

NEWSLETTER

August 2008

Edition- 8

1st August: Panchayat presidents meet at TEV.

A One day workshop on “sensitizing Panchayat presidents on elderly care and support”



was organized by Coastal Resources Centre - for Elderly, at the

TEV campus. This seminar was held in continuation with the advocacy campaign initiated by CRC and District Police Department. About 26 Panchayat presidents from Cuddalore, Panruti and Annagramam Blocks along with 24 VLF/DLF representatives attended this workshop. Mr. Seenivasan, Additional Director of Panchayat attended on behalf of the District Collector. DDF- Mr.Ramalingam, Dr.Sathyababu, and Mr.Siddick felicitated. Dr.Thirunavukarasu from Gandhigram Rural University consolidated and delivered the overall feedback on discussions, suggestions made during this workshop. Mr.Elango, Head of CRC and his Executives- advocacy team along with Elders for Elders Foundation representatives Shri. Purushothaman, Shri. Muniyappan read out the minutes of the workshop along with the resolutions to be taken on “elders’ issues” during the Village Committee Meeting on 15th August by each and every Panchayat towards making cuddalore as an “Elder

Friendly District”.

2nd August: Financial consultant to Govt. of India visits TEV.

Dr.Amrita Rangasamy, Eminent scholar and Consultant- thirteenth finance commission, visited TEV on 2nd August. She is on her official visit to evaluate

Tsunami rehabilitation programs undertaken by the District



Administration. She visited each of the residential blocks and discussed with elders on their health and well being. She appreciated HI efforts and initiatives on destitute elders’ welfare and wished TEV model should be replicated elsewhere in the country. She enquired about Old Age Pensions to the residents and given her recommendations for sanctioning OAP/WP to the District Revenue Officer, who accompanied her.

5th August: TEV resident elders meeting:

Resident elders meeting held on 5th august at Meeting hall. The Residents discussed on campus beautification, purchase of additional cows, fixing of mosquito nets, replacing of CFL



lamps, independence day celebrations and issue of dhotis to new

comers. TEV manager, caregivers and Admin officer attended.

Farewell to Mr.Manikandan, CRC staff.

Mr.Manikandan, worked as an Advocacy executive in the CRC team of PMO Cuddalore for the past 3 years. He is leaving to Mumbai for pursuing his Doctoral research studies in Tata Institute of Social Science after resigning his job. A farewell function was arranged at TEV campus and his good works at HI were appreciated.



Staff from RD- South Office, Chennai visited TEV.

Mr.Anbazhagan, Deputy Director and Mr.Arun Wilson visited TEV on 5th August. They are on their two days official visit to Pudhucherry and Cuddalore schools. Mr.Ramalingam, DD-F made arrangements for their stay and visits.

6th – 16th August: CRC staff attended training at Akshara.

A team of 3 Advocacy executives, 3 coordinators from Partner Agencies lead by Mr.Elango, attended staff refresher training at Akshara, Hyderabad. Research staff from regional offices of HelpAge India also attended.

9th August: St.Joseph school- NSS volunteers Shram Dhan.

The NSS volunteers of St.Joseph school, Cuddalore did shram dhan work at TEV, such as weeding and planting. Father Agnel, Principal, visited the campus and elders. He **donated Rs.5000** as his birthday gift to the residents.. Elders' council representatives and Manager of TEV gave vote of thanks to Father Agnel and NSS volunteers.



10th August: SAARC member countries delegates visit TEV.

An International evaluation team of 12 members from Bhutan, India, Nepal and Srilanka lead by Dr.E.V.Prakash Rao of NIRD visited TEV on 10th August. They discussed on the Elders village concept, HelpAge India's achievements in Tsunami Rehabilitation, Disaster Management and Mitigation techniques.



Residents gave a warm welcome to all the delegates and were taken to their residence, explained them on active living and ageing processes in TEV. The entire team enquired on their food, shelter and other provisions made available to them. They presented gift to residents. Later, the team shared their observations on TEV and elders' homes built in their home countries. Dr.Rao and Mr.Senaratne thanked HI-PMO staff and all the resident elders.

12th – 13th August: Palliative care Volunteers training at TEV campus.

The Project Kiran officers arranged a 2 days training programme for trained



volunteers on palliative care. Mr.Prakash and Mr.Ashraf of Calicut Palliative care society conducted training classes. Dr.Sathyababu and Ms.Subha did the translation for trainees and group discussions. Field visits were arranged by Mr.Dayanidhi, Social worker and MMU team.

12th August: Resident Representative Council meets.

The TEV elders' representative council members along with Care staff and Manager meet on 12th august. The following decisions were taken.

- The council should decide on selection of elders for serving food/ tea at dining hall and maintenance of clusters once in 15 days.
- Independence Day to be celebrated on 15th August.
- Religious trip to thiruvannamalai temple and mailam on 17th August. Rs.1500 will be resident elders' contribution.

14th August: NLC medical camp specialist doctors visit to TEV.

A team of Psychiatrist, Dentist and gen. Physician from NLC attended the medical camp at TEV on 14th Aug. among the 59 elders attended 5 of them were diagnosed as 'depressed', 14 of them were advised on decayed tooth removal and 2 elders were referred to medical gastroenterologist.



15th August: Independence Day celebrations at TEV.



Independence Day celebrations held at TEV on 15th August. Resident elders

started decorating the campus from 5AM onwards, dressed white and white, sang songs, distributed sweets and organized the entire program. DD(F) Mr.Ramalingam, Dr.sathyababu and Shri. Palani – Farm Manager were invited. Mr.Rehmadullah, APO and all other TEV staff attended.

17th August: Religious trip to Thiruvannamalai.



A religious trip was arranged to Thiruvannamalai, Mayilam temples were arranged for 30 elders. Dr.Sathiyababu and two care givers accompanied. The assisted and dependent elders attended special prayers on campus, the same day.

20th August – 22nd Aug: Kollam visit.

Field trip was arranged to kollam for following activities:

- To evaluate present status of DLF, AAG and ESHGs – **Dr.B.R.Dwaraki**
- Final round selection of destitute elders by the DLF, along with the QSS staff and to meet with Father Joseph – **Mr.Siddick**
- To verify the election processes of each VLF and to visit the construction site of MPCC- **Mr.Elango**



23rd August: Acharya International School HM and teachers visits TEV.

Mrs.Uma, the Head Mistress of Acharya International School, Pondicherry visited TEV with her faculty. Acharya wishes to link with TEV in conducting cultural events and tree care programme by NSS volunteers.

26th August: Mother Theresa Day celebrated at TEV.

The Lioness Club of Cuddalore and Lions cosmopolitan with Bell book house organized **Mother Theresa Day** celebrations at TEV campus.

The Lion's donated Rs.4000 worth of physio - therapy aids



which includes bedside commode, walkers etc. This will be used for palliative care patients in adopted villages and TEV residents. PMO administrator Dr.Sathyababu and TEV Manager, Mr.Siddick explained about HI project activities in cuddalore. The lioness president remembered the works done by Mother Theresa and appreciated HI staff that they are replicas of mother Theresa. All the TEV residents, PMO staff attended the programme. Ln.Mr.Tulasidass gave vote of thanks.

27th August: Ex. MP of cuddalore visits TEV

Mr.P.R.S.Venkatesan, Ex. Member of Parliament and Dist. Congress representative



visited TEV along with his son and Efe Managing Trustee

shri.Arunachalam. He visited all the residents home, kitchen, dining etc and

Mr.Elango invited them on behalf of PMO. He promised TEV manager in raising funds for the elderly resident's welfare.

28th August: Local School students visit TEV.

As part of TEV's initiative in community linkage, the Parikkalpattu Govt. High school students were



invited to TEV along with their Head Master and teachers

on 28th August. The students were given awareness on elders care and their struggle in life, rearing their children and problems facing now being old, as Grandpa and Granny. Mr.siddick, and Dr.Sathyababu conducted sessions on the topic "social and emotional care" to elders. Ms.Subha, Dr.Mala, Dr.Vidya and Ms.Anbu gave information on Nutritional and Medical care for elderly. They answered children's questions on ageing processes, geriatric care, diseases etc. The entire programme was organised by **Mr.Dayanidhi**, social worker of Project Kiran. In future visits the students will be made aware of 'palliative care'.

A Big August catch



Fish harvested from tamaraiikulam pond on 23rd August. Out of 15 kgs caught, 6kgs were sold outside and 9 kgs taken for kitchen. Elder Murugiah posing with a single silver kendai fish weighed 3.5 kg.

Special Story:

Residents and their pet animals:

The pet animals provide a sense of obligation and duty, acts as a social catalyst, and gives the elderly owner someone to talk to and confide in. Pet ownership is especially common amongst elders, who find company of good cat, cows, dog, birds or other pet animals to be of great comfort. The bonds they develop with their pet animals are so strong indeed; the elderly's closest confidants often walk on four legs rather than two.



Elder **Poorani** with her cats **Ram**, and **Sita**. She loves to feed them and often we can find her roaming with her cats.



Elder **Muthulakshmi** loves keeping birds, feeding them grains (she is looking after 3 pairs of love birds) and elder **Manian** loves to move around the campus in the morning and evenings with his pet dogs 'Blacky' and 'Goldie' He feeds them with milk and rice pudding.



Elder **Rukmani** keeps **Varalakshmi** cow as her pet; feeds grass everyday besides taking her for grazing and a weekly bath. Elder Kullamma's cow **Dhanalakshmi** is little rough but not to her, is pregnant now.

Elder **Rathinavel** is looking after his cow **Mahalakshmi**, elder **Veerabathran** with his cow **Subalakshmi** and elder **Natarajan** looks after his cow **Swarnalakshmi**. They are attending milk veining; dairy shed cleaning and taking rounds with them for grazing. Elder **Krishnamma** and **Vedambal** look after the calves **Hari**, **Krishna**, **saranya** and **lavanya**.



Birthday functions at TEV:








Mr.Devanathan, office messenger celebrated his birthday on 21st August.



All PMO staff attended and wished him for a longer life.

Elders Arrived during August 2008

	<p>Parvathi- 70 Entry Date:04.08.08 Destitute, assisted elder from Kandakkadu village of cuddalore DLF. Recommended by VLF.</p>
	<p>Meenambal - 73 Entry Date: 18.08.08 Dependent elder from Nagapattinam, neglected, starving for food recommended by Nagapattinam DLF.</p>
	<p>Anjalai - 70 Entry Date: 21.8.08 Destitute elder, left alone by her sons near cuddalore GH, from uppalavadi village of cuddalore recommended by VLF and EfE.</p>

	Arockiaraj - 63, Entry date: 18.08.08 Active elder from Nagapattinam, left destitute with his disabled wife, no children, member of ESHG, approached DLF and arrived here.
	Lilly Rose- 59 Entry Date: 18.08.08 Wife of elder Arockiaraj, fully dependent, tsunami victim, disabled due to muscular dystrophy, pseudo bulbar palsy, recommended by Nagapattinam DLF.
	Andal - 68, Entry Date: 28/08/08 Destitute elder, left her drunk husband, no children wish to make TEV as her final destination, recommended by Nanamedu VLF.
	Shagitha Beevi- 65 Entry Date: 17.08.08 Widow Muslim elder, depressed, neglected by her daughter in law, recommended by Nagai VLF/DLF. Assisted elder.
	Muthulakshmi- 75 Entry Date: 28/08/08 Destitute widow elder from Uppalavadi, affected by tsunami and lost her properties. Recommended by VLF and DLF.
	Muniyan-70 Entry Date: 28/08/08 Lonely Elder from thalanguda village, cobbler, active elder, recommended by Cuddalore DLF.
	Dhanalakshmi- 70 Entry Date: 23/08/08 Widow from Uchimedu village, assisted elder

Obituary

Resident Elder **Chandrasekar** passed away in Govt. Hospital, cuddalore on 26th August. He was a destitute elder, joined TEV family during the end of June and was seriously affected by



liver disease. His funeral was attended by DD-F, Manager-TEV and resident

representatives in his daughter's home at Pondicherry on 27th August. The elders prayed for rest of his soul in peace.

Programme schedule for the month - September 2008.

2nd Sep: EfE Managing trustee daughter's birthday function at TEV.

3rd Sep: **Vinayagar Chathurthi celebration** – cultural programme

6th Sep: Elders health check - Dr.Mala of project kiran and her team.

7th Sep: Mr.Seshadri – contractor arranged Birthday feast for elders.

8th Sep: Acharya school children-cultural program organizer Uma, HM.

9th, 16th and 23rd Sep: Elders meeting.

12th Sep: **Onam Festival** celebration.

14th Sep: Making Phenyl and other cleaning materials – **Training.**

16th Sep to 19th Sep: teacher training workshop – CARE (yet to confirm).

19th Sep: Elders Sports Meet.

22nd Sep: **Religious speech** by shri. Baskar, Muraliji Ashram, Cuddalore.

21st Sep to 25th Sep: Training for APOs and HI officials – RD –South office programme.

26th Sep: Cultural Night by residents.

28th Sep:

30th Sep: TEV elders presenting cultural programme at – Elders Day Function at Chennai.