

The Initiative



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Chaitanya Educational Foundation
www.cefoundation.org
Phone/Fax: (309) 444-7565

Disability: Progress in the 21st century

By Sunita Prasad Shastry

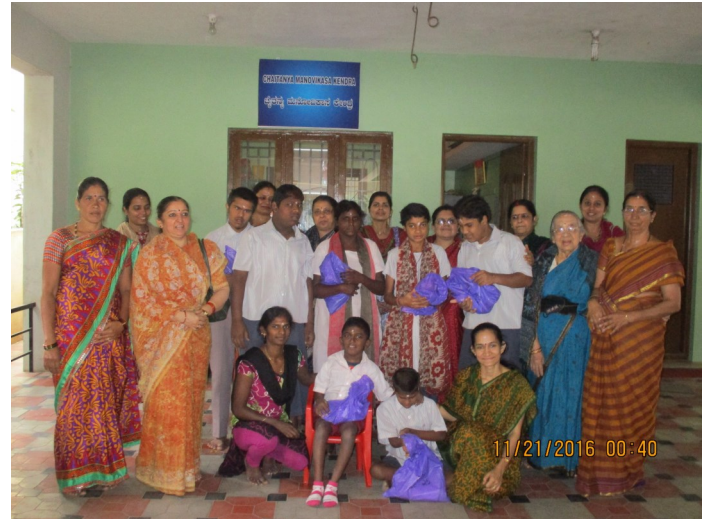


Today, there is a recognition that we all share the same human traits, the same human needs and the same human rights. This was not always the case especially in dealing with intellectually disabled populations. Until the 1970s, individuals with severe disabilities were taken care of in institutions and treated like patients.

The Principle of Normalization was articulated in Scandinavia in the 1960 brought to America and implemented here by Wolf Wolfensberger, a German-American academic. He defined it as the rights of people with intellectual handicaps to receive appropriate services, to assert their rights to independent living and to pursue the principle of normalization.

This was indeed a paradigm shift. It revolutionized the care of disabled individuals. It recognized the importance of normal rhythm of life and the life-cycle itself including celebration of holidays; workday and weekends should be available to everybody. Further that housing, schooling, employment, exercise, recreation and freedom of choice previously denied to individuals with disabilities, should be available to them.

This recognition resulted in deinstitutionalization, opening of the way for group homes being set up in communities, returning people to the community and supporting them to lead, as "normal" a life as possible. It has taken us a long time to recognize that people with disabilities are not to be viewed as sick, ill, abnormal, subhuman, or unformed. They do need supports—which today's technological advances can make possible in myriad ways. Physical help such as wheel chairs were available in the twentieth century. This century has provided cyber solutions to every problem. The true promise of this century is that it will bring the principle of normalization to fruition for everyone with a disability.



Measles Complications

The recent controversy about vaccinations has been fueled by some parents refusing to vaccinate their children. There have been measles outbreaks in some parts of the country because of this. Folks with these concerns fail to recognize that while measles may be a common childhood disease, it can have serious complications. There could be ear infections which may lead to hearing loss. Pneumonia and brain swelling are also potential complications which can cause mental retardation and developmental delays. About 1 or 2 of every 1000 children with measles dies of it, the CDC estimates.

While measles is extremely contagious, the vaccinations are extremely effective; one dose is 93 effective, and two doses is 97 effective. Typically the first dose is administered at one year of age and a second before kindergarten.

Before the introduction of measles vaccine in 1963 major epidemics occurred every 2–3 years and measles caused an estimated 2.6 million deaths each year. Also measles complications resulted in preventable disability in thousands of children.

Treasurer's Report -2016

	Income	Expenses
Sources of Income		
Donations	\$ 4109.00	
Endowment		
Funds	\$ 540.00	
CMVK School		
Grant to School		\$ 3600.00
Materials for School		\$ 82.71
Administrative Expenses		
Postage		\$ 137.66
Photocopying &		
Newsletter Preparation		\$ 177.88
Telephone		\$ 129.60
Office Supplies		\$ 100.91
Fees		\$ 10.00
TOTAL	\$ 4649.00	\$ 4248.76

Donations which are solicited from family and friends of CEF are usually the primary source of income. In addition to that, in November 2016, a **Build the Endowment Campaign** was launched which gave donors 5 different categories to choose from on a pledge form. This endeavor raised \$4000 by the end of the year. The goal is to raise enough in the endowment to last three years. Administrative expenses included telephone, photocopying, postage and office supplies incurred to launch the campaign. It was indeed a successful campaign which will be built upon in 2017.



CMVK Programs And Activities (2016-17)

The school staff campaigned for new admissions to the school, in and around the area, and in government and private schools. The Arkere Mahila Samaja a women's organization came forward to give clothes, and stitching charges for school uniforms. Food is being supplied by Ragi Gudda organization. The group from Sri Sai Baba, temple come every Friday to do music sessions (Bhajans). The organization from South City continues to donate money every month. Since June 2017, Mr Gopi and Mrs Saroja have funded the provision of milk to the school children.

Bannergatta Zoo trip was organized this year in January for the students as a school trip. A new boy has been admitted, but one old student, a girl is not coming due to family problems. Another former girl student is likely to re-join the school, if they are provided with transportation to the school. *Submitted by Rajeshwari Girimaji, Head teacher, CMVK School.*



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1304 Pine Tree Drive Washington, IL 61571

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The foundation serves the cause of children with mental retardation. Chaitanya means "energy that sustains life." The name recognizes the life energy that exists in all of us - even in those who are called intellectually challenged.