

Story Telling Session

A.K. Palicha Foundation- Ladies Circle

Date: 4th February 2018

Time: 12:00- 2:00 pm

Location: Arunodhaya Shelter Home for Boys, Kodungaiyur, Chennai.

Arunodhaya Centre for Street Children

Arunodhaya is a non government, non-profit voluntary organization registered as a public charitable trust in the year 1992. With the support of Chennai Corporation a Shelter home for Boys was started on 13th December 2013 at Rajarathinam Nagar, Kodungaiyur. The purpose of the shelter home is to identify and rescue children working at the dumping yard. These children are away from their families and spend their life working at the dumping yard. The shelter provides a safe place for them and looks at bringing them out of the work and providing them with better opportunities.

With the aim to rehabilitate them, the Shelter home children are trained in life skills and motivated continuously through motivation sessions and trainings. Keeping this objective in mind, Praise Foundation partnered with A.K.Palicha Foundation and the Ladies Circle to conduct a series of Story Telling Sessions with the boys at the Shelter.

Story Telling Session

Resource Person- Ms. Ameera D'costa (A.K. Palicha Foundation)

Number of Attendees- 20 boys

Age group- 7-18 years

The resource person Ms. Ameera focused on conducting an interactive session with the boys. Through one on one dialogue, Ms Ameera encouraged the boys to communicate in English by introducing themselves and talking about their future dreams and ambitions. Ms. Ameera was friendly and engaging and through the session focused on communication skills, developing confidence and inculcating manners. The participants were attentive and responsive. For many of them, public speaking was a novel concept and though shy and reserved, they were open to learning. Overall, it was an interesting session where the boys were encouraged to open up and speak about themselves.

Potential Needs

Through the session the following requirements were identified that could be of help to the beneficiaries at the Shelter Home

- 1) **Computers**- The boys are interested to learn computers but do not have access to the same.
- 2) **Football kits**- Praise Foundation has organized football coaching for the boys on the weekends. While football spikes have been arranged, there is a need for leg pads and football jerseys.
- 3) **Thappatam drums**- A need for 6 Thappatam drums is required for the boys as they are interested to learn music.
- 4) **Sessions for Adolescent Boys**- There is a need to organize and conduct sessions on sex education, gender equality, peer pressure counseling, career counseling that will be beneficial for the older boys.

Photos of the event

