**Snehagram** 

**Activity Report** 

(Period: June 2019 - June 2020)

Snehagram, the adolescent phase of the comprehensive care programme by Sneha Charitable Trust (SCT)

for the Children Living with HIV (CLHIV), was established in 2013. This programme is a result of SCT's

ardent pursuit for an advanced care programme exclusively for CLHIV. This programme which spans across

three phases envisages providing comprehensive care by addressing all the issues and needs of children

pertaining to each developmental stage and to help them to have an independent living as they reach

adulthood.

Vision/Mission

Snehagram envisions to ensure quality of life and future of the orphan and vulnerable children living with

and affected with HIV and lead them to a healthy and productive adulthood by comprehensively addressing

their needs on education, health, psycho-social and emotional well-being, vocational training, life skill

education and value formation.

Motto

Educate For Life

**Objective** 

• To create a home away from home for children living with HIV to rebuild their lives.

• To encourage children to attain optimum education for building their lives for future.

• To ensure quality of life through comprehensive and holistic care integrated with adequate psycho-

social and emotional well-being.

• To build self-esteem and confidence through life skill training, guidance and support.

• To guide and support the young adolescents to transition into responsible, healthy and hope filled

adults.

• To enable the children to develop their skills for securing a job through vocational training based on

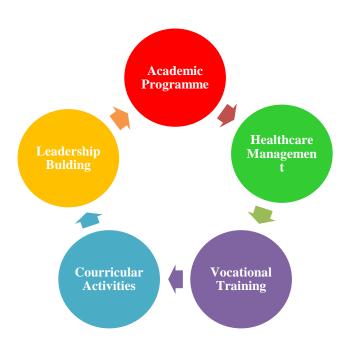
their aptitude.

• To mentor and rehabilitate the young adolescents to settle in life.

### **Brief History**

Snehagram the second phase was established in 2013 to cater to the needs of children who have been under care at SCH once they reach past the age of 13. Major focus in this phase is to impart vocational skills and to prepare them for independent living. In this phase the children are also provided with opportunity to complete their academic education at least till the higher secondary level along with life skill education and other health and life enrichment activities. It is a residential programme for boys and girls who are 13 years and above with a focus on vocational training and rehabilitation. It has the facility to offer residential training for 200 children, both boys and girls. Snehagram facilitates a preparatory platform for the adolescent CLHIV to face the challenges of life when they reach their adulthood. This unique model is evolved to meet the long term needs of childhood development, adolescent issues, personality development, value development, employment, community and family acceptance.

### **Services Delivery**



#### **Academic Programme**

Snehagram is the second phase of Sneha Care Home. It is a residential program for boys and girls who are 13 years and above with a focus on vocational training and rehabilitation. It has the facility to offer residential tainting of 200 children, both boys and girls; Snehagram facilitates a preparatory platform for the adolescent CLHIV to enable them to face the challenges of life when they reach their adulthood. The unique model is evolved to meet the long term needs of childhood development adolescent issues, personality development, value development, employment, family and community acceptance. "Learn for life" is the motto of Snehagram. The curriculum is not only based on theory as well as practical

too. We follow the National Institute of Open School (NIOS) syllabus at secondary (10th) and senior secondary (12th).

Our children are divided into five groups and they are,

- ➤ **Pre NIOS (9th)**: These students are new to Snehagram and will attend NIOS secondary level (10th) examination on coming academic year.
- ➤ NIOS (10th): Students those who attend their secondary level examination (10th) in the current academic year.
- ➤ **Post NIOS** (11th): Students who completed their secondary examination on previous academic year.
- > PU (12th): Students those who attend their Senior Secondary examination (PU) for the current academic year.
- ➤ **Post PU**: Those who completed Senior Secondary and most of them are doing their graduation in different open universities.

Year	10th			12 <sup>th</sup>		
	Total	Cleared	Failed	Total	Cleared	Failed
17-18	14	13	1	14	13	1
18-19	28	17	11	9	9	0
19-20	17	17	0	9	9	0

#### **Vocational Training and Community College**

Many children are involved in different activities and setting their lives to improve their future careers. Some of the programmes that are introduced for skill training are:

- Organic Farming
- Hydroponics
- Dairy Farming
- Broiler Poultry
- Natti Poultry
- Data Entry
- Mango Farming
- Cookery
- Sales and Marketing
- Solar Food Dehydrating Training
- Rabbit Farming

## Impact:

- ✓ Students are exposed in all fields to find out their interest
- ✓ Helped students in finding their career
- ✓ Improved confidence to face the society
- ✓ Added knowledge and skills

#### **Co- Curricular Activities**

Co-curricular activities are devised to help children in value formation and life skill training, resilience building and coping and in preparing them to face challenges in life. Some of the programmes that are introduced for co-curricular activities are:

- Sports and games
- Running

## **Impact**

- ✓ Injury free runs
- ✓ Continuity in running
- ✓ Better performance in daily activity
- ✓ Increased strength and conditioning
- ✓ Knowledge on how to manage crams and aches
- ✓ Being a professional runner
- ✓ Right method of doing exercise
- Dance
- Gardening/Farming
- Exposure visits
- Creativity Development Programmes
- Monthly cultural Program

## Impact:

- ✓ Children are able to find out their hidden talents.
- ✓ Adolescent children can channelize their energy to productive work
- ✓ Develops skills and imagination of children.

## **Leadership Training**

### From a learner to a leader, are we ready?

We are proud of our 10 students who will be writing their Senior Secondary exams this year and moving ahead in their lives. From being students and learners, they are growing up to be leaders and responsible youth. Here are a few insights, from the discussions I had with them.

Life in Snehagram has been a period of learning, exploring, identifying and building new skills. While most of them felt that Snehagram team has been like a family and they made some good friends for life, others shared that the systems has helped them, become responsible and healthy adolescents. One thing they will all miss from Snehagram is the friendship they cherished and the healthy living environment, integrated with education and sports. Each one of them look forward to continue some of the good things they learned and also felt that integrating sports, education and working in the coming days, will be a challenge, but committed, that they will be strict in ensuring treatment adherence.

The next steps of life, have been diversified, - 'It is boring to study, hence I want to finish my 12<sup>th</sup> and start working', shared one of the students, others felt having a degree certificate will give them with better employment and hence would want to integrate studying while working. All of them have shared and discussed about their future either with their family members, friends or seniors in Snehagram, but have not been able to take a decision till date, but promised to do once the results are declared.

Family members, have been proud of their growth and shared, that they have been responsible in their life. While some felt that their family members have one or the other opinion about their studies and future, others felt that they have been left to their choice and hope to get the family support once they take a decision.

Future has been a challenge for all our friends - they all feel that they have some skills, but will the skills give them a job to be financially stable is a challenge? While most of them felt that doing some business will help them become financially stable, others felt that job oriented training program, can give them a job to start with, just like their seniors.

It is proud to hear from some of our friends that they would like to go back home, spend some time with family members, especially their mothers, who need their support. But others have a challenge whether they will be accepted in their families or other relatives.

Taking ownership of life, right decision to become financially stable and being a healthy individual is not an easy transition, but being open to the new learnings will certainly help us to become leaders one day.

## **Impact:**

- ✓ All the 10 children are confident to write the 12<sup>th</sup> exam and have also been able to identify their skills and potential career choices.
- ✓ Children are confident to enrol for graduate programs as their seniors and look forward to learn and earn.

## **SPANDAN – Partnership with Christ University**

This year, the visits from the Department of Psychology, CHRIST (Deemed to be) University to Snehagram, revolved mostly around teaching Psychology to the tenth and twelfth grade children. The main agenda was to dispense effective techniques to the students in terms of both studying for the examinations as well as writing them. For this, the children were divided into smaller groups so that the volunteers could provide their complete focus and attention to them. Analysis of question papers, tips for writing answers appropriately, and sample answers for important questions were all given out to the students. Quizzes on the topics, timed tests as well as repeated rehearsal sessions added benefit to this. These sessions provided proper insight, understanding, important tips and techniques, and practice to the students which will definitely help them perform better on their examinations. In addition, for the initial few sessions, the ninth grade children participated in life skills training while the eleventh grade children underwent group counseling sessions. Both these aspects were aimed towards a more holistic development of their minds. While the counseling sessions provided a safe space to the children to discuss their thoughts and feelings, the life skills training helped them learn important virtues, necessary to live a prolific life. Finally, periods of mindfulness meditation, which have been seen as one of the best methods to end the two day long sessions on a calm and peaceful note, have also been a part of most of the visits. All in all, the sessions held in this academic year have been very fruitful with respect to the academic growth of the children. We, as a team, are always awestruck with the amount of things we get to learn from these children while trying to teach them the ways of life, and this year was no different.

#### **Child Parliament**

Child parliament is a system of self-governance by children. INSA India, a partner of Snehagram supported in setting up the child parliament system in Snehagram which is actively functioning since 2013 and has become an inspiration to many more organizations working for Children affected by AIDS (CABA) in the country. Under this system, children select their own parliament; Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister along with ministers for Law, Education, Health, Environment, Sports and opposition leader. Cabinet meetings and parliament meetings are convened regularly and children take active part in managing and guiding the affairs of Snehagram.

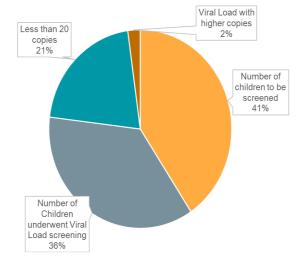
#### **Health Care**

Since the beginning of the Snehagram program, we have been following a three pronged approach in health care: preventive, promotive and curative. **Preventive aspect** focuses on preventing our children from infections and keeping them mentally and physically fit through running, sports, which is part of the lifestyle. These along with balanced nutrition diet plays a pivotal role in preventive healthcare management.

On the **promotive care aspect,** the onus is on creating a healthy mind in a healthy body. Children are helped to address the psychosocial issues related to adolescence through individual counselling, group counselling and peer counselling. There are well-being groups of children who meet every week and discuss their issues and provide mutual support in dealing with life challenges and in goal setting. The senior mentors also discuss with the younger ones on the various aspects that help them to be healthy.

The **curative aspect** takes care of treatment and drug adhesion. All the children, in compliance with the NACO guidelines are on ART (Anti-retroviral Therapy).

This year we faced some challenges due to drug shortage at the Centre, which had some impact on drug adherence among our children, at this juncture



we got good support from Mr. Thyagaraj, Assistant Director (CST), KSAPS. He supported and ensured our children got their drugs.

Further, the national programme has initiated to use viral load testing for both routine and targeted viral load testing, patients are tested using routine viral load monitoring tests to identify virological failure. In case of suspected clinical or immunological failure, targeted viral load monitoring will be used to confirm treatment failure. The goal of ART treatment is to keep viral load low and CD4 cell count high.

## **Events & Celebrations 2019/20**

**Basketball Tournament:** On November 15th we conducted a Basketball tournament for girls dividing them into four teams. All the teams tried their best to be selected for the finals. The team named Winston Churchill and Lincoln were selected for the finals, and the team Lincoln beat Winston Churchill with a huge margin.





Eye Checke-Up: Many of us were wondering why we are not able to read our texts properly until we went for an Eye Check up camp at Krishnagiri organized by the Lions Club of Krishnagiri. Thirteen of us were prescribed with eye glasses and our Krishnagiri District Collector was generous enough to contribute the eye glasses to help

us read better. Now we have better sight and hope that we will be able to see our future better as well

**Tie & Dye Workshop:** Tie and Dye training was held in Snehagram by Mr. Paul. He explained how to make natural dyes on the clothes and how this can be a livelihood option. The students were very curious in learning and making all sorts of natural colours on the piece of cloth given.





Creative Learning programs: Tension and stress of exams melt away in a week's time. Semester holidays were organized with varieties of entertainment programme and learning activities. The caption of the week was 'book free learning'. The week was planned on the basis of six themes spread out in six days, namely, Environment, Arts, Sports, Knowledge, Creativity and Performance.

We @ Fever 104 FM: On 14 of form Snehagram got chance to Radio. The participants spoke exercise help children and youth time of sharing our learnings,



December some of the students go on Record in Fever 104 FM about how sports and regular living with HIV. It was a fruitful views and ideas



**Visit of Vicar General, Camillians:** Global Camillians made their presence and blessed us all in Snehagram through the visit of Rev Fr. Laurent Zoungrana, Vicar General of Camillians, Bro. Jose Ignacio, General Consulta for Mission and Finance along with Fr.

Alessandro Vigano the delegate from the Mother Province. We welcomed them wholeheartedly. They spent time with the students and the staff appreciating and encouraging students and staff to continue their journey trusting in God for a better and bright future.

**Grammy Night:** Our annual celebration, Grammy Night, was celebrated on 4th January 2020 with its usual pomp and glory. Students put up dances, skit, presentations, and various



entertainment programs. Programs were well watched and the guests marked their appreciation on students. The program was followed with a sumptuous dinner. Fr. Baby Ellickal, Provincial, Fr Susai Raj, Parish Priest, Krishnagiri, and Mr. Vincent, Chairperson of CWC were some of the guests of honour.



**Trip to Pondicherry:** Fun and family time again! Long awaited trip to Pondicherry took place on December 5th Thursday. Many of the students had not seen and played in beach that was the main reason of choosing Pondicherry. We began the journey at 3.00 in the early morning. We spent time in Sadhana forest, Botanical Gardens, Aquarium, Museum and at the beach. Children were bit disappointed as they were not allowed to take

dip in the sea due to the rough waves. However, children enjoyed the time in beach, by collecting shells, making sand houses, running around, and of cause getting a feel of the waves on their feet. It was indeed a time of excitement and togetherness. A big thanks to all those who sponsored it and made it a reality.



# **Farewell to Daughters of Divine Providence**

The collaborative ministry with Daughters of Divine Providence officially began in June 2013, with three sisters who joined Snehagram under the leadership of Sr. Lilly. In 2016 Sr. Rani took over the baton and continued their service till April 2019. It was indeed a remarkable era of genuine

commitment and altruistic service. On 30 April 2019 Snehagram bid farewell to our dear Sisters as they moved to other mission centres of the congregation. We were indeed grateful to them for the 6 years of contribution to Snehagram, especially guiding and mentoring girls. Sisters also served as in-house nurses caring for the children whenever they fell ill or by giving tips to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Teaching was another area they contributed. It wasn't a happy moment for Snehagram to end this collaboration, but as it is said there is a time for everything.



# Farewell to the Founder Fr. Mathew Perumpil

The beginning of the New Academic year also marked some important changes in the administration of Snehagram. Fr. Mathew Perumpil, the architect and director of Snehagram went for a sabbatical and got transferred from Snehagram on 12th June. We appreciate the initiatives of Fr. Mathew that he envisaged the second Phase of Children affected and

infected with HIV in a creative way. The idea of Snehagram was born in his heart and actualized by his initiative with the support of the Indian Camillian Province. His tireless effort and hard work helped the program to be established with all the necessary infrastructure, conducive ambience and well equipped staff. It also reached new heights by establishing 'Snehasparsh' a program continuing to mentor the adults passing

out from Snehagram.



## Farewell to Mr. Subin Varghese

Right from the beginning of Snehagram, Mr. Subin Varghese also started his journey with us being part of us in everything. He played an important role in accompanying our students to various places for multiple reasons. Lastly, he was serving as

warden of boys, purchase manager, and maintenance in charge. We sincerely thank him for his selfless service to the institute.

## **Running Events**



Celebrate Bangalore 10k Run: On 15th of December, eight of our boys participated in 10K Marathon in Bangalore. It was a tough run but our boys made it through and clocked their best timings. It was a proud moment as two of the boys were the podium finishers in the open men's category. Babu clocked 38.34minutes and was the second

runner up and Nagaraju clocked 41.36 and was the 3rd runner up.

**TROT 10k Run:** On 27th July TROT run was held in Bangalore. 10 of our students participated in the 12.5 and six participated in the easy run 5k. All the students did very well clocking their best timings. The happiest thing was that none of them had any major injuries during and after the run.





**Snehagram Run:** We run we live. That's the motto of Snehagram Run. On 15 March 2020, we had Snehagram Run 5k and 10km. The running trail is amazing path with green trees around. All the students participated along with members from outside. This year we had Mr. Murli as our chief guest for the run.

Thumb Celebration 10k Run: Yet another 10K Marathon was a landmark in the history of Snehagram. It was held on 1st December 2019. Eight of us participated in the 10k and another eight in the 6k event. We were very proud as Vijaykumar and Sahana won the first prize in the open category of men and women. Sanjay completed the run as the first runner up in men's 10k category. Congratulations to all participants and winners.





**Nelson Mandela 10k Run:** Nelson Mandela Marathon was held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019 in SA. One of our students, Babu, participated in the event through Champion In Me program. He was accompanied by his mentor and Coach Mr. Elvis Joseph, representing Champion In Me and Sneha Charitable Trust. He participated at the 10k event and touched the finish line in 42 minutes

### **Human Resources**

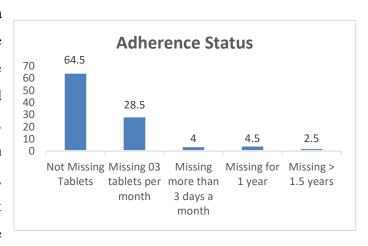
Sl.	Name	Designation	Qualification
No			
1	Fr. Johnson Varghese	Director	MSW, MCPC
2	Fr. Joy Inchody	Administrator	M.Th
3	Mr. Shinto	Teacher	B.A, M.A.
4	Mr. Subin Varghese	Maintenance	+2
4	Mr. Lakshmikanth	Warden	B.Com
5	Mr. Aby.M.Michael	Counselor	MSW
6	Ms. Shruthi	Warden	BA
7	Mr. Prabakaran	Security Officer	ITI
8	Mrs. Nirmala	Cook	VII

## New Ventures

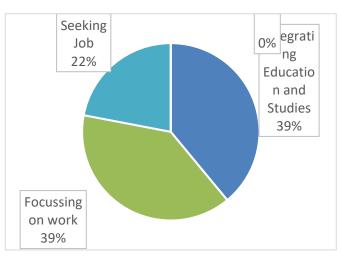
## **Snehasparsh**

Snehasparsh, a concept designed to address the concerns of the youth through a two way model:

• Follow-up plan post Snehagram: Through a peer-led approach, the mentors, who have grown with experience and have developed life-skills to understand and cope with their own life challenges, continue to be connected with the youth to assist them to take important decisions, learn new skills and be ready and resilient in the face of unknown challenges. The



peer leader approach effectively reaches out to address and build skills of youth, both among those who reside within institutions and also those living independently or within extended families. Peer leaders connect with the youth, through WhatsApp video chat and other platforms on a weekly basis. Quarterly/ Half yearly, meetings held at zonal levels (South, Central and North) helps in building the bonding and strengthens the support system. Through regular reach out, the program provides them the constant support to take ownership of their life as well as be able to lead a healthy and meaningful life. Further, Snehasparsh also builds the leadership and ownership skills of the youth to reach out to their friends.



• Identifying the skill sets of the youth: The youth are facilitated to identify the key skill sets they have, for building a sustainable livelihood. A strategic plan is drafted through facilitation by the youth on the options he or she has. Based on the draft plan, the youth is supported to complete joboriented/ skill based training program. Once the skill program is completed the youth takes a call on his/ her plans to move out of Snehagram and live an independent life. The team and the mentors support

the youth in the initial three months support both in his/her work as well as place of residence to ensure effective treatment, adherence and sustainability.

Currently Snehasparsh mentors reach out to 190 youths of which 40 have been staying in Snehagram and moved out to seek job and 150 youth who didn't have an opportunity to stay in Snehagram, but who have been connected with our youth, through support group meetings and youth workshops.

The preliminary finding has brought forward the challenges and concerns that would need both short term as well as long term bonding to address the same. Of the 39% who were working 32% of them had one or two issues in their workplace, the primary being issues related to salary, taking treatment and job being difficult or tough and they were forced to work overtime. Keeping this in focus, Snehasparsh initiate d collaboration with Institutes implementing Job Oriented Courses, and started its discussions with Don Bosco, Christ University and BOSCH. All these institutes had agreed to provide free training, but expressed the challenges related to providing food and accommodation. Don Bosco, has been supportive to our students and helped them to get a feasible accommodation close to their training center at minimal cost.

## **Snehasparsh Home at Dommasandra**

Snehasparsh aims at independent living of those students who pass out from Snehagram. The facility rented last year is maintained for some of the ex-students who are working in and around Sajapura. This is a phase that aims to be in connection with all the students who have gone out of Sneha program. This is aimed at our students' journey to independence and responsible living

#### **Impact**

- ✓ The collaboration helped two of our students to successfully enroll and complete the program and get a job of their choice, currently both are employed.
- ✓ Further, for the new batch four of our boys got enrolled in the program and also got free accommodation facility at Don Bosco Centre.

## **Collaborations and Alliances**

- ➤ Learn For Life Foundation Financial Support
- ➤ USAID-KHPT- learning site development
- ➤ KHPT-McAIDS Leadership development and for partnership building and training of other care centre's in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- > INSA India Child parliament and developing child protection policy
- > Christ University Skill development and Spandan Programme
- ➤ Christ University (Dept. of Psychology) counseling support
- ➤ Bangalore School Sports Foundation Development of Sports, games, Running and fitness
- > St. Johns Medical College –ART and Tertiary Healthcare
- > Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health ART and Tertiary Healthcare
- ➤ **Sisters of St. Joseph of Tarbes** Councelling and guidance for girls

## Finance and Administration/ Treasury Reports

Year 2019-2020 has been a challenging period in terms of generation of funds. In the previous years the centre had some fixed sources of income through Pro.Sa and other individual and corporate sources, unfortunately those sources came to an end due to various reasons. But, trusting in the Divine Providence Snehagram was able to go ahead without much difficulty. Learn for Life foundation (LFL) an Initiative of the Thekkethala Family Charitable Trust based in US who had been one of the main supporters in bringing up Snehagram intervened with a financial Support this year also with a donation of USD 20,000/- (Twenty Thousand only). That has assured our functioning for the this year.

### **Sources of Income**

The fund was mainly from Learn for Life foundation (LFL) of Thekkethala Family Charitable Trust US. CHEI, and Taiwan. A little support was given by the local contributions too. However with the amount received Snehagram was able to function well during the year.

### **Farms**

Through Poultry farm we could generate some limited income. The farm has been running on a contract base and due to COVID-19 it is on halt for some months. We were given remuneration for supervising and working in the farm which is done by the students. Students were incentivized for their contribution which turned out to be a good saving for them.

## Mentorship program of Students and Incentivization.

This has motivated students to work and learn in various vocational skills in the Campus.

In short, Snehagram could manage well because of the generosity and good will of many people. Proper Management of the limited sources has helped us to reduce the expenses to a great extent and maintain well the functioning and activities of the center.

## **Exposure Visit Details**

There had been very many people who visited the centre may it for learning, extending support, voluntary service or friendly visits, they had been of great value.

Sl.	Name of the institution/organization/College/ Congregation/	No of
No	Corporate	Visitors
1	Christ University	184
2	Don Bosco College, Dharmapuri	14
3	Jesus Calls Ministry	30
4	Champion in Me-NGO	3
5	Y'S Men Club, Bangalore	100
6	Inner Wheel – NGO, Banaglore	15
7	Camillian Brothers and Fathers, Bangalore	27
8	Seva Café	30
9	Visitors from Germany	4
10	Camillian Visitors from Italy	3
11	Norway Volunteers & Students	3
12	Krishnagiri Parish community	60

## **Publications**

Snehagram publishes Annual report, active in social network such as face book, YouTube as Snehagram and a bimonthly newsletter – 'Snehavaani' that covers all the events of Snehagram during the period. The major shares of the contents are contributed by the children themselves. It also gives a platform for children to nurture their literary skills. Videos of every special event is captured and posted in Snehagram You Tube channel.

## **Snehagram Future Plans and Possibilities**

In the present Scenario of COVID-19 and less infection rate of children with HIV in India, the number of children in Snehagram is foreseen to be very few. The children reach here mainly form Snehacare Home, Bangalore. Presently the number of children there and the inflow is decreasing. Taking into consideration

the Camillian Ministry to the sick, the infrastructure and available resources, the focus of the activities from the present form needs to be redefined. Within the coming five years the number of children from Snehacare is probably going to be less. Such situation invites us to plan and evolve creative response to the new needs of the society.

At the same time the numbers of Children infected and affected with HIV in Communities as well as the poor children who need support are larger. Therefore a focus on caring community children can be of a great contribution to the health care world and lives of the marginalized.

- 1. The girls who need residential support throughout the year can be accommodated in some other facility under SCT. Snehagram can accommodate the boys who need residential schooling throughout the year as well as girls who need short term programs.
- 2. One of the Camillian Formation stages like Aspirancy or Novitiate can be organised in Snehagram. Depending on the number of students, the three houses in the campus for guests can be made use for this purpose or else the girls' hostel can be another suitable building.
- 3. We have ample facilities and salutary ambiance. A unique treatment centre or alternative treatment centre can be developed here. This holistic care centre could be a combination of Ayurveda, Naturopathy and Siddha. The unique ambiance, availability of water and good soil can be some of the supportive elements for such initiatives.
- 4. There are many community children who are not able to do 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in the main stream of schooling. According to the KHPT Report 2019 there are about 17 thousand Children between age group of 11 to 20 currently on ART treatment in Karnataka. Some of those children can be enrolled in National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Snehagram can be a venue for such children including any affected children who could not peruse their 10<sup>th</sup> or 12 to get classes according to NIOS syllabus for a short duration of maximum six months. It can be a model of short stay in Snehagram for classes, practical and preparation for exams. Rest of the academic year staying in their own homes with daily routine and study at home can be part of it. The training and life in Snehagram can also help the children to improve their language of English which can add up to job negotiation capacity.
- 5. Another group of beneficiaries can be some of these children from the age group of 16 to 18 who completed 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> who are not generally prepared to get any job oriented training program. Nearly 20% of the infected children would require a residential training program, to ensure that they are able to lead a sustainable life, with better livelihood options. Snehagram can be evolved into the centre for such job oriented training of a few weeks, three months or six months depending on the nature and need of the training program. Depending on the aptitude and capacity the children can be linked to different employment based training program like bedside nursing (home nursing), Data Entry or other skill development training. Collaboration with likeminded institutes such as Learn for Live Foundation, Don Bosco, Navgurukul, NUDGE Foundation etc. can be of great help. It can be a model that Snehagram can get access to qualified trainers from such institution or offer our space for their training. So by building partnership with other likeminded institutions Snehagram can train and find employment for them.
- 6. Snehagram can also open its facility to non-residential students for any of the program here so that children from the locality also can be benefited.
- 7. Children who are able to do their degree studies can be also accommodated and supported for their degree in correspondence. Like our existing model of Mentors who do their degree studies and help in Snehagram can be followed. It enables them to support Snehagram program as

- teachers, trainers in agriculture, animal farming, Poultry, physical fitness training etc.. while perusing their degree.
- 8. As the number of outgoing members increase Snehagram can explore and strengthen the 'Snehasparsh' program. It can widen the network of members outside, improve network with job oriented agencies, and initiate more 'Dommasandra' model accommodation and monitoring and organizing of its members.
- 9. With our Existing experience and resource we could become an online support for counselling of the said group, a medium to connect with de addiction program for those suffering with drug or any other abuse. As well as it can be a short term facility for accommodating members who need to work on burnouts.
- 10. The legal registration of the Centre as care centre for Children can be changed into hostel or training centre to reduce legal complications and better management of the facility.
- 11. As the preliminary stage to any of these initiatives Snehagram can initiate exploration and discussion with possible partners as early as possible with the already available information. The diocesan Social Service Centres can be a good medium to get connected with the sick and poor children in the society.

Fr. Johnson Vellachira MI