

“Care and love to all...”



Annual Report of 2012 – 13
(April to March)

Dear Friends,

We are happy to reach you all once again with a report of the positive outcomes of our many activities here in South India. We have had another satisfying and meaningful year with the support of all our donors, well wishers, staff and beneficiaries. Let us take you on a tour of what we have been up to through this annual report and share the joy in serving that we enjoyed this year.

Mission

“Regenboog India Foundation was founded to bring smiles and satisfaction to the needy people in the society by providing the necessary services and opportunities for them. It is dedicated to the society and promotes Rural Health Care, Children Welfare, Education and Environment Care.”

All of our activities throughout the year were aligned with our mission statement. Our team members were again reminded that the first step in providing good service is to clearly understand the needs of the beneficiary. Once this occurs, service should be provided without delay and without compromising the quality of the service. The entire team took the challenge of meeting these standards at a very personal level and delivered the best of services to our beneficiaries. This made it possible to achieve the goals that we set for this year.

We are so grateful to our major supporting organizations Verein Arunachala Rising Sun, Stichting Medische Kampen India, Verein Arunachala Village School, So Hum Foundation, Shanthimalai Trust, AHAM, Philips Electronics India and all other individual donors for their continuous support and guidance towards sustaining and growing all of our projects. Many have been here to see the activities and observe the field works and have motivated the team to go further towards the aim of Regenboog India.



Goals for 2012 – 13:

Following are the goals for the 2012 – 13 financial year set by our team. With the exception of the mobile library vehicle, all goals were met which is particularly notable due to the large project of completing the Children’s Village. A new project, supporting fire fighting on the Arunachala Hill, was added due to increasing problems with runaway fires.

- Construction of Sarasvathi Children’s Village campus and occupancy.
- Starting medical services at Jawadhu hills with a dedicated team.
- Expanding the evening school locations.
- Developing a mobile library vehicle and putting it into service.
- Launching the website to increase the transparency of the organization.



An Overview of 2012 – 13:

- A Twenty-four Hour (weekly five days) Medical Facility was opened in Jawadhu Hills in June 2012. With the jeep remote distanced villages were also serviced. This year 10,721 patients were treated in Jawadhu Hills (Puliyur Sub-Health Center region), which was possible because of the dedicated staff team in this remote area, which previously has had little or no medical support.
- Sarasvathi Children’s Village was constructed in Vedyappanur Village and the children and staff moved in on December 13th.
- A new evening school was opened in Adhi Sheshan Nagar giving educational support to an average of 40 children every day.
- Teams have been developed to participate in the fire fighting on Arunachala Hill to prevent forest fires along with “The Forest Way,” an organization working for the greening of Mount Arunachala and preserving the heritage of this important landmark not only for Tiruvannamalai but also for all of India.

- The Regenboog website was completed and launched, providing information about the overall organization and the individual projects. It is an effort to increase the visibility and transparency of the organization to the public. (Credit goes to web designer Siva and content writer Prof. Patricia Moran)



Sarasvathi Children's Village

The aim of the Children's Village is to provide a peaceful, joyful, safe environment and caring shelter to children in need (abandoned, without family to care for them or in harmful situations etc.). It is not an orphanage because we believe that as long as "someone" is living, no body is an orphan. Until December 2012 when the village construction was completed the Children's "Home (now a village)" was operated from a rented house, which had many problems. The new campus is free of these problems and the envisioned peaceful environment is apparent to all.



In June 2012, the number of children in residence was increased to 33. All the children are receiving education and are attending six different schools in VEDIYAPPANUR Village and Tiruvannamalai. They are all given excellent care, love and the opportunity to enjoy childhood life and also are learning the values and ethics to be good humans in this world. They are given an opportunity to learn Bharathanattiyam (Classical Tamil dance), Karnatic vocal music, Veenai music instrument, and violin lessons during the weekends by experts. In

June they have also started learning the abacus being offered on a volunteer basis by Mr. Sakthi. This is a fun way that helps the children learn Mathematics and to remove fear of Mathematics.

The children celebrated all festivals and functions as part of their Indian Culture and Heritage making them happy and feeling they are a family. Also they went for handicraft training at Marudham School in Kananthampoondi Village, providing further motivation in learning and developing confidence.



We consider this a great year because we were able to construct the Children's Village campus. The project was completed including facing some troubles; one was in finding water sources. In the end, a big open well was dug. Getting water in the well wasn't so easy but finally with the grace of the God, the water is plenty. This campus is completely operated

by solar power, an example for clean energy to the children and the local community. Philips sponsored all the lighting requirements in this campus generously.

On 18th October 2012, the Sarasvathi Children's Village was inaugurated by Mr. Res Frei (Verein Arunachala Village School, Switzerland) and Mr. Peter Diener (President, Verein Arunachala Rising Sun, Switzerland). The children moved in to the campus on 13th December. Life in the new children's village campus is so exciting for the children, as they now have a good space to play, live and participate in family life. The children and staff are cultivating vegetables and sometimes even have surplus to sell.



Peter Diener and Res Frei are inaugurating the Children's Village

In the children's village campus there are three family/houses named after flowers chosen by the children - Hibiscus, Lotus and Glory Lily (Senganthal). Each family houses 11 children, one housemother, and one sister or aunt. So there are three families living in the Children's Village.



View of Children's Village

The Children's Village campus is open to all children; any child can come and play, study together, learn computers or learn classical dance, music, etc. Simply it is a great place for any children who want to share in the joyful times.



Moving in to the new spacious campus, increasing the inmates to 33, good educational developments, learning abacus, classical dance and music, the achievements were numerous. There were also some painful and tough situations that occurred with the staffing. Eight staff members were hired to care for the children but due to some staff's misconduct there was some confusion and conflict that arose. After making staff adjustments and much communication everything now is solved and working smoothly. And providing a moped for them, they are now slowly becoming independent in the day-to-day operation and together with the older girls and staff they are managing their family very well.

Success story:

Manjula is 3 years old. Both of her parents committed suicide as soon as she was born and so she never had the love and care of her parents. She was taken care of by her grandparents who are very poor and didn't have a house. When Manjula was admitted in to the Children's Village, she started having a good time and with clean clothes, proper food and good education, she is now the youngest in the Children's Village and a favorite of everyone including the children and staff.



Arunachala Village Medical Program

The aim of the medical program is to provide local, basic health care to the people living in rural remote villages with kind attention, love, and personal caring. As in the past, the dedicated medical team succeeded in reaching this goal.



In 2012-13 the rural health care services was expanded to a few more villages from June 2013 onwards. The major development in this year was that health service was divided into two separate teams, one for the plain area and one for the Jawadhu hills region.



The Jawadhu Hills team is comprised of a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, and a driver. With the support of Verein Arunachala Rising Sun, a used jeep was purchased for this purpose. It was not easy to find accommodation and food arrangement for the team. Finally the Village President of Puliur helped us to arrange these necessities. An unused Government sub-health center (which was abandoned by the Government for many years) was obtained. Volunteers cleaned and painted the building, and everything was repaired. This building also serves as the location for a medical clinic for the people. So people in the Puliur sub-health center region now have access to medical care 24 hours 5 days in a week. The team visits villages from 9am to 2 pm by jeep every day and then they stay at the clinic after lunch.



We had to temporarily suspend this service after February 2013 since the



doctor resigned. There are continued efforts to find a dedicated doctor for these valuable services to the people. Until a doctor is found our mobile clinic team visits once every 15 days to the service villages as an alternate plan. Totally 10,721 patients were treated on the Jawadhu Hills alone in 2012-13 period.



The mobile clinic team continued their services in the plain area as usual. They have visited many villages Monday to Friday. On two Saturdays in a month they have visited a few children's homes in town and the AVS School in Vedyappanur. Training nurses also joined us regularly to gain experience in the field along with our team. In 2012-13 year, we treated 40,084 patients by the mobile clinic team.

Apart from the regular services, our mobile clinic team was periodically involved in the tuberculosis identification and treatment program conducted by the National TB prevention program of the Government of India in Tiruvannamalai District.



Success story:

Venkatesan, a male aged about 35 years living in Melsilambadi village in the Jawadhu hills region met with an accident and fractured a bone in his leg. Due to his financial situation and lack of medical facility and transportation, he did not seek medical care and stayed at home. His wounds became septic and worsened dramatically. His wife approached us and requested we visit her

husband at their house as her husband was unable to come to us. After our first visit, we saw how difficult the situation was and we agreed to treat him every day as a special case. He was cured completely in a month. This special attention to this poor patient granted us a very good name to our dedicated services in the Jawadhu Hills.

Arunachala Evening Schools

The aim of the Arunachala Evening Schools (AEC) is to provide educational support to children who are missing sufficient support in their regular schools, motivate them to complete their school education and go for higher education, and to provide an opportunity to learn other activities, moral and ethical values that need to be followed in life.



In 2012-13 year, three evening schools were running in Tiruvannamalai and the average student's count was as follow:

AEC Vengikkal (90 students and 6 teachers)

AEC VOC Nagar (40students and 2 teachers)

AEC Adhi Sheshan Nagar (72 students and 2 teachers)



Apart from these centers, Regenboog supported two Government schools in Puliur (164 students) and Vilamuchi (260 students) in the Jawadhu Hills by providing part-time teachers since these

schools have only two Government teachers and the number of students is very high. Our teachers help the schools to teach the regular syllabus and support the schools in other activities also.

In these evening schools, our teachers teach the lessons that they have learned at schools if they have any questions and also help them to do their homework since most of the parents cannot help their children with this.



Regular parents meetings were conducted and the progress of the students was briefed to the parents.

In the Vengikkal center, staff and students together joined to clean up their area and provided an awareness campaign about hygienic life and healthcare. This yields good remarks for the students and staff team among the public.



As a pilot project, a computer center was inaugurated in the Vengikkal center last year and this year it was upgraded with new computers and the latest software. This motivated the students and they are eagerly learning computers during the weekends. A part-time computer teacher is teaching them the computer education.

Students who passed in the Class 10 Public Exams were given guidance and counseling to continue and finish their higher secondary courses. Support for their higher education is assured for the students needing it.



Mobile Library Project

Due to some practical difficulties with obtaining a vehicle to transport the books, we weren't able to fabricate the mobile library vehicle this year. This was very painful to us and we consider this one of the great failures in 2012-13.

We tried to buy a used Tata ACE vehicle (mini truck) to build a mobile library but we were unable to do this due to the lack of available technical support. These problems have been sorted out and this small project is ready to launch again from next academic year onwards.

Success Story:

Suresh is a 19-year-old student studying in Polytechnic (Diploma Mechanical Engineering). His father died a few years back and his mother is a housewife. Neither of them have support from anyone in the family. Suresh approached Regenboog and asked for financial and moral support for his coursework. He works in the evening as a part-time worker and manages his day-to-day requirements but missed the support for his education. Regenboog gives its financial and moral support to him to continue the education and already Suresh shared with us his intention to support other poor family students when he begins to earn money. He is scoring on average 90% on his examinations and is a very sincere and well-disciplined young man with a great outlook on life.

Environment:

In 2012-13, our team was involved actively in the environment awareness and protection works along with The Forest Way, a charity organization that works for the environmental issues in Chennai and Tiruvannamalai. Mainly we have been involved in fire fighting on the Arunachala hill together with the volunteers and Forest Department of Tamilnadu Government. We used our local resources for this program. Also, the team joined in cleaning the trash left on the hill and provided protection work during the Deepam festival (collecting matches, lighters, camphor etc.).



*Plastic and flammable materials
collected on the hill during Deepam day*

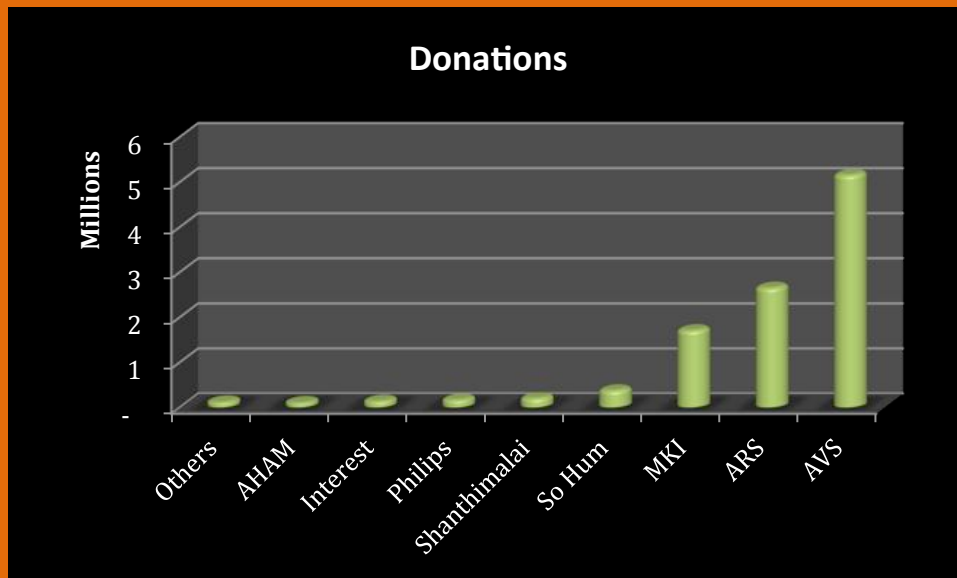
*Dr.Vijay Pingale, District Collector
inaguarating the awareness rally*

Finance

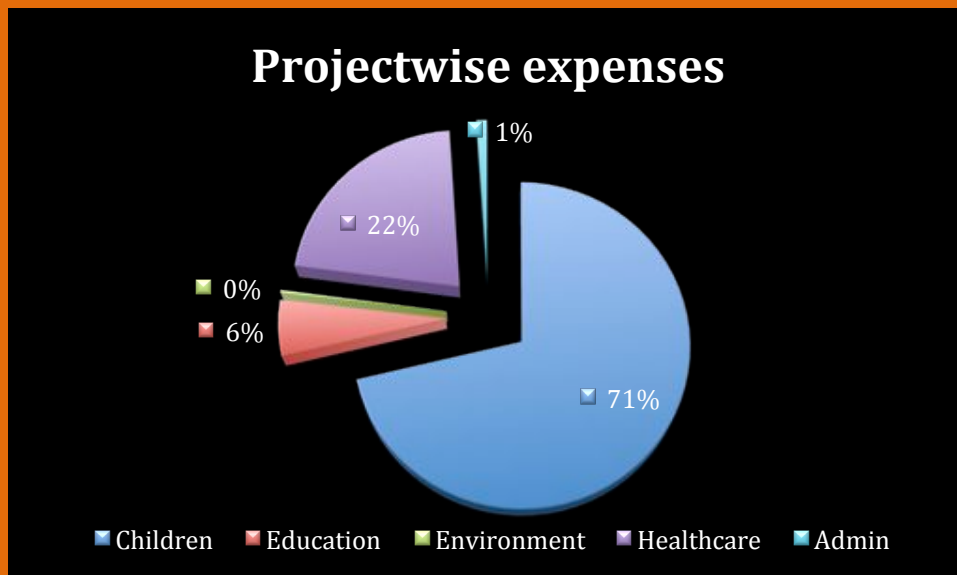
The 2012 – 13 was the year of highest donation received so far in the past 6 years period. This is because of the construction works taken place in this year. This year Rs.1,02,74,617/- was received as donations for the activities carried over in this year.

- Donations in 2012-13 were increased due to the one-time construction expense of the Sarasvathi Children's Village and medical services started in the Jawadhu Hills with separate medical team.

- Rs.59,46,304 was received for the running expenses of all projects and Rs.44,99,500 was received for the children's village construction and solar system installation works.



- Verein AVS Switzerland sponsored the entire construction work at Children's Village Campus. The contractor provided quite a number of extra items for the Village at his expense and also bore additional construction costs as his contribution to the project.
- Verein ARS Switzerland sponsored the complete solar energy system implementation at the children's village and well digging.



- From this year onwards the running cost of children's village is sponsored by Verein Arunachala Village School and Verein Arunachala Rising Sun, Switzerland together.

- Running cost of the children village was increased this year with additional staff members needed for the added children and also the repair and maintenance expenses increased since moving into a larger campus.
- Sreevathson V Associates have been appointed as our new auditors (chartered accountants / revisers) from 2012-13 financial year onwards.
- Detailed audited financials are available on our website – www.regenboogindia.org
- Financials are displayed in Tamil in our Mobile Clinic vehicle, Children's village campus, all Evening schools and administrative office for the beneficiaries and public views. Audited financials are also sent to all donors.
- Income tax returns and FCRA return filings were filed on time to the respective Government departments.

Conclusion:

2012 – 13 year, will long be remembered by us as the year that the Sarasvathi Children's Village campus was established and the year we were able to provide separate medical services to the people living in Jawadhu Hills (Puliyur SHC Region). Also this year there were some challenges, happiness, successes, and failures but at the end it all brought great lessons to take our works further. Every single Rupee was spent to make our beneficiaries happy and to achieve the mission of Regenboog India. With the sincere and dedicated works of the Regenboog team and the great support of all our donors and well wishers, we step in to the next year with the hope of providing our best efforts at supporting the needy in society.



Regenboog India Foundation,
381, VEDIYAPPANUR VILLAGE, ADI ANNAMALAI POST, TIRUVANNAMALAI 606604, TAMILNADU, INDIA

Phone : +91 4175 220070 (Office) / +91 99524 33997 (Mobile)
Email : ceo@regenboogindia.org / Web: www.regenboogindia.org