

Sarva Vidya Trust - site visit done on Feb 18th 2014
by Kavitha Srinivasan

I visited Sri Rama Krishna Mission School, T.Nagar, one of the schools in which the program is conducted. The first part of the visit was spent in meeting the entire staff for both the programs run by SVT, namely the Nursing program and the No Child Left Behind program. I also met the auditor of the trust.



A good amount of the site visit was focussed on the No Child Left Behind program which was a new project proposal submitted for funding. After discussing the new project in detail, the SVT staff presented the nursing program updates and documents, like audit reports, current students list, placement list of graduated students, latest cultural function photos etc. The staff showed extreme dedication and sincerity in being transparent with all the details and sharing their experiences and concerns. All records were well maintained. Mrs. Thenmozhi who is the project coordinator was very grateful for getting Asha's support towards her salary component.

I then met the entire batch of diploma nursing students and got the opportunity to speak to a few in person. Among them were Banusha and Kalaimani.



Banusha is getting her diploma certification from SVT. She is from Madurandagam and graduated from Govt. High school, Polambakkam. Her mother works in a purse factory for an annual salary of Rs.9000. She came to know of SVT through a balwadi teacher in her village. This was a result of the village visits that Mrs. Thenmozhi does as part of the enrollment phase. She is very happy with SVT and the love, care and support she gets from Mrs.Saraswathi Vaidyanathan, who is the Principal of the program. She wants to pursue BSc.Nursing and currently she is working as a nurse aide in Arokhya hospital, Nesapakkam as part of the diploma program.

Kalaimani is in her 2nd year diploma program. She is from Madurai, Kodimangalam village. She came to know of SVT through Yagam Women's trust which helped her finish school with tuition help and moral support. She has always wanted to get into a service based employment and found nursing to be a great opportunity. She is currently working as an intern in Kumaran hospital for a stipend of 1500Rs/month. They provide hostel accommodation as well. She wants to go back to Madurai after her diploma and continue studies in GnM.

Mrs. Sarawathi Vaidhytanathan conveyed that both these girls deserve to be enrolled in BSc. nursing if they are given a full scholarship. This was one of the requests that SVT had for Asha and other donors, which is to support the few deserving students wanting to pursue BSc. Nursing.

Overall, the site visit was very impressive and I would strongly recommend to continue support for the nursing project and also consider support for the No Child Left behind project. Mrs. Saraswathi Vaidhyathan and Mrs. Thenmozhi are great resources for the trust and are doing an excellent job is uplifting the lives of these girls. They treat the students with love and affection and all of them seem happy to be part of the program. There are drop outs in every batch and the students who leave have a genuine reason which is respected by the trust and documented well.