

NEWSLETTER

December 2008

Edition- 12

From the editors' desk:



Dear subscribers,
Tamaraikulam Elders' Village have seen two major events in the month of December viz., 1st anniversary of TEV and New Year celebrations. Annual day celebrations report was attached with this newsletter. With five more residents; the village now shelters 85 long term care seekers and few respitees. Installation of solar water heaters helped warming up the elders in their morning walk and prayers. The elders' representative council with their functional groups were taking effective steps in making this elders village as a model village.

For comments/ suggestions please write to:
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2nd and 16th December: Resident Representative Council Meeting

The resident representative council meeting was held on 2nd December 2009. The resident elders discussed on the following issues:

- Washing of mosquito nets
- NLC medical camp
- Chennai visit – selected elders
- Karthigai festival celebrations
- Elder Arockiaraj and Natrajan's admission in MGMC Hospital
- Sending back home – the elders from kollam for Christmas
- Issue dates for toiletries items
- Change in food menu, etc

Programme in-charge(s):

- **Meeting Organiser:** Sri.Natrajan
- **Chennai Trip:** Shri. Murugiah pillai and Pushpagandhi.

- **Anniversary celebrations:**
Welcoming the guests: Shri.Natrajan, smt.Poorani; Tree Planting: Vadivel & Nagaratnam; food serving: Govindamma, Lakshmi, Kunjappan; water arrangements: Rathinavel; Refreshments: veerabathran.
- **Grievance hearing:** Elders Nagaratnam, Ratnavel, Muthu lakshmi, Jeyamma.
- **Prayer/ religious meet, X-Mas:** shri. Murugiah V, Eprema.

7th December: Modern Matriculation school provided Lunch:

Ln.Shri. Kalai Vijayakumar, the correspondent of Modern Matriculation School, provided lunch to all the TEV elders on 7th December. He accompanied Lions club members and wished to



provide food (Full day) to all the elders on 18th of every month. The elders' representative council and the Food committee thanked all the good hearts and offered prayers for them.

8th December: St.Joseph School, Chennai. - donates provisions for TEV

The students of St.Joseph school, Chennai collected provisions and toiletries for the TEV elders and donated on 8th December. This programme was initiated by the National Director *Smt.Indirani Rajadurai*.

9th December: Eid Festival/ PMO Managers' meeting.

A meeting for all the managers/ co-ordinators of Project Management Office was conducted by Deputy Director Mr.Ramalingam on 9th December. Monthly reporting, newsletters preparation, staff attendance, accounting and settlement of bills on date, duties and responsibilities of each and every staff were discussed. Dr.Sathiyababu, Mr.Elango and Ms.Subha attended. The minutes of the meeting was circulated to all staff members with a copy to HO-New Delhi officials.

11th December: Karthigai Deepam

Deepam festival was celebrated in TEV campus on 11th December. The elders washed and cleaned their houses, prayed sun God in the morning and had vegetarian noon meals with traditional aviyal and poriyal. In the evening, all the houses were lighted with tiny mud lamps and colourful rangolis decorated all the houses of residence.

12th December: Cuddalore DLF meeting and ESHG rep. meeting.

The Cuddalore District Level Elders Federation meeting and the Elders Self Help Group representatives meeting (Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Vedaranyam and Kollam) were held at TEV campus on 12th December. The Coastal Resource Centre and the Elders for Elders Foundation, Cuddalore arranged this meeting. EFE chairman and board members participated.

13th December: Elders Trip to St.Johns International Residential school, Chennai.



About 40 elders from Tamaraikulam Elders Village were invited by the St.Johns International School at Kolathur Chennai, for attending the School Christmas Celebrations. The function was organised by the National Director Office- Chennai in link with school officials. The elders felt very happy and thank all the school programme organisers who organised their children's cultural programme, dance, songs and staff meet etc. The elders trip from TEV to Chennai and return and Food were arranged by the school. TEV manager and all ND office staff, Chennai attended.

17th December: TEV–First Anniversary Celebrations

TEV celebrated its First Anniversary on 17th December 2008. The function was arranged and organised by the ND – office Chennai along with PMO Cuddalore. HelpAge India President Shri.Amal Ganguli, Chief Executive Shri. Mathew Cherian and Shri.Sankara Narayanan, advisor, CK Birla group were the chief functionaries. A detailed report on the annual day celebrations are attached with this e-newsletter separately.



In the evening, all the TEV residents were gathered in the open air auditorium; the first five pioneer elders shared their year long experiences among the PMO- Cuddalore staff along with a cake cutting ceremony and a tea party. Mr.Ramalingam and Mr.Siddick felicitated this gathering.

18th December: Lunch sponsored by Modern Matriculation School:

Delicious lunch was served to all the elders on 18th December by the Modern Matriculation School, Cuddalore. The school correspondent and teachers served food to all residents.

19th December and 20th December: Elders celebrated their birthdays

Resident assisted elder Shri.Antony's 87th birthday was celebrated in TEV on 19th December. All the staff members and residents attended. Cakes and snacks were distributed. Elder Uthiradam celebrated her birthday on 20th

December. She was taken to the Mariamman temple at Pondicherry.



20th December: Palliative Care meeting – CPCI.

The Cuddalore Palliative Care Initiative- a registered society with elders and young volunteers conducted their second review meeting at Govt. Hospital campus, on 20th December. Executive members of the society and volunteers attended. Need of pamphlets, folders and a hand-book on “community initiated palliative care” in Tamil language were stressed at the meeting.



21st December: Religious meet/ prayer at multipurpose hall.



A religious lecture to elders on “Kalidharma Undhiyar – Namakirtan Kaliyuga Dharma” was organised by the Chaitanya Mahaprabhu Nama Biksha

Kendra- Chennai held at TEV on 21st December between 7am – 8am. Baskara swamiji of Cuddalore gave the spiritual talk and blessings.

23rd December: Resident Elders Meet

The resident elders of TEV met on 23rd December. The functioning and works carried out by food committee, agricultural committee, medical committee and grievance hearing committee were discussed among the residents. Few elderly residents from Kollam and Vedaranyam wish to attend their Christmas / Pongal celebrations in their native villages and made a request with the representative council.

24th December: Christmas Celebrations

The elders and staff of Tamaraikulam Elders Village celebrated Christmas on 24th December. With decorated lamps and stars illuminating TEV campus, the birth of Jesus was celebrated in the evening with a display of Christmas tree, Manger set depicting portrays of Mary, Infant Jesus and other key characters of the event. The life of Lord Jesus was remembered and a religious talk was given by elders Antony and Eprema.



27th December: Lunch sponsored by Dhaya & Kalaivani

A delicious lunch was served by Dhaya and his family to all the elders of TEV on 27th December on



the event of his son Harish's birthday. Dhaya is working as a Social worker in the Project Kiran.

31st December: NEW YEAR 2009 CELEBRATIONS

New Year – 2009 celebrations and farewell to the year 2008 were held at TEV campus on the 31st December 2008. Chief Guest of the occasion shri. Mathew cherian, CE of HelpAge India, celebrated with TEV elders. Began with a tug of war – rope pulling between women staff against men and musical chair, the event reached its peak with the songs performed by few elders, all staff members. Some of the songs were coupled with dance, and the artists were honoured then and there.





All the Cuddalore Project Management Office (PMO) staffs were honoured with mementoes from the hands of CE and by 12.01AM, midst colourful fire works, new-year cake was cut by Elder Kullamma helped by CE.



Elders arrived during December '08

	<p>Unnamalai – 80 Entry Date: 14.12.08 Destitute, widower from Gundu uppalavadi, active ESHG member. Lonely elder wish to make TEV as her home. Recommended by VLF/DLF. Assisted elder.</p>
	<p>Jayalakshmi - 62 Entry Date: 14.12.08 Widower, recommended by VLF and DLF Nagapattinam. Amputated elder, diabetic who lost her leg, wish to live here at TEV, recommended by VLF. Dependent elder.</p>
	<p>Selvaraj – 70 Entry Date: 19.12.08 Destitute, widower from west street, Nanamedu. Recommended by DLF and EfE. Assisted elder.</p>
	<p>meera –58 Entry Date: 25.12.08 Destitute elder from Cuddalore, uppalavadi village, Kicked off by her husband, drunkard, wish to live here at TEV .Recommended by EfE. Respite.</p>
	<p>Pichai – 61 Entry Date: 10.12.08 Widower, from Cuddalore, beaten up by his son, wish to live here at TEV as respite, recommended by EfE.</p>

OBITUARY



Elder Meenambal, a destitute elder from Nagapattinam died at hospital on **21st December**. She was 85+ and a dependent elder. She was one among the tsunami victim, who was left destitute and taken care of VLF Nagapattinam earlier. She was with us for the past 3 months.



Elder Vellimuthu died at TEV on **29th December 2008**. She was in her 70's and declared death by doctor's team due to heart failure. She was an orphan, destitute elder for whom all the residents and PMO staff team paid last rituals.

Let us Pray for both the elders 'Athma Shanthi'.

Thought for this month:

Be The Change:

Bring a smile, a song, or a few kind words to the next tense setting you find yourself in.

Proposed Programmes for the Month of January 2009:

- **1st January 2009:** New year celebrations
 - **6th January 2009:** Elders Meet
 - **13, 14, 15th Jan 2009:** Bogi, Pongal and Mattu Pongal celebrations.
 - **14th Jan:** State Bank of India and EfE donates woollen dress materials to residents.
 - **15th Jan:** Lions Club donates dhotis and sarees with Pongal.
 - **18th Jan to 20th Jan:** Ms.Elizabeth Coates, Help the Aged – UK visits PMO projects.
 - **22nd Jan – 23rd Jan:** MYRADA training programme on “evaluation on Post tsunami livelihood programmes”
 - **22nd Jan:** Master Harris Birthday – siddick family sponsor food.
 - **23rd Jan:** NLC Medical camp – Ortho, skin and Psychologist team visits TEV.
 - **26th Jan:** Republic Day celebrations at TEV.
 - **27th Jan:** Elders Representative Council Meet.
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