

National Association For The Blind Kerala



“ From darkness lead unto light. ”

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National Association for the Blind, Kerala is a Non-Governmental Organisation registered under the Charitable Societies Registration Act of 1955. It is registered as an NGO as of 20th December 1962. At present we have 212 Life Members, in this organization, who are the legitimate owners of this NGO. Among the members most of them are former bureaucrats, eminent IAS officers, ruling chief engineers and senior engineers, doctors, principals, professors, advocates, reputed business men, other professionals etc. Being the 53rd year of dedicating our services to the visually challenged, NAB Kerala has ambitiously planned to celebrate its Golden Jubilee with projects beneficial to the impaired worth Rs.65 lakhs in addition to construction of a memorial building costing another 35 lakhs. Our goal is to uplift and develop the persons having disabilities in a long standing status. We focus on empowering and rehabilitating them through sensitization, training and awareness. So far, NAB Kerala could rehabilitate more than 6000 persons with one or more disability. Our main source of income is Flag/Stamp sales, sponsorship and donations. We utilize these income for various types of welfare activities to the visually impaired and others having multiple disabilities.

Aims & Objectives

- To look after the general welfare of the blind in the state.
- To take such steps as may be necessary for the prevention and cure of preventable and curable blindness and eye trouble in the state.
- To look after the welfare of the dependents of the blind in the state.
- To take all steps to mobilise public opinion to further the cause of the welfare of the blind in the state/
- Sensitisation, awareness & training for the community agencies.

- Medical, educational, economical and social rehabilitation to the visually challenged.
- Necessary technical training to the blind (and other impaired) for a decent and disciplined life as a model citizen of a democratic country like India.
- Awareness on the persons with disabilities act 1995 of the govt. Of kerala (s.w. Department) no.186 dt. 24.12.2008 for equipping themselves for their protection and welfare.
- Empowered and well-informed blind population of India working for personal growth and development, thereby leading life to its optimum potential.
- To empower the blind with education and training, to attain self-sufficiency through employment/self-employment; thus integrating them with dignity in mainstream society.
- To do all such things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above aims & objectives.

OFFICE BEARERS 2014-2017

A) Patron & Senior Advisors

Patron & President : His Beatitude Cardinal Mar Baseliose
Cleemis Catholicos

Senior Advisors : 1. Mr. Jose Zacharia, 9447123625
2. Mr. S.R.J. Navakumar, 94460 07171
3. Mr. Thomas Mathew, 89436 49617
4. Mr. E. Justus, 9846 12105
5. Dr. Stanley Jones, 98460 12034

6. Mr. V.M. Francis, 94463 07979

B) Office Bearers

Working President : Mr. S. Sukumaran IAS (Rtd.) 94463 30331

Hon. Vice Presidents : 1. Prof. John Kurian, (Administration)
94464 48665
2. Mr. K. Chandrasekhara Babu IAS (Rtd.)
(Public Relations) 94959 30641
3. Mr. S. Gopalakrishnan Nair, (Projects &
Fund Raising) 94472 67828

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2. Mr. J. Jayakumar, 94470 22244
3. Ms. D. Suprabha, 93879 01906

Hon. Joint Secretaries : 1. Mr. Reji Thomas Mathew, 99958 83695
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C) Governing Council Members

1. Mr. T. S Varghese, 98473 50324
2. M.s Molykutty Varghese, 2444299
3. Mr. A.P. Jalajakumar 94471 20070 (2311985)
4. Mr. K.J. Joseph, 94957 18124
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14. Mr. Thomas Mathew Vettom, 93491 48867
15. Mr. Renjan Mathew, 94471 40828
16. Mr. Mathew John, 944655869

SERVICES

1. Vocational & Rehabilitation Centre for the impaired.
2. Prevention of Blindness & Disability Unit.
3. Client Service Unit.
4. Training Unit.
5. Deaf Blind & other Multiple Disabled Children's Unit.
6. Therapy Centre for physical, audio & speech problems.
7. Free Life Insurance Scheme for the blind (700 persons).
8. Financial Assistance by way of Medical Treatment, Family Maintenance.
9. Allowance (monthly) to the BPL families having Disabled Members.
10. Mobility Training to the blind using White Cane.
11. Awareness to parents, teachers, care takers etc.
12. Integrated Education Programmes.
13. Advocacy & Lobbying Service.
14. Arrangements for Universal Braille Kits to the deserved children.
15. Noon meal facility to the visiting blind and other impaired during every working day in the NAB Campus.

PROJECTS

1. Project Shakthi – Advocacy initiative at Panchayat Level - Mavelikkara, Alleppey

The project Shakthi started in the year 2008 with support of Sight Savers ended during the year successfully. The project's objective was to transfer the skills to the community and the community to respond to the needs of persons with disabilities. We have organized a series of sensitization, awareness and training Programmes with Govt. and Non Govt. agencies of the area. We are very glad to report that we could bring tremendous change in the attitudes of the Panchayats and the Panchayats started responding to the needs of the persons with disabilities. 214 Resource persons were identified and trained to carry out the objectives of this project. These resource persons are from all walks of life, including with disabilities.

2. NAB – Rotary CBR Project Palakkad:-

National Association for the Blind has implemented a CBR Project in Palakkad Revenue District. We could identify 865 PWDs from Ottappalam Municipality, Vaniamkulam and Lakkidi Peroor Grama Panchayats Project area. We could also distribute handicapped friendly equipments worth Rs. 7,80,000/- to the identified PWDs. This Project which was partly supported by the Rotary Club of Ottappalam has been considered as a model unique Community Project. We had the golden opportunity to dedicate the unique philanthropic project as a shining jubilee gift of NAB Kerala in the 50th year of our community services to the state of Kerala.

3. NAB LIC Group Insurance Scheme

NAB Group Insurance Scheme has renewed for the year 2013-14, where the premium have been met by NAB. The next of kin of the insured will get Rs.5,000 in the case of normal death and 25,000 in the case of accidental death. So far an amount of over Rs.5,20,000 had been distributed under this scheme to the families of the persons with disabilities.

4. Inclusive Education for Children with Special Needs:-

The education Programme for the Children with Special Needs in Kerala was supported by NAB through our Human Resource Development Programme which included distribution of aids and appliances. NAB officials provided classes for the various training programmes organized by Government and non Government agencies. NAB has distributed Braille kits, brailers, low vision aids to children with visual impairments and resource rooms in this state. Sensitization and awareness notices, leaflets were distributed free of cost to the needy. We are thankful to the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and IED Programme for the support given and making education of children with special needs more meaningful.

5. Computer Training Centre for Visually Challenged Persons

NAB is proud to inform that 12 visually challenged persons completed the third batch of training from the AOF NAB Centre of Excellence and about 04 are placed at various jobs in and around Kerala. The centre also supported another 32 persons with visual impairment, who are college goers and employees who utilized the services during holidays and their free times. The centre acts as an eye opener for Computer Education programme for the visually challenged persons and it motivates other agencies also to start similar programmes. The IT Mission Programme of Government of Kerala, in which NAB is also a member, distributed special software to all the Akshaya Centres and thereby making these facilities accessible to visually challenged persons at all the panchayats of Kerala. Various govt and non govt agencies visited the Centre

and appreciated the effort taken by Amway Opportunity Foundation and NAB in taking the visually challenged persons to the 21st Century.

6. Project for Services to the Children with Deaf blindness and Multiple Disabilities

A total of 64 children and 05 Adults are being supported through this programme. We are providing service both in their House and at the NAB special Multiple Disability Centre to the children with Disabilities. All these children are availing the services of a multidisciplinary team consisting of an ophthalmologist, physiotherapist, speech therapist, physiatrist, councillor each, along with trained special educators for the assessment and provision of rehabilitative services and counselling to the parents. **Care and Share**, a US based charity organization is partly supporting this programme. Sense International India, still continues to give technical support to this programme through various capacity building programme. National Institute for the Speech and Hearing is providing speech therapists for the children. Along with these we give training and sensitization classes to Govt and Non Govt agencies in the area of children with deaf blindness and multiple disabilities. We also help the parents and relatives to become CARE GIVERS for their own children which will help other children of this kind in the community.

The programme successfully completed 12 years of service for the children with multiple disabilities. Now we are enrolling more children with disabilities. Advanced treatment with modern tools are being introduced. NAB Kerala is highly indebted to the U.S based Charity Organization – CARE & SHARE. For the partnership in service.

7. Vocational Training Centre for Adult Blind

Re-integrating the visually impaired persons into mainstream society is one of the major aims of rehabilitation. We are running a Vocational Training Centre in Trivandrum, which gives training to visually impaired and disabled persons in furniture re-caning, envelope making, candle making, home science, detergent making, mushroom grooming, creative crafts, etc. in addition to

computer operations. We are also running Mobility Training in this centre, which help blind persons to learn to move about independently. These trained adult persons are supported by NAB by procuring various orders on chair re-caning and envelope making from Government/NGOs. A total of 24 persons are trained every year in this centre.

8. Prevention Programmes

We are regularly conducting vision screening at schools and rural areas by networking with the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology and District Mobile Units. A total of 20 camps were conducted during the reporting period which has benefited 3274 persons. Cataract surgeries were conducted for 133 patients, free of cost.

Important Events Celebrated

1. Louis Braille Day - 4th January
2. Helen Keller Day - 27th June
3. Onam Celebrations - September
4. World Sight Day - 14th October
5. World White Cane Day - 15th October
6. World Handicapped Day - 3rd December
7. X'mas & New Year – December

A New Village

NAB, Kerala has conducted surveys at villages bordering the forest area in Vithura, Palode, Kallara of Trivandrum district. Consequently, we could register numerous households having various types of disabilities. On analysis of the data collected we have enrolled numerous visually, audibly and mentally challenged and 15 cases of multiple disabled. For your information furnishing below the names of

some cases whom immediate care is necessary. List of Visually Audibly and Multiple Disabled persons

From the day of identification we started home based intervention wherever needed. Those who can move easily were directed to visit our CMD Centre NAB campus.

Deaf Blind

1. Ancy.S, Malayinkeezh
2. Rani.S, Pallithura
3. Salima.S, Palode
4. Avinash Krishnan, Vattiyoorkavu
5. Adityan A.S, Vattiyoorkavu
6. Binoj.R, Karikkakom
7. Nivedh Krishna, Pettah
8. Sabnam.A, Palode
9. Baby.S, Vattiyoorkavu
10. Vishnu.S.R, Palode
11. Ambady Krishnan, Chavara
12. Arshidha Muhammed M.S, Palode
13. Alfia Muhammed M.S, Palode
14. Kannan.A, Kallara
15. Trisha Roshan, Mannanthala

Hearing Impaired

1. Adityan.A, Vithura
2. Pavan Sagar, Palode

3. Amritha S.B, Palode
4. Arya.L, Mithramala
5. Abhijith.H, Ulloor
6. Rahul.M, Elavattom
7. Aparna P.L, Ulloor

Visually Impaired

1. Bijukumar.J, Peroorkada
2. Siji.K.M, Thirupuram, Neyyattinkara
3. Simi.J.P, Attingal
4. Abhilash P.L, Neyyattinkara
5. Vijaya S.R, Attingal, Alamkode
6. Dolly, Malayinkeezhu
7. Vijayan, Malayinkeezhu
8. Raju.L, Nedumangadu
9. Rajan.J, Kattayikkonam
10. George.Y, Malayinkeezhu
11. Shiju.B, Peroorkada
12. George.S, Parasala
13. Nagesh.D, Vizhinjam
14. Sajikumar, Neyyattinkara
15. Shaji.R, Neyyattinkara
16. Rejith.R.S, Kottarakkara
17. Soman.T, Neyyattinkara

18. Gokul.G, Kollam
19. Gopika.A, Kollam
20. Padmakumar, Kazhakkootam
21. Sanal Kumar.S, Nedumangadu

Mentally Retarded

1. Aditya B.R, Vamanapuram
2. Vrinda S. Nair, Pangode
3. Alan. S, Pangode
4. Anna.H, Kannamoola
5. Gopika. R.S, Kallar
6. Kiran Baby, Vattiyoorkavu
7. Shaniya, Vithura
8. Unnimaya, Kallara
9. Razia Beegum, Kallara
10. Rahul R.S, Elavattom
11. Sooraj.R.S, Elavattom
12. Surabhi, Anakuzhi
13. Arya.G, Vithura
14. Niffal, Palode
15. Muhammed Mustafa, Palode
16. Akshay Gopan, Kadakkal, Kollam
17. Mahesh, Vithura
18. Bharath Kumar, Kallara

19. Sreekumar, Malayinkeezhu

20. Rahul S.S, Vamanapuram

The Faculties (therapists for speech , hearing, visual, mentally and physically challenged), teachers, care takers and assistant care takers were effectively involved follow up work to the children through the centre and also on home based visit.

A Word Of Gratitude

We are thankful to the Almighty God, our President His Beatitude Moron Mor Baselios Cleemis Catholicos, Working President Mr. S. Sukumaran IAS (Rtd), all our Governing Council Members, Honorary Workers and Staff for their whole hearted cooperation and support for making various service activities a grand success.

NAB thanks those generous donors including some of our life members who have helped us in strengthening our activities and programs with their time & financial support. Neither NAB India nor the State or Central Govt. is supporting us (NAB, Kerala) with funds of any kind. The main source of funds for all activities of NAB, Kerala is through donations, flag sales and sponsorships from generous donors. Since a major share of funds are generated from individual donors, we request your help to continue our efforts in helping visually impaired individuals and also persons with multiple disabilities more independently.

S. Sukumaran IAS (Rtd.)

Former Secretary to Government
Working President NAB

Josey Joseph

Hon. General Secretary &
General Executive Officer