Dear All,

Greetings from Montfort Community Development Society(MCDS),Chennai.

I am happy to update you on the recent happenings at MCDS during this quarterly period ending March 2017.

**Eye Screening Camp:**

MCDS, in association with **L & T** and **Sankara Nethralaya** conducted Eye Screening Camps for the members of Thiruvanmiyur and Vadapalani Federation members of the SHG. More than Two Hundred and Seventy Five people benefitted through this screening and One Hundred and Forty Seven received Free Spectacles.

**Disability Rights Day Rally:**

Our Special Children in all the four CBR Centres with their parents and SHG members actively participated in the Rally held at their respective areas for their Disability Rights.
Sports Meet:
Our Special Children actively participated in ‘Kreeda Sports’ organized by ‘Inner Wheel of Rotary Club’ at Rajarathinam Stadium as well and ‘Unified Sports’ organized by ‘Special Olympics Bharat’ at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium and won as many as Forty Four prizes.

Our Special Children at ‘Kreeda Sports Meet’

At ‘Unified Sports Meet’ organized by Special Olympics Bharat

Cultural Events:
Our Special Children participated in the Group Dance Competition organized by ‘Care India’ and secured First Place among the participating establishments.

Our Special Children secured First Place in Group Dance Competition
MCDS Women SHG groups celebrated the ‘Pongal’ at their Federation level with inter group competitions in Rangoli, Face Painting and Hitting Jackpot etc. They gathered together and celebrated ‘Pongal’ in a grand manner.

Our Women were in full strength participating in the ‘jallikattu Protest’ held at Marina Beach from 17th to 23rd January 2017.
‘Rev. Bro. Partick Memorial Tournament’:

‘Rev. Bro. Partick Memorial Tournament’ was held on 18th and 19th February 2017 at Montfort School, St. Thomas Mount. It was organized by MCDS through Mr. Sukesh Menon, an old student of Montfort School Yercaud. 90 Teams participated in Table Tennis, 29 teams in Foot Ball, 30 teams in Basket Ball and 12 teams in Cricket. The winners were awarded with Cash prizes, Trophies, Medals and Certificates.

Basket Ball Teams with Organizers

Cricket Team with Organizers

Table Tennis Team Juniors during the tournament

MCDS International Women’s Day

About three thousand women from the Slums and Slum Relocated areas of Chennai and its Suburbs are affiliated to MCDS. Through the intervention of MCDS these women are empowered and they in turn assist to reach out the benefits of the welfare measures undertaken by MCDS in their community areas. Thus they assist in organizing Awareness Camps on Cancer, TB, Kidney, Alcoholism, Eye Screening, mental health, food and Nutrition etc. Spread through six Federations in the different areas of Chennai and its suburbs, it is through the medium of the SHG that School drop-out and poor children who but for our intervention would have become child labourer, are helped to pursue their schooling. Through their Federations the activities of Clinic on wheels and Dental Clinic on Wheels reach their respective areas.
MCDS felt it befitting to honour these women who are our collaborators on the occasion of the International Women’s Day.

MCDS celebrated International Women’s Day on 7th March at Kamarajar Arangam, probably one of the biggest Auditorium in the city. About One Thousand five hundred Women SHG members along with Friends and Well-wishers of MCDS graced the occasion.

**Face Painting and Rangoli**

Prior to this event, Women SHG members had various competitions in Rangoli, Face painting and Scrapbook at their respective Federation level. They had the Group Dance Competition. The special dance performances by the Senior Citizens’ Forum and by our Special Children were Attractions of the day.

**Mr. Jegan, Actor and Anchor Vijay TV,** was the Chief Guest for the morning session through the kind intervention of Dr. Balamurali of ALOHA’ batch.

This was followed by ‘Crazy Mohan’ Troupe performance after the Lunch break. Courtesy Mr. Bala Adithyan, ‘SHALOM’ Batch, Ms. Archana, Actress and National Award Winner was the Chief Guest for the afternoon and she distributed Prizes to our Women SHG members.
As planned earlier, Vidya Sagar conducted Assessment and Evaluation for Kannagi Nagar and Perumbakkam CBR Centre. This Assessment and evaluation is showing result in our CBR centre. Our staff were given training on various topics related to disabilities of the children by Vidya Sagar.

Assessment/ Evaluation at Kannagi Nagar CBR centre by Resource person from Vidya Sagar

Assessment of our children at Perumbakkam CBR Centre

Staff given training by Vidya Sagar

Senior Citizens’ Forum:

Two more centres have been opened in the slum relocated areas of Chemmencherry and Perumbakkam in addition to the ones already existing in Srinivasapuram and Nochikuppam. To give similar facility for the seniors at these locations.

Inauguration of Senior Citizen's Forum at Perumbakkam
**Children's Study Centres/Transit Schools:**

Total number of study centres: 12  
Total Number of Children: 238

Twelve Study centres located at different areas of the city cater to the needs of the disadvantaged children in their own Locality are closely monitored. Parents meetings are conducted in their respective centres every month to evaluate their progress. Currently all are busy preparing for the Final Examinations which will extend up to the end of April.

![Children at one of the study centre preparing for their Annual Examination](image)

**Open School (for School drop-outs):**

Twenty Eight *Drop out students* have written their Public Examinations and are awaiting their results by May 2017.

![Open School students clearing their doubts before examination](image)
Clinic on wheels:

The Monday to Thursday visits of this facility reaches out to people mainly in slums and those who were shifted and relocated after Tsunami and Chennai Floods. Six thousand one hundred and thirty seven patients have benefitted through this endeavor.

Clinic on Wheels General Checkup

Mobile Dental Clinic on wheels continued to reach out to poor children studying in Government schools as well as to people living in slums. About seven hundred and fifty patients were given awareness on Dental Hygiene.

Dental Camp at R A Puram Federation

We gratefully acknowledge the support and the collaboration that we continued to receive for the growth of MCDS. We thank you for your support and assume that you are updated also through electronic media about our activities.

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