

# ANNUAL REPORT

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**Snehan**  
empowering the deprived

## GOODWILL MISSION - SNEHAN

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## Introduction:

These few words touched my heart, I don't know these words are said by Late Lata Mangeshkar or not but this words are true for every person on this earth.

Nothing in the world is truer than death.

The most valuable branded cars in my home garage. I'm spinning in a wheelchair.

Valuable clothes, valuable decorations, valuable types of foot protectors all precious things are lying in my house but I am wearing a small gown given by them in the hospital. I have a lot of money in my bank account but I have no use now.

My house looks like a palace but I'm in a small bed in the hospital. Five star hotels around the world are going to travel to all the test in the hospital and these test labs. Those who decorate the shrine daily, I don't have any shingles on my head, I eat food in famous hotels, but I have two tablets during the day, and a pinch of salt at night ...

The world is roaming in special jet flights. But today two attendants are helping to get to the hospital ward. No wealth or accommodation has helped me. No consolation in any way but some loved ones' intimacy, affection, their prayers.. I'm getting a lot of life.

This is what life is all about... Don't give value to those who have a position and money which cannot help anyone. Give value to those who have a good heart, show friendship, affection and love... 🙏

## DO WE VALUE OUR LIFE?



“Human life is so precious and highly impossible to add even a second more, by paying all of the wealth”.

A 55 years old homeless Rajendran collects waste material on the streets to resell them for his survival. He claims, he doesn't have any relatives or family members to support him. He walks many miles on the streets to gather little material. At the end of the day, the maximum amount he would earn would be INR.150/-. He spends the entire amount for alcohol

and cigarette. What a meaningless life it is for him?

One day, while collecting waste materials in the junk of garbage, a broken Liquor bottle slit his toe. The blood gushed out non-stop. He just took a waste clothe from garbage and rolled around his wound.



The unbearable pain was quenched with liquor. After few days, he went to the government hospital for a treatment, but he was too late for the treatment and really no medication worked out. Within a week maggots started eating his wound and crippled his movement to one place. We can understand the end, who would come to support in such a worst condition? He should have given little care for his health too. Who is to be blamed for his life? I think him, in later days no one could go near him because of bad smell from the rotten wound.

Like Rajendran many people die before their time on the streets. Therefore Snehan plans to start a mobile clinic for the homeless people, where qualified nurse with basic medicine go around treating such a patients.

### **“I TOO HAVE A DREAM” ALSO THE CRY OF MARRIED WOMEN**

“I Have a Dream” were the words with which Martin Luther King Jr. opened his iconic speech in 1963. Do these words resonate with every one of us? My answer is YES.

Vani, a bright little girl, would rise early in her village home to complete her household work and walk 5 km to reach her school on time. This was her routine; she would never miss her school, even on rainy days. After she passed her 7th grade and was waiting to start her 8th-grade classes, her world turned upside down.

On the day she attained puberty, her mother decided that it was time to get the girl married off. Being a girl child, she needed “protection” and a “secured life” under the care of a man, the mother felt. Before even realising that her dreams were fading quickly, that her life would never be the same, Vani got married. Before her 22nd birthday, she was a mother to four children.

Did she give in quickly? No, she cried for many weeks leading up to her wedding day. She cried even after her wedding day but her voice was unheard and her cries for help

were ignored. She did have a dream that was now shattered. Stuck in an unhappy marriage, she was staring at a long road to nowhere.

Like Vani, there are millions of girls who are stopped short of their rightful access to a life of their choice. They all have dreams, their own paths to explore but their wings are clipped, by parents, life partners or children. For many of them, life halts in the face of this disappointment. They don't dare to dream again but for some, dreaming on is not a matter of choice — they just have to do it because it's their only way out. .

Poornima Krishna was a catalyst at kanthari and mentor to Anumuthu, in the 2017 batch. She visited Snehan, Puducherry, to meet and engage with people at the organisation. She spoke with women in Snehan for about two hours — the conversations were anchored in the importance of following dreams and the mental fortitude to tide over challenges to those dreams.



The women opened up about their personal lives with Poornima and shared with her the struggles that have defined their lives. Poornima said she was inspired by the manner in which these women were finding their way back to life, after years of abuse and hardships. She also motivated them to regain their long-lost joys and revisit their unfulfilled dreams.

We thank Poornima and her son, Mihir, for their time at Snehan and all the feedback and suggestions.



## **BINDING THE WOUNDS OF THE NEGLECTED**

Just one year back, I saw homeless man sitting on the side of the road with little wound on his left leg, no one to care about him nor government hospital admitted him for the treatment. Little by little the wound became big with lots of maggots eating up his whole leg. In the later stage Snehan NGO intervened to help him but faced worst rejection from the government hospital, NGO's, police department, and finally he died unwillingly on the road like animal.

This incident motivated Anumuthu (founder of Snehan) to go for nursing study. This little skill will be big support to Snehan NGO and its work. At present Snehan is supporting an old neglected woman on the street, who suffers with big wound in her right leg. A knife fell on her leg, cutting her skin with deep cut. Snehan is able to help her with little medication and daily dressing. Now her condition is stable, she is able to keep small steps. This wound would take at least three months to cure. Snehan would stand and support her during her recovery.

Like this grandma many suffer on the street for such, Snehan would stand with this kind of precious people and treat them to live to the fullest.



## **CELEBRATING THE WOMEN AT SNEHAN TAILORING**

Women are the most wonderful gift of creation for the humankind in this universe. They have the ability to build or to destroy. Think of a family, without mother or sister? Can a child experience the real love without mother? Can anyone care and love like mother? Women are the angles in the flash, who build the holistic family.

Today we are happy to celebrate women's day in our Snehan Tailoring Centre with high tea and photo shoot. They are trained tailors who make eco-friendly cotton traditional jhola bags for Snehan livelihood project. Our bags are sold around India and



many parts of the world. This activity not only gives employment to themselves but even to homeless people and the organization.

**“If you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman.”**  
Margaret Thatcher

## SNEHAN IS HAPPY TO SEE HAPPY CUSTOMERS AROUND INDIA

Snehan always believes that empowering a person to be self-reliance is better and sustainable. We are closely working with homeless people and marginalized women in the community. For the long run they all need means to survive in dignity, for that we run a programme called livelihood activities according to their abilities. For a woman we impart easy hand skills like tailoring, embroidery and screen printing. These skills enables them to make beautiful eco-friendly cotton items such as traditional jhola bags, tote bags, kitchen apron, kitchen towels and others. These products are given to willing unemployed homeless adults to sell in the tourist spots and in the market areas. This simple act generates income for the unemployed homeless, employment for women and support for the organization to meet the basic needs.



We have started new shop in the Auroville area. This is our first customer who bought our products with big smile on her face. She is Hama, very fond of our simple bag for the daily use. And moreover our bags are in affordable price range to every person.

Friends our bags eco-friendly, affordable in price and your purchase bring smiles on many deprived individuals.

### **RIP – WE MISS YOU FRANCIS**

Mr. Francis, who was a pillar & strength to Snehan NGO and me specially for the past 6 years, now he departed so quickly to the eternity last Thursday. This was shocking news to me, I saw him around 7.15pm on Thursday near the church in the beach, on the same day at 9.30pm he is no more! I can't believe that he is no more with me. Even though he used to live on the streets but yet he would look clean and decent.



Francis was a huge strength to me in income-generating activities, he was very trust worthy person, I can entrust any amount of money with him and do all my work without any fear. Not only that many times in our street activities we would pick up very sick, it would be so difficult to clean them but Francis would do it without any hesitation, he gave best of his care for

many sick and dying homeless people in the hospital. Francis you would be remembered for your dedicated contribution in serving the neglected in Puducherry. I totally miss him sooo much. RIP



## ANUMUTHU STUDYING NURSING TO HELP THE SICK HOMELESS

One of the most exciting studies in the entire lifetime of mine is nursing. With this study, I feel so amazed by looking at the creation of human beings, the cells, organs, bones, tissues and their functions, really wonderful, what a creation it is. I am sure this study will



enlighten me and support me in all of my work in the coming years. I appreciate and thanks to Paul & Sabriye for their wonderful suggestion.

Helping the helpless is my passion and my call on this earth. The importance of health we would only understand, when we go through that painful situation. Once I was a care taker for my friend who lost one of his legs in the accident. He was treated in the government hospital; the ward was filled with different kinds of people with different health needs. One scene caught my attention, which is a woman feeding her husband who could not eat by himself. This man's both of his arms been amputated and bandaged been covered whole chest. Beside him were two little girls playing around. My thought process stopped and started thinking about them.

### **What could be the thought process of this man, wife and the children?**

How many sick and old people been rejected by their own family members because they are sick? What a miserable life they go through as a neglected person on the streets? Without any one's care or to speak or to give medicine or to feed little food or cover them with blanket, what a wretched life that is.

The happy news is, we are getting ready to inaugurate **Snehan Home** for the neglected sick & old people in Puducherry. Our mission and activities would help many deprived people. This activities needs many hands to uplift, looking forward like-minded and kind-hearted to join with us through possible means.



## THE JOY OF LEARNING

After successful training of three months Mrs.Mageshwari learnt to make these beautiful tote bags. The joy of learning and implementation of skills brings smile and confident in her. She has become expert in making colorful tote bags that she is holding in her hands. It's available for purchase in wholesale and in retail.



## LOVELY PIECE OF ART WORK

Lovely pic of art work by our tailors. This is a beautiful Passport Sling Bag, which is made of soft silk material with pattu materials in between, and the back side material is pure cotton. The strong sling is made of cotton, which can last long . The size of the bag is H 8” and W 7.5, the sling radius is 62 inches, which rightly suits a 6 feet tall person.



If you like and want to buy for personal use or for your shop call us to order. **“Perfection with Smile”**

## VELANKANNI EARN TO SUPPORT HER FAMILY



Mrs. Velankanni, joined us as a student in our tailoring unit two years back. She went through quality training for six long months with decent remuneration. In the early days we noticed her as a slow learner but to our surprises she is outstanding student. She learns slowly but her outcome is pro. She is very dedicated and hardworking

lady. She is very concerned about her husband who is a gardener, who earns so little and insufficient for the family needs. Therefore, she wanted to work at home to earn extra money to support her husband's burden. She was bold to express her interest and requested our director to support her in purchasing new industrial tailoring machine. With her contribution and the effort of our director, now her dream comes true. After her marriage she never worked anywhere almost for 15 long years. Many times she felt helpless and depressed for not able to support her family by any means. But now she is the regular staff at Snehan tailoring and getting decent monthly salary as well as earning extra money to by making extra bags at home. See the innocent smile with happiness, this is amazing.

## HAPPY TO BRING SMILES IN THE LIVES OF THE DEPRIVED

A 75 year old Venkatraman is Snehan beneficiary, and works in the income generating activities with Snehan NGO. He is single and homeless, and lives on the streets. One year back he was rehabilitated and given employment opportunities in Snehan income-generating activities. At the age of 75, getting employment is highly impossible especially in Pondicherry. Our argument is that every person can be productive with their own abilities and strengths. We Snehan assessed what Venkatraman is capable of. Now he is working and earning for his daily expenses without looking at someone's



hand. He was struggling with cataract in the eyes. This week we Snehan supported him for the eye surgery and medication in the GH, after the surgery he can see very clearly. He is very happy and would be more efficient in his work. Snehan is happy to bring smiles on the life of the deprived.



### **FR JOE VISITED SNEHAN NGO**

Fr Joe Arimpoor visited Snehan project along with Mr Bosco on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. His visit was a blessing and motivational to Mr Anumuthu, founder and director of Snehan NGO. When Anumuthu's mother became widow at young age, she could not afford to send him to school but to work in the field as a daily labourer. Poverty crippled Anumuthu's childhood; he became miserable and looked out for a savior. Father Joe was that savior to give him his rights. At the age of 12 Anumuthu was adopted by Fr Joe to educate him and bring changes in his life. As stated Anumuthu became joyful child under the care of Fr Joe, he started going to regular school, had enough and more clothes, first time started wearing shoes, and had soaps, shampoos, toothbrush and pastes. All this basic needs became comfort to Anumuthu. All that he missed with his mother got back with Fr Joe. For Anumuthu Fr Joe means lot and everything. He loves

him as his own father. Having such a great person at Snehan is a blessing for Snehan NGO. Our staff's were motivated to see such a noble man.



### **CELEBRATING LIFE ON BIRTHDAYS**

Everyone wants to be respected and valued irrespective of cast, creed and social statues. We celebrate everyone as especially on their birthdays. Even though family members and husbands forget their spouse birthday's, our organization practices to remember every individual's birthday and celebrated with other staffs by cutting cake and giving gifts. Today we specially remember Mrs. Rama who is working with us for the past 4 years; she has played important role in the growth of our tailoring unit and trained many women in the tailoring. Few are her students who are working with Snehan and many elsewhere. We take this opportunity to appreciate for her dedicated work. We also wish her all the best for many more with us.





**Conclusion:**

This is a remarkable year for Snehan, two years of struggle with Covid19; we managed to get back on the road again. Our survival would have been impossible without our dear friends especially Dr.Reto and Elisabeth. This amazing person stood with us in all the difficult movements with their support and encouragements. This year we trained twenty five women in tailoring, among them six ladies joined us in the income generating activities. Snehan founder completed nursing studies; through this course many helpless people would get benefit with the medical support. One of the grandmas was completely cured of her wounds with regular care & support for quite long months. Now she is alive and earning her food. We have a huge need that is to start home for the neglected homeless people on the streets, we look out with so much of hope for kindhearted person to support our dream needs. Once again we take this opportunity to thank all the amazing people who supported us this far.



Anumuthu (Snehan)