

EYE OPENER

2002

2011

9
YEARS



"We create miracles!"

NETHRODAYA



Founder's Desk

On the **2nd of October 2002**, with the vision of **Gandhiji** in his mind and resolve in his heart, **C. Govindakrishnan / Gopi** founded **Nethrodaya** with the dream to serve the visionless. Founding this institution has given him satisfaction beyond compare.

For **Gopi**, serving the differently abled has been a sacred and joyful experience. Nine years at **Nethrodaya** has made him a better person. Today, he owes the success to his well-wishers for their unconditional support through thick and thin.

When a visually challenged person anchors an organization, there is usually doubt and reluctance in the minds of people. But people have faith in **Gopi's** capabilities and ability to take the organization to greater heights. Through this immense support he has gained enough confidence and perseverance.

Gopi has been motivated by every person he has worked with in empowering the community of the differently abled. Between **2002** and **2011**, **Nethrodaya** has been offering free service to those who have knocked at its door. **Nethrodaya** has come a long way since **2002** and **Gopi** is proud to share that **Nethrodaya's** services have reached the poorest of poor among the differently abled. He believes that further public participation and involvement will make **Nethrodaya** an internationally recognized organization.

Nethrodaya's speciality is not to offer endless support to the differently abled in the form of Shelter, Food, Clothing, Education, Training and Basic Amenities. Instead, it is an organization driven by one goal: To make every member self-sufficient and independent in a manner that they integrate themselves into mainstream society by making appropriate career and life choices.

In-house Services

Uniqueness of **Nethrodaya's** Services

Although primarily an organization for the visually challenged, **Nethrodaya's** services are extended to those with other disabilities such as for students with orthopaedic, hearing or speech impairment as well.

Supporting the Differently Abled Students from Poor Background

Nethrodaya provides free accommodation, food and other benefits to educate the differently abled rural poor to help the students succeed in their chosen fields to support their families in future.



Expert Yoga Classes

Supporting the Education of Children of Differently Abled Parents

Nethrodaya alleviates the Visually Challenged Parents' inability to afford quality education for their children by providing monetary support to such families on a yearly basis.



Exclusive Browsing Centre for the Differently Abled

Nethrodaya operates a Free, State-of-the-Art Browsing Centre for the differently abled to offer them the benefits of the Cyber World.

Fully Functional Audio Library

The Government's printed text books do not help the Visually Impaired. Nethrodaya has always strived to assist the rural economically backward differently abled with illiterate parents by offering Free Audio Books. The books have helped them reach academic success, which has been instrumental in boosting their confidence.

Part-time Computer Diploma Courses

Nethrodaya offers part-time computer courses that can be accommodated with the mainstream study course to equip the differently abled with the basic nuances of **Microsoft Office** and to give them an equal footing in a competitive world.

Free Legal Aid

Nethrodaya supports the differently abled in distress by providing them with legal aid services in Tamil Nadu to relieve them of their legal entanglements.

An Interface with Achievers

Nethrodaya inspires its inmates by inviting differently abled achievers who have made a mark in various fields and provides a platform for the residents to interact with them.

Rehabilitating those Involved in Begging

To bring back the dignity and respect into the lives of the differently abled who have resorted to begging, **Nethrodaya** provides a seed capital of Rs.500 worth marketable products to start a small business independently.

Award of Excellence

This is a unique initiative of **Nethrodaya** to facilitate those who have made a mark in their respective professions, overcoming all barriers. These awards are mainly to showcase to the world the great people who have had the courage to look at disabilities from a different perspective.



Moses Robinson conferred an Award by Nethrodaya presented by Justice Venkataraman

Promotion of Sports

The presence of an impairment is not a limitation. The absence of imagination is! As an innovative organization, **Nethrodaya** has pioneered a unique form of sports specially packaged and designed for those who are fully and partially blind to enhance their sports skills. Various volleyball, chess and cricket tournaments are held throughout the year and the inmates participate with great enthusiasm.

(South India Level)

Volley ball Tournament: 5

Chess Competition: 8

Cricket Championship: 3



Out reach Services

Free Medical Helpline

Physical pain for the differently abled is an addition to their existing suffering. As a pioneer effort and essentially to relieve them of such sufferings, timely quality medical intervention and care is provided in case of accidents.

Nethradenu (Individual Cattle Rearing Unit)

Nethrodaya provides cows to visually impaired adults in rural areas to augment the total family income and restore the prestige of these individuals.

Shelter for the Shelterless

Although capable of paying the monthly rent, a majority of the differently challenged find it difficult to afford the initial advance sum. **Nethrodaya** bridges this gap by finding a home, paying the advance money and finally handing over the key to the individual.

Voices of the Beneficiaries

Medical Helpline Story - Krishna

Twenty-four year old Krishna, who is from a poor family in a remote village, suffered incapacitating pain caused by acute piles. Frantic search for Medical Support from the outside world proved futile and left him with no choice but to seek the help of **Nethrodaya**.

Nethrodaya admitted **Krishna** in a private hospital for the Surgery. The Timely Medical Assistance has relieved him of the agony. After getting a job, **Krishna** wishes to help someone in dire need of Medical Help.



We at **Nethrodaya** thank whole-heartedly the Management of **Hindu Mission Hospital** for their Medical Services.

Cow Project

Nagalakshmi, an uneducated young girl from a rural area, who was financially dependent on her family that often turned down her wishes, came to know of **Nethrodaya** and sought help. She was offered a **Hybrid Cow** and a **Female Calf**. She has become an income-generating person and does not depend on her family members. With her new economic status and improved

dignity and self esteem, she is able to dream for a better future. She has promised to support similar people and to help uplift the visually challenged in her village.



Self-employment Muthu

Muthu, a peddler who sells day-to-day items in Suburban Trains had scarce resources to obtain the goods, which resulted in a lack of income for his family that was in dire need of financial support. When he approached **Nethrodaya** for financial assistance, **Nethrodaya** provided selling material to Muthu and helped him to carry out his business and to look after his family.

Achievers of Nethrodaya

The rural visually challenged lack basic facilities and are unable to continue their education, but after visiting **Nethrodaya**, their approach towards life changes. **Nethrodaya** has helped them in enhancing their capabilities and have also helped in availing government jobs by which they become economically independent and motivating role models for their families and community.

Devan Story

"I come from a poverty-stricken family and lost my sight at 22, which was traumatic and agonizing. **Nethrodaya** was instrumental in pursuing my education and my family is proud of my success."

From Achrapakkam village, Devan lost his sight at the age of 22 due to a genetic disorder and could not pursue his education due to his sudden vision loss. He approached **Nethrodaya** after almost 12 years and through the guidance and encouragement from **Nethrodaya**, he has scored 374 marks in his 10th standard exams in his first attempt proving that age is not a barrier for performance.





RRD Story

The ambition of orthopaedically impaired graduates is to work in an MNC. **Nethrodaya** has fulfilled this dream by providing the much-required assistance, training and skills development. Today, we are happy to share that we are working in an MNC and are able to earn a sizable income and are able to support our family members and others.

We sponsored a meal for our friends at Nethrodaya. Our request to the students who benefit from Nethrodaya is that they should contribute to the growth of **Nethrodaya**.

Mahalakshmi Story

Studying is a bigger challenge for a Visually Challenged Girl than that of a Visually Challenged Boy. Overcoming all obstacles within the family and deciding to pursue higher education calls for immense courage and determination.

I come from Sillakudi village, Perambalur. I lost my sight as a child. I have one brother and four sisters. My brother and one of my sisters also have a vision problem. I'm proud to be at **Nethrodaya** because the resources we avail at **Nethrodaya** presently are not available anywhere else. My success in the education field will set a precedent for the girls who are visually challenged and are looking for an opportunity to improve their lives.



EVENTS



Eighth Anniversary Celebration 31-10-2010

On the Eighth Anniversary, **Nethrodaya** launched the first Free **Legal Aid Service** for the differently abled in the country to address legal issues with ease thereby empowering them of their basic rights Inaugurated by Justice Venkataraman, Madras High Court.

State Level Singing Competition 10-12-2010

Nethrodaya conducted the State Level Singing Competition for the differently abled partnering with Scope International in 2010. This is a fun event that unearthed many hidden talents among the differently abled across Tamil Nadu showcasing their singing capabilities to the world. The winner got a **cash prize of Rs.60,000/-**. The spectacular event proved their parity with the mainstream society.



Mr. Sriram & Mrs. Anuradha Sriram,
Gayathri Suresh & Geetha Karunakaran - Scope Intl.

Nethrodaya organized a **State Level Chess Tournament** for the differently abled in **2011**. **200** differently abled players from various districts of Tamil Nadu, including Palayamkottai, Cuddalore, Bargur and Madurai, competed to win the prestigious title. The event was the most ideal platform for these contestants to exhibit their talent. **Nethrodaya** is aiming to create such awareness among the public that the differently abled too can perform at all levels. Tmt. Kannagi Packianathan IAS, Secretary, Welfare of the Differently Abled Department, Govt. of Tamilnadu extended her unconditional support for the growth of **Nethrodaya**.



UNIQUE STORIES

Shanthi Aanand

As a supporting artist in the film industry from Vadapalani (Chennai), I recently volunteered for recording audio books. On realizing these books are for the visually challenged students, I visited the organization. I decided to donate 2,000 rupees towards feeding the residents. I'm happy to make a small contribution out of my meagre income.

Sethuraman - School Boy turns Donor

"As a 11th standard student, I intended to celebrate my birthday in a different way. All my friends wanted me to give them a treat, but I decided to go to **Nethrodaya**. I celebrated my birthday with the residents of **Nethrodaya** and I gave my pocket money to them. I'm sure my contribution will support special children in a small way."

In a world where those with money find it difficult to contribute to the upliftment of the less privileged, **Nethrodaya** salutes the commitment shown by these noble souls.



Students of Nethrodaya settled with jobs



A. Kannan



K. Balamurugan



M. Jeyapandi



M. Joseph Reagan



M. Kottayan



N. Chandralekha



N. Kamal



O.S. Dhanaselvi



R. Balappan



R. Rakesh Sharma



R. Velmurugan



V. Perumal

Appeal for Support

1. Share your vision for a few hours by providing reading services, guiding in everyday activities and volunteering services, for special events.
2. Celebrate your special days with us:
 - Breakfast Rs.1000/-
 - Lunch Rs.1500/-
 - High tea Rs. 300/-
 - Dinner Rs.1500/-
3. Sponsor a Student's expense for a month: Rs.1650/-
4. Donate a Stick for the Blind: Rs.125/-
5. Contribute towards Medical Expense for a suffering Visually Challenged Person: Rs. 1000/-
6. Donate a Cow for a Visually Challenged Family
7. Donate Old Clothes, Furniture and Utensils
8. Contribute towards Recurring Expenses like Electricity, Water, Telephone, Salaries, etc..
9. Need Voluntary Services of Electricians, Carpenters & Plumbers.
10. Contribute towards the Nethrodaya Corpus Fund

SUPPORTERS

Anna Nagar Times

Scope International

Kovai Pazhamudhir Nilayam

Builttec Consultancy

A R R Charitable Trust

Pushpa Visuals

Hindu Mission Hospital

Hotel Radha Regent

Give India Foundation

Sri Ayyappa Seva Samaj

Sarita Jain Foundation

Hot Breads

Velammal Group of Institutions

Singhi's Masala



Nethrodaya

LET'S SHARE THE LIGHT

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Donations are exempt under Section 80G of IT Act. FCRA Donations accepted