

1999 - 2000

April

March



# SUCHI

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE SECRETARY PRESENTED IN THE  
ANNUAL GENERAL BODY HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY FOR THE PERIOD  
FROM APRIL 1999 TO MARCH 2000 AT ICSA, CHENNAI.

## *Dear Friends*

*I am extremely happy to present this Annual report of SUCHI for the period from April 1999 to March 2000. During this reporting period our focus continued to be on sustainable development through peoples' participation. The following are the activities in brief.*

### **Community organizing & Awareness Education:**

*Organizing the villages in to specific sangams for effective implementation and peoples' participation, is the fundamental and the basic component that we carryout in all our program. We continue to strengthen the organized sangams for effective participation. Awareness education has been carryout on the issues and problems that they face in their life, through various ways. There are 57 organized women sangams with 1825 members, and 40 youth sangams with 550 members strengthened. Children associations have been promoted in -20 villages for the children below 13 years of age*

### **WOMEN DEVELOPMENT:**

*The women sangams are further given opportunity for building their capacity and to plan for their development. The potential leaders from these sangams were given leadership trainings at various levels. These sangams have collectively taken up issues and problems related to women and the community. Women inorder to deal with the conflicts they come across in the sangams, in the families and in the community they also learnt the Mediation technique, which promotes and strengthens their collective effort. Women have taken up leadership in the village committees to plan for the village development. These organized sangams have achieved many programs and dealt with number of issues. Federation of these sangams is under process.*



### **INCOME GENERATION:**

*Income generation program for these organized women has been carried out at various levels, in order to promote in them the economic empowerment. SHGs have been promoted among the women, there are 108 SHGs functioning effectively.*

*These groups have collective savings both for their welfare and for their village. Apart from these, women have individual savings and credit programme and they play equal role in planning the income and expenses of their family.*

### **PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

*The villagers were made aware of their own needs and problems, and also the ways to meet the needs and overcome the problems. VAC-Village Advisory Committee has been promoted in every village, who facilitate planning, collective decision and collective action for the welfare of their village. The VAC- consists of:*

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Women sangam representative</i> | <i>- 2</i> |
| <i>Village leaders</i>             | <i>- 1</i> |
| <i>Youth representative</i>        | <i>- 2</i> |

*(In few villages where there are child care programme programme the teacher, and the parents representation is also there)*

*There are VACs in 60 villages with 360 members. These villages have collectively availed lot of Govt. resources for their development like schools with school buildings, drinking water with watertank, electricity, road and bus facility, rural houses, low cost latrines, etc. They have also taken up issues like wages, dowry, burial ground, cast issues and related problems. In few villages through collective involvement, started taking land for lease than working as labourers and also taking work contract in group than individual labour work.*

## **PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROGRAMME:**

*Health program focuses on preventive aspect by promoting the existing traditional system. TBAs- Traditional Birth Attendants play major role in the health program. Identifying the high risk mothers, referring them for early treatment, follow up of the cases, ensuring safe delivery, child care etc. 71 TBAs have been trained. During the period out of 225 deliveries, 194 were normal home deliveries conducted by the TBAs. They also involve in giving health education to the villagers. Peripheral health clinics were conducted in order to inculcate a healthy practice among the villagers with special regard to the MCH cases.*

*The risk and the cases that required specialized care and treatment were referred to hospitals. Through this 17 cases were identified and referred to CMC Hospital and availed free treatment worth of RS. 5000 to Rs. 70000 with out this these cases would have been unidentified and neglected. Through the peripheral clinics 3052 cases screened and 36 have been referred to both Govt. and private hospitals. Follow up was done to ensure continuous treatment and care. Health education was emphasized to the villagers at various levels like during house visits by the TBAs & health educators. Apart from these, school health program, and mass health education, sanitation camp, Eye screening camp in coordination with the CMC Schell Eye Hospital has contributed a lot to the villagers. During the period 1683 villagers were screened and 71 were provided free spectacles, and 32 had free cataract surgery. Follow up is done periodically to ensure continuous care and treatment. Through these programmers the villagers become aware of their health problems and the existing health system in the Govt. and their right to avail such facilities as and when the need arises.*

## **CHILD CARE PROGRAMME & NUTRITION:**

*As part of the MCH program the children below five years are given much importance especially in their growth and development. In order to promote total development (physical, mental, social emotional and creativity) in these children, they are enrolled for both child care and nutrition program. We found that these children are left alone in the villages when the parents leave them early in the morning for their work. These children are deprived of the*



love care and the nutrition for a healthy growth and development as a result they have deficiency diseases and other related problems, which affects their growth and development. The unprotected environment gives rise to lot of other personality disorders in the future. In order to minimize such problems and to promote a healthy future generation both in body and mind, the Child care and nutrition pave the way. During the reporting period 537 under five children were enrolled and given the childcare and nutrition. The parents were involved in this programme at all levels for learning towards sustainability.

### EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

As part of the education program the following activities were carried out with peoples' participation:

- Early Childhood Education
- Coaching centers for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> classes.
- Motivating the school drop outs
- Career guidance

ECE- Early Childhood Education program focuses on the total development of the under five children as mentioned above . The children after the free and uncared life between 1-5 years, feel threatened when they go to formal school, as a result they are timid, shy, and unable to cope up with the controlled environment and finally drop out from the school. Inorder to promote a healthy childhood development the ECE paves the way. The Childcare and the Early Childhood Education go hand in hand where the total development of these young children are taken care.

The children continue their education up to 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> by self-motivation and find it difficult to cope up with the Govt. exams equally with the children of the towns and cities. Therefore opportunity is provided through coaching centers for them. During the period 96 students of 7<sup>th</sup> and 32 students of 10<sup>th</sup> class students were given the opportunity for coaching classes. In 7<sup>th</sup> classes there was 97% and in 10<sup>th</sup> 90% result. Along with regular program the school dropouts were motivated and admitted to the formal school and no fresh dropouts from the school. The children who completed 10<sup>th</sup> and +2 were motivated to continue their education by making them aware of the opportunities available. During the period 5 students joined professional courses in nursing and paramedical courses. As on now we have sponsored

73 students to various professional courses, out of which 52 have completed their course and are on job supporting their families.

### **VOCATIONAL TRAINING :**

Vocational training in carpentry for the young jobless educated boys of our target villages, has been conducted for the past 8 years. This is a residential training given for 20 rural boys. Out of the 60 students who have completed this training so far, 55 of them are earning and supporting their families.

Apart from this training the young boys and girls are motivated to join the other vocational training courses both in the Govt. and in the private centers.

### **PEACE AND JUSTICE PROGRAMME:**

As mentioned in the earlier reports conflict resolution and Mediation program is integrated with the development programme. we organize mediation trainings for NGOs, Panchayath leaders, women leaders, lay leaders & clergy, and other institutions that are involved in building the wholistic society.

### **STAFF TRAINING & EXPOSURE :**

Training for the staff are periodically organized both within and out side our organization. The staff were sent to various NGOs for exposure and exchange programme. All staff went to CRHSE Yelagiri for 2 days training

on development perspective conducted by Mr. Bennett Benjamin, the development consultant. Staff were sent for various workshops and seminars on:

- Gender justice
- Participatory Strategic planning
- Human rights
- Income generation program & savings
- Nutrition for under five children
- Siddha medicine
- Legal issue- women perspective



March 2000 as their celebration of the women's' day. As part of the field education program 4 students from UTC-Bangalore was in SUCHI for 15 days.

**Funding partners :**

*We thank our funding partners for their long-term support. We are fortunate that all our funding partners not only provide material support but also walk with us at all levels of the work and take much effort in human resource development within our organization. We thank our partners:*

*M.C.C. Calcutta, (U.S.A). - Support for Health & Development, Peace & Justice program.*

*TDH -NL, Bangalore (Netherlands)-Sustainable development through peoples' participation.*

*SCINDeA - Community development through peoples' participation*

*INDEINHILFE - Vocational carpentry training and one day care center*

**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS:**

*Dr. Glen Miller. Our special thanks to Dr. Glen Miller for his support for the Administration and loan repayment.*

*Allen Wallace } support for the community development program.  
Dr. Rom & Nancy }*

*We express our sincere thanks to HAVE & CIDA for accepting our request, and responded positively for drilling Bore-well in 14 villages of Puthalapattu mandal .*

**CONCLUSION:**

*Our sincere thanks to all institutions, organizations and well wishers for their encouragement. we express our sincere thanks to our funding partners and sponsors for their meaningful support towards achieving the objectives of our organization. I thank all our members for their support and encouragement. Above all I thank God for guiding and guarding in all our ways.*

*Thank you*

*ESRM- Experience Sharing Review Meeting (ECE)*

**EVALUATION OF SUCHI PROGRAMME :**

*We had a joint evaluation of the 3 years program sponsored by TDH-NL. The evaluation team met 2 of our EC members as part of the evaluation. TDH-NL has extended the program for another 3 years i.e. till 2003.*

*Mrs. Fern Gerber, Mrs Cynthia Peacock from MCC, Dr. Ron Kraybell from Eastern Mennonite University U.S.A, along with Mrs. Glory vijayakumar have jointly evaluated the peace and justice program supported by MCC. MCC also conducted an evaluation of the development program supported by them and extend their support till the year 2003.*

**SPECIAL PROGRAMME:**

*A student from EMU- Eastern Mennonite University was in SUCHI for 3 months exchange program from Feb to June during this period. He was learning by doing. He took active part in most of our program. We very much appreciate his willingness to learn and he was very flexible.*

*Campaign on " Vision for an alternative society in the new Millennium " organised by SCINDeA network in the Vellore Dist. It was a two days program, 1st day was seminar on the theme and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day a mass rally from the Deboir hostel Vellore to the fort maidhan, where the public meeting took place. Nearly 7000 women and men participated in the rally.*

*Health workshop was conducted at our rural training center for the TDH-NL partner NGOs of A.P, organized by TDH-NL. Dr. Sarkar from*

*Bangladesh was the resource person, our health team was also involved in the training.*

*Members from ODAF- Orissa development action forum was in SUCHI for 2 days on an exchange program, organized by SCINDeA. It was a mutual learning and through sharing of experience.*

*Mrs. Glory vijayakumar our associate director was honored as the Best women social worker 2000, by the Vellore Junior chambers on the 29<sup>th</sup>*