

**Report 2017 - 18**

**Office bearers:**

Chairman: Mltn. C. Grahadurai

Treasurer: Mltn. Gires J. Shah

Secretary: Mltn. Ashwin Kamath

Trustees: Mentor Aporesh Acharya, Mltn. Chaitanya, Mltn. R. Venkatanathan and Mltn. Hariharan, Mltn. Seetha Holla

**Administrators:**

Snehalaya 1 (Banashankari) - Mltn. Seema Kiran

Snehalaya 2 (Malleshwaram) - Mltn. Kusum Gopinath

Snehalaya 3 (Vijaya Nagar) - Mltn. Ashwin Kamath

**INTRODUCTION**

The trustees and actively associated Miltonians meet regularly to discuss management of MILT Charitable Trust, Bengaluru. Financial plan for sources of funds based on requirement is planned in these meetings. It was a great year for MILT charitable Trust, Bangalore because we got the registration and licences for Snehalaya 1 and Snehalaya 2 Children's Home from the "Department of Women and Child Development". The priorities identified for 2018 were: legal compliance as per Juvenile Justice Act, identifying house mothers, admit 9 children to take total strength to 45, building corpus fund to be collected and identifying suitable land for housing Snehalaya homes and shifting malleshwaram snehalaya to better premises.

**CHALLENGES OF THE YEAR**

Two major difficulties faced during the year were: legal compliance for the retaining of boys below 6 years in Snehalaya homes, presently, as per latest rules of Juvenile Justice Act. We received notices from the department for all 3 Snehalayas in this matter. Another major difficulty is identifying good housemothers with service attitude and competency to handle children. Particularly the revised stringent rules regarding child care institutions, increasing the admission age of children to 6 years and constant vigilance from the statutory authorities have really put us on a back foot in filling up the capacity of Snehalaya homes.

**SNEHALAYA 3**

It was a great moment to open Snehalaya 3 in Vijayanagar during the year. Four Miltonians Miltonian Ashwin Kamath, Miltonian Rajesh Babu, Miltonian Chaitanya and Miltonian Ramesh have agreed to sponsor the entire running expenses of this snehalaya

home. Snehalaya 3 is blessed with active involvement of many miltonians who have taken up various home management, academic and health responsibilities.

### **Children under our care**

As on 01.04.2017, the strength was 32 children in two Snehalaya homes. We started the third snehalaya home with 7 children on August 2017. During the year, five children were transferred to Simultala School and we added 12 children. Three children were restored to their parents/guardian due to various reasons. We have 36 children on 31.03.2018 in three Snehalaya homes. Adding 12 children during the year is a great achievement during the year. The credit goes to our Manager Spince Jose and trustees who spent time and efforts to visit slums to scrutinise and validate the credentials of the children for admission.

### **Functioning of Snehalaya Homes**

- On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017, third snehalaya was started in Vijayanagar with 6 children and two caretakers. Mltn. Ashwin Kamath is the administrator of 3rd Snehalaya. All the children are admitted to Cauvery High school which is at walking distance from the Snehalaya.
- Meetings are conducted with caretakers, administrators and Snehalaya management team members every month to understand the issues faced by the caretakers in day to day management of the homes.
- We conduct parents meeting of Snehalaya children twice a year. It helps us to build good rapport with the parents/guardians. A panel of administrator, social worker, tuition teacher and caretaker meet the parents individually and discusses all aspects related to the children. The progress made by the children in academics, extracurricular activities and other aspects of the child's growth are shared with the parents/guardians. It helps the parents to understand the overall performance of the child.
- We look to provide value based education to the children. For this, we have good support from the teachers and schools. We have seven caretakers in total from the three Snehalayas. The caretakers take care of the children in a proper manner. All these support systems help us to nurture their qualities and talents.
- We have guest volunteers spending quality time with the children. Additionally, we have NSS students of MLA College, Malleswaram spending quality time with the children on a monthly basis.
- We have a dedicated volunteer Dr. Navya visiting snehalayas and conducting periodical health check-ups for all the children.
- The house owner of Snehalaya 1 (AGS Layout) Mr. Vasudev is a great Philanthropist. He came forward and sponsored the painting of the snehalaya home.
- Mentor Aporesh Acharya visited the Snehalaya homes twice and interacted with the children.

## FUNDRAISING

During the year, we formed a finance committee to systematically raise funds (a total of ₹55 lakhs per annum) to meet the expenses for running 3 Snehalayas and meet the MRS commitment. Thanks to Miltonian Kamlesh and Miltonian Sridhar Alampalli for heading this committee. A list of past donors were prepared and specific Miltonians became 'donor owners', they follow up and get contributions. A shared Google spread sheet was maintained showing Miltonians who have committed, amount committed and month in which their contribution is promised, this is updated regularly to reflect status. The committee successfully collected the funds during the year.

## Events

**May/June 2017:** 14 of our Simultala children visited Bangalore for summer holidays and we arranged stay in Vijayanagar Snehalaya under the supervision of our Snehalaya caretaker Ms. Basanthi. Most of our children went to Miltonians' offices for summer internship.

Mentor Aporesh Acharya inspected the Vijayanagar Home and spent quality time with the MRS boys and trustees.

**August 1, 2017: 81<sup>st</sup>** Birthday celebration of our Mentor Aporesh Acharya and Snehalaya children was celebrated in IAT Convention Hall Queens Road, Bangalore. Children from each Snehalaya cut the birthday cakes in the presence of our mentor Aporesh Acharya and also performed various cultural activities on this occasion. Miltonians, trustees, school teachers/parents of Snehalaya children, volunteers and our Ex boys gathered for the celebrations.

**September 2017:** We celebrated Ganesh Festival in Snehalaya 3 and all the children from each snehalaya gathered along with Miltonians and sang soulful bhajans. The grand event ended with a delicious lunch.

**October 30, 2017:** DCPO (District Child Protection Unit) inspected all the three Snehalaya homes.

**November 2017:** We celebrated Diwali in Snehalaya 1 (AGS) and all the children from each Snehalaya enjoyed bursting crackers and the administrator and caretakers prepared wonderful sweets for them.

Chairman, trustees and actively associated Miltonians visited Shishu Mandir School and children's home in Kithiganur, Bangalore. It was a great opportunity for all of us to understand the functioning and facilities provided for the children and it also helps us to take inputs for our organization.

**December 2017:** we celebrated Christmas in Snehalaya 1 and all the children from each Snehalaya were excited to dance with Santa Claus. Miltonians enjoyed the celebration with the children.

**February 18, 2018:** It was a great day in snehalaya 1(AGS), when the Ex-chairman of ISRO Shri. Kiran Kumar visited. He interacted with the children and answered their

questions. He also gifted notebooks and one chart which explained about rockets and Space. The Miltonions were also eager and interested in interacting with Shri. Kiran Kumar and he answered all our questions very beautifully. Miltonian Suresh hosted a wonderful lunch.

### **Achievements of our children:**

Our Snehalaya 2 (Malleshwaram) children are very talented in all kinds of extracurricular activities and almost all the children won prizes in the school's sports day. Children participated in painting competition organized by an NGO called Citizens of Bangalore. Master Naveen Participated in the Round 3 of ABACUS Exam (Arithmetic Genius contest).

Children from Snehalaya 1(AGS) selected for inter school level competition of Karate and yoga. Master Vijay and Master Arun participated in All India Yoga competition and won 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize respectively.

Vishwa Hindu Parishad had conducted competition for all the NGOs in Bangalore and our Snehalaya 3 child Master Sanath won first prize in Spell bee.