



CANDLES in the wind

A House
Magazine of
**UDAVUM
KARANGAL**

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Foreword by Thiru S. VIDYAAKAR

Dear Friends and Well Wishers,

Vanakkam. Firstly, I would like to extend my New Year Greetings -2022.

A new life begins for us with every second. Let us go forward joyously to embrace it. We must press on, whether we will or not, and we shall walk better with our eyes before us than with them ever cast behind.

Yes, we have all been waiting for the year 2021 to retire in all modesty not because it brought with it many challenges and tested the very existence of human lives, but just to see the dawn of ray of light that will put us all back on the track of peace and good health. Yes, we all pray and hope the new year 2022 will surely give back the situation, delight and the joy of yesteryears.

Still during 2021, Udavum Karangal, with the support of Well wishers, extended help to the people in need during this pandemic by providing food packets, essential kits, medical equipments and accessories for survival. We could safeguard our children and patients from the virus by vaccinating them and giving them a healthy environment. On a large scale, we focused on reconstructing local Panchayat Schools, commencing the work of construction of a Community College for girls and a new LPG crematorium.

The New Year – 2022 will be observed as

“THE YEAR OF 3 C TRANSFORMATION AT UDAVUM KARANGAL”

- ❖ Providing new space for school education in rural areas - **C¹onstruction of Rural Panchayat schools**
- ❖ Providing a professional platform for teaching livelihood course towards women empowerment - **C²ommunity College**
- ❖ Providing a dignified send off to the departed soul - **C³rematorium**

Yes, we are with specific goals no matter even if we face the toughest of challenges. This clarity, confidence and courage to fulfill these tasks comes out of the support we have received from the Well Wishers & Donors and also the strong & dedicated Team of staff of Udavum Karangal. We will also be equally emphasizing our focus on School education, Patient care and their reunion, Health and Hospital services and nurturing of our children.

Sometimes the road travelled and people with whom you travel turns out to be more beautiful than the destination reached. We have all enjoyed being and travelling together for so long. Let us, in this new year 2022 and beyond, continue to travel together and enjoy the path and the goal we have set - Good to All.

Pappa Vidyaaakar

HAPPY REUNION

Mr.Mohammed Eliyaz Ali, Assam



Mr.Mohammed Eliyaz Ali, aged 21, was found wandering around the Telephone Exchange area at Ambattur Industrial Estate, on 4th October 2021. He seemed to have had a head and foot injury with a big bandage around his head. He was rescued at Ambattur by our Social Worker Mr. Jacob and was brought to Shanthivanam Rehabilitation Centre at Thiruverkadu.

He was found mentally ill and was given psychiatric treatment, only after which he told the Social Worker about his village in Assam. His father Mr. Assar Ali in Assam was contacted. He told that the phone link with his son Eliyaz was cut on 23rd Sep and after that he went missing. Eliyaz left for Kerala four months ago with his father-in-law for a mason job. Since he was unwell, his father-in-law put him on a train going to Assam. He by mistake got down in Chennai and was loitering around aimlessly.

Mr. Assar Ali, on receiving the information about his son, rushed to Udavum Karangal, Chennai. Eliyaz could recognize his father and it was a teary reunion. His father thanked Mr. Vidyaakar and Udavum Karangal for reuniting their son. His father was counseled to give further psychiatric treatment to Eliyaz to avoid relapse.

DONATIONS (Giving to make a difference)

Distribution of Essential Kits to Irula Community



Distributed Essential Kit consisting of 25 kgs Rice, Provision, Oil, etc worth Rs.1984/- per kit, to 35 Irula families who were suffering without food and



shelter due to water inundation in Sadayankuppam (Manali)

Distribution of Food Packets to Narikuravar Families



Distributed food packets to 100 families on 11-11-2021 (affected due to flood) of Narikuravar Community at Amma Nagar, Poonamallee Taluk, Chennai.

Mobility aids donated to Leprosy patients of Tiruvallur District

Based on the request by Dy. Director for Leprosy Eradication, Tiruvallur District, Udavum Karangal distributed 20 Walkers and Hand sticks to Leprosy patients of Thiruvallur District, in the presence of the District Collector of Thiruvallur, on 22nd November 2021.



Donated Medical Equipments to Stanley Hospital



Based on the request from Stanley Hospital, Udavum Karangal has donated the following equipments needed for Operation Theatre of Gastroenterology Department -

1. Boyles Apparatus with work station - 1 no.
2. Operating table with C arm compatibility - 1 no.
3. Computer system with printer - 2 nos.

Mr. Vidyaakar. S , Founder of Udavum Karangal was pleased to hand over the above items (costing Rs.6,65,000/-) to Dr. P. Balaji, Dean of the Hospital , in the presence of Dr. M.S. Revathy, Prof. & HOD, Dept. of Medical Gastroenterology, on 21-12-2021 in the premises of Stanley Hospital.

Distribution of Mobility Aids on World Disability Day

Udavum Karangal distributed Mobility Aids – viz., 5 wheel chairs & crutches to differently abled persons on the occasion of World Disability day observed on Dec 03, 2021, at the auditorium of Rajiv Gandhi General Hospital organized by the Health Department of Tamil Nadu Government.



The Mobility aids were distributed by Udavum Karangal represented by Mr. Mohan and Mr. Jayaveeran, in the presence of Thiru Ma. Subramanian Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare of Tamilnadu, Thiru P. K. Sekar Babu Minister of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments and Thiru Radhakrishnan Health Secretary, Government of Tamilnadu.

EVENTS GALORE

Mental health day 2021 celebrated at Udavum Karangal Units



Karunai Illam – Chennai



Shanthivanam – Chennai



Thiruvannamalai



Madurai



Coimbatore



Coimbatore

STUDENTS' VISIT TO SHANTHIVANAM HOME



1st year UG and PG Students (Department of Social Work) of Nazareth College of Arts and Science, visited Shanthivanam Home, Thiruverkadu, Chennai on 30th Oct 2021 along with their Assistant Professor. Udavum Karangal Staff explained in detail to the students regarding the Vision & Mission of the Organization and various activities and its functions. Students were enthusiastic and very passionate towards learning. The College thanked Udavum Karangal for the opportunity given to their students to visit the Home.

Children's Day

Both **Children's Day** and **International Week of Science and peace** was organized by our team of Social Workers at Shanthivanam Children's Home, with the focus on innovation and information sharing, so that our resident children get involved, educated and also enjoy the events.

Mr. S. Vidyaakar, Founder of Udavum Karangal, motivated the children to come up with many innovative ideas in Arts, Science, Technology, and



even in Sports. There was a Drawing Competition, Science stalls for Physics, Chemistry and Zoology explaining the concepts and also a stall on essential Nutrients, Vitamins which are required for Human Body. Children came up with new ideas, creativity and innovation, and they enjoyed it very much.



The District Child Protection Unit, Coimbatore, conducted Games at Deva Anbu Illam to all the CCI Children on 13th November 2021. Children of Sontham Home participated in the games and won prizes in Volley ball - 3rd Prize and Box Cricket - 3rd Prize.



Free Eye Surgery by Sankara Nethralaya

Sankara Nethralaya Hospital conducted an eye camp at Shanthivanam Home during October 2021. In the camp, they had identified 5 patients who needed eye surgery which was performed on 19th Nov '21.

Udavum Karangal thanked Sankara Nethralaya and also Madam Chandrika, an Ex- Officer at Sankara Nethralaya, now working as a Admin Manager at Shanthivanam, for her great effort. The Hospital has also promised to provide spectacles to the deserving patients.



Visit of Jeevan Community College

The Jeevan Community College, a vocational training centre of Udavum Karangal Educational Trust, conducts livelihood courses like Nursing, Home Care, Fashion Designing, Childhood Care, etc which fetches immediate employment opportunity to the students. This year, as a part of their curriculum, all the 40 students of Nursing Classes visited Shanthivanam on 22nd December 2021. The Social Workers of Shanthivanam took them around and explained in detail, the maintenance of the Home for children and mentally ill patients, which was useful to the students.



Visit of Meenakshi College of Nursing

Twelve 1st year M.Sc.(Nursing) students along with the Dr. G. Sumathi, M.Sc. (Nursing), Ph.D., Principal, Meenakshi College of Nursing, Chennai, visited Shanthivanam on 27th December 2021 as a part of their curriculum to know about the various activities / functions of Home. Ms. Reeba, Social Worker of Udavum Karangal, took them around and explained them regarding the activities of the Home.



Inauguration of Dialysis Unit - Gayathri Hospital

The main motto for starting the dialysis department in our hospital is to serve the poor and needy who really suffer a lot to get treated for dialysis, since there is a significant population of migrants and economically backward people in Thiruverkadu where our Hospital is located.



Dialysis Unit was inaugurated on 9-Dec-2021, in the presence of the main donor Mrs. Lalitha Krishnamurthy. We have 7 Dialysis Machines. As there is no dialysis unit located nearby Thiruverkadu, patients have to travel long distances for getting their treatment.

FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

NAVARATHRI

Navarathri festival was celebrated at Udavum Karangal Home on 09th October 2021. Mr. Vidyaakar Founder Secretary performed the pooja in the presence of residents, volunteers and care takers.



NAZERATH COLLEGE STUDENTS CELEBRATE X'MAS AT SHANTHIVANAM



The Social Work Department students of Nazerath College, Avadi, visited Shanthivanam on 22nd December to celebrate Christmas along with the children and patients. The Correspondent and the Teaching Staff of the college were also present. During the celebrations, skit, songs and a puppet show was organized and all the children enjoyed the event. The Students distributed gifts to all our residents and Udavum Karangal greeted them with Cakes.





MEDIA

THE TIMES OF INDIA

NGO helps Odisha girl find way back home

Chennai: Four years ago, when Bhabhi Bhabhi was found wandering in the streets of Chennai, she was rescued by the NGO. She was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of her identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in her rescue. She was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of her identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in her rescue. She was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of her identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in her rescue.

தினத்தந்தி

DAILY THANTHI

சென்னை (12-12-2021) மலர் 80 இலக்கு 41

வெல்க தமிழ்

தினத்தந்தி

4 வருடத்துக்கு முன்பு மாபயமன கர்நாடக வாலிபரை மீட்டு பெற்றோரிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு

சென்னை, 12-12-2021: சென்னை அப்பகுதி தாழ்வு நிலையில் அருகில் உள்ள பாதாள குகையில், ஆறு வருடங்களுக்கு முன்பு கர்நாடக வாலிபரை மீட்டு பெற்றோரிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு. சென்னை அப்பகுதி தாழ்வு நிலையில் அருகில் உள்ள பாதாள குகையில், ஆறு வருடங்களுக்கு முன்பு கர்நாடக வாலிபரை மீட்டு பெற்றோரிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு. சென்னை அப்பகுதி தாழ்வு நிலையில் அருகில் உள்ள பாதாள குகையில், ஆறு வருடங்களுக்கு முன்பு கர்நாடக வாலிபரை மீட்டு பெற்றோரிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு.

70-year-old woman reunited with family after 13 years

70-year-old woman found begging in the streets in Chennai, was rescued by the NGO. She was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of her identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in her rescue. She was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of her identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in her rescue.

Mentally ill man from Odisha reunited with family

A mentally ill man found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of his identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in his rescue. He was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of his identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in his rescue.

Grassroots

A young man is cared for, reunited with parents

Trinity intervention saw the return of a mentally distressed young man to his family's care

A young man was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of his identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in his rescue. He was found in a state of extreme distress, with no memory of his identity. The NGO, which has been working for the welfare of the poor and the needy, has been instrumental in his rescue.

Environmental degradation in mining...

Environmental degradation in mining... The image shows a landscape with a large mining operation, with heavy machinery and piles of earth. The text discusses the impact of mining on the environment and the need for sustainable practices.

தினத்தந்தி • சென்னை 4-1-2022 9

மனநலம் பாதித்து சுதந்திர திருநாள்: 11 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு மாபயமனவர், சிகிச்சைக்கு பிறகு உறவினர்களிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு

மேற்குவங்க மாநிலத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர். சென்னை, 4-1-2022: மனநலம் பாதித்து சுதந்திர திருநாள்: 11 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு மாபயமனவர், சிகிச்சைக்கு பிறகு உறவினர்களிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு. மேற்குவங்க மாநிலத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர். சென்னை, 4-1-2022: மனநலம் பாதித்து சுதந்திர திருநாள்: 11 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பு மாபயமனவர், சிகிச்சைக்கு பிறகு உறவினர்களிடம் ஒப்படைப்பு.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCHOOLS [CDPS]

Under CDPS, the facilities provided by Udavum Karangal are as follows:

1. Panchayat Union Primary School, Melpakkam

- ❖ Weathering course for school building
- ❖ Interior & Exterior wall painting
- ❖ Round table with 6 chairs – 3 Sets
- ❖ Main building renovation work
- ❖ Borewell with motor and fixing 1500 liters tank

Total Project Cost – Rs. 10,03,382/-



2. Government Higher Secondary School, Ayanambakkam

- ❖ New Floor Tiles for 3 classrooms
- ❖ Painting of 3 classrooms
- ❖ Desktop with UPS – 3 Nos.
- ❖ SS Bench & Desk for students - 20 Sets

Total Project Cost – Rs. 10,00,298/-



3. Government Higher Secondary School, Ayapakkam

- ❖ Exterior path way around various blocks
- ❖ Renovation of Chemistry and Science Labs
- ❖ Kota stone laying work in Chemistry & Science Labs
- ❖ Painting of inside and outer wall of labs
- ❖ Earth leveling & laying Paver Block at the entrance of the School

Total Cost of the Project – Rs. 55,69,756/-



4. Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ayapakkam

- ❖ SS Bench & Desk for students – 50 Sets
- ❖ Steel Almirah – 2 Nos'
- ❖ Plastic Chairs – 20 Nos
- ❖ Notice Board – 2 Nos
- ❖ Inverter – 1 No
- ❖ Printer – 1 No
- ❖ Staff Lockers – 2 Nos
- ❖ S' type Chairs – 10 Nos
- ❖ White board for classrooms – 5 Nos
- ❖ Mic set with Amplifier – 1 No
- ❖ Desktop Computer with UPS – 2 Nos

Total Cost of the Project – Rs. 9,84,141/-



FEEDBACK FROM WELL WISHERS & DONORS

V. Ravi Shankar, Bangalore

My Dear Respected Vidyaakar ANNA,

I am writing this , as i am seeing your interview in TV. I am watching this on You Tube. News 7 channel. I recollect in the year around 2004 or 2005 i was in a desperate situation, but i decided i will never commit suicide, come what may. I decided to take leave of my wife and daughter .I came to Thiruverkaadu, at that time i was residing in Mylapore Chennai. I visited your house in Annanagar, and you told my intention to join your institution. I was introduced to Mr. Manjunath and he took me around the campus. I was in the campus for four days, for half a day, the school also. I offered my services to teach Pranayama to students in the school.After four days i decided to stay with my family itself.I told this to Mr. Manjunath. At that time he

told me, that when YOU saw me the first day you had told Manjunath i look very confident and strong enough and i would go to back to my family itself and i will join NEVER any orphanage. Now i am settled down in Bangalore, in my own house with my family. What a GREAT GURU and GENIUS you are. I bow down to you, i touch your feet ANNA. At the next opportunity when i come down to Chennai i will meet you. Now i am feeding 5 street dogs everyday. I learnt this from you, my INSPIRATION AND ROLE MODEL. I am sending [Rs.2000.as](https://www.rs2000.as) donation now iself. Thanks a lot.

Venkatesan Srinivasan, veesrini@gmail.com

I can't find words to praise your service to the society. May God bless You. Open the newspaper everyday, you see new born kids being abandoned, I can't understand how people can be so cruel in this world.

We need many more Vidyaakars.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL

Devendra Oza, Adyar

The article on mental health which involved a girl called Reshmi was such that those concerned with mental health must study this. This is indeed a very serious matter, and there must be many more cases of this type where mentally sick people - among them young women - have lost their sense of purpose or direction and need immediate and careful help. We must praise the well known NGO Udavum Karangal for their prompt and purposeful action.

Mr. Sashi Nair, Editor Grassroots Magazine

Thank you for your email. We have always covered the happenings at Udavum Karangal - I am always enthused by such wonderful initiatives. Please see an earlier edition (attached). By the way, you can find all the earlier editions on our website in the archives section under each journal:

<http://www.pressinstitute.in/>

You have been doing some wonderful work, and for years. Not everybody can do it, mind you. Only a few. Perhaps chosen by the Almighty. Also, many of the people you have rescued and given a new lease of life belong to the marginalised. And they form a key component of our coverage.

MARRIAGES AT UDAVUM KARANGAL

Marriages conducted during the period October 2021 to December 2021, to the resident girls of Udavum Karangal are as follows:



Ms. Lavanya Vidyaakar
with **Mr. P. Sudarsan**



Ms. Jayadevi Vidyaakar
with **Mr. Damodaran**



Ms. Sneha Vidyaakar
with **Mr. E. Karthik**

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