



ANN FOOTPRINTS

Volunteers

MESSAGES

SPRING 2011



Ann Moideen
President
Ann Foundation

Eleven years ago the Ann Foundation was founded to address the needs of children with disabilities in developing countries. Since then, serving as the Foundation president, I have watched it grow into an organization of nearly one hundred volunteers from the U.S. and around the world. These dedicated volunteers are committed to providing quality education to children who are often overlooked.

Ann Foundation also depends on the generous support of corporations, nonprofit organizations, community partners, and friends. Every dollar and hour donated allows us to pursue our mission: educating underprivileged children with disabilities. I invite others interested in becoming part of this mission to contact us. Together, we can continue to make a difference and to empower children with the greatest needs.



Nazeera Dawood
Vice President
Ann Foundation

Greetings! As the new vice president for Ann Foundation I am looking forward to working closely with our president, Ann Moideen, to further our mission. For the past decade, Ann has provided the leadership and vision which has helped us realize a goal to reach children with disabilities and empower them with literacy and other life skills. The aim now is to take our organization to the next level, improving programs and serving more children. To achieve this, we depend on dedicated volunteers and sponsors as well as generous donors.

At Ann Foundation, we are open to innovative ideas and suggestions. I would like to leave you with a quote that portrays the motivation for the volunteers at Ann Foundation: "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." ~Ralph Waldo Emerson



Students perfect their English language skills in ESL classes.



Children at IELC School for the Blind
in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India.

Kolkata Project

We have collaborated with Samaritan Help Mission, a Kolkata -based NGO. In April we initiated English as a Second Language (ESL) and a Computer Literacy project for teachers and students.

Also, Ann Foundation has identified personality development classes as an essential tool in helping children gain confidence. The purpose is to motivate and inspire children to pursue their ambitions. These intelligent and gifted students welcome guidance that helps them identify and improve their skills and overcome their inhibitions.

These classes are offered for all our projects.



Students from Samaritan School learn to use computers.



Students attend the inauguration of the Computer Center in Sowbhagya Illam.

Dindigul Project

In April, a new Computer Center in Sowbhagya Illam was inaugurated. Sowbhagya Illam is a home for abandoned and destitute children which is run by the Gandhigram Trust (www.gandhigram.org/welfare/sillam.hm). The home provides care for 180 children ages 6 to 18.

With the new Computer Center in place, Ann Foundation has initiated English as a Second Language (ESL) and Computer Literacy programs for the students.

The Ann Foundation wishes to thank Mr. Raguraman, director of PSNA College of Engineering and Technology. His generosity made possible the computers as well as the infrastructure for these new programs at Sowbhagya Illam.

Cameroon Project

Ann Foundation is initiating basic computer classes for visually impaired children in Bulu Blind School. We have donated computers, Jaws screen-reading software, and will provide internet access. The classes will begin as soon as connectivity problems are resolved.

Egypt Project

We will soon initiate ESL classes for the children in St. Andrews Refugee Service. In preparation for the class, an assessment test was given to the children prior to spring break. Classes are scheduled to begin soon after the children return from their break.



Bulu students in Cameroon learn to use the computer.



Students in their school uniforms at the IELC School for the Blind in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India.

Vellore Project

At the India Evangelical Lutheran Church Blind School students are now on summer break. Classes will resume in June.

ADMINISTRATION

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Lam Kim Ngo

SPOTLIGHT ON ...



Rahul Srinivasan, from Mumbai, is an electrical engineer by profession. He completed his undergraduate degree at Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute and his master's in electrical engineering at University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has been active with Madison-Asha and, in India, the Sarva

Shiksha Abhiyaan program, a central government directive to educate underprivileged children. Inspired by his parents, Rahul believes each of us should devote our time and talents to serving those in need. Working with Ann Foundation is a way to further his service.



Savithri Panchapakesan

has been volunteering in the Ann Foundation since 2009. She says, "Though I haven't had the privilege of teaching children, my recruitment/administration/coordination work indirectly benefits our projects and the children we work for. An hour or two of our time over a week goes a

long way in touching and shaping the lives of so many children around the world and Ann Foundation gives me the opportunity to put my time toward a worthy cause. I am thankful that I am in a position to help and I hope to continue as long as I can."

ANN FOUNDATION VISION

Ms. Ann Moideen founded our organization in 2000. Working as a volunteer at Helen Keller National Center, New York, was an eye-opener for her. She put ideas into action by implementing projects that helped many children with visual and hearing impairments. Later, through a course titled, "Developing Strategies for Person-Centered Planning," she expanded her knowledge and understanding of the daily challenges faced by deaf and blind children. Our vision for improving the lives of children with disabilities is guided by Ann's experience and inspired by the life of Helen Keller. This vision continues to expand as we reach more children and refine programs.

Ann Foundation, Inc.

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Ann Foundation, Inc., is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit, volunteer service organization. Donations are 100% tax deductible.

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Let us bring a better future together!