



Pudiyador Times

Issue 40
July - September 2019

Dear Pudiyador friend,

Welcome to the quarterly update newsletter for Pudiyador ! We are delighted to announce the launch of our new website <https://www.pudiyador.org>. The new and improved website is a significant milestone that we have reached this quarter and we hope it will help you discover Pudiyador further and spread the word to your friends, and family. Please do check it out and let us know what you think :)

The website showcases the 5 core focus areas of Pudiyador and the (target demographic) :

1. Women's Empowerment & Community Development Program (All)
2. Cradle Health Program for expectant/new mothers (ages 0-3)
3. Children's Program (ages 5-11)
4. Early Teen's Program (ages 12-15)
5. Youth Advancement Program (ages 16-19)

To be more consistent with our programming, we have organized this newsletter in sync with our five vertical heads listed above. We hope that in reading our newsletter and

checking out our website, you will get a better idea of the most recent events that have been happening at Pudiador.

Thank you so much for your continuing support to the Pudiador Family!

Warm regards,
The Pudiador Team



1. Women's Empowerment and Community Development Program

Learn more about the Women's empowerment and community development program at <https://www.pudiador.org/womens-and-community>



Sept 8, 15 women participated in a **skill development program** organized by Pudiador in association with [Sugha NGO](#) . Mrs. Umaraj (founder of Sugha NGO) led **discussions on small business development and vocational skills** such as sewing. We continue to prioritize creating learning opportunities for the women of Pudiador to aid in their journey towards financial independence.



Sept 28, Pudiyador organized Community Cultural Fests at the Ramapuram, Urur Olcot Kuppam and Kakkan Colony centres. Kids of Pudiyador showcased their talent to their families and the rest of the community members. At Pudiyador, we believe that it is important for the community to observe and be engaged in the development of their children and for the children to feel encouraged by their families and communities - this event accomplished both objectives. We are very pleased with the success of each event and we want to congratulate our children for all their hard work!





More photos from the **Community Cultural Fests**. Pudiyaador organized a recreational games event for the communities. Families got together to play board games and other fun activities. A **volleyball, kabaddi and carrom tournament** was conducted and was mainly attended by boys and men. Both these recreational and sporting activities brought together each respective community around a common activity of interest, thereby providing a **space for camaraderie and positivity**. A highlight from this set of events was that these tournaments **were organized and run by Pudiyaador teens** - which has helped us **identify leaders for the future**.



The **Magalir Mattum** event brought together the women of Pudiyaador to provide them a safe space for sharing their thoughts. **Women** are encouraged to **bring forward their issues and discuss it with their peers in a constructive manner**. In this workshop, after some bonding activities, the women identified common patterns of interaction between women which hamper empowerment & progress and discussed alternative methods of communication. A key component of Pudiyaador is that our teacher's make and

execute their weekly programming. In our **teacher training workshops** this quarter, we organized team bonding sessions to "break the ice" and enable our teachers to communicate their ideas to each other without judgment. Teachers and organizers have also **developed the practice of appreciating each other on the spot** in order to create an inclusive workplace. Happy teacher's day indeed!

2. Cradle Health Program for New and Expectant Mothers

Learn more about the Cradle program at <https://www.pudiyador.org/cradle-health>

Check out the **September update for the CRADLE program** [here](#) .



3. Children's Program

Learn more about the Children's Program at <https://www.pudiyador.org/childrens-program>



"Kottai" (tent) is a structure in the Urur Olcot Kuppam community which was being **misused by men using it as a resting place after drinking**. Our staff took the initiative to coordinate with **Akarmaa NGO** to **utilize this space constructively for activities of the Children's program**.

Since then, Pudiyaador has organized **immersive computer skills sessions, arts & crafts activities and yoga for the children**. Recently, our two **volunteers from Poland** visited this space to share their exposure of the world to the kids. The **children were very excited to interact with people from another country**. They called them as **"Mama" (uncle)** and became very attached to them.



Teachers collaborated with **Muskaan Organization from Bhopal** to emulate their lesson plans to improve teaching methods for Tamil speaking and writing. **Arunodhaya NGO** conducted a child rights workshop for teachers of Pudiyaador.

4. Early Teen's Program

Learn more about the Early Teen's Program at <https://www.pudiyaador.org/early-teens>



Pudiyador teen's participated in **four rallies** this quarter **demonstrating their awareness and activism towards sociopolitical, environmental and physiological issues**. **August 3**, A rally was led by the Greater Chennai Police from Besant Nagar Police Booth to Annai Velankanni Church. This was staged to **sensitize the general public about the crimes that are happening against women and children in Tamil Nadu**. (Top Right) **August 10**, Kids rally against the use of "Single-use plastics". (Bottom Left) **Sept 22** Kids participated in the **Global Climate Strike** held at Besant Nagar beach. (Bottom Right) **August 31**, Kids brought awareness to the community on the **causes and dangers of cancer**. They distributed pamphlets from Adyar Cancer Institute.



Children Parliament is an initiative by Pudiyador to inculcate in teenagers concepts such as governance, democracy and civic duties. On **August 12**, teenagers were taken to **Arunodhaya NGO**, an organization that has a similar forum called **Children Sangam**. Teens participated in **Mock Nagara Sabha** and "**Joy of Giving Initiative/Campaign**". Our teenagers, were so inspired by the 'Joy of Giving' talks that they decided to implement the same at Pudiyador by planning activities and presenting gifts to the younger children. **It was fulfilling to see the teens take up ownership in planning activities for those younger than them.**

5. Youth Advancement Program

Learn more at <https://www.pudiyador.org/youth-advancement>

Pudiyador's Youth Advancement Program (YAP) intends to

1. Capture and channel youth energy and idealism
2. Provide skill training sessions and mentoring opportunities
3. Develop confidence and leadership

Stay tuned for more updates from this program in future quarters !

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info@pudiyador.org

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