

Annual Events of 2011- 2012

I. EVENTS

- a. **Opening Day and Yearly pooja:** On 3rd June, 2011, we had a pooja at Main center and Campus. The management including Suchita, Ruth, Subhadra and Gayathri gave a talk welcoming all the staff and children. They discussed the plan for the year and goals to achieve.
- b. **World Environment Day:** On 6th June, 2011, we celebrated **World Environment Day** by preparing badges for all the staff and children. The badge was very innovative and most work was done by the children. The staff and children also planted a tree in front of the office. Children were made to understand about the importance of the day.
- c. **Bus Drivers and Conductors Day celebrated in SSA Campus**
(14 Bus drivers and Conductors from BMTC participated from Sigehalli Bus Depo): On 30th July, 2011, **Bus Drivers and Conductors day** was celebrated. 14 Drivers and conductors participated from Sigehalli Bus Depot. They were given orientation about the organization and the problems our students face while commuting by public transport. Then they went around the campus to see the children and interact with them. They had lunch at 12.30. Post lunch, Ms. Ruth conducted the feedback session. 2-3 drivers and conductors shared their experience. They were very happy with the visit and felt it was a very good opportunity to get to know more about these children. They also felt the atmosphere at Shristi is very congenial to the children. They suggested that many more drivers and conductors could participate next time if the program can be organized after 12.30 pm.
- d. **HP Run/Walkathon:** On 31th July, 2011, HP conducted **Run/Walkathon** in Kanteerava Stadium. 4 Shristi staff participated in the event by running and putting up a stall. Shristi was one of the beneficiaries of the event and was asked to share a few words.
- e. **Sport's Day:** On 6th Aug, 2011 Annual **Sport's Day** of Shristi Special Academy was conducted at Shristi Campus-Channenahalli. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Mr. Venkateshwaran, Vice President of Shristi. Some of the Committee members were also present. The event started by lighting the flame. While ASM School band played for us, boys and girls from Shristi participated in the opening March Past and the Mass Drills. The themes for the different drills were based on the National Flag, National Flower and the National Animal, performed by three different units of Shristi. Two of the games were held on this day for the senior boys and girls. Games were held for parents too. Volunteers from Accenture and HP were part of the day's celebrations, and they helped our children during March Past.
- f. **Rakshabandan Day:** On 10th Aug, 2011, **Rakshabandan Day** was celebrated at the Main center. Children made bands and tied to each other celebrating the brother and sisterhood. Children were made to understand the importance of the day.

- g. **Independence Day:** On **11th Aug, 2011, Independence Day** was celebrated at the Main Center by making national flags using their finger prints and dancing for the patriotic song “Sara jahaa se accha”. Games were conducted for the children.
- h. **Teacher’s Day:** On **5th Sept, 2011, Teachers Day** was celebrated at the Campus. One of the parents spoke about the significance of teacher’s day. There was a short cultural program followed by distribution of gifts and snacks to all the staff members. The highlight of this year’s program was that the parents of children from Shristi Special Academy took the initiative and made all the arrangements for the day, the program was a great success.
- i. **Family Day:** On **29 Oct, 2011, Family Day** was celebrated at Shristi Campus. The purpose of the day is to get the families of our children together so they get to know each other, which promotes future formation of parent support groups. Some games were held for the different groups of family members.
- j. **Memorial Service for long term employee, Rangappa:** On **11th Nov, 2011, Memorial Service** for long term **staff Rangappa** was held in campus. Rangappa was a very sincere employee. He took care of the organic garden till his last breath. The team payed its respect and gave condolences to his family on this day.
- k. **Drawing Competition at Rotary House of Friendship:** On **12th Nov, 2011, Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore** held a drawing competition in Lavelle Road. Our child, Zubin went with his parents and won the 3rd prize.
- l. **Children’s Day:** On **14th Nov 2011, Children’s Day** was celebrated at the campus. The programme started with prayer by Children from Chiguru Unit and the Music teacher. The Directors lighted the Lamp with our Children. On this Special day, Staff performed Cultural programmes for our Special Children, which included some dances- solo and group, music, and a skit. On this occasion, Special Lunch was served to children and staff.
- m. **Shristi Mela:** On **19th Nov, 2011, Shristi Mela** was introduced for the first time this year in Shristi. It was organized at the Campus, and was inaugurated by bursting the balloons by our children. Two jumping bouncers and a merry-go-round were set up for the children to play. There were six stalls:- the food stall with delicious items like Bhelpuri, golgoppas, popcorn etc; the gift stall, with gifts for all our children (classwise); 3 stalls meant for different games for the children, and the last stall was a grooming stall where all children got tattoo, mehendi, face painting and hair grooming etc done. Volunteers from HP participated in the event, two of them dressed up as cartoon characters and others helped in various other activities. Vote of thanks was given by Mr.Srinivas, Family counselor which was followed by a special lunch.
- n. **World Disability Day:** On the **3rd Dec, 2011**, on the occasion of **World Disability Day**, a workshop was arranged at Shristi Campus, for the benefit of all staff members. The topic was **“The Role & Importance of Team Work In Multidisciplinary Team Approach”** It was conducted by Mrs. Rukmini Krishnaswamy, Technical Director, Spastic Society of Karnataka. It provided a great learning experience for all participants. The day was also observed in a different way at the Vijayanagara Club. This is the first time in the history of Vijayanagara Club, that **World Disability Day** was

observed. Snacks were served before the program. The programme started with lighting the Lamp by Chief Guests **Dr. Mahadevaiah (Pediatric Neurologist), Mr. Rajanna (Commissioner of Disabilities), Chairman and members of Vijayanagara Club**, followed by Invocation song by Special Children of Shristi Special Academy. Special Children from Different NGO's performed Cultural Events like Solo Dance, Monoacting, Group Songs, etc. Also, stalls were put up by the different organizations to create awareness about different disabilities; about their organization, and about their products. 8 NGO's participated in this event - Chiguru, Nachiketha, APD, Dharithree, Shristi Special Academy, Udaya Ravi Trust, Sahana Charitable Trust. The programme was very successful. The program was conceptualized and coordinated by the Managing Director of Shristi Special Academy, Mrs. Suchita Somashekariah.

- o. Autism Walkathon at M N Krishna Rao Park: On 12th Dec, 2011, IRC and Asha School conducted Walkathon for Autism. Shristi children, staff, parents and volunteers participated in this event. It was a 5km walk till IRC campus.**
- p. Thanks Giving Day to Shristi support staff: On 16th Dec, 2011, Thanks Giving Day to Shristi support staff was organized at the campus. It was celebrated in recognition of the dedication and hard work put in by the support staff through the year. Each individual's contribution in making our program at Shristi a success was appreciated by the other staff members. A variety of games were conducted for them and prizes given away for the winners. On this occasion, the technical staff prepared and served the special Lunch to the support staff. Each one of them was also given a gift. All the support staff enjoyed the entire program thoroughly.**
- q. Christmas Party: Christmas Party was celebrated on 17th Dec, 2011, before closing the school for vacation at Shristi Campus. The programme started with a talk on the significance of Christmas by our Programme Executive Director, who also gave away personal gifts to all support staff. Then a small Dance performance of Christmas carol was given by children from our Chiguru (inclusive) unit. The party came to an end by giving Goodie Bags to all children by the Santa.**
- r. Pongal/Shankranthi Celebration at Main Center: On 13th Jan, 2012, Pongal festival was celebrated at Main center. Pongal and yellu was prepared and children were told about the festival.**
- s. Annual Day: On 18th Feb, 2012, Shristi's 17th Annual Day was celebrated at Vijayanagara Club. The chief guests on the occasion were Mr. Aravind Sitaraman, President, Inclusive Growth, CISCO Systems, Bangalore and Mr. Babu Rangaswamy, Trustee-Diksha, HP, Bangalore. The programme started with Invocation sung by our children. The children of Autism Unit presented a very meaningful program on "Religious Harmony" and the children from our Campus performed a skit directed by Mr. Vivek. The theme for the skit, "Our thoughts" was chosen by the children themselves. They also performed a fusion dance from the 4 regions of India. They presented a skit "Harmony with nature". Another interesting program, representing the 28 states of our country was also presented jointly by the children from all units.**
- t. Women's Day: On 8th Mar 2012, Women's Day was celebrated at Main center. The importance of a woman in a family and in the society was explained to all the staff and children. The women of Shristi were thanked for the contribution to the cause.**

- u. **Udagdi Celebration:** On 8th Mar, 2012, Ugadi festival was celebrated at Main center. Children performed the pooja and made greeting cards for everyone.
- v. **Autism Awareness program on World Autism Day at Visweswarya Museum:** On 2nd Apr, 2012, Shristi participated in the **Autism Awareness program on World Autism Day** the Visweswarya Museum conducted by the Autism Society of India. All organizations in Bangalore that are working in the area of Autism participated.
- w. **Chiguru Annual Day (Inclusive Pre-School):** On the 3rd April, 2012, **Annual Day** of our Chiguru (Inclusive) unit was celebrated at Shristi Campus. The guests for the occasion was Shristi Directors and Ms. Nethra Manjunath.

II. **INHOUSE TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS**

- a. **Government School Teacher's Training – 18th to 22nd July, 2011:** A **Teachers training Programme (Inclusive Education Training Programme)** was conducted for the benefit of government school teachers, by the Shristi team, in co-ordination with **Sarva Sikshana Abhiyana**, BEO office **Bangalore South**. Various topics like Aims and Objectives of IED, Human Development and Brief about all disabilities, Mental Retardation, Cerebral Palsy, Visual Impairment, Learning disabilities, ADHD, Physiotherapy Management, Special Education, Family issues, Occupational Therapy, Hearing Impairment and Speech and Language Disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Pre-Vocational and Vocational Training, Home Based Programme and Early Intervention, Psychological and Behavioral Issues, Govt Policies and schemes for persons with Special needs, were covered during the training. Resource persons for the program included doctors and other specialists from reputed Hospitals and Colleges (St John's Hospital, Home Science College, etc). Practical sessions include classroom visits to observe the functioning of our children. **Mr. Ramesh BRC**, who spoke on the Valedictory session, was very impressed with the work Shristi is doing in this field. He was also very happy with the training program, which was comprehensive and covered all areas of disability and wanted us to conduct more such training programs every year. Mr. Rajanna Com of Disability was the chief guest.
- b.
- c. **Awareness on Nutrition:** On 8th Sept, 2011, an **Awareness program on Nutrition** was conducted at Shristi Campus, by Dr. Ushadevi from Home Science College (14 students and interns from Home Science College were also part of her team). Dr. Ushadevi spoke about Nutrition and later they demonstrated practically how to prepare low cost nutritious food. An exhibition was arranged by the Home Science College students as part of the workshop. 46 parents and 5 of our staff participated in the workshop.
- d. On 18th Aug, 2011, a **Workshop on "Drooling Management and Dysphasia"** was conducted by Ms. Jubeena (Occupational Therapist-Shristi Special Academy). 14 parents of children with Drooling problem attended the Workshop. There was practical demonstration about Oral massage and other techniques to control drooling in children.
- e. On 6th Sept, 2011, a **Workshop** on the role of Occupational therapy in the **" Management of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder"** - was conducted by Ms. Jubeena, Occupational Therapist, Shristi Special Academy at Shristi campus. 15 parents and 4 teachers attended the

workshop. The main Focus was on how to handle the hyperactive children at School and Home. Many techniques were taught to the participants.

- f. On **29th Sept, 2011**, workshop entitled “**Dealing with challenging Behaviours In Adolescents and Adults with Special Needs** “ was arranged at Shristi Campus. Dr.Ashok, Psychiatrist from St John’s hospital , conducted the same. 20 parents and many staff members attended the workshop and cleared their doubts about many issues related to the topic.
- g. On **23rd Dec 2011**, Dr. Ashok, Psychiatrist from St John’s Hospital conducted a workshop for Staff of Autism unit regarding **XXXXXX**
- h. **Government School Teachers Training programme – February 29th to March 4th, 2012: A Teachers training Programme (Inclusive Education Training Programme)** was conducted for the benefit of government school teachers, by the Shristi team in co-ordination with Sarva **Sikshana Abhiyana**, BEO office **Bangalore South**. Various topics like Aims and Objectives of IED, Human Development and Brief about all disabilities, Mental Retardation, Cerebral Palsy, Visual Impairment, Learning disabilities, ADHD, Physiotherapy Management, Special Education, Family issues, Occupational Therapy, Hearing Impairment and Speech and Language Disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Pre-Vocational and Vocational Training, Home Based Programme and Early Intervention, Psychological and Behavioral Issues, Govt Policies and schemes for persons with Special needs, were covered during the training. Resource persons for this program included doctors and other specialists from reputed Hospitals and Colleges (St John’s Hospital, Ramana Maharshi School for the Visually Impaired, etc). Practical sessions included classroom visits to observe the functioning of our children. 5-6 participants made a Presentation on their classroom observations, one teacher wrote a song on Shristi and sang on the occasion. The teachers appreciated the Shristi Staff and Management for the wonderful work they are doing and hoped Shristi will continue their work with the same dedication and commitment.

III. **OUTINGS**

- a. **Staff one day Trip:** On the **20th Aug 2011**, Shristi staff went for a one day trip to **Shimsha, Thalakadu, Somanathapura**. All the staff, including the support staff , had great fun and enjoyed the trip thoroughly.
- b. On **17th Aug 2011**, the **Ranga Shankara** Auditorium held a Kannada play entitled **Dham Dhum Sutar Gali**. 38 students and 9 staff from Shristi watched the play along with children from many other schools across the city. All the Children and staff enjoyed the play.

IV. **MEDICAL CAMPS**

- a. On **28th July, 2011**, **Dental Screening camp** was held at Shristi campus. Doctors and Interns from MS Ramaiah Hospital conducted the camp. A total of 58 students were checked on the day. Every Wednesday, a small group of students are taken to MS Ramaiah Hospital for follow up treatment.
- b. On **19th Sept, 2011**, we conducted a **Medical Camp** and a talk on **Seizures and Parent involvement in handling Special Children** by **Dr.Mahadevaiah** (Pediatric Neurologist). This

medical camp was arranged especially for those Children who did not have proper medical diagnosis. Children from surrounding rural areas and some urban poor who had difficulty in reaching a hospital at far off places for a diagnosis, benefited from the camp. Dr. Mahadevaiah saw 13 cases ; 2 cases were referred to Cardiologist for opinion and further follow up.

- c. On **2nd Nov, 2011**, dental camp was held at the main center for all the children in main center. The camp was conducted by Dr. Ashmita and team from MS Ramaiah hospital.
- d. On **17th Jan, 2012**, we conducted a **Medical Camp** for children with **Down's Syndrome**. **Dr. Sayee Rajangam** checked 16 cases. Some of our old students from the Vocational Training unit also were benefited. Parents of 4 children were referred to St.John's Hospital for genetic counseling. The parents were counselled; they were also advised to get the Thyroid test and Vision test done for their child with Down's once every two years.

V. COMPETITIONS

- a. On **26th Aug, 2011**, **SPLASH** – a drawing competition was conducted by CIF India. 6 of our children participated and 3 staff accompanied.
- b. On **12th Nov, 2011**, a **Drawing Competition** was held at Inner wheel club at Lavelle road. 3 children participated in this competition and 2 staff accompanied. The concept for the competition was Diwali Festival .Two of our students got 2nd (Prajval) and 3rd prize (Zubin) respectively and all the children got participation certificates.
- c. On **23rd Nov, 2011**, singing competition was held in **KALANGANA**. A group of 7 children from Shristi sang a group song; solo songs were sung by 2 of our children. 3 staff members accompanied the children. All the Children got participation certificates.
- d. On **6th Dec, 2011**, **Shaimak Dawar Dance group** arranged dance competition at St.John's Auditorium. 11 of our children performed and 4 staff accompanied them. Many students from other normal schools and Special Schools also participated in the competition. All the students got participation certificate and T-Shirts.
- e. On **9th Dec, 2011**, **Bal Utsav programme** was held at Bal Bhavan. 12 of Our children performed Dance, Group Song and participated in Fancy Dress competition. In this event 18 School participated, our children gave very good performance in this competition and all of them got participation certificates.
- f. On **10th Dec, 2011**, 28 children participated in **Kili Kili programme** at Gayathri Devi Park. It is an inclusive programme for the differently abled children. Children had fun playing the outdoor games like Swing, Slide, etc. After this they painted on canvas and on pots and had Mehendi on their hands. Later, children were given snacks.
- g. From **11th to 17th Dec, 2011**, **Special Olympics Bharath National Coaching Camp** for Special Children Athletics and Aquatics conducted an event. The event was held at GMC Balayogi Stadium, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. 6 of our children and 2 staff and 1 parent participated in this camp.

- h. From **28th Jan to 1st Feb, 2012, Special Olympics Bharath National Hand ball Coaching Camp** to Special Children was held at Pondicherry Engineering College Campus. 6 children and 2 staff from Shristi participated in this training program.

VI. **FIELD VISITS BY PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS:** Quite a few people from various institutions have visited Shristi. Few of them are mentioned below:

- a. On 16th June, 2011, **Nursing Students (51)** from **MS Ramaiah college** visited the campus. It was an Observational visit for the 3rd year B.Sc. Nursing students. The students were given orientation about Shristi and later taken around for classroom visits. The students also interacted with our children.
- b. **28 Nursing Students from MS Ramaiah college** visited the campus on **30th June, 2011**, (observational visit of 1st year P.B.B.Sc Nursing students). They were briefed about the organization and its working and taken around to visit all the Units. The students interacted with Staff and Children of Shristi.
- c. **Mr.Pankaj** from **Vibha** (who support our **Chiguru project**), visited the Campus on **7th July, 2011**. After a brief orientation about the organization, he interacted with the class teachers of Chiguru Unit. He was briefed about the Chiguru Unit Programme by Our Managing Director and Technical Director.
- d. On **20th July, 2011**, Mr. Manu Sharma from **CAF Accenture** visited our campus. He visited different units after a brief orientation.
- e. On **15th Sep, 2011**, Ms.Zankana Patel from **VIBHA** visited the Campus. Along with our team members and the directors, she visited the homes of some children who come under our CBR(Community based rehabilitation) program.
- f. 16 students from the **Goutham College of MSW** visited Shristi on the **22nd Sept, 2011** for general orientation. After initial orientation about the organization's functioning, they were taken around for classroom visit. The students interacted with our children whenever they could.
- g. On **26th Sep, 2011**, Mr. Achyuth from HP visited Main center. He collected money through Autism Awareness Campaign in the US and donated many teaching aid bought with this money.
- h. On **25th Nov, 2011**, Mr. Naveen from **Asha for Education, Silicon Valley** and his family visited our campus. A brief orientation was given about the organization and its functioning. Later, they were taken around the campus .He was very happy and appreciative of the work being done by the organization.
- i. On **9th Dec, 2011**, 36 students from **St Anne's Degree College for Women, Ulsoor**, Dept of Psychology and Rehabilitation Sciences, visited our campus. After the orientation, they went

around for classroom visits. The students were very happy about the exposure they got about special needs.

- j. Dr.Nilesh (PT) from **Hosmat college of Physiotherapy** (a student of MPT 2nd Year) ,did his project work(Data collection for Research on” Trunk control “in children with Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Delay”), by working with children from our Chiguru unit.
- k. 20 students and interns from **Nargunda college of Physiotherapy** have done their Field work and Internship in this Academic year, from Shristi. As part of this programme the interns visited both Shristi locations.
- l. On **24th Feb 2012**, 30 students visited our campus from **Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies (Psychology)**. They were oriented about the Academy’s functioning, later taken around for classroom visits.
- m. On **5th March 2012**, 59 nursing Students from **MS Ramaiah college** visited the Campus .They were briefed about the Organization and its functioning, and also taken around the campus to visit various classrooms, Therapy units, etc.
- n. On **8th March, 2012**, from Acharya **Institute of Graduate Studies (Psychology)** 30 students visited the campus. They were briefed about the Academy and its functioning, later taken around for visiting the various units to see their functioning and to interact with the concerned staff.
- o. On the **26th March 2012**, **Dr.Preeti Pansari ,MD** from **St John’s Hospital** , department of psychiatry, visited the Campus.

VII. **VOLUNTEERS**

- a. **Day of Service:** The following volunteers from various organizations visited Shristi and rendered their services, as part of their Day of service: CISCO, DELOITTE, HP and Accenture. 2 BBM students from Jain University volunteered at the Main Center. Volunteers cleaned parts of the campus garden by weeding, by making the flower beds and adding fertilizers to the plants.
- b. **International Volunteer program:** We had Mr. Chris Ward visit us and volunteer with us for 6 months from **Dec 2011 till June 2012**. He contributed majorly in redesigning the website, updating facebook page and other social media. He also helped out in the admin and fundraising areas.
- c. **Tree plantation programme:** On the **21st Jan, 2012** we had Tree Plantation Programme in co-ordination with **RK Foundation and volunteers from R 2 India**. Brief orientation was given about our Organization’s functioning to 10 volunteers. Around 45 trees were planted by the volunteers along with Shristi gardeners.

VIII. **Work with Government**: Along with teacher training program for government school teachers, we also got disability ID cards and train concession passes for 18 beneficiaries, Niramaya insurance application for 5 beneficiaries – one of them came through. Shristi also applied for Child Centric Grant proposal to the District Disabled Welfare Office.