



 pudiyador times

58TH EDITION
JUL-DEC
2024

Our President's Message

Dear Pudiyaador family,

Every time I sit down with Pudiyaador updates, I'm pulled into the incredible stories that unfold in our communities.

In this edition, I want to highlight the idea of *alloparenting*. Borrowed from studies of primates, it's a simple yet beautiful concept: children are not just the responsibility of their birth parents, but a joy and treasure for the whole community.

You'll see this *alloparenting* spirit woven throughout these pages: neighbors, teachers, grandparents, and friends all teaching, encouraging, and caring for one another's children as naturally as their own.

I invite you to enjoy these moments and think of the children in your life, especially the precious ones in Pudiyaador, whom you care for and guide as an *alloparent*. Thank you for all that you do.

With love,
Swapnaa



'From cradle to college to community'

Pudiyador is an education-driven child and family organisation that caters to marginalised communities across India. Our goal is to equip children and their families with experiences and opportunities that will empower them and their communities to break the cycle of generational poverty.

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School bridge



Children's program



Early teens program



Cradle health



Youth advancement



Women's empowerment & Community development



- Speak with Sam: Shamuvel's Path to Finding His Voice

- World Breastfeeding Awareness Week
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Playquity ♀

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PUDIYADOR-WIDE HIGHLIGHTS

GRADUATION DAY

Graduation Day is a cherished tradition at Pudiyaador, celebrating important milestones in children's journeys. This special event honors students progressing from one program to the next, recognizing their strengths and achievements. Each graduate is appreciated with a heartfelt mention of their best qualities and receives a small token of recognition. This year's celebration was as meaningful and joyful as ever!



CHILD PARLIAMENT

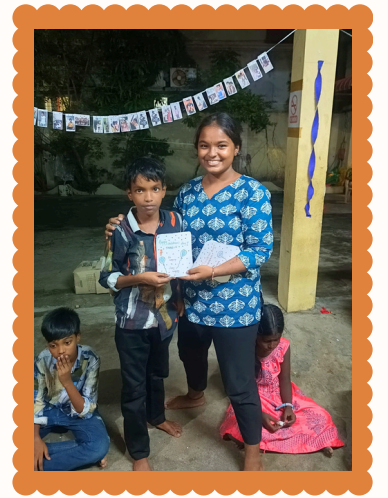
To deepen their understanding of electoral choices and democracy, children participated in Child Parliament elections, a mini-simulated version of real elections. This initiative helps them grasp governance, leadership, and decision-making. After four years, elections were successfully conducted at Ramapuram and Besant Nagar community learning centers, thanks to the dedication of Priya (Early Teens Program Teacher, who grew up in Pudiyaador programs throughout her childhood). Two Election Officers from the early intervention program facilitated the process, with Youth Advancement Program students and teachers also casting their votes. Children were further exposed to voting awareness, emphasizing the importance of fair elections and active participation in a democratic society.



PUDIYADOR-WIDE HIGHLIGHTS

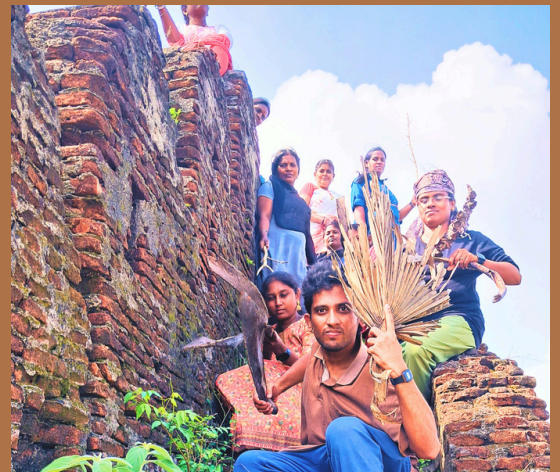
CHILDREN'S DAY

Keeping with tradition, Children's Day was joyfully celebrated at both Ramapuram and Besant Nagar centers. The day was filled with exciting games, activities, and music, ensuring that every child had a wonderful time. At Besant Nagar, a mother observed the entire celebration, gaining insight into Pudiyaador's impact. At Ramapuram, teachers recorded parents' heartfelt messages highlighting their children's qualities. Watching their parents speak proudly about them on screen was a heartwarming and emotional moment. The celebration was filled with joy, appreciation, and unforgettable memories!



TEACHERS' BONDING TRIP

Pudiyaador teachers came together for a memorable trip to Alamparai Fort near Chennai. The day was filled with fun activities, bonding, and laughter, creating a refreshing break from daily routines. These gatherings strengthen teamwork and provide a space for relaxation and connection. It was a joyful and rejuvenating experience for everyone!



CRADLE HEALTH

For our expectant/new mothers and their infants



World Breastfeeding Awareness Week

In the first week of August, World Breastfeeding Awareness Week was marked with a series of impactful activities, including drawing, storytelling, and drama, all centered around breastfeeding. The mothers' enthusiasm was inspiring as they created meaningful pieces. A rally was also held, where pamphlets highlighting the benefits of breastfeeding were distributed, and the local *Anganwadi* (a government-run childcare center in India) was visited to share information. The week concluded with a powerful drama performed by the mothers, raising awareness and fostering a strong sense of community support.



A New Milestone!

The Cradle Health Program supports mothers through the early years of parenting, up until their children turn three. The graduation ceremony celebrates a significant milestone, as three mothers complete the program while their children transition into the School Bridge program. This moment marks an important step forward for both mothers and children, as they continue their journey with newfound knowledge, confidence, and support.



SCHOOL BRIDGE

For our toddlers between ages 3-5 years



The Magic of Books

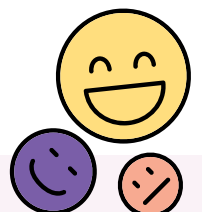
There's something magical about the way books capture the attention of young learners. Recently, we witnessed a moment with 3-5-year-olds in the classroom. When a new book was introduced, one child immediately picked it up the very next day and began mimicking the actions in the story, clearly grasping the concept. This experience highlights how carefully chosen learning materials can make all the difference in sparking curiosity and deepening understanding in young minds.



A Heartwarming Community Experience



An Art-Mela was conducted for the little ones in July, and it was nothing short of special. Children aged 2-5 gathered to explore their creativity through fingerprint painting, but the real magic happened when parents joined in. Eight parents took part, guiding their children through the activity, and the bond between them was heartwarming. What touched us even more was the way parents extended their support to other children whose families couldn't attend, showing a beautiful sense of community and care.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

For children between 5-10 years



Planting Seeds for a Greener Future

Highlighting the importance of connecting children with nature, children from grades 4 and 5 participated in a community plantation drive in the Urur Olcot Kuppam community, Besant Nagar area, joining volunteers from the Students Sea Turtle Conservation Network (SSTCN). The children enthusiastically planted 10 saplings in their community. This hands-on experience not only emphasized the need for young minds to engage in environmental conservation but also brought joy and excitement to the children as they contributed to a greener future.



Learning and Fun at the Crocodile Bank

In October, children from the program enjoyed an exciting field trip to The Madras Crocodile Bank Trust. They had a great time learning about reptiles like crocodiles, snakes, and turtles. The adventure continued with lunch and playtime at Kovalam Beach. These outings are a vital part of our mission to support children's physical, intellectual, and emotional growth. A heartfelt thanks to Palluyir Trust for Nature Education and Research for sponsoring the entry tickets and making this unforgettable experience possible!



EARLY TEENS PROGRAM

For our teenagers between 11-14 years



Book Reading Highlights

This quarter, we launched a Library Competition to encourage reading among our teens, and it was a big success! 11 teens participated, registering for events like *Vaasikkalaam Vaanga* (Come, Let's Read Together), *Un Puththagam* (Your Book), and the *Vaasippu Marathon* (Reading Marathon), *Kadhai Solli* (Tell a Story), *Ippadi Mudiththal Enna* (Imaginative Endings). Every teen at the Ramapuram community participated, showcasing their creativity in presenting the stories they read. A standout moment was Jeeva, who participated in the Vaasippu Marathon (Reading Marathon). He read an English book with great confidence and shared the story with impressive understanding.



Aram Porul Scholarship

We are proud to announce that Bala Alagar, a teenager from one of the communities in Besant Nagar, has been selected for the *Aram Porul Scholarship*, an initiative to create a socially conscious young generation. He will receive an annual scholarship of Rs. 5000 and is eligible to continue receiving it until he completes Class XII. This scholarship is an opportunity for him to further his education and contribute positively to society.

YOUTH ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

For our teenagers between 15-19 years



Speak with Sam: Shamuvel's Path to Finding His Voice



Sometimes, all it takes is the right space to help a young voice grow. Starting in grade 1 as part of the Children's Program, Shamuvel—a curious and eager learner—developed a passion for learning new things. As he progressed through the Early Teens Program, his interests expanded, and he eagerly embraced new skills—crafts, parai (a traditional percussion instrument), gender sessions, and more.

It quickly became clear that Shamuvel had a natural flair for speaking. Recognizing this talent, the Program Manager of the Early Teens Program, took the initiative to nurture and hone Shamuvel's communication skills, helping him build confidence and express his thoughts with clarity and courage.

We're excited to share that Shamuvel, now a teenager and a recent addition to the Youth Advancement Program, has been given a new platform to amplify his voice. Inspired by his gift for communication, we've launched "Speak with Sam", a YouTube channel dedicated to his thoughts and experiences.

In the very first episode, Shamuvel dives into his meaningful journey through the Gender Sessions at Pudiyaador—a topic he was passionate about exploring. We're eager to see how this platform empowers him to grow and share his unique voice with the world.



TEACHER TRAINING

Our training program for teachers from all of
our child-centric programs



**WE HIRE OUR TEACHERS FROM WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN.
A RIGOROUS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE TEACHERS ENSURES HIGH QUALITY OF CARE AND EDUCATION
AND A STEADY SOURCE OF EMPLOYMENT.**

Exploring Reservation

A thought-provoking teacher training session was organized on the topic of reservation in India. This session provided Pudiyador teachers the opportunity to delve into the historical background and reasons behind the reservation system. It fostered an open and respectful space for meaningful discussions, where many teachers confidently shared their knowledge and perspectives on caste-related issues.

The session proved to be an enriching experience, encouraging open dialogue and deepening understanding of this important social issue among educators.



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



Our women empowerment program

Promoting Reading: A Library Initiative

In another effort to promote reading, a library was set up for women from the Ramapuram community after completing four books together. As part of their learnings from the skills training program, the women actively contributed by creating library bags, a stand, and a pen holder. Ms. Salai Selvam, an Indian author, inaugurated the library and led a motivational workshop with 32 participants. The group read and shared summaries of 4-5 books, wrote poetry, and reflected on how reading has brought joy and positive change to their lives.



Environmental Day Awareness Workshop

Gowtham, a dedicated Pudiador alumni, facilitated an Environmental Day awareness workshop aimed at fostering a deeper connection with nature. The session began with a reflective activity, where participants were asked to name all the trees they noticed during their walk from home. Following this, participants were divided into groups for a mapping exercise to draw their surroundings and identify nearby trees. The workshop also introduced various interactive activities, encouraging participants to engage with their environment in meaningful ways.



PLAYQUITY

Building equity through play by
inverting gender roles



Playquity Academy 2024

Playquity Academy 2024, the annual two-month event aimed at empowering young women in the program, was another exciting and impactful experience for the Coaches-in-Training. This year, the Academy took place in Coimbatore, providing a vibrant environment for growth, skill-building, and self-discovery. Participants from partner organizations received expert training in Ultimate Frisbee, along with valuable lessons in leadership, life skills, and self-worth.



Coach Judith Beckedorf from Germany led the first half of the Academy. In the second half, Coaches Tarini, leveraging her experience as an accomplished Ultimate Frisbee player representing Team India at the Asia Oceanic Ultimate Guts Championship (AOUGC) in Manila, and Anjana, a lawyer and skilled Frisbee player, continued the coaching. Their expertise and passion further enriched the training experience, enhancing both the skill development and mentorship provided to the participants.



JUDITH



TARINI



ANJANA

The experience at Playquity Academy 2024 equipped the young women with essential skills, empowering them to become leaders and change-makers. Ripple effects have already been observed as the Coaches-in-Training apply what they've learned, inspire others, and take on new roles of influence and responsibility within their communities.

PLAYQUITY

Building equity through play by
inverting gender roles



Muskaan

We are happy to announce a new partnership with Muskaan, Madhya Pradesh, India, an NGO dedicated to empowering children and young individuals from denotified tribal communities and indigenous communities living in informal urban settlements and villages. This collaboration marks the beginning of our joint efforts in 4 cohorts, where Playquity will support and mentor three Coaches-in-Training.



Prioritizing Health

In many rural communities in India, the health of young women is often neglected, with limited access to healthcare. As part of the Playquity Health Initiative, the cohorts in Manipur and Rajasthan have taken the lead in prioritizing the well-being of the young women in their groups. Local doctors conducted essential health tests and provided tips on how to maintain good health.

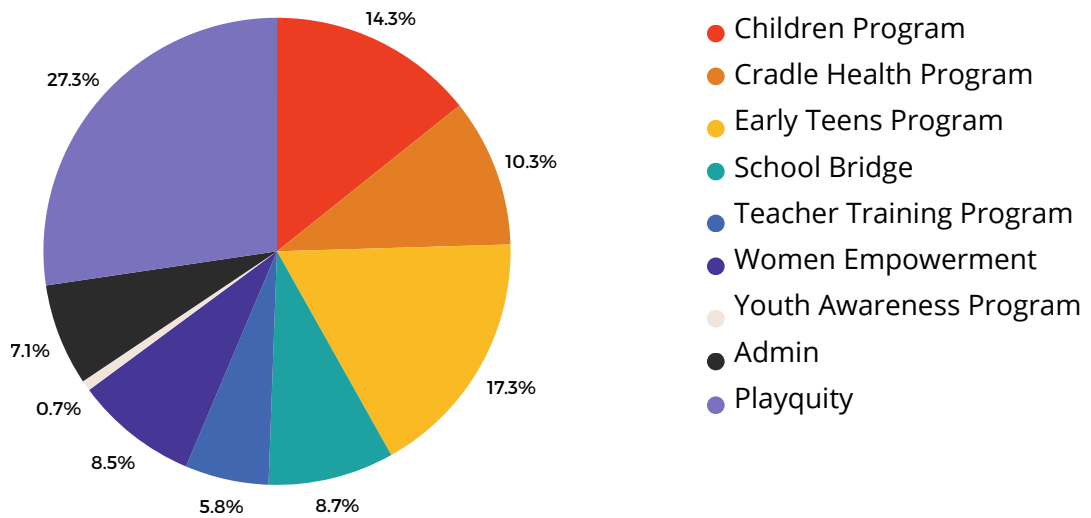
Digital empowerment

The Playquity Coaches-in-Training have gained valuable skills through the photography and design online workshops held in this quarter, learning how to capture moments and express themselves creatively. These skills are boosting their confidence and opening doors for future careers in content creation and digital media. With Volunteer, Shridevi's support and guidance, they are empowered to lead, create, and inspire others.



FINANCIALS

Reported Budget for 2024 - Programwise expenses from Jan'24 to Dec'24



Projected Budget for 2025 - 78.00 Lakh INR / 89066 USD



Quarter 1: Jan-Mar 2025

Projected amount to be raised:

20.00 Lakh INR / 22837 USD

Here's how YOU can help!

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Dedicate a few hours of your week to help teach our children in-person or remotely. They would love interacting with you!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the logos to head to our social media!



Pudiyador



@pudiyador.india



Pudiyador



@pudiyador

DONATE AND EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITIES!

Your contributions ensure that Pudiyador's operations continue to empower communities – from providing rations to families in need, to supporting community teachers, maintain ongoing programming for children, youth, women and other members of the community.



CONNECT US WITH ORGANISATIONS YOU KNOW

Help us partner with organisations you know so we can conduct events and start new projects!



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