**AMMAVODI HISTORY**

**Ammavodi means (Mother’s lap):**

 Ammavodi was started in the year 1999 on February 19 near Raj Yuvaraj Theatre, in the city of Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India. Ammavodi started with four girls. It was started only for girls for the security of girls. The founder of Ammavodi was interested to start a centre for street girls. She worked in other institutions of street presence; that means she walked throughout Vijayawada city for 2 years.

There are many institutions that give shelter for boys but not for girls. The girl child, if she comes out of her home, she is afraid where she has to go, if she will be handled by brokers on the railway platforms. Some of them end up in prostitute homes. These girls come from villages they don't know the traps that await them in big cities.

Once upon a time, there was a girl who lived among boys for almost one year. She stayed with them but she lived as boy. As she was growing, it became hard for her to go for her personal needs. Finally, she had to run away.

On the railway stations also, the girls are treated very badly. Many children end up on the streets because of extreme poverty; they become orphans, because broken families. Step parent treatment also forces them to run away from home. They decide that it is better to live on the streets rather than die of hunger.

We at Ammavodi, give them shelter and counselling. We teach them how to face the problems of life and how to live together as brothers and sisters as in one family. In case the child has a brother or sister, we take both of them into the centre because they should know the family atmosphere and the strength of family ties.

We educate them and make them good citizens and if possible, good Catholics.

Ammavodi was started in the year 1999. 20 years of struggle and success stories accompany our mission.

* In the year 2007 June 13 we helped a deaf and dumb girl to get married.
* In the year 2009, another girl settled into marriage.
* In the year 2014, another boy was helped to begin a new family.
* They are all very happy in their married life.
* Now there are 50 children studying 1st class to 10th class.
* The number of children varies as they come and go.

There are 15 boys and girls studying different colleges: Four girls are studying for nursing. One of them is studying BSCE Nursing final year. Some of them are studying for General Nursing and 5 of them are studying 1 year (GNM).

Two boys are studying for B. Tech Final year. One Boy is studying M. Tech first year. One is studying B.SC MLT. Others are doing college.

We recognize the need to educate these children. So, we spare no effort in giving them a good, catholic and English medium education. We encourage them to pursue also mechanical, computer science studies. In that way, they are able to find a job and settle down in life.

Amma is means Mother. If we give that love to the children, then tomorrow that same love they will give to their children. Then only a better society can be formed. These children are interested also craft works, singing and dancing. We allow the children to learn these skills and participate in different programs.

We need your helping hand to serve the little ones - abandoned, poor & needy. Without someone to help them, they will not see a bright tomorrow because they are ORPHANED, ABUSED, TRAFFICKED, RAPED AND under SLAVE LABOUR.

Like every child, they also like and need healthy food, education, safe place for shelter and play grounds. With our limited possibilities, we try to offer them a safe place where they can grow as God’s children.

If you would like to help us:

**$1 = Rs.70.00**

 **(For the whole centre – 50 children)**

1. One day Morning breakfast: Rs. 2,000/

2. One-time Vegetarian meals: Rs. 4,000/

3. One-time Non – Vegetarian meal: Rs. 3,000/

4. Two times Vegetarian meals per one day: Rs. 4,000/

 5. Two times (Vegetarian + Non - Vegetarian) meals per one day: Rs. 5,000/-

6. Full day meals (breakfast + lunch + evening snacks + dinner) Rs. 6,500/-

7. One-month complete maintenance Rs. 75,000/-

**(For one child)**

8. One child’s education for one year. Rs. 10,000/-

9. One Child’s sponsorship for one year. Rs. 15,000/- (including everything)