

## Highlight Jan 2024

### Pivot to the Sustainable Upliftment and Rural Empowerment (SURE) Program.

NTI was formed with the intention of educating, guiding and coaching the youths to pursue the next step in their vocational and/or career paths has made useful contribution towards this goal.

However, considering the effects of the pandemic on the rural population and the economic condition of the people, it was decided that uplifting the economic condition of rural population and empowering them was very essential.

As a result, NTI developed a program called, “Sustainable Upliftment and Rural Empowerment” (SURE)’. Under this program 850 families have benefited so far. Our engagement with those communities is in the fields of; Poultry keeping, Home gardening, and Murunga cultivation. Also NTI is providing consultancy services and needed capital for entrepreneurs in the rural villages. We are guiding and supporting students who are pursuing for secondary vocational qualification in the fields of nursing, care giver, ICT and sewing.



The SURE program is making measurable impact in 20 branches of the NTI. Beneficiaries are motivated to increase the bird population and thereby earn an extra income. Similarly Home garden project beneficiaries are also getting the benefit of the home grown vegetables. Providing reconditioned bicycles to NTI female workers and students becomes a meaningful service. When a new bicycle cost Rs;50,000, NTI has managed to provide five reconditioned bicycles each costing an average of Rs;20,000/ , a project financed by the ISLF, USA. There is demand for this **service**. NTI is ready for change to be relevant and meet the demands.

### POs visit Killinochchi (Kn) to inspect progress of FRPK project .

Ten POs from Jaffna and Killinochchi visited the beneficiaries of FRPK and jointly assessed their progress. They finally met at Karunanilayam and based on the criteria agreed, selected five successful beneficiaries and given them gifts in appreciation of their performance. It was a tiresome but meaningful journey.



*FRPK inspection visit to NTI branches in Killinochchi area with a view to select successful beneficiaries. Photos depict POs at the KN railway station and Karunanilayam chapel. on 08.01.2024.*



*POs posing for a group photograph after a review meeting at Killinochchi.*

**The Tamil Church of God, UK supports Nursing training.**

NTI connects donors to deserving recipients to meet their needs. Accordingly, it has connected Ms. Angela Paul, USA, Mr. Ross Merideth SL and The Tamil Church of God, UK. Pas. Kumar Reginald head of the above mentioned Church in UK currently supporting Ms. S. Slojana of Moolai to follow the nursing certificate course at the Florence Nightingale nursing institute, Maruthanarmadam. We thank Pastor and members the Church for their support.



**Home based grocery by Ms. Satheeswary, Varutholai, Chulipuram.**



Satheeswary expressed her profound gratitude to NTI for its small capital of Rs;15,000 given at a time when her husband was indisposed and there was no income at all. She managed to buy a few grocery items and sold them at nominal profit. This support enabled her to feed her family. Her small business will be reviewed for further support.

Varutholai located near the village Kudakanai, is a resettled village immediately after the strife and internal war. There is one preschool, its building provided by the state. There are no other visible facilities and services; hence they need integrated development support. Leadership skills and motivation are to be developed to empower them to carry out their own development interventions.

**Leadership seminar and POs evaluation monthly meeting.**

These two events were held on Fri 19<sup>th</sup> and Sat 20<sup>th</sup>. Both programs were directed by Goinath. There were ten participants in the first day program and 16 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> day session. Leadership materials were supplied and an in depth study was made on the need for the Leadership and explored a strategy to conduct further leadership programs. At the end of the leadership program certificate was given to those attended the series of leadership events and submitted their reports.



### Inauguration of the NTI Golden Club.



POs celebrated the inauguration of the NTI Golden club. They evaluated their performance pertaining to strengths and weaknesses, Finally the Chairperson Gobinath made his expert comments.

### Website class.

NTI webmaster Kamalasegaram initiated this class in order to maintain NTI website by the POs. Ms.Sangeetha, ICT teacher from Hindu College Manipay volunteered to conduct a few classes and over see their performance. Laptops are borrowed to conduct these classes. NTI has 3 PCs which are older generation hence internet connection is not possible. NTI is urgently in need of at least one i3 Laptop.



### Onion cultivation by Ms.Kayalini PO Kaduppulam sponsored by Mr.K.Prabhath, Michigan USA.

A capital donation of Rs; 100,000 was made earlier through NTI for onion cultivation to Kayalini for direct monitoring and reporting to the sponsor.. Though the cultivation in the first season was not so successful the second season made reasonable profit. At this juncture Mr.Prabhath informed his desire to transfer the capital to NTI. Hereafter NTI will monitor the project .It will review the progress made thus far and allow Kayalini to continue the operation.



### Congratulations !!

Shalini PO Pungankuli joined the NTI through the Moolai branch as volunteer. Her wedding was a great event for her PO friends who were present at her wedding in their best dresses. Shalini congratulations.



### Get well soon.

K.Thushyana PO Pandaveddai an organizer of several NTI events was sick due to low RBC and getting treatment for almost one month. She is recovering fast but advised to be in rest for another month. Thushana, though missing NTI meetings she is in touch with all POs .



## Pongal festival fellowship at Tholpuram.



A few POs organized the “Pongal” fellowship get-together at Tholpuram and made traditional sweet rice. Each one brought the required ingredients and used fire wood to cook. All had to sweat yet it was unforgettable event.

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