



# Pudiador Times

Issue 38 January-April 2019

**Dear friends,** Vanakkam! For many of us, sports give us our first lessons in teamwork, grit and leadership. Read on to learn how Pudiador uses sports as a force for bringing communities together and helping our kids see how much we all have in common.

Warm regards,  
The Pudiador team

P.S: We are now active on social media (hey, it's 2019!) and are working hard to share details about our regular programming. We would love it if you can proudly show your support by following us!

**CELEBRATING PUDIADOR  
MOMS ALL THROUGH MAY!**

Say hello to us on social media



*Let the Games Begin!*



The much awaited **Pudiyador Annual Sports Meet** was held in March at the Ellen Sharma Memorial School in Sholinganallur. **148 children** (72 girls and 76 boys - that is 95% of all Pudiyador kids) of ages 4-15 from **all seven Pudiyador centers** participated in the event. We see sports as a great opportunity to teach the kids about team bonding, sportsmanship and friendship.

This year, the kids had a mind boggling variety of competitions to choose from. **Track, field, cricket ball throw, frog race, sack race, shot put, throw ball, kho-kho, carom, frisbee, kabaddi & chess** - you name it, we did it! To accommodate so many games and eager kids, we even had 3 spots running in parallel for each category of children.



Can you imagine the planning and co-ordination that went into conducting events tailored to 5 different age groups? The Pudiyador Ground Team - Ruby, Ramesh, Prem, Ashwini, Nithya, Saravanan, Pranav and Robika - brought their impeccable organizational skills to play, and successfully executed the event with



the help of 22 associates (staff & volunteers).

Our children had a great time participating and getting to know the others. We are thankful to our volunteers and the Ellen Sharma School.







## Update on the Cradle Program

Happy Mother's Day! A celebratory kick-off event for Cradle was held earlier welcoming about 120 expectant and new moms in our communities. Pudiador is now collaborating with gynecologists, local health care centers, women self help groups and local volunteers. Together, we are creating workshop content to address the specific needs of our expectant and new mothers.

Thanks to all our supporters who made our crowdfunding project a big success in 2018 and for helping Pudiador mothers support their children to dream big!

## Quarter Highlights



### **International Women's Day:**

Pudiador teaching staff and other women from the community gathered to discuss topics on women empowerment - unity, celebration, reflection, advocacy, and action.



Games were organized to teach women about self-defense. Invited speakers Ramya, Gowri and Robika shared their thoughts on women's connection with nature, web development and Thanthai Periyar's teachings on empowering women.

**Cancer Awareness Workshop:** Dr. Premila from the Adyar Cancer Institute and her team conducted free oral, breast and cervical cancer screenings for 48 women from Pudiyaдор communities.



Her team shared info about healthy lifestyle and healthcare choices and support groups. Thanks to our volunteer doctors who took their time to educate and take care of us!



**Science Day:** We had guest speakers and organizers from the LMES (Lets Make Engineering Simple) YouTube channel to inspire and experiment with our kids!



**Turtle Conservation Walk:** Pudiyaдор students went on a turtle walk with The Students Sea Turtle Conservation Network [SSTCN] to help in their mission to save endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles.





**Carrom Tournament for Teens:** We organized a special event for teenagers in March. 32 boys and 4 girls participated in this event.



Akash won the under 19 Category and Saravanan won the under 16 category. Kudos to all!

## *Pongalo Pongal!*





***Pudiyador Association for Community Empowerment***

Empowering communities, one child at a time

Say hello / send feedback: [info@pudiyador.org](mailto:info@pudiyador.org)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
Pudiyador · 2723 S State St Ste 150 · Ann Arbor, MI 48104 · USA

