

## **Outreach activities**

In consonance with the community focus of the SRM group, our department reaches Healthcare, almost to the doorsteps of the needy persons, in the general population. Towards this goal, we collaborate with several reputed NGOs viz. Cheshire Homes, Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children (MNC), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (DPI campus, Tamil Nadu Government), Guduvanchery Health Centre of Lion's Club-Nandhivaram-Guduvanchery, Schools in & around Kanchipuram District, and Parivarthan Foundation for Parkinson's patients.

## **Cheshire Homes**



## **Chennai Cheshire Home (CCH)**

The Chennai Cheshire Homes (CCH) was started in 1958, and shares the ideals of the renowned charity organisation of United Kingdom. It runs a residential home, a clinic, a physiotherapy centre, a workshop unit to impart skills and an occupational therapy unit. Its main stated objective is 'to provide effective and efficient community-based services to disabled people'. Our department lends a helping hand to CCH, in this task, by our sustained services since Four years.

Reddy Palayam Project: Our services started in the year 201, in the Reddy Palayam village and the surrounding areas in Chengalpattu district. The total population in that area is 22,000. We visited the main village and adjoining distant hamlets, every Friday, in the last three years. We identified persons with hearing and speech difficulties. As a part of this project, we also visited two schools in that area, and identified the needy. We followed up each individual with regular speech therapy. After a period of initial intensive therapy, Home training program was demonstrated to the parents. Counselling was given to all the parents along with the social workers. Goals were set. Taking the parents as part of the team, home training program was instituted. Now, the Care givers themselves continue the therapy and they periodically visit our department in SRM Hospital, for follow up and for control.

We thus empowered the disabled, in their own villages. The people of the villages are very happy, because their livelihood was not affected. They do not have to take leave from their jobs to bring the children to the hospital. Thus, in our model, the children and their caregivers are rehabilitated and get empowered.

Athur Project, By the end of three years, we have completed the entire Reddy Palayam Project. Since the current year, we have moved onto a new area, Athur. The initial reconnaissance is over, and we have started our therapy phase, earnestly. We expect to carry on with our model



1. Empowering the disabled with distribution of aids to earn livelihood. Cheshire Homes



2. Spreading awareness about Preservation of Environment Reddy Palayam Project



3. Speech Therapy at Cheshire Homes Project



4. Hearing Screening in Schools - Cheshire Home Reddy Palayam Project



## Health Promotion at the door steps, in collaboration several NGOs

We endeavour to deliver health care services almost at the door step of the population.

**KRUPA** is an NGO, in Padappai. It works among Leprosy patients, and gypsies (NariKoravas in Chennai), in and around Chennai. It serves nearly 2,300 adults and 800 children of these communities directly. A team from our department, headed by Ms. Ruth Deborah, Asst Professor of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology, visited Padappai on 16.09.2017 and conducted screening for Audiological and speech disorders. This field visit was followed up by treatment and therapy in our department.



## 5. KRUPA project - Hearing Screening



### **Parivarthan Foundation for Parkinson's patients**

This is an NGO, which works on the principles peer group and self help. Parkinson 's disease is the second most prevalent form of dementia, affecting over ten million people worldwide. At present clinical parameters are employed to arrive at its diagnosis. Each new edition of International Classification of Disease (ICD), comes up with a newer set of diagnostic criteria. Currently, a full set of PD characteristics satisfying ICD criteria, may take even up to five years. The motor and sensory deficits of PD individuals are also reflected in their speech. Speech is said to be an early prodrome. If we can detect PD by speech characteristics, treatment can be instituted earlier.



7. Members of the Peer Group 2 of Parkinsons patients - Beneficiaries of the SRM - Parivarthan Foundation Project

The recent technological advances in acoustics analysis of speech are phenomenal. Now, recorded speech samples can be analysed with software algorithms. By automated process several parameters such as frequency, harmonics, jitter, shimmer, spectral energy and ratios can all be plotted easily.

In collaboration with Parivarthan society, individuals with Parkinson's disease came to the department of Audiology and Speech language pathology for detailed speech and language evaluation and hearing evaluation on 2 nd February 2019. The assessment session was initiated on 2 Feb 2019. Detailed speech evaluation was carried out. This included detailed case history, medical history, oro-motor examination, acoustical and aerodynamic evaluation using MDVP and PRAAT, Frenchay Dysarthria assessment and Questionnaire for self-perception of swallowing, loss of saliva, voice and speech concerns. Following assessment, individual one on one therapy sessions were done, at Anna Nagar itself. Depending on the individual client's need, intervention goals were tailor made and activities were carried out. Intervention programs was initiated on 2 Mar 2019. Intervention goals were mainly focused on posture, breathing, steady respiration, speech, articulation, and overall intelligibility. A team from our department continue

to give therapy to all the patients on every first Saturday of the month. Keeping in mind their age and mobility issues of the patients, follow up is being done, by tele-rehabilitation (phone conversation) every third Saturdays. The clients are also given appropriate home plans and resources for home training program. The care giver of the clients is also trained to aid the client in the home training program. Additionally, compact peer groups have been formed, to facilitate peer interaction. so far, two peer groups have been formed. This is an ongoing programme.



**Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children (MNC),  
No. 18, Prakasam Street, (next to BalaMandir German Hall),  
T.Nagar, Chennai - 600 017, INDIA**

Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children (MNC) was established in Chennai in December 1989. Their main mission is to provide services in early detection, identification and intervention in mental retardation. To empower parents and family members in the care and management of children with disability. Creating awareness on the importance of early detection and early intervention by conducting events.

The training which is centre-based, home-based and centre-home-based has an indigenously developed systematic, structured program - Upanayan Early Intervention Program. The activities are supported by various augmentative projects: Annaporna, Sanmargam, Sankarshana, Sambhavam along with Yoga and Music programs.

As a part of outreach activity our faculties and post graduates students has been conducting regular camp for Speech and Language assessment and Oromotor therapy demonstration camp on once in every 3 months in order to assess the communication needs and provide appropriate intervention plan for the children with disability in the center.



8. The SRM team at the Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children, in one of their visits



9. The SRM team with the officials of Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children





10. The SRM team interviewing a parent of a special child at the Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children



11. Oro motor examination of a special child at Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children

## **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan - DPI Campus, Nungambakkam**



12. Sarva Shiksha abhiyan - State Government programme for training of District officials at the Directorate of Public Instruction Chennai, by the SRM Audiology and Speech Faculty

Tamilnadu government has conducted a Five day training programme on February 2017 for special educators and therapists of the 'SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN' from different places in Tamilnadu, at the district level. In this programme Madhuras Narayanan Centre was the organiser. Along with MNC, one of our faculty, Mrs. Ruba, from our department served as the resource person. She taught the following topics:

- Need for an assessment
- What are the areas to be assessed
- Setting goals & objectives with the special educators
- Planning activities for them to perform at the centre and at home Working with

Each week 50-60 special educators & therapists employed in the SSA project from different district participated.

**Lions Clubs International**  
**District 324 A4**



**Nandhivaram - Guduvanchery Club**

In association with the Lions Club, Nandhivaram-Guduvanchery branch Speech and hearing screening camps were conducted in schools, in and around Kanchipuram District. In the Government Higher Secondary School at Maraimalai Nagar, 600 children were screened in two days. This opportunity was utilised to sensitize the teachers also, regarding conservative use of voice.



### 13. Screening Camps in various schools

