



JYOTHI JEEVAPOORNA TRSUST

ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE

2019 Annual Report Report

Annual Update



DIRECTORS MESSAGE



It is my privilege to write to you and present the Annual Report for 2019.

It was a very productive year. Altogether it was a successful year with fruitful activities including implementations of Govt. Projects like Haritha Sahaya Stapanam, conduct of awareness programmes on gender and women's right through seminars and workshops as well as strong interventions against human right violations. I take this opportunity to congratulate the community groups, organizers, project leaders and unit members, who worked hand-in-hand in all possible ways for formation of good number of new CAG groups and successful implementations of all the projects through the groups.

With great gratitude to our own technically trained employees and the sponsors, let me recall their efforts to build houses for those who lost it in the flood. AWC was able to materialize all the socio-economic projects that came our way for community development, possibly in the most optimum way.

The Report is dedicated as an outcome of the team's effort to bridge the gap between the vision of the organization for the year and the various challenges faced by the women in their home, work place and society.

We look ahead over coming years, great transformations and opportunities as people are more eager to learn and adapt to new technology. We will focus on more digital learning skills opening way for a better livelihood for those who were miles away from the know-how of Tech. Improved Training methods, educating and counseling will be a part of our major agenda for the upliftment of the society, especially women as a part of our women empowerment campaigns.

OVERVIEW OF MISSION AND VISION

The AWC – the Kerala wing of Jyothi Jeevapoorna Trust – was founded in 2004, with an underlining mission of becoming a catalyst and channel of true, vibrant, and “fullness of life” to all lasting experience of particularly those who had been subject to the historic and cultural discrimination of patriarchal powers. Its mission therefore is to work zealously for the meaning and empathetic synthesis of gender justice, equality, and fair opportunities at various levels of the social ladder.

As a voluntary organization with a non-conventional and unique mission, we have set our vision on an equally challenging goal of a new, and non-discriminatory social order which promotes and celebrate equality and gender justice in all its beauty and manifestations.

TRUST MEMBERS



Ms. Thresiamma Mathew



Ms. M. Mercy Saroja Savariyaradimai



Ms. Theresa Kurian



Ms. Annie Joseph



Ms. Little Flower Joseph



Ms. Rosily Devasahayam

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

- Fr. M K Joseph (Prof. Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamaserry)
- Mrs. Nisha Jose K Mani (Brand Ambassador of Hair for Hope)
- Mr. Shibu K Nair (Thanal. Program director & planning committee member in Trivandrum and Kollam)
- Mr. Lorance Mathew (District Industrial Department)
- Prof. P T Michael (Department of Economics, Devamatha College, Kuravilangadu)
- Mrs. Elizabeth (Gender Department)
- Prof. V K Damodharan (Chairman Techtop team, Former chairman of IEEE Kerala Section)
- Mr. George Thomas (Consultant)



MANAGEMENT

AWC is managed by a dedicated, core team of six women social activists, who hail from the Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (OMMI) Congregation. The team is ably guided and supported by an eight member Advisory Council (Board) who hail from different social fields such as social work, education, health care, industry, business, literature and politics. During 2019 we had 3 meetings of Board of Directors, and one meeting of the Advisory Board. The minutes of the meeting are prepared and filed . Periodic Reviews are done for completions of matters discussed in the meetings



ADMINISTRATION

I have to admit that one of the outstanding reasons why we could successfully chalk out, apparently different and challenging trajectory in a fast changing world is the spirit of assimilation and engagement that was evidently the hall mark of our personnel team.

Following are the members of the administrative team:

Name	Designation	Qualification	Experience
1. Ms. Thresiamma Mathew	Director	BSc, DSDS-Coady International	41
2. Ms. Annie Joseph	General manager	BA, Diploma in Accounting	11
3. Mr. Paulson K F	Community Action Group – Coordinator	MSW	11
4. Mrs. Jainamma Shibu	Finance Officer	MA, HDC	10
5. Ms. Jayasree P K	Programme Officer, Social Training Coordinator & Organic Farming Trainer	BSW, Diploma in Organic Farming	16
6. Mrs. Shyny Joshy	Programme Officer	ANM	11
7. Mrs. Ajisha Shibu	Junior Programme Officer	BA, MSW	08
8. Mrs. Bindhu Varghese	Assistant Programme Officer	MA Psychology	15
9. Mrs. Sruthymol V S	Office Secretary & Computer specialist	B.Tech IT	2
10. Miss. Theresa Kurian	Home Management	Diploma in Home Science	21
11. Ms. Jismi Jose	Community Organiser & Counsellor	B.com, MSW	5
12. Mrs. Teenu Francis	Community Organiser	BA, MSW	3
13. Mr. Satheshkumar J N	Community Organiser	BA, MSW	1
14. Mrs. Sheela K S	Community Organiser	B.com	2
15. Ms. Amala Mathew	Social Worker	B.com, MSW	-
16. Ms. Chippy Shaji	Social Worker	BSW, MSW	-
17. Mr. Josephin Cyriac	Social Worker	BA, MSW	-
18. Ms. Jyothy Susan Joseph	Social Worker	B.com, MSW	-
19. Mrs. Gigi Kuriakose	Hollow Bricks Unit Supervisor	KGTA	11
20. Mrs. Soumya Sajeevan	Driver	BADGE	8
21. Mrs. Jalaja	House Keeper		1
22. Mr. Sejo Jose	Senior	B.Tech Civil	9
23. Mrs. Aryamol P A	Junior Engineer	B.Tech Civil	6
24. Mrs. Asha Varghese	Construction Supervisor	Construction Supervisory (NIOS)	7
25. Mr. Jibin Joshy	Engineering Trainee	B.Tech Civil	-

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF 2019

Community Action Group - The grape wine of AWC

The CAG groups are the grape wine of AWC ; it is through the continuous and selfless efforts of the group, its organizers and animators who cherish the values of the community members and bring out the determination in them to become entrepreneurs- sometimes the only bread-winner of the house .

This year the prime focus of AWC was to form Community Action Groups (CAG) in 35 Panchayats of Kottayam and Ernakulam Districts. Community Action Groups (CAG) are small homogeneous groups of women who are motivated, trained and empowered to work as social entrepreneur groups to realize the objects of human and women's basic rights for sustainable livelihood, social equality, economic self-reliance, right to hygienic housing, sanitation, health etc. Above all, CAGs have proved to be the most effective and systematic forums to organize and motivate a community about the "rights" quotients and the means to correct the abbreviations. The glimpses of the developed and practiced programmes under CAGs are given below:

Activities and Programmes conducted at CAG level:

- Awareness generation on gender rights and leadership training
- Monthly evaluation meetings of leaders
- Annual central gathering
- Grand Women's Day Celebration
- Training in banking, finance and basics of financial management
- Training in livelihood programmes viz, production of ferro-cement tanks, she taxi, mobile mechanism, IT skills, umbrella, candles, snacks, tailoring etc.



Through CAGs, AWC focus on the empowerment of women both emotionally and financially. For this we train and guide women to start enterprises and enhance their earning capacities and are able to generate income for their livelihood. AWC could mobilize and make available a total institutional resource of Rs.11,010,000 as the basic seed capital to fuel the entrepreneurial activities of CAGs(for 150 CAGs). On this occasion we recall with gratitude the stellar role played by the Union Bank of India, in making this partnership possible by making financial resources available. We were also able to get training and institutional resource support from the national agencies such as National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and other various departments of the Government for imparting skill training to the participants in undertaking livelihood development programmes.

Through CAGs women are coming to the main stream of the society and they become aware of their rights and also take part in decision making in the group. Coming into the group gives them an outlet to wend their emotions, their pains and their struggles. The group becomes a place for personality building, socialization and strengthening bonds of friendship.

However, the tendency of certain groups to back out is a challenge faced by Archana. The Determination of AWC to make them independent entrepreneurs by starting an enterprise to earn a living, clashes with their vested interest of availing loans for personal and family needs.

Special Skill Training

One of the major issues -the gender discrimination in workplace was highly challenged by the Skill Training Programme of AWC. I proudly announce the success of this programme as we have to our credit the first women's contractors group.

Women are at par with men in all the works, lest the community builds a wall around them creating hindrances that pulls her back to acquire the technical acumen.

To eradicate this, AWC has selected the proven track of "skill devolution" as the appropriate and relevant means to accomplish this task. During the reporting period of 2019, we could conduct the following skill-specific training for women, who have thus given an opportunity to showcase their skills and competence:

SL.No	Training	Duration	Participants
1	Mason Training under Kudumbasree	56 Days	44
2	Mason Training under Swayam Shishan Prayog	60 Days	30
3	Mason Training AWC	30 Days	10
4	Goat Shelter training under Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat	25 Days	18
Training under Centre for Rural Management & Sakhi, Thiruvananthapuram			
5	Plumbing Training	30 Days	25
6	Electrical Training	30 Days	16
7	Mobile Mechanism Training	30 Days	34
8	Electronic Appliances Repairing Training	30 Days	13

IT FOR SHE



Information Technology becomes the part and parcel of our life. Without computer and digital skill the day to day life is incomplete and it has become very mandatory for living. Most of the CAG members are having only basic education and they lack IT skill. During the year we could train 500

women from our CAG groups in IT skills. The actual target was 1000. But as Kudumbasree was running similar programmes, the target got distributed with AWC and Kudumbasree. Those women who underwent the training became more familiar to the computer and its basic knowledge. From the very trivial use of sending messages to the high end use of smart phones; they became masters in no-time. Some of them commented that "we are proud that we also are computer skilled persons" with lot of pride in their voice.. This equipped them with the skill to sustain in the modern world. It turned out to be a blessing in disguise during the pandemic situation as there was a sudden switch over to online trend.



FERRO-CEMENT TANK MAKING TRAINING

It is a vibrant project where training is imparted in the simple technology of Ferro-cement to produce tanks for various purposes. In the current year, 15 women underwent training and got engaged in the production of 750 tanks. These are immediately utilized in a large project with panchayats in recharging wells. The scheme exists together with our plumbing group too. The ladies working in the tank construction are now able to earn between Rs.450- 600/ day, which makes them very happy.



SHINKARIMELAM [ONE SORT OF DRUM BEAT]



An 18 member team has been trained and launched in to the market of performance during the year. They have been successful in getting booked for shows in the state and outside the state, especially for temple festivals and marriage functions. Generally it is a domain of the male artisans. So it demands special efforts and courage from the part of women artisans to win the market. They ought to be ready to travel to distant places, be absent from home for a few days, accept the challenges of competing with men etc. After a couple of performances our team is confident and very proud of their skills and are earning at least Rs 2500 / each show. They are enjoying their artisan skills in Shinkarimelam. The demand varies according to season. In off season they engage in other activities like tailoring, mat making, or in MGNREGS works.



Jeevapoorna flood Relief House Construction

A New Project of AWC- With the help of our donor as well as some others we are in the process of building/ completing houses for those who lost their houses during the heavy floods of 2018 and 19. The skilled group who were trained through Archana Women's Centre is getting work through this project. The families are happy for securing a new house which hopefully withstands future pop up floods.

- Selected 10 houses for the construction.
- 5 flood relief house are under construction and 5 more are ready to start



ACTION FOR AWARENESS GENERATION & CONSCIENTISATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ON GENDER RIGHTS & ISSUES



HAPPY
**WOMEN'S
DAY**



March 9th- The International Women's Day of the year 2019 organized at Kristuraja Auditorium , Ettumanoor kick started with a bike rally of more than 100 scooters ridden by women. Shri P J Kurian, Former Chairman, Rajyasabha inaugurated the function. Few of the best entrepreneurs and renowned women , Mrs. Elavarasi P Jayakanth, founder and CEO of Aswathy hot chips and Elavarsi pickles Thrissur, Mrs. Avanthika [transgender] Member of Social Justice Department, Kottayam, Mrs. Athira Murali, first youngest sports motor driver were honored during the ceremony. Various competitions were organized for the CAG group members. The participation of more than 1500 women made this a grand celebration.





CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY

”No” to Harthal campaign [Harthal – [forcefully closing down of all activities for political gain by political parties]

Our artisans team conducted skits in public places along with college students and with our MP’s wife who is a social activist, to create awareness among the public of the nuisance it causes by calling full day strike/ harthal by politicians or unions. They tried to drive home the human right violations by these political parties who force people to stay home and do not go for work, or open shops, or run buses and other transports. The group highlighted the uselessness of such harthals and how it is hindering normal life of ordinary people. The play was a real eye opener.



SHORT DRAMA ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE & RIGHTS ABUSE

A short drama named “Subhadrayude Jeevitham” [Life of Subhadra] written by an expert Mr.Subeesh Romeo and taught by him with precision to Archana actors was played in 45 stages at different places. It was initiated last year, but continued this year for a period. Another drama named “Lissy is back to Life ” which depicted the life of an ordinary family where the husband is lazy to work but is a spend thrift using the money his wife earns and does not pay any heed to his wife; instead he abuses, beats her and creates a havoc in the family. He incurs huge debt and sells away everything in the house . In the climax, Lissy the wife decides to leave him and train herself as a taxi driver in a woman’s NGO and earns a very good name and fame.



One day she powerfully dealt with a group of youngsters who tried to attack a young girl on the road. The police was very proud of her and the media gave great importance to her bold act. The husband was moved by this event and he came to be reconciled with her and hence they lead a happy life. This drama was staged in 11 places, and won the appreciation of all.



Viewers comment

"The short drama was good to raise the awareness of women empowerment and gender equality. The drama was based on present conditions in our society. They presented it like a "reality show". Best wishes to Archana Women's Centre" - SPC unit of Government High School, Peruva

"The drama played by AWC showed the real scenario of our society. Most of the women are facing different problems in their homes. It has helped to create a change in the attitude of women and men in the society. Women have different talents and skills. But no one realizes it. This play shows that women have the ability and courage to make change in the society. Wish you all the success to AWC team." - Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Velliyakulam, Cherthala

"The drama was very informative to everyone. Everyone played her role very powerfully. Women are not the slaves of anyone. They have their own rights. Women are facing different problems and issues in the society and at home. Women will not become the victims of others' chavnnism. Men and women should get equal status in the society." - Government Vocational Higher Secondary School, Elackkadu



AWARENESS ON GENDER AND WOMEN'S RIGHT – SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Intervention For Women Safety, Women Rights Etc :- It is high time that we change the notion of the society that women are vulnerable . We, at AWC took this period as the great opportunity and made its effective intervention for women safety and women rights- our Focus always

The interventions includes:-

Awareness classes:is considered as a major tool for the women safety and women rights by AWC. During the particular year around 60 awareness classes were organized by the staff in different regions on different topics based on women safety and women rights.

Around 90 **Counseling Sessions** were conducted for individuals, families and groups etc. Domestic Violence was one of the main issues handled. More than 45 DV counselling was done and some were referred to the Police , Legal Service Authority and to the family court. We also assist them in these procedures.

We held several protest meetings and marches - our mouths bound with black cloth as a sign of deep regret and anger, to show our anguish over the recent brutal attacks on women. .We made several approaches to bring out women and men to react strongly to this situation in 5 different places. All together 350 participants were there in the protest marches. Legal Service Authority sub Judge, Gram and district Panchayat

representatives, college representatives, men from shops and business and CAG members took part in it. We expressed our vehement anger to the inaction of governments in such situations through the media such as newspapers, channels, face book etc.

Archana extended helping hands to some individuals with financial, nutritional and psychological needs through Sponsorship who were suffering from cancer, HIV AIDS, mental disorders, substance abuse etc.

Cases handled by Community Organizers:

One of the animators of AWC has been constantly harassed by her husband, following her like a spy everywhere, and many times beating her up and torturing her mentally and physically. He tried to black mail her and also turn her children against her, cooking up false stories. The woman was in utter distress unable to discharge her duties. The community organizer of AWC came to know of that and tried to sort out the problem by having a conversation with her husband. But he was abusing her too. One day he beat her up so badly that the CO decided to file a case at the police station. The police had him called to the station and question him.



He was given strong warnings and sent him back home. But he turned against the CO and started spreading cooked up tales about her and his own wife. With the help of the police he was brought to women protection officer and she interrogated them and arranged for him to undergo psychiatric counselling. After the treatment and the strong interventions from the police and women protection officer and our staff the situation has improved.

Another case which has taken a lot of time of our staff and legal counselor was the torture by the mother in law. Since the girl was dark in colour, the mother in law did not accept her and influenced her son too to dismiss her. The CO took up the case, had several sitting with the mother in law, the girl and the husband and her parents etc. The husband is afraid of his mother and so he does not take a stand. For a short period the girl was asked to live with her parents and meanwhile the husband and his mother are led through a process of counseling. The end result of counseling is awaited. Through counseling and sometimes through threats of punishment to the forgers many problems against women are handled.

Our Counselor is handling several other cases:

One such case that was brought to public awareness and action was the case of several girl children at a boarding for Minority girls were repeatedly misused by the teacher. The female teacher and warden tried to hide the fact and threatened the girls not to reveal it. But they spoke to our counselor and she brought up the issue to the higher authorities and to police. She accompanied the children to medical tests and aided the girls to speak up to police and other authorities. The media and others too took up the issue and it became a big question of students' safety, girl children's rights and dignity. The case is still going on; the teachers were suspended.



Archana Taxis



The training was started in November only. So the participants are preparing for getting their learners license and during the second week of January the on road trainings will begin. The self-defense training will be conducted in between the on road training. Through the communication skill training the participants acquired the skill for communication to deal with different people. The basic English training enabled them to deal with people speaking English. This is essential when driving a taxi. These skills made them feel more proud and dignified. All the women were given three days social training in order to help them break the gender barriers, discover their inborn capabilities and unveil their dream projects.



Computer Training

Training in Home appliances maintenance by IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering)



Practical workshop in home appliances maintenance was organized by IEEE Trivandrum under the leadership of Prof. V.K. Damodaran, A team of experts led the various sessions. 30 CAG members got the opportunity to participate in this training and acquire the skills. Some of them are using the expertise to work from home and earn a decent income. Such maintenance workers are scarce everywhere and so these trained women are in great demand.



Food Processing Training

The food processing unit focuses on the production and sale of pure and good quality items. Through the food processing unit AWC is selling out quality food products through different CAGs and our outlet. The items produced are having high demand. It's an opportunity for the CAG members who are interested in sale The families in CAGs and outside benefit from our quality products, thus Archana's aim to provide healthy food as a women right is being accomplished

Under the auspices of our food processing Unit a training in food processing was organized for CAG members. It was led by a well-known entrepreneur, Mrs.Viji Prakash from Alleppy, in Kerala. 22 members became partners in expanding their ventures. During the three days of training, they were able to learn new taste combinations and techniques especially to make pickles.



TAILORING TRAINING WITH GOONJ

Around 100 women got tailoring training with the support of GOONJ an agency for disaster management. They joined hands with AWC to rehabilitate flood victims in some skilled jobs. Thus with their help nearly 100 affected ladies could be equipped with skill of tailoring and fashion designing. They were given sewing machines too. This enabled these women to start their own tailoring units [in groups of 5 or 7] which would result in generating steady income for them and develop their team building skills and administrative capacities.



TRAINING UNDER NABARD

Under this programme 3 trainings were conducted by NABARD. In all 90 participants participated. Six Groups were formed with these participants. Training was given for making Big Shopper and Paper Bags. We are proud that all the groups are earning a decent income.

AWC receives greater authenticity as a reliable organization by the government and the Panchayats. AWC is empaneled as an implementing agency for :-



UrjaKiran - Save energy project with Energy Management Centre

UrjaKiran is the programme for creating awareness regarding the conservation of energy by Energy Management Resource under the Government of Kerala. AWC is empaneled for conducting awareness programmes in Kottayam District. Under this several awareness programmes are carried out for schools, colleges and general public. Greater conscientization is imparted to people regarding the consumption of electricity, water etc. and to resort to means that reduce use of electricity in offices, houses and institutions.



Haritha Sahaya Sthapanam

Haritha Kerala Mission is an umbrella mission integrating the components of waste management, organic farming and water resource management. The Haritha Kerala Mission is a project of the Clean Kerala Mission of Kerala Government. Through this project AWC got many new linkages with different government departments and help the Panchayats to be free from plastic wastes. Our services being efficient and committed there are immediate results in the waste management habits of the people in every Panchayats we involved. We were the first one to give a DPR to the panchayats in Kottayam Dt.



"Oruveetil oru koval programme"

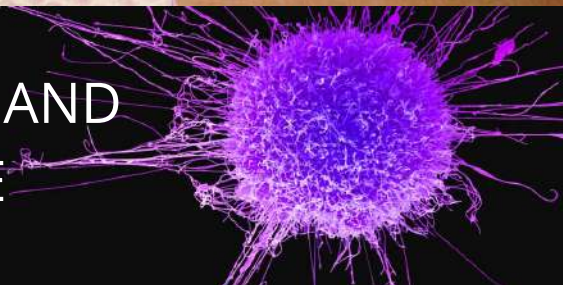
("An ivy gourd in every house" - A project for spreading ivy gourd to all families in Ettumanoor Municipality)

Ivy gourd is found to be a vegetable that helps the production of insulin in the body. It is a natural medication against diabetics. As the numbers of diabetic patients are increasing in Kerala, AWC decided to promote the cultivation of ivy gourd. Through this programme AWC collected and distributed more than 2000 ivy gourd stems and provided grow bags to the women and entrusted the CAGs to monitor its growth and use. The ivy gourds were distributed through leader's meetings, residential association meetings and kudumbasree gatherings.



KARUNYARCHANA - CANCER CARE AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

The increased ratio of the cancer patients and their struggle to survive has provoked AWC to extend a supporting hand- "Karunyarchana" - a project focused on the rehabilitation of cancer patients and also providing nutritious foods especially during chemotherapy to poor patients. Karunyarchana is carried out with donations and contributions from everyone- staff, CAG members, general public, shops, business people etc. Through this project many women who are suffering from cancer and poor are given some help and consolation. The treatments for cancer require a lot of money; this extending hand of AWC gives these individuals and their family a great relief.





Kerala Flood Related Activities - 2018 & 2019 floods

The 2018 & 2019 flood had devastated Kerala. Archana's helping hand was a great relief for the suffering and the disaster stricken people. The staff and volunteers were influenced to think for and with the suffering masses. AWC distributed essential commodities like food, clothes, grocery, stationary, cleaning items, etc. to the affected families while they were in the camps and when they returned home. As follow up activities several skill training were organized with the help of various agencies. Tools and equipment's were also given so that women could earn a living. AWC channelized financial and material help, besides giving psychological, mental and spiritual supports.



Bamboo House at Mundar

A bamboo house was constructed for Mrs. Raji Manoj's family as their house was fully destroyed during the 2018 flood. With the salary challenge of the staff of AWC the bamboo house was constructed with the combination of bamboo and Ferro cement technology. The house and the technology used for this construction become popular in the society. It is an eco-friendly house and it is flood resistant and local materials are used for construction. Our friend from the Netherlands gave the technical guidance and Jayasree, Radhika and Omana took over the work.



Special Training in DV Act.

Orientation regarding the Implementation of "Protection of Women from Domestic Violence act 2005" for functionaries of Government and voluntary organizations was held at Bengaluru from 22nd to 24th October. Jismi Jose participated from AWC.

Vaibhavam-2019 (DIET-Programme)

The programme was organized by the department of Education for Introducing Non-traditional livelihood skills in the schools. Archana was invited and Our technical trainer Mrs. Arayamol P.A participated in the program to prepare the syllabus to enable nontraditional skill training at the school level. Various political leaders led by the District Collector also participated. The main objectives of the event were to promote pre-vocational packages, local resource mapping, to prepare resource bank and research tools.

SKILLS FOR PROGRESS

Director attended the golden Jubilee celebrations and annual general body meeting of SKIP held at Bangalore from 17th to 20th of October





EYE-CAMP

An eye camp was organized at Kadapporan auditorium at Kaduthuruthy in collaboration with Ahalya Eye Care Hospital. The statistics show that it was beneficial for around 250 individuals.



International Trades women Training and Exchange Delegation

A team of 13 women of US Trade Women's Union, who are construction skilled workers, visited AWC to study the works carried out by our women such as plumbing, wiring, carpentry, masonry, construction of house with Ferro-cement and bamboo technology and also to exchange their skills between them. The 13 member team visited AWC from 2nd to 8th November 2019. Both the parties interchange their knowledge between them by visiting different work site where AWC women workers are engaged in different non-traditional works. This international training exchange was inaugurated by Sri. Mons Joseph MLA and the exhibition organized by AWC inaugurated by Sri. Suresh Kurup MLA. The representatives of LINSFED interacted with the delegates and exchanged their ideas of involving women in different trades. On 7th of November 2019 MG University Vice Chancellor Dr. Sabu Thomas, M.P Sri. Jose .K. Mani, District Panchayat President Sri. Sebastian Kulathumkal, Block Panchayat President Smt. Beena Binu, World Malayali Association Spokeman president Sri. Shanty Mathew met the delegates and interacted with them.

MP, Sri. Jose K Mani, unveil the statue build as a remembrance of this international delegation. Many other well-wishers of Archana Women's Centre took part in it.





NON-TRADITIONAL LIVELIHOOD SKILLS NETWORK - LEARNING JOURNEY

NTL network is a collective of organization working with socially and economically marginalized women in urban and rural India to advocate for gender equality through facilitating/organizing skill development and/or adult education programme for generating livelihoods in non-traditional livelihood, in particular. To study the activities of AWC a group of 12 members from NTL from different states of India who are involved in NTL visited AWC from 9th to 12th of December, 2019 as we are pioneers in bringing women to NTL like mason, carpenter etc. Through this visit the team members of NTL got a full idea of AWC and its major activities. They were highly impressed by our strategies and approaches to empower women in many different fields.



Day Observation

WORLD WATER DAY



Archana Women's Centre organized water day awareness programme and quiz completion. This day focuses on the importance of freshwater and presses for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. Besides, the day is aimed at raising awareness about 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water resources globally.



Organ donation campaign
&

Mother's
-DAY-

Awareness classes on the importance of organ donation as well as a list of interested people were collected. About 100 people attended and participated in the organ donation campaign



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

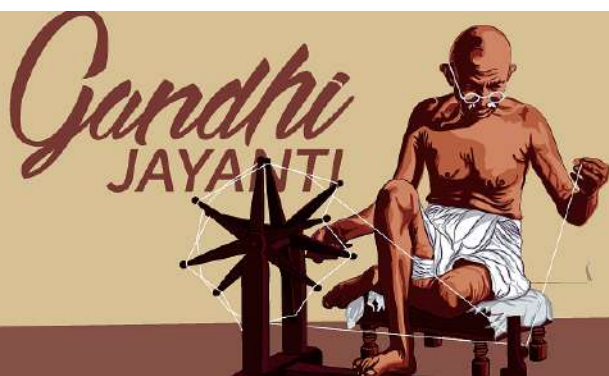


The main purpose of celebrating this day is to spread awareness about the environment. The class was attended by about 65 CAG members and local political leaders. A rally was organized and seedlings of different types of plants were distributed.



Senior Citizen Day

The event was organized to entertain the elderly for a while. The program led by Director Miss Thresiamma Mathew benefited them a lot and also distributed food kits to 60 people.



Cleaning programme at Thellakom as a part of Archana Women's Library was the main activity. Sri. Suresh Kurup MLA inaugurated the programme.





A quiz programme and speech competition was conducted for students, to mark this day. The girls actively participated in the competition and the winners were awarded with valuable prizes. There were nearly 30 students who participated in the programme.



FOOD PROCESSING UNIT

Through the food processing unit AWC sold out quality food products through different CAG outlets. The food processing unit focuses on the production and sale of pure and good quality items. The items produced are having high demand. All CAG member who are interested in sale get a chance to sell our item by which they can raise some more income. The families in CAGs and outside benefit from our quality products. Archana's aim to provide healthy food as a women right is accomplished through this.



Environmental Camp

The three days camp conducted collaboration with Nehru Yuv Kendra. Cleaning programme in the nearby places where drains were clogged with plastics and non-degradable waste.



Tailoring machine distribution:

Around 35 women got tailoring training with the support of GOONJ and also received sewing machine. This enables these women to start their own tailoring unit which result in a steady income generation for them. Along with this GOONJ also supported 30 women in started different snacks production units by providing the equipment for the snacks units.



Summer Camp

AWC has been a special attention to the protection of child rights and a special resource Centre has been established to take care of protection of child rights. During the year under report, we conducted three special children oriented summer camps named ad “Kuttikoottam” attended 30 of each. The classes were conducted by experts and specialists in the subject. Topics covers include personality development, English training, Goal setting, self -defense Happiness camp; Healthy relationship, Balanced diet end nutrition etc.

Spoken English training programme

Spoken English Training was a program organized in addition to a summer camp for children as part of their summer vacation. 16 The children participated and Mr.Bileve Varghese led the class. Through this training students developed their mastery exercises, were the major affections in the training.



International Conference at Delhi

Azad foundation organized an International Conference at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Director, Asst. Engineer and Mason trainer participated in the conference. Which mainly focus on to create a platform to deliberate on how to overcome the existing gender dipartites in learning opportunities and skill to ensure equitable technical and transferable skills, access to employment and descent jobs. Our mason Radhika got opportunity to share her experience to theparticipants.

SFURTI planning meeting

Planning for the multipurpose industrial development.



VAYANAKKALARI



Staff Training

Meeting with Governor

Ms.Thresiamma Mathew and Paulson KF meet Kerala Honorable governor Arif Muhammad Khan



Celebration Time



Onam Celebration

Every year we celebrate our state festival with full gaiety and pomp at our center and regional office.



Christmas Celebration

Awards & Recognition



Honored by Greenply

Greenfly Company honored Archana as the first woman carpentry unit in India on Women's Day. A video has been released based on it. The invitation was accepted and the director and five employees visited Delhi.





Pennoruma state and district level award from a leading daily - Malayala Manorama – Rs.5.5 lakhs

Malayala Manorama is a leading newspaper in Kerala. On the occasion of World Women's Day, the Pennoruma-Awards Ceremony was organized to identify and wear women's movements working in different fields. Archana took part in it and won first place at the district and state level out of about five hundred nominations. The award was presented by the Hon'ble Kerala Health Minister Shri KK Shailaja Teacher.



Socio- Spiritual Entrepreneurship award form Kerala Integral Renaissance Action Forum award given by Hon. Kerala Governor Arif Muhammad Khan

Rev.Fr.Mathew Vadakkemuri memorial award



CANCER DAY



MOBILE MECHANISM



CARPENTRY



HSS MEETING

THE SPECIAL REPORT ON TRADESWOMEN TRAINING

A Researcher's View: Life is Better in Kerala for India's Women Construction Workers

The tradeswomen in India in November 2019 were joined for part of the training exchange by Chantal Krmar, a University of Massachusetts Boston doctoral student who is doing research on women working in the construction industry in India. Here are Chantal's thoughts on the visit.

by Chantal Krmar

Armed with my observations in Mumbai, I left for Kerala with a huge amount of curiosity. My immediate impressions were only reinforced as I stayed longer in Kerala. I felt that way about the construction sites that I visited and the construction workers that I observed in Kerala as well.

When I think of my time with the US and Canadian Delegation of Tradeswomen, and the Keralite Tradeswomen trained by Archana Women's Center in Ettumanoor, words such as hopefulness, buoyancy, and light come to mind. Certainly I have seen some hope in my fieldwork in Mumbai (mostly in the ways the women talk about their hopes for their children) — but more commonly I have seen difficulty, dislocation and limitations. As one NGO staff told me, "They [women construction workers, in particular naka laborers] work to live. Not to enjoy."

In speaking to staff at Archana, I came to know that their model is holistic. They have programs to build women's self-confidence and self-esteem, and then their hard construction skills in plumbing, masonry and electrical work. While there are still numerous challenges for their trainees (getting work after training being one of the biggest), when I went to worksites, there was a palpable sense of purpose and pride. The women were doing hard, valuable, and valued work.

Of course, this is true in Mumbai too, but their jobs are very different (mostly cleaning worksites, or carrying extremely heavy loads of water, cement mixture or gravel from point A to point B on worksites) and the conditions are also very different

So why is Kerala such a different world than the rest of India? Theories abound, and the truth is probably some combination of all of them. The top contenders:

§ Kerala has focused on "human development" — not just on "economic development" — so no matter what poverty there is, systems of governance have created strong education and health programs. Literacy rates, for example, are the highest in India and maternal and infant mortality rates the lowest.

§ There is a rich and long tradition of matrilineal kinship in Kerala, so women and girls are generally treated more equitably.

§ There's been non-coercive encouragement of family planning which has yielded lower birth rates.

§ The communist party was strong in the past and there is still a real focus on the social progressivism in Kerala.

Given all this, it is no surprise that there is a training program for women to develop construction skills in Kerala, and that there is at least some support for this program amongst local government officials. We met a number of local politicians and village panchayat leaders when they came to Archana Women's Center and to worksites.



“Travel Light. Live Light. Be the Light. Spread Light.”

Amanda Kay Johnson, 3rd Year Carpenter Apprentice,
Local 157 Carpenters Union NYC

It seemed that everywhere I went in India that the theme of light followed me around. (I later learned from my time here that light and the concept of “light” is very important and is considered a sign of blessing here.) There were lights on the entryway and stairs leading up to our official welcoming ceremony at Archana Women’s Centre. There were giant, ornate oil lamps glittering with light at our formal inauguration ceremonies, a practice that is common within the local culture. I saw quotes about light and a shirt centered around it as well. And then, there were the actual fireworks and a bonfire to celebrate friendships forged among the women of Kerala at one woman’s bachelorette party. But, where I truly saw light shining the brightest is in the life of Thresiamma Mathew.

Ms. Thresiamma Mathew founded Archana in 1989 after working with men and later women on the Total Sanitation Programme, a government project to construct toilets (bathrooms) for local communities. While on the project she observed that the women only had the role of mason helpers rather than masons. As such, they were paid a meager 35 rupees rather than sharing equally in the 450 rupees given to the mason and his helper.

Ms. Thresiamma Mathew founded Archana in 1989 after working with men and later women on the Total Sanitation Programme, a government project to construct toilets (bathrooms) for local communities. While on the project she observed that the women only had the role of mason helpers rather than masons.

As such, they were paid a meager 35 rupees rather than sharing equally in the 450 rupees given to the mason and his helper. While investigating further, Thresiamma learned that women were not seen as capable to be masons by societal standards. This motivated her to take up the fight for women’s equality and spurn the notion that women were incapable. Eventually, she devised a successful plan of pairing one male mason with a female to work equally, where both helped each other build the toilets, and thus the community saw neither as the “helper.” Over time, the women became accepted by the community while simultaneously gaining a skilled trade alongside male allies building over 15,000 toilets in the Thrissur district alone.



Ms. Thresiamma Mathew and the women of Archana Women’s Centre welcome Building Bridges founder, Susan Moir, on her first visit in 2016.

From this humble beginning in the fight for social justice, a holistic empowerment and skills training program has evolved including carpentry, masonry, electrical, plumbing, and ferro-cement technology within the skilled trades.

The women of Archana have gone on to build multiple residences (now housing renters), a woodworking and furniture workshop, a waterfront bamboo pole home, lightweight cement water tanks, and various cement block walls among the many projects they've been involved with. Additionally, there are non-construction classes such as financial literacy courses, workshops on life skills, paper crafts, beautician courses, and taxi driving classes for the women. Thresiamma and her centre are also highly involved within the surrounding local communities with their Community Action Groups which not only build solidarity among women but also inclusivity, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance. As of our visit, more than 5,000 women have come through Archana Women's Centre with 350 completing training in carpentry alone.

On a more personal level, I wish to thank Thresiamma, all of the staff of Archana, and the men and women working on the various construction sites for being generous with their time. Having met Ms. Mathew and some of the original delegation at the 2017 Women Build Nations Conference in Chicago and committing to lead a team back to India, I can honestly say that this trip was simply spectacular! I am grateful to have gained another international sisterhood and to have had the powerful opportunity to learn different construction techniques and skills from my fellow tradeswomen in Kerala. After two years of dedicated, transnational planning with the three other co-leaders and many delegates, I was ecstatic that the trip went so smoothly and accomplished the goals of Tradeswomen Building Bridges! May the light continue to shine brightly in my life, in Thresiamma's life, and in the lives of our trade sisters in India as we all endeavor to propel the international tradeswomen's movement forward and into the spotlight.

Goodbye to Archana Women's Centre...for now

On Friday, November 8, the tradeswomen of North America and the women of Archana said goodbye after a week of discussions, site visits, media events, meetings with government and academic dignitaries and getting to know each other. More on the activities and final day below but first a personal story from Electrician Denise Duavin.

Two stories: Two Women Masons

By Denise Dauvin, Industrial Electrician, British Columbia

I heard something today that touched my heart.

We were having a roundtable meeting about the challenges women face in non-traditional trades. One of the women, who's name is Money, had just traveled 4 hours to come to the meeting. She told us her story. She had grown up in the very poorest of families and her family put her out to work cleaning by age 5. She had no schooling, she could not read or write. She was married off at a very young age and had two children. It was then that her husband abandoned the family. She was desperate when she met Thresiamma Mathew, founder of Archana Women's Centre. Money was in one of the first groups of women who were trained at the Centre to become Masons.

She not only learned to be a Mason, but learned how to read and write. She continued learning and first got a scooter license and then a car license. She has gone on to raise her children and has been self-employed as a Mason for over 23 years.

This echoed to me some events in my life. I was 17 when I got pregnant and had two children. I ended up a single mother after a very terrible marriage.

I felt powerless, and needed a way to earn money and take care of my children. It was then that I entered the trades, where you get paid as you learn. Trades was the answer for both Money and I enabling us to raise our children and become strong, skilled trades people. We are lucky in North America to have government programs that help single parents to improve their education. Thank goodness the women of Kerala, India have the Archana Women's Centre.



A final ceremony



The visit was big news!

Click here to see the women of Archana and the Building Bridges delegates meeting together and sharing tools at the Centre in a video news report in the Malayalam language.



Louis & Co.,
Chartered Accountants

AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have Audited the annexed Receipts and Payments Account of JYOTHI JEEVA POORNA TRUST, ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE, ETTUMANOOR, KOTTAYAM in respect of EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ACCOUNT for the period from 01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019 with the books of a accounts, vouchers and other records produced before us and we certify that the same reflects a true and fair view of the financial state of affairs as disclosed by the said records.

NAGERCOIL,
02.03.2020.



For LOUIS & Co., (FRN: 008886S)
Chartered Accountants

A. Louis Sudherson, F.C.A.
M.No: 209328
Proprietor

V.S. Building, Second Floor, 78A, Court Road, Nagercoil - 629 001, Phone: 04652-236043

JYOTHI JEEVA POORNA TRUST
ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE
ETTUMANOOR, KOTTAYAM.

**EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ACCOUNT**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD FROM 01.01.2019 TO 31.12.2019

RECEIPTS	Rs. Ps.	PAYMENTS	Rs. Ps.
To Opening Balance :		By Empowerment of Women Through	
Cash in Hand	30.00	Entrepreneurial Skills Development :	
Cash at Bank :		Acquisition of Services :	
South Indian Bank Ltd., Thellakam		Book Keeping and Account Training	13007.00
A/c. No. 0363053000051982	935325.24	Building Rent	282948.00
A/c. No. 0363053000061110	429096.00	CAG Digitalization	52894.00
TMB Bank Ltd., Kottayam		Electricity	111865.00
A/c. No. 149100050300173	913141.75	Entrepreneurship Training	10279.00
" Project Fund Received	9861759.28	Evaluation and Monitoring	104030.00
" Bank Interest	182481.70	Fee for Artists	83042.00
" Contribution :		Fee for Director	37000.00
Community Based Groups	1608224.00	Formation Support	30039.00
Government Department	130950.00	Leadership Trainings	118102.00
JJPT Contribution	1216908.10	Meeting and Gatherings	122779.00
		Printing & Stationery	129745.00
		Refreshment Expenses	57752.00
		Rent of Computer	23088.00
		Rent of Vehicle and Petrol Charges	37223.00
		Resource Person	153800.00
		Seed Money for CAG	3007720.00
		Software Creation	29000.00
		Stationery for Trainings / Programmes	25432.00
		Stipend for Trainees	24875.00
		Training Materials	98607.00



Travelling Expenses	183063.00
Travelling Expenses for Key Staff	61432.00
Uniform and Accessories	74087.00
Working Capital	41837.00
" Acquisition of Tangible Assets :	
Furniture	88324.00
" Personnel Costs :	
Accountant	583000.00
Administrative Officer	300000.00
Animators	1925000.00
Community Organisor / Programme Officers	1531980.00
Coordinator	600100.00
Director	360000.00
Driver Cum Assistant	180200.00
House Keeper	95960.00
Marketing Staff	600220.00
Office Secretary	156000.00
Work Engineer	601540.00
" Bank Charges	2343.06
" Closing Balance :	
Cash in Hand	198.00
Cash at Bank :	
South Indian Bank Ltd., Thellakam	
A/c. No. 0363053000051982	990268.70
A/c. No. 0363053000061110	470154.28
TMB Bank Ltd., Kottayam	
A/c. No. 149100050300173	878981.75
TMB Bank Ltd., Padanthalumoodu	1000000.28

15277916.07

15277916.07



For LOUIS & Co., (FRN: 008886S)
Chartered Accountants

[Handwritten Signature]

അമേരിക്കൻ സംഘം സന്ദർശനം നടത്തി

കുടുംബശ്രീയുടെ വിനോദകലാപരിപാടികളുടെ ഭാഗമായി അമേരിക്കൻ സംഘം അറബിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു.



അമേരിക്കൻ സംഘം അറബിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു.

Wed, 06 November 2019
<https://paper.deenika.com/c/45418582>

കുടുംബശ്രീയുടെ വിനോദകലാപരിപാടികളുടെ ഭാഗമായി അമേരിക്കൻ സംഘം അറബിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു.

കുടുംബശ്രീ
 കുടുംബശ്രീയുടെ വിനോദകലാപരിപാടികളുടെ ഭാഗമായി അമേരിക്കൻ സംഘം അറബിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു. പ്രമുഖരായ പ്രവേശകരുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ സന്ദർശിച്ചു.

സംയുക്ത വനിത സന്നദ്ധ സംഘടനകൾ നടത്തിയ നേതൃസംഗമവും ശീൽപരായയും നഗരസഭ കാൺസിലർ ബെന്നി വി. വർഗീസ് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു

നേതൃസംഗമവും നൈപുണ്യ വികസന ശീൽപരായയും

പിറവം സ്ത്രീ ശാക്തീകരണത്തിനായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന വിവിധ സന്നദ്ധ സംഘടനകളുടെ ആഭിമുഖ്യത്തിൽ നേതൃസംഗമവും നൈപുണ്യ വികസന ശീൽപരായയും സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു. അറബി വനിത സംഘടനയിൽ നേതൃസംഗമവും നൈപുണ്യ വികസന ശീൽപരായയും സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു.

സംയുക്ത വനിത സന്നദ്ധ സംഘടനകൾ നടത്തിയ നേതൃസംഗമവും ശീൽപരായയും നഗരസഭ കാൺസിലർ ബെന്നി വി. വർഗീസ് ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്യുന്നു

പിറവം പരിശീലകർക്ക് സന്ദർശനം നടത്തി

പിറവം പരിശീലകർക്ക് സന്ദർശനം നടത്തി. പിറവം പരിശീലകർക്ക് സന്ദർശനം നടത്തി. പിറവം പരിശീലകർക്ക് സന്ദർശനം നടത്തി.

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കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം നടത്തി

കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം നടത്തി. കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം നടത്തി. കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം നടത്തി.

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അറബി വിമൻസ് സെന്ററിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ പരിശീലനം പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ വനിതാ ശിക്ഷാമെളത്തിന്റെ അഭിമുഖ്യം നിലവിലുണ്ട്

അറബി വിമൻസ് സെന്ററിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ പരിശീലനം പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ വനിതാ ശിക്ഷാമെളത്തിന്റെ അഭിമുഖ്യം നിലവിലുണ്ട്. അറബി വിമൻസ് സെന്ററിന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ പരിശീലനം പൂർത്തിയാക്കിയ വനിതാ ശിക്ഷാമെളത്തിന്റെ അഭിമുഖ്യം നിലവിലുണ്ട്.

കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം

കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം. കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം. കാരുണ്യപരമായ പദ്ധതി ഉദ്ഘാടനം.

യോഗയൽക്കരണ പരിപാടി

യോഗയൽക്കരണ പരിപാടി. യോഗയൽക്കരണ പരിപാടി. യോഗയൽക്കരണ പരിപാടി.

ചാരുകസേരയും ദിവാൻകോട്ടും പണിതു പിറകാൻ അമേരിക്കൻ വനിതാ ആശാരികുട്ടായ്

ചാരുകസേരയും ദിവാൻകോട്ടും പണിതു പിറകാൻ അമേരിക്കൻ വനിതാ ആശാരികുട്ടായ്. ചാരുകസേരയും ദിവാൻകോട്ടും പണിതു പിറകാൻ അമേരിക്കൻ വനിതാ ആശാരികുട്ടായ്.

ഒരു വിട്ടിൽ ഒരു കോവൽ പദ്ധതി തുടങ്ങി

ഒരു വിട്ടിൽ ഒരു കോവൽ പദ്ധതി തുടങ്ങി. ഒരു വിട്ടിൽ ഒരു കോവൽ പദ്ധതി തുടങ്ങി. ഒരു വിട്ടിൽ ഒരു കോവൽ പദ്ധതി തുടങ്ങി.

വനിതകൾക്ക് പ്ലംബിങ് പരിശീലനം നൽകി

വനിതകൾക്ക് പ്ലംബിങ് പരിശീലനം നൽകി. വനിതകൾക്ക് പ്ലംബിങ് പരിശീലനം നൽകി. വനിതകൾക്ക് പ്ലംബിങ് പരിശീലനം നൽകി.

അമേരിക്കൻ വനിതാ ആശാരികുട്ടായ്

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