

Fellowship Report

Updates from 2020- 2021

The year has been a difficult time for every one especially for children and young people. It changed their lives upside down. They have been in a year where there are no schools and exams. The online class mode isn't productive and unsuccessful in an area like Karumbalai, where children lack resources and guidance. Madurai Seed acted as an only educational hub where they can just sit and open their books, and study for some time.

It is a remarkable service that Asha for Education Boston has been doing by providing support for Seed Narpanigal project and my fellowship. Hundreds of children and young people are thriving in life, higher studies, and career with the light in their hands which is education.

Madurai Seed has been running three types of projects

- **Supplementary education centers** supported by Asha for Education
- **Skills and personality development programs** supported by Friends of Madurai Seed
- **Educational Scholarship** supported by Friends of Madurai Seed

There are only 3 staffs for managing these programs. 1 full time director, 1 full time coordinator, and 1 part time accountant. I am the full-time director. With this we were able to touch lives of maximum 1000 children and 500 young people (direct plus indirect programs). But this Covid restrictions and lockdown has limited our possibilities. Even though we are not discouraged, but stretched ourselves to provide necessary guidance, fulfill essential needs, teach supplementary classes etc.

In the year 2020-21, **70 boys 50 girls totally 120 children and 26 young people** benefited from Madurai Seed. 60 children benefited from the hostel teaching program.

- I have been constantly involving in conversations with children and young people about their education, career, health, and financial needs throughout the lock down period.
- As for as the education, government has shown their inability by changing their decisions and policies. The announcements were changed constantly which has put students in a stressful condition especially 10th, 12th, and college first year final year students.
- I have met 12th std finished students, college final year students, 10th std finished students about their further admissions, fees need, and rendered appropriate helps during the lock down period.
- 3 students who finished college in May 2020, 2 have joined in B.Ed teacher training course, 1 joined in Diploma course.
- 15 students who finished 10th std in May 2020, have joined in 11th std for the year 2020-21
- 4 students who joined first year college, have joined as new volunteers.
- My major work was to keep children and young people come and utilize the resources in Madurai Seed, to make them spend productive time, for that many recreational activities were conducted.
- Like classes and major events, we didn't miss to celebrate culture important, national important special days which brings everyone together as a family.



April, May, June 2020

Covid Awareness	Soaps, sanitizers, masks, <i>Kaba Sura Drink</i> provided to public and families of our children and young people.
Lockdown Relief	Identified 110 families and provided Rs.1000 for each family from a special donation from individual donor.
Thenkoodu Savings Distribution	Rs. 62,588 children's saving was provided to help the families in lockdown.
Annual Report & Audit Report	Involved in preparing the annual report of 2019-20, and finance report with Arun and Muthu Pandi.
Library Management	Involved in library cleaning, sorting, book maintenance, and stock checking with other volunteers



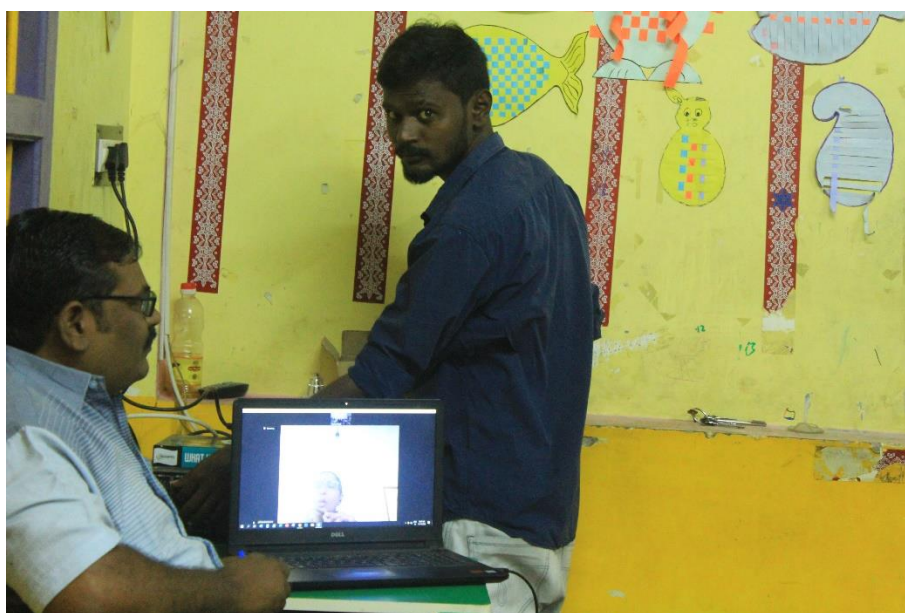
July, August, September 2020

Young People Development Activities	Planned skill development activities for young people to utilize the lockdown period into a productive one. Typing class, English class, editing class, MS office class, two-wheeler driving class were conducted.
School & College Admission	12 th std results announced in July. Educational guidance was given to them. Volunteers supported them in filling application online, and checking status. 10 th std completed students were supported to join in nearby schools for 11 th std.
Young people scholarship	16 college going people were provided with scholarships.
Madurai Seed's website	Madurai Seed's website maintenance was done, some new contents were flowed, the look and photos were changed.
Classes for 10th 11th and 12th	Students from 10 th 11 th and 12 th std studied two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. I have managed to provide them volunteers for each subjects in a rotational manner.



October, November, December 2018

10 days – 10 women – Seminars	I have been involved in finding the right persons and right topics. 9 online seminar and 1 guest visit were conducted. 10 women personalities from various walks of life talked about specific topics ranging from gender equality, mental wellness, education policy, etc. Some shared their life stories.
22 days – 22 Events	Planned a continuous event for 22 days. Scheduled events, time, shared responsibilities. The programs were based educational, cultural, recreation, skill development, and personality development.
Evening classes for 1st std to 12th std	Evening classes started for children of all classes; children studied two hours in the evening. Though the attendance is low in the beginning.



January, February, March 2021

New FCRA bank account opening	I have been involved in understanding new FCRA amendments and started the process to apply for bank account in SBI New Delhi. It demanded lots of efforts and time. We have to done more rough drafts, and getting information was difficult.
Evening classes for all standards	Evening classes were going on for two hours in the evening. We have managed to achieve 100 numbers.
Training to volunteers	Volunteers were trained to give their 100% commitment and conduct classes in an more interesting way. Since the schools were closed and no exams, students may lack interest. But volunteers have to handle the situation wisely.
Engaging children in the mornings	Started to engage children in the mornings like library reading, indoor games, fun educational games, competitions, screening films and videos, etc.
Teaching in hostel	Two volunteers were assigned to support 9 th and 10 th std children in the nearby hostel.



Works in the coming months:

- College admissions for 12th std finished students
- School admissions for 10th std finished students
- Scholarship for college going young people
- Engaging children through camps and special activities for children in summer April and May 2021.
- Skill development programs for young people which increases their chance to get employment opportunities
- Annual Report 2020-21 preparation
- Financial Report 2020-21 preparation
- Setting up an audio-visual classroom with suitable equipment and bandwidth to facilitate online classes and seminars.

I thank Asha for Education for their continued support and love. With your support, my works and efforts with Madurai Seed will continue to flourish. I request Asha for Education Boston to extend my fellowship for the coming year 2021-22. Thank you.

Love

Karthik

