



Our Vision: "A just and harmonious society rooted in the gospel values of love, freedom and peace."

Our Mission: "To restore the dignity and potential of marginalized individuals and communities by facilitating access to holistic education, health, livelihood, and stable shelter."



POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS

“The right to life means allowing people to LIVE and not killing, allowing them to GROW, to eat, to be educated, to be permitted to die with DIGNITY.”

Dignity of Human Life

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus(Gal. 3:28).”

Dignity can be seen as being derived from its simple, but undeniable; connection to human life. Human dignity originates from God and is of God because we are made in God's own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26-27). Human life is sacred because the human person is the most central and clearest reflection of God among us.

As stewards of the life God has given, we are to uphold its sanctity from conception to the grave. Ending someone's life in order to relieve suffering or inconvenience is not only unjustifiable; it violates God's clearly defined moral order. Suffering should bring us not to end life prematurely but to entrust ourselves more completely to our faithful God no matter what befalls us or those whom we love (1 Pet. 4:19). We can find strength and ultimate hope in Christ, who has conquered death and can sympathize with human suffering

(Heb. 2:14–18; 4:15). Based on God's love, all people have to extend self-giving compassion and care to those who are suffering or vulnerable—unborn or born, young or old.

“When we deal with each other, we should do so with the sense of awe that arises in the presence of something holy and sacred. For that is what human beings are: we are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:27).”

With prayerful greetings,



Mar Thomas Elavanal
Bishop of Kalyan

EDITORIAL

Let us create a womb of love.

The universal Catholic Church spends the month of October in devotion and meditation on the mysteries of the rosary, through the life of Blessed Virgin Mary and her beloved Son Jesus. Blessed Virgin Mary safeguarded the most precious gift of life of her beloved son throughout the salvation history.

Right from the manger until the foot of the cross we see how mother was consumed in Love and faith that saved one's life by the sacrifice of her son on the cross.

A society is often judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members and among the most vulnerable are surely the unborn and the dying. To create a world that safeguards the dignity and essence of life and an environment that encourages the culture of life is a challenge in the recent times. Far beyond saving the life of the unborn, prolife extends to creating a sustainable environment for every individual.

In today's world, we are facing an enormous clash between the good and the evil, death and life, the culture of death and the culture of life. We find ourselves not only faced with but necessarily at the midst of this conflict. We are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally prolife.

It is time that we create a world to safeguard the dignity of life, world that propagates the message of unconditional love for fellow beings and practices the Christ centric ideology of prolife. A womb of love is seen when we look at Mother Mary. Similarly it's time we make this world a womb filled with Love so that every offspring from this womb experiences safety and dignity of its life.



Fr. Joby Ayithamattathil
Asst. Director

Tree Plantation Drive - Van Mahotsav Week from 1st to 7th July 2017



Leading by Example - Bp. Thomas Elavanal with Kalyan Diocese Parishioners and Karunya Trust staff planted 7500 saplings, at Danbav Forest area near Titwala in collaboration with Thane Forest Department.

Bigger, better, stronger

A strategy for growth
Enabling growth in high potential NGOs



Atma's Accelerator programme helps NGOs to grow.
Photograph: Kavita Carneiro

“I joined Atma because I wanted to help people to help themselves/' says Joycelyn Andrades, Atma Education's Partnership Manager, "Organisations like Karunya Trust already do amazing work. We just help them reach their potential to make an

even bigger impact."

Atma is a non-government organisation (NGO) providing consultancy to high-potential NGOs in the education sector through their Accelerator programme. As part of Deutsche Bank's global enterprise initiative Made for Good, we support Atma's partnership with Karunya, an education focused NGO working hands-on with over 500 children from Mumbai's most marginalised communities.

Growth
Mary Ellen Matsui, Atma's Executive Director, gives an example: "Karunya is a lifeline for children living at Deonar, Mumbai's largest waste dumping ground. They're on site providing holistic support in unimaginable conditions. This is intense work and just one of their projects. Naturally, there's little time for organisational strategy." Matsui explains: "Lack of strategy makes it harder to raise funds, to forge connections with other NGOs and the

government, and to attract new volunteers. Ultimately it limits how much Karunya can grow and how many people they can help."

Fit for future
With Atma's support, the Karunya team will use new technology to track the well-being of those they support, instead of paper. "Monitoring and evaluating impact is really important. We've helped Karunya define what they want to track and create tools to capture quality data," says Andrades.

Recalling the

journey to implementation, Matsui commented, "Karunya were inspired to use technology to capture their impact after they saw it working at another organisation, as part of a visit we arranged."

Going back further, Matsui says, "When Deutsche Bank first approached us to support Karunya, the information that we came across did not reflect how good their work was. Now, their data management, H R practices and reporting systems set them up for the future."



4URBAN

“We are very impressed. Your service is a gift of God for the children and for us all. Thank you for your love and conviction for the people. God Bless you.”

Paul Hildebrand and Jochen Werner,
Germany

Project Gyansaathi - Shivaji Nagar, Govandi, Mumbai.

Waste management session at Chembur M Ward



On 16th September 2017, 10 children and four staff visited BMC M ward office in Chembur and attended a session on Waste Management. BMC officers explained to the children about advanced waste management methods and introduced them to different recycling machines and process of recycling. The session helped children to understand different environmental challenges caused due to existing waste disposal methods. Through the session, children became aware of their role in preserving the environment.

Independence Day Celebration at Shivaji Nagar Police station



Gyansaathi children got an opportunity to participate in the Independence Day celebration organised at Shivaji Nagar Police station on August 15, 2017. Ten children and four teachers witnessed Flag Hoisting, Police Parade, and other Independence Day programs. It was an exciting event for all children as no one had attended such programs earlier. Children expressed their gratitude and gifted a memento to Police officers as a token of love.

An awareness session on ‘Cancer’



Gyansaathi had organised a cancer awareness session for community members on 25th September 2017 which was conducted by Ms Sunita & Ms Urmila from Gunvati Jagannath Kapoor Foundation. The session helped 61 community members by spreading valuable information related to cancer such as symptoms, causes, preventive methods, Tests and Treatment centres etc. They were also given proper guidance and information regarding their queries.

A Dream comes true ...



My name is Qumrunnisa Shaikh and I live in Rafique Nagar. At present, I am attending Adult Literacy classes at Gyansaathi. I could not go to school due to my health issues even though I had a great desire to get educated. I got married at the age of 18 and I have two children studying in 5th and 3rd standards respectively. Whenever I see my children studying I regretted that I could not help my children in their studies. One day Salma teacher told me about the adult literacy classes and I joined for the same. I learned English and Hindi alphabets and I am able to read. Now my children also help me to read and write and I hope that I will be able to fulfil my dream.

Adult literacy to Vocational Education



I am Naziya Shamim a resident of Shivaji Nagar. I was born and brought up in UP and was illiterate. I got married at the age of 14 and came to Mumbai few years after my marriage. I came to know about Gyansaathi when few teachers visited my house and told me about the possibilities of getting educated. I joined adult literacy classes and learned to read and write. Now I am able to help my children in their education. I also joined for basic and advanced tailoring course at Gyansaathi centre and learned to stitch as well. After my training, I was also supported to buy a tailoring machine. Presently I do stitching whenever I am free and am able to earn and support my husband to meet our family needs. I also encourage other women to join Gyansaathi and I am very grateful to Gyansaathi for all the support and encouragement.



Science Express Climate Action Special Exhibition



Forty-nine children & six adult literacy students were taken to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus to witness the Science Express Climate Action Special Exhibition on 21st July 2017. The Exhibition helped children to understand topics related to Climate change and Global warming and its impact. Children were very happy, got their doubts clarified, and gained valuable information.



4URBAN

“The Staff are doing a Very Great Job. In love, I wish you for the Future all the Best and a Hopeful Life for the Children.”

Jurgen Claus
Gamma Immobilien, Germany

Visit to Nehru Planetarium & Nehru Science Centre



On Friday 15th Sept 2017, Gyansaathi students were taken to Nehru Planetarium and Nehru Science Centre at Worli as a part of their educational trip by Karunya Trust. Around 120 children, 25 staff members and 10 volunteers from Deutsche Bank were in the group for this trip. It was started

with a visit to Library, where information was given on Jawaharlal Nehru from birth till death. Then they were directed for a show on planets and finally to a theatre show on the Origin of new planets. Children also visited Nehru Science Centre where they gathered information on Science

related topics. One of the children named ‘Hajra’ told that she enjoyed a lot and was very happy to gather all the information they got from both the centres. It was really a good day with lots of learning and enjoyment.

*Ms Javeria Ansari
(Intern from Mumbai University)*

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS:

Corporates:-Deutsche Bank, KNH,UPS, Future Children, Rashmika, Habitat for Humanity India, CARITAS INDIA, Concern India

Agencies/Association:-United Way Of Mumbai, St. Michael Medical Trust- Mahim, Basilica of our Lady of the Mount-Bandra, Fr.Jeeson, Reetha Die Works, Fr. JometVazhayil, Fr Paul Thiruvannamala Memorial, Department of Social Works Vimala College- Trissur, St Thomas Catholic Church- Virar, Citytech Marine Pvt .Ltd., AmalaMatha Church - Mulund, St. Joseph's Church- Powai, Divine Mercy prayer group- Dombivli, DAUGHTERS OF ST.MARY OF LEUCA TRUST-Powai, BFC FOREX AND FINANCIAL SERVICE PVT LTD-Andheri East, GLOBAL LOGISTICS SOLUTION INDIA PVT LTD

Individuals:-LEENA JOSE -CHEMBUR, ANNIE GEORGE -KALINA, A.J.ANTONY-BHANDUP, DAISY PETER-BHANDUP, SHAJI PETER-JOSE-THANE, BINOY THOMAS-CHEMBUR, SEBASTIAN CHEMBUR,LISSIMANI DEVASSY, XAVIER THOMAS THAKURLI, KAMALIKA BHUTTACHERIAYA SRILANKA,JERRY CHALISSERY-THANE, LEELA FRANCIS THANE, REJI JHONSON- MUMBAI, AGNES JOHNY MULUND, ROSLINE C THOMPSON-GHATKOPAR, ROSE JOSEPH -THANE, ALEX P.VADAYIL- THANE, K.D.JOSE - MULUND W., MINI SEVY-KALYAN.W. JASENTAMJOSEPH BORIIVILLY.W., CHRISTOPHER VEIGAS-VIKHROLI, TOM.K.THOMAS-POWAI, VARGHESE KUTTIKAT-SATPUR, RUPESH EDATHIPARAMBIL-SATPUR, JOMICHAN JOSEPH-NERUL, RAYEMON-CRAWFORD, REJI JONSON,-CHEMBUR, BINOY THOMAS KURUCHITIRA, JURGENCLAUS-VIKHROLI, ANNA ITTOOP, DEEPAK GANDHI, RAJINA VIJI THALAKOTTOR, VARGHESE THARAKAN -THANE, MATHEW JOHNS, ELIAMA THOMAS -WORLI, SANJOY CHEMBUR, CHRISTINE LONAPPAN, T.K.JHON-VIKHROLI-EAST, REJI JHONSON THYKATTIL, KRISHANAN SUBRAMUNIAM-VASHI VINAYAK K MUNDHE- THANE, LATHA KACHOLIA - ANDHERI W. JINO JHON VIKROLI.W., RAJEENA MOHAN -NERUL, RAMESH KACHOLIA-ANDHERI-W, JUDE VAREED THYKATTIL, THANE, JOSEPH KURACHARIL-NASHIK, THANKACHAN MATHEW KALWA, ELSY CHACKO-MALAD E., NEBIN PAVU NETTIKKATU-MULUND,MERCY BABU - VIRAR W., JYON SIMON MALAD .W., TOM K.THOMAS, ALPHONSA JOHNKUTTY, - BHANDUP, THAIJWEL AKKARA- KURLA, K.K.ANTOO,-KALYAN , DR.VINCENTPAUL-POWAI, JOJO JOY - VIKHROLI.E., P.SONY RAPPAL, VASUNDARA NEELESH PATTIL-KURLA.E., JOMY FRANCIS-POWAI, C.L.JHON ULHASNAGAR, JOSEPH THOMAS-ULHASNAGAR, SEONA JOICY-ULHASNAGAR, VARGHESE K.L. ULHASNAGAR, NISHA AUSTINE-POWAI,BLOSSOME JOSE VIKHROLI.E, JOMY JOSEPH MANNALA-NAVI MUMBAI, RACHEL GEORGE- GOVANDI, ALICE DYSON CHANDY-GOVANDI, MARY PAUL-POWAI, THANKAMMA MFRANCIS-PANTNAGAR SHERLY JHONY MADASERRY- THANE, DN RAPHEL INICKAL-GOVANDI, SREEKANTM BHAVIRIPUDI-DADAR W JHON JACOB-QATAR, JOSEPH CHACKO-P-KANDIVILI W., K.S.JOSEPH- SION, JERRY THOMAS- MATTUNAGA, , T.V.GEORGE MATUNGA, P.A.ANTONY-MAHIM, CHECHAMMA - MAHIM, JOMICHAN JOSEPH-NAVIMUMBAI, SHAJU VAREED VELLACHIRA-THANE, ALPHY M.J.-TRISSUR, REGHUNATHAN B , VASHI, PAUL DEVASSY-KANDIVILI-E, JOHN KARETHH-MATUNGA, BAVACHAN VARGHESE-SION, AJU.PK.BHANDUP, VERONICA JHONY- POWAI, ROSY ANTONY-POWAI, JAYSON PAUL-POWAI ANTONY DAVIS TOMY -THANE, DOMINIC CMT-THANE, MARIAM LONAKUTTY POWAI, JOSE.KO.-POWAI JESSY DENNY-THANE, BEEENQ JOSEPH-THANE, SAPANE JOSE THANE, VINCY KURIAN-THANE, P.A.JOSE- MALAD,AGNES FELIX DEMELLO, FRANCIS THOMAS MIRA ROAD, SIJO JOSE KENNAI ULHASNAGAR, , LISSY JOSE THANE, P.D. FRANCIS THANE, JOSEPH V.J.THANE, N.D.JOSE VIKHROLI, EMMANUAL K.V. NASHIK, A.V.DENNY AMBERNATH , RANI THOMAS-COLABA, T.A.DAVID-KHARGHAR, JOSEPH.P.A, VIRAR-W, LUCY VARGHESE-WAGLE ESTATE,ALPHY JOSEPH CHEMBUR, MOLY KURIAN CHANDIVILLY, SHAJU KANDIVILLY. W , FEBIN GLADSON GOREGOAN-E., JOBY JOSE PULIKUDAN-THANE, CHOVALLUR SHYLA XAVIER-AMBERNATH, CHACKO VARGHSE VASI, MAYMOL JITESH-SANPADA, JUSTINA LITTO-VIKHROLI JOMON SEBASTIAN-DAHISAR, MOLLY JOY-BHANDUP, LEENA JOYSON-MULUND , SICILY VAREED BHANDUP, SONY RAPPAL-VIRAR-W, SHAJANAMUTHAN-VASAI, D GEORGE AUDHR.

Gyansaathi changed my life...



I am Nasreen Haldar, the youngest one in my family. We are a migrant family from Bengal. I didn't know Hindi and could not go to school. The teachers from Gyansaathi came to my home and I joined with my two elder sisters in Gyansaathi. I learned Hindi fluently after joining Gyansaathi, they helped me to get admission in BMC School and provided

with all study materials. I was elected as the Sports Minister of Children's Parliament and later as the Prime Minister of Aaikta Bal Sansad Committee. I was very happy and at the same time had little fear because I was quite small compared to other elder children. At present, I am studying in 6th standard at BMC School. It is only because of Gyaansaathi

that I could become what am today. I also try to talk to other children about CP and encourage them to be part of it. I have a dream to become a Police Officer, and want to support poor people; I want to fight against all social evils. I know it is a tough task but I am ready to work hard for it.



My Experience as a CP Prime Minister



My name is Rehmat Shaikh. I studied till 6th standard and became a dropout. I was working in the dumping ground to support my family. One day, few teachers from Gyansaathi came to my house and I shared my problems with them. The teachers explained to me about the importance of education and asked me to join the

school. Even though I had joined Gyansaathi three years back I was forced to discontinue my studies and I was working in a Catering unit. However, my desire to study was strong within me and I rejoined Gyansaathi. I am studying in NIOS level B and was elected as the CP Prime Minister.I was so excited and happy that I could get such an

opportunity. We conduct CP meeting every week and get feedback from each member, discuss new activities, make planning etc. I understand that as a leader I have a great responsibility to support each child and make our lives more meaningful and hopeful.



Visit to Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan



In order to understand the role and functions of the legislative assembly, a visit was organized to Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan on

2nd August. The exposure visit helped 40 childrens parliament members to understand how the Legislative assembly functions. Through

this visit, children got ideas to make their CP meetings and activities more creative and active.



“Very Fascinating Place. I am sure its done because of the great sacrifice and dedication you each have contributed. God Bless you and Your efforts.”
**Fr. Mervyn Dsouza, Principal,
St. Joseph's School**

Project Savli, Nahur, Mumbai.

At Savli, we believe in celebrating festivals with a cause. Festivals are a space to build communal harmony and in doing so we also present pressing issues with an aim to sensitize the communities and change their mindsets. Following are some events and causes we have worked for during our Savli celebrations.

Patriotism Beyond Boundaries...

“The love for one's country is a splendid thing. But why should love stop at the border?”



Savli children Parliament federation was influenced by this quote to celebrate our country's 71st Independence Day with the message, Patriotism Beyond boundaries. Children Parliament members put up different programs like Skits, Group songs, Speeches which gave the message of “Love for Humanity”.

“We should live in love and Harmony with everyone. We should help one another. We should treat everyone equally. We should stop discrimination.”-Shaikh Umera Ismail (Savli-Child Parliament member). 197 Children participated in the Independence Day Celebration which was organized by Savli CP Federation, at Christ the

King Community Centre, Bhandup on 12th August 2017. Ms. Vidyulata Hinukale (Bhandup Rationing Officer) was the chief guest for the Independence Day celebration. Fr. Shijo Parayil, Sr. Betty and Representatives from Gyansaathi were present to grace the occasion. Four Volunteers from Christ the King parish-

Bhandup, College of Social work- Nirmala Niketan and Mumbai University were also present for the event. “I am very happy to be part of the Children’s Parliament. I thank Karunya Trust for giving us an opportunity to grow and develop our skills and talents” said Priyanka Prajapati (CP member)

PINK LEAD EMPOWERMENT

Ranjana came in contact with Project Savli in December 2016. she lives in one of the chawls in the suburbs of Mumbai. She is a very hard working and the only earning member in the family. She lives with her two children and her husband who is struggling with a life threatening disease.

Every month they receive support services from Savli project. Before Savli's Income Generation Program (IGP) support, their financial condition was very bad but after

receiving IGP Support Ranjana started her own beauty parlor. She is earning Rs.200/- a day and her financial condition has also improved. She started earning for her family and with this she also got inspiration to start another business of selling Ayurvedic Products along with her Beauty Parlor business. She earns Rs.6000/- per month. She is happy and able to take care of her household expenses and the education of her two children.

In search of lost shades of Mumbai...



150 children of Karunya Trust along with our 10 mentors visited a place called “Vishnubaug” in Badlapur on 30th May and 1st June 2017 to experience and feel nature. We got to see the lost beauty of Mumbai. We got to know about different plants and trees we had never seen before. We got the opportunity to see and explore different herbal plants. Vishnubaug also gave us a beautiful experience of rain forests, the beauty, the enormity makes us

realize how small we are in front of nature. It made us to realize our responsibility to preserve the forests and the serenity it brings with. It was indeed a great experience for all of us to spend miles away from the city of Mumbai to be in the midst of nature. “I felt very fascinating to be in the midst of nature. We had got the company of very friendly staff of Karunya Trust. This visit has given me wonderful experience that I will never forget in my life.” said Shrikant Bhosale (Savli child).

My name is 'Khan' and I am not a terrorist...



152 children participated in the EID celebration which was held at Christ the King Community Centre, Bhandup on 19th August 2017. The presence of Fr. Joby (Assistant Director- Karunya Trust) made the occasion graceful. As our

society believes in certain myths and misconceptions about Islam, the Savli team celebrated EID by highlighting the contribution of Muslim Community in different sectors ranging from Culture, Religion, National Security, Sports, Literature, Architecture, etc. through

the means of video and presentation which was followed by a heartfelt and thought provoking discussion with the children. Our EID celebration made a sincere effort to change the perception of society about our Muslim Brothers and Sisters. “Today I got to

know the contribution given by Muslim community for the upliftment of humanity. I am very happy to be part of this celebration.”- Prajakta Kedar (Savli Child). “We all are equal. Everyone should live with unity and peace.” said Sakshi Jaiswal (Savli Child)

COMRADES IN ACTION...

Fifty four children who are marching towards a goal of bringing in Social Change in the society by being a part of Children Parliament Federation attended a one-day training workshop on Right to Information act

(RTI) and Indian Judiciary System which was organized at Christ the King Community Centre, Bhandup on 17th August 2017. The session was conducted by Advocate - High Court Mr. Gadiya. Children understood the

importance of RTI and they got the knowledge regarding how to file RTI for raising their voice in support of social justice. “The knowledge that I got through this workshop I will share with my friends.”- Priyansi

Chavan (Savli CP Child). “I feel really good and I enjoyed the full session. I learned many useful things related to RTI which I will use in future.” said Roshni Maurya (CP member)





4URBAN

“We place on record our high appreciation for the wonderful work carried out by Karunya Trust for the betterment of the kids and their families. Congratulations. May God reward you abundantly for the great work.”

Little Flower Forance Church,
Nerul

ROCK & ROLL SHIKSHAN- SEASON 3



In the month of May “Rock & Roll Shikshan- Season 3” was organized for two zones of Project Savli. 326 children participated in the vacation camp. It was done with the objective of bringing out the best in the children with respect to Body, Mind and Spirit. Various programs were

organized for children like Best out of Waste, Skit Competition based on Social issues, Handmade Paper designing with the theme Environment, Games and action Songs. Children had a wonderful time learning and unlearning many things through

participating in different activities. Children made costumes for skit competition out of the materials provided for the ‘best out of waste’ competition which reflected their creativity and team spirit. “In this camp we learned so many things from different activities such

as to do team work, to be together always and to lead a balanced life.”- said Sarah Gowda (Savli Child). “I enjoyed a lot with my new friends. We played very interesting games. I felt very good with the group” said Khushi Khan (Savli Child).

We, the women don't need your protection... Just respect us...



125 Savli Children celebrated Raksha Bandan on 5th August 2017 at Christ the King Community Centre, Bhandup. The message given was that women are empowered enough to take care of them selves. Society just needs to accept their freedom so that they can live freely without anyone's protection. Children also enjoyed the

day by making rakhis in group. Each one's understanding and team bonding in their groups led to a team effort, which resulted in creating beautiful rakhis, a symbol of respect and freedom for everyone. “I loved this program very much. I wish this celebration should be held every year,” said Priyanka Gupta (Savli Child).

Project Bharari, Ambernath & Badlapur, Thane.

SUJAL PROJECT: Water facility in Sonawale village



Around 55 families reside in Sonawale village and people were facing water problem since 20 years. There is a insufficient village Well in the field with impure water. Women brought forward the problem of drinking water to Karunya Trust as they have to fetch water even at night. “During rainy season women used to slip and fall, leading to fractures and in February, we have to wait 2 hours to fill one pot and all we used to get

was impure water”, said Yogita Mengal.

After much study, we helped the village women to contact Gram Panchayat but they did not lend any ear to this concern. We made the women aware of the bore-well system and facilitated them to have a bore-well. After much discussion, the women took ownership of tank construction. Sujal Project scheme was implemented in the village and village women collected Rs.

20,000/- Karunya Trust helped Sonawale village to achieve their dream of having good water with proper documentation to avoid any problems in future. The responsibility of maintenance of bore well and electricity meter is taken by SHG women. 40 families have benefited from this Sujal Project and it has transformed the lives of people.

*Jagruti Lad,
Karunya Trust Staff*

Healthy mind dwells in a healthy and strong body



An Adivasi village Kuradpada have their children studying in Zilla Parishad school but the Children's family economic background is very poor. Seeing the poor condition and health of the children,

Karunya Trust added some extra food material such as Chikki, laddoo, dates, banana and eggs along with mid-day meal of the school. Due to this nutrient intake, within a few months itself children's

physical and mental health has improved. The three children who were continuously falling sick has improved their health and are now regularly attending school.

Demonstration on Low Cost Nutrition



A simple lifestyle and simple food is the life of the people in the village. The villagers pay no heed to their health. They are on their feet throughout the day. They work hard to fulfill their basic needs. Due to this heavy work induced lifestyle and lack

of intake of nutritious food, the people there are anemic.

Karunya Trust facilitated and demonstrated the preparation of nutritious food at low costs. Through this training they were made aware of how they could increase their HB with things available at

home and low cost purchases. As a result of this training, 30 women prepared the powder and tonic. The regular intake of the same has improved their health. This improvement hasn't been noticed just by Karunya Trust rather by all the family members. The women of the village are delighted and are grateful to Karunya Trust for the new lease of life it has provided to their families through the training.

*Shivaji Aghan
Karunya Trust Staff*



4RURAL

“Happy to see these young Phoenixes rise from Ashes. May they fly real high spreading their vibrant colours glowing in the sky.”
Malad Forane

Enhanced Capacity for Participation and Involvement



Gram Sabha is the way to create good governance in the village through people's active participation. Participation in Gram Sabha is the biggest issue in the village. Women did not know the meaning of Gram Sabha and were disinterested. They were also frightened to express their problems and ignorant of responsibility of Gram Sabha.

Knowing this situation, Karunya Trust has played a great role in their lives by facilitating training on Panchayat Raj Institution to

SHGs members in different villages and continuously motivated women to participate in Gram Sabha and put forward their village issues. For the first-time, women participated in Gram Sabha from Ambernath and Kalyan Block. In front of all village leaders and without being afraid of elders, women demanded from Village Sarpanch the information on village road, drinking water facilities, proper education in the school, sanitation scheme, Alcohol ban, Job Card etc. The Sarpanch and Gram Sevak were surprised

to see the empowerment in women. They immediately wrote the issues in the register and assured to look into the matter. Women also demanded to arrange a special women's Gram Sabha. This was the turning point in women's lives through self-confidence and courage. They show their participation through their involvement in discussion. Empowerment leads to overall community development.

*Bhagwan Pawar,
Karunya Trust Staff*

My Kitchen and my garden is a better Pharmacy- Herbal Medicine



Health is wealth is an old adage that still rings true. Realizing the importance of health and the commonality and effectiveness of herbal medicine, Karunya Trust is facilitating a training in herbal medicine among the tribal community. The results are encouragingly positive. The villagers now turn to their own kitchens and gardens to

find cures for ailments resulting in lot of savings. Indigestion, diarrhea, vomiting, cold, cough, fevers, headaches and skin diseases are among the ailments that have been successfully treated through herbal medicine. "I was suffering from diarrhea at night and just having received the herbal medicine training by Karunya Trust, I headed

to my garden and consumed a few tender leaves of the guava plant which gave me instant relief", shares Anandi from Chon village. Through the efforts of Karunya Trust, kitchens and gardens have been transformed into pharmacies.

*Usha Jadhav
Karunya Trust Staff*

Housing project a ladder for change...

The Katkari community of Saverewadi has undergone impressive change owing to the efforts of Karunya

Trust. This hamlet has transformed with the provision of upgraded housing. The women have formed four self help groups. They

prepare mid day meals. There has been an increase in people's participation in the Gram Sabha and they now step forward to

fight for their rights following which water and sanitation facilities have been implemented. All of this has resulted in an

improved standard of living and the people have inculcated a sense of dignity in themselves. The Jubilee Housing

Project has thereby truly become a ladder for change.

*Sangeeta Shelke
Karunya Trust Staff*

“ If you educate a man, you educate an individual however if you educate a woman, you educate a whole family” Says Mahatma Gandhi



My name is Asha Ramesh Waghe and I stay at Savrewadi. I am the President of the Mogara SHG. We all women were illiterate as we never had the

opportunity to get educated. I didn't know to sign and if any one ask me to sign I used to sign on any paper without knowing the matter. I was not even aware of

my children's study, what they write and what they do.

Animators from Karunya Trust came to our Wadi and started the literacy

classes for women. After experiencing the struggle, I realized the importance of education and with great interest I too participated in those classes. Through

literacy class I learn to recognize the word and I learned to do my own signature. Now I don't sign on any paper without knowing the matter. If Gram Sevak comes to take signature I see the date and in case I was not present on that day for Gram Sabha then I strongly say no for the signature. Earlier, I was not aware of Gram Sabha's Agenda but now Gram Sevak or Sarpanch is sending us the Agenda.

One-day electricity bill amount came for 50 units but metre reading was only 20 units. I personally without any hesitation went to electricity office and clarified the mistake made in electricity bill and as soon as they were

made aware of the disparity, the amount was reduced. I take my children's study as now I know what they read and write. I do correct them if they make a mistake while reading the lesson's name. My aim and dream is to learn to write and read completely and to do S H G record maintaining. I will give good education to my children and also will be an inspiration to all women. I will fight for my own right and try to get the information about new government schemes from the government office.

*Asha Waghe,
Saverewadi,
active SHG president.*



4RURAL

This has been a wonderful visit. We look forward to collaborate with Karunya Trust and grow together. Best Wishes for the Great work you do.

Sabab Khan, Neeraj Kumar
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai

Information is the way to find a solution (Jeevan PLE - Kalyan)



Government has created laws and welfare schemes for employment generation in urban and rural areas but employment opportunities are a distant reality in rural areas. Due to unemployment, migration is rampant in these areas and there is

no awareness of the welfare schemes. Karunya Trust has been working in Mhaskal village in Kalyan block for 2 years. The work of People led Empowerment (PLE) is done through community participation. Men and women get together on every Thursday to discuss various village problems and prepare some strategies to solve the problems together. Karunya Trust gave information about MNREGA mentioning the importance of job card to get guaranteed work under Gram Panchayat. The motivation behind this was to create awareness amongst people that they will get job in village

itself and problem of migration will stop. After gaining knowledge on MNREGA 15 people came forward and visited Gram Panchayat where they met representative of Gram Panchayat and enquired about job cards. But they did not get positive reply. So, they returned to their community and discussed that instead of orally demanding it was better to submit written application to receive their own job cards and submitted it to Gram Panchayat on 21st Sep.2017. Through proper information people will achieve their aim and fulfill the needs of the community.

An Initiative to Ban the Alcohol from the hamlet

Tribal society is known for its ancient and traditional culture and are dependent on forest. They drank occasionally on festive days by preparing a locally made alcohol with movha seeds, the forest product. Even it was considered that during stomach ache or body ache if they consume liquor they will get immediate relief. This has led to an addiction to Desi Daru and women are suffering due to the drinking habits of their husbands. Women from Nalambi village Kalyan taluka have come forward for ban on alcohol. Karunya Trust has been facilitating to empower people for collective action. People come



together once a week to find solutions and gain new knowledge which will help them to

develop their village. Currently in the village, an alcoholic man expired and in a second

case one woman got severely beaten up by her alcoholic husband. In the village meeting

these two events were discussed for a solution. One woman said that she earns Rs. 250 but out of

it she gets only Rs. 50 in her hand as husband spends Rs. 200 in drinking. Hence, it is difficult for her to manage and fulfill the families' basic needs. So, they all decided to ban alcohol in their hamlet. That same day people wrote an application and took signatures, informed Police Patil through the application and explained all incidents happening in their hamlet. After that Police Patil came to hamlet, identified the person who is selling alcohol in the village and warned the seller to close selling alcohol within 2 days or else he will be fined.

We will keep running the race we have started till we get land on our name



Maharashtra government had designated Katkari as one of the most backward community of the state and Below Poverty line (BPL). They are paying house tax for years but are not allowed any construction. When the place for community hall was sanctioned, the landlord came warned them not to construct it. Few years ago, in the village 5 new houses were sanctioned but owner of the land did not allow people to

construct. With increasing family size, people are not able to manage two to three families under same roof. Karunya Trust facilitated People led Empowerment (PLE) through community participation. That's why people came together to conduct meeting and discussed issues faced by the community. Karunya Trust facilitated them about Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Act 1948 and they became aware that according to

Act/ law (KulKayada) they are eligible to own the land they stay. People unitedly wrote an application to Tahsildar. Tahsildar asked them to submit all the old documents such as house tax receipt, Residential Proof. People are in the process of collecting the necessary documents, and submit to Tahsil office and will keep running the race they have started till they get the land in their name.

4life

Awesome Experience. Its a very good platform for the kids in this area to progress. Commendable.

Powai Forane

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Sports Shoes
Smart Band Fitness Tracker
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For further enquiries please contact:
Mr. Kevin Jose Ponmany
Mob.: 9987153661 | Email: kevinjose@karunyatrustononline.org

Donate Organs... Donate LIFE...

MRUTHUNJAI: *an organ donation awareness drive by Karunya Trust*

Emergency Contact: **Eye Collection Centres** **24X7 Eye Banks**

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Initiated by Kalyan Diocesan Social Action (KDSA) - Karunya Trust

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