

AZIMPREMJI FOUNDATION

Azim Premji Foundation for Development

Thozhamai with the support of Azim Premji Foundation has started a project to empower adolescent girls in Semmancherry and Perumbakkam locality. It is a three year project with a target population of 900 adolescent girls. Currently, Thozhamai is in the first annual part of the project where around 400 adolescent girls from the community are being benefited.

MAIN OBJECTIVES:

- To reduce social and systematic barriers and disparities that hinder girls' access to education
- To enable adolescent girls to access and use services and schemes available to them
- To provide livelihood opportunities to adolescent girls who are in abject poverty for their economic empowerment

BENEFICIARY

At present, **400 adolescent girls** of age 12-19 are getting benefitted from this project

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

***objective 01:* To reduce social and systematic barriers and disparities that hinder girl's access to education**

- Baseline survey
- Establishing Adolescent Development Centers (ADCs)
- Summer camp
- Quarterly meetings of Neighborhood Child Protection Committees (NCPCs)
- Quarterly staff Capacity building
- Trainings Training Module Development
- Monthly Peer Educator Meeting (life skill, child rights, SRHR)
- Scholarship support for education of adolescents.
- Adolescent safety audit
- Celebration of important days
- Bi-annual network meetings with stakeholders
- Campaigns on Ending Violence against Children, School Enrollment

ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

In semmancherry we have 5 adolescent girl's centre. 5 children's centre In Perumbakkam. In those centres we taught classes like children's rights, sexual reproduction, and health & hygienic. We created reading club, sports club, science club and cultural team to improve their skills. Volunteers main goal to collect each and every girls information and to stop violence against them such as child marriage , child labour and to prevent school dropouts. Also in ADC centre we motivate the school dropout children's to re-join them in schools and ITI centre. Our goal is to prevent 400 adolescent girl's in a year from child labour, child marriage and school dropouts.

They share the information to other children which they learned from reading club.

In cultural club girls are participated in every competition and showed their skills

40 Adolescent girl's from science club participated in science exhibition that we conducted. They learnt tropical changes and how to do scientific stuffs from basic little things in our home. They showed this things to centre and their family members.

Sports club was initiated in the area of semmancherry and the club members had an opportunity to participate in state level kabaddi competition also they underdone training for 1 week for the match. In Perumbakkam sports club training has just now started.



Summer Camp - Workshop for Cultural Training





Neighbourhood Child Protection Committee



Initiative was taken to have Neighbourhood child protection committee (NCPC) in Semmancherry and Perumbakkam, This initiative was taken to avoid violence against children in these areas and based on this initiative in this year they started 5 clubs in Semmancherry and 3 clubs in Perumbakkam, each clubs contain 15 to 20 members. Thiru.Thenpandi explained about child rights and POSCO act, he also explained about UN Convention and NCPC member's roles and responsibility. This training happens once a month.

Outcome

This trainings gives a proper views on child protection and in some places CCTV camera was placed. School dropout 6 children had retaken exam and re-joined in the schools and the children share their sexual harassment which happens in their areas by POSCO act.

Staff Capacity Building Training Orientation



Azim Premji Foundation for Development project 5 days orientation program between 05.09.2022 to 09.09.2022 in this program 12 staff members were participated. This

program was carried out under the guidance of Mrs.kanchana (Project coordinator) she explained about the roles and responsibility and goal activities of the organization to staff workers and made a action plan throughout the year.



Outcome: the staff and motivators were enlightened on issues such as harassment and violation of child rights.

National Girl Child Day Celebration

Thozhamai has planned to organize an awareness come celebration program for National Girl Child Day along with student interns. For the celebration, we adopted the theme, “Education | Health | Nutrition“. Children from both Semmancherry and Perumbakkam sites

had participated in the program and displayed their skills and learnings from the Adolescent Development Center.



Training on Media Literacy - Factshala

The Factshala training program on Media literacy was planned on 25th January, 2023 from 4 PM for the Semmencherry community people and student interns. The trainer for that

program was Mr. Devaneyam, Director of Thozhamai. The participants were the adult women of the Semmencherry community and student interns of Thozhamai who use android mobile phones. The program started with a question to the trainees that "how many of the participants had smartphones?" With no surprise almost everyone in the crowd raised their hands. The program's aim was to highlight the ill effects that the mobile phones have on the life of humans and how it passes misinformation. The program was beautifully taken with thought provoking incidents which happened due to misuse of smartphones. The trainer also shared a few case studies related to it to insist on the harm that a smartphone has. The case studies included incidents like image morphing and posting it on social media by a stranger for black mailing, relationship with a stranger in social media where the girl was taken to Kerala and was gang raped. The program was also taken as an interactive session where the trainees also explained their experiences that they had by using mobile phones. The trainees were circulated the handouts regarding the program to spread awareness to their family, friends and relatives to have safe usage of mobile phones. The refreshments were provided to the trainees at the end of the program and feedback from the trainees were also collected by which the program came to an end at 5:30 PM.



Anti-Bonded Labour Day

Anti-Bonded Labour Day is observed on the 09th February of every year. Thozhamai has planned to organize an event to give awareness to the community people on this day. The program took place in two venues of the Semmancherry community.



The program included street play and pamphlets distribution by student interns and Staffs of Thozhamai. The awareness program started with mobilization of people using Parai and welcome songs. Once the people gathered in the venue, student interns started to stage their street play performance after doing stage honours. The street play was scripted in a way which would engage people and also educate them on bonded labour issues.

One Billion Hands Rising Day

Date: 14th February, 2023

Time: 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Venue: 9th Block, Perumbakkam (near Panchayat Office)

Participants: 87

Special Guests: Mrs. Suja Devi, Sub Inspector of T17 Police Station, Perumbakkam; Mr. Darwin Moses, CD Wing Coordinator, TNUHDB; Seetharaman, Sumaithaangi Trust

‘One Billion Hands Rising’ is a globally celebrated event on 14th February of every year to talk about issues faced by women globally. An organization called ‘V-Day’ initiated this and they adopt a theme every year for this event. Theme for 2023, ‘Rise for Freedom and to Create New Culture’ was adopted this year. Thozhamai has planned to organize a campaign as a part of One Billion Rising event along with Student interns from Patrician College of Arts and Science and SDNB Vaishnav College for Women. The campaign was against violence against women which took place in front of Panchayat Office, Perumbakkam.



The event started with a welcome address by Ms. Kanchana, Project Coordinator of Thozhamai. She invited the special guests of the event and briefed why we celebrate this day and purpose of that gathering. Followed by this, children performed Kazhil Aattam and Oyil Aattam which was followed by guest speech. Mrs. Suja Devi, Sub Inspector of T17 Police Station, Perumbakkam gave a speech on violence that happens against women and status of freedom of women in India and globally. She also gave her views on issues faced by Semmencherry and Perumbakkam community women in detail and safety precautions that can be taken from the people's side. Mr. Darwin Moses, CD Wing Coordinator of TNUHDB stated that women should gather for every women problem and not let any evil be unspoken. After the guest speech, children performed a street play. The program then ended with a vote of thanks by Udhaya Kumar, student from Patrician College.

Awareness Program - Cyber Threats, Effects and Safety



Thozhamai had organized an awareness program for the adolescent girls of Perumbakkam Community. The purpose of the program was to spread awareness on cyber safety. Ms. Suja Devi addressed the gathering followed by a welcome address by Ms. Kanchana. She educated the participants on present cyber threats and how to prevent them from

such issues. The program continued with a speech of Mr. Darwin Moses and Mr. Muraj who briefly explained the gatherings on cyber issues that are frequent in their surroundings. Dr. Kirthika then spoke about the effects of cyber threats on an individual's health, especially the mental health issue faced by them. The program concluded after getting feedback from the participants followed by a vote of thanks.

Women's Day Program

Chief Guests: Ms. Suja Devi, SI, T17 Police Station, Perumbakkam; Mr. Darwin Moses, CD Wing Coordinator, TNUHDB



Thozhamai along with Student interns of Loyola College and SDNB Vaishnav College had arranged a celebration program for observing Women's Day. The program included dance performances by center children and special addresses by the chief guests.

MAY 28TH MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY PROGRAMME



In the Adolescent Development Centers, participants were given a brief introduction on menstruation. A discussion was held on why menstruation occurs and how it repeats every

month on a cyclic basis. The girls were also informed of the irregularities that may occur in a menstrual cycle and told not to stress or panic in case of irregularities, and visit the doctor in case it prolonged. Following this, they were taught dos and don'ts at times of their periods. They were informed on what types of food they should consume and what foods to avoid. They were advised to eat iron-rich foods as eating such foods will ensure them a healthy menstrual cycle. The girls were instructed on menstrual hygiene and how to keep themselves clean while they are on their periods. The proper method of placing and removing sanitary napkins was taught and the proper method of disposal was discussed as well. The girls were instructed to change their napkins every 3-4 hours maximum as the chemicals present in them could cause rashes and at points cause uterine cancer. Here, they also educated them about gynecologists and how they specialize in tending to health problems faced by women. The girls were made to share various followings and practices they are made to follow while they are on their periods. After this they are made to understand that most practices emphasized in the home stem from myths about menstruation. It is explained to them that menstruation is not an unclean process and that it is a process of purification. May 28, Menstrual Hygiene Day is shared with the girls.

Outcome: Participants were enthusiastic to learn about their menstrual cycle and changes happen in their body. Most of them were not aware that the health issues occur due to poor menstrual hygiene. Hence, this meeting was useful for them in learning those issues and whom to approach to cure that.

Network Meeting with Stakeholders

Date: 20th October, 2022

Venue: Thozhamai Field Office, Semmencherry

Participants: 15 (Staff of Thozhamai, Field Work Student Interns, Career counselors from Magic Bus India)

This meeting was arranged to announce the collaboration of Thozhamai with Magic Bus India for a project which provides skill training and job placement opportunities for individuals between the age group, 18 to 26. The meeting was handled by Ms. Kanchana, project coordinator of Thozhamai followed by Mr. Leo, career counselor from Magic Bus India.



Outcome: the collaboration gave an opportunity for the team to work more with unemployed and underemployed youngsters in the community.





This NGO meeting was organized by Thozhamai along with Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board. Other NGO staff members and Residential Welfare Association members participated in this meeting to discuss ways to ensure a safe environment for the Semmencherry and Perumbakkam community children, protecting them from any kind of violence and ways for the stakeholders to collaborate among themselves for the above mentioned agendas.

Outcome: Residential welfare association leader and secretary asked us to join their monthly meeting after the stakeholders meeting. Residential welfare association and secretary requested us to make awareness class for adolescent girl's parents' for every month once. RWA and secretary gave permission to take their block for to take classes for adolescent girls.

[Human Rights Day - Campaign on Ending Violence against Children](#)

Date: 13th December, 2022

Venue: Center 5, Semmancherry

Participants: Community Mob

Thozhamai organized a belated observation for Human Rights Day with Adolescent Development Center Children. They have been given insights on the origin of Human Rights Day and why we have it. They are taught of the origins of Human Rights Day and why we have it. They learnt about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights theme for the year of 2022, “Dignity, Freedom and Justice for All”. The program also gave them awareness on basic rights

that they have. They also learnt about application of those rights, where they have rights, where they do not and where they must approach in case of denial of rights. After an awareness session for the children, Thozhamai staff and Student interns along with Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, performed a street theater play for the community people to provide awareness on Human Rights Day.



Outcome: Participants learnt about the rights they are entitled to and how education plays a vital role in accessing basic rights and dignity. They are also assured to share their learnings with the community people.



A campaign was organized by Thozhamai to promote school enrolment and thereby to address dropouts and child labour issues in the community. Through speech, the importance of education, benefits of schooling in government institutions, schemes and welfare measures for school students have been delivered to the participants followed by anemia awareness deliverance.

Educational Enrolment Campaign



Two days of (29/5/2023-30/5/2023) awareness program was conducted in the areas of semmencherry and Perumbakkam. This awareness program includes child based organization that work for children of semmencherry and Perumbakkam, Tamil Nadu urban Habitat development board (TNUHDB) have also participated in the program. This awareness camp was carried out by Thozhamai organization. Auto rally awareness was carried out in morning and evening throughout the day for the purpose of education campaign and then awareness was created in areas of semmencherry and Perumbakkam to right to education and career guidance (college admission) and government welfare schemes. Mr. Darwin Moses, who is CEO of TNUHDB, he explained about the importance of education, Government welfare schemes and importance of giving education to a child was made into street play and performed. ITI director Mr. Amarasan Gave an career guidance for 10th Pass/ Fail students about course details, welfare schemes that are done by TNUHDB and He gave an outline of knowledge about Non-profit organization and their schemes thozhamai's project Azim premji foundation development for adolescent girls had an awareness program of folk dance with girl children educational songs this program came to an end by those performances.

Outcome:

- By this career guidance program ITI institutions had 3 new students in their institute.
- Sumaithangi Trust has given scholarships for 27 students, In this 6 students are given for scholarship from Thozhamai organization.
- 23 students are given scholarships by the TNUHDB.

Competitive Exams Training Inauguration Program

Date: 31st March, 2023

Venue: Government Arts and Science College, Perumbakkam

Participants: 500

Chief guests: Mr. Nandakumar IRS, Additional Commissioner, Income Tax Department - Chennai; Mr. Thangavel IAS, Joint Managing Director, TNUHDB; Mr. Nirmal, Community Development Officer, TNUHDB; Mr. Devaneyan, Director of Thozhamai



The inaugural program for competitive exams coaching was organized by Thozhamai along with Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board and Perumbakkam Government Arts and Science College on 31st March, 2023 in Government Arts and Science College, Perumbakkam. The program started with a welcome address by Ms. Hebsibha Paulin which was followed by the presidential address of the college principal and an introductory speech by Mr. Devaneyan, Director of Thozhamai. Mr. Nirmal, Community Development Officer, TNUHDB addressed the gathering on schemes and scholarships available for the students. Mr. Thangavel IAS, Joint Managing Director, TNUHDB addressed the gathering about the

hurdles faced by him while preparing for competitive exams and gave some advice for the students to avoid distractions. Mr. Nandakumar IRS, Additional Commissioner, Income Tax Department - Chennai gave a speech on his life experience for motivation to the students, sources to prepare for examinations and some tips to prepare efficiently for the exams.

Date: 23rd April, 2023

Venue: Government Arts and Science College, Perumbakkam

Participants: 106

Resource Persons: Mr. Iraianbu, Chief Secretary; Collector of Chengalpattu district, Mr. Rahul Nadh.



Mr. Iraianbu, Chief Secretary, Tamilnadu to meet competitive exam trainee student gave a speech on his life experience for motivation to the students, sources to prepare for examinations and some tips to prepare efficiently for the exams.

Scholarship amount of Rs. 10,000/- was provided to 5 students of Government Arts and Science College, Perumbakkam who are completing their first year for their next academic year fees and books support.

Peer educator Training

Semmancherry and Perumbakkam areas have 400 young girls among them 40 are selected by the educators for the training program. First 6 months, The training was carried out by **Advocate Mr.Thenpandiyar** and the training consisted of child safety un convention and POCSO act. First 3 months, he covered 5 topics, which consisted of Introduction to rights of adolescent girls, who are children, knowledge about rights, understanding the adolescent girls and the challenges faced by the adolescent girls, these topics were covered between the period of September 2022 to November 2022. The next 3 months he covered the other five topics which consisted of Protection for adolescent girl children, Violence against adolescent girl children, laws and schemes for adolescent girl children, Need of protection and care for adolescent girls and at last oath taken for the rights of adolescent girl children, these topics were covered between the period of December 2022 to February 2023.



This training for the next 6 months are carried out by **Advocate Mrs.Sivasakthi Abinaya, Dr.Sangeetha, Advocate Mrs.Thilagavathy**, A peer educator training was organized for creating awareness about adolescent girls mental health and provide life skill training. The session was handled by Ms. Ramya, sports coach from Thozhamai and Ms. Sivasakthi Abinaya, carrier officer was the resource person for the programme. 25 adolescents participated and got benefited in the programme. Ms. Sivasakthi explained about basic child rights and how to develop our self-confidence through best mental health practices.



Outcome: participants got awareness on mental health issues and how to practice best methods to keep their mind sane. They also got awareness of the laws and acts that are there to protect and prevent children from any violence. The training session focused on the sexual and Reproductive health Rights module which covered topics such as Health, sexual and Reproductive health, male and female reproductive system and its functions, menstrual cycle and myths around menstruation, infatuation and STIs.



Peer educator training was undertaken by 40 educators from that training they came to know about child protection, Posco act.

Reproduction health for girls, they also gave detailed information about Reproductive health duties, sexual diseases and rational attractions. By this training school dropouts are decreased and child marriage will be eradicated.

Health Camp's

Date: 26th November, 2022

Location: Semmencherry

Participants: 32 adolescents

Resource Person: Dr. Sangeetha

Awareness session on Anemia was provided by Dr. Sangeetha to young women of the community. The session included general introduction to anemia, symptoms, effects, preventive methods, nutritional intake to avoid anemia and benefits of following Ayurveda for treating anemia.



Outcome: participants had insights on anemia and various ways to treat it. This session also made people be conscious of their food intake.

Date: 19th February, 2023

Time: 11.00 am – 1.30 pm

Venue: Thozhamai Office, Semmencherry

Participants: 85

Resource Persons: Dr. Irfana, Obstetrician & Gynecologists; Dr. Vandana, Dermatologist; Dr. Shruthi, Opthamologists; Dr. Samyuktha, Dentist; Dr. Asma, Physiotherapist; Dr. Sowmiya, Physiotherapist



The event was started with a welcome address by Ms. Kanchana, Project Coordinator of Thozhamai which was followed by a health talk for adolescents by Dr. Irfana. The adolescents were then placed in order for their health check-up by this team 86 growing adolescent children had a health check-up and as result of the health check-up they came to know that adolescent girls children have Anaemia. As the Doctors suggested, nutrition supplements were given to 86 adolescent girls of the area.

Outcome: Participants got to know their health status and doctors prescribed some medications for them to follow up. Participants who were diagnosed to be anemic are being followed up by their center motivators.

Date: 27th May, 2023

Venue: Block 30, Perumbakkam

Participants: 63



The medical camp was held at Perumbakkam in the 30th Block building from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Four doctor's specialists in Eyes, ENT, Skin and Bone from Chettinad Hospital were the resource persons for the Medical camp. The organization had organized this event along with Equitas. In this camp 63 people benefited. Treatment for their problem was given and also free medicines were provided to them.

Date: 30th July, 2023

Time: 09.00 am – 1.30 pm

Venue: Thozhamai Office, Semmencherry

Participants: 86

Resource Persons: Dr. Subalakshmi (Gynaecologist) and General physician Dr.Monisha (Dermatologist), pedestrian Dr.Miyalraja, Dr. Chitra



Tambaram Medical centre by this team 86 adolescent girls had an health camp and health check-up, 36 adolescent children had Anaemia and remaining 50 Adolescent girls are healthier as per the health check-up.

Outcome: Participants got to know their health status and doctors prescribed some medications for them to follow up. Participants who were diagnosed to be anemic are being followed up by their center motivators.