



# NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2018



Dear Members of the YMCA,

It is Christmas season again, and we greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ !

It is indeed a pleasure and privilege to be in touch with you through this Newsletter.

I shall pinpoint a few developments that may be of interest to you in this Newsletter :

A sound-proof **Audiology Room** has been set up at the YMCA KAMAK **Higher Secondary School for the Hearing Impaired** to analyze the hearing level of students . We are indeed thankful to Dr.N.Sethuraman, President of Mahasemam Trust, for sponsoring it.

The **Bakery Unit** at the school premises caters to orders from outside to produce and supply Loaves of bread and pastries besides being a demo unit for the Hearing Impaired learning a vocational skill. Kindly call us to execute your orders. Help us to help the Differently-abled !

We are also happy to inform you of the proposal to demolish the old **living block** in the YMCA **J P Kennett Boys' Home** and construct a new one in the place very soon. **Your Prayers and Contribution are essential.** The work is expected to start at an early date.

Awareness programs on the ill-effects of '**Sumangali**' **Scheme** were organized and Campaign on '**Right to Education Act** ' was carried out in villages of Thoothukudi district by the YMCA **Rural Community Development Project.**

150 children got actively engaged in Yoga, Karate, Table Tennis, Chess, Carrom, Hand writing, Spoken English, Speed Maths, Abacus, Music, Drawing, Arts and Craft, Aerobics, Skating, Gymnastics, Self Beautician course, Liquid Embroidery with mirror work, Teracotta Jewellery, Best of Waste, western and classical dance etc., organized by YMCA in a **Summer Camp** this year .

**District level Inter- School Carrom Tournament** was conducted in collaboration with the Madurai District Carrom Association in which 120 students took part.

While Paper cup - making and candle - production skills are promoted at the **Special School for the Mentally Challenged**, the mothers who wait to take home their children are given training in producing banana fibre products. Every year volunteers from German YMCA join us at the school for 6-8 months and help the students in their special education.

We are sure the **International Youth Centre (IYC)** will become fully functional at the very earliest with the blessings of Our Lord Almighty.

**Evening Study Centre**, partially supported by YMCA Denmark, functions on the principles of community participation and self-help. 75 school- going children attend free tuition classes in the evening. There is some time also for games, togetherness and learning something good.

There are 50 children in the **Play School**. They are from socially and economically backward families of Muthupatti. Health and hygiene are given priority at the School. The School takes on the role of day care, keeping the children safe till the mothers return from work and collect them.

**YMCA Sports and Wellness Centre** located in Alagappan Nagar has facilities for children and adults from the surrounding areas for getting coached as well as playing Tennis, Badminton, Skating, Cricket, and Karate. Special coaching is also undertaken during summer vacation. Fitness through Gymnasium and Walk – Track is also available. Around 175 persons utilize the facilities at the Centre.



**YMCA Religious and Choir Department** conducts worship services and Bible studies. **Christmas Carol Service** was held at the Church of the Divine Patience, Railway Colony. **Monthly YMCA Bible Study** is organized at the International Youth Centre Chapel. Dr.Sempon David conducts the study on **“The Second Coming of Christ”**.

**YMCA Madurai Choir Members**, directed by Mr. T. Jeyakumar, render Hymns in Tamil and English at services organized by **YMCA. World YMCA/YWCA Week of Prayer** was observed by YMCA and YWCA from 12th to 17th November 2018 on the theme, **“Youth Empowerment for Good”**. Prayer services were conducted by turn at the Divine Patience Church, Christian Schools, the Evening Study Centre, and at the St.Martin's Model farm, Kayathar.

**YMCA Madurai Youth Forum**, in association with Karaikudi YMCA, collected a variety of materials from well wishers and friends of YMCA and distributed them to the people affected by Kaja cyclone in Uthamudayan Village of Thanjavurr District.

YMCA is an international, voluntary, ecumenical, Christian movement based on God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. YMCAs all over the world strive to share the good news of Christ and endeavour to work for the spiritual, intellectual and physical well-being of individuals and wholeness of communities.

New attires, parties and gifts have always been part of Christmas celebrations. We do know that loving God and loving others are the basic tenets of Christianity. Let us also join hands to enhance and enrich the quality of life of the weak and the underprivileged. This will indeed take YMCA to great heights !

I would like to thank all our Office bearers, Secretaries, Staff, donors, members, and all VIPs and well wishers who graced our functions with their presence for their faith in YMCA and its work!

#### **A Success Story:**

**Arunkumar**, admitted in YMCA school for the Mentally Challenged, in 2011 had suffered mild mental retardation (IQ - 50). His father, Mr. Illango, is an auto driver and his mother, Kani, a home maker. He was given training in speech language, daily living skills, academics, behavior and social skills. From 2015, he was trained to make candles in production unit. After completing his training he started producing candles at home this year. His mother is of great support to him in his vocation. We are sure this small beginning will take him to great heights in the times to come.



**We Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas and  
A Very Meaningful New Year !**

**With Fraternal Greetings**

**Sincerely Yours**

*Shamila Doris*

**Shamila Doris  
General Secretary, YMCA Madurai**

