

About Us

The Clarke School for the Deaf is one of our country's finest schools, dedicated towards the education and the betterment of the lives of the differently able. I have been associated with The Clarke School since its inception in 1970.

This school, which was founded by my father, the late Dr. S. K. Nagarajan along with Dr. Leelavathi Patrick, was a dream of his which he had in his own lifetime set flight to.

The growth of the school can be tracked from its humble beginnings in a small rented room with just three students to the internationally recognized institute that it is today. A fully functional State Board affiliated school as well as a registered society; this school has grown from strength to strength under the able governance of our board of trustees, steered by our passionate team of qualified teachers and staff.

Our mission has been to Educate, Train and Rehabilitate the Hearing Impaired, Intellectually Challenged, Deaf-blind and Differently Able children and to help them avail all the privileges that are available to the able bodied.

The Institute presently has a number of programmes that are being undertaken simultaneously, some of which are;

- The Senior Secondary School affiliated to the State Board [in Chennai].
- The Rural Extension Project in Kelambakkam [34kms away from Chennai City, in Kanchipuram District].
- RCI recognised Teachers Training Programmes for the Hearing Impaired, Intellectually Challenged and Deaf Blind.
- Outreach Programmes, camps and other special projects.

Our Need

We take in students from varying economic backgrounds and fully support their much needed education and also provide hostel facilities for our outstation hearing impaired students.

We now have a total of 226 students and as opposed to a normal school where the student to teacher ratio is a minimum of 35: 1, we, being an institute for the disabled, have maintained a ratio of 3:1 and sometimes even less depending on the disability.

As we continue to progress and endeavour for the best of the best, we find that the only possible set back is the need for financial support, quite mandatory for such types of philanthropic institutions. We depend on donations and grants for our economically backward students as we treat all children as equals.

It is important to us that no child is deprived of quality education and other benefits simply for lack of monetary resources but, the actual revenue collected from each class is almost negligible and doesn't even begin to cover the basic running expenses.

Presently we are only able to recover about 25 % of the total running cost although we have always maintained a principle of keeping the managerial roles, purely advisory and not revenue oriented. This imbalance of our revenues and expenditure is a stumbling block in the development of the school. We need to bridge the gap of this financial restraint as well as create a corpus fund for the Welfare of the Teachers and the Support Staff.

How You Can Help

- **Capital Expenditure** – the school's building which is around 60 years old, needs an infrastructural revamp with the latest amenities and technologies like computers and audio and/or visual material, and any contribution towards capital will be greatly appreciated.
- **Teachers' salary** – you may also choose to support us by covering the salaries of the teaching staff in the Hearing impaired students' division, the Deaf-blind students' division, or the Intellectually challenged students' division.
- **Provide Knowledge support** by helping the school with educational material for the libraries and classrooms.
- **Physical Training support** – you can also support the children by providing gym, playground and activity room equipment.
- **Sponsor Rehabilitation and Therapy** – This costs INR 47,000/- per child thereby safeguarding his/her future.
- **Fund a seminar or workshop** by facilitating visits of special education experts to further enhance the training of the staff and ultimately benefit the quality of education available to the children.

We are partnered with many leading international organizations like Christoffel Blindenmission, Stitching Lilliane Fonds, Rangoonwala Foundation, Sense International, etc., which reflects the transparency and philanthropic nature of our management. If you are interested in supporting any of our cap-ex purchases, please contact at the e-mail address or phone number given below.

Please note that our school is registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act XXI of 1960, S.No. 237 of 1972 and donations to our organization are exempted from Income tax under Sec. 80 G. We also have a valid permanent FCRA number given to us by the Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi. All donations can be in the form of cheque/DD favouring '*The Clarke School for the Deaf*' payable at Chennai and addressed to – The Clarke School for the Deaf, No.3, Third Street, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Chennai, 600004. The school is permitted to receive donations under FCRA from individuals and organisations all over the world.

It would be helpful if you can support a student this year or contribute in any other manner you feel relevant. Any gesture on your part will make a world of a difference in the lives of these children.

Regards,

S. N. Srikanth

Joint Secretary

The Clarke School for the Deaf

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