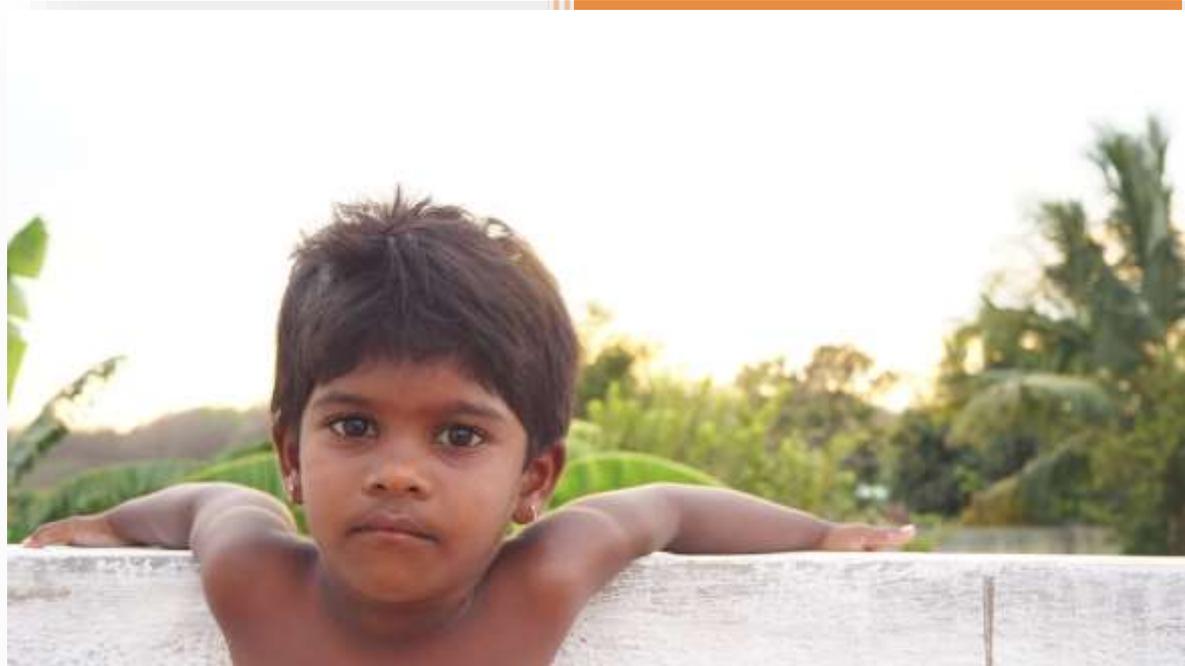




2019 - 2020

Annual Report – SHAPE NGO



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About this annual report:

This Annual Report for the financial year March 2019 to April 2020 covers the activities done through our projects. It is one of the ways to satisfy our accountability obligations to our partners and donors. We believe accountability is important for our sustainability and therefore the ability to fulfil our missions. By holding ourselves accountable, we demonstrate that we are worthy of the trust of our partners and donors.

VISION:

To create a healthy and happier world by Social transformation through committed social action without affecting the public integrity.

MISSION:

SHAPE creates opportunities to transform the community's environment, health, education, and economies thereby ending hunger and poverty.

Highlights:

- Took a new initiative of providing advocacy service to women by ensuring self-sustainability through “**Women Center for Training, Advocacy, and Development (WoCTAD)**” project.
- Extended **Free Literacy centres** to three new remote villages located in the district of Tiruvannamalai.
- Rescued and rehabilitated two child labours from a stone quarry.
- Extended our HIV orphan scholarship to 5 more children.
- Human Rights education has been taught to Government school students of Tiruvannamalai district through SHAPE.
- Successfully planted 300 saplings around Tiruvannamalai district mainly at Government school campuses.
- Supplied HIV prevention kits to nearly 43 HIV affected zones in and around Tiruvannamalai district.
- Planted nearly 400 saplings at project areas.
- We pioneered the project Scout and Guides Programme for Young Children.
- We started computer education for 10 kids.



Community health project: (SDG covered - 3, 16)

India, a country with a population of more than one billion, has an overall infection rate of about 1%. This translates to 10 million people infected. Tamil Nadu state has the second-highest infection ratio in India. SHAPE has been working among HIV affected people for the past 24 years. SHAPE has worked with over 5, 00,000 people living with HIV in the past. In this financial year, SHAPE has sponsored 10 more HIV affected children by paying their tuition fee and by giving provisions needed. Through this sponsorship project, 10 children were chosen based on their vulnerability and were given socio-economical care. In addition to this, SHAPE supplied HIV prevention kits to nearly 43 HIV affected zones in and around of Tiruvannamalai district. This supply of kits will encourage people living in HIV infected zone to carry out safe sex practices by reducing furthermore spread of HIV infection.

Child education and health project: (SDG covered- 2, 3,4,10, 16)

SHAPE believes in the fact that children are the building blocks of a better future. Children are believed to be the clay in pot makers' hands. Before society ruins their form, SHAPE reach out to these children and moulded them through various project implementations. In this financial year, SHAPE executed the moulding process by starting two free literacy centres in addition to four more free literacy centres. Through these centres, academic education along with life skills education is being thought. We have given educational and medicinal supplements to almost 400 identified children which includes orphans and semi orphans too. Twenty identified orphan and semi orphan children were assisted with medicinal needs for a year. **As an add on to the service, SHAPE took a new initiative of rescuing child labours and this initiative led us to rescue two child workers under the age of 14 from a stone quarry situated in Tiruvannamalai district.** In addition to these, we gave human rights education to students of 20 different schools run by Government of Tamil Nadu enabling those children to know their own rights as a common human. .Also, through volunteers, we taught basic self-defence to girl children at our free literacy centres. As a new initiative, **Scout and Guides Programme for Young Children** was started through SHAPE, where we gave practical life skills education. The children under this project had exposure visit, where we took them to Government offices to acquire knowledge on the functioning of such agencies. We also gave training on planting techniques and pollination techniques to these children through which they were motivated to grow

plants in their own houses. We also continued the ‘Art for kids’ project which kindles the creative side of vulnerable children.

<p style="text-align: center;">Scouts & Guides Children</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Rescued child labourers</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">Study materials for orphans</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Computer education for poor children</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">Environmentally conscious kids</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">‘Art for kids’ at underfunded school</p> 

Women Welfare Project: (SDG covered-1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 16)

SHAPE has given guidance and life to 10,000+ women during its 33 year journey. To take such development to the next level, we expanded the “**Women Center for Training, Advocacy, and Development (WoCTAD)**” programme to 2 more poor villages. We established it with a goal of providing advocacy services to make women self-sustainable and independent. In this financial year, through this project implementation, we started 5 new self-help groups, and with animators we trained these women groups to avail Government



services with their own effort. Ten women became entrepreneurs and self-sustaining because of this. Through field experts, we gave business ideas to these identified women which lead them to start their own businesses and they now earn a monthly income of INR.10000+. Women, who live in this patriarchal society, are being denied even the basic right of acquiring education. They are unable to raise voice as they face domestic violence among other misogynies. SHAPE through our field workers identify these women, and provide counselling to face such challenges. We rescued 29 women who faced various kinds of oppression by taking them to district women protection officer who is powered by the **domestic violence act 2005**. These 29 women were given advocacy and justice through SHAPE's initiative towards ending domestic violence against women. All of them were trained in various income generation skills like fashion designing, computer and typewriting.

The women trainees of our skill development centres, as an environmental initiative, made over 200 cotton bags. They gifted these to SHAPE as a compliment of the free skill training service. We also provided 5 sewing machines, 2 computers and 3 typewriters on behalf of WoCTAD project which were placed for training more women through our skill development centres situated in Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram districts.

Thurumbar aka Puthirai Vannar is a minority low caste division in Tamil Nadu. They are still fighting for their rights because the Government seems to have wrongly classified them as 'Adi Dravida' (Dalits). This community people are the only ones in Tamil Nadu who face double defilement. The struggles these people faced were immense 20 years ago. Supposedly they were not allowed to be seen during daylight. They still live in huts and any attempt to better them is being abstained by the Dalit people even today. We identified such people in the village of Devanampattu and despite the oppositions from other caste people, we gave special tailoring training to 5 women belonging to this community. They were taken to the district collectorate where free sewing machines were gifted for the women for their bold achievements. The district collector of Tiruvannamalai Mr. Kandhaswamy I.A.S, knowing about the women's vulnerability, immediately gave them free sewing machines without any formalities.

New WoCTAD in Villupuram District



Thurumbar women with the free machines



Certification day for vulnerable women



Women with the cotton bags



Vocational skill trainee



WoCTAD Trainees





Environmental protection project: (SDG covered - 12, 13, 15)

SHAPE successfully stepped into its 22nd year of protecting environment. We supplied about 55 herbal saplings to the women of our target area which not only ensures the protection of environment, but also paves way to generate income for them. In addition to that, Women belonging to WoCTAD made 200 cotton bags and supplied it to the children of free literacy centres thereby making our project areas plastic free. On the day September 1st of the year 2019, WHOOP (We Have Only One Planet) project was initiated by planting 32 saplings at Government Schools in 5 villages around Tiruvannamalai district. This project in the upcoming months was expanded to other schools as well. Through this project, a total of 400 saplings were planted.



Volunteering:

Volunteers are the pillars of NGOs. Volunteers are the living examples proving that still service minded people who work for no personal gain, exist. Their dedicated work has helped us achieve our goals swiftly and precisely. With the reference of Mr. Ido Aldubi (Israel) two volunteers, Mr. Itay Adoram and Ms. Ofri Levit from Israel joined as a part of SHAPE's activities. They taught English language among other things to Government school



students of 4 schools and at our free literacy centres situated. They were impressed with SHAPE's work and promised to refer more volunteers.



Trainings conducted:

Training and skill developments are not only needed for vulnerable women but also other people. Our work with community has brought us to the stage of being recognised by Government agencies.



Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), a wing of ministry of women and child development let us to be a part of their training programme for Anganwadi workers in Tiruvannamalai District. The workers were trained in early rural childhood care and education. We are counselling masses to help them excel in outreach activities and



community support. Around 40 workers were trained on that one day training programme. We also had two Social work Trainees from Auxilium College, Vellore who did their concurrent internship with us. For 3 months they were trained in project proposal writing and project management, NGO management, working with the community, basic social work, and field exposure.

Conclusion:

We strongly believe in the phrase 'hands rather than hand'. SHAPE's believes that, participatory appraisal is the basis for community development. SHAPE motivates our beneficiaries to work together. Group work facilitates harmony, development and success. Through participatory appraisal, in this financial year, we successfully achieved our plans. SHAPE extends it gratitude to all the volunteers, donors, and agencies for making our work victorious.