



## ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

### Chairperson's note

Dear Friends and well-wishers of Relief Foundation,

This year has been a turnaround of sorts for all of us at RF. A roller coaster ride with several projects cutting through challenging terrains and daring the steps towards facing communities, inviting them to take up ownership of our early child rural Montessori centres. We had several rounds of discussions especially since our CMRRC Model was ready for curating as a replicable one.

Varandrappily, Baripada centres were handed over and others are in the process with some hand holding happening for a few months before weaning off major running costs, only to support with any materials or library, besides other welfare programs to benefit local rural children.

This has been our dream, and we are now ready to offer this model to any NGO or individuals who want to run early child centres in villages.

We are continuing in our journey spreading awareness and catalysing youth will to provide for children, through this CMRRC model that will change the landscape of education in the times to come. Our centre's children who have moved to class 1 in local schools have proved that they are far above their age peers. All the well-wishers are friends of RF have made this possible.

We hope you will continue being our ambassadors and well wishers into the future, aiding our projects for children in rural communities,

Vidya Shankar Chakravarthy



**CMRRC JAMUNAMARATHUR**

ஐமுனாமரத்தூர் மாண்டிசோரி கிராமிய வள மையம் ஜூன் மாதத்தில் தொடங்கி ஏப்ரல் 18ம் தேதி வரை வகுப்புகள் நடைபெற்றது. வருட முடிவில் 25 குழந்தைகள் இருந்தனர். 7 குழந்தைகள் வள மையத்திலிருந்து வேறு பள்ளிக்கு சென்று விட்டனர். மூன்று குழந்தைகள் வரும் கல்வி ஆண்டில் சேறுவதற்கு பெற்றோர்கள் முன்னோட்டமாக அவ்வப்போது அழைத்து வருகிறார்கள்.

**வேலைப்பாடுகள்:**

கடந்த ஆரம்ப மாதங்களில் வகுப்பில் அடம்பிடித்த மற்றும் அழுத குழந்தைகள் தற்போது வேலைப்பாடுகளில் தங்களை ஈடுபடுத்தி கொண்டனர். சில நேரங்களில் அடம்பிடித்தாலும் வேலையின் மீதான ஈடுபாடு அதிகரித்துள்ளது. குழந்தைகள் பொதுவாக சுதந்திரமாக வேலையில்



ஈடுபடுவதையே விரும்புகின்றனர். சில குழந்தைகள் சவாலான வேலைகளை தவிர்த்து விடுகின்றனர். அத்தகைய குழந்தைகளுக்கு அவ்வேலையின் முக்கியத்துவத்தினை கூறி வேலையில் ஈடுபடுத்துகிறோம்.



சில மாதங்களுக்கு முன்பு சில குழந்தைகள் சில பகுதிகளில் வேலையை தேர்ந்து எடுப்பதில்லை. காரணம் அப்பகுதிகளில் சவாலான வேலைகள் இருக்கும்.தற்போது அத்தகைய குழந்தைகள் வகுப்பின் எந்த பகுதியிலும் வேலையில் ஈடுபடுவதற்கு தயங்குவதில்லை. உதாரணமாக எண்கள் வேலையில் அடம்பிடித்த குழந்தைகள் தற்போது அவ்வேலைகளை தினமும் செய்யும் வழக்கத்தை கொண்டுள்ளனர்.4 வயதுக்கு மேற்பட்ட குழந்தைகள் மொழி மற்றும் கணித வேலைகளில் தங்களை ஈடுபடுத்தி



கொள்கின்றனர்.குறிப்பாக எழுதுதல், மற்றும் கணித வேலைப்பாடுகள்.

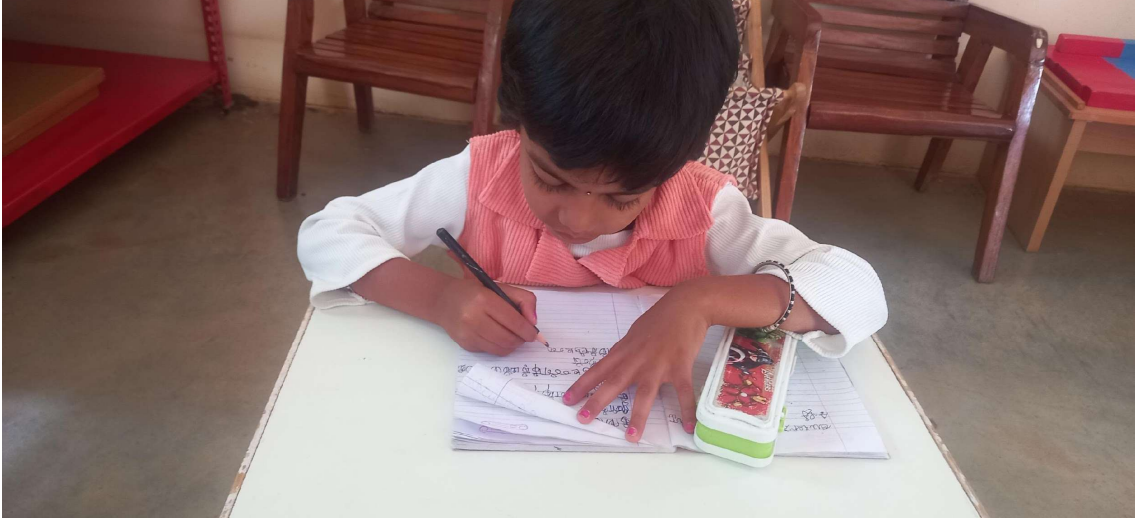
இயற்கை நடைபயணம்:



குழந்தைளுடன் இயற்கை நடைபயணம் மேற்கொள்ளும்போது சில குழந்தைகள் முன்பு சென்ற இடமாக இருந்தால் அவ்விடத்தை நினைவில் கொண்டு முந்தைய பயணத்தில் பார்த்த மற்றும் வழிதடங்களை பற்றிய செய்திகளை மற்ற குழந்தைகளுடன் பகிர்ந்து கொள்கின்ற நிகழ்வு அற்புதமானது.



### சவாலான வேலைப்பாடுகள்:



பொதுவாக குழந்தைகள் தற்போது மொழி மற்றும் கணித வேலைகளில் அதிக நேரம் செலவிடுகின்றனர். சில குழந்தைகள் படித்தல் மற்றும் எளிய கணக்குகள் செய்வதில் முன்னேற்றம் அடைந்துள்ளனர்.

### பயிற்சி மற்றும் தேர்வுகள்:

ஆந்திர தெட்டு மையத்திலிருந்து வருகை தந்து பயிற்சி மேற்கொண்ட பிரவீன் என்ற நபர் பயிற்சி முடித்து வெற்றிகரமாக தேர்வுகளை முடித்தார். மேலும் அவருடன் சேர்ந்து இரண்டு பெண்களுக்கும் தேர்வுகள் நடத்தப்பட்டு அதற்கான முடிவுகள் RF அலுவலகத்தில் ஒப்படைக்கப்பட்டது.







### கல்வி உதவி தொகை:

மார்ச் மாதத்தில் ஒற்றை பெற்றோர் உள்ள பள்ளி மற்றும் கல்லூரி பயிலும் மாணவிகளுக்கு கல்வி உதவி தொகை Relief Foundation வாயிலாக வழங்கப்பட்டது சிறப்பான பணியாக அமைந்தது.





### CMRRC – TEZPUR

In this year much effort has been put on completion of training for the trainees and to reach out to students for admission into CMRRC center Tezpur Assam. In this regard, pamphlets were prepared in Assamese language for wider reach in the community. Most of the parents urged to begin with classes in the evening for an hour and to build a holistic approach for the students. In matters of expanding our reach we gave impetus to extend the geographical area to cover more families.







As per the need of the locality, we conducted summer camp to bring in children to explore the Montessori aids and aid their love for learning by immersing them through proper presentations of materials through the teachers. Introduction of Assamese as a local language in the coming days is going to make the center to reach new vistas of learning.

In this recent months, the CMRRC has been actively working on to complete the training for the teachers by the end of June 2025. The teachers are gaining grounds to start off with a new batch of children soon.





Subsequently, we are constantly visiting the locality to welcome the first batch of new children to explore the world of Montessori. Most of the parents in the community have suggested to take classes in the 2nd half of the day. We are looking into those needs and will see the possibility of accommodating the request. After all, the centre should to address the needs of the community.

Furthermore, we have invited parents also to come and have a glimpse of the center and take a tour of the center. Pamphlets were printed in local language preferably in Assamese to understand what our center focusses on.



**CMRRC – Thettu****Parent's Meetings :-**

We conducted regular parents' meetings discussing various topics like food and nutrition, effects of junk food, healthy habits, discipline and responsibility, and environments which are important for children to grow healthy. We also emphasized the importance of desisting giving mobile phones to children very early as it would affect their development. We offered many suggestions to spend time with child by taking them for walks, telling stories, taking them to new places where they can learn and observe. Parents felt very happy and found these suggestions as very useful.





**Academic Activities: -**

Children practiced EPL, sensorial, arithmetic and language presentations and activities. We took them on regular nature walks and introduced names of the objects, trees etc around the centre. We encouraged them playing fun games, doing extra-curricular activities like drawing, painting leaves, sand pasting, finger print, pottery and clay modelling, collecting leaves and gardening. We also made visits to jaggery making unit, tamarind processing unit, cowshed, fields (Corn, Sugar Cane) and watched birds.



















**Celebrations:**

We celebrated many traditional festivals like Vinayaka chaturthi, Dusshera, Krishnastami, Deepavali, Christmas, Dr. Maria Montessori's birthday, Sankranti, apart from the national holidays like Independence Day and Republic Day. Children were always excited during these celebrations and were happy to share sweets with each other.





**Visitors:**

We had frequent visitors to understand and learn from our Montessori environment. One of the friends of the centre in-charge visited our centre from Japan and felt very happy and spent a day observing how children learnt. Teaching staff from three schools from the neighbouring towns visited the centre to observe and understand how Montessori worked and a Montessori environment functioned. They were amazed at seeing the materials and also how children were engrossed in their work. We explained how these materials helped the child's intellect and development. They felt very happy and appreciated the system.













Outreach:-





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Home visits were regularly made to children's houses to meet the parents and enquire about the children at home. It was also an opportunity for us to understand how the home environment contributed to the child's development. Parents were very happy to share their observations. We also used those visits as opportunities to spread the Montessori system.











**CMRRC – Narasingapuram****Academic activities:**

Academic activities were planned covering the mixed age group. As the children have tremendous energy they were continuously working from morning till mid afternoon until they went home. This helped us to plan various activities around practical life, sensorial, mathematics and language. The activities were centred around children who were in various age groups. Children who were moving to a different school after completing three years of education in our centre were given special attention to prepare them for school. The academic activities were divided into toddler section and primary section. In the evening, a few elementary children in the age group of 6 to 9 years also attended and benefitted from several presentations.





**Nature Walk**

Every Tuesday children were taken around the village to experience the nature around them. While the centre has its own garden, taking the children around their own village helps them to understand the flora and fauna and also to develop love for their own place. Such visits help children to look at nature closely focusing on, including but not limited to, the following:

- Arrangement of leaves and their shapes
- Fragrance of flowers and their colours
- Names of trees and their size
- Birds and animals and their sounds







**Parents' meetings**

Parents' meetings were regularly conducted to educate them on Montessori philosophy and also how children learn. A few selected topics like hygiene, parenting, healthy food, etc. were given during these meetings. It is not easy to change the perspectives on parenting among parents. However, rural parents are considerably forthcoming than urban parents. Some of them adopted some of the tips given and came back and shared their experiences with us.

**Farming update**

It is our aim to introduce healthy farming practices in villages that are devoid of harmful chemicals. So, in two of our centres we have been following organic farming practices. In our Narasingapuram centre, we planted several fruit bearing trees which have started yielding fruits. While a few were long-term crops, some of them were short-term too. We planted coconut, custard apple, guava, and gooseberry. Whenever possible, we also planted crops like groundnut.





### **Training update**

Montessori training was given to two of the trainees regularly. Apart from providing them with stipend, we also created opportunity for them to undergo intensive Montessori training. They finished their course in the month of June this year 2025. After successful completion of the course, they have become classroom adults now. Trainees from other centres like Assam, West Bengal were also given training.









### CSR Update

We were able to successfully implement a CSR project of AGS Health focusing on girls and women. As per the objective of the project, we proposed

- to provide scholarships to girl children of widows/single mothers
- setting up a library and a resource centre with teaching aids that include computers for literacy, numeracy and basics of technology
- 2 libraries in Government/Government aided girls' schools, and
- setting up a Organic kitchen to train women and girls on safe organic food and waste management.

The project's duration included coordinating with the schools to obtain the students' details to offer scholarships, verification to ensure that children are definitely from difficult backgrounds, procurement of resources like books, computers, recruitment (either on a contract basis or through partnerships) of resource persons to impart the various training programmes and skills development sessions, and finally to track the progress of each of the programme to ensure that they meet the goals of the project.



We identified 30 beneficiaries for the scholarship programme in Gummidipoondi near Chennai, and Jamunamarathur, Alangayam, Thakkolam near Vellore. Verification of the details was done by our field coordinators. Literacy, numeracy and technology classes were successfully conducted. Apart from setting up a small computer lab, curriculum was designed too. Instructors were recruited after initial scrutiny of resumes, preliminary level of interviews and final interviews. Students from poor socio-economic backgrounds were chosen for the programme through an enrolment process.













Library books with shelves were procured and handed over to a Government school in Gummidipoondi. This would benefit the existing and future batch of students as well. Library at Vellore was setup in Hope House, a care centre for children who are either destitute or with no parents. This library would help all the existing inmates of the home and also future beneficiaries of the home. A sanitary napkin dispenser and a destroyer were installed in this home. This would benefit a lot of girls in the home.









An organic kitchen was setup with basic utensils. A course curriculum was developed and a course instructor was recruited as well. Regular classes were conducted where girls and women from villages around our centre attended with a lot of enthusiasm. Attendance was regularly monitored for all the classes wherever skills were being imparted. This was also to ensure the tracking of the programmes.



