibition -cum-sales stalls, Traditional Food stall, Amusement Park, Exhibition and Sale of Exotic varieties of plants, animals, birds, fishes, etc, Best Crop Exhibit Competition, Exhibition and Sale of Seeds and Saplings of Fruits and Flower, Exhibition of Ancient Exhibits, Medical Exhibition and Camps, Pet Show, Organic Crop Exhibition, , Quiz Competition, Featuring Asia's Biggest Buffalo Kings, Public Meetings, , SHG Members Cultural Programs, Mega Shows by Cine Artist, Magic Show, Award & Appreciation Function, Coin Collection exhibitions with currency coins from all over the world, Exhibition and Sale, Aquarium and exhibition of variety of fishes which was amazement for the public.



Inauguration of Social Development Programmes of KSSS and presence of prominent personalities in the socio-political religious realms among others enriched the four days of the fest. The Fest is a forum for promoting social harmony and sustainable development irrespective of caste, creed, religion, or economic status.



The 22nd Chaithanya Agri Expo and

Annual SHG Fest from 27th December to 31st December 2021 and each day of the Fest was based on specific themes so as to disseminate specific messages to the public.

Sarga Sangamam Day

The first day of the Fest was observed the Disability Day as ‘Sarga Sangamam Day’. This day was for the persons with disabilities and their families. The day’s celebrations started with flag hoisting by Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary, KSSS. The differently-abled people from different villages of KSSS along with families participated in the program. The day was designed with cultural programs and stage show by the differently abled children and adults. Various agricultural competitions, drawing competitions were conducted and best SHG award was given. This was a platform for the persons with disabilities and their families to exhibit their talents, skills and abilities. The day’s stage cultural programmes were also showcased by SHG of Edackattu region. The Chaithaya Agri Expo and Fest was inaugurated by Hon Minister for Cooperation and Registration Mr.V.N. Vasavan in the presence of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam Archdiocese, Hon Minister for Water Resources Mr. Roshy Augustine, Govt Chief whip Dr.N. Jayaraj, Shri Thomas Chazhikadan M.P, Shri Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA, Adv. Mons Joseph MLA, Adv Sebastian Kulathungal MLA, Adv Job Michael MLA and Kottayam Distict Panchayath President Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy. The day’s stage cultural programmes were showcased by CBR and Edackattu region



Naipuniya Day

(Self Help Group Skill Development Day)

The second day of Karshikamela which was observed as SHG Skills Development Day was inaugurated by Hon Minister for Forests Shri A.K Sasidran in the presence of Dr. Sabu Thomas, Vice Chancellor, M.G University. The entrepreneurial loan mela was inaugurated by Mr. Mani C Kappan MLA, in which Miss Face of India, Anju Krishna Ashok was



the chief guest. KSSS in collaboration with Mutholath Foundations gave away the award for the Best SHG Federation Member. A seminar was held and was led by Dr. Rosamma Soni, Kottayam District Panchayat Member on 'New strategies of strengthening of SHGs'. On the second day of the fest various agricultural, and stage competitions were held. The cultural programmes in the morning and afternoon were showcased by the SHG members of Kaipuzha and Chunkom. The day's programme was closed with Magic show and Musical Comedy show.



Food Security Day

The third day of the fest was observed as Food Security Day and was inaugurated by Shri Jose K Mani M.P in the presence of Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop, Kottayam Arch Dioceses, Shri P.J Joseph MLA, Shri Mathew T. Thomas MLA and Cine artist Ms Megha Mathew. The cultural programmes of the stage were jointly conducted by Kaduthuruthy and Uzhavoor regions. Other than the agricultural and stage competitions, Mutholath Foundation Award for the Best SHG was presented. Magic show and Musical Comedy show was conducted.



Karshaka Sangamam (Farmers Get together Day)

The last day was observed as Farmer's Gettogether Day. The cultural stage shows was collaborately conducted by the SHG members of Kidgangoor and Malankara Regions. The day started with cultural stage programmes of SHG from Kidgangoor region and was followed by Seminar on 'The Need of Organic Farming Practices to Ensure Food Security' by Dr. Bindu V.S, Asst. Professor, K.V.K. Valedictory function of the Chaithanya Agri Expo and SHG Fest held on 31st December was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister for Transport Mr. Antony Raju, in the presence of Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop, Kottayam Archdiocese, Mr. Anto Antony M.P, Dean Kuriakose M.P, Mons Joseph MLA and Smt. P.K Jayashree IAS. The other special programmes were Cinematic dance competitions and Mega show by Cine Artist. The closure of the day witnessed the lucky dip for the winners of the Karshikamela Coupon. People from various partBys of the state come to participate in the Fest. Thus 22nd Chaithanya Agri Expo and SHG Fest this year also proved it was a people's movement - organized, driven and celebrated by the people.



Exhibition of India's largest Bull – 'Commando'

The special attraction of this year's Fest was exhibition of 'Commando', the largest bull of India with 2000 Kg weight. Public from various districts of Kerala gathered at Chaithanya to have a glance of Commando. This giant big bull was brought from Paravoor .



Kottayam Social Service Society

Balance Sheet

Opening Balance as on 01.04.2021	Liabilities	Additions /Deductions	Closing balance as on 31.03.2022
31536612	Capital Account		
	Less excess of expenditure over income	-8114818.79	23,421,793.21
113841819	Corpus donation received		113,841,819.00
50000	Staff welfare fund		50,000.00
17675180	Jeevakaruniya nidhi Funded	-933000	16,742,180.00
225000	Karshaka Award fund	-25000	200,000.00
	Current Liabilities		
6807957	Project Money Pending Utilization(FC)	-218654.19	6,589,302.81
3587768	Loans, Advances, Expenses payables		3,587,768.00
	Loan from KSBCDC for Micro Credit to Backward and Minority	7162251	10,864,027.00
177,426,112.00	Total		175,296,890.02
Opening Balance as on 01.04.2021	ASSETS	Additions/ Deductions	Closeing balance as on 31.03.2022
108244775	Fixed Assets	-5000	108239775
	Current Assets		
77800	Deposits for services		77800
8711176	Loans & Advances Given	-697900	8013276
3731000	Micro Credit Loans to SHGS	5171450	8902450
725750	Income tax TDS refundable	158746	
	Less-Refund Received	-347480	537016
467960	Advance -Granny Grandad Scheme		467960
118000	Income Tax Appeal deposit		118000
2251667	Houseing Scheme -Excess of Expenditure		2251667
1738907	Advance to Agape Center Cherpunkal	-178256	
	Less Excess Of Expenditure	-221231.07	1339419.93
13771026	Advance to SRC -Cherpunkal	-900000	
	Less -Excess of Expenditure	-111499.64	12759526.36
392125	Advance -Suppliers & Individuals		116492
	Cash & Bank Balance		
25735248	Fixed Deposit		26949207
11382917	Bank A/c		5441862.73
77761	Cash		82438
177,426,112.00	Total		175,296,890.02

Kottayam Social Service Society

Income & Expenditure Statement

Project Donations & Exp		
Covid-19 Relief Projects		
Relief Activities -Give to Asia	3671500	3671500
Relief Activities -General	100000	962000
Kit Distribution and livelihood Aid	485000	421960
Relief Activities -Diocese of Fruburg	418831	418831
Sustainable Livelihood-Lacim	338760	171500
Oxygen Concentrator Distribution,PPE Kit,Pulse oximeter & Steam Inhaler	330000	827942
Medicine and Mobile phone distribution-Poor students	300724	365545
Relief Activities -Care and Share	284298	284298.8
Relief Activities -IGP aid Poultry	229008	227496
Relief Activities -Yum Reasturant	200000	200000
Food kit distribution-sense international	155880	144700
Relief Activities -CBM India	99200	99560
Housing aid project	6890983	4847925
Deaf blind project(Sense International)	1828736	1892662
Holistic development of DB Children(Kindermission)	1512013	300000
Income Generation Programme-Workshop running	1313225	1387064
Donation for Charitable Activities	1066728.25	
Yuvakerala project Grant & Expenses	60000	616698
CBR Programme for children and youngsters	48059	30212
Other Social & Rural Development Programmes	4016222.38	5473156
Administrative Income & Expense	2236181	4262320.1
DDUGKY Project expense		1029791
DDUGKY Project Grant Refund to Govt		5950930
Samaritan Resorce Center Income &Expense	1799841	1911340.64
Agape Bhaven Income &Expense	619549.5	631440.57
Opening Stock as on 01.04.2021		998310
Closing Stock as on 31.03.2022	788970	
FC Project money to be utilized transfer from balance sheet	218654.19	
Excess of Expenditure over Income	8114818.79	

Research & Documentation

The collage consists of the following posters and graphics:

- Top Left:** KSSS poster for ration kit distribution, mentioning '100' and '100th Anniversary'.
- Top Right:** 'RATION KIT DISTRIBUTION COVID-19' poster supported by Give India and Sense International India.
- Second Row Left:** 'Give2Asia COVID 19 SECOND WAVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE 2021 FOOD KIT DISTRIBUTION' poster implemented by KSSS.
- Second Row Middle:** 'മൊബൈൽ പോൺ ചലഞ്ച് പദ്ധതി' (Mobile Phone Challenge Initiative) poster.
- Second Row Right:** 'ASHAKIRANAM ICALL' poster for cancer care, featuring a woman on a phone.
- Third Row Left:** 'ആരോഗ്യദിനാചരണം 2021' (Health Day 2021) poster.
- Third Row Middle:** 'WORLD CANCER DAY' poster for February 4th, with a purple ribbon.
- Third Row Right:** 'Remembrance' poster for 'MGR. AUGUSTINE KANDATHIL'.
- Fourth Row Left:** '100 കൂടുംബങ്ങൾക്കായുള്ള കോഴി വളർത്തൽ യൂണിറ്റുകളുടെ വിതരണോദ്ഘാടനം' (Distribution of chicken rearing units for 100 families) poster.
- Fourth Row Middle:** 'KSSS' poster for 'കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിന് ആയുർവ്വേദം - ഹോമിയോ പ്രതിരോധ മരുന്നുകളുമായി' (Ayurveda and Homeopathy for COVID-19 prevention).
- Fourth Row Right:** 'Oxygen Concentrator Distribution' poster for COVID-19 emergency response.
- Fifth Row Left:** '25 വനിതകൾക്കായുള്ള തയ്യൽ മെഷീൻ യൂണിറ്റുകളുടെ വിതരണോദ്ഘാടനം' (Distribution of sewing machine units for 25 women) poster.
- Fifth Row Middle:** 'MISSION COVID 19 DRY RATION KIT DISTRIBUTION' poster supported by PIZZA HUT.
- Fifth Row Right:** 'Inclusive Flood Response in Kerala State 2021' poster for 'DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD KIT' supported by CBM India Trust.
- Sixth Row Left:** 'WORLD CANCER DAY' poster for February 4th, featuring a purple ribbon.
- Sixth Row Middle:** 'KSSS' poster for 'പ്രവർത്തന മാർഗ്ഗരേഖ പ്രകാരം' (According to the Operational Manual).
- Sixth Row Right:** 'EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES' poster for 10th September 2021.
- Seventh Row Left:** 'CORONA EMERGENCY HELP DISTRIBUTION OF MASKS & SANITIZER' poster supported by ACN International.
- Seventh Row Middle:** 'PUREOSOUL UVC AIR Disinfection SYSTEM' poster.
- Seventh Row Right:** 'LIVE' poster for 'കുടുംബശ്രീ' (Kudumbashree) with a woman's image.
- Eighth Row Left:** 'പുറമെ സ്മരണ സമർപ്പണം' (External Memorial Dedication) poster.
- Eighth Row Middle:** 'പുറമെ സ്മരണ സമർപ്പണം' (External Memorial Dedication) poster with a woman's image.
- Eighth Row Right:** 'പുറമെ സ്മരണ സമർപ്പണം' (External Memorial Dedication) poster with a woman's image.

Thanks Giving

As we come to the close of a remarkable year of restoration, our hearts overflow with gratitude for the tremendous support and cooperation we have received. We are truly humbled and deeply grateful for the unwavering assistance provided by well-wishers, funding agencies, and generous donors who have contributed to our efforts in flood and COVID-19 relief and rehabilitation. Despite the numerous challenges posed by these disasters and

the post-pandemic situation, KSSS has been able to extend its services to those in distress. We want to express our sincere and profound thanks to all the individuals who have supported us and allowed us to play an active role in weaving this beautiful picture of humanitarian action. Your support has been instrumental in our round-the-clock efforts.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to God Almighty for His constant love and care towards KSSS, which has enabled us to deliver meaningful assistance to individuals and families in distress. It is through His grace that we have persevered in our mission.

In conclusion, thanking all once again and requesting prayers and cooperation for all KSSS endeavours as we steadfastly strive towards achieving a just and peaceful society. With profound appreciation and unwavering hope, we look forward to the journey ahead.

Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil
(Asst. Director, KSSS)

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OF INDIA



NABARD



Give2Asia

sense
International
INDIA

SAVE A FAMILY PLAN
IN INDIA SINCE 1965
PARTNERING WITH THE POOR
FOR A JUST WORLD

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KERALA
ENERGY
MANAGEMENT
CENTRE KERALA

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BANK

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open the world
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with a disability

STITCHING
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DDU-GKY
Empowering India - Powering the World



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KINDERMISSIONS
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NAI ROSHNI



VISITATION
GENERALATE



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Reliance
Foundation

Azim Premji
Foundation

SBI
State Bank Of India

STATE BANK
OF INDIA

YUVA
KERALAM
A KUDUMBASHREE SKILLING INITIATIVE

AGAPE
MOVEMENT

KSSF

LACIM
Les Amis d'un Coin de l'Inde et du Monde

Thanks to Our Partners



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ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

**KOTTAYAM SOCIAL
SERVICE SOCIETY**



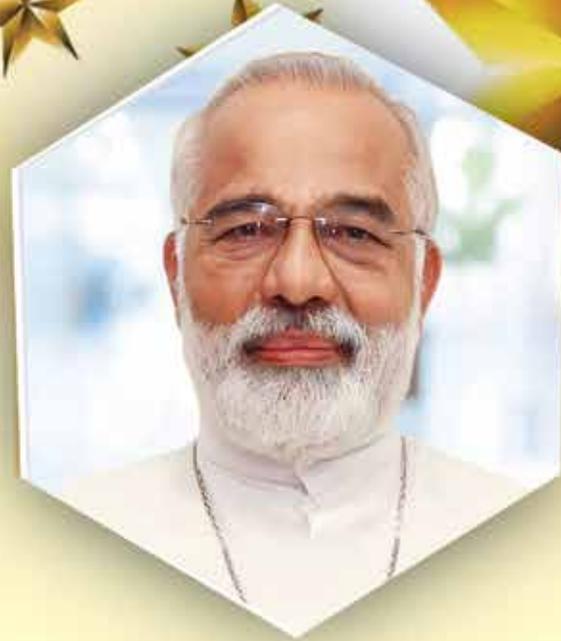
KSSS ANNUAL Report 2022-23



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PATRON MESSAGE



“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10). As we reflect upon the milestones achieved in the past year, I am filled with gratitude for your unwavering commitment to our cause. In the aftermath of the Covid pandemic, our NGO – KSSS – faced unprecedented challenges in delivering essential services to our communities. I feel honored and privileged as a Patron of Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) that it is doing wellbeing a non-political and non profitable organization. As we all know that, the annual report is a testament to the collective efforts that have empowered individuals, uplifted families, and fostered sustainable development.

The collaborative efforts with state, national and international agencies during the post Covid era gave us new opportunities. Through collaborations, we have worked towards rebuilding communities, strengthening healthcare systems, and promoting sustainable solutions that extend beyond the immediate aftermath of the pandemic. Being a development partner, it has ventured to promote an intellectual society that is based on values of humanity and social justice, exchanges and

acceptance of ideas and stand against prejudice and suspicions. There is no denying the fact that KSSS has an appropriate plan of action and a team of experts who have a multi-disciplinary approach for achieving their assigned targets.

I am satisfied that along with my President and administrative team, we were able to promote a friendly atmosphere and a peaceful society through action, dialogue, debates and discussions amongst the various communities and religious groups. I sincerely appreciate Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor and his team for their selfless service going beyond the boundaries of caste and creed. As a Patron, I am proud to be associated with this NGO that not only dreams of a better world but actively works towards turning those dreams to reality. We look forward to continued cooperation with state – national – international organizations in shaping a more resilient and inclusive future. Once again, congratulations on a stellar annual report. May your continued success serve as an inspiration to others and propel your organization to even greater heights.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Mar Mathew Moolakkatt
Metropolitan Archbishop
of Kottayam



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MESSAGE

As we approach the culmination of another impactful year at KOTTAYAM SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY, it's time to reflect on our achievements, challenges, and the transformative work we've undertaken together. Winston Churchill once said that "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) started its work in 1964 as the Archdiocesan organization for development concerns. Since then the organization has come a long way. The annual report serves as a crucial tool to communicate our progress, engage stakeholders, and inspire continued support.

Our operational areas consist of the geographical areas of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha districts of Kerala state. Our work among communities has resulted into strengthened and capacitated people in terms of information and knowledge. We make the people aware about their own strengths and qualities. It has been a joy to KSSS to form, strengthen, and facilitate members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) of citizens to become self reliant.

We conducted our 23rd 'Chaithanya Karshika Mela', it is our annual meet up of Self Help Groups of KSSS and farm fest. It is also a platform for farmers to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and access the latest advancements in agriculture. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, fostering a sense of community and empowerment among our farmers. Self – Help Groups (SHGs) are the catalyst for positive change, creating a ripple effect of economic upliftment within our community.

Jubilee celebration of our CBR was our one of the main event in this year. Community – Based Rehabilitation providing essential support and services to individuals with diverse needs. Agape Bhavan of KSSS gave its services to mentally retarded children and their families. Whereas Good Samaritan Resource Centre at Cherpunkal gave special attention to people with deaf and blind. KSSS also runs day care centers in Kumarakom and Kaippuzha region. These centers served as safe havens, nurturing the well-being of individuals of all ages and abilities; especially it is focused children and adolescents. It provides some vocational training for them which leads to more compassionate and resilient community.

As the Executive Secretary of KSSS, I am proud to say that my office and field team has worked with full dedication, sincerity and honesty. Let's aim for a document that not only informs but also inspires, capturing the spirit of collaboration that defines our NGO. By addressing pressing social issues, we strive to build a foundation for a more equitable and harmonious society. We are fully aware that we are not alone in our efforts to uplift the marginalized and the economically backward people. The backbone of KSSS is our development partners, the General Body, the Archbishop of Kottayam, SHG members, Federations, Volunteers and well-wishers.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I eagerly anticipate another year of shared accomplishments. Together we can create a report that resonates with our community and fortifies our mission.

Best Regards

Fr. Sunil Perumanoor

Executive Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Very Rev. Fr. Michael Vettickat
President



Fr. Sunil Perumanoor
Executive Secretary



Rev Fr. Sijo Aalparayil
Asst. Secretary



Sr. Sheeba SVM
Treasurer



Dr. K. J. Joseph
Member

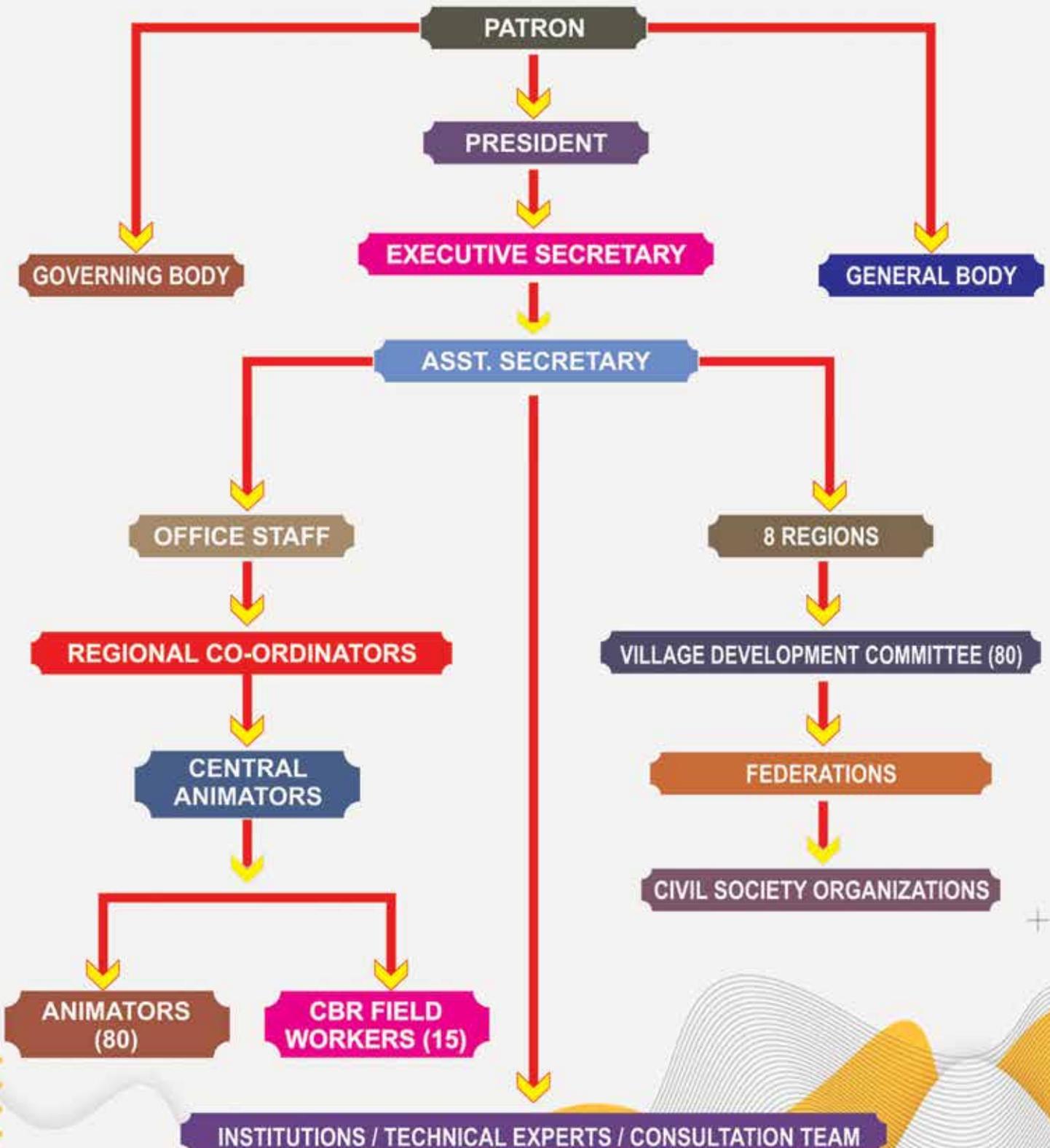


Mr. Johnny K. M.
Member



Mrs. Ancy Philip
Member

KSSSS OrgChart



Vision

Establishment of a just society where all enjoy equality, fraternity, peace, and happiness

Mission

To motivate and empower the backward to accelerate their own development so that they decide their own destiny and they live with dignity

Objectives

Facilitate sustainable management and use of the natural resource ensuring co-existence of man and nature

Facilitate empowerment and sustainable development of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society

Develop capacities and skills of the poor and the marginalized for generating sustainable livelihoods and means of subsistence

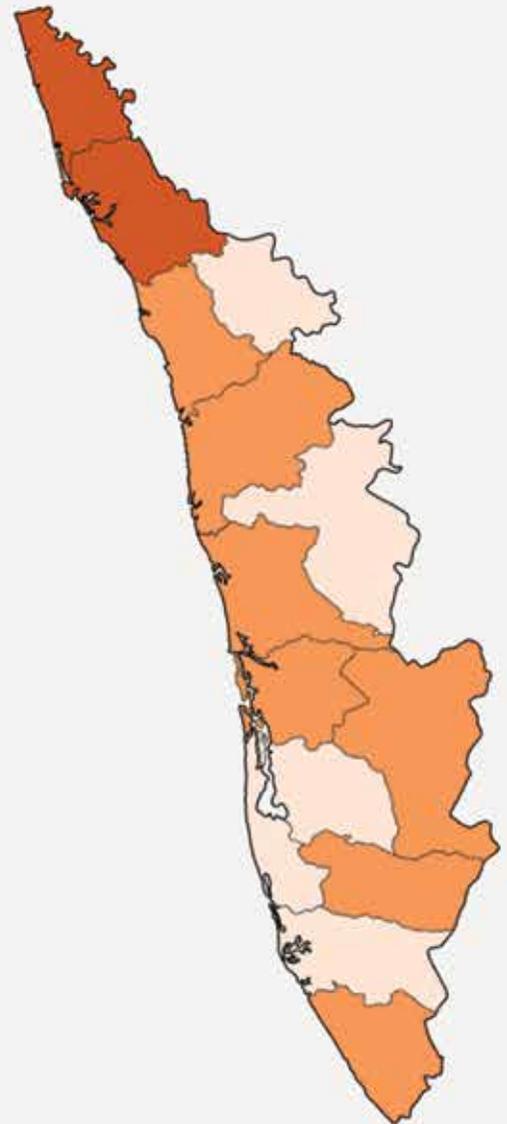
Promote the use of non-conventional energy sources through the propagation of eco-friendly and appropriate rural technologies

Promote and establish functional networking and resource sharing among the stakeholders and actors in development

Rehabilitate the victims of natural and man-made calamities and of the Persons with Disabilities

SILHOUETTE

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) is a registered charitable organization (Reg. K-15/1964) under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies' Registration Act XII of 1955. The organization was registered in the year 1964 by the Archdiocese for delivering its social ministry. The activities of KSSS are spread mainly in the five districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Alappuzha and athanamthitta covering 80 rural villages. The main focus of the organization is the empowerment and improvement in the quality of the poor and other vulnerable sections in society. It has now completed five decades of dedicated services in the development sector and has a rich experience in facilitating capacity building, community health, promotion of grass-roots level organizations, watershed development and other community level organizations for social change and transformation. More than 56000 families are directly linked with the organization through its network of Community Based Organizations.



AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT & ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

K.S.S.S initiates 'Njangalum Krishiyilekku' Project



Agriculture impacts society in many ways, including, supporting livelihoods through food, habitat and jobs; providing raw materials for food and other products; and building strong economics through trade. As part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, KSSS in collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Development and Farmers' Welfare is implementing the Njangalum Krishiyilekku project. The Minister of Agriculture, Shri. P. Prasad, inaugurated the program by planting a vegetable sapling at Chaithanya Pastoral Center, thereby extending the ongoing farm management activities at KSSS.

As a component of the project, a farm model will be maintained on the premises of Chaithanya. Additionally, the Kottayam Social Service Society is eager to implement the project through the KSSS Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of farmers from the districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, and Ernakulam.

Those present during the event included Sri Subhash T. V., IAS, Director of the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department; Smt. Soniya V. R. and Sri. George Sebastian, Additional Directors of the Agriculture Department; Mr. Sunil Kumar, Principal Information Officer Farm Information Bureau; Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil, Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Beena George, Principal Agricultural Officer, along with the Minister.

Kitchen Garden Extension Project of KSSS

With the aim of ensuring food security along with the production of organic vegetables, Kottayam Social Service Society has started a kitchen garden extension project. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam has inaugurated the project at a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. As part of the project, about 2500 families were provided units containing grow bags along with seeds of



various types of vegetables like tomato, green chili, lentil, spinach etc. This project also aims to increase the cultivation area for home-grown produce, enhancing self-sustainability.



Farmer's Day Observations and Honoring Of Exemplary Farmers

"A farmer is a magician who produces money from the mud." -Amit Kalantri

A day of honor is very much deserved to all of the hard-working farmers. Every year farmer's day is celebrated in Kerala on August 17th to pay tribute to all the farmers' through-out the state. Both Men and Women farmers from KSSS Self-help Groups united together at Kottayam Social Service Society on the special event to observe Farmer's day. This Day which is considered as New Year Day according to the Malayalam Calendar is an auspicious occasion, especially for farmers as it demarcates the beginning of a season for farming. Shri. V. N. Vasavan, Minister for Co-operation and Registration inaugurated the event during which Mr. George Joseph from Kidangoor region, Mr. Lancy Kurian from Edackat region, Mr. Baby Xaviour from Malankara region, Mr. Anil Kumar MP from Uzhavoor region and Mr. Joy Mundackal from Kaduthuruthy region selected exemplary farmers from SHGs

were honored. The Key note address was delivered by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, MLA. Other dignitaries who graced the occasion included Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy (Panchayat President, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Fr. Cyriac Ottapallil (Asst. Secretary, KSSS), Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat), Smt. Bincy Sebastian (Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam), Smt. Lovely George (Chairperson, Ettumanoor Municipality), Dr. Rosamma Sony (Member, Kottayam District Panchayat), Sri. James Kurian (Vice President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat), Smt. Alice Joseph (Vice President, Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat), Sri. Sabu Mathew (Municipal Counselor, Kottayam) and Adv. Nidhin Pullukadan (Government Pleader).

On this day, a seminar was led by Mrs. Smt. Sherly Zacharias, Assistant Director of Kottayam District Soil Testing Laboratory. Moreover, farmers competed enthusiastically in the arecanut leaf cap making competition arranged as part of the event. The first position was bagged by Mr. Rajan P.R. (Uzhavoor village), second by Mr. Baiju Kurian (Edackat village) and third by Mr. Baby Xavier (Malankara village). Banana seeds were distributed to all the farmers.

'Empowering Rural Livelihoods: Financial Support for Sustainable Goat Farming'

KSSS in collaboration with LACIM France, KSSS is proud to launch the initiative, providing financial assistance for goat farming among Self-Help Group (SHG) members. Shri Saji Thadathil, President - Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat has inaugurated the function. Recognizing the invaluable expertise and support from KSSS partners at LACIM France, this joint effort aims to blend international collaboration with grassroots empowerment. Through this unique initiative, KSSS strive to not only enhance the economic prospects of SHG members but also promote sustainable agricultural practices in goat farming. By combining the local knowledge and commitment of KSSS with the global perspective and assistance from LACIM France, KSSS aspire to create a synergistic impact that fosters economic resilience, community development, and cross-cultural exchange.



'Coins to Commerce'

Embarking on a small scale business journey requires astute financial planning. KSSS offering a roadmap for turning entrepreneurial dreams into reality and guiding aspiring entrepreneurs toward prosperity. Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese, Mar Joseph Pandarasseril has inaugurated the function and distributed the money to the beneficiaries. Funding was made available for undertaking various entrepreneurship schemes like, goat farm, cow farm, confectionary manufacturing unit, tailoring unit, poultry farm, collective farm etc.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KSSS Environmental Day: Honoring Activists and Raising Awareness for a Healthier Planet”



Environment day, celebrated globally serves as a crucial annual event to raise awareness about environmental issues and advocate for positive change. KSSS organized an awareness program and honoured environmental activists. Environmental activists are at the forefront of this battle for a healthier planet. Shri. V N Vasavan, Minister of Cooperation – Registration, has inaugurated the function and honoured six environmental activists

(Dr. Jayakumar T K, Dr. Punnen Kurian Venkedath, Prof. S Shivadas, Prof. Dr Jomy Augustin, Dr. Jacob George Ozthathil and K. Binu) in Kottayam district. More than 700 participants from Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam districts were attended the seminar and function. KSSS also provided them with vegetable seeds and other kits.

‘Green Horizons: Empowering Eco-Friendly Lifestyles’

As delve into sustainable practices, environmental awareness and the promotion of a greener future, Kottayam Social Service Society has organized three-day camp on the theme of eco-friendly approaches and lifestyle promotion. The concluding session of the three-day camp jointly organized by the Indian Council of Social Welfare, Kerala and KSSS at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre in collaboration with the US Embassy in India. Adv. Mons Joseph MLA inaugurated the camp. As part of the camp, experts conducted classes on eco-friendly approaches, green audit and role of volunteers



in eco-friendly activities. About 50 representatives from various organizations participated in the study camp.

'Empower Tomorrow: Illuminating the Path to Sustainable Energy with the Energy Management Centre'

The awareness session conducted by KSSS, that seeks to shed light on the critical need for power saving and its profound importance in building a sustainable future. Shri. Saji Thadathil, President of Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat has inaugurated the session. Through this session, participants will gain valuable insights into the current energy landscape, understanding consumption patterns, and the environmental impact of our energy choices. Collaborating with the Urja Kiran 2022 Project of Energy Management Centre, KSSS aim to explore practical and innovative ways to optimize energy use in homes, workplaces, and communities. The session will emphasize the power of conservation, showcasing how small, mindful actions can lead to significant energy savings and a reduced carbon footprint.



Energy Conservation Awareness Campaign



To create awareness among the general public and equip them for efficient management of energy, to promote energy efficiency and energy conservation, KSSS organized Energy Conservation Awareness Program in association with Energy Management Centre, Kerala and Centre for Environment and Development at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The sensitization program was inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS). Fr. Sijo Aalpparayil (Asst. Secretary, KSSS) and Sri. Alice George (Grama Panchayat Vice President, Athirampuzha) graced the occasion with their presence. The session was led by Mrs. Jayamol Jacob Chembola (Resource Person, Energy Management Centre, Kerala).

Urjakiran Awareness Campaign



KSSS in association with the Energy Management Center (EMC), Kerala conducted 'Urja Kiran' energy conservation awareness campaign. The campaign took place at the Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom and was inaugurated by Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor

Block Panchayat.) Participants were provided with leaflets on energy conservation. The session was conducted by Jayamol Jacob Chembola (Resource Person, Energy Management Centre, Kerala). Around 100 people actively participated in the campaign.

HUMAN AND INSTITUTION DEVELOPMENT

Employment Scheme for Rural Youth under DDU-GKY Project of KSSS

Kottayam Social Service Society ensures job opportunities along with quality skill training for rural youth under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY project). The project implemented with the support of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and Kerala Government Kudumbashree Mission has successfully completed two batches in Sales Person Retail. Out of 32 total number of students, 28 students were placed. The training is being conducted at Good Samaritan Resource Centre, Cherpunkal. The placement cell of DDU-GKY project ensured job opportunities to the 240 students who completed retail course. The three month course is being provided totally free and those who successfully completed the course would get placed.

Yuvakeralam is a placement linked Skill Training program funded by Govt. of Kerala implemented through Kudumbasree Mission. The project aims to impart placement linked skill training to Kerala's 10,000 youth; the youth of Kerala economically independent and global relevant work force. Yuvakeralam Project



component under Athijeevanam Keraliyam Scheme that was announced by Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan on 27 August 2020. The state govt. has sanctioned around Rs. 60 crores for this scheme. In this Yuvakeralam Project component, the beneficiaries would be members of poor families between the age group of 18 to 35 years. However, people from Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Differently Abled (PH) category can join up to the age of 45 years. The Yuva Kerala Project plan includes 100% free training, travel, accommodation, meals, uniforms, post-placement support, counselling and tracking for a duration of 1 year.

KSSS ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEET

The Annual General Body Meeting was summoned by Mar Mathew Moolakkat, Patron of KSSS and Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. In all 21 members participated in the meeting. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor briefed the status of various ongoing projects including the audit report. An evaluation of the activities carried out by KSSS during the previous year and the future action plan was discussed.



FIELD WORK AND BLOCK PLACEMENT OF SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS

KSSS facilitates opportunities for Fieldwork and Block Placement of Social Work students from various colleges. KSSS expands the opportunities for students to have an in-depth learning experience in diverse settings and to involve in community development projects for the welfare of society. In the year 2022 - 2023, Block Placement/Field work - Internship Services were extended to 123 students from various educational institutions from in and out of Kerala especially from Social Work Colleges and Law colleges.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

KSSS periodically organizes training for animators, fieldworkers, federation members, SHG Leaders, Village Development Committees members etc, to update them with skills and knowledge required to discharge their duties and responsibilities efficiently. The training focuses on instilling the vision of the SHG programme and imparting knowledge about SHG concepts and facilitation skills. It empowers them and trains them on conducting various developmental activities, maintaining various books, financial transactions etc.

The new animators who join KSSS in between are trained to acquaint them with the organization, its salient features, SHG concept and its working systems etc. These animators are responsible for facilitating rural SHG members to be dynamic, ensuring their participation and motivating them to take up Income Generation activities.

Legal Awareness Program for KSSS Staff Members & Volunteers



Legal awareness is very inevitable for a citizen and crucial as it empowers individuals to understand their rights, navigate the legal system, and make informed decisions. KSSS organized a program for legal awareness for the members and volunteers of KSSS. It mainly focused on POCSO Act and its relevance in the society. Smt. Lovely George, Chairperson - Ettumanoor Municipality has inaugurated the function at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. Sr. Adv. Jyothis P Thomas, Member – Child Welfare Committee Kottayam, has took over the session. The session fosters a just society by promoting accountability, safeguarding rights, and preventing legal injustices through informed citizenry.

'Empowering Women: Navigating Legal Safeguards and Protections'



KSSS has organized a legal awareness program for women with the collaboration of Service Providing Centre, which is working with Social Justice Department. Dr. Prof Rosamma Sony, Member – Kottayam District Panchayat, has inaugurated the meeting of legal awareness seminar organized for Anganwadi teachers under Ettumanoor Municipality. The session led by Smt. Leebamol T Rajan, Legal Advisor, KSSS. The seminar aims to enlighten participants on legal frameworks designed for the protection and empowerment of women. Through the Service Providing Centre, KSSS has providing free legal aid and counseling services for women.

'Swasraya Mithra 2022: Leadership Training and Strategic Action Planning for Sustainable Community Growth'



Swasraya Mithra 2022 was a comprehensive leadership training program designed for Self-Help Group (SHG) members, focusing on equipping participants with essential skills for effective leadership. Shri. Roshy Augustin, Minister of Irrigation has inaugurated the program. The

program emphasizes the formation of new action plans, fostering strategic thinking and collaborative initiatives within SHGs. Through this initiative, KSSS aim to empower communities, fostering sustainable growth and development.

Legal Awareness Campaign



KSSS, in collaboration with Caritas College of Nursing and Little Lourdes College of Nursing, Kidangoor organized a legal awareness seminar with the objective of creating a secure environment for children, protecting them from violence and discrimination at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The inauguration of the seminar was presided over by Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy, President of Kottayam District Panchayat. The seminar delved into subjects such as the POCSO Act, violence against children, and child protection laws, with Sr. Adv. Jyothis P. Thomas, a former member of the Child Welfare Committee, serving as the lead speaker. A total of 40 students participated in the program.

Sajeevam Anti-Drug Campaign



KSSS in partnership with Caritas India KCBC and the Kerala Social Service Forum, a Sajeevam Anti-Drug Campaign was conducted. The campaign was officially inaugurated by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam and Shri. C. John, Deputy Superintendent of Police (Narcotic Cell, Kottayam). As part of the campaign, participants pledged against drug use. Additionally, Mr. Shaiju Mathew Kochupadapurackal was recognized for his heroic act of saving a child from drowning during the KSBC Pro-life day. The primary objective of the campaign was to establish an Anti-Drug Task Force through the awareness program.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMMES

'Mazhakuda' Health Awareness Campaign of KSSS



'Mazhakuda' was an awareness session about the monsoon diseases, which conducted by Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS). Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP inaugurated the awareness campaign organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Kottayam has presided over the meeting. Shri James C J, District Deputy Education Media Officer, took the seminar on monsoon diseases and its preventive measures in connection with the awareness campaign. By promoting awareness, communities can adopt proactive measures to mitigate the impact of monsoon - related diseases and safeguard public health.

"Karkidaka Kanjikkoottu: Empowering SHGs with Nutrient-Rich Food Kits for Sustenance and Growth"

KSSS for the past ten years has been distributing Karkidaka Kanji kit among SHG members. This has especially helped the senior members of the group in rejuvenating themselves. This year also, KSSS continued with the practice. The distribution of food kits during the monsoon period holds significant importance for Self-Help Group (SHG) members - in Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam districts - aiming to empower and support them during challenging weather conditions. President - Kottayam District Panchayat, Smt. Nirmala Jimmy has inaugurated the func-

Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign



Breast Cancer Awareness Month has been celebrated every October since the nineties. It is called 'Pink October' as people around the world adopt the pink color and display a pink ribbon to raise awareness about breast health. In this context, KSSS in collaboration with Caritas Hospital organized Breast Cancer awareness campaign at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) inaugurated the program. Dr. Sharon Raj, a Senior Specialist from the Community Medicine Department at Caritas Hospital conducted the session.



tion. The initiative of KSSS, successfully addressed the nutritional needs of SHG members during a critical period, fostering community strength and resilience. The collaborative efforts of stakeholders and the active participation of SHG leaders contributed to the success of the program.

Cancer Day Celebration

In the spirit of compassion and resilience, the Ashakiranam Project of KSSS in collaboration with Caritas India, is set to illuminate the journey of those affected by cancer on the special Cancer Day celebration. Shri V N Vasavan, Minister of Registration & Cooperation has inaugurated the function. The initiative not only commemorates the strength and courage of individuals facing cancer but also marks a significant milestone in the ongoing commitment to providing crucial treatment assistance. Together, these two organizations stand as beacons of support, extending a compassionate hand to those in need. Through a combination of awareness, advocacy,



and assistance programs, it aims to spread awareness about cancer prevention, early detection, and the importance of emotional support throughout the treatment journey.

Cancer Awareness and Free Medical Camp



In collaboration with Caritas Hospital, KSSS organized a Cervical Cancer Awareness and Medical Camp at St. Michael Church Hall, Veliyanad. The inauguration ceremony was presided over by Mrs. M. V. Priya, the

Chairman of the Panchayat Educational Standing Committee. The medical camp featured the expertise of Dr. Sunny George from the Gastroenterology department, Dr. Maria from the Cardiology department, Dr. Sharon Raj from the Community Medicine Department and Dr. Zayana from the Neurology Department. Alongside the camp, complimentary check-ups for ECG, ECO, blood pressure, and sugar were provided, accompanied by the distribution of medicines.

Healthcare Harmony; A Medical Camp for Migrant Workers by KSSS (1st Batch)



In a heartfelt endeavour to address the healthcare needs of our unsung heroes, KSSS organized a poignant initiative for migrant workers. This impactful medical camp was specifically tailored for migrant workers, acknowledging the unique challenges they face. Project Manager of Kottayam District AIDS Control Society, Sri. Baiju Janardhanan has inaugurated the program. The event aimed not only to provide essential medical services but also to create an atmosphere of empathy and understanding. Dedicated healthcare professionals volunteered their expertise, offering a range of services from basic check-ups to specialized consultations. Through this noble undertaking, KSSS not only addressed immediate health concerns but also emphasized the importance of compassion and solidarity in ensuring the holistic well-being of our resilient migrant workers.

'Hygiene Kits Distribution and Empowerment Session for Differently-abled Families'



The program focused on the distribution of hygiene kits tailored to meet the specific requirements of individuals with diverse abilities. Beyond the provision of essential hygiene supplies, the initiative of KSSS went a step further by incorporating comprehensive awareness sessions. Shri. Saji Thadathil, President - Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat has inaugurated the program. These sessions were designed to empower families with knowledge and skills to navigate the challenges associated with maintaining hygiene for differently-abled members. Through the program KSSS aimed not only to provide tangible support but also to foster a sense of community, understanding, and resilience among these families, reinforcing the belief that everyone deserves access to resources that enhance their overall well-being.

Medical Camp and Awareness Program for Migrant Workers (4th Batch)



KSSS led a significant portion of the COVID prevention efforts for the Archdiocese of Kottayam in collaboration with Caritas India, the social service arm of the CBCI (Catholic Bishops' Conference of India). An awareness class was conducted for migrant workers in the Kottayam district. Approximately 75 migrant guest workers received free medicines as a crucial component of the campaign.

'Empathy in Action: Nurturing Social Awareness in Nursing Students'



KSSS conducted an awareness session for nursing students from Mar Sleeva College of Nursing, Cherpunkal. The program was inaugurated by Shri. V N Vasavan, Minister of registration & Cooperation. It embarks on a transformative journey with aspiring nurses. Beyond the clinical skills and medical knowledge, we delve into the profound importance of social awareness in healthcare especially in the case of differently-abled people. This unique program equips students with the tools to understand and address the diverse social determinants that impact health outcomes. Through interactive sessions, case studies, and real-world scenarios, KSSS fosters a deep sense of empathy and cultural competence. Our goal is to empower the next generation of healthcare professionals to not only heal bodies but also uplift communities.

Medical camp and Awareness Program for Migrant Workers (3rd Batch)

In collaboration with Caritas India, Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) arranged a Medical Camp and awareness program for migrant workers at KN construction site in Athirampuzha as part of post - COVID activities. The inauguration of the



program was conducted by Mr. Baiju Janardhanan (Project Manager of Kerala AIDS Control Society in Kottayam). The camp included complimentary check-ups and the distribution of medicines. Around 100 migrant workers attended the camp.

COVID 19 PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT

Loan Mela for Budding Entrepreneurs

With the aim of providing passive income opportunities along with Covid survival, loan distribution for Entrepreneurs being conducted



by KSSS in collaboration with Kerala State Backward Development Corporation was carried out at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. The program was inaugurated by Shri. V. N Vasavan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration. An amount of Rs. 50 lakhs was

made available under the scheme being implemented as per the rules and regulations of Kerala State Backward Development Corporation.

Empowering Migrant Workers through COVID 19 Challenges

Kottayam Social Service Society has planned and implemented COVID survival activities for migrant workers.

As part of the welfare activities carried out in collaboration with Caritas India, various activities like COVID vaccination drive,

awareness activities and health insurance schemes were planned and implemented. The program was organized in Chaithanya Pastoral Centre-Thellakom and inaugurated by KSSS Executive Secretary, Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor. This project was mainly for the migrant workers in Kottayam district.



Awareness Program and Distribution of Hygiene Kit

As a component of the COVID prevention initiative, KSSS conducted a health awareness program and distributed hygiene kits. The inauguration of the awareness program and the distribution of hygiene kits which included soap, towels, detergent and masks, were carried out by Shri. Johnys P. Stephen (Grama Panchayat President, Uzhavoor).



FLOOD RELIEF INTERVENTIONS

'Emergency Care Kits: Supporting 150 Families with Elderly Loved Ones amidst Floods'



In partnership with Help Age India and the Cipla Foundation, KSSS's joint endeavour, seeks to extend a helping hand to communities facing the challenges of flooding. Through the collective efforts of Help Age India's expertise in elderly care and the Cipla Foundation's commitment to healthcare, we have crafted 150 Emergency Care Kits. These kits are tailored to meet the specific needs of families with older members, containing crucial items such as medications, medical supplies, non-perishable food items, hygiene essentials, and comforting items. Our collaborative initiative is not only a testament to the power of community support but also a commitment to ensuring the well-being of elderly individuals and their families amidst the uncertainties of flood-related emergencies.

Awareness Program and Installation of Water Filters

The WASH aspects of the communities in Veliyanadu, Ramankari, Pandanadu, Thiruvanvandoor, Muttar and Thalavadi villages of Alappuzha district had totally collapsed during the floods. The water bodies were polluted, drinking water became scarce, and waste management was not proper. At this point KSSS initiated the promotion of WASH aspects in these flood affected communities with the help of OXFAM India. Awareness programs were conducted at the community level, school level, and SHG level. KSSS installed water filters in the villages, distributed sanitation kits and cleaning kits to the households, sent trained volunteers to the flood affected villages to clean their houses and premises. Also, KSSS chlorinated 540 wells.

Water Purifying Units

In the aftermath of the floods KSSS in association with OXFAM India provided water purifiers (AP 700) to the needy in Kumarankari, Pulimukkam in Veliyanad block of Alappuzha district. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Mr. Sharath Chandra Naik (Public Health Promoter, OXFAM), Mr. Paremashwar Rao (Public Health Engineer, OXFAM), Ms. Shiny Laloo, Ms. Leena Sibichan, Ms. Sheeba Joseph and self-help group members were present during the distribution.

Distribution of Portable High-tech Water Purifier

KSSS in association with German Medical Aid Organization and Andheri Hilfe distributed Portable High-tech water purifier units at Kumarakom, Olassa, Peroor and East Nattasseri in Kottayam district and Veliyanadu and Kannamkara in Alappuzha district as part of its flood rehabilitation activities. Mar Mathew Moolakkattu (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam and Patron of KSSS) inaugurated the distribution. Each unit has the capacity to purify 1200 liters of water per day without the help of electricity and chemicals. KSSS also distributed micro filter units for households on the occasion.

House and Toilet Construction and Maintenance

The flood had severely damaged the dwelling structures of many houses in the operational areas of KSSS. KSSS in association with Stitching Anand Bhavan Netherlands supported 25 families to repair their homes and build new toilet. The fund for infrastructure development was allocated by Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Diocese. Mrs. Lovely George, Ettumanoor Municipal Chairperson delivered presidential address. Speeches were also given by Fr. Sunil, KSSS Executive Director and Mrs. Mercy Stephen, Coordinator.



'Hope in a Box: Empowering Lives through Flood Relief Kit Distribution'

The impactful initiative of KSSS, Help Age India and Cipla Foundation has undertaken to provide aid and support to victims of flood through the distribution of relief kits. Smt. M V Priya, Chairperson – Health-Education Committee, Alappuzha District Panchayat, has inaugurated the function which conducted at St Michael's Church Parish hall. The primary objective of the project was to address the urgent needs of flood victims by providing them with essential items necessary for survival and recovery. The distribution of relief kits was designed to offer not only material assistance but also a symbol of hope, resilience, and community solidarity.



Launching of Proto type Toilets

As part of its flood rehabilitation programs, Kottayam Social Service Society in association with Oxfam India provided fifty proto type toilets to the people who are affected by flood in Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta districts of Kerala.

LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

KSSS Advances Food Security and Entrepreneurship through Successful Fish Farming



The practice of fish farming has yielded profitable outcomes for KSSS, contributing to their goal of ensuring food security and implementing a comprehensive entrepreneurial model. KSSS is cultivating various fish species including Tilapia, Catla and Rohu. Shri. P. Prasad (The Minister for Agriculture) enjoyed a successful harvest from the pond at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. The fish farming unit is now accessible to the public. Notable attendees at the event included Shri. Subhash T V, IAS (Director of the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department), Smt. Soniya V. R. and Shri. George Sebastian (Additional Directors of the Agriculture Department), Mr. Sunil Kumar (Principal Information Officer at Farm Information Bureau), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (KSSS Executive Secretary), Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil (Assistant Secretary, KSSS) and Mrs. Beena George (Principal Agricultural Officer).

KSSS initiated the fish farming unit as part of their ongoing activities which encompass fish farming training for Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, and Ernakulam districts, the distribution of fry (baby fish), the establishment of fish marketing outlet and exhibition and sale of ornamental fish.

Financial Assistance to Small Income Schemes

Financial assistance is a crucial for small income schemes as it provides a lifeline for individuals with limited



resources. Kottayam Social Service Society has distributed financial assistance for small income projects with the aim of creating opportunities for self-sufficiency along with COVID survival. Shri Thomas Chazhikadan MP inaugurated the distribution of financial aid in a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. As part of the scheme, financial assistance of RS. 25000 each was made available to 50 families for undertaking various self-employed entrepreneurship projects. It empowers them to invest in essential tools, education, fostering economic growth, stability and self-sustainability within local communities.

LACIM Visit

KSSS has been teaming up with LACIM France for the past 9 years to promote Income Generation Programmes in the backward areas and mainstreaming the SHGs. A group of philanthropists in France support various income generation activities of the SHG members. The utilization of the fund is closely monitored and the follow-up is done by the LACIM committee.

Accordingly, a two day IGP visit was conducted by Mr. Carlton Fernandez (Regional Coordinator, South India) on January 15th and 16th 2019 to evaluate the development of the beneficiaries in the project villages of Vechoor, Palathuruthu, Kumarakom and Veliyanadu. The poor and marginalized are enabled through this programme to become responsible and responsive towards their development.

The Crafted Canopy: Mastering the Art of Umbrella Making (1st Batch)



KSSS organized umbrella making training with the aim of creating opportunities for self-employment and entrepreneurship along with the promotion of alternative lifestyles through self-help groups. The training was organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom with the aim of providing an opportunity for those who want to earn income through umbrella making. Rev Fr Cyriac Ottappallil, Assistant Secretary, KSSS has inaugurated the training program. Representatives of KSSS self-help groups participated in the training. Participants learn essential skills in material selection, frame assembly, and creative design, making it an engaging and informative session for both beginners and enthusiasts.

Crafting Rainy Day Essentials: Mastering the Art of Umbrella Making (2nd Batch)



Training for umbrella making in Self-help Groups can empower individuals with valuable skills for sustainable livelihoods. It emphasizing quality control, marketing strategies, and financial management can contribute to the overall success of the umbrella-making enterprise within SHGs. The training program was conducted in Chaithanya Pastoral Centre and inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA. Master trainers, Ansamma Biju, Laila Philip, and Suja Reji led the session.

'Fashioning Elegance' (1st Batch)



A two-day training was organized as part of promoting tailoring related jobs for women, which is being implemented under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society with the aim of providing more scientific training to those who have knowledge in the field of tailoring and creating opportunities for self – employed entrepreneurs. Training program was conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre and inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George, Chairperson – Ettumanoor Municipality.

Threads of Empowerment: Bridging Opportunities for Women with Tailoring Units (2nd Batch)



Through the art of sewing, it stitches together not just garments but also opportunities, fostering economic independence and self-sufficiency. As part of self-employment promotion activities, sewing machine units were distributed under the leadership of KSSS. Rev. Fr Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary – KSSS, has distributed the sewing machines as part of 'Thayyal Mithra' project of KSSS. This initiative aims to weave a fabric of empowerment by providing women with tailoring units.

Thayyal Mithra: A Comprehensive Training Guide (3rd Batch)



Tailoring is a craft that demands precision and creativity. The program aims to equip individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in the field of tailoring. Smt. Lovely George, Chairperson - Ettumanoor Municipality, has inaugurated the two-day training program conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. The sessions covers a wide range of topics, from basic sewing techniques to advanced garment construction. It also provides a well-rounded education for aspiring tailors.

Mastering Beauty: A comprehensive Beautician Course (1st Batch)



The remarkable initiative of KSSS focuses on enhancing the skills and economic opportunities for Self-Help Group members through a specialized beautician training program. President - Ettumanoor Block Panchayat, Smt. Arya Rajan inaugurated the training program. By equipping participants with essential beauty techniques, entrepreneurial skills, and industry knowledge, the training aims to empower SHG members to create sustainable livelihoods.

Crafting Unity: Umbrella Making (3rd Batch)



In a remarkable display of collaboration and skill, 3rd batch of KSSS - umbrella making unit has completed the training and they wove together threads of empowerment and craftsmanship through their journey in umbrella making. KSSS Executive Secretary, Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor has inaugurated the function. This endeavour not only shelters us from the rain but also symbolizes the strength and unity forged within our community. This venture is more than a craft; it's a testament to the power of unity, skill, and the indomitable spirit of SHG's 3rd batch.

Needle & Thread Empowerment: Tailoring Training for SHG Mastery (4th Batch)

Two-day tailoring training program for SHG members aims to empower individuals with essential skills in the art of tailoring. The program was inaugurated by Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary, KSSS. The program not only equips SHG members with a valuable skills set but also fosters economic independence and community development. It serves as a catalyst for personal growth and sustainable livelihoods within SHG community.

Beautician Training (2nd Batch)



KSSS offers income-generating opportunities for members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) through skill training initiatives. The second batch of beautician training took place at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom with the inauguration led by Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary. The training program covered various skills including threading, bleaching, facials, makeup application, dress costuming, pedicure and oil massaging. The training sessions were conducted by skilled practitioners, Mrs. Leena Binu and Mrs. Mini Joy.

Empowering SHG Members through Two-Day Tailoring Training (6th Batch)



Kottayam Social Service Society has conducted a training program for SHG members which aims to equip participants with essential tailoring skills, from basic stitching to advanced garment construction. The two-day training program was inaugurated by Rev Fr Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary, KSSS. The hands-on training provides a unique opportunity for SHG members to enhance their capabilities, fostering self-sufficiency and economic empowerment.

Umbrella making Training (4th Batch)



Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) organized an umbrella making training program at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The training aimed to teach representatives of self-help groups how to make umbrellas at a low cost for their family members during the rainy season. It also provided an opportunity for self-employment. The program was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph, MLA, and was attended by Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy (Panchayat President, Kottayam), Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Dr. Rosamma Sony (Panchayat Member, Kottayam), and Mr. Biju Valiyamala (Grama Panchayat President, Kottayam). The training was conducted by Mrs. Anamma Biju, the master trainer. This was the 4th batch of training completed by KSSS.

Tailoring Training Program (5th Batch)

The objective of the program is to train candidates with practical knowledge of Sewing and Tailoring; the defined content will provide the techniques of tailoring day to day used apparels giving sufficient opportunity of sustainable employment. In collaboration with St. Mary's Knanaya Catholic Church in Chicago, USA, KSSS organized a two-day advanced tailoring course under the project 'Thayyal Mithra' to empower economically disadvantaged women through self-employment and income generation activities.

The training was specifically designed for women selected from Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The program was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph, MLA and the presidential address was delivered by Smt. Nirmala Jimmy (Panchayat President, Kottayam). Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Dr. Rosamma Sony (District Panchayat Member, Kottayam) and Shri. Biju Valiyamala (Grama Panchayat President, Athirampuzha) also gave speeches. Mrs. Mini Johnson provided training to the participants.

Building Beauty Skills for Sustainable Livelihoods in SHGs (3rd Batch)

Unlocking the door to empowerment, training program of KSSS aims to bring a transformative wave of change to Self-Help Group (SHG) members through



comprehensive beautician training. In this initiative, KSSS equip participants with the skills and knowledge essential for a career in the beauty industry, fostering not only personal growth but also economic independence. The session was inaugurated by Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary. Our commitment extends beyond makeup brushes and skincare routines; it is a dedication to nurturing dreams and fostering a sense of pride in one's abilities. Together, we are sculpting a future where every stroke of a brush becomes a symbol of empowerment and resilience for SHG members.

'Crafting Elegance: A Woman's Guide to Mastery in Hand Embroidery'

KSSS offering a comprehensive guide for women seeking to elevate their skills in the art of hand embroidery. KSSS Executive Secretary, Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor

inaugurated the program. From basic stitches to intricate patterns, it imparts the wisdom



required to transform a simple piece of fabric into a canvas of exquisite beauty. Beyond technique, the training also explores the therapeutic and empowering aspects of embroidery, encouraging women to embrace this timeless craft as a form of self-expression and mastery.

Mastering the Art of Umbrella Crafting: Empowering SHG Members (5th Batch)

In the vibrant tapestry of skill development and community empowerment, the 5th batch of umbrella-making training for KSSS - Self-Help Group (SHG) members stands out as a testament to resilience and creativity. As these members delved into the



intricacies of crafting umbrellas, they not only honed their technical expertise but

also forged bonds that strengthened the fabric of their shared aspirations. The training session was inaugurated by Ettumanoor Block Panchayat President, Smt. Arya Rajan. It became a canvas for collaboration, where hands-on learning and collective wisdom interwove to create a masterpiece of empowerment. As these newly skilled artisans unfurl their creations, they bring forth not just umbrellas, but symbols of empowerment and economic independence, casting a protective canopy over their collective journey towards a brighter future.

'Tailoring Training and Machine Distribution in Collaboration with Usha International'

In a transformative initiative aimed at fostering self-reliance and empowering communities,

KSSS has joined forces with Usha International to launch a ground-breaking



program. This initiative revolves around providing free tailoring training sessions to 15 selected members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs). It was inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA. These individuals, representing the backbone of their communities, will not only undergo comprehensive training but will also be equipped with tailor-made Usha International sewing machines. The synergy between the NGO and Usha International seeks to catalyse a ripple effect of skill development and economic independence, ultimately weaving a fabric of empowerment within these communities.

'Empowering Culinary Skills: A Cooking Journey for SHG Members'



Embarking on a culinary adventure, members of KSSS - Self-Help Groups are unlocking the flavours of empowerment through a unique

training program. In this gastronomic journey, participants delve into the art and science of cooking, honing their skills to create delectable dishes that not only tantalize the taste buds but also serve as a source of pride and independence. KSSS Executive Secretary, Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor has inaugurated the program. From mastering essential kitchen techniques to exploring diverse cuisines, the SHG members are cultivating a rich tapestry of culinary knowledge. This initiative not only nourishes the body but also nurtures a sense of community, collaboration, and self-reliance among its participants.

Tailoring Training Program (7th Batch)

Skill training is one of the most important factors for economic development; it provides opportunities for



employment and income generation. With the aim to encourage self-employment and enhance towards empowerment, KSSS organized Tailoring Training Programme under the project 'Thayyal Mithra'. Mr. James Kurian (Vice President, Block Panchayat, Ettumanoor) inaugurated the program. Beneficiaries for the program were selected based on their interest to choose tailoring as a means of livelihood and there by achieving self-sustainability.

Beautician Training (4th Batch)



KSSS offers skill training to individuals from self-help groups (SHGs) who are interested in pursuing self-employment opportunities. In response to market demand, beautician training was provided as part of an Income Generation Program. The fourth training batch was inaugurated by Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS). The participation of trainees showed an increasing trend.

One Month Advanced Training in Sewing (8th Batch)

Kottayam Social Service Society and NABARD collaborated to conduct a one-month advanced tailoring



course aimed at empowering economically disadvantaged women through self-employment and income-generating activities. A total of 30 women were selected to participate in the program. The training sessions capacitated the trainees in machine repairing, stitching of cloth bags, churidars, frocks, pajamas, blouses, kurtas, pants, shirts, skirts etc. The event was inaugurated by Shri. Reji Varghese (Development Manager, Kottayam). Certificates were distributed and financial aid for setting up sewing machines also provided. At the end of the course, certificates were distributed to the participants and financial assistance were provided to help them set up their own sewing machine units.

Beautician Training Program for SHGs (5th Batch)

KSSS conducted a self-employment training program aimed at empowering members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The participants underwent training in threading, bleaching, facial treatment, makeup application, costume designing, pedicure, and oil massage. Mrs. Leena Binu and Mrs. Binu Joy (Coordinators) lead the programme.

Culinary Mastery in Snack Creation for SHG Members (3rd Batch)

Embark on a delectable journey with our culinary training program, designed exclusively for KSSS - SHG



members. The program aims to empower SHG members with the art and science of creating delightful snacks. Vice-President, Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat, Smt. Alice Joseph has inaugurated the program. Participants will delve into the secrets of flavour combinations, learn innovative techniques, and master the craft of snack creation. Through hands-on sessions, our experienced instructors will guide SHG members in unlocking their culinary potential, fostering a deep appreciation for the culinary arts. This unique training not only enhances practical skills but also promotes creativity and entrepreneurship within the SHG community.

Cooking Class (4th Batch)

In an effort to enhance income-generating opportunities for Self-Help Group (SHG) members, cooking classes are being offered. This initiative has opened up avenues for numerous individuals in the community to generate income. Throughout the classes, a resource person instructs participants on preparing various types of snacks.

Cooking Class for SHG members (2nd Batch)

In order to promote and endorse cooking as a sustainable Income Generation Program, members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) received instruction on preparing Chilli Bajji, Potato Bajji, Egg Bajji, Onion Bajji, Bonda, and Tomato Sauce. The cooking class was conducted by Mrs. Leena.

'Feathers of Hope: Empowering Families with Disabilities through Hi-tech Poultry Distribution'



In a heart-warming collaboration, KSSS and Pizza Hut have joined forces to make a remarkable initiative aimed at empowering families with disabled members. As part of this initiative, KSSS distributed units of its high-quality poultry products to these deserving families, providing them with a sustainable source of nutrition and income. Smt. Alice Joseph, Vice-President of Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat has inaugurated the program.

Pizza Hut, renowned for its commitment to community well-being, will contribute by incorporating KSSS's poultry into special menu offerings. This collaborative effort not only supports local farmers but also fosters inclusivity by enhancing the lives of families facing unique challenges. It exemplifies the power of partnership and underscores the importance of businesses coming together to make a positive impact on the communities they serve.

‘Project Thayyal Mithra (9th Batch)

In a transformative initiative aimed at fostering self-reliance and economic empowerment, KSSS has joined forces with ‘Stitching Anandabhavan, Netherlands’ to distribute sewing machines to Self-Help Groups. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP has inaugurated the function. The collaborative effort seeks to break the chains of financial dependence and empower women by providing them with the means to generate income through the art of sewing. These sewing machines serve as tools of independence, enabling members of SHGs to embark on entrepreneurial journeys, create



sustainable livelihoods, and contribute to the economic growth of their communities.

Transformative Beautician Training for SHG Members by KSSS (6th Batch)

Embarking on a journey of empowerment and skill development, KSSS proudly conducted a specialized beautician training course tailored for selected SHG members. The training program was inaugurated by Smt. Bincy Sebastian, Chairperson-Kottayam Municipality. The initiative aims to provide a transformative learning experience, equipping participants with the knowledge and expertise needed to excel in the beauty industry. Through a carefully curated curriculum, participants will engage in hands-on training sessions, honing their skills in skincare, makeup application, hair styling, and salon management etc.



Tailoring Training & Certificate Distribution (10th Batch)

Kottayam Social Service Society and NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) organized a free 60 days tailoring training programme for empowering women entrepreneurs within the community space. Under this programme, 30 selected members from KSSS operational areas derived training in machine repairing, stitching of churidar, frock, pajamas, blouse, kurthi, pants, shirt, midi and tops, cloth bags making and embroideryworks. Smt. Lovely George (Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor) distributed certificates to those who successfully completed the training.

Beautician Training Program (7th Batch)

KSSS arranged a beautician training program with the aim of fostering self-employment and income-generating opportunities for economically disadvantaged women. The program was officially inaugurated by Dr. Rosamma Sony (District Panchayat Member, Kottayam). The training curriculum included topics such as threading, bleaching, facial techniques, makeup application, dress costuming, pedicure, and oil massaging. Mrs. Leena Binu and Mrs. Mini Joy spearheaded the tailoring class as part of the initiative.



Family Development Program

A Family Development Project is a comprehensive initiative aimed at enhancing the overall well-being and cohesion of families within a community. These projects typically involve a range of activities and interventions designed to address various aspects of family life, including education, healthcare, economic stability, and interpersonal relationships. The primary goal is to

create an environment that supports the holistic development of each family member, fostering a sense of unity, resilience, and self-sufficiency.

Family development projects may encompass initiatives such as parenting workshops, educational programs for children and adults, access to healthcare services, financial literacy training, and community-building activities. By focusing on the

strengthening of family units, these projects contribute not only to the immediate welfare of individual families but also to the overall social fabric of the community, promoting long-term sustainability and positive outcomes for all members involved.

Awareness Programme



KSSS in collaboration with SAFFP organized awareness class for newly active partner families. A meet of the new members of the Family Development Programme (FDP); a programme being implemented by KSSS aiming at the overall development of poor families was conducted. The programme was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Diocese. Over the duration of this six year program, the selected families will receive assistance and guidance to start sustainable income generating activities, constructing safe housing and sanitization facilities, accessing safe drinking water, education of children and other basic human requirements.

Family Day Celebration and Stakeholder's Gathering of Family Empowerment Project

On the occasion of International Family Day, Kottayam Social Service Society has organized a family day celebration and stakeholder's gathering of family empowerment project. Gheevarghese Mar Aprem,



Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Kottayam, has inaugurated the function at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. As part of the celebration, KSSS conducted awareness classes, project reviews and planned for coming projects. KSSS is implementing the family empowerment project in collaboration with 'Save a Family Plan' project. It gives importance to various areas such as sustainable income generation programme, infrastructure development, education, health, food security, entrepreneurship, employment and moral development. The classes were conducted by KSSS coordinator Smt. Bessy Jose.

Family Empowerment Plan – Partner Families’ Meet



KSSS, through the FDP Program of Save A Family Plan has successfully improved the lives of many individuals by prioritizing the improvement of families’ economic and social self-sufficiency. As a component of the Family Empowerment Plan by Save a Family Plan, KSSS arranged a gathering for partner families and developed a comprehensive action plan. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat) at the Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The selected families receive monthly financial assistance for a period of 6 years.

‘Save a Family Plan: Uniting Beneficiaries for Action Planning and Progress’



The beneficiaries of a transformative family empowerment project – Save a Family Plan- recently

gathered to collectively shape their futures and reinforce the bonds of community. Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP has inaugurated the meeting. The air buzzed with optimism and shared determination as individuals, each touched by the empowering initiatives, exchanged stories of progress and resilience. The scheme is implemented in such a way that the families selected for the scheme get monthly financial assistance for six years, and achieve progress in various areas such as education, health, income, job skill development, infrastructure development etc. The dynamic meeting not only fostered a sense of solidarity but also ignited a collective commitment to realizing their aspirations.

‘Empowering Families: A Journey of Awareness and Annual Action Planning with Save a Family Plan’



Embarking on the mission of social change, KSSS in collaborated with Save a Family Plan project introduces an invigorating initiative. This transformative awareness session is designed to enlighten families about the pivotal role they play in shaping their destinies and communities. Auxiliary Bishop of Archeparchy of Kottayam, Gheevarghese Mar Aprem has inaugurated the function. Through interactive discussions and insightful presentations, participants will gain a profound understanding of key issues impacting their lives.

The session doesn’t stop at awareness; it seamlessly transitions into the crafting of an Annual Action Plan, fostering a proactive approach to address challenges and capitalize on opportunities. By empowering families to take charge of their future, this initiative aims to create a ripple effect of positive change, uplifting communities and building a brighter tomorrow for all.

Self-Reliance Awareness Program

An awareness program was organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom for partner families under Save a Family Plan project of KSSS with an aim to build self-sufficient communities by empowering families through timely support and financial assistance. Each partnering family is aided for a period of 6 years. The program was inaugurated by Shri. Saji Thadathil (Grama Panchayat President, Athirampuzha). The event included the formulation of an action plan, and the awareness session centered on the theme of ‘Self-Reliance’ with a focus on the economic empowerment of the beneficiary families.



“Some people want it to happen. Some wish it would happen. Others make it happen.”

Mrs. Thankamani T is residing at Veliyanadu village with her husband and her two sons. Her husband, Mr. John N. a daily wage labourer due to his poor heart condition he is unable to go for work regularly. He requires monthly treatment and medicines for his better health. Thankamani has two sons, Mr. Sidharth and Mr. Anirudh. The younger son, Mr. Anirudh is a differently abled child and he is dependent on his mother for all his needs. Consequently, Mrs. Thankamani cannot pursue employment as she stays back in home taking care of her differently abled child.

Therefore, she was struggling to meet the medical expense of her husband and the educational expenses of her elder son. In this situation KSSS animator visited her and enrolled Mrs. Thankamani in the ‘Save A Family Plan’ programme since 2017 and KSSS supported the family through Livelihood Development Programmes.

The initial monthly assistance from KSSS enabled Mrs. Thankamani to start a cloth business. She purchased fabrics in bulk at wholesale prices and utilized her sewing machine to stitching nighties, kurtas, churidars, etc. which she then sold in nearby areas. With the second monthly assistance, she invested to purchase two goats, complementing her cloth business by also engaging in goat rearing.

However, fate dealt a harsh blow to her life when her husband met with an accident, resulting in the complete loss of vision in his right eye. Consequently, he could no longer work. This circumstance left Mrs. Thankamani with the



sole responsibility of managing the medical expenses for her husband and differently-abled child as well as covering the educational costs for her elder son.

Despite her elder son’s academic proficiency, she struggled to provide him with adequate educational facilities. During this challenging period, her cloth business served as her primary source of income, but it proved insufficient to meet the overall expenses. Once again fate took a challenging turn for Mrs. Thankamani as the situation worsened with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. It caused her cloth business to shut down gradually. The decline in orders and stitching works made her life increasingly difficult. However, Mrs. Thankamani refused to succumb to failure and remained confident in moving forward.

Eventually, her life took a positive turn with the acquisition of two goats funded by KSSS. She cared for these goats with love, treating them like family members. After a month, one of the goats gave birth to two lambs and the mother goat’s milk production increased from ½ litre to 1 litre per day. Recognizing the nutritional value of goat milk which is beneficial

for respiratory diseases and cancer patients, Mrs. Thankamani found a high demand for it in the market and began selling the milk to nearby households, thereby earning income.

Undeterred by challenges, she embraced the Income Generation Program wholeheartedly, working diligently to ensure the happiness of her family members. In addition to goat rearing, Mrs. Thankamani initiated a kitchen garden in the available space of the backyard of her house and cultivated vegetables. She utilized goat dung as manure for the crops. The harvest, including peas, bitter melon, snake melon, etc. was sold at a nearby shop, providing an additional source of income.

Through her determination and hard work, she was successful in taking care for her family and restoring smiles to their faces. One of the goats reached maturity and she successfully sold it in the nearby market, resulting in her current possession of three goats. With the monthly assistance from KSSS, Mrs. Thankamani has devised a plan to acquire two more goats. Her knowledge and expertise in goat rearing have significantly increased, enabling her to generate a substantial income from this venture.

Mrs. Thankamani is characterized by her strong work ethic and unwavering confidence in facing life’s challenges. Possessing the resilience to overcome crises, she expresses deep gratitude to KSSS for the positive transformation in her life. KSSS has not only brought about significant changes but has also restored joy and smiles to the faces of her family members.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

KSSS started its civil society organizations in 1964. It was in 1994 that the first SHG was formed under KSSS. Since then the Self Help Groups have come a long way. Today the strength of the SHG members stands

at 2964. It is ever growing. The civil society organizations have acted as a catalyst for social change and development among the SHG members. KSSS through its SHGs organize training and awareness programs by means

of which the members become aware of their strengths and weaknesses and thereby emerge as enlightened and empowered individuals.

Details of CSOs of KSSS

Sl. No.	Group	No. of SHGs	Total Members
1.	Women SHG	1956	49264
2.	Farmers Club	14	386
3.	Male SHG	34	2186
4.	Senior Citizen	44	1988
5.	Smart	32	1710
6.	Navomi (Widows)	52	1820
7.	CBR for Differently-Abled	74	2526
8.	Youth	23	564
	TOTAL	2229	59880

GRAMA VIKASANA SAMATHI

It is the top most governing body at the village level. The President of the SHG groups represents them in the Grama Vikasana Samathi's (GVS) monthly meeting. GVS of each village include GVS president (Parish Vicar), animator of that particular village, SHG President and local KSSS. The group leaders review loan applications received from various SHG groups for various purposes and checks and verify the track record of the individual applicant as well as the SHG with which she/he is affiliated. The application is scrutinized for completeness and authenticity and if founds satisfactory, is recommended to the federation for loan disbursal. The completed application is received at the central level office at KSSS, duly backed up by signatures of the SHG members with which the applicant member is affiliated and the GVS President.

SAVINGS AND CREDIT FOR SHGs

KSSS has been working towards the facilitation of microfinance to the underprivileged SHGs. Under this scheme after the monthly collection of savings, the group members can opt for small credit which can be used for personal as well as for income generation purpose in times of need. The members' according to their urgency and alternatively taking turns borrow small loans from their self-help groups and this frees them from their dependency on traditional money lenders for petty credit needs. This amount has to be paid back within three months. The decision as to who should be given the loan is decided by the group members themselves looking at the track record of the deserving members.

Loan Mela for Budding Entrepreneurs



The loan distribution for Entrepreneurs being conducted by KSSS in collaboration with Kerala State Backward Development Corporation was carried out in March, 2023. As part of the project 'Chaithanya Samrambhaka Nidhi', loan were provided at low rates of interest for carefully scrutinized self-help group members living below double the poverty line to start self-employment programs. An amount of Rs. 12, 50,000 was made available under the scheme being implemented as per the rules and regulations of Kerala State Backward Development Corporation. The main aim is to promote a culture of entrepreneurship which can generate income and self-employment or wage employment leading to sustainable livelihood for target group population in the country.

Workshop on Disaster Management

Kottayam Social Service Society hosted a pivotal disaster management workshop with collaborated with the Department of Social Work, BCM College Kottayam, which reinforcing commitment to community resilience and preparedness. Shri Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA has inaugurated the function. Ex Hazard Analyst of



Disaster Management Authority, Smt. Athulya Thomas and Humanitarian Consultant, Mr Siby Paulose took the sessions. The disaster management workshop stands as a cornerstone in our ongoing efforts to build a resilient and prepared community.

Training Program for SHG Volunteers



Kottayam Social Service Society with the aim to grow the leadership qualities organized a leadership training program for self-help group volunteers. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam has inaugurated the training program organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. As part of the program, Shri P. U. Thomas interacted with the volunteers. Volunteers of self-help groups from the districts of Kottayam, Alappuzha, Idukki, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam were participated in the training program organized with the objective of giving new direction to SHGs & their activities and devising the action plans by incorporating the changes of time.

SMART SNEHOLSAV 2022

Smart Sneholsav 2022 was organized for the children of Smart Group working under the leadership of Kottayam Social Service Society with the aim of comprehensive development of children studying in classes 5, 6 and 7. Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President of Kottayam District Panchayat has inaugurated the program. Awareness classes for children grounded in morals and values provide a foundation for ethical decision making. These classes instilled leadership skills, individual development, promoting the importance of empathy, cooperation, and integrity. Along with this, KSSS conducted various cultural and sports activities for the children of smart group from Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki, Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta districts.



'Nurturing Leadership in Self-Help Groups'



The comprehensive leadership program aimed at equipping members of self-help groups with essential skills for effective leadership. Shri. V N Vasavan, Minister of Cooperation & Registration, has inaugurated the programme. The meeting was coordinated by the self-help group members from Kidangoor Region. Election of office bearers of the self-help group and representatives of region - federations were conducted after the meeting. The meeting was conducted with an aim of giving new direction to the activities of SHGs and planning innovative action plans. KSSS coordinators – Bessy Jose and Mercy Stephen presided over the program.

'Swasrayam 2022 – Unleashing Growth through Self-Help Groups'



Self-Help Groups play a pivotal role in fostering overall development of the community by providing individuals with a platform for mutual support, encouragement, and shared learning. So KSSS organized a training program for its SHG members. The program was inaugurated by Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA. In connection with the training program was organized under the leadership of KSSS Kaipuzha Region, the election of office bearers of the SHG – Region federation was also held. KSSS coordinators, Smt. Bessy Jose and Smt. Mercy Stephen led the event.

'Protecting Innocence: Empowering Communities through Awareness'

KSSS has organized an awareness session based on POCSO Act. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about the 'Protection of

Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act' 2012, recognizing its pivotal role in safeguarding children from sexual exploitation. Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President



– Kottayam District Panchayat, has inaugurated the meeting. Sr. Adv. Jyothi P Thomas, Member – Child Welfare Committee (CWC), has lead the session. The primary objective was to educate community members about the provisions of POCSO Act, fostering a better understanding of child protection laws and encouraging a proactive approach to prevent and report instances of child sexual abuse.

'UNARVU: SHG Volunteers Meet and Action Plan Formulation'

Gathering of volunteers from SHGs marked a significant moment in fostering self-reliance and community development. KSSS conducted a meeting for the volunteers from KSSS-SHGs and focusing for the formulation and enhancement of a comprehensive action plan. Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President – Kottayam District Panchayat, has inaugurated the function which led by Edackat Region of KSSS. The primary goal of the meeting was to bring together volunteers from various SHGs to exchange ideas, share experiences and collaboratively design an effective action plan for sustainable development.

'Patharunna Pilathose' - Unveiling a Literary Revelation



Kottayam Social Service Society witness a book revealing ceremony, which was written by Rev. Fr Abraham Mutholath, Vicar of Sacred Heart Knanaya Church, Chicago. The book titled "Patharunna Pilathose" was released by Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President – Kottayam District Panchayat. It opens the door to timeless teachings, inspiration, guidance, and fostering a deeper understanding of faith and enriching our spiritual path.

'Silver Unity: Senior Citizen Group Meet'

KSSS conducted a meeting and awareness classes for 'Senior Citizen Group', it was a heart-warming and enriching experience, bringing together a community of seniors committed to mutual support, empowerment, and shared growth. Chairperson – Ettumanoor Municipality, Smt. Lovely George inaugurated the meeting. Participants, each with a wealth of life experiences, engaged in lively discussions, exchanging stories, and offering insights on various aspects of senior living. Expert speakers were invited to share valuable information on these subjects, providing practical tips and resources for the seniors to enhance their quality of life. The meeting also showcased the strength of community-driven initiatives, with members actively participating in group activities, collaborative projects, and sharing success stories of how the SHG has positively impacted their lives.

'Empowering Voices: SHG Leaders Confluence'



The meeting of SHG members from Uzhavoor Region was conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. It serves as a pivotal gathering, fostering collaboration and empowerment within the Self-Help Group network. The meeting provides a platform for leaders to share insights, strategies, and successes, ultimately contributing to the collective growth and impact of the community. Rev. Fr. Abraham Mutholath inaugurated the meeting and interacted with them.

One Day Leadership Training Program

A one-day Leadership Skills training program for Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the Chungam Region was conducted at St. Mary's Forane Church, Chungam. The objective was to provide a fresh perspective to their activities and empower them to develop an innovative action plan. The participants actively engaged in formulating an action plan during the program. The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Rev. Fr. Jose Arichira, who serves as the Vicar of St. Mary's Forane Church, Chungam and the President of the Village Development Committee. During the event, members for the SHG Regional Federation Committee were elected and special recognition was given to students who achieved A+ Grade in the SSLC exam.



Leadership training for SHGs



Kottayam Social Service Society in association with Malankara Region organized leadership training for SHG members at St. John's Syrian Knanaya Church, Chingavanam. The program was inaugurated by Mrs. Lissy Manimala (Municipal Counselor, Kottayam). The presidential address was delivered by Fr. Bobby Cheriyl (Village Development Committee President, KSSS). During the program, the election of office bearers for the Federation also took place. The objective of the program was to provide SHGs with a fresh direction for their activities and empower them to develop innovative action plans.

Gathering of Elderly People



‘The more we can get together and talk about various perspectives, feelings, beliefs, and the better.’

Kottayam Social Service Society facilitated the gathering of SHGs of elderly by conducting a get together and an awareness program. The program was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA. Dr. Rosamma Sony took the seminar. In the end, people walked away with new friends, and the boost they needed to continue building lives that would be very different from what they had planned.

Payasam Kit Distribution Program



In line with the Onam celebrations, KSSS took the initiative to distribute Payasam kits at a highly affordable price. These kits were provided to members of Self-help Groups in various districts including Kottayam, Idukki, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta and Ernakulam. The program was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary of KSSS in the presence of Rev Fr. Cyriac Ottapallil, Assistant Secretary of KSSS, and dedicated village-level volunteers.

Central Level Federation Meeting

Elections are held every two years at KSSS to decide the Central Federation Bearers. Central Level bearers are selected to the post of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer. Central level federation members were also elected for the period 2022-2023. The program was inaugurated by Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP and the presidential address was delivered by Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President – Kottayam District Panchayat. During the elections, Mrs. Lissy Lukose was elected as the Women Central Federation President, Mr. Thomas Ouseph Selected as the Farmers Group Federation President, Mrs. Aniamma Mani Olassa as the Navomi SHG President and Mrs. Aleyamma George Muttam as the Senior Citizen SHG President. SHG members from different regions of KSSS participated.



KSSS Loan Mela



Entrepreneurship always plays a catalytic and important role in the economic development. Small businesses provide opportunities for entrepreneurs, jobs for neighbours and gathering places for communities. They're rooted in the landscape where they grow, and they give back vitality and sustenance. In this context, KSSS organized loan mela under the project Chaithanya Samrambhaka Nidhi. Smt. Arya Rajan (Block Panchayat President, Ettumanoor has inaugurated the program organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Rev Fr. Sunil (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Mrs. Mary Philip and Mrs. Biji Jose (Coordinators) addressed the gathering. An amount of Rs. 25, 00,000/- was distributed among 100 families selected for the project.

'Empowering Caregivers: POCSO Act Awareness Session for Nursing Students'

Empowering caregivers is a crucial aspect of fostering a safe and supportive environment for vulnerable populations. In an effort to equip nursing students with



essential knowledge and skills, an awareness session on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act was organized. It was inaugurated by Smt. Nirmala Jimmy (Kottayam District Panchayat President). The session aimed to educate future caregivers about the legal framework in place to safeguard children from sexual abuse and exploitation. Nursing students, as frontline healthcare providers, play a pivotal role in identifying and addressing the needs of young patients who may be victims of abuse. The initiative of KSSS not only reinforces the commitment to ethical caregiving but also contributes to the creation of a safer and more protective healthcare environment for children.

'Building Dreams, Inspiring Change: Celebration on Foundation Day of KSSS'

On the auspicious occasion of our KSSS Foundation



Day, members and volunteers of our dedicated NGO and the vibrant Self-Help Group (SHG) come together in a spirit of unity and shared purpose. Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA has inaugurated the function. As we reflect on the journey that brought us here, there's a palpable sense of achievement and gratitude for the positive impact we've collectively made in the community. The meeting serves as a unique platform for exchanging ideas, experiences, and aspirations, fostering a sense of camaraderie that strengthens our collaborative efforts.

CHAITHANYA SAMRAMBHAKA NIDHI

Chaithanya Samrambhaka Nidhi, another micro-credit program of KSSS is implemented with the financial scheme under Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation (KSBCDC). The loan amount is distributed to the SHG members at minimal interest and it helps them to undertake a self – employment venture and in turn makes them economically independent. KSSS was able to distribute Rs.25, 00,000/- this financial year.



November 3 - Federation Meeting for SHG Leaders



KSSS organized Federation Meeting for SHG leaders at the Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) inaugurated the program.

The meeting primarily centered around developing an action plan to ensure the long-term viability of the Self Help Groups, as well as planning for the 23rd Chaithanya Agricultural Fest and the Annual Get-together of SHGs organized by KSSS.

A Social Awareness Session for Nursing Students on Differently-Abled Perspectives



In the illuminating session of KSSS has tailored specifically for nursing students from Sacred Heart College of Nursing, Kottayam, and the focus is on fostering a heightened awareness of the experiences and needs of differently-abled individuals within the healthcare system. Ettumanoor Municipal Chairperson, Smt. Lovely George has inaugurated the program. This session aims to empower future nurses with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide compassionate and inclusive care to patients with diverse abilities. Through engaging discussions and real-life scenarios, students will gain a deeper understanding of the unique challenges faced by individuals with disabilities and explore practical approaches to create an environment that promotes equality and accessibility in healthcare settings.

'Empowering Women Together: A Collaborative Journey in Awareness for Self-Help Groups with the Women & Child Development Department'



In a remarkable initiative aimed at fostering empowerment and community development, the Department Women & Child Development has joined forces with KSSS - Self-Help Groups to conduct an insightful awareness class. This collaborative venture seeks to impart knowledge and awareness, equipping women with valuable tools for personal and collective growth. The program emphasizes the vital role of SHGs in fostering economic independence and community well-being. Through interactive sessions, participants will delve into topics ranging from financial literacy to health and education, fostering a holistic understanding of empowerment.

'Harmony in Action: KSSS Volunteers Unite Meetup'

Dedicated individuals from all walks of life are converging to share their passion for making a difference. The meetup goes beyond mere volunteering; it's a



celebration of unity and collective impact. The program was inaugurated by Rev Fr Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary. The join hands under the banner of the KSSS's mission, we become a symphony of goodwill, creating harmonies that resonate far beyond the boundaries of our immediate surroundings. Each volunteer brings a unique note to this collective composition, and together, we strive to create a melody that resonates with the very essence of positive change.

'Empowering Change - Annual General Body Meeting of KSSS'



The Annual General Body Meeting of KSSS resonated with a spirit of unity and purpose as members gathered to reflect on the organization's impactful journey and chart the course for the future. Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam, has presided over the meeting. Against the backdrop of shared commitment to positive change, attendees engaged in dynamic discussions that ranged from reviewing successful initiatives to exploring innovative strategies for greater community impact. The meeting underscored the strength derived from collective efforts and reaffirmed the KSSS's dedication to its mission. Participants left inspired and energized, carrying the torch of hope and collaboration as they work together towards a brighter, more inclusive future.

Chaithanya Samrambhaka Nidhi Disburse



Chaithanya Samrambhaka Nidhi is a micro credit program initiated aiming economic independence. A loan amount is distributed to the SHG members in minimal interest and it supports them to undertake micro enterprises to generate income for the family to attain financial independence. An amount of Rs. 12 lakhs was distributed for the 50 selected SHG members for undertaking entrepreneurship activities. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George (Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor). The supports given for SHGs in regard with income generation programs are cow rearing, goat rearing, poultry farming, tailoring, food unit, group farming and petty shop.

Cancer Awareness Campaign



In observance of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, KSSS partnered with Caritas Hospital to organize an awareness

program for KSSS Village level Women Volunteers. Smt. Alice Joseph (Grama Panchayat President In-charge, Athirampuzha) inaugurated the program. Dr. Sharon Raj, Senior Specialist, Community Medicine Department, Caritas Hospital led the session. The program aimed to raise awareness about cervical cancer and HPV vaccination and informational leaflets were distributed to the participants. This initiative is part of the ongoing Ashakiranam project, which focuses on the prevention and care of cancer and is supported by Caritas India, the national organization of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) for social services.

COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION OF DIFFERENTLY-ABLED

Inauguration of KSSS CBR Silver Jubilee Celebration

The 25th anniversary celebration marking a quarter-century of dedicated service to persons with disabilities have commenced. The inaugural events focus on implementing welfare programs for underprivileged families associated with differently-abled.

KSSS initiated the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program for physically and mentally challenged individuals in 1997, setting a model for the state of Kerala. This initiative aims to reintegrate individuals into their own families and communities, fostering collaboration among family members, the community, and utilizing available resources.

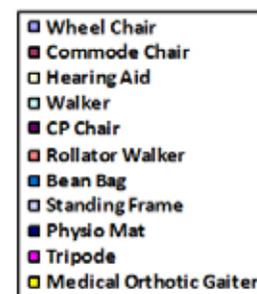
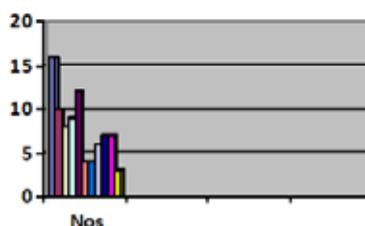
In 2011, the extended wing KSSS started functioning as the State Learning Centre for Deafblindness in Kerala for Rehabilitation Programs for the Persons with Deafblindness. A fully equipped State Resource Center for Deafblindness with specialized adaptations is functioning under KSSS for their Training and Rehabilitation programs for the persons with deafblindness and parents. KSSS also runs four Day - Care Centers called Agape Bhavan and a Vocational Training Centre for differently abled children and adults in the CBR groups of KSSS.

The program underscores the importance of focusing on individuals' abilities rather than disabilities, providing training that enables them to live independently and work according to their capabilities. The ultimate goal is to empower disabled individuals to become valuable contributors to both their families and society at large.



Distribution of Assistive Devices

1	Wheel Chair	16
2	Commode Chair	10
3	Hearing Aid	8
4	Walker	9
5	CP Chair	12
6	Rollator Walker	4
7	Bean Bag	4
8	Standing Frame	6
9	Physio Mat	7
10	Tripode	7
11	Medical Orthotic Gaiter	11



Benefits Received from Government

1	Registered in Special Employment	6
2	IGA Support to Family	32
3	Medical Support	25
4	Aashraya Padhadhi	18
5	House Maintenance	14
6	Rail/Bus Concession	39
7	Voters ID	234
8	MGNREGA	123
9	Ashwasakiranam	628
10	Cochlear Implantation	8
11	Guardianship	129
12	COVID 19 Vaccination	766
13	NIRAMAYA	466
14	Panchayat Health Card	1120
15	Pradhan Manthri Jeevan Jyothi Bhima Yojana (PMJJBY)	84
16	Disability Certificate	1667
17	Disability Pension	1661
18	Scholarship	544

Training for the Practitioners involved in Disability Welfare



As part of the CBR project, Kottayam Social Service Society organized a one-day training program at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The training targeted practitioners involved in disability welfare with the goal of fostering the integral development of individuals with disabilities. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, the Executive Secretary of KSSS has inaugurated the program. Sr. Simi DCPB and Mrs. Preethi Prathapan led the training, aiming to enhance participants' knowledge about disabilities and familiarize them with effective training methods, ultimately enabling them to offer improved services to individuals with disabilities. The training program was attended by KSSS - CBR staff.

Right Based Approach

1	Inclusive Education	1120
2	Physiotherapy Services	84

'Bodhanam 2022: Awareness Program for Social Work Students'



Kottayam Social Service Society in collaboration with B.C.M College organized an awareness program, Bodhanam 2022 for social work students at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The event was inaugurated by Mrs. Lovely George, Ettumanoor Municipal Chairperson. The presidential address was delivered by Smt. Alice Joseph, Vice President of Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat. Other notable speakers included Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary of K.S.S.S), Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil (KSSS Assistant Secretary) and Sr. Sheena M. U. (Faculty in Social Work Department of B.C.M. College, Kottayam).

The objective of the awareness program was to provide insight into the importance of social work and to raise awareness about the community-based rehabilitation program of KSSS. The sessions were conducted by Mrs. Babitha T. Jessil, the program officer and Sr. Simi DCPB, special educator.

Launch of Physiotherapy Service

"It's not about what you can't do. It's about what you can do with what you have."

Physiotherapy is not just about healing the body; it's about empowering the patient to take control of their own health. KSSS aims to enhance health services for children with disability through this initiative. With this goal in mind, KSSS provides both home-based and center-based services. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary has inaugurated the regional center-based physiotherapy training program. The program was attended by Mrs. Shaila Thomas, KSSS Program Officer, Ms. Jingle Joy, Physiotherapist and KSSS - CBR staff.

Distribution of Essential Medicines to the Differently Abled



As part of the 'Karunyadoothu' initiative, the Kottayam Social Service Society distributed essential medications to promote the comprehensive development of individuals with disabilities. The neurological medicines are given every month to the children after consultation by Neurologist. The aim of the programme is treatment as well as regular follow up of the treatment. It helps to ensure continuous intake of medicines and resulting reduction in incidence of seizures or severity of seizures.

The program was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem, the Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese. Mrs. Lovely George, Chairperson of Ettumanoor Municipal, delivered the presidential address and additional speeches were given by Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, the Executive Secretary of KSSS as well as volunteers Mrs. Bessy Jose, Mrs. Mary Philip, and Mrs. Chinnamma Rajan. Approximately 100 individuals with disabilities from Kottayam and Ernakulam Districts received the essential medications.

Neurological Medical Camp

The CBR Neurology camp provides an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to receive check-ups, medications, and various therapy services as part of the CBR Project by KSSS. This camp is conducted free of charge every quarter at the Chaithanya Pastoral Center, Thellakom. The medical camp was inaugurated by Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) and attended by individuals with disabilities. Consultations are provided by Dr. Gracykutty.



'Silver Jubilee Celebration of CBR Project Of KSSS - Paving Paths for a Unified Tomorrow'



Community-Based Rehabilitation project of KSSS is mainly for the welfare of people with disabilities. KSSS celebrated CBR Silver Jubilee at Good Samaritan Resource Centre, Cherpunkal and it was inaugurated by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA. With a focus on building bridges to a unified future, KSSS project strives to empower and uplift the lives of those with unique abilities, fostering a society where everyone can thrive together. KSSS also gave medicines & equipment for differently abled and sewing machines for their family members in collaboration with the parish of Sacred Heart Knanaya Church, Chicago.

Assistive Devices for Differently-abled



KSSS provided assistive devices to children with disabilities. The program, held at the Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Mar. Mathew Moolakkattu, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. During the program, CP chairs, Pediatric CP chairs, and Commode chairs were distributed to differently abled people.

Exposure and Study Visit of Nursing Students

A study visit was organized at Kottayam Social Service Society by the Velankanni Matha College of Nursing, Kottayam for BSc Nursing students. This visit provided valuable learning opportunities for the students to understand the social welfare initiatives implemented by KSSS to empower and enhance the quality of life for the underprivileged in society. The students were introduced to various activities facilitated by KSSS that focus on capacity building, skill development, and sustainable development. They were also educated about the rehabilitation activities carried out by KSSS for individuals with deaf



blindness as part of their Community Based Rehabilitation program for differently-abled individuals. This experience provided the students with new insights into the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. The session during the visit was taken by Sr. Simi DCPB, special educator.

KSSS' Karunyadoothu Scheme: Distribution of Medicines for Persons with Disabilities

As part of the Community Based Rehabilitation Program, the Kottayam Social Service Society organized an event to distribute essential medicines to persons with disabilities. The event which was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese). KSSS distributed the medicines to around 50 persons with disabilities from the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam in collaboration with Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Parish Church, Chicago

World Disability Day Celebration by KSSS in Collaboration with Sense International India



In a heart-warming celebration of inclusivity and empowerment, KSSS joined forces with Sense International India to mark World

Silver Jubilee Welfare Activities for Community Based Rehabilitation Project Launched



The inaugural ceremony of the Community Based Rehabilitation Project's Silver Jubilee Welfare Activities took place at KSSS as a part of the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest. The main objective of these activities is to promote the holistic development of individuals with disabilities. The inauguration of the welfare activities was carried out by Shri. V. Shivankutty (Minister for General Education and Labor).

Disability Day. The event was inaugurated by Smt. Bincy Sebastian, Kottayam Municipal Chairperson, echoed the collaborative efforts aimed at fostering a society where every individual, regardless of ability, is embraced and empowered. Attendees from Agape Special Schools and their families witnessed a myriad of inspiring activities, ranging from awareness

campaigns to interactive workshops, all designed to promote understanding and break down barriers. The celebration was a testament to the unwavering commitment of the KSSS and Sense International India to create a world where the diverse abilities of every individual are recognized, celebrated, and integrated into the fabric of society.

'Agape Joy: A Heart-warming Christmas Celebration at Agape Special Schools'



Christmas carols, Agape Special Schools, fuelled by the spirit of love and inclusivity, recently hosted a heart-warming Christmas celebration. The schools, operated by KSSS, radiated with festive cheer as students with diverse abilities came together to revel in the magic of the season. The air was filled with laughter and the warmth of shared moments as teachers, staff, and volunteers joined hands to create a truly inclusive and memorable holiday experience.

From festive decorations to inclusive activities tailored to every child's unique abilities, Agape Special Schools proved that the magic of Christmas knows no bounds. It was a celebration of love, acceptance, and the true spirit of giving, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of everyone involved.

Medical Camp For Differently Abled



The human spirit is one of the ability, perseverance and courage that no disability can steal away. Kottayam Social Service Society organized a neurological medical camp as part of the welfare programs organized for the upliftment of the differently abled. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) inaugurated the program, held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Dr. Gracykutty (Neurologist) led the camp. The occasion was also used to distribute essential medicines. The service of counselors was made available in the program. This initiative is a part of the Community Based Rehabilitation Project's Silver Jubilee celebration welfare activities.

Empowering Independence: Self Job Training for Individuals with Disabilities

In this unique and transformative self-job training program of KSSS in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, individuals with disabilities are equipped with the skills and knowledge to independently prepare wholesome juices and salads. Focused on fostering self-sufficiency, the program combines practical training in juicing and salad making with tailored strategies to accommodate various abilities. The program's empowering approach aims to enhance the confidence and autonomy of individuals with disabilities, promoting a healthy lifestyle and fostering a sense of accomplishment in their daily lives.

25th Anniversary of CBR Project with Special Reception and Deafblind Gathering



KSSS celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Community Based Rehabilitation Project and organized a reception in honor of Mar. Joy Alappat (Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Chicago, USA). The event became even more special with a gathering of Deafblind individuals and their families. The program was inaugurated by Mar. Mathew Moolakkattu (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam) and took place at the Mutholath Auditorium, Cherpunkal. During the event, essential medicines were distributed as part of the 'Karunyadoothu' project and tailoring machines were provided to the family of persons with disability.

Additionally, an award was presented to Ms. Archa Ashok, a member of the KSSS - CBR group who won first prize in the fold dance competition, held by the State Buds School Kalolsavam. As part of the family get-together, Mrs. Reena James (Resource Person) led an awareness seminar, and cultural programs featuring Deafblind children were also showcased. Around 300 people attended the program.

KSSS' Karunyadoothu Scheme: Distribution of Medicines for Persons with Disabilities

As part of the Community Based Rehabilitation Program, the Kottayam Social Service Society organized an event to distribute essential medicines to persons with disabilities. The event which was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Geevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese).



In his speech, he emphasized society's responsibility to ensure vital services for individuals with

disabilities and underscored the importance of fostering an inclusive society.

The efforts of the Kottayam Social Service Society in this regard were commended. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Mr. Sijo (Program Officer, KSSS) and Mrs. Bessy Jose (Coordinator) addressed the gathering. KSSS distributed the medicines to around 50 persons with disabilities from the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam in collaboration with Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church, Chicago.

Hygiene and Sanitary Kit Distribution

Teaming up with the Lions Club Changanashery, KSSS collaborated to provide hygiene and sanitary kits at Chaithanya to families with members who have disabilities. This initiative is a part of KSSS' welfare activities for differently-abled individuals with the goal of fostering their comprehensive development. The program was inaugurated by Sri. Johny Thottungal, Grama Panchayat President of Kallara.



Distribution of Tailoring Machines

Smt. Rosamma Sony (District Panchayat Member, Kottayam) inaugurated the distribution of tailoring machines to families with members who have disabilities.

This event is a component of the self-employment promotion initiatives undertaken by KSSS in collaboration with Pizza Hut at Chaithanya, Thellakom. The distributed sewing machines provided by Usha Company were given to families of persons with disabilities on this occasion.



KSSS' Karunyadoothu Scheme: Distribution of Essential Medicines to Person with Disability

The Kottayam Social Service Society organized an event to distribute essential medicines to persons with disabilities, which

was inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George (Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor). In her inaugural address he called upon our duty to build a strong inclusive culture to help those who belong to vulnerable sections of the society and narrow the

existing disparity through generous social welfare schemes. KSSS collaborated with Chicago Sacred Heart Knanaya Catholic Church to distribute essential medicines to around 50 persons with disability in the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam.



Transportation Facility for Differently Abled Children

As a part of the Jubilee celebration of the Community-Based Rehabilitation Project, KSSS arranged transportation services for children with disabilities to support their comprehensive development. This transport assistance was extended to children at the Agape Centre (special school) and Good Samaritan Resource Centre (training center) in Cherpunkal, managed by KSSS. The Echo vehicle, essential for the commute of differently abled children from their homes to the special school, was generously sponsored by Cochin Shipyard Limited as part of their CSR initiatives. The vehicle received a blessing from Mar. Mathew Moolakkattu, Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam.



Neurology Medical Camp for CBR

KSSS organizes quarterly neurological camps for differently abled at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre. On an average, 50 differently-abled people attend the camp. The diagnosis is done by Dr. Gracykutty Mathew (Neurologist). Services provided in the camp include free medicine distribution and counseling.

KSSS' DEAFBLIND PROJECT

'INSIGHT: Awareness Program for Social Nursing Students'



Kottayam Social Service Society, in partnership with Little Lourdes College of Nursing, Kidangoor, organized an awareness program titled 'Insight' for nursing students at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The inaugural ceremony was led by Sri. V. N Vasavan, Minister for Cooperation and Registration. The program focused on highlighting the diverse areas and social welfare initiatives undertaken by K.S.S.S to uplift economically disadvantaged vulnerable families in society, including rehabilitative services for deafblind individuals and their associated challenges. The informative sessions were conducted by Mrs. Shaila Thomas, the program officer, and Sr. Simi DCPB, the Special Educator.

Rehabilitation Project for Deafblind and Awareness Program for Health Workers

Kottayam Social Service Society organized an awareness program for the medical and paramedical health workers under the National Health Mission (NHM) Kottayam, as part of the welfare activities implemented in collaboration with Sense International India which aimed at the overall upliftment of the deafblind. Good Samaritan Resource Centre Cherpunkal, a state level learning centre aimed at holistic development of deafblind persons, is working under the leadership of KSSS.

Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Kottayam, Geevarghese Mar Aprem has inaugurated the function. Special educator, Sr. Simi DCPB and Program Officer Smt. Shyla Thomas took the session that based on the difficulties faced by person with deafblind, the need for early detection of the disabilities and various welfare activities for them in connection with the awareness program.

Field Visit and Evaluation of Deafblind Project

KSSS in collaboration with Sense International India conducted an evaluation of the deafblind program along with a field visit. The evaluation session was attended by Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, KSSS Executive Secretary, Mrs. Shaila Thomas, the program coordinator and other project staff. Sri. Sreenivasan Prasannan, the training officer of Sense International India, presided over the session. Following the evaluation, discussions were held regarding the activities to be undertaken. It was followed by the house visit.

May 8 - National Workshop on Deafblind Rehabilitation Project



Rehabilitation for deafblind individuals is crucial as it enhances their independence, communication skills, and overall quality of life. Kottayam Social Service Society organized a national workshop and project review as a part of its welfare activities in collaboration with Sense International India aimed at holistic upliftment of the deafblind. Tailored interventions can help them overcome challenges, fostering a sense of inclusion and empowerment in a world largely oriented towards sight and sound. Along with the mainstreaming of deafblind people, COVID survival activities were also discussed as part of the workshop. KSSS volunteers and special educators participated in the workshop organized by Sense International India for project stakeholders.

'KARUNYADOOTHU' for Differently Aabled – A Project of KSSS

Ensuring equitable medicine distribution to



differently aabled individuals is crucial for promoting inclusive healthcare. So, Kottayam Social Service

Society (KSSS) implemented a project called 'Karunyadoothu', which gives essential medicines for the differently aabled with the aim of comprehensive upliftment. Smt. Nirmala Jimmy, President-Kottayam District Panchayat, has inaugurated the distribution of medicines in a function organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. Essential medicines were distributed to around 100 differently aabled persons in Kottayam and Ernakulam districts.

'Inclusive Beginnings: Navigating a New School Year for All Abilities'



Kottayam Social Service Society has organized a school reopening ceremony for children with differently aabled. They gathered in Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. Volunteers of KSSS welcomed them with balloons, gifts and placards. Smt. Arya Rajendran, President – Ettumanoor Block Panchayat, has inaugurated the ceremony. Differently aabled children and their parents from Agape Special Schools in Kaipuzha & Kumarakom, Agape Bhavan and Good Samaritan Resource Centre Cherpunkal, has participated in the school reopening ceremony. KSSS-led special schools are working with the aim of providing vocational training and entrepreneurship opportunities to differently aabled children and their families.

'MINNAMINNI' Camp 2022

A two-day camp "MINNAMINNI" was organized as part of the

Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) project being implemented under the leadership of

the Kottayam Social Service Society with the aim of comprehensive development of the differently aabled. Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA has inaugurated the camp. The camp plays a crucial role in fostering inclusivity, providing a supportive environment for personal growth, building self-esteem, and encouraging social interactions through awareness sessions, cultural programs, competitions and picnics.



'Empowering Diverse Abilities: A Journey of Upliftment'



Embracing the unique strengths of differently-aabled individuals, we strive for inclusivity and empowerment. KSSS has organized an awareness program for the parents of differently-aabled children as part of the Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) project. Adv. Mons Joseph MLA has inaugurated the awareness program organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom. In connection with the awareness program, Sri. P U Thomas, Navajeevan Trust has interacted with the parents. KSSS is in collaboration with SENSE International India with the aim of protecting the rights of differently-aabled children and providing opportunities for mainstreaming.

Helen Keller Day Celebration



Helen Keller, the remarkable woman whose indomitable spirit overcame the obstacles of blindness and deafness. The function was conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre Thellakom and it was led by KSSS and Sense International India for the welfare of deafblind. Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese has inaugurated the function. In this day, KSSS honoured deafblind students who have achieved excellent results in the SSLC and +2 examinations. Cultural activities, games and seminars were conducted. Good Samaritan Resource Centre, Cherpunkal is a state-level study centre for deafblind which is working under the guidance of KSSS.

'Fostering Social Awareness and Advocacy for the Differently Aabled and Deafblind'



In today's diverse and inclusive society, cultivating empathy and social awareness among students is paramount. The session was conducted by KSSS collaborated with Lourdes College of Nursing, Kidangoor serves as a pivotal platform for fostering a deep understanding of the challenges faced by the differently-abled and deafblind individuals. Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA has inaugurated the program. By providing insights into their daily lives, challenges, and triumphs, the class encourages students to broaden their perspectives and embrace the principles of inclusivity.

August 10 - Awareness Study Camp for Anganwadi Teachers and Health Workers

The Kottayam Social Service Society organized an awareness study camp for

Anganwadi teachers and health workers as part of their welfare initiatives. The main objective of the camp was to promote the overall development and integration of deafblind individuals

into society. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Arya Raj, the Block Panchayat President of Ettumanoor, and the presidential address was given by Smt. Alice Joseph, the Vice President of Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat. Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, the Executive Secretary of KSSS and Mrs. Shaila Thomas, the Program Officer also delivered speeches. The sessions on the challenges faced by deafblind people, protection of their rights and welfare activities were led by Sr. Simi DCPB and Mrs. Preethi Prathapan, who are special educators.



'A Tribute to Exceptional Educators on Teachers' Day'



KSSS has organized an event dedicated to honouring the remarkable contributions of our special school teachers and trainers. The celebration was inaugurated by Executive Secretary of KSSS, Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor. KSSS has come together to express gratitude for the unwavering dedication, passion, and hard work that these educators invest in shaping the minds of future generations. Through their tireless efforts, they become guiding stars, illuminating the path of knowledge for their students. This event serves as a platform to acknowledge their invaluable role in nurturing intellect, instilling values, and fostering a love for learning.

'Empowering Health: Inclusive Medicine Distribution Initiatives by KSSS'

In a commendable effort to bridge the healthcare accessibility gap, KSSS has taken a significant stride with this initiative.



Recognizing the unique challenges faced by differently-abled individuals in accessing essential medications, KSSS has embarked on a mission to ensure equitable healthcare for all. Smt. Arya Rajan, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat President has inaugurated the function. By implementing innovative distribution strategies and fostering collaborations with medical providers, KSSS aims to break down barriers and provide seamless access to medicines for individuals with diverse abilities. This initiative not only underscores the organization's commitment to inclusivity but also serves as a beacon of hope for those who often find themselves marginalized in the realm of healthcare.

'A Transformative 3-Day Mental Health Study Camp for Families and Volunteers of Deafblind Individuals'

KSSS in collaboration with Sense International India conducted a ground-breaking 3-day mental health study camp designed specifically for the families and volunteers of deafblind individuals. This transformative experience aims to create a supportive and enriching environment where participants can deepen their understanding of the unique challenges faced by the deafblind community. Smt. Priya Gupta, International - India Psychologist, who lead the sessions.

Through a series of workshops, interactive sessions, and expert-led discussions, attendees will gain valuable insights into effective communication strategies, emotional well-being, and resilience-building for both themselves and their loved ones. It is not just a camp; it's a journey of empowerment, fostering connections, and cultivating a community of understanding and support for those living with deaf blindness.

State Level Advocacy Meet on Deafblind

Deaf blindness is a significant disability that poses immense challenges for individuals affected by it. Unfortunately, there is limited



access to the necessary support and insufficient existing support for deafblind people. To address the rehabilitation needs of individuals with deafblindness and ensure appropriate assistance, K.S.S.S organized a State Level Advocacy Meeting on Deafblind. This meeting conducted both online and offline was held in collaboration with Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation. The objective was to align with the initiatives of relevant state government departments and civil society organizations to promote the inclusion of individuals with deafblindness. The event at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom was inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George (Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor). Representatives from Sense International India, Malankara Social Service Society, and Bathery Shreyas were present at the meeting.

'Karunyadoothu: Bridging Healthcare Gaps for Differently Aabled Individuals through KSSS' Medicine Distribution Program'

Karunyadoothu - through this initiative, KSSS strive to ensure that vital medicines reach those who require them, irrespective of physical or cognitive differences. Sri Saji Thadathil, President of Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat has inaugurated the function. Recognizing the challenges faced by the differently-abled in accessing healthcare, our program focuses on the equitable distribution of medicines tailored to their specific needs.



By collaborating with healthcare professionals, organizations, and communities, we aim to create a seamless network that facilitates the efficient and compassionate delivery of pharmaceuticals. Our mission is not just about providing medications; it's about empowering lives and promoting a society where every individual, regardless of ability, has equal access to the essential healthcare resources they deserve.

A Collaborative Health Awareness Session and Hygiene Kit Distribution for the Differently Aabled

An impactful initiative aimed at enhancing the well-being of the differently-abled community by KSSS and partnering organizations like Catholic



Health Association of India and Misereor Germany. The programme was inaugurated by Geevarghese Mar Aprem, Auxiliary Bishop of Archeparchy of Kottayam. The comprehensive health awareness session seeks to raise awareness about the unique health challenges faced by individuals with different abilities.

Through informative sessions and expert talks, we aim to empower participants with knowledge to foster a healthier lifestyle. Additionally, we distributed hygiene kits carefully designed to cater to the specific needs of the differently-abled. The event serves as a beacon of inclusivity, promoting a society where everyone, regardless of ability, can access essential health resources.

'Samagra Shiksha Kerala: Awareness Session for Special Educators'

KSSS aims to equip special educators with the latest insights, tools, and strategies necessary for fostering an inclusive learning environment. Through engaging discussions, case studies, and practical demonstrations,

participants will delve into the diverse needs of students with special requirements, gaining valuable insights into adapting teaching methodologies to address individual learning styles. The session was inaugurated by Sri. Saji Thadathil, President-Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat. The session emphasized collaborative approaches, fostering a sense of community among educators, parents, and stakeholders. By the end of the enlightening program, special educators got empowered with the knowledge and skills to create inclusive classrooms that celebrate diversity and provide equal opportunities for all learners in the unique context of Kerala.



Assistive Device Distribution for Differently-Abled

As part of the silver jubilee of our impactful CBR project, KSSS takes immense pride in reflecting



on the remarkable strides made in enhancing the lives of differently-abled individuals through our assistive device distribution project. The program was inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George, Chairperson-Ettumanoor Municipality.

Over the past twenty-five years, our commitment to inclusivity and empowerment has driven us to provide tailored solutions that break down barriers and foster independence. From state of the art mobility aids to innovative communication devices, our project has been a beacon of hope for countless individuals facing physical challenges.

Down Syndrome Day

World Down Syndrome Day (WDS), 21st March, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.



The date for WDS being the 21st March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. The theme of World Down Syndrome Day 2022 is '#InclusionMeans'.

Smt. K. V. Bindhu (President, Kottayam District Panchayat) has inaugurated the event organized by the Kottayam Social Service Society to observe World Down Syndrome Day at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. The aim of the programme was to raise public awareness and create a single global voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of people with Down syndrome. The day was celebrated with lot of fun activities and cultural programs by children with Down syndrome.

PTA Meeting

Parents Teachers Association (PTA) Meetings are organized once in a quarter at Agape Center under Deafblind Project in the presence of Program Coordinator. A quarterly assessment report of the activities and trainings imparted to the children including the status of each child and the areas to be focused or improved is presented.

CASE STUDY

**“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement.
Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.” - Helen Keller**

When you always experience sad situations you give up hope in life. Anaswara Anil Kumar is an 11 year old child and the youngest child in the family. Similar is the situation with Anaswara's mother. She hails from Kanichukulangara village in Alappuzha, Kerala and she lives with her parents and her brother. Her father has a flower shop and mother is a house wife. Meanwhile her brother is pursuing his graduation. The family faces economic hardships and stays in a shed.

In 2019, the KSSS Special Educator, in collaboration with the SSA teacher, identified a child who was bedridden and exhibited delayed development milestones. The child, named Anaswara, demonstrated challenges such as lack of communication, poor motor coordination, impaired vision, and hearing issues. Further medical examination revealed that she was born with congenital rubella syndrome, leading to both hearing and vision problems along with Cerebral Palsy.

Upon assessment by the KSSS team, Anaswara's family was briefed about her specific needs and the necessary interventions for her development. The family received guidance on the importance of specialized training, and psychological support was provided through counseling sessions.

Collaboratively, the KSSS team and Anaswara's parents formulated an Individualized Education Plan. Training sessions were conducted in various areas including Activities of Daily Living (ADL), Motor Skills, Mobility and Orientation, Communication, Education, and Sensory Training. Home-based training was administered by the staff, introducing the family to sensory training, which proved to be a confidence booster for them and opened new avenues for Anaswara.

Under the Samagra Shiksha Kerala (SSK) scheme, Anaswara was successfully enrolled in a regular school. Additionally, she benefited from the Social Security Scheme, obtaining a Disability Certificate, Niramaya Health Insurance, Disability Pension, Scholarship, and Ashwasakiran support. Educational materials and assistive devices were also provided under the SSK scheme.

Consistent interventions and training led to remarkable improvements in Anaswara's life.

Continuous physiotherapy enhanced her motor development, enabling her to stand with support, while her communication skills progressed to understanding and responding to simple commands.

The positive transformations in Anaswara's life brought a renewed sense of hope to her family. Anaswara's mother, who initially faced challenges and societal pressure, expressed her new found confidence and optimism. Grateful for the support from KSSS, Sense International India, and Azim Premji Foundation, the family now envisions Anaswara's journey towards independence.

Anaswara's mother has taken on the responsibility of efficiently conducting Anaswara's training at home. The collective efforts of the KSSS team and the significant progress made by Anaswara have exceeded the family's expectations. Today, she can stand with support, and her mother is confident that Anaswara will continue progressing towards independence. The family expresses gratitude to Sense International India and Azim Premji Foundation for their generous support, turning their dreams of integration and independence into a reality.



SPECIAL EVENTS

World Health Day Observation

'Our Planet, Our Health'

"Happiness is the highest form of health." - Dalai Lama

KSSS in collaboration with the Kottayam District Health Department and Arogya Keralam observed World Health Day on April 7, 2022, at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Shri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan MLA has inaugurated the program and Adv. Mons Joseph MLA, delivered the presidential address. As part of the World Health Day, a book release function for "Climate Change and Health Problems" published by the Health Department took place. The handbook was released by Adv. Job Michael MLA and the keynote speech was delivered by Dr. N. Priya (Kottayam District Medical Officer).

Other notable speakers included Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor, Executive Secretary of KSSS, Smt. Arya Rajan, President of Ettumanoor Block Panchayat, Mrs. Bincy Sebastian, Kottayam Municipal Chairperson, Mrs. Lovely George, Ettumanoor Municipal Chairperson, Mrs. Alice Joseph, Athirampuzha Grama Panchayat Vice President, Mr. Ajay Mohan, Arogya Keralam Kottayam District Program Manager and Mr.



Domi John, Kottayam District Mass Media Officer. During the program, Dr. Ajay Mohan, Arogya Keralam Kottayam District Program Manager, conducted a session on Environment and Airborne Diseases and Dr. A. R. Bhagyashree, Nava Kerala Project District Coordinator led a session on "One World, One Health." Additionally, Prof. Vinesh V. Nair, Professor of the Civil Engineering Department at Rajeev Gandhi Institute of Technology conducted a seminar. The program was attended by health workers in Kottayam district and staff of KSSS., emphasizing the theme "Our Planet, Our Health; Clean our air, water, and food."

Earth Day 2022

"We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers; we have borrowed it from our children."

This year marks the 52nd Earth Day and Kottayam Social Service Society celebrated the Earth Day with enthusiasm. This year's theme, "Invest in Our Planet," was commemorated with an inaugural ceremony featuring Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP. The event included a presidential address by Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy, Kottayam District Panchayat President. Speeches were delivered by Fr. Mathews Valiyaputhenpurayil, KSSS Assistant Secretary, Smt. Sherly Zacharias, Assistant Director of Kottayam District Soil Testing Laboratory; Shri. T. C. Roy, Councilor of Kottayam Municipality and Mr. Sijo Joseph,



the Program Officer. As part of the 52nd Earth Day Celebration, a seminar conducted by Smt. Sherly Zacharias addressed earth conservation and an action plan for conservation was developed. Members of Self Help Groups actively participated in the program.

Mother's Day Celebration

On the occasion of mother's day, Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) organized mother's day celebration. It raises awareness about women's



rights, challenges stereotypes, and fosters a more inclusive and equitable society. President of Kottayam District Panchayat, Smt. Nirmala Jimmy has inaugurated the mother's day celebration organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. A seminar and various competitions for mothers were organized in connection with the mother's day celebration. It was organized with the participation of representatives of mothers of KSSS self-help groups in Kottayam, Idukki, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Ernakulam Districts. Recognizing the significance of women's contributions is essential for progress and building a world where all individuals, regardless of gender can thrive.

'Resilience in Remembrance: Honouring Widow's Day & Observing Strength through SHGs'

The celebration of widow day stands as a poignant



reminder of the strength and resilience exhibited by widows in our society. KSSS sheds light on the empowering initiatives taken through Self-Help Groups (SHGs) - 'Navomi' - to support and uplift widows. Auxiliary Bishop - Archdiocese of Kottayam, Gheevarghese Mar Aprem has inaugurated the widow's day observation and gathering of Navomi group members from Ernakulam, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Alappuzha districts. The meeting was conducted at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Distribution of vegetable seeds and a seminar was also conducted as part of the function, which was led by Dr. Prof Rosamma Sony.

Independence Day Celebration



The Kottayam Social Service Society took great pride in commemorating the 75th Independence Day with profound respect and honor. This occasion held special significance as military ex-servicemen joined in

the celebration. Shri. V. N Vasavan, Minister for Co-operation and Registration inaugurated the event during which 96 veterans were acknowledged and felicitated for their dedicated service to the

nation. As part of the Independence Day festivities, Dr. Rosamma Sony, Member of the Kottayam District Panchayat led a seminar. Around 500 SHG members attended the program.

'Harvest Joy: Onam Celebrations in Full Bloom'



KSSS and Chaithanya Pastoral Centre conducted onam celebration, which was a vibrant and joyous occasion that brings together the spirit of unity and cultural diversity. As an organization committed to social welfare, KSSS believe in fostering a sense of belonging and inclusivity among KSSS members and the community. The joyous laughter, vibrant colours, and shared meals during the Onam celebration exemplify the values of togetherness and compassion that are at the core of KSSS's mission. Through such cultural festivities, KSSS aim to create a sense of community, foster understanding, and celebrate the richness of our shared humanity.

Celebrating Migrant Workers' Day



Migrant Workers' Day serves as a poignant reminder of the invaluable contributions made by individuals who traverse boundaries in search of better opportunities and livelihoods. This annual celebration of KSSS in collaboration with Caritas India was inaugurated by Dr. Kurian Joseph, Medical Officer Kottayam PHC, honours the resilience, dedication, and cultural diversity that migrant workers bring to societies worldwide. On commemorate this day, KSSS reflect on the challenges faced by migrant workers and advocate for fair treatment, equal opportunities, and the protection of their rights. By fostering a global environment that recognizes and values the significant role played by these individuals, we can work towards building a more inclusive and compassionate world for everyone, regardless of their place of origin.

ELDERLY DAY CELEBRATION



It is up to our elders to predict the future, as they have lived the past and know what it takes to make the world stronger. As part of International Day for elderly people, Kottayam Social Service Society celebrated it in a traditional way with an aim to raise awareness about issues affecting the elderly. It is also a day to appreciate the contributions that the older people make to our society.

The programme organized at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre was inaugurated by Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese). As part of the elderly day celebration, a seminar was conducted which was led by Dr. Rosamma Sony (Member of the Kottayam District Panchayat). KSSS support for the aged can make a difference as the elderly have helped us in the past. It is up to us to help them out just as well. Around 150 elders participated in the program.

'Harmony in Action: Social Justice Day Celebration by KSSS'

In commemoration of Social Justice Day, KSSS proudly celebrated the principles of equity, inclusivity, and advocacy for a fair and just society. The program was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal, Executive Director of

Kerala Social Service Forum.

The event serves as a platform to spotlight the collective efforts of

individuals and communities dedicated to addressing social injustices. The session was led by K U Marykutty, Ex-Chairperson of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Kottayam. Through engaging activities, insightful discussions, and impactful initiatives, we aim to foster a sense of unity and empowerment.



A Christmas Celebration Uniting Hearts and Families with KSSS

In the spirit of love and togetherness, KSSS orchestrated a heart-warming Christmas celebration that transcended traditional boundaries, bringing together not only the dedicated team but also the cherished families that support KSSS. Auxiliary Bishop of Arch eparchy of Kottayam, Gheevarghese Mar Aprem was inaugurated the celebration at Chaitanya Pastoral Centre. The celebration was not just a festive gathering; it was a testament to the power of unity and compassion. Laughter echoed through the halls as families, side by side with our KSSS members, shared the joy of the season. From decorating the Christmas tree to crafting handmade ornaments, the atmosphere was filled with warmth and creativity. Together, we embraced the true meaning of Christmas – a time for generosity, gratitude, and the joy of being surrounded by loved ones.



World Women's Day Observation

The United Nation's theme for International Women's Day-2022 is "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" in recognition and celebration of the women and girls who are leading the charge on climate change adaptation and response and to honor their leadership and contribution towards a sustainable future.

Women Empowerment being one of KSSS' major thrust areas, Women's Day programmes were organized in an extensive manner in the Regions of KSSS with huge participation. The function was jointly inaugurated by Ms. Liz Jaimon Jacob (Miss Kerala 2022), Ms. Annie Babu (Director of Santhwanam, Kottayam), Ms. Nisha Snehakoodu (Director of Snehakoodu Abhaya Mandiram, Kottayam) and Ms. Jilumol Mariot Thomas (a person with disability). The distinguished inaugurators who are achievers in different spheres of the society were honored with ponnada and memento by Mar Mathew Moolakkatt (Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam). In addition women's scooter slow race and arm wrestling competitions were



International Water Day - 2022

Theme 2022- Groundwater: making the invisible visible



World Water Day is held annually on 22nd March as a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. To emphasize the significance of freshwater, KSSS commemorated Water Day on March 22nd, engaging stakeholders to raise awareness about the conservation and management of water resources. The event was inaugurated by Smt. Lovely George (Municipal Chairperson, Ettumanoor) in the presence of Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Shri. James Kurian (Block Panchayat Vice President, Ettumanoor), Shri. Jonnies P. Stephen (Grama Panchayath President, Uzhavoor), Shri. Thomas Kottoor (Block Panchayat Member, Ettumanoor) and Fr. Sijo Aalparayil (Asst. Secretary, KSSS). Dr. Rosamma Sony led a session during this event focusing on the theme 'Save water today, secure your tomorrow' in the midst of this urgent hour.

Chaithanya Agri Expo and SHG Fest 2022

KSSS JEEVAKARUNYA NIDHI COMMUNITY FUND

Each year KSSS conducts the 'Chaithanya Agriculture Fest'. As part of the program, KSSS through its animators mobilizes a fund through the sale of coupons. The fund thus collected is utilized to assist the poor and deserving patients suffering from chronic illnesses such as cancer, heart and brain diseases in the operational villages of KSSS.



Unveiling Of KSSS' Annual SHG - Fest & Chaithanya Karshikamela Logo

The logo for the 23rd KSSS Annual SHG - Fest & Chaithanya Karshikamela was unveiled by, Shri. K. Krishnankutty, Minister for Electricity - Govt. of Kerala. The SHG cum Agricultural Fest which is a blend of celebrating social relations and communal harmony embraces agriculture, environment protection, health, food safety, entertainment, animal husbandry, charitable works among several others, is being conducted from November 20th to 26th at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom.



Grand Pre Launch Events for Chaithanya Agricultural Fest 2023

The 'Vilambara Sandesha Yathra' event which served as a precursor to the Chaithanya Agricultural Fest was a delightful pre-launch event organized by the Kottayam Social Service Society. The flagging off ceremony was held at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom and officially flag off was done by Adv. Mons Joseph, MLA. Notable individuals such as Smt. Nirmala Jimmy (District Panchayat President, Kottayam), Rev Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS), Smt. Bincy Sebastian (Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam) and volunteers from KSSS participated in the function. The Food Security Campaign vehicle travelled across villages in the operational areas of KSSS in five districts; Kottayam, Alappuzha, Idukki, Ernakulam, and Pathanamthitta.



23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Get-Together 2022: Tent Raising Ceremony

Under the auspices of KSSS, as part of the preparation for the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Get-together held from 21st to 27th in collaboration with State Agricultural Department, successfully completed the tent raising ceremony for the exhibition and sales booths presided over by Shri. Thomas Chazhikadan MP.



A Pavilion for Crop Exhibition

The pavilion at the 23rd agricultural fest and grand fest of self-help groups showcased a diverse range of crops, capturing the attention of visitors and highlighting the immense farming potential in Kerala. The pavilion featured a vast collection of commonly grown crops in Kerala, and it was inaugurated by Adv. G.R. Anil (Minister for Food and Civil Supplies). Notable individuals such as Gheevarghese Mar Aprem (Auxiliary Bishop of Kottayam Archdiocese), Mrs. Nirmala Jimmy (District Panchayat President, Kottayam), Dr. P. K. Jayasree IAS (District Collector & Patron, Chaithanya Karshikamela 2022), and Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) participated in the event to witness the impressive display of crops. The pavilion was organized by different regions of the Kottayam Social Service Society.



23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Get-together

Kottayam Social Service Society (KSSS) has been conducting Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest since 1998 onwards. It is one of the best-conducted Annual Agricultural Fests in the central part of Kerala. The number of participants to the Chaithanya Karshikamela has been increasing year after year due to the wide publicity and quality of programmes conducted. The fest serves as a platform for the poor and marginal farmers to exhibit and sell their agricultural products in front of a wide public. Various agricultural competitions, Exhibition and sale of agricultural crops, seminars, quiz programmes, participation of Government and Non-Government organizations etc. are some of the specialties of the Chaithanya Karshikamela. During the last eight years, KSSS conducted the Agri-Fest in collaboration with the Government of Kerala and Agricultural Ministry.



KSSS Annual SHG Fest and Chaithanya Karshikamela is a peoples' movement as it is



organized, driven and celebrated by the people. Around 5 lakh people attend the fest which is a confluence of traditional and cultural events and competitions – a venue for information, entertainment and harmony. KSSS has successfully conducted Annual Agricultural Fest and get together of Self Help Groups over the last 22 years. KSSS was privileged to have Bharat Ratna, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to inaugurate the Karshikamela in 2012.



This year the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG get-together was conducted from 21st to 27th November, 2022 at Chaithanya Pastoral Centre, Thellakom. Diverse and novel programmes have been included in this 23rd Agricultural Fest. Educational seminars, quiz programmes, crop exhibitions, Government Department exhibition stalls, agricultural competitions, cultural programmes, over 200 Exhibition cum sales stalls, traditional food stalls, amusement park, exhibition and sale of exotic varieties of plants, animals, birds, fishes etc. Best crop exhibition competition, sale and display of seeds and saplings, inauguration of social development programs of KSSS and presence of prominent personalities in the socio - political - religious realms among others, shall enrich the seven days of the fest.



Rev. Fr. Sunil Perumanoor (Executive Secretary, KSSS) hoisted the flag on 22 November which was observed as Sarga Sangamam Day. The second day of the fair was dedicated to promote the welfare of the differently – abled and help them lead a comfortable life. Cultural programs of CBR group members of KSSS for differently-abled were staged on this first day of fest. The inauguration of the fest was conducted by Shri. V. D. Satheesan (The Hon'ble Opposition Leader, Kerala). The day also included seminar on 'Food Security through Organic Farming' and cultural programs conducted by Uzhavoor Region.



The third day of the fest was observed as Food Security Day and was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Sabu Thomas (Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University) in the presence of Smt. Arya Rajan (President, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat), Smt. Bincy Sebastian (Municipal Chairperson, Kottayam), Rev. Fr. Jacob Mavunkal (Executive Director, Kerala Social Service Forum), Shri. Reji Varghese (District Development Manager, NABARD, Kottayam), Shri. Abhilash K. Divakaran (Kudambashree Mission Coordinator, Kottayam), Rev. Sr. Karuna SVM (Superior General, Visitation Congregation), Rev. Fr. Sibin Koottakallungal (Director, Malabar Social Service Society), Shri. T.C Roy (Councilor, Kottayam Municipality), Shri. Tomy Nannikunnel (President, St. Vincent De Paul, Kottayam), Shri. Johnys P. Stephen (Grama Panchayat President, Uzhavoor) and Rev. Fr. Chacko Vandankuzhiyil (Coordinator, Chaithanya Commission). The cultural program was conducted by Kaipuzha Region. Other than the agricultural and stage competitions, Mutholath Foundation Award for the Best SHG was presented. The day's program was closed with the Drama 'Mookkutthi' presented by



Kozhikode Rangabhasha.

The title for the fourth day of the fest was 'Paristhithi Sauhardha Dinam' (Environment Friendly Day) and official meeting was inaugurated by Shri K. Krishnankutty (Hon'ble Minister of Electricity, Kerala). The presidential address was delivered by Adv. Mons Joseph MLA. The third day was dignified by cultural events presented by Kidangoor Region and competitions like 'Ulli Polickal', Weight Balancing and Malayalee Manka. Rev. Fr. Kurian Thadathil (Chief Editor, Deepanalam) led a seminar on the topic 'Ripple Effects of Substance Abuse in the Society'. The third day gracefully ended with folk song visual display, Thurishumma Koontharo and mega talent show presented by Caritas College of Nursing and Pharmacy & Kidangoor Little Lourdes College of Nursing, Kottayam.

The fifth day observed as Swasrayasangama Day was inaugurated by Smt. J. Chinchurani (Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry). On the fifth day of the fest, various agricultural and stage competitions were held. The cultural programmes in the morning and afternoon were showcased by the SHG members of Edackat Region.

The sixth day of Karshikamela which was observed as SHG Skills Development Day (Naipunya Day) was inaugurated by Dr. N. Jayaraj (Govt. Chief Whip, Kerala). The competitions held for the day were kappa polikkal, Thakida Thakadhimi - fusion dance and the most attention grabbing event was Raja-Rani - couple dance competition. The stunning day ended up with mega comedy musical and dance night presented by television and cinema fame comedy super stars.

The seventh day of the fest was exclusively for KSSS Farmers' Meet. The last day of the fest was inaugurated by Shri. V. N. Vasavan (Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation, Registration, Culture, Cinema, Kerala). There was an array of cultural and agricultural programmes, competitions and cultural programmes. Finally, the winner of the Chaithanya Jeevakarunya Nidhi gift coupon was selected by lucky draw as announced.

The family day out at the amusement park was truly enjoyable. The roller-coaster rides provided an exhilarating experience and for those seeking family-friendly options, there were numerous rides and attractions to choose from. There was something for the little ones to delight in as well.

At the Karshikamela, every onlooker relished the food stalls nearby and the welcoming atmosphere. Numerous stalls focused on agricultural methods and techniques, aiming to raise awareness among farmers about both new and traditional approaches. The stall



showcasing organic products featured a variety of organic fruits, vegetables and crops cultivated by Self-Help Group (SHG) members, serving as a focal point of attraction at the fair.

Cultural events featuring each region of KSSS were arranged during the festival days. The fest also drew a significant crowd of local residents, school children, college students and professionals.

The involvement of both Governmental and Non-Governmental entities, along with exhibitions, sales, evening cultural programs, and amusement rides, transformed the karshikamela into a space that offered education, entertainment, and harmony for families and society as a whole.

The Best Ksheera Karshaka Award of Fr. Abraham Mutholath Foundation in the dairy farming sector was awarded to Mr. Leo James for his outstanding contributions in the field, at 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest organized by KSSS on 25th November 2022. The event was addressed by Smt. J. Chinchu Rani, Minister for Animal Husbandry & Dairy Development. The state's Best Ksheera Karshaka Award carried a cash of Rs 20,000.

Snake Master Vava Suresh Made a History in Agriculture Fest



Vava Suresh, an Indian wildlife conservationist and snake expert from Kerala, delivered an engaging and informative session on snakes in collaboration with the 23rd Chaithanya Agri Fest and the Annual Self-Help Group Get-Together organized by Kottayam Social Service Society. The awareness program transported the entire audience into the fascinating world of snakes, sharing numerous amazing

facts. His presentation emerged as the highlight of the Agri Fest and his captivating performance with venomous snakes left the spectators thrilled. On the seventh day of the Agri Fest thousands of people flocked to the venue to



witness this adventurous event.

Kottayam Family Receives Prestigious Kerala State Family Farming Award 2022

Mr. Pradeep Kumar and his family from Kottayam were honored with the Kerala State Family Farming Award 2022 by Mukalel Mathai - Leelamma for their exemplary agricultural practices. The award presented by Shri. V. Shivankutty (Minister for General Education and Labor) was a part of the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest organized by KSSS. The prestigious accolade for the Best Family Farming in the state included a cash prize of Rs 5,000.

Self Help Groups (SHGs) Award Function

The KSSS organized an awards event on November 23, 2022 to recognize and honor the exceptional performance of Self-Help Groups. The event coincided with the observance of Food Security Day during the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest. The prestigious Best Self Help Group of KSSS award was presented to Kripasouhridavedi Men SHG from Arunoottimangalam and Ezhumanikattu Men SHG

from Ettumanoor. The awards were conferred by Fr. Abraham Mutholath Foundation. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Sabu Thomas, Vice Chancellor, MG University.

Captivating Culture Night Showcases Spectacular Performances at 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest

As part of the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela and Annual SHG Fest, a captivating culture night was organized, offering a splendid display of various programs. These programs included cultural performances by KSSS - Self Help Groups, the drama 'Manju Peyunna Manasu' presented by Vaikom Malavika, "Mookkutthi" presented by Kozhikode Rangabhasha, a mega talent show presented by Caritas College of Nursing and Pharmacy & Kidangoor Little Lourdes College of Nursing in Kottayam, the dramatic magic show "Magic Palace" presented by Alappuzha Magic Vision and the "Comedy Musical and Dance Night" featuring renowned television and cinema fame comedy super stars. Additionally, there was a folk band music show presented by Karalapathy folk band from Cherthala. The Culture Night was inaugurated by Shri. Roshy Augustine (Minister for Water Resources).

'Gift Cascade: Celebrating Winners with a Symphony of Surprises'

In the spirit of joy and generosity, our 'Chaithanya Karshikamela' gift-coupon winners experienced a delightful cascade of surprises as we orchestrated the distribution of their well-deserved rewards. Picture a symphony of happiness, with each gift being a unique note contributing to the harmonious celebration of our fortunate recipients. From carefully curated selections to personalized tokens of appreciation, the distribution process was a crescendo of excitement, ensuring that each winner felt the warmth and thoughtfulness behind their special gifts.

'Gift Distribution Extravaganza at the 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela'

The 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela unfolded with an air of anticipation and festive fervour, culminating in a heart-warming through a grand gift distribution extravaganza. As attendees revelled in the agricultural marvels showcased at the event, the spirit of benevolence took centre stage. Organizers, sponsors, and volunteers joined hands to orchestrate a memorable distribution of gifts, symbolizing gratitude for nature's bounty and communal unity. The 23rd Chaithanya Karshikamela will forever be remembered not just as an agricultural showcase but as a testament to the generosity that flourishes when a community comes together in the spirit of harvest and happiness.



Kottayam Social Service Society

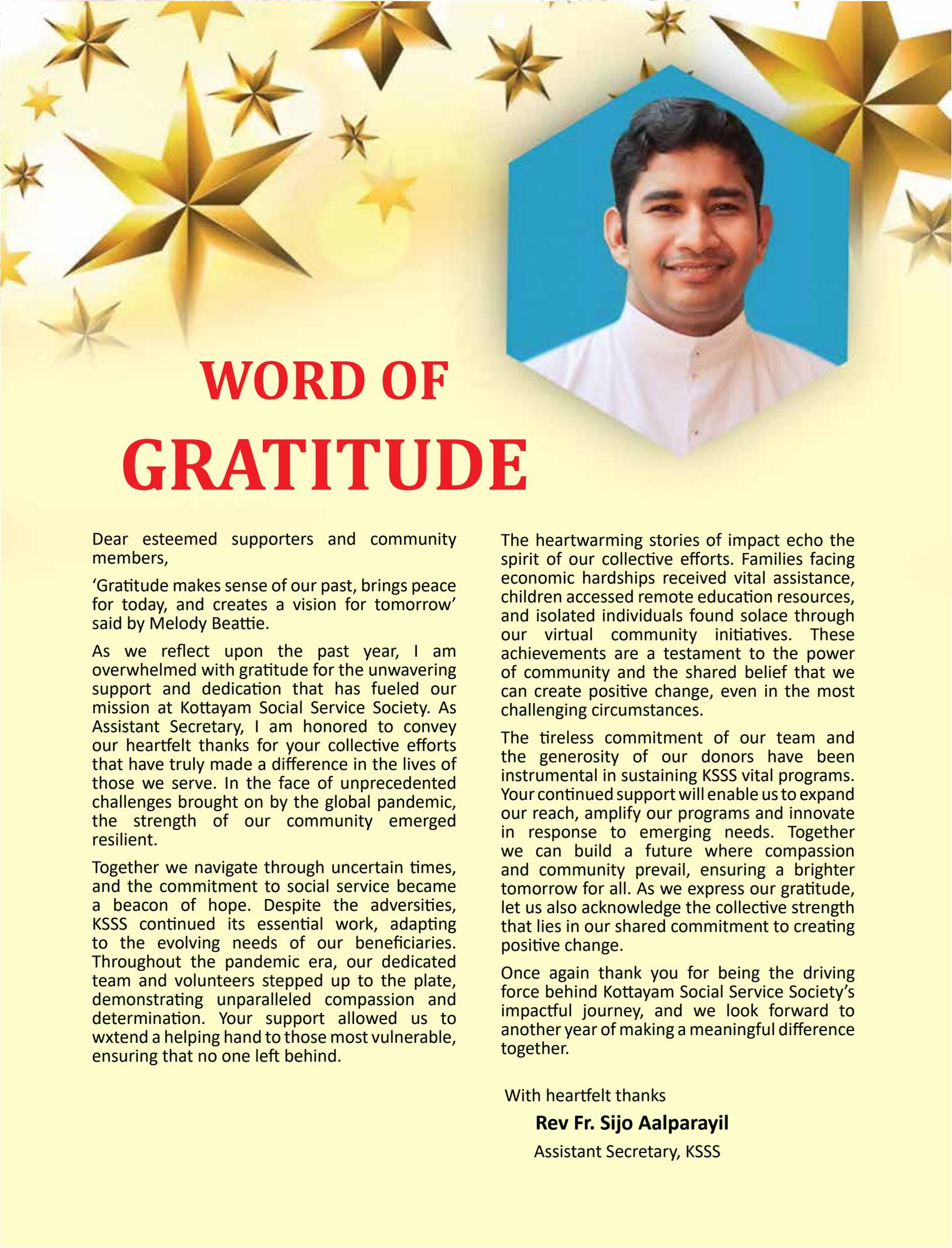
Balance Sheet as on 31.3.2023

Opening Balance as on 01.04.2022	Liabilites	Additions/ Deductions	Closing balance as on 31.03.2023
2,34,21,793.21	Capital Account		
	Add- Excess of income over expenditure	1381073.58	2,48,02,866.79
11,38,41,819.00	Corpus donation received		11,38,41,819.00
50,000.00	Staff welfare fund		50,000.00
1,67,42,180.00	Jeevakaruniya Nidhi Fund	590500	1,73,32,680.00
2,00,000.00	Karshaka Award fund	-25000	1,75,000.00
	Current Liabilites		
65,89,302.81	Project Money Pending Utilization (FC)	572223.1	71,61,525.91
35,87,768.00	Loans,Advances,Expenses payables	23331	36,11,099.00
	Loan from KSBCDC for Micro Credit to Backward		
1,08,64,027.00	and Minority	-4075765	67,88,262.00
17,52,96,890.02	Total		17,37,63,252.70
Opening Balance as on 01.04.2022	ASSETS	Additions/ Deductions	Closing balance as on 31.03.2023
10,82,39,775.00	Fixed Assets	174948	10,84,14,723.00
	Current Assets		
77,800.00	Deposits for services		77,800.00
80,13,276.00	Loans & Advances Given	848924	88,62,200.00
89,02,450.00	Micro Credit Loans to SHGS	-3668257	52,34,193.00
5,37,016.00	Income tax TDS refundable	160206	
	Less-Refund Received	-537016	1,60,206.00
4,67,960.00	Advance -Granny Granded Scheme		4,67,960.00
1,18,000.00	Income Tax Appeal deposit		1,18,000.00
22,51,667.00	Housing Scheme -Excess Expenditure		22,51,667.00
13,39,419.93	Advance to Agape Center Cherpunkal	13653	
	Less Excess Of Expenditure	-133825	12,19,247.93
1,27,59,526.36	Advance to SRC -Cherpunkal	-955000	
	Add:Excess of Income	446789.94	1,22,51,316.30
1,16,492.00	Advance -Suppliers , Individuals and Staff	136946	2,53,438.00
	Cash & Bank Balance		
2,69,49,207.00	Fixed Deposit		2,96,61,308.00
54,41,862.73	Bank A/c		47,41,489.47
82,438.00	Cash		49,704.00
17,52,96,890.02	Total		17,37,63,252.70

Kottayam Social Service Society

Income & Expenditure For the year ended 31.03.2023

Particulars	Income	Expense
Project Donations & Exp		
Awareness and Exhibition Programme	17,29,850.00	11,14,302.00
LSCIM Income Generation Programme	3,84,836.00	3,87,370.00
Donation for IGP Aid for CBR Families	2,50,000.00	2,50,000.00
Donation for Medical support for CBR Children	2,40,000.00	1,20,000.00
Tailoring machine for CBR families	1,87,500.00	73,650.00
Tailoring Training Programme-USHA International	1,43,200.00	1,04,550.00
Donation Received for Community Based Rehabilitation programme	1,42,813.00	84,834.00
KSWWB service project Grant	98,103.00	1,17,819.00
Donation for Assistive device for CBR Children	84,630.00	
India Donates Project for Children with Deaf /Blinds	83,520.00	62,939.00
Skill training Programme in advanced Sewing -NABARD	78,000.00	3,47,715.00
Energy Management Centre Grant	24,418.00	18,418.00
Deaf and Blind Training Programme	20,988.00	32,963.00
Housing aid project	5,54,298.00	8,88,395.00
Deaf blind project(Sense International)	23,78,664.00	23,78,444.10
Holistic development of DB Children(Kindermission)	29,54,863.64	35,75,057.00
Income Generation Programme-Workshop running	7,54,300.00	10,87,152.00
Donation for General Charitable Activities	10,86,694.71	
Yuvakeralam project Expenses		5,64,224.00
Other Social & Rural Development Programmes	52,53,513.00	15,84,197.00
Administrative Income & Expense	24,54,468.00	37,57,193.51
DDUGKY Project expense		7,15,105.00
Excess Income/Expenditure of Departments:-		
Samaritan Resorce Center -Cherpunkal	4,46,789.94	
Agape Bhaven -Cherpunkal		1,33,825.00
FC Project money to be utilized transfer from balance sheet		5,72,223.10
Excess of Income over Expenditure		13,81,073.58
Total	1,93,51,449.29	1,93,51,449.29



WORD OF GRATITUDE



Dear esteemed supporters and community members,

'Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow' said by Melody Beattie.

As we reflect upon the past year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication that has fueled our mission at Kottayam Social Service Society. As Assistant Secretary, I am honored to convey our heartfelt thanks for your collective efforts that have truly made a difference in the lives of those we serve. In the face of unprecedented challenges brought on by the global pandemic, the strength of our community emerged resilient.

Together we navigate through uncertain times, and the commitment to social service became a beacon of hope. Despite the adversities, KSSS continued its essential work, adapting to the evolving needs of our beneficiaries. Throughout the pandemic era, our dedicated team and volunteers stepped up to the plate, demonstrating unparalleled compassion and determination. Your support allowed us to extend a helping hand to those most vulnerable, ensuring that no one left behind.

The heartwarming stories of impact echo the spirit of our collective efforts. Families facing economic hardships received vital assistance, children accessed remote education resources, and isolated individuals found solace through our virtual community initiatives. These achievements are a testament to the power of community and the shared belief that we can create positive change, even in the most challenging circumstances.

The tireless commitment of our team and the generosity of our donors have been instrumental in sustaining KSSS vital programs. Your continued support will enable us to expand our reach, amplify our programs and innovate in response to emerging needs. Together we can build a future where compassion and community prevail, ensuring a brighter tomorrow for all. As we express our gratitude, let us also acknowledge the collective strength that lies in our shared commitment to creating positive change.

Once again thank you for being the driving force behind Kottayam Social Service Society's impactful journey, and we look forward to another year of making a meaningful difference together.

With heartfelt thanks

Rev Fr. Sijo Aalparayil

Assistant Secretary, KSSS

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christoffel blindenmissie

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International
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SAVE A FAMILY PLAN
IN INDIA SINCE 1965
PARTNERING WITH THE POOR
FOR A JUST WORLD



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**SOUTH
INDIAN Bank**
**SOUTH INDIAN
BANK**

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INTERNATIONAL
INDIA**

**Liliane
Fonds**

open the world
for a child
with a disability

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GERMANY**

NAI ROSHNI

**VISITATION
GENERALATE**



**PIZZA
HUT**

**Reliance
Foundation**

**Azim Premji
Foundation**

SBI
State Bank Of India
**STATE BANK
OF INDIA**

**yuva
Keralam**
A KUDUMASHREE SKILLING INITIATIVE

**AGAPE
MOVEMENT**

KSSF

LACIM
Les Amis d'un Coin de l'Inde et du Monde



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