

mcds a review of "2016"

MONTFORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY



From The Director's Desk

Rev. Bro. Gerard Patrick, a member of 'The Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel', Province of Yercaud, South India, founded MCDS in 1996, following radically the example of St. Montfort, the Founder of the Congregation of the 'Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel'. St. Montfort was passionately in love with the poor and the marginalized of his times in the 17th Century France. Emulating him, MCDS targeted the poorest, the marginalized and the most vulnerable among the neglected poor of the slums of Chennai. The mentally challenged among the slum dwellers along the coastal slums was

the very **first 'venture'** undertaken and established as a centre in Srinivasapuram which has now grown into four centres namely, at Kannagi Nagar, Chemmencherry and Perumbakkam, in line with the one at Srinivasapuram. From thence MCDS has not looked back on its mission of 'making this world a better place', especially for the least, the lost and the underprivileged. MCDS now reaches out in different angles to serve this section of society. **The School going youth are assisted in their studies by our 'Study Centers', the School drop outs by 'Open School', the ailing ones by 'Medicine on Wheels', the women are empowered by SHG, men by 'Gents SHG' and the aged by 'Senior Citizens Forum'**. We gratefully acknowledge the support from our Major Partners, namely, **Talkingtech Foundation, New Zealand and Lebensbaum Foundation, Germany** and our own Old Students especially the **Alumni of Montfort School, Yercaud and of RSK and others like the Rotary, the lodge, Ford Motors, SPI Cinemas** etc. Our multi-pronged approach to the poorest of the poor among the Slum Dwellers has given better health and a better tomorrow to the thousands of them. It is imperative that I mention here our major partners in the HEALTH PROGRAMS namely, **India vision Institute (IVI), Cancer Institute, REACH, Tanker Foundation and SCARF** in achieving our goals. I am pleased to give below the detailed Annual Report for the year 2016.

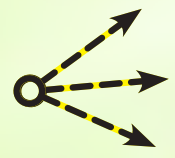


Our Programmes:

I. "They are Special"... Children with Disabilities – Integration through Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR):

Acceptance of 'special children' and their integration into Society are major concerns of MCDS along with awareness on causes and possible prevention of disabilities. Philosophy behind Community based Rehabilitation (CBR) is to integrate disabled people into the mainstream Society rather than create special environment for them. The involvement of family and the community are integral part of this concept.

Our Special Children disability types: Mental Retardation, Autism, Down Syndrome, Hyper Active, Visual and Hearing impairment, Multiple Disability

Category: 

Category	Beneficiaries of the Programme:
Mild	Number of Children at the CBR - 63 (Male 43 Female 20)
Moderate	Number of children at HBR - 18 (Male 10 Female 08)
Severe	Number of children at IBR (Outreach)- 110 (Male 79 Female 31)



Our Special Children availing Therapy Equipment facility

MCDS started with One CBR centre in the slums of Srinivasapuram. After the Tsunami, the slum dwellers were relocated in Kannagi Nagar and Chemmencherry. The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board made a request to MCDS to start a centre each in these two relocated areas. It is after the Chennai Floods '2015' that a further request was made to start one more centre at Perumbakkam. Thus we have Four CBR centres in the slums and slum relocated areas. The Four centres now have been divided into two groups, considering their age factor. The centres at Srinivasapuram and Perumbakkam are meant for those above sixteen years of age. They are given Vocational training to make them independent. The other two centres at Kannagi Nagar and Chemmencherry cater to those below sixteen years. They are given systematic training to look after their own needs and become independent. The mildly affected ones among them are given training to admit them in normal schools and thereby mainstream them. They are also given Physiotherapy by a qualified Physiotherapist.



Assessment/Evaluation of our Special Children in Chemmancherry by Resource Person from Vidya Sagar



Lunch at one of our CBR centres



Vocational skill training for our CBR Youth

Activities carried out during the year:

Details	Srinivasapuram	Kannagi Nagar	Chemmencherry	Perumbakkam
No. of students	15	19	16	13
Locations the students come from	Srinivasapuram, Nochikuppam, , Ambedkar Palam, Redhills, Mandaveli	Mettukuppam, Velachery, Kannagi Nagar, Ezhil Nagar, PTC colony	Chemmencherry, Perumbakkam Ponniamman Koil	Perumbakkam Chemmencherry
Home Based Rehabilitation	3	2	8	5
Age Group	Above 16 years	Below 16 years	Below 16 years	Above 16 years
Therapies given	Dance, Sports	Speech, Dance, Singing, Drawing, Sports, Physiotherapy	Speech, Dance, Singing, Drawing, Sports, Physiotherapy	Speech, Dance, Sports Physiotherapy
Unified Sports conducted at YMCA, Nandanam and Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount	Sports for Differently Abled - One child participated and won a medal. Participated in the Unified Sports at Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount – Ten students participated and 7 won medals	Ten children participated in the Unified Sports at Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount and Five won medals	Sports for Differently Abled - Seven children participated and all Seven won medals. Participated in the Unified Sports at Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount Seven students participated and Six won medals	Sports for Differently Abled - Seven children participated and all Seven won medals. Participated in the Unified Sports at Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount and won Ten medals

- All our Special children were provided lunch.
- Health Check-up for the Special children every month by our Clinic on Wheels.
- Monthly Parents meeting of our special children to discuss their progress.
- Birthday celebrations of our Special Children in our centres.
- Our Loom unit for Vocational skill training for our CBR youth started in June 2016 with the assistance of Krupa Trust. Through this unit, they were helped to make Door mats and Kitchen towels. Other Vocational skill trainings given are: Candle Making, Sambrani, Flower vase, Jewellery making etc.
- MCDS women Self-Help groups visited our centres nineteen times and provided snacks & lunch during this reporting period.
- Our children participated in Unified Sports meet. This is an Inclusive Sports Meet offering opportunities for individuals with and without intellectual disabilities and our children secured 28 Medals.



Rev. Bro. K M Joseph, Asst. General, Montfort Brothers, Rome and Rev. Bro. George P J , Provincial Superior, Province of Yercaud at our CBR centres



Unified Sports Meet at Monfort School, St. Thomas Mount



Our athletes with the staff and winners of Gold medals at Kreda Sports Meet organised by Inner Wheel



Master Kamala Kannan and Master Vishwa were mainstreamed to Regular school



- We are happy to announce that two of our Special children from Kannagi Nagar CBR centre namely Kamala Kannan and Vishal were admitted into regular school during this reporting period.
- Celebrations during this reporting period were New Year, Pongal, Children's Day, Deepavali and Picnic.

- The Vidya Sagar NGO that works for the needs of Special Children gave special training to our staff as well as our Physiotherapist. Assessment of our Special Children with individual goal setting was also done by them in one of our centres.
- Helped in securing Government pension of Rs.1500/- to 48 of our Special Children and have applied for the others.
- Three Wheel chairs were secured for our Special Children during this reporting period.



World Disability Day Rally for our Special Children along with their parents and local people



Monthly Parents meeting of our Special Children

- 57 children availed Bus Pass and have applied for the others.
- All our centres were equipped with latest therapy equipments.
- Teaching materials from National Institute of Empowerment of Persons with Multiple disabilities were collected.

II. Study Centres:

MCDS organised 13 study centers catering to 238 children. If not for our study centers, many of these would have been drop outs and ended up as child labourers. Our study centres are spread out at the following areas: Adyar, Thiruvanmiyur, R A Puram (3 centres), Kannagi Nagar (2 centres), Chindadripet (4 centres) and Dargah - Mount Road (2 centres).

Sl. No.	Area	Teacher In charge	Boys	Girls	No. of Children
1	Adyar	Mrs. Devi	11	9	20
2	Thiruvanmiyur	Ms. Gayatri	14	6	20
3	Kannagi Nagar -1	Mrs. Sugunya	7	9	16
4	Kannagi Nagar - 2	Mrs. Selvi	9	10	19
5	R A Puram - 1	Ms.Saradha	6	10	16
6	R A Puram - 2	Ms.Sudha	4	16	20
7	R A Puram - 3	Ms.Shanthi	10	7	17
8	Chindadripet - 1	Ms.Kalpna	7	11	18
9	Chindadripet -2	Ms. Sujatha	10	9	19
10	Chindadripet -3	Ms. Famidha	6	13	19
11	Chindadripet - 4	Ms. Vaideshri	9	10	19
12	Dargah - Mount Road - 1	Ms. Eswari	9	9	18
13	Dargah - Mount Road - 2	Ms. Julie	3	14	17
		Total	105	133	238



Mrs. Nilofer, Thiruvanmiyur Federation leader inspecting study centre in her area



Happy Adyar Study centre children

- We provide notebooks and stationery items to these children
- Only poor students attending Government schools are selected from the community
- Parents meeting held every month to evaluate their performance.
- Minutes of the meeting are maintained
- Annual Training for the staff
- Participated in the Child Rights Day Rally, at all our study centres to create awareness on the Rights to Education, wherein their parents and SHG members participated.



Our Study Centre Teachers at the Annual Training Programme



Two Study Centre children on their picnic



Child Rights Rally by our students, parents and SHG members

III. Open School:

One of the two Open Schools we organize is in Kannagi Nagar and the other at Santhome meant for School drop-outs where the drop-outs are more. They are given tuition in all subjects, aimed at preparing them to appear for the Public Examination and thus reach the main stream. There are 39 such students and of these Eight have already cleared their examination in October and the others are getting ready to take their examination in March.

Sl. No.	Year	10th Standard	12th Standard	Total
1	2016	8 (2 boys & 6 Girls)	31 (25 boys & 6 Girls)	39



Students busy preparing for their exams

- Our students participated in the Mini Marathon on Clean Chennai held during March 2016



Youth participating in Mini Marathon for the cause of Clean Chennai. Indian Cricketer, L. Balaji flagged off the marathon



Mr. Vivekh, an Alumni of Santhome Hr. Sec. School, the reputed cine actor cum comedian presided over the prize distribution



Open School students clearing their doubts



Youth who participated at the three days seminar

- A three day workshop for Teen Age Girls on different topics like Health and hygiene, Substance Abuse, Gender based Violence, Self-esteem education and development, Child Rights and POSCO Law was conducted in collaboration with Nakshatra NGO.



Young and energetic Open School students at Kannagi Nagar



Youth attentively participating in Seminar

IV. Health:

“Health for All” – A Dream of MCDS.

MCDS Clinic on Wheels visited various slums and Corporation Schools on all week days with a Doctor and a Nurse with required medicines and reached out to 21,823 beneficiaries this year. Detailed list is as follows:

Details of Month wise Visits:

Sl. No.	Month	No. of Visits	No. of Patients
1	January	11	897
2	February	16	1186
3	March	18	1410
4	April	18	1181
5	May	15	1343
6	June	20	2000
7	July	24	2361
8	August	24	3052
9	September	24	2574
10	October	20	2169
11	November	24	2426
12	December	12	1224
	Total	250	21823



Our Ambulance Mobile Clinic on Wheels with Doctor, Nurse and free medicines



Dr. Revathy examining a patient



Our Dentist checkup a patient

11,166 people benefitted from Awareness and Screening programs in collaboration with various healthcare providers. Detailed list is as follows:

Sl. No.	Health Programme	Organisation	Number of people benefitted
1	Cancer Awareness	Cancer Institute	45
2	T B Awareness	REACH	760
3	Health & Hygiene	Volunteers	403
4	Multi Camp (General, Skin, Eye, Diabetes)	Rotary Club of Madras Besant Nagar	213
5	Eye Screening	India Vision Institute (IVI)	8345
6	Kidney Screening	TANKER Foundation	945
7	Nutrition	MSW Field work students	65
8	Life Saving Skill	MSW Field work students	60
9	Child Abuse	MSW Field work students	60
10	Dental Awareness	MCDS	270
		Total	11,166

Kidney screening:

Sl.No.	Federations	Date	No. of Beneficiaries		
			Male	Female	Total
1	Adyar	22.10.2016	43	107	150
2	Thiruvanmiyur	10.12.2016	40	149	189
3	RA Puram	22.11.2016	28	109	137
4	Vadapalani	17.09.2016	27	110	137
5	Kannagi Nagar	12.11.2016	25	82	108
6	Chemmencherry	15.10.2016	24	84	108
		Total	187	642	829



TB Awareness and Screening by REACH for our SHG groups



Kidney Screening in collaboration with TANKER Foundation

IVI – MCDS Vision Screening Programs - School and Community Programs 2016

Sl.No.	Date	IVI – MCDS Vision Screening Venues	School / Community	No. of screened	No. of spectacles distributed
1	18.5.16	MCDS Adyar SHG	Community	150	89
2	17.6.16	Corporation Primary School, Taramani	School	602	30
3	18.6.16	Kakkan Colony, Adyar, SHG	Community	130	60
4	24.6.16	TTNA School, Perungudi	School	262	5
5	25.6.16	Vadapalani SHG		167	100
6	01.7.16	SevaSamaj School	School	200	23
7	04.7.16	Santhome Hr. Sec. School, Mylapore	School	2700	403
8	08.7.16	Govt. Panchyat Union Primary School, Perumbakkam	School	226	18
9	09.7.16	Thiruvanmiyur SHG	Community	116	70
10	15.7.16	Govt. High School, Perumbakkam	School	138	16
11	16.7.16	Kannagi Nagar SHG	Community	152	63
12	23.7.16	Chemmencherry SHG	Community	148	39
13	29.7.16	RA Puram SHG	Community	136	73
14	30.7.16	Dooming Kuppam	Community	117	76
15	1.11.16	St. Peters, Royapuram	School	2145	322
16	15.11.16	Montfort School, Alandur	School	973	157
			TOTAL	8362	1544



Eye Screening in collaboration with India Vision Institute & Sankara Nethralaya

Networking:

MCDS networks with a number of Government Organisations and Health Care Providers like India Vision Institute, Tamil Nadu Kidney Research Foundation, REACH for TB, Schizophrenia Research Foundation for Mental illness, Cancer Institute etc. to impart healthcare to the underprivileged.

MCDS is a much sought after field work placement centre for a number of Colleges offering Social Work and Block placement centre. This year we had 28 such BSW/MSW students.

V. Women Empowerment:

Details of Women SHGs:

Sl. No.	District	No. of groups formed	No. of Defunct groups	No. of Functioning Groups
1	Chennai	187	115	72
2	Kannagi Nagar	33	-	34
3	Chemmencherry	26	-	27
	Total	246	115	133



Pongal Celebrations at Federation Level

Total Number of SHG members – 1820 Women

BANK LOAN AVAILED BY OUR SHG MEMBERS in 2016:

Chennai	-	2,09,75,000
Kannagi Nagar	-	34,55,000
Chemmencherry	-	24,40,000
TOTAL	-	2,68,70,000

Bank LOAN INTEREST RATE: 12.5 %

Our SHG groups/individuals invested in various Entrepreneurship programs such as Saree Business, Fruit Shop, Vegetable Vendors, Catering business, Small scale business like Tailoring, Provision, Tea shops, Health & Education for their kids, Eco Kitchen and Block Printing Units etc.

NUMBER OF FEDERATIONS: Six

(Adyar, Chemmencherry, Kannagi Nagar, Thiruvanmiyur, Vadapalani & RA Puram)



Monthly meeting of all members of Federation

ACTIVITIES:

- Regular Federation Meetings
- Pongal and Women's Day Celebrations
- Awareness on TB, Cancer Screening, Eye Screening, Kidney Screening etc.
- Street play by MSW students
- Health and Hygiene programme conducted by Slum Clearance Board.



Inauguration of Block Printing Unit by Rotarians



Super Federation meeting with the Federation Leaders and Cabinet Ministers



Our women leaders at a workshop organised by Cancer Institute



Block Printing Training at Krupa Trust, Padappai



Block Printing unit of MCDS



SHG Members at their best on International Women's Day



Cooking without fire – a competition by one of the Federation for all their groups

VI. Men SHG:

Our Men SHG group is a unique feature of MCDS. The Federation consisting of 80 members are divided into 5 Groups. They are mostly Auto drivers. MCDS assist them in getting new autos through bank loans.



Distribution of bank loan



Men SHG award ceremony



Elder's Day celebrations



Picnic for our Elders

VII. Elders' Programme:

Our Senior Citizens Forum consist of 40 Elders in two centres, one at Srinivasapuram and the other at Nochi Nagar. They gather in the evenings for their activities which includes Prayer, Yoga, Meditation, Newspaper Reading, Sharing stories, Singing & Dancing. They actively participated in Pongal, Elder's Day and Christmas celebrations. They also availed programmes like T B Awareness, Ortho and Eye camp. Uniform sarees were distributed to them.



Distribution of Uniform Sarees to all members



One group of our Senior Citizens

VIII. Cyclone Vardah:

Cyclone 'Vardah' played havoc to the Chennai city and suburbs and caused untold sufferings and disaster to the slum dwellers, many of whom are our beneficiaries. We visited the affected areas to extend our helping hand. It is heart rendering to see the trees twisted and uprooted in every nook and corner of the city. Our two Ambulance vehicles, parked in front of MCDS was miraculously saved from the damage even though, broken branches fell all around them. The city is limping back to normal.



Relief Distribution by MCDS to some of the Affected Families

Conclusion:

From the dawn of year 2016 when MCDS was fully immersed in the Relief work after the "Chennai Floods" and Ending the year with the Vardah Cyclone, the year has been **Fulfilling** and **Fruitful** in its manifold activities throughout the year. All these achievements were made possible because of the committed engagement of MCDS as a whole and on account of our dedicated staff along with our collaborators in our mission. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support we received from our Funding Partners and thank them wholeheartedly for the implicit faith reposed in MCDS.



Staff relaxing after the three full days of evaluation

Dedicated staff
of MCDS

