



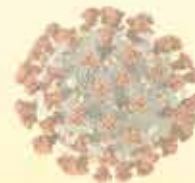
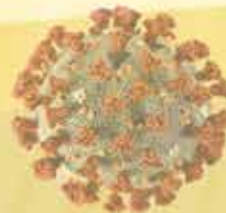
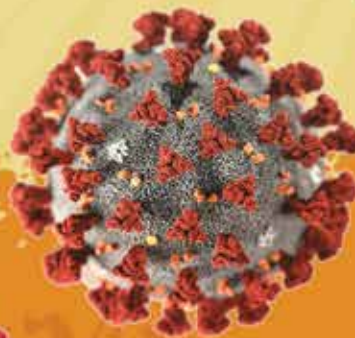
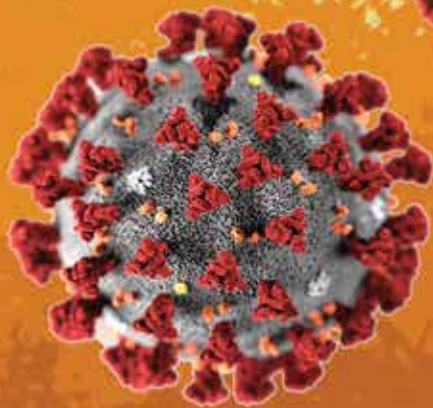
KESS

Kuriakose Elias Service Society

**A
N
N
U
A
L

R
E
P
O
R
T

2
0
1
9
-
2
0**



**46 Years of
Relentless
Commitment**

46 Years of Relentless Commitment

"The quality of life can only improve
if the individual improves his or her quality"

Karl Kubel







Message from the Patron

It was truly an honour being the Patron of such a service oriented organization and as I step down this year, I am thankful to the Lord for helping KESS strive towards the vision of social work, helping people in crisis and reaching out to the last and least around us. Be it natural disasters like floods or cyclones, to the severely ill such as cancer, HIV, kidney disease affected, even the recent global pandemic - COVID 19, KESS rises to the need of the hour and gives its all to alleviate the suffering.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Fr. Joy Vattoly for his enthusiastic leadership in mobilizing and coordinating his team and all resources, doing all the good that needs to be done, in the spirit of our founding Father, St Chavara's charism.

The time has come for me to move on from the patronship of KESS. I take this opportunity to appreciate KESS for all the help it has done for the needy. I especially thank the entire Board of Directors, General Body members and all the staff for the applaudable team spirit and coordinated efforts. May God continue to bless KESS and everybody associated with it.

Thank you.

Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI
Patron, KESS



Message from the President

It has indeed been a blessed year for KESS as it immersed itself in solving the problems and issues of the needy and tried its best to resolve the woes of many who required care and support. From the chronically ill families to those in the coastal and low income colony areas, to those affected by natural disasters in the state and beyond, to the vulnerable groups like children, women and the elderly, KESS reaches out to each one of them, joining hands with large-hearted benefactors, striving towards a common goal.

This year, I step down as the President of KESS with a sense of pride in having been part of an organization involved in great works of charity. I take this opportunity to remember the leadership of the Directors, especially the Patron - Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI, Moderator - Rev. Fr. Paulson Paliakkara CMI, and the Secretary – Rev. Fr. Joy Vattoly CMI for the wonderful and inspiring work they have done through KESS. I would also like to remember Mr. Raphael P.A, as he steps down from KESS after 26 years of selfless service. The entire staff, associates and volunteers of KESS - all deserve praise and gratitude as each one of them played a major role in bringing all possible hope, joy and peace of mind to the deserving ones. Thank you all for making this year a beautiful one with your hard work and relentless pursuit to make the world a better place for the poorest of the poor.

I wish the very best to all the future ventures of KESS, especially its 'YUVA' mission to provide vocational training and empowerment for the poor youth aimed at uplifting their families. May the Lord guide you to work with greater vigour and spiritedness to materialise His love for the downtrodden.

Thank you one and all!

Prof. U.V. Antony
President, KESS



Message from the Moderator

This year has been a blessed one for KESS as it further deepened its reach, in times of every distress call from nature or man. Cancer and HIV affected patients, flood affected families... everyone of them found a solace in the all supportive arms of KESS. The vibrant activities that radiates in the organization reflects in the lives of all those who were touched by it. It is with gratitude I step out as the Moderator of KESS this year, knowing that the blessings of the Almighty will continue to help all who approach this organization.

I sincerely appreciate and thank the General Body, Governing Body, partners, committed staff and in particular- the KESS Secretary, Rev. Fr. Dr. Joy Vattoly CMI, who stood as the pillar and back bone, leading all the activities with relentless dedication. May Lord lead us to newer heights. I conclude with the ardent desire and unshaken belief that His invisible hands will lead us in these acts of humanity and onward journey to more accomplishment.

Fr. Paulson Paliakkara CMI
Moderator, KESS



Message from the Secretary

2018 was the year where we strived together to overcome the great floods and present a 'back to better' success story, which was the result of the combined efforts of our team. 2019 was the year where we were ready to face the flood disasters with our defences and precautions ready. Yet, the floods did not affect our land as expected. The unexpected terror struck us all in the form of the deadly Corona virus as we entered 2020. Though the COVID -19 situation affected life in general, the group efforts and resourcefulness from all corners gradually helped us support the poor families get through this ordeal. The role of the Government, especially during the initial phase of the pandemic in our state deserves special applause. Their selfless service and leadership has sparked the 'responsibility quotient' of social work organizations, NGOs and other associated groups and individuals teaming together to 'break the chain' and help people live through it all. Education, employment, health etc. which requires socialising and socialized skillsets have suffered a major long term set back. Yet, it is appreciable to note that the people of Kerala have reflected greater resilience, and are coping well with the current shifts in life due to this pandemic. The society has indeed adapted themselves to live with this virus in their midst. Communication, work and education systems transitioned to a virtual reality, home bound and family oriented, with a greater consciousness on cost cutting, healthier food choices, natural and eco-friendlier alternatives in lifestyle. It is debatable whether these adaptations will have sustainable results in the long run. Though it is the advancement in technology that has transformed a new world of online opportunities, there are also the possibilities of cyber addictions and abuse which requires crucial intervention. People need to be empowered and motivated to continue following the 'healthier lifestyle' of organic consumptions, supportive and interdependent familial bonding, health conscious daily routines to boost immunity, remove stress and mould a better tomorrow, today. This is a call for NGOs to re-build and empower the world stuck in this pandemic.

I am thankful to note that KESS is already in this process, from providing employment opportunities, distributing education gadgets and nutrition kits, telephone counselling, farmer support, kitchen garden support, etc. along with the continued supports provided to those affected by HIV, cancer, floods and the like. This year also marked the beginning of KESS YUVA project, for the empowerment of poor youth, which is our great vision for the upcoming years. Every one of these was made possible thanks to the pro-activeness and passionate teamwork of all those who make KESS what it is. I thank Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI, the patron of KESS for all the warm support provided during this period and applaud the entire staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, members of the General Board, CMI Devamatha Province and everybody who have cooperated in bringing joy to the last and the least. None of this would have been possible without the divine providence of our Lord, to whom I am always grateful.

Thank you and God bless!

Fr. Dr. Joy Vattoly CMI
Secretary cum Treasurer, KESS

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	11
2.	KESS in Health Care	13
3.	KESS YUVA Project	22
4.	Women Empowerment	22
5.	Child Care & Development	23
6.	Go Green Chavara Project	25
7.	KESS Disaster Relief Mission	27
8.	Coastal Area Development	28
9.	Colony Development	28
10.	Basic Needs Facilitation	28
11.	KESS Times	29

KURIAKOSE ELIAS SERVICE SOCIETY (KESS)

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Kuriakose Elias Service Society (KESS), a registered, charitable society, under 80G, has been tirelessly and relentlessly traversing uneven paths aimed at empowerment, development and overall progress of the society. Since its inception in 1974 by the CMI Congregation and other socially committed members, in tune with the vision of St. Chavara, the founder and our inspiration, KESS has come a long way in promoting and developing social welfare through committed social research and social action. With the broader aim of creating and sustaining qualitative development especially amongst the underprivileged, the organization has been making visible and tangible waves in the lives of its beneficiaries who are victims of chronic illnesses like HIV and Cancer, targets of abuse and negligence, deprived of basic essentials like food, clothing and shelter. With its soothing branches spread all over the state and its readiness to reach any remote area in the country, KESS stands apart as an exemplary model of social work, striving to promote integrated and holistic development.

Vision

KESS is visualized as a growing resource center, responsive to changes in the global scenario, promoting developmental initiatives among the deprived and the vulnerable, based on democratic values, human rights and humanitarianism

Mission

To realize the vision, KESS undertakes intensive community mobilization, empowering it through social conscientization, life skills and appropriate livelihood systems.

Objectives

1. To perform works of charity for those in need, irrespective of caste, community, creed, race or sex.
2. To strengthen the institution of family through family-life education, counselling and other support systems, thereby effectively arresting tendency towards disintegration.
3. To build the competency of people (HRD) through education, awareness-generation and skill-training so that they can mobilize and manage resources for self-advancement.
4. To develop, in partnership with the stakeholders, adequate infrastructural facilities such as housing, drinking water, electricity, path ways, community halls etc.
5. To focus on health-related matters and promote personal hygiene and environmental sanitation through health education, behavioral change communication (BCC) and immunization programs.
6. To establish self-help groups of men and women and engage them in creative activities so that they could enrich themselves with information, know-how and resources for improving their living conditions.
7. To address emerging issues in the agrarian sector such as low productivity, indebtedness, suicides, exploitation by traders etc and promote modern, eco - friendly farming practices, value additions to the produce and maximizing income through appropriate marketing strategies.
8. To intervene immediately in disaster-hit areas and undertake relief and rehabilitation work in a participatory manner.

KESS has been prominent in reaching out to the struggling, ailing people who seek help through its various projects and programmes. KESS aims at poverty eradication and socio-economic development supporting aspects of health, education, income generation, social security, legal aid, child development and women empowerment, to name a few. The organization stands today on the impact it has been able to make through various programmes in the past such as Thrissur Integrated Development Project 1989-'96, Grassroot Organization Project 1990-'92, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (P.M.R.Y) in 1993; Bhakshya Samrudhi 2009; Janasree Bhima Yojana 2000; Trysem; Jalanidhi projects in Thekkumkara and Madakkathara and Nadathara Gramapanchayaths; Earn While Learn Scheme; Madathumpadi Community Irrigation Scheme, which benefitted 250 agricultural families to develop 200 acres of agricultural land and 3 K Puram housing project for 52 families. Apart from these, KESS has coordinated vocational training programmes to unemployed youth through various schemes of NABARD. Some of the timely interventions of the organization in other states include the Silvani-Project [Madhya Pradesh] 1979 -'80, for the development of 70 villages; Searmau Project [Madhya Pradesh] 1989-'95, for the development of 40 villages; Pollachi Integrated Rural Development Project 1985-93, for the integrated development of the poor with emphasis on health education; and Apna Health Care Project [Maharashtra]. Disaster management and relief activities are also a prime concern of KESS. From the 1993 Latur to 2001 Gujarat earthquakes (where earthquake resistant houses were constructed), from 1999 Orissa's Super cyclone to Tamil Nadu's tsunami (Keezhmidalam Tsunami Rehabilitation Project), from the 2015 Chennai flood disaster (distributing food, water and clothing), the 2017 Ockhi cyclone disaster (construction of houses, higher education support etc), to the state flood disasters in 2018 and '19, to the recent COVID -19 pandemic, KESS has been an icon of hope for all.

The three pronged approach of KESS includes certain programmes implemented directly, some undertaken by independent societies formed by the participants themselves under the patronage of KESS and others implemented by KESS and the follow up is entrusted to independent societies formed by/for the target group. KESS has always maintained good liaison with all departments of Central and State Governments and has undertaken programmes with their help and guidance. NABARD, Department of Industries, World Bank, Kerala State Social Welfare Board, Kerala Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (KRWSA), Grama Panchayaths, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), CMI Generalate, CMI Devamatha Province, Kochouseph Chittilappilly Foundation (KCF), Joy Alukkas Foundation, Karl Kubel Stiftung (KKS) Germany, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation of Germany (BMZ), CEVA (Cyriac Elias Voluntary Association), Board of Directors of KESS and philanthropic organizations and individuals who supported us in our endeavours.

Governance of KESS

The organization is regulated by the members of the General Body and the Board of Directors. The General Body, consisting of more than 100 members from all walks of life. They meet annually to review the activities and provide support and suggestions for the betterment of the organization. The members of the Board of Directors are nominated and elected by the General Body once in three years. The Board of Directors meet four times annually and is responsible for the Articles of Association and the approval of the annual accounts. The Board consists of the President, Moderator, Secretary Cum Treasurer and six directors.

KESS Board of Directors 2017-2020

Patron	: Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI
President	: Prof. U.V. Antony
Moderator	: Rev. Fr. Paulson Paliakkara CMI
Secretary Cum Treasurer	:Rev. Fr. Dr. Joy Vattoly CMI
Directors	: Rev. Fr. Jose EduthanCMI
Directors	: Mr. P. M. Thomas
Directors	: Mr. Mathew George
Directors	: Mr. Solly Thomas
Directors	: Rev. Sr. Lekha CMC
Directors	: Dr. Elizabeth Kurian

In Fond Remembrance.....

RIP

Rev.Fr. Werner Chakkalakkal CMI [1928-2019]

Rev. Fr. Werner was the linking pin and relationship builder between Kuriakose Elias Service Society (KESS) &Karl KübelStiftung(KKS), Germany. His warm influence and networking power had led to sustainable empowerment and holistic development of thousands of poor all over the country. God bless your kind soul, dear Father!!

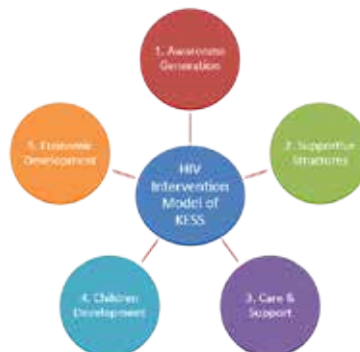
KESS IN HEALTH CARE

KESS has been highly involved in the care and support for the poor, affected with various chronic health conditions like HIV/AIDS, Cancer, mental illness, kidney failure etc. The infected patients and their family members are supported with various interventions, empowering them amidst their miserable life conditions.

HIV/AIDS

KESS has been involved in the prevention, care and support aspects of this catastrophic disease since 2006. After successfully sensitizing and establishing sustainable registered bodies to continue the care of such infected and affected families in the districts of Thrissur [HAT project] and Palakkad [HAPPI project], KESS has been successful in providing improved interventions in Kozhikode [KARE project], as it officially exits from the district during this reporting period.

HIV Intervention Model of KESS



Areas of Operation



KESS- KARE [Kozhikode AIDS Rehabilitation Efforts] Project

KESS has been involved in the prevention, care and support aspects of this catastrophic disease since 2006. After successfully sensitizing and establishing sustainable registered bodies to continue the care of such infected and affected families in the districts of Thrissur [HAT project] and Palakkad [HAPPI project], KESS has been successful in providing improved interventions in Kozhikode [KARE project], as it officially exits from the district during this reporting period.



Kozhikode Dist.
(849 HIV positives + 2028 affected members)

The power of Networking & the blessing called Volunteerism!

Joining hands with like minded organizations and individuals brought out the best brains and resources working hand in hand towards the welfare of the PLHIV. KESS KARE extended its complete support and worked together with educational, religious, governance, financial, corporates and individuals who wanted to make a difference in the lives of the underprivileged like the PLHIV. The volunteers who joined the KESS team from these socially conscious realms were the people who made all these efforts a reality. People from government services, professional service providers, entrepreneurs etc gave their heart and soul to lead SSS, LACs and other regional groups as a concerned neighbor looking out for their ill fated brethren. It has been an honour to work with kind hearted angels like them and KESS KARE appreciates them for their continued services.

ACTIVITIES

1. Awareness Generation

The project had developed various forms of IEC to generate awareness among the people. Apart from brochures and presentations, short films, edutainment sessions were also undertaken. Such awareness programmes were held at educational, religious, government administrative, institutions to generate social consciousness about HIV. These were also held for Kudumbashree members, PTA bodies, and in coastal areas. Sensitization sessions were held for elected members, anganwadi workers, ASHA and Health Inspectors. These gave way to advocacy and lobbying at the local MLA levels which enabled the preparation and activation of pro-HIV resolutions in the State Assembly. Forging of HIV related project proposals at PRIs were also possible due to this intervention. World AIDS day was observed with the similar purpose to spread the knowledge about the illness, its prevention and the need to treat the infected with concern than fear.

Permanent awareness boards placed at PRI level

13 gramapanchayats have placed permanent HIV awareness boards in their panchayat areas due to the constant interventions of KESS KARE. This is a first for an NGO to be accredited with successfully influencing panchayats to place awareness boards which are undersigned by both the parties and placed in full view of the public in prominent sites such as Panchayat office buildings, walls, bus stops etc

Fruits of Advocacy- Life mission linkages

The continuous networking with MLAs and Government officials to bring attention to the needs of PLHIV helped in availing Government schemes and services especially Chief Ministers' relief fund, ART pension, EMS housing scheme, Andiyodaya Schemes and the recent 'Life mission'- one of the significant schemes for the poor homeless.

2. Supportive Structures

As part of enabling people's participation in the care and support of HIV affected, different committees were formed at the local [LACs], and district levels, forming Societies at each region [SSS]. Meetings, trainings, regional level core committee formation were held for agencies networked, LAC committee meetings, formation and regular meetings of Gramapanchayath level PLHIVs and their groups, training of SSS leaders and district level meetings of SSS executives, development of district service directory and a state level conference on HIV/AIDS were all held as part of building supportive structures within the community for the welfare of the PLHIV. Sustainability of the project has been ensured through the 4 SSS, 65 LACs and reliable networks- 4 at the regional level & 1 at the district level. Linkages with religious congregations, KASACS and Govt. level advocacy have strengthened the networks and brought fruitful results.

Society for Social Support [SSS]

SSS are community based registered societies formed to support the PLHIV and their families in the four zones that the district has been divided into. The societies are taken care of by people from various walks of life. This includes academicians, government officials, merchant association executives and members from the infected groups. Their activities include networking, lobbying, family get-togethers and training programmes for PLHIV and their families. They had organized education kit distribution to the children in the group, mobilising resources professionally. Exposure visits were conducted to other SSS and community based organisations for the executives to better understand their functioning.

Society for Social Support (SSS)



SSS formed in Kozhikode

1. Kozhikode Region - Mukulam Charitable Society
2. Thamarassery Region - Disha Charitable Society
3. Quilandy Region - Kiranam Charitable Society
4. Vadakkara Region - Sayoojyam Charitable Society

Short film initiative by an SSS –an appreciative effort!

A heart whelming story of kindness and selfless love and support to an HIV family and its effects on the supporter's life is the theme of the short film ' Nizhal Samsarikkumbol'- an initiative directed by Mr. Prakash Peter, the President of Disha Charitable Society, which was supported by KESS in all aspects. It is a commendable achievement that the film was recognized and awarded by the Ananthapuri Short Film & Documentary Excellence Awards within a few months of its release.

3. PLHIV Care & support

Care and support of people infected with HIV [PLHIV] and their family members [affected] began with their identification and formation of their data base.Regular one to one sessions, house visits, trainings, medical, travel & funeral assistance, general counseling and those focused on ART, dead-diction etc,organizing family get-togethers of PLHIVs, linking them with Government schemes and services, kitchen garden support and training, development and training of care takers,house construction and maintenance supports as well as marriage supports were provided. Infected people were motivated to be Peer Educators who would inspire others like them to face their life with positivity and resilience. Special Peer Educator's Units were formed, with trainings and meetings held at a regular basis. Family get-togethers of affected were held frequently, which was a great relief for them.

Outings and travels to joyous destinations and celebration of festivals like Xmas and Onam including cutting cakes and serving sadyas, distributing kits and gifts were a blessing to their daily state of burden. During the natural disasters of flood and COVID-19, affected families were identified and essential kits of food, health and other provisions were distributed at their doorsteps. KESS lobbied at the government domains to depute health workers who supplied the PLHIV with ART medicine during the COVID lockdown.

4. Child Development

Selection of needy children for educational assistance, identification of local sponsors, children's forums, child rights awareness programmes, higher education support with vocational & career counselling, life skills training for children, children's training camps were some of the highlights of the programmes organized for the development of children in affected families. Their parents were also equally provided care and support so they could extend their wisdom to their wards, provided through trainings and counselling. Regional guardians' group was formed for training in better parenting. Formation of red-ribbon clubs in educational institutions were initiated to conscientize other children to be aware of this condition and spread the message of prevention and non stigma towards the community.

5. Economic Strengthening

Income Generation Programmes [IGP] were identified as a sure way of pulling up the affected families from financial crisis. Various steps were involved in this intervention such as the selection of deserving families and providing them loans for the IGP. IGP management committees were formed and meetings were held at regional and district level. The IGP holders meetings and trainings were also held during this period. Vocational training and job counseling on various IGPs were eye openers to the families who could make wiser decisions based on these. An IGP exposure visit was made to Saragalaya Craft Village, Iringal which served as a one of a kind experience, opening various possibilities to a once desperate community.

Income Generation Programme [IGPs]

Many affected families who had no means of income or savings due to the draining expenses of the illness were supported with various types of IGPs. The options of poultry, goat and cattle rearing, tailoring, small street shop etc have helped lift the pride and economic conditions of these families. The regular monitoring, trainings, marketing assistance helped them to bring out colourful results.

IGP FEST :

KESS organized an IGP fest wherein those who benefitted from this IGP programme exhibited and sold their productive results. From eggs to paintings to hand crafted goods, the plethora of products were enough to reflect the success of this intervention.

NGO Exposure Visit

An exposure visit was conducted to SAATHI- a Hyderabad based NGO, active in HIV prevention, care and support activities in most states of India. It was an opportunity to interact with the SAATHI team and learn about their various projects like Svetana, Sangraha and Subhiksha. Different interventions of KESS were also shared with the hosts, which they found inspiring.

HIV/ AIDS Palakkad Project for the Infected [HAPPI]

The HIV/AIDS affected in Palakkad are supported through the four SSS [Societies for Social Support], helping conduct monthly get-togethers of the beneficiaries, where nutritious kits, medical expenses, etc are supported. The Societies also collaborate and connect to other funding sources to mobilize kits and other resources, children's education etc. Onam and Christmas are celebrated with great enthusiasm with family, nutrition and health kits distributed. KESS guided and supported the SSS's regular executive body meetings, resource mobilization, sponsor identification, income generation programmes of affected members. The other activities of the project involves education kit distribution, administrative support, higher education support, medical support, flood relief and housing.



Palakkad Dist.
(1278 HIV positives + 2879 affected members)

HIV/AIDS Thrissur [HAT]

KESS continues its care and support activities to the HIV/AIDS afflicted in Thrissur through the Santhwanam Project, consisting of SSS initiated by KESS. These Societies are assisted in educational support, marriage support, nutritional kits, income generation programmes, to empower and bring up the poor affected in the region.



Thrissur Dist.
(976 HIV positives + 2000 affected members)

Chavara Cancer Care for Children Project (4C)

KESS 4C Project supports cancer stricken families to fulfill their basic requirements and needs, children's education, marriage, career etc. economic development and overall sustainable development for the entire family in the midst of the care for the ill member. This project is a people's participatory one, where the communities of the affected families also join hands to ensure these services are extended well. Mobilization of resources in the form of funds, education materials, nutrition and provision kits have been a great source of comfort, from well wishers, sponsors, associates and other agencies with whom we network, collaborate and link to make the lives of the affected better.

Activities:

1. Support for good health : Healthy food such as cereals, pulses, eggs, fruits and vegetables often do not reach poor families, the lack of which result in low immunity and entry of diseases. The cancer stricken families lose their funds towards treatment costs and do not have enough to spend on healthier meals. This flaw was resolved with the distribution of quality food materials aiming at their good health.
2. Housing Support : For poor, cancer affected families with needs of complete or partial construction, repair and maintenance of their houses, KESS was able to help them own a safe shelter called home.
3. Educational Support : KESS provided support to children of cancer affected families by providing education kits, career orientation, higher education support, value enhancing workshops, exposure meetings with prominent personalities and life skill training. The aim is to support these children holistically, so they are encouraged to stand on their own feet and support their families.
4. IGP : Support to generate income through nurturing poultry, cattle, tailoring, kitchen garden etc was provided to the families. Materials required such as coops, feeds, the animals or saplings themselves were provided at a subsidized rate apart from trainings and workshops on a regular basis. These environment friendly alternatives have helped them to care for both the patient and build a stable financial situation for their families in their own house premises.
5. Marriage Support : The marriage expenses in a cancer stricken family is an unbearable expense which cannot be borne by them alone. KESS has supported such families to marry off their wards, finding sponsors, ensuring a saving habit and providing financial and material assistance for this purpose.
6. Liaisoning and networking : Identifying, liaisoning and linking with government, private, CSRs and individuals, have helped KESS to provide timely grants, funds and resources to the affected families.
7. Rs.1000 gift program : Individuals, families, organizations have come forward during the year to support at least one cancer affected family by donating a minimum thousand rupees on a monthly basis. This regular support has been a great relief to the poor families.

8. House Visits : Regular house visits have helped the families relieve their depressed emotional levels, easing their tensed atmospheres, and making better decisions for the families welfare. The project staff conducts one to one and family counseling sessions during these visits, providing motivation, positive aspirations and linkages to essential resources.
9. Debt clearance : KESS helped those affected families in debts, loans and mortgage crisis with banks and other financial institutions, providing financial assistance, income generative solutions thereby reviving those under despair, depression and a few on the verge of suicide.
10. KESS networking with Jerusalem for the Cancer affected : KESS was able to assist cancer affected families, as a result of encouraging them to include the cancer affected as part of their medical assistance program. The official requirements of selection, documentation, and other administrative responsibilities were efficiently taken care of by KESS, helping both the project facilitators and beneficiaries.
11. Celebrations : Onam and Xmas are joyous festivals that bring cheer to all. In the financial and cancer limited conditions, such families cannot celebrate. KESS brought them together, celebrated together with good food, motivating talks, games, entertainment and gifts, helping them cherish and forget their situations for a while.
12. Kitchen garden support : The cancer affected were provided trainings, exposures, seeds, saplings, grow bags, manure and fertilizers to develop their very own gardens in their backyards, so they engage in nature friendly, healthy food developing process right from their very own home premises.

Mind Care Project

KESS provided care and support to poor families, which have mentally ill members. Various supports were provided for education, marriage, housing, employment opportunities, income generation etc. to enhance their quality of life.

Activities:

1. Counselling :
The family members of such patients were provided personal and family counseling sessions, helping them accept the conditions and find positive solutions to help better the general home atmosphere than fault finding.
2. Education Support :
The children of such families suffer the most, witnessing the subdued or violent reactions of the patient, especially when they are their own parents. Apart from providing emotional support to overcome such traumatizing events, the children were provided full support to complete their educational requirements in the form of class and tuition fees, T.A, educational materials, provided career orientation and guidance.
3. Employment Generation :
Mental illness does not guarantee a full time job and hence cannot fulfill a full financial support to the family. The patients or caretakers who were able to provide work full time or part time were provided various job opportunities such as cattle rearing, plantation work, farm labour etc.

4. Disaster Relief :

When disasters such as flood and corona pandemic lockdown affected such families, KESS made available their medicines, provided income generation opportunities, distributed food materials and gifted Televisions to ease out tension strife in the families and eased down the general situation.

5. Marriage Support :

The lack of resources and lower economic conditions, such families find it difficult to conduct their children's marriages. KESS supported such families during this period providing financial assistance, material support and finding sponsors to help meet their marriage related needs.

6. Housing Support :

The mood swings of a mentally ill patient can create havoc to the infrastructure of a house and if the doors and windows are not stable enough, there might be dangerous issues of security and sense of safety. The houses of such families were supported with housing assistance, providing funds and materials for their partial and complete housing requirements.

KESS Medical Camps

Linking with the local self government members, religious volunteer groups and other members of the respective local communities. KESS organized medical camps in its regional centres in the district such as Nadathara, Varandharappilly and Snehagiri, Chalakudy, Thalore etc associating with Amala Hospital. Special word of appreciation to Rev. Fr. Francis Kurissery CMI (Director, Amala) for providing medical staff consisting of Doctors, nurses, lab technicians along with their equipments and technical instruments for conducting these camps at all the venues.

1. Cancer Detection Camps

With the increasing number of undiagnosed cancer cases at the primary stages where its treatable, many individuals and families suffer as they get severely affected at the final stages when the illness is at its worst. KESS organized cancer detection camps, associating with Amala Hospital's Oncology department. Hundreds of people turned up and underwent screening. Nearly 70 people were recommended for further tests, follow up and mammograms at the hospital. Apart from the technical support, cancer awareness sessions were also conducted by the doctors.

2. Blood Donation Camps

Blood is a basic life necessity that is always needed in hospitals and blood banks especially in times of emergency. But the unavailability often leads to death and fatal situations. KESS organized blood donation camps with the aim for people to be sensitive to others and give what they have, including their own blood. Nearly 50 people donated blood at each venue.

3. Memory Screening Camp

In the increasing number of elderly ill health owing to conditions like Alzheimer's and memory loss, a memory screening medical camp was held at KESS. Prior to it, two sessions on the illness, enhancing memory techniques, importance of early detection were taken by Doctors. People, especially those over the age of 50 were given great priority and screened for memory issues. Those who did show signs were provided professional diagnosis and treatment.

World Alzheimer's Day observation

World Alzheimer's Day was observed in the premises of KESS Bhavan, Thrissur on Sept 21st. The official programme was inaugurated by Smt. Ajitha Vijayan (Mayor, Thrissur Corporation), with presidential and welcome addresses by Rev. Fr. Francis Kurissery CMI and Rev. Fr. Thomas Vazhakala CMI [Director & Deputy of Amala Hospital respectively]. Rev. Fr. Jose Edathan CMI [Superior, KESS] thanked the gathering for their cooperation and participation. Doctors from the Psychiatry department of Amala Hospital conducted sessions on the several aspects of the Alzheimer's disease. A memory screening test was conducted for approximately 65 people. 18 people were detected with Alzheimer's.

KESS YUVA Project

The vocational training institute as part of the KESS YUVA- 'Youth Upliftment and Value Addition' project, was formally inaugurated in February, in the premises of KESS Centre, Nadathara. With the aim to empower the economically poor, unmotivated youth, STED council certified courses in computer accounting, multimedia, DTP, fashion designing and hotel management, with fee concessions, started its first batch from February 2020. Add-on sessions for english proficiency, computer basics and personality development were also provided to the students.

Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI (Provincial, Devamatha CMI Province) formally launched the project. Each of the courses were flagged off by respected dignitaries- Smt. Karoli Joshua (Chairperson, Education Standing Committee, Thrissur Corporation), Sri. T. J. Vijayakumar (President, Chamber of Commerce, Thrissur), Rev. Fr. Paulson Paliakkara CMI (Moderator, KESS), Sri. P. P. Joseph (Manager, Joy Alukkas CSR) and Sri. Mathew P. Thomas (Monitoring Officer, Karl Kübel Foundation).

Several meetings were held with resource centres of the community during this reporting period, prior to the inauguration. The participants included PRIs, religious congregations, educational institutes etc, discussing issues faced by the youth in our local areas, prospective solutions for their well-being, and strategies for their empowerment. The active deliberations led to mutual agreements and a joint striving for the upliftment of the youth, especially through the KESS YUVA project.

Women Empowerment

a) Vadhumitra- moulding 'Uthama Kudumbinis'

The KESS Vadhumitra Project aimed at the empowerment and enrichment of girls aged 16 and above, from the families of the KESS projects as well as the domestic workers of the ashrams, moulds them into future 'uthamakudumbinis'. House visits, one to one and family sessions have helped them to understand how to be better ladies in a married life. We could assist several girls to enter into holy matrimony through the participatory financial assistance scheme, promoting savings in time for their marriage.

b) Service Providing Centre (SPC)

KESS has been active as a Service Providing Centre since 2013, under the Social Welfare Board, for the protection for women against domestic violence. Along with Adv. Reena John, the legal counselor, this socio legal division of KESS conducts one to one sessions and a chance for poor families to discuss and settle socio-familial- legal issues, especially women in distress. Awareness classes about anti dowry, women abuse and the laws that support them have been conducted in many social forums during this period to industries, educational institutions, health institutions, government administrative bodies,

Success Story:

Mrs. Z was a constant victim of physical torture from her alcoholic and delusional husband. Understanding the extent of her pain, SPC filed a domestic violence case against her husband who would not even come for reconciliation. Yet, the legal advisor did not let go and continued to call the husband to come into terms atleast for the sake of their growing children and loving wife. These interventions showed light at the end as the husband finally decided to give up alcohol due to the anti alcohol intervention sessions recommended by the SPC. The family gave up all legal cases and began to live as one happy family.

c) Self Help Groups (SHGs)

KESS has a number of SHGs which have benefitted many families to rise up from a lower economic strata mainly due to the availability of loans for different income generative start ups. The members have developed self esteem and economic development as mini entrepreneurs and skilled workers. The different programs they are involved in are papad making, umbrella making, pork meat sales, grocery outlet , chain cutting, fritter snack production, catering etc

d) Women Employment Units under the patronage of KESS

About 25 years back, KESS initiated two legally independent charitable societies (formed and run under the Charitable Societies Act), to develop and empower the poor rural women by providing them employment opportunities. Today, 30 women are members of each unit, responsible breadwinners of their once desperate families. The units are Fr. Vynthala Vanitha Service Society [VVSS], Nadathara and Devamatha Vanitha Charitable Society [DVCS], Puthur.

Celebrating 25 years of women empowerment

KESS celebrated the silver jubilee of VVSS - the all women employed stabilizer assembly unit at Nadathara. The unit had been the income provider to many poor women and their miserable families these past years. It was the initiative and networking skills of KESS to influence V-Guard to start these units in Nadathara and Puthur long back, as an income generation opportunity to poor families, empowering the poor, uneducated women folk, often considered the last and the least. But employment at VVSS changed their lives as was reflected during the celebrations held in November. The inauguration was done by Sri. Ajitha Vijayan [Mayor, Thrissur Corporation] and presided by Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI [Provincial, CMI Devamatha Province]. Every member spoke about the never dreamt heights they could achieve because of this job, apart from their families' economic development, over the years. The once ignorant and shy women cheered, sang, danced and spoke reflecting their boosted self confidence, team spirit and latent talents on stage during this celebration- the result of the interventions of KESS over the years through individual, group and family activities such as counseling, psycho-social-legal awareness, personality development, trainings and updations, supports for medical, housing, children's education and marriage etc.

Child care & development

KESS has always been in the forefront of child care and development, supporting them right from their infancy till they have reached adulthood. The SEPPOK project of KESS deals with ensuring the right of education, from laying a strong foundation of knowledge to moulding their personalities for a better future. The Creches at 5 locations, under the patronage of KESS is a threshold to a world of enlightenment and social living as well as a relief for the poor, daily wage parent workers. KESS was quick to respond to the personal counseling needs of children, upon the invitation of schools, who also welcomed our sessions on motivation, character formation, child rights etc.

Interventions

1. Street theatre workshops for enlightenment

The children were provided training and exposure to art forms such as folk song and street theatre during their summer holidays, where they learned to perform, and work as a team, aiming to conscientize peers on topics such as social media, substance abuse etc. The summer holidays were a perfect occasion to wisen up the children which prompted KESS to organize a three day street theatre workshop led by the talented trainer and artiste, Mr. Paulson Thanikkal. Children as young as primary school students till higher secondary were part of the group. Their performances were highly appreciated in the various occasions where KESS organized get togethers of children such as for the vidyarambam, education kit distribution programmes across its regional centres.

2. Re-enforcing child rights

Sessions on child rights and anti child abuse were organized by KESS for school children. Kanakamala, Elthuruth, Nadathara were some of the venues where students were enlightened about their rights and laws pertaining to their safety and security. The POCSO Act was introduced and children were conscientised about being concerned with their individual, peer, sibling, family, neighbourhood, school safety.

3. School education support

The student community in the KESS projects were provided study materials, career guidance and orientation before they stepped into the new school year. The first timers were led into 'vidyarambam' with 'jnarunadeel' and 'aadyaksharamkurikkal' - special celebrations to welcome them into the wide world of education. The high scorers of Stds 10 and 12 were honoured. Students are provided financial assistance, one to one sessions, peer group interactions, venues for talent display etc.

Special appreciation to Isabella

Isabella, who scored full A+ in Std.10 this year, is an example of a great comeback, beating all odds and fate! KESS honoured her during the children's get-together, where she shared her experience and greatly inspired the children gathered. We salute this phoenix who rose from the ashes!

4. Higher education support

KESS supported poor meritorious students to pursue higher education, opening more career opportunities and thereby, improving their family conditions. The networking and liaisoning with benevolent sponsors has helped provide scholarships and sponsorships for the poor children affected with chronic illnesses and pathetic economic situations. It is a matter of pride to state that this student community includes those pursuing MBBS, undergoing Ph. D and aspiring for Civil Service. It is equally delightful to note that the students whom we had supported have secured university level ranks in professional courses like B.Sc. Radiology, M.Tech Nanotechnology and the like.

5. Exam guidance

Understanding the tensions and stresses of facing examinations, KESS conducted exam guidance and stress relieving sessions to the students, especially those facing the board exams. Various relaxation techniques and anxiety relieving strategies were introduced which were great pacifiers to the children and their families.

6. Career Orientation

Children at the thresholds of their education are often at a crossroad of various career options. For children from very poor economic backgrounds or no guidance end up going the wrong ways. KESS invited a professional career orientation counsellor, Mr. Liju, of the famed Fortune IAS Academy. His warm approach and interesting presentations sparked a new light of focus and direction among the students who later noted their aspiring interests of being civil servants and researchers, spreading their wings than folding them to whatever others asked them to be.

7. An opportunity for reflection

Students were provided a chance to attend a counseling camp at Aluva Jeenava Counselling centre during their xmas holidays. It was an opportunity for them to reflect, share and make better decisions for their future lives.

8. Creches

The Creches at 5 regions in Thrissur, facilitated by KESS, under the Social Welfare Board has been functioning since 2006. In Ponnukkara, Meladoor, Puthur, Thoombakodu and Punnamparambu, 30-40 children within the age group of 0- 5 attend each of these crèches. A teacher and a helper, develop and coordinate various programmes to educate and promote proper growth and development of each child. The creches are a blessing for working mothers and a stepping stone of value education for children of those regions. Nutritional food items are also distributed daily along with holistic learning.

9. Networking for child development

Networking with child development based organisations, funding agencies and individuals, KESS was able to extend its intervention in the best possible manner for the welfare of poor children.

Go Green Chavara Project

Karshikamela 2019

KESS organized a week long 'Karshikamela event', at the premises of its KESS Centre situated at Elanjikulam in Nadathara. In this era of fast culture, where chemical coated vegetables and food items decorate our kitchens, KESS aimed to encourage people to re-visit their available strips of land, be it their frontyards, backyards, balconies or terraces, to develop natural, fresh food products free from poisonous chemicals. The venue of the program was a refreshing sight, where different varieties of plant saplings ranging from money crops to exotic fruits to rare flowers were set in beautiful assortments. The 'erumadam', 'natural swings' on trees along with the domestic animals such as cattle, goats, poultry, rabbits in the backdrop, were all magnets attracting educational institutions, congregations, families, etc from all over the district. Environment protection related documentaries and awareness programmes were conducted and saplings were distributed to school children who visited.

Development of 'Green Army'

KESS developed a 'green army' – a group of environment friendly people, who were trained about the products, their yield, the farming techniques, the prices etc and devote their time and energy for the good of mother nature, assisting in the layout, farming, sowing, harvesting, segregation and sales.

'Green friends' day' - honouring best 'eco friendly' practices

A day to honour environment friendly practices and people was organized. 'JaivaKarshikaSmaskridi' awards for Best Environment Friendly Colleges, Schools, Institutions, Principals and teachers were presented. The dignitaries who graced the event were Mrs. Celina George [Rtd. Additional Director, KAU, Thrissur] and Mrs. D. Girija [Registrar, KAU, Thrissur], Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI [Provincial, CMI Devamatha Province, Thrissur] and Rev. Fr. Davis Pattath CMI among others. The workers associated with the gardens, farms and nurseries of KESS and its associated regional centres along with the green army were also honoured for their 'green loving' work throughout the years, caring for mother earth.

Awards

Environment Friendly Principal	: Rev. Fr. Dr. John Neelankavil CMI
Environment Friendly Teacher	: Rev. Fr. Joy Peenikkaparambil CMI
	: Rev. Sr. Anitha Rose FCC
Prakruthy Souhrida Aradhanalayam	: Jerusalem Retreat Centre, Thalore
Prakruthy Souhrida Vidhyalayam	: CMI Public School Chalakkudy
Prakruthy Souhrida Kalalayam	: Christ College, Irinjalakkuda

Njattuvelachandha

'Njattuvelachandha' was organized right before the annual monsoon, in accordance with the 'jnattuvela' season which is the best time to sow seeds or plant saplings. A plethora of green, with organic seeds, saplings, manure, grow bags etc were put up for sale at a nominal price. The aim of this programme was to encourage the townsfolk and rural communities all over the district, to start more kitchen, balcony and terrace gardens and help poor families generate an income by such sales. The 'green' motive did catch the attention of the 'city'zens who were impressed by the variety of vegetables, fruits, flowers, as well as the organically developed vermicompost, husk fibre and other manure from the KESS Nursery.

Karunya Vegetable Cultivation

KESS had undertaken a rain shelter vegetable development program, to boost farming of organic vegetables, despite extreme climatic conditions. Availing government subsidy and assistance, KESS motivated more people into year long vegetable farming by developing such facilities.

Green Celebrations and Presentations

Green gifting had been a norm for KESS when honouring or rewarding people as mementos or awards. This year's Christmas too was 'green', as KESS discarded the usual post card wishes and took to sending lovely green sprouts and garden blooms to the well wishers, associates and linkages.

Kitchen Garden

KESS provided poor families' support to promote kitchen gardens during this period. Studies have found that chemically processed, pesticide sprayed plants and their yields are the source of severe chronic illness and physical deformities. KESS aims to develop a healthy generation and future society who need to depend only on their own kitchen gardens for food security. For this, organic saplings, manure, seeds etc were provided along with required material and technical assistance on a regular basis.

KESS Nursery and Sales Outlets

KESS nursery is home to several medicinal, tropical, flowering and money crops developed with organic techniques. The proceeds of all the sales goes towards the benefit of Cancer/ HIV affected families. Along with encouraging a green culture, KESS nursery is also a window for employment generation and economic welfare for poor families who don't have a consistent income source due to their family's pathetic conditions. The full time care and support to severely ill or handicapped family members restrict the healthier members to go elsewhere for work. By starting a nursery sales outlet in the premises of their own homes, the family can raise funds of their own and improve their family's financial status.

Padavarad Paddy Cultivation : success of people's participation

The sight of lush green paddy spikes in the KESS farmland in Padavarad, which was long left barren, speak volumes of a 'back to nature' culture by the local 'green hearts', encouraged by KESS. Motivated by our environment-friendly initiatives, a group of Padavarad residents came forward to cultivate the now decreasing paddy cultivation and have successfully tilled, sowed and reaped a good harvest. This is a striking reflection of community participation and involvement guaranteeing sustainable results.

KESS Farm

KESS farm has been in the forefront of the green initiatives of KESS. All cultivation is strictly organic and no chemical fertilizers are used. Some of the activities undertaken in the farm include vermi compost units, cultivation of cash crops, vegetables, fruit and flowering plants. The farm also develops organic and biowaste induced manure, and livestock development.

KESS Disaster Relief Mission

Kerala Flood Disaster

The support provided to various parts of our state during the monsoon floods of 2018 continued during this period, with several homeless and jobless at a 'back to better' state-with sturdy shelters and sustainable income generation opportunities reviving their lost and drenched spirits. When the floods struck again in July 2019, once again KESS leapt into action coordinating relief camps, facilitating provisions of food, clothing and accommodation. Apart from camps, various resources were mobilized, sending truck loads of materials to the worst disaster struck areas in the state. 'Green Kits', with organic saplings, grow bags, manure etc were distributed to the affected so as to help them develop kitchen gardens and revive a green, hopeful life ahead.

Maharashtra Disaster Relief

KESS coordinated with its regional centres in Bangalore and Maharashtra, by which resources were mobilized to help the needy. One of the areas severely affected was the Ashramshala-an orphanage for tribal children in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra. The extreme drought during the summer and the cyclone right after had left disastrous impacts on the children. KESS intervened by mobilizing resources to build wells, water pits, water tanks etc to provide safe drinking water during the heat as well as facilitating funds to help recover the losses incurred with the cyclone.

COVID-19 Relief

The global Corona pandemic required masks,PPE kits, sanitizers and soap liquids and that is exactly what KESS became resourceful in during the last months of this reporting period, being the first month of the year 2020. More than 50 families were involved in the cutting, stitching and tailoring works of the masks and PPEs from within the safety of their own homes, which was also an income generative programme at the time when the curfew and lockdown meant no work nor wages. Sanitizer and liquid soaps were also manufactured and all these products were distributed to the hospitals, regional centres, institutions, police stations, panchayats etc.

Coastal Area Development

Chavara Integrated Family Development Project

Poor fishermen families of EriyadPanchayat were empowered and motivated through the interventions of KESS to educate their children, and improvise their health, economy and lifestyles. The children and youth are now active participants of all sessions that KESS conducts for their development and better future. The Mar Thomas Pontifical Shrine and the Mar Thomas Research Centre at Azhikode have played an equally exceptional part in collaborating with KESS to bring a continuous impact

Colony Development

Chavara Colony Development Project

The economically backward colonies located in Patturaickal and Punkunnam are part of this project. Once lived in dilapidated houses, in starvation and extreme poverty, the residents are now conscientised about education, health, hygiene, income generation programmes and family budgeting through the intervention programs of KESS under this project. Festival celebrations, housing support, nutritious food, health care and medical support, support to the elderly and handicapped, education sup-

Basic Needs Facilitation

Income Generation Program

Economically backward families were supported with Income Generation Programs [IGPs] such as poultry, tailoring, duck rearing, rabbit rearing, goat rearing, small business, agriculture and cattle rearing. Providing eco – friendly and family –friendly options, KESS also organized training, orientation and regular guidance and exposure visits to make them financially independent and develop a motivational work culture especially amongst the severely affected families. Collaborating with specialized institutes like Kerala Agricultural University, KrishiBhavanetc, KESS has provided trainings on farm and garden setting, pest control, aquaponics, poultry raising etc to better their knowledge and yield.

Bhavanamitra

For those affected by chronic illness and suffers severe financial constraints due to it, retaining or owning a house of one's own is a distant dream. KESS assisted poor families to have a safe and secure shelter to call their own during this year. Housing support includes house construction completely or partially, re construction and maintenance. KESS was able to support those in dire need of such housing support from across the state. Government and private projects that implemented housing support were also availed for those who approached us. KESS ensured that their documentation and banking requirements were all intact and facilitated the process ensuring they got what they deserved. We acknowledge all the support received through various benefactors, agencies and individuals who helped the poor build safe shelters.

Annadaanam

Those families who are not being able to fend for themselves, especially those with ailing members, with severe disabilities as well as children, women and elderly who cannot earn for themselves were identified and provided nutritious food kits on a monthly basis.

A reason to forget and celebrate

Onam and Christmas are cheerful festivals where everyone deserves to cast aside their daily woes and celebrate joy, love and merriment at least for a short while. With this aim, KESS brought together families suffering and affected by chronic illness, handicaps, despair to share in the joy of the festivals of Onam and Christmas. Onam kits were distributed along with feasts, games and gifts; Christmas cakes, saplings and nutrition kits were also distributed apart from games and entertainment. The domestic workers of the regional centres were also brought into this celebrative spirit and gifted season's blessings essential provisions as gifts.

Supporting Autodrivers-our brethren at our doorsteps

The autodriviers at the beck and call of the common man are blessings for all. KESS provided support to these brothers and their families by distributing education kits, nutrition and provision kits, housing and marriage supports as financial assistance to those in need. KESS has opened its doors and heeded the requests and prayers of these kind neighbours who have also helped us transport essentials at times of need.

KESS TIMES

World Day of the Poor

KESS observed the 3rd World Day of the Poor, on November 17th this year, as called for by our Pope. This year's theme, "the hope of the poor shall not perish forever", was indeed reflected in the faces of the many poor who have sought refuge in our interventions. Formally inaugurated at KESS Centre, Nadathara by Adv. Sri. P.R. Renjith [Panchayat president] and felicitated by various other dignitaries such as Adv. Ramadas [Councillor, Thrissur Corporation], the programme included distribution of food and basic provision kits to around 30 poor, needy families in the region. One of the main highlights of the day was the house blessing of 2 poor families who were affected by the floods. Both these events were graced by Rev. Fr. Walter Thelappilly CMI [Provincial, CMI Devamatha Province], Rev. Fr. Dr. Joy Vattoly CMI [Exe. Director, KESS] and Rev. Fr. Jose Eduthan CMI [Superior, KESS]. Both the family had cancer affected members, whose treatment and care have left them all in a pathetic stage. The present breadwinners are widows with children and ailing elderly members. The families

had no land nor house to call their own when KESS together with various benefactors helped them acquire land and built a safe shelter. It truly was an achievement to witness both these families cry with joy on entering their new homes- a miracle beyond their dreams!

KESS Associates' empowerment program

KESS brought together around 75 people from amongst its associates, to an empowering get-together held at the CMI Generalate at Kakkanad on Oct 2nd. After a refreshing trip from various districts over the state, they all gathered together under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Dr. Joy Vattoly CMI [Exe. Director, KESS] to the heart whelming welcome by Rev. Fr. Dr. Paul Achandy CMI, (Prior General) and team. The highlight of the day was the motivating session by Mr. Kochouseph Chittilappilly [CEO, V-Guard Industries Ltd.], eminent industrialist and philanthropist. Mr. Chittilappilly has been a constant support and inspiration to KESS from providing the opportunity of income generation to poor women through the on-going stabilizer units in Thrissur and the continued support given for Cancer, HIV, and other chronically affected patients and their families. His talk on how he closely links social work with everything else in his life was indeed a great influence amongst the audience, reinforcing their drive and passion to continue serving the poor. Dr. Antony Gregory (President, CEVA) was also a special guest at this event. The associates also got the opportunity to closely interact with Mr. Chittilappilly during this occasion, which was a rare chance for many. KESS took this juncture to congratulate and honour each of the invited guests, especially the associates, for their continued goodwill and cooperation with KESS as well as their dedication to serve the poor and the needy. We especially thank Rev. Dr. Paul Achandy for the wonderful arrangements made at the Generalate with regard to the reception, program hosting, food and most importantly, the accommodation for the several members of the team who had reached from as far as Kozhikode and Palakkad, since the event ran late into the evening.

ICSW Thrissur Chapter revived at KESS

The Thrissur division of the Indian Council of Social Welfare [ICSW] was revived at a meeting held at KESS in October. ICSW is a worldwide voluntary sector network spread over 70 countries in the field of social welfare and policy. This meeting at KESS was chaired by Dr. Mary Venus [President, ICSW Kerala State Board] and attended by several social workers and representatives from NGOs and socially oriented organizations and institutions in the district. An executive body was formed from among the audience who attended, in which Rev. Fr. Joy Vattoly CMI [Exe. Director, KESS] was elected as the Vice President of the ICSW Thrissur Chapter.

Team KESS- a family in itself

The KESS family gets together for occasions like x'mas, onam, birthday or feast celebrations, sharing in the unity and joy of being one big team for the good of the society. The regular meetings, evaluations and reviews of the activities and performances help the team to better itself professionally. Trainings, workshops, seminars, exposure visits etc were conducted, facilitated and participated for the development and progress of the staff.

Workshop on Annual Report creation for NGOs

KESS organized an enlightening one day session on making a professional Annual report by the reputed Dr. Tom Jose, trainer at KKID. His professional method of training was well accepted and the audience of nearly 100 participants were grateful for this exposure and knowledge. The topics covered were design, styles, basics, content, process, making, presentation, techniques of writing, common mistakes and an open forum for feedback and response. It was an eye opener and a well received, timely session.

KESS DAY

Commemorating the death anniversary of the inspiring Saint, our namesake-St Chavara, KESS Day was observed in January, beginning with the Holy Mass by the 6 newly ordained priests of the Devamatha CMI congregation. This KESS Day was one to honour outstanding performers linked to KESS, such as staff and their wards for their academic, sports, literary, active servitude etc. Sr.Hima CSM was honoured on the occasion of her Silver Jubilee of vestition, Mr.Rapheal P.A's and Mr. Shaju C.K's 25 years of service in KESS was well appreciated, Mr. Smijo Sebastian's reputed gain of the Doctorate, Mr. Joy Chiramels' achievement of the Sahityarathna award for his contributions to Malayalam journalism and literature, Ms. Aleena Davis' achievement in receiving 1st rank in MSC nursing, Master Elbin Eldo's win of the 3rd prize in district level open swimming competition were the highlights. The cultural programs of the staff added to the colour of the occasion.

Religious social workers' meet

KESS organized a seminar in February, for members of religious social work organizations as a day to retrospect, reorient and revamp. Fr.Dr.Joy VattolyCMI, the director of KESS, discussed about biblical and theological perspective of social work, reflecting on the basis of the teachings of the church, Contemporary social issues were also laid out along with challenges faced by catholic NGOs in the current scenario.Dr. Catherine CMC, a physician from the Dept of Community Medicine, Amala Hospital,talked about her experience in the medical field and community. Fr.George Kannamplakkal MCBS (Director, Divyahridayasramam,Chennayippara) shared his experience of religious social work.The participants had an equal share of forwarding their queries and doubts on the topics concluding with a feedback.

Internship and fieldwork at KESS

This reporting period has witnessed the fieldwork practicum exposure by KESS to more than 25 students undergoing Degree and PG courses in social work, sociology, law, journalism etc. Observation visits and orientation sessions were held for many Colleges as well.

Accolades

- 1. Fr Dr. Joy Vattoly, Executive Director of KESS wins best social worker award from SMSSS, Kanjikode**
- 2. Mr. Smijo Sebastian, the Project Coordinator of KESS KARE, secured his Ph. D in Social Work.**
- 3. Adv. Reena John N., the legal advisor of KESS, was selected as ICC member for Government Medical College, Thrissur.**
- 4. Mr. Joy Chiramel, Principal of KESS YUVA institute, was awarded the Sahityarathna award by Unaruka news magazine Shreshtha Puraskaram 2019 for his contributions to Malayalam journalism and literature.**

With Love, for the 25 magnificent years at KESS!!

Mr. Raphael P.A joined KESS after he retired from his prestigious position of Deputy Collector of Thrissur, 25 years ago. Since then, he has given his 'youthful' period for the well being of KESS as the KESS Coordinator-the designation which he was since known as. During his tenure here, Mr. Raphael's experience and wisdom in the field of public service has raised KESS to its current stature as one of the best NGOs in the district, linkaging with organizations and individuals in the social-legal-political-administrative. Mr. Raphael's contributions include availing national and state funded projects and successfully implementing them, keeping in mind the needs and concerns of the poor and the underprivileged. It was always an honour to have Mr. Raphael as the team leader, coordinator, spokesperson, project analyst, communication and documentation expert, guide who reflected exemplary character-which inspired and enlightened generations of staff members throughout his time. He has now stepped down from KESS, wanting to give time for his health and family. We thank you Sir, for these fruitful years of professional yet empathetic and selfless service.



HIV Care



Cancer Care



Workshops



KESS - YUVA



KESS Associate's Meet



Women Care



Medical Camp



Basic Needs



Celebrations



Green Care



Disaster Relief



Kess Team





KESS

KURIAKOSE ELIAS SERVICE SOCIETY

Head Office

KESS Bhavan, Naickanal

Thrissur - 680001

Kerala, India

Phone :0487-2335516, 2335029

E-mail : kesstcr@gmail.com

Website : www.kess.org.in

Sub Office

KESS Centre, Elenjikulam

Mannuthy P.O

Thrissur - 680651

Kerala, India

Phone : 0487 - 2371839, 2373148