

CSt - Executive Meeting

Date : 28 /07 /07

Venue : CSt. Office

The CSt- Executive body meeting was held on 28th July at CSt. Office. The meeting was started by 3.45 PM. Sr. Mercy, the president of CSt. officially welcomed all the members. All the Executive body members were present for the meeting.

1. Validating the Previous Meeting Minutes:

Previous meeting minutes was read out by Mr. Jerald, Secretary of CSt. and it was unanimously passed by the executive members. A suggestion came to include the name of the NGOs (Real – Plan & Sneha) who helped financially to conduct the Carrier Guidance counseling. The secretary said that their names will be included in the minutes. All the other members thanked the Real –Plan, Sneha and NCRC team members for their work in conducting this career guidance courses.

As a follow up program for these vulnerable children, it was decided to conduct a similar type of program on Time management, how to study, the power of concentration etc will be done with the help of some experts. The financial support can be asked from the NGOs and this program will be conducted in block levels.

2. Athipulioor Panchayat Union School Incident.:

The follow up action was done based on the decision taken in the last meeting. Then the secretary read out the letter sent by Avvai and every body felt that, the response given by Avvai was not satisfactory. Even though they are one of the members of CSt, this kind of irresponsible attitude towards the incident made every body un happy. The legal procedures can be dealt by the government since they have taken this issue. But on the other hand, Avvai could have done some thing as a humanitarian gesture to help the affected family.

Then it was decided that since the CSt is a child friendly organization, it can take some initiatives in helping the affected family. Decision taken to help the siblings for their education and in future if any assistance comes, preference can be given to this family. In addition to that, the members felt that a counseling program can also be conducted for the senior students and the class mates of Divya, with the help of Psycho Trust. This will help the students to lead a normal way of life. The responsibility was given to Sr. Mercy.

3. State level Consultative Meeting:

The State level consultative workshop on children without parental care in the context of Tsunami was held in Chennai 19th of July. It was a great success for CSt. State level recognition was given to CSt. Thanks to TNTRC, NCRC, Shri Thenkasi Jawahar IAS District Collector Nagapattinam, Executive members and NGOs who came from Nagapattinam and those helped to conduct this event. There will be follow up on meeting with the Minister of Social Welfare for further intervention. TNTRC will take up the responsibility.

Ms. Revathi from Vanavil said that the UNDP wanted to include CSt in the success stories after tsunami and asked for its details. The members were extremely happy about that.

4. Signing Of MOU with Boomika Trust.

The secretary informed that we have signed the MOU with Boomika Trust for the educational assistance for the children in our district. He also said that the Trust has already released the 1st installment of Rs.1, 22,870/ the balance amount will be released in the second term. Since CSt is not an implementing agency, the Executive body has decided to carry out this scheme with the help of the NGOs / members of CSt in that particular area.

There was a suggestion from the Executive body that the CSt will have the final say in discontinuing the assistance for any child who is supported by this scholarship programme, and the percentage of mark, the number of days for school attendance are the factors to motivate the children to do well. We will make the documentation of each child from its selection process in the CST.

The following NGOs will be given the responsibility for monitoring this program –

Good Shepherd	-Nagapattinam
Create	-Vedaranyam
Sneha	-Kollidam
RIM	-Sembonnar kovil
Save	- Sirkali

One boy, Rajasekar from Vanavan mahadevi, at present doing his 7th std has been identified with night blindness. He will be supported till he completes his 12th std and for his medical treatment. This assistance will be done by Boomika trust.

5. Meeting with the principals of TTI:

Mr. Jerald attended the meeting organized by the Collector with the correspondents and the principals of Teacher Training Institutes in Nagapattinam. The main purpose of the meeting was to get a seat from the concerned management for the tsunami affected students who have applied for the Teacher Training. The meeting was very successful and the DRO, who was heading the meeting, was able to get five seats for the students. The credit goes to our CSt for the effort we have taken.

6. Block level Ngo Network Meeting:

As the net work of NGOs are one of the major activities of CSt. the block level meetings are more important. Since the Block level meeting at Nagapattinam was over, the meeting for the other blocks will be conducted as follows -

- 1.Sirkali - 31st July
- 2.Vedaranyam -2nd August
- 3.Sembonarkovil – 3rd August

7. New members for CSt:

a) JEED TRUST - Mayiladuthurai

The application received for membership from three NGOs were discussed and it was decided to visit the NGOs to verify their credibility to join in CSt. The NGO "JEED TRUST" from Mayiladuthurai has recently closed down its home for the mentally challenged children; the executive body has decided to include them after seeing their activities with the children. A letter can be sent by the secretary to inform them about this.

b) SAVE - Sirkali

SAVE an NGO from Sirkali has applied for its membership. The executive body decided to include them because, the members of the CSt have jointly organized many programs, and they are much satisfied with their work.

c) WORD – Kilveloor

A team consisting of Mr. Ganesh, Sr. Mercy and Mr. Ashok have decided to visit the NGO "WORD" from Kilveloor taluk to see their credibility. Based on their assessment, they will be included in the CSt.

d) DWCDWS – Nagapattinam

Since the DWCDWS, NGO has applied for the membership; the members of the Executive body will make a visit to this NGO and submit a report. Based on that they will be included.

8. Visit to the Residential care institutions in the district:

Since there is a delay in getting an authorization letter from the Collector, it was decided to make a visit after getting the letter..

9. Strengthening of the Steering Committee:

The Executive board feels the need for strengthening the steering committee members. Mr. Jerald told that Ms Grija Kumarbabu from Chennai has already consented to be a member of the Steering committee. Then the executive members decided to include Mr. Kanniram, former child right consultant of UNICEF to be a member of the steering committee. A suggestion came also to include a lawyer in the st. committee. Finally it was decided that Mr. Vairavanathan, a senior advocate from Nagapattinam can be asked to be a member for this St. committee. An Auditor for the CSt. can be selected after wards.

10. Daycare Centre for MR Children:

The executive body members felt the need for a day care center for the mentally retarded children in Nagapattinam. This idea came due to the non- availability of this type of day care centers for these kind of deserving children. Sr. Mercy, the president and Mr. Ganesh, the vice president took much interest in this regard. Since a building belongs to the LIONS CLUB is readily available near Papakovil, it is better to contact them to find the possibility of using their building for this purpose. CREAT will take care to meet the initial expenses.

11. District level Workshop for the NGOs on the Issues regarding the Physically challenged children:

A district level workshop can be organized to understand various schemes available for the physically challenged children. Before the workshop, FGDs can be conducted to understand various issues of these children. Hence, this workshop can be used as a better platform to derive an action plan for these vulnerable children. It was decided to organize this workshop in September. FGD will be conducted around 13th of August.

12. Federation of Children:

The executive body decides to federate all the children clubs / parliaments in the district level, so that their representation can also be there in the CSt. Then the NGOs who are already involved in the children parliaments were collected. - Donbosco Tharngampadi, Rice India, Sneha, Real Plan, Create, Good Shepherd, LCPN, Savalaya, Save, Care, VEESA, TMSSS, UEMI. An informal meeting can be organized with these NGOs to see the possibility of federating the children in the district level.

With this the meeting came to an end by 6.45 PM.

**Next Executive Body Meeting
on
11.08.07
at
3 PM.**

THANKS.....