

# Home Of Hopes



Author  
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**St. Joseph's Development Trust**



Kingdom of brotherhood where equality and social justice reign, Everyone's right is respected and equal opportunity is provided to all.

## **Vision** Statement

## **Mission** Statement

Our organization in participation with the grass root level people seeks to serve irrespective of caste creed or religion, the weaker sections of the society the women, children youth and marginalized communities and offer them the opportunities for developing their potentials leading them to have a self sustaining life.

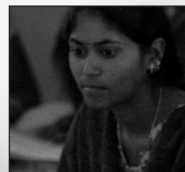
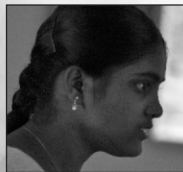
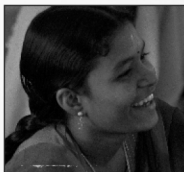


## **SJDT's** Approach

**SJDT's Approach is called 'MEALS' approach**  
Motivating  
Equipping  
Accompanying  
Linking &  
Self Sustaining.

The MEALS approach envisages the NGO as a facilitator in motivating and mobilizing the community from the outside and not as "one of the community" equipping the community through skill transfer, accompanying the community by providing relevant back up, and eventually enabling them to link with mainstream resources and services and being instrumental for policy influences.





# Home of Hopes

*Author*

***Rev. Bro. Dr. I. Sebastian FSC***

Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Greetings and prayerful wishes to you from Bro.I. Sebastian FSC,  
Executive Director, St. Joseph's Development Trust.

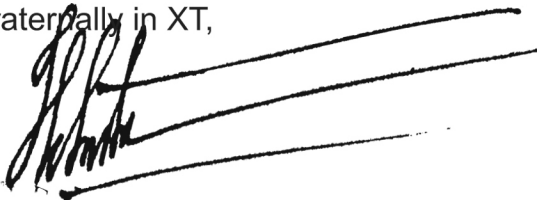
Children are our focus and they are our motive. SJDT's first and foremost intervention is centered around children in difficult circumstances. The following statistics will give a glimpse of how SJDT's care intervention is child focused.

1. Total number of Orphanages we run: 5
2. Total number of children benefitting from the Orphanages: 340
3. Total number of Tuition centers we run: 89
4. Total number of children benefitting from the Tuition centres: 2603
5. Total number of Persons with disabilities benefitting out of our Programme: 47

We thought that we could name some case stories of the selected few children whom we reached out to. This book is a result of that effort. Most of the children who benefit from our orphanages are supported by individual sponsors. We are very grateful to them for their generous support. It is because of the generous support of these sponsors we are able to reach out to these girls and provide them quality education and good family settlement. I thank the sponsorship agencies that mobilize these individual sponsor to reach out to a child in need rising above creed, colour, and nationality.

Thanking You,

Yours Fraternally in XT,



**Rev. Dr. Bro. I. Sebastian FSC. M.A (Rural Development) M.B.A., Phd (Social Work)**  
**Founder & Executive Director,**

**St. Joseph's Development Trust,**

A Centre for Developmental Activities

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Age : 24 Years  
Sex : Female  
Village : Mannan Korai  
Taluk : Udaiyarpalayam  
District : Ariyaloor  
Date of Birth: 08.03.1988  
Education : D.T.Ed.,B.A (English)  
Occupation : Field Executive - MFI

## V.Daisy Rani

I am V. Daisy Rani, 24 year girl from Mannankorai village in the then Trichy District (At present Ariyaloor District). Mr.Vanathaiyan is my father and he expired when I was a child. My mother is Mrs. V. Rabhal Mary. I am only a child in the family. My mother alone is the sole breadwinner of the family. We are living in a thatched house.

When I was around 2 years old my father died due to prolonged illness. My mother was shocked at the sudden death of my father and it took several months for my mother to come out of the shock. Until the death of my father my mother did not go for any work. My mother was still young and she was desperately searching for some job to make our living. She started to go for some available agricultural coolie work for meager income. From the earnings she was saving portion of the money for my education but she had to spend the saved money during the non-agricultural season. We were living from hand to mouth.

My mother sent me to school in spite of the financial crisis in the family. I continued my studies up to 5<sup>th</sup> standard in our own village. But when I was studying in 5<sup>th</sup> standard my mother also fell sick and she could not go for regular work. It was at that time brother took me to Pudhu Vasantham home which is in Murugathooran Patti in Dindigul district. I was admitted in that home and was provided with all the basic needs. From there I started to continue my studies. I did my high school studies at R.C. High School at Silukkuvarpatti. I did my higher secondary studies at Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Kamalapuram, Dindigul District. The staff who were there in Pudhu Vasantham motivated me to perform well in my academic and non-academic activities. I also was good at studies and sports. I was a district level "Kabadi" player and played for the district at few occasions. I scored

good marks in my 12<sup>th</sup> public examination after that as I had lived with the differently abled children who are in Pudhu Udhayam which is in the campus of Pudhu Vasantham, I underwent three months of training in physiotherapy and psychotherapy in Holy Cross College, Trichy. Along with that training I also learned to make toys, garlands and pot painting. Once I completed three months of training at Holy Cross College, I did D.T.Ed (Diploma in Teacher Education) in Immaculate Teacher Training Institute which is at Karaikal. I also completed B.A. English Literature through correspondence course in Alagappa University which is at Karaikudi.

Once I completed all my studies, brother provided me opportunity to work in the same organization where I lived and studied. I joined the organization as an evaluator of the Complementary School Programme. I performed well in the given responsibility and so after a year I was promoted as evaluator of the Women Self Help Group programmes. I also underwent different trainings and promoted as ToT (Trainer of Trainees) for Women SHG Programmes. I have organized different programmes for the women self help group members of our organization. As of now I am promoted as Field Executive for the MFI (Micro Finance Institution) department of our organization.

Meanwhile I got married in the year 2010 and have twin daughters. In the year 2011, my husband died due to electric shock at the working place. That was the saddest moment of my life and all my dreams were shattered. I also wanted to die along with my husband but brother, my mother and relatives saved me. It took some months for me to come back to normal stage. I decided to live for my twin daughters. At present I am working in the same organization and with the earnings I am meeting out my expenses. I am very sure that I will provide good education to my twin daughters and settle them well in their life. I am confident only because I have studied and sure to continue to work till my daughters get settled. I would like to thank the organization and the sponsors who supported me for my studies and growth for so many years and helped me to reach this stage. I also would like to acknowledge that if it were not the intervention of brother and the continuous support of the sponsors I would have been a school dropout and lived a very pathetic life in a remotest village and so I once again express my sincere gratitude to the organization and the sponsors for saving my life and helping me to lead a good life.







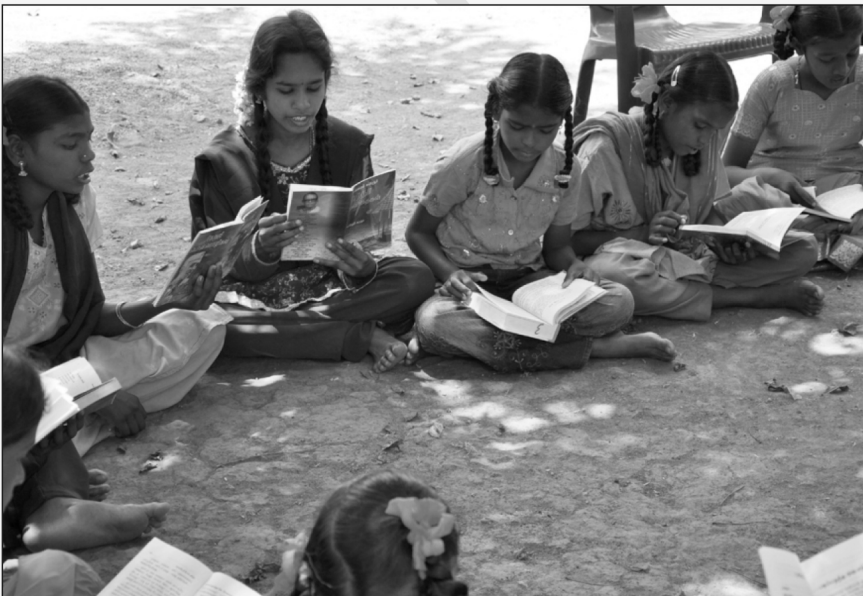
Age : 25 Years  
Sex : Female  
Village : Manamadurai  
District : Dindigul  
Date of Birth : 10.12.1987  
Education : B.Sc(Psychology)  
Occupation : Tution Centre  
Programme Evaluator

## M. Shanmugavalli

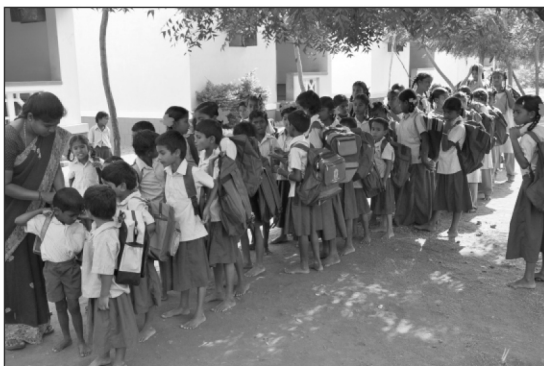
I am M. Shanmugavalli from Manamadurai village in Dindigul district. My father's name is Mr. Murugan who is no more and my mother is Mrs. Jothi Mani. I have got two younger sisters. We were living in a small thatched house with the meagre income earned by my father through his coolie works.

When I was studying in 5<sup>th</sup> standard my father died due to prolonged illness. When my father was alive he did not allow my mother to go for any work. But after the death of my father my mother started to go for some coolie works. Since the income of my mother was not sufficient to meet all three of ours educational and other family requirements my mother stopped me from going to school since I was the eldest girl and sent me for work. And so after six months of my father's death I was sent to a doctor's house to help them in their household activities like washing dishes, clothes, cleaning house and gardening. I was working there for about two months, at that time I was noticed by one of the relatives of Mr. Paulraj and he informed about my situation to Mr. Paulraj who in turn communicated my situation to Bro. I. Sebastian. In the year 1999, I along with my younger sister by name Kanagavalli was brought to Boys Village where many orphan, semi-orphan, poor and under privileged girl children were taken care and provided with all the basics and education. I and my sister were enrolled in Holy Cross Higher Secondary School which is at Batlagundu. I joined in sixth standard. In the year 2000, a new home was opened in Murugathooranpatti for the orphan, semi-orphan, poor and under privileged children and we were shifted to that home. From there I was sent to R.C. Middle School which is at Silukkuvarpatti and there I did my 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> standard. I studied 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> standard in RC Higher Secondary School at Silukkuvarpatti. In this home we were provided with all the basic needs and many other additional classes were handled during evening hours, weekends and holidays so as to develop our extracurricular talents. During my stay in Pudhu Vasantham besides studies I also developed many

other extracurricular talents like dancing and singing. I also developed many leadership qualities through different leadership skill programmes which were organized in this home. Through different literary association programmes and competitions we were encouraged to develop our sportive spirit. I also participated in many sports competitions and took part in school level and district level competitions and won prizes and certificates. In the year 2003 I completed my 10<sup>th</sup> standard. After that I was sent to Chinnalapatti to do my higher secondary studies by staying in home so as to understand and get accustomed with family environment. I took up Home Science group so as to learn about child care. While staying there I could understand how much of money is needed to meet out my educational and other basic needs per year. I realized the value of money from there. While studying 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade I participated in district level swimming competition and won prizes and accolades for my school. I secured 789 marks in my 12<sup>th</sup> public examinations. After completing my school studies brother sent me to Jayaraj Annapackiam College which is at Periyakulam and there I did ECE course for one year. After completing the course I was appointed as tuition programme coordinator in our St. Joseph's Development Trust, and after few months I was promoted as evaluator of tuition programme and for the past four years I have been working as evaluator of tuition programme. I did B.Sc Psychology through correspondence course and completed it in the year 2010. Today I am earning and helping my mother and sisters and I am very happy. I sincerely thank brother who with fatherly love helped me to reach this stage and until the end of my life I will remember him and at the same time I also thank the sponsors for your continuous support through brother I. Sebastian FSC.







## *Activities of our Homes*





Age : 16 Years  
Sex : Female  
Village : Madurai  
District : Madurai  
Father's Name : A. Alphonse Emmanuel  
Mother's Name : A. Sebasty

## A. Nancy

I am A. Nancy from Madurai. I am 16 years old girl and I am doing 11<sup>th</sup> standard in Auxilium Hr. Sec. School which is at Puthoor in Madurai. Mr. Alphonse Immanuel is my father and Mrs. Sebasty is my mother. I have one each younger brother and sister. We are living in a rented house.

We were living a very peaceful life until my father became addicted to alcohol. He used to come home drinking and quarrelled with my mother. Most of the time my father used to beat my mother very cruelly. He also used to utter very harsh and bad words which should not be heard by small children.

But we had no other option than witnessing this on daily basis. As I was the eldest girl I was fed up of this kind of situation and wanted to escape from the family but at the same time I was feeling pity for my mother as she needed someone to console her. My father used to pledge our vessels and other family goods to get money for drinking. He was least bothered about our food and education. My mother used to go for some coolie works and with that income we were fed and educated. There were many incidents when we were outside the house our father used to lock inside in the night and we slept at the entrance of our door. With this type of situation we were living. It was at that time my mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham through one of our relatives and she decided to enroll me and my younger sister in Pudhu Vasantham home so as to give us good education and safety with other basic needs of life. At that time I was doing 3<sup>rd</sup> standard in Holy Family Primary School which is at Madurai. Once I completed my 3<sup>rd</sup> standard I was admitted in Pudhu Vasantham along with my younger sister in the year 2004. I studied from 4<sup>th</sup> standard to 10<sup>th</sup> standard while staying at Pudhu Vasantham. I was sent to R.C. Higher Secondary school which is at Silukkuvarpatti. In Pudhu Vasantham I was provided with all the basic needs.



I got good opportunity to develop my extra-curricular talents as well as leadership qualities. Brother, teacher, Devi Bala Aunty, warden all encouraged me to do well in my studies and extra-curricular activities. I learned to tackle the issues. I was good at writing poem and good at singing.

I could continue my studies only with the support of brother who gave me abode in Pudhu Vasantham and helped me in all the ways possible to develop my skills and talents. I consider brother as my father. I will proudly tell everywhere that brother I. Sebastian is like my my father who brought me up with good education.

At present I am doing 11<sup>th</sup> standard in Auxilium Higher Secondary School which is at Puthoor in Madurai. I am staying in a hostel, the food that is provided in the hostel is not so good when I compare it with that of Pudhu Vasantham. Though I am paying Rs.300/- as my mess fee it is nothing compared to the free food that I received in Pudhu Vasantham. I scored 389 marks out of 500 in my 10<sup>th</sup> standard public examination and I am sure to score high marks in the 12<sup>th</sup> Public examination also with the skills I developed at Pudhu Vasantham. I am also School Pupil Leader (SPL) in the school where I am studying at present and it is because of the leadership qualities that I developed at Pudhu Vasantham.

As of now my younger brother and sister are studying and my mother is very happy over our progress. I along with my family members express my sincere gratitude to brother and the sponsors who are supporting me these many years and helping me to have good education and good life. I will always remember you in my prayers and pray for your good health of mind and body. In future once I complete my studies I want to get good job and help many other under privileged children in whatever ways possible like Bro.I. Sebastian.





Sex : Female  
Village : Batlagundu  
District : Dindigul  
Father's Name : Balakrishnan  
Mother's Name : Murugeswari

## B.Abinaya & B.Ramya

B. Abinaya and B.Ramya are from a very poor family from Batlagundu village in Dindigul district. Mr. Balakrishnan and Mrs. Murugeswari are their parents. They are totally four children in the family and all four of them are girls. Their father is a coolie worker and mother is a housewife. Their father left the family and went away when they were very young. Their mother is the main breadwinner of the family and she could not manage all the family requirements as well as educational expenses of all four children.

Before coming to Pudhu Vasantham, Abinaya and Ramya were studying in St. Joseph's Middle School which is at Kodaikanal. Abinaya and Ramya were studying in 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> standard respectively when their mother thought of stopping them from going to school due to financial crisis in the family. Their mother could not meet our the educational expenses of all the children with her meagre income and she wanted to send Abinaya for some coolie work to earn additional income for the family so that she could send other small children to school to learn at least the basics of education.

It was at that time their mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham through one of the staff who was working in Pudhu Vasantham. Through that staff Abinaya and Ramya were admitted in Pudhu Vasantham. In the year 2006 both of them came to Pudhu Vasantham. From there they continued their studies. In the year 2010 both Abinaya and Ramya left Pudhu Vasantham and at that time they had completed 10<sup>th</sup> standard and 7<sup>th</sup> standard respectively.

Both of them were very good at studies and scored high marks in the examination. Abinaya scored 350 marks in her 10<sup>th</sup> public examination. Both of them were active

participants in extra-curricular activities. They say that during their stay at Pudhu Vasantham they developed their personal leadership skills as well as sportive skills through the encouragement and opportunities provided in the home. Abinaya also said that she learned to face the problems with courage and confidence through the staff who worked there as they taught her about facing the real life situations which are embarrassing in nature. Both Abinaya and Ramya said that Brother I. Sebastian is like their father and he helped them in many ways to come out of the grudge feelings that they had on their father who was irresponsible and unapproachable. They said that they are very grateful to brother who admitted them in Pudhu Vasantham and offered them all the basic needs with good education through sponsorship support. She also said that if we did not get brother's support we would have been a school dropout girls doing some menial job to make our living along with our mother and for the intervention offered to us we will be grateful to brother and the sponsors till the end of our life.

At present both Abinaya and Ramya are studying in Mahalakshimi Girls' Higher Secondary School at Batlagundu. Abinaya is studying in 12<sup>th</sup> standard while Ramya is studying in 9<sup>th</sup> standard. They are very happy that through the sponsorship support they are able to continue their studies and thank the sponsors for the support that is being extended to them through Brother I. Sebastian.







Sex : Female  
Village : Kamalapuram  
District : Dindigul  
District : Dindigul  
Father's Name : M.Arulanantham  
Mother's Name : Philominal Mary

## A.Mary Jayamani

I am A.Mary Jayamani, from Kamalapuram village in Dindigul district. I am old student of Pudhu Vasantham. Mr. Arulanantham and Mrs. Philominal Mary are my parents. We are totally four children in the family. My father was a coolie worker and his earning was not enough to meet out the family as well as educational expenses of all four children.

When I was studying in first standard in Government Primary School at Kamalapuram my father died due to prolonged illness. My mother was shocked at the death of my father and she did not know what to do. None of our relatives supported us or visited us and we were left helpless. My mother was so desperate as she needed to take care of all four of us. My mother started to go for some coolie works to make our living. But her earning was so meagre to meet our all our family as well as educational expenses and so she decided to stop me from going to school. At that time I was studying in 1<sup>st</sup> standard.

However my mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached Pudhu Vasantham staff and requested them to admit me in the home. Understanding our family condition Bro.I. Sebastian informed the staff to admit me in the home. I came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2001. I was offered all the basic needs and I was sent to school to continue my studies. I studied from 2<sup>nd</sup> standard to 10<sup>th</sup> standard while staying at Pudhu Vasantham. I was sent to RC Amali Primary School for doing my primary studies. I went to St.Joseph's Middle School for doing my middle school studies and I completed my high school studies at RC Higher Secondary School at Silukkuvarpatti. I scored 356 marks in my 10<sup>th</sup> Public Examination.

During my stay at Pudhu Vasantham, besides studies I was motivated and encouraged to learn many other extracurricular activities and today I am a good dancer and I am very good in elocution also. Brother, staff and other in charges in the home were very supportive and they

helped me to come out of my homesickness and helped me to develop my personal skills.

At present I am studying in 12<sup>th</sup> standard in Dhiraviam Girls' Higher Secondary School which is at Kamalapuram. While sharing with you about my life at Pudhu Vasantham I along with my family members would like to express our sincere gratitude to brother and the sponsors who are supporting me these many years and helping me to continue my education and live happily.





Sex : Female  
Village : Karaiyampatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 11th Std & 6th Std  
Father's Name : Balakrishnan  
Mother's Name : Murugeswari



## I.Petchi & I.Veeralakshmi

I.Petchi and I.Veera Lakshmi both are from the village called Karaiyampatti in Dindigul district. Mr. Ilayaraja and Mrs. Meena are the parents of these two girls. They have one younger brother. Their father died in a bus accident in the year 2005 while carrying news papers to some other place. At the sudden death of their father, their mother was so shocked and it took some time for her mother to come out of the shock. At that time Petchi was studying 3<sup>rd</sup> standard in R.C. Nirmala Primary School which is at Veppanuthu and Veera Lakshmi was five years old, yet to enter the school. Their mother was worried about the future of the children and at the same time she wanted to give good education to all the three children. Their mother thought that the children would think of their father and would not concentrate on studies and so she decided to admit them in some orphanages or hostels where they would get chance to meet many children and able to study better. Their mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham through Mrs. Amutha who was a warden in Pudhu Vasantham and through her initiative both the children were admitted in Pudhu Vasantham. Both Petchi and Veera Lakshmi entered Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2005. Up to the year 2010 both of them stayed in Pudhu Vasantham and continued their studies.

At present Petchi is studying in 11<sup>th</sup> standard and Veera Lakshmi is studying in 6<sup>th</sup> standard in Government High School which is in their own village and still they continue to receive sponsorship support. During their stay at Pudhu Vasantham both of them were very good at studies and other extracurricular activities. Petchi is very good at singing, dancing and acting and her sister is also good at singing.

Their mother expressed their sincere gratitude to brother and the donors for the continuous support extended to both of her children these many years and helping them to continue their studies which otherwise would have been an unrealizable dream for them.



## *Activities of our Homes*





Sex : Female  
Village : Batlagundu  
District : Dindigul  
Education : B.A.,B.Ed.,M.A.,  
Occupation : School Teacher  
Father's Name : Balakrishnan  
Mother's Name : Murugeswari  
**R.Selvi**

I am R. Selvi from Shozhavanthan in Madurai district. Mr. S.Robert Raj and Mrs. R.Kala are my parents. I have two elder brothers. We are living in a rented house. My father is a coolie worker and mother is a housewife.

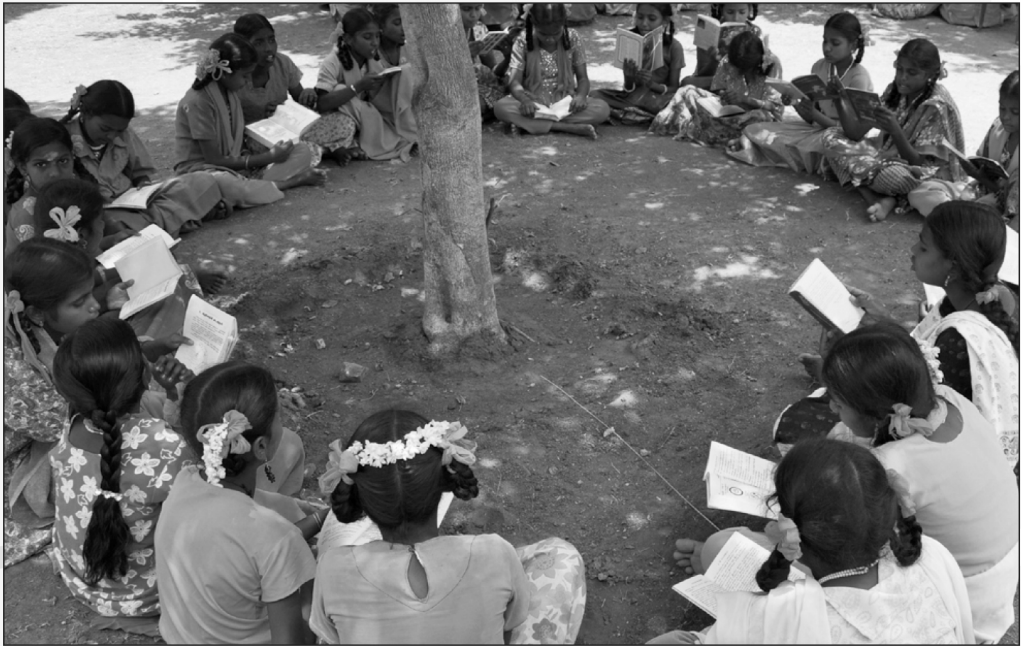
I did my primary school studies in Old Batlagundu. I studied in a Government Primary School. But in the year 1999 I came to Pudhu Vasantham due to my family's poor economic condition. From Pudhu Vasantham I continued my studies up to 10<sup>th</sup> standard. In the year 2004 I came out of Pudhu Vasantham. While staying in Pudhu Vasantham I was sent to R.C Higher Secondary School which is at Silukkuvarpatti. I was very good at studies and I scored 365 marks in my 10<sup>th</sup> Public examination.

In Pudhu Vasantham, I was given all my basic needs. My educational expenses were met by brother through the sponsorship support. While staying in Pudhu Vasantham I was helped to develop my personal skills and extracurricular talents. I learned to think positively, I learned confidence to face the realities of life. Every week brother used to conduct some competitions and give prizes and that motivated me to develop my sportive spirit. The warden and the in-charges in the home were very supportive of us and they were there all the time to support us in our academic and non-academic development. It is through brother and the staff in Pudhu Vasantham today I am a confident girl and moving freely as the staff in the home helped to come out of my inferiority and fear complexes. I had participated in different competitions like poem writing and elocution and won prizes.

After coming out from Pudhu Vasantham with the continuous support of sponsors through brother I continued my studies. I scored 946 marks in my 12<sup>th</sup> public examination. After that I have completed BA and B.Ed degrees and as of now I am working as a teacher in Nethaji Sinic School which is at Vada Madurai and I am also doing MA through distance course.



I sincerely thank brother for understanding my family's poor economic condition and admitting me in Pudhu Vasantham and helping me to continue my studies with the support of sponsors. I proudly say that, all that I am today is only because of the life I got in Pudhu Vasantham through brother and I also express my sincere gratitude to the sponsor who continues to support me these many years. Thank You.





Sex : Female  
Village : Dindigul  
District : Dindigul  
Education : Computer Course  
Father's Name : Ravi  
Mother's Name : Bhuvaneswari

## R.Soundarya

R.Soundarya is from a very poor family from Dindigul. Mr. Ravi and Mrs. Bhuvaneswari are her parents. She has got two younger sisters. Her father is a coolie worker and mother is a house wife. Her father goes for some available coolie work and with that earning the family is survived. Soundarya and her sisters were sent to school which is at Dindigul. But when Soundarya was studying in 7<sup>th</sup> standard her father became ill and he could not go for regular work and that resulted in loss of income for the family. To stabilize the family her mother started to go for work and that resulted in children performing poorly in academics. Moreover they were also not able to manage the medical expenses of her father as well as the family requirements with the meagre income earned by her mother. And so parents decided to stop Soundarya from going to school and asked her to look after the household activities like cooking, cleaning etc. Though her parents were not interested to stop her from going to school they had no other option as they were struggling to meet their ends.

It was at that time Soundarya's parents came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached brother to get admission in Pudhu Vasantham. Brother also understanding the poor economic condition of the family admitted her in Pudhu Vasantham. She came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2006 and she stayed there up to 2008. During her stay in Pudhu Vasantham she was helped to continue her studies and she studied from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> standard while staying at Pudhu Vasantham. As she needed to take care of her parents she went back home in the year 2008. She is offered continuous support to do her studies with sponsorship support. In 10<sup>th</sup> she scored 411 marks in her public examination and as of now she is doing computer course. She is very happy that her life has been saved by brother who understood her family condition and admitted her in Pudhu Vasantham. She along with her parents thanked brother and the sponsors who continue to support her these many years.



Sex : Female  
Village : Madurai  
District : Madurai  
Education : 12th Standard  
Father's Name : Omanakuttan  
Mother's Name : O.Thorachi

## O.Ammu

O.Ammu is studying in 12<sup>th</sup> standard. She is from Batlagundu in Dindigul district. Mr. Omanakuttan and Mrs. Thulasi are her parents. She has got one younger brother. The family is survived with the meagre income earned by her father from some available coolie works.

Due to the poor economic condition of the family she came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2000. Before coming to Pudhu Vasantham she was studying in Government Primary School at Batlagundu. She stayed in Pudhu Vasantham for about five years and during her stay she completed up to 7<sup>th</sup> standard. She says but for Pudhu Vasantham she would have become school dropout due to the poor economic condition of the family. She said that during her stay at Pudhu Vasantham she was provided with all the basic needs and at the same time she was helped to develop her curricular and extra-curricular talents. She is very confident to make her life with the basic support and knowledge that she received at Pudhu Vasantham. She is very good at drawing and dancing. As of now she is studying in 12<sup>th</sup> standard in RTU School which is at G.Kallupatti. She wants to do higher studies and get settled in some job and then serve the poor children in all the ways possible. She and her family members thanked brother and the sponsors for the continuous support extended to her and assured to remember and pray for the well being of her sponsor and brother I. Sebastian till the end of their life.



Sex : Female  
Village : Senkulathupatti  
District : Theni  
Education : 11th Std & 9th Std  
Father's Name : Pandi ( Late)  
Mother's Name : Perumayi



## P.Pandeeswari & P.Porpandeeswari

I am Pandeeswari studying in 11<sup>th</sup> standard. I am from Senkulathu Patti village in Theni District. My father is Mr. Pandi and he expired when I was studying in 7<sup>th</sup> standard. My mother is Mrs. Perumayi and she is a housewife. I have got one younger sister. We are living in a roofed house without any basic infrastructural facilities. After the death of my father my mother is going for agricultural related coolie work. Until the death of my father I was studying in a Government Middle School which is near to my village. As I was moving to higher standards I needed more time to study but since there was no electricity in my house I could not study in the evening hours. Moreover after the death of my father it became very difficult for my mother to meet both of our educational expenses as well as family expenses and so my mother wanted to stop me from going to school. She asked me so, since I had completed 5<sup>th</sup> standard by then and she thought that it is enough for a girl child to study up to 5<sup>th</sup> standard.

At that time my maternal uncle who was working in St. Joseph's Development Trust, informed my mother about Pudhu Vasantham and through him I came to Pudhu Vasantham. I came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2008 and lived there up to 2010. During my stay at Pudhu Vasantham I completed my 10<sup>th</sup> standard and secured good marks in my public examination. While staying in Pudhu Vasantham I was given all the basic needs I also got opportunity to learn many extracurricular activities. I developed my athletic spirit and won in different sports competitions. I also developed leadership skills and discipline. Brother was like a fatherly figure for me and he during his visit to Pudhu Vasantham always showed abundance of love towards me and encouraged me to perform better in academic and non-academic activities. I was very happy at Pudhu Vasantham. At present I am studying in 11<sup>th</sup> standard in Mahalakshmi Girls' Higher Secondary School which is at Batlagundu and I am staying in a Government Hostel which is at Pudhu Patti.

My younger sister Por Pandeeswari also was admitted in Pudhu Vasantham and she also stayed there for two years and as of now she is studying in 9<sup>th</sup> Standard in the same school where I am studying and stays in the same hostel where I am staying.

With your continuous support we are able to meet out our school expenses and I along with my sister and mother sincerely thank brother and our sponsors for all the support that you are extending to us these many years.



## *Smiles in our Homes*







Sex : Female  
Village : Senkattampatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 10th Std & 8th Std  
Father's Name : Muniyandi  
Mother's Name : M. Azhaku



## M. Nanthini & M. Selvi

M. Nanthini and M. Selvi are from Senkattam Patti village in Theni district. Mr. Muniyandi and Mrs. Azhaku are their parents. Their father is a coolie worker and mother is a housewife. Her father used to spend most of his earnings in consuming liquor and he was least bothered about the family. Due to poor economic condition of the family and indifferent attitude of their father both of them came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2002. When both of them came to Pudhu Vasantham they were very young as Nanthini was 5 years old and Selvi was 3 years old. Both of them were provided with all the basic necessities and they were given good care. Both of them stayed in Pudhu Vasantham for five years and Nanthini completed 5<sup>th</sup> standard and Selvi completed 3<sup>rd</sup> standard when they returned back to their home in the year 2007. They returned back to their home so as to take care of their mother who fell sick often due to poor health. They said that during their stay at Pudhu Vasantham they were provided with all the needs and were taken good care. Now they are studying in their own village. Nanthini is studying in 10<sup>th</sup> standard and Selvi is studying in 8<sup>th</sup> standard. Both of them are good at studies and they are regular to school. They continue to receive sponsorship support and their mother is very happy that her children are continuing their studies with the sponsorship support which brother has arranged for them. They expressed their sincere gratitude to brother and to their sponsors for the support that is being extended to them these many years. Nanthini wants to become a teacher and help the poor children in whatever ways possible and her sister Selvi wants to become a doctor and serve the needy children.



Sex : Female  
Village : Chekkanoorani  
District : Madurai  
Education : College  
Father's Name : T.Ramesh (Late)  
Mother's Name : R.Vijayalakshmi

## R.Ramya

I am Ramya from Checkkanoorani in Madurai district. My father is Mr. Ramesh and he died when I was a small girl. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi is my mother and she goes for some available coolie works. I have one elder sister and one younger brother. We live with the meagre earnings made by my mother through her coolie works.

My father died when I was studying in second standard in our village. After the sudden death of my father my mother could not manage our family expenses with her meagre earnings and so she wanted to stop me from going to school. She wanted me to take care of my younger brother while she goes for work. It was at that time my mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached brother for some financial help so that I and my sister could continue our studies. Brother through one of the staff working in Pudhu Vasantham came to know about our family's situation and at once he admitted me in Pudhu Vasantham. At that time I do not know that I was supported with some sponsorship support for my studies and other basic necessities which were provided to me in Pudhu Vasantham, but later I realized that it is through the intervention of brother I am supported by some sponsors for my education and other needs. Brother and the staff those who were in Pudhu Vasantham were very kind to me and they helped me in all the ways possible to develop my academic and non-academic talents. From the year 2003 to 2007 I stayed in Pudhu Vasantham. My stay in Pudhu Vasantham was always a pleasant memory to cherish. At present I am doing my college studies.

I along with my family members express my sincere gratitude to my sponsors, brother and the staff in Pudhu Vasantham for all the support that you extended to me these many years and helping me to continue my education.



Sex : Female  
Village : Kamakkapatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 12th Standard  
Father's Name : Pandi  
Mother's Name : Mayalakshmi (Late)

## P.Bhavani

I am P.Bhavani from Kamakkapatti village. I am the only daughter to my parents. My father is Mr.pandi a coolie worker and Mrs. Mayalakshimi is my mother and she died when I was a very small girl. I was brought up by my grandparents. One of the staff working in Pudhu Vasantham informed my grandparents about Pudhu Vasantham and through their help I was admitted in Pudhu Vasantham. I came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2004 and left Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2009 when I completed my 9<sup>th</sup> standard. Once I completed 9<sup>th</sup> standard my grandparents called me back as they became old and needed my assistance. After that, from my grandparents' home I continued my studies. I was provided continuous support from the organization to continue my studies. Last year I got married. My husband is a coolie worker.

I felt at home when I was in Pudhu Vasantham. My friends and the staff were very friendly with me and they helped me to come out of my reserved character. Earlier I won't mingle with anyone except my grandparents. But after coming to Pudhu Vasantham I slowly started to mingle with all the children. Brother and the staff in Pudhu Vasantham helped me to develop my academic and non-academic talents. Today I am very happy that I am able to face the realities of life with courage and confidence and this is only because of the learning I received in Pudhu Vasantham during my stay. I will be ever grateful to brother, staff in Pudhu Vasantham for all the support and encouragement that they provided me at Pudhu Vasantham. At this moment I along with my grandparents would like to thank my sponsors and brother for all the support extended to me these many years.



Sex : Female  
Village : Senkulathupatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 8th Standard  
Father's Name : Pandi  
Mother's Name : Veera Lakshmi

## P.Kanagavalli

Kanagavalli is from Sengulathu Patti village in Theni district. She is the only daughter to her parents. Mr. Pandi and Mrs. Veera Lakshmi are her parents. Her father is a coolie worker and mother is a housewife. Her father does not get regular work and he also spends most of his earnings in consuming liquor. Due to the uncaring attitude of her father her mother also started to go for some agricultural related coolie work to make their living. Her mother also has borrowed money from the moneylenders to meet out the educational expenses of Kanagavalli. But as the days went her mother could not manage to repay the borrowed money to the moneylender and moneylenders also were not ready to give her money anymore. And in this situation her mother was worried about the future of Kanagavalli and desperately looking for some support to give education to her only daughter. It was at that time her mother came to know about Pudhu Vasantham through the staff working in the tuition centre promoted by SJDT in her village.

The tuition centre teacher took Kanagavalli's mother to brother to seek educational assistance. Her mother explained her family condition to brother and requested him to admit Kanagavalli in Pudhu Vasantham. Brother understanding the plight of her at once admitted Kanagavalli in Pudhu Vasantham. Kanagavalli came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2009 and she stayed there for about 2 years. She studied 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> standard during her stay at Pudhu Vasantham. Since her mother fell sick she went back to her home in the year 2011 and continues to receive sponsorship support for her education. At present she is studying in 8<sup>th</sup> standard in Igbaliya School which is at Batlagundu. She along with her parents thanked brother and her sponsors for all the support that is being extended to her these many years. She also says that the continuous support is very useful for her to continue her education without much financial crisis and assured to pray for the good health of her sponsors till the end of her life.



Sex : Female  
Village : Kammakkapatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 8th Standard  
Father's Name : M.Sellapandi  
Mother's Name : S.Thilaka

## S.Moulika Devi

I am S.Moulika Devi from Kamakkapatti village in Theni district. Mr. M. Sella Pandi and Mrs. S.Thilaka are my parents. I have one younger brother.

When I was studying in 6<sup>th</sup> standard my father quarelled with my mother and went away leaving all three of us alone. Once my father left us my mother started to go for some available coolie works and she also used to sell vegetables on the street. But the earning was very minimum to meet all three of our biological needs. My mother could not manage the family expenses. Myself and my brother were longing for the love of my father as well. Our grandmother was supporting us to meet out our emergency expenses. As my grandmother knew about Pudhu Vasantham she approached brother for help. Brother also after coming to know about our living condition admitted me in Pudhu Vasantham. I stayed in Pudhu Vasantham for two years and I completed 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> standard. At present I am studying in 8<sup>th</sup> standard in Mahalakshimi Girls' Higher Secondary School which is at Batlagundu. I am staying in government hostel which is at Kamakka Patti. I am doing well in my studies and other extracurricular activities. During my stay in Pudhu Vasantham I was provided with all the basic necessities and I was provided good opportunity to develop my academic and non-academic talents. My mother is very happy now and she encourages me to study well. I hope to do higher studies and get some government job to give relief to my mother who has been toiling for us these many years since the time my father left us. I am sure I will do that with the continuous support of my sponsor through Bro.I.Sebastian. At this moment I would like to thank brother and my sponsors for all the support you are extending to me for these many years and helping me to continue my studies.





Sex : Female  
Village : Nellore  
District : Dindigul  
Education : 9th Standard  
Father's Name : Santhana Prabhakar  
Mother's Name : Karuppayee

## S.Lakshmi

S. Lakshmi is from Nellore village. Mr. Santhana Prabhakar is her father and he is working in a quarry. Mrs. Karuppayee is her mother and she is working in a mill. She has got one each elder brother and sister. All the three children were sent to school in spite of the family's financial instability. However once Lakshmi completed her 5<sup>th</sup> standard her parents wanted to stop her from going to school as they could not meet out all the three children's educational expenses with their meagre income. They thought that stopping one girl will help them to spare for the other two children's education.

It was at that time they came to know about Pudhu Vasantham through one of their relatives and approached brother for support. After coming to know about their family condition Lakshmi was admitted in Pudhu Vasantham. Lakshmi stayed in Pudhu Vasantham for three years and completed up to 8<sup>th</sup> standard. As of now she is studying in 9<sup>th</sup> standard in R.C. High School at Nellore. She says that the facilities provided at Pudhu Vasantham made her to feel at home. She says that brother and staff at Pudhu Vasantham were very caring in nature and they helped her in all the ways possible to feel at home always. She also said that besides studies, she learned leadership qualities and many other extra-curricular talents at Pudhu Vasantham and that is helping her now to perform better in her school. She along with her family members expressed their sincere gratitude to brother and the sponsors for the continuous support extended to her for these many years. She wants to do MBA and get some job and serve the poor children in whatever ways possible. She also has strong desire to sponsor atleast one child in Pudhu Vasantham once she is well settled.



Sex : Female  
Village : M.Vadipatti  
District : Dindigul  
Education : B.Sc(Maths)& 11th  
Father's Name : R.Rajendhiran  
Mother's Name : R.Jayalakshmi  
**R.Tharani & R.Suganya**

R.Tharani and R.Suganya are sisters. They are from M.Vadipatti village in Madurai district. Mr. Rajendhiran and Mrs. Jayalakshmi are their parents. Both of their parents are going for construction related coolie works. They are living in a rented house. Since both of them are girls it was very difficult for their parents to meet out all their needs with their meagre income. Every now and then they used to borrow money from the moneylenders for exorbitant rate of interest to meet out the emergency educational as well as medical expenses of the children. Since they could not manage to meet all the educational as well as family requirements with their earnings they wanted to stop Tharani from school as she had completed fourth standard by then. It was at that time they came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached brother for educational support for Tharani. Brother after analyzing the family condition through the staff and not interested to separate both the girls who were fond of each other admitted both Tharani and her Suganya in Pudhu Vasantham. Tharani and Suganya came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2003 and when they came to Pudhu Vasantham they were 10 and 8 years old respectively. Tharani studied from 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> standard while staying at Pudhu Vasantham while Suganya studied from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> standard while staying at Pudhu Vasantham. They both are very clever girls and they were good at dance and singing. They said that they always felt at home at Pudhu Vasantham and their stay at Pudhu Vasantham is always a pleasant memory to cherish. They also said that they would never able to forget the love and affection of brother and staff who were there in Pudhu Vasantham. At present Tharani has completed her 12<sup>th</sup> standard and studying B.Sc (Maths) at Dindigul and Suganya is studying in 11<sup>th</sup> standard at Patti Veeran Patti. Together with their parents they thanked brother and the sponsors for the support extended to them these many years and helping them to continue their studies.



Sex : Female  
Village : Batlagundu  
District : Dindigul  
Education : Nursing  
Father's Name : T.Kasimayan  
Mother's Name : K.Maangkani

## K.Switha

I am K.Switha from Batlagundu in Dindigul district. Mr. Kasimayan and Mrs. Maangkani are my parents. We are totally four children in the family and among them three are girls and one is a boy. My father is a coolie worker and my mother is a housewife.

I came to Pudhu Vasantham in the year 2000 due to my family's poor economic situation. My father's earning was not sufficient to meet out all four of ours educational as well as family expenses and so through one of our relatives we came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached brother for my educational support. Brother also understanding my family situation admitted me in Pudhu Vasantham. I stayed at Pudhu Vasantham up to 2007 and during my stay at Pudhu Vasantham I completed up to 8<sup>th</sup> standard. After that I continued my studies at Batlagundu and as of now I am studying Nursing in Medical College at Kanyakumari. I scored 384 marks in my 10<sup>th</sup> public examination. I could study well and score good marks only because of the input that I received in Pudhu Vasantham. Brother, staff and in-charges in Pudhu Vasantham encouraged me to do well in my studies from the day I entered Pudhu Vasantham. Besides that regular trainings and coaching was given for me and for other children to develop our extracurricular talents. Regular competitions in sports and cultural events were held and that helped us to develop our inborn and acquired skills. I am very good at classical dance, elocution and drawing and it is because of the opportunities provided to me when I was at Pudhu Vasantham.

Today I am a happy girl and proud to do nursing course and all these are only because of Pudhu Vasantham and for this along with my family members I express my sincere gratitude to my sponsors and brother for your unconditional love and concern towards me and helping me to continue my education for these many years. I hope to achieve greater heights and serve many more poor children in the future.



Sex : Female  
Village : Batlagundu  
District : Dindigul  
Education : B.Sc (Comp.Tech)  
Occupation : Accountant  
Father's Name : Mottaiyandi Pazhanisamy  
Mother's Name : Vanathai

## M.Jayanthi

M.Jayanthi is from Chinna Vedam Patti village in Coimbatore district. She has got one elder brother and one younger sister. Mr. Mottaiyandi Pazhanichamy is her father and he is a mason and Mrs. Vanathai is her mother and she is working in a company.

When Jayathi was studying in third standard her parents quarelled with each other and got separated. Her mother went to her grandmother's house. All the three children were brought up by her father. Her father was not able to show proper attention and care to all the three children as he used to go for construction work. He was looking to place his children in some hostels so that they would be taken care. It was at that time her father met Mr. Francis who was working in St. Joseph's Development Trust. Through him he came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and requested him to help him to get admission for his both the daughters in Pudhu Vasantham. Mr. Francis informed about the family condition of Jayanthi to brother. Brother at once asked the staff to admit Jayanthi and her younger sister Gomathi at Pudhu Vasantham. In the year 2000 Jayanthi and her sister were admitted in Pudhu Vasantham. When they were admitted in Pudhu Vasantham, Janyanthi was studying in 5<sup>th</sup> standard and Gomathi was studying in 2<sup>nd</sup> standard. Both of them stayed in Pudhu Vasantham until they completed 10<sup>th</sup> standard. Jayanthi said that during their stay at Pudhu Vasantham they had learned lot of good things and discipline. She also said that they were provided with all the basic necessities and thanked brother for all the support provided to them at Pudhu Vasantham and ensuring their education through sponsorship support.

After completing 10<sup>th</sup> standard Jayanthi went back to her native place and continued her studies with the sponsorship support which was extended to her even after leaving Pudhu Vasantham. She completed 12<sup>th</sup> standard and then did B.Sc. Computer Technology. After completing her college course

she went to work in Selvalakshmi Industries at Coimbatore as office assistant. She was working in that industry for about one year. It was at that time she received a call from Ms. Devibala, her then warden who informed Jayanthi about the job opportunity at SJDT. Jayanthi was elated at hearing that good news and at once came to SJDT and met brother. As of now she is working as an accountant in our sponsorship department. She is earning good salary. Meanwhile her parents also got reunited. Now her parents are very happy that Jayanthi got job in the same institution which helped her to continue her education and thanked brother and sponsors for their unconditional love and support towards their both the children. Jayanthi's younger sister Gomathi also stayed in Pudhu Vasantham for about 8 years and completed her 10<sup>th</sup> standard and as of now she is doing 2<sup>nd</sup> year B.Com in S.N.S. Rajalakshimi College of Arts and Science at Coimbatore. Both Jayanthi and Gomathi thanked brother and their sponsors for all the support extended to them these many years and helping them to have good future.







Sex : Female  
Village : Madurai  
District : Madurai  
Education : 11th Standard  
Father's Name : S.Senthil Velan  
Mother's Name : S.Shanthi

## S.Saranya

Saranya is from Madurai. Mr. Senthil Velan and Mrs. Shanthi are her parents. She has got one brother who is studying. Her father is a coolie worker and mother is a housewife. Her father goes for some available coolie works. They are living in a thatched house without much basic infrastructural facilities. Her father became sick and could not go for work regularly. He also had borrowed money from moneylenders to meet out his medical expenses. Since her father could not go for work regularly there was no regular income for the family and this led to financial crisis in the family and the family was suffering under poverty. Children could not be fed thrice a day. In this situation her mother started to go for some agricultural coolie work to make their living. But her earning was not sufficient to meet out the medical expenses of their father and other family expenses. They also could not repay the moneylenders and the interest was increasing every day. And so Saranya's mother thought of stopping Saranya from going to school and wanted to send her for work to earn additional income for the family. But Saranya's father was not willing to send Saranya for coolie work and he was looking to admit her in some hostels that would offer free education for Saranya. At that time through one of his relatives he came to know about Pudhu Vasantham and approached brother for help. He explained about his physical condition and his family condition to brother and requested to admit Saranya in Pudhu Vasantham. Brother also understanding his family condition and the future of Saranya admitted her in Pudhu Vasantham.

Saranya came to Pudhu Vasantham at the age of 10. From Pudhu Vasantham she studied up to 10<sup>th</sup> standard. She said that Pudhu Vasantham provided her sufficient opportunities to develop her personal and interpersonal skills. She could develop her extracurricular talents also and thanked for all the facilities provided to her at Pudhu Vasantham. At present she is studying in 11<sup>th</sup> standard in her own village with the continuous support of sponsors. She and her parents are very happy now and thanked brother and the sponsors for helping Saranya to continue her studies and paving way for bright future and they also assured their prayers for the well being of brother and sponsors.

## Our Earlier Publications





# Home Of Hopes



**Rev.Dr.Bro.I.Sebastian** FSC, M.A.,M.B.A.,Ph.D

Founder & Executive Director

**St.Joseph's Development Trust**

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