



Goodwill Children's Homes
Care and Education for Destitute Children in South India

NEWSLETTER

Tel: 0117 3250 550

www.goodwillhomes.org.uk



THRIVING ROOTS EXPANDS SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN KC PATTI

The Thriving Roots Programme, implemented in the tribal villages of KC Patti, continues to strengthen food security, skills development, and women's livelihoods across the region.

Over recent months, families in five tribal villages have established kitchen gardens using seeds, saplings, tools, and natural manure distributed through the programme. The gardens are now producing a variety of vegetables and fruit, including tomatoes, spinach, chillies, papaya, guava, lemon, curry leaf, and gooseberries.

The initiative is helping families improve household nutrition while reducing spending on food. For many households, the gardens now provide a regular supply of fresh produce throughout the year, contributing to better nutrition for children and greater household resilience.

Alongside the agricultural work, Thriving Roots has also expanded its women's livelihood initiatives. Over the past

six months, 25 tribal women completed tailoring training at the KC Patti centre, gaining practical sewing and garment-making skills that can support long-term income generation.

Following the successful completion of the training, Thriving Roots has established a new Production Unit in KC Patti to provide ongoing employment opportunities for selected trainees. The unit has been created to move beyond short-term training and support women into sustainable income-generating work.

As part of this next phase, participants recently completed a specialised jute bag-making programme led by Mr Gunalan



THRIVING ROOTS EXPANDS SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN KC PATTI CONT...

Sundararajan of People's Bag Academy. The training introduced women to environmentally sustainable products while expanding their technical and production skills.

The Production Unit is expected to play an important role in strengthening local livelihoods by creating employment opportunities for tribal women and increasing household income within the community.

Building on the progress achieved so far, Thriving Roots has now entered its next phase with the launch of a new tailoring training course for 20 additional women from surrounding villages. By expanding access to vocational training, Thriving Roots continues to strengthen women's livelihoods and support long-term economic resilience within tribal communities.



Through its integrated approach to food security, skills training, and livelihood development, the Thriving Roots Programme is supporting long-term community development for tribal families in the hills of KC Patti.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our supporters, donors, volunteers, and partners for their continued commitment to our work in rural Tamil Nadu. Your generosity and encouragement make it possible for us to provide educational opportunities and support that help children and young people from some of the most disadvantaged communities build brighter futures.

Over many years, we have seen the transformative impact that education can have, not only on individual children but also on their families and wider communities. We remain firmly committed to our mission of promoting education and social mobility for those who would otherwise have very limited opportunities.

At the same time, we recognise that the needs of our target communities continue to evolve. We are therefore undertaking a review of how we operate, ensuring that our programmes remain relevant, effective, and responsive to the challenges and opportunities facing the people we serve today. This process is guided by listening carefully to our local partners and the communities themselves.

A core principle of our work has always been the development of long-term partnerships. We do not seek quick fixes or short-term interventions. Instead, we aim to

work alongside those we support, building relationships based on trust, mutual respect, and shared goals. By doing so, we hope to create sustainable change that endures for generations.

Thank you once again for your support and for sharing our belief in the power of education to transform lives.

Dr David Neill



REMINDER OUR ADDRESS

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STUDENTS TAKE THEIR NEXT STEPS TOWARDS BRIGHT FUTURES

We are delighted to share that our final-year students have completed their respective courses and are now progressing towards higher education and meaningful employment opportunities.

Several students are preparing to pursue professional and postgraduate studies, including B.Ed. and M. Com, Law and MBA programmes, reflecting their determination to build strong and successful careers.

We are especially proud of the achievements of:



S. Saritha completed her third-year B.A. in History and is planning to pursue a B.Ed. course.



Sathiya Priya completed her nursing course and internship and is now actively seeking employment opportunities in the healthcare sector.



Gowsika Banu completed her BSc degree in Coimbatore. She is working in the Data Analytics department at Data Corp Traffic in Dharmapuri.



Vijayapandian completed his MBA in HR and Finance. He joined SRM Hotel in Chennai and is working in the Marketing and Administrative team.



R. Ranitha completed her nursing course and is currently working at the Christian Fellowship Hospital in Oddanchatram.

Other graduates from B.Com. B.A. History and B.Sc. streams are also moving forward with higher studies or actively exploring career opportunities.

These accomplishments are a testament to the students' hard work, perseverance, and the continued support of our sponsors and well-wishers. We look forward to seeing them grow into confident professionals who will contribute positively to their communities and society.

THANDIGUDI HOSTS TRANSFORMATIVE YOUTH TRAINING IN SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP



Beyond classroom learning, participants engaged in cultural activities, field visits to nearby tribal villages, and team-building exercises that deepened their understanding of local traditions and community life. Life skills sessions, including cooking, nutrition awareness, and a collective campus cleaning day, reinforced self-reliance, responsibility, and respect for the environment.

The programme offered a holistic experience focused on personal growth, discipline, and leadership. Students left with enhanced skills, stronger confidence, and a clearer sense of direction for their future.

Thandigudi Home hosted two Residential Pre-Placement Training Programmes organised by the Agaram Foundation, bringing together 214 college students across two batches in May and June.

Over nearly three weeks, students underwent intensive training in communication, leadership, teamwork, confidence building, and interview preparation. Mock interviews provided valuable real-world exposure and personalised feedback to strengthen employability.



JCI MADURAI MEENATCHI TEAM VISITS GOODWILL CHILDREN'S HOME

Goodwill Children's Home and School was pleased to welcome members of the Junior Chamber International (JCI) Madurai Meenatchi Team on 27 March for a day of interactive activities and engagement with the children.

During the visit, the team conducted leadership sessions, team-building activities, and motivational games designed to encourage confidence, communication, and participation among the children. The sessions were lively and well-received, with children actively engaging throughout the programme.

The team also sponsored a special meal for the children, contributing to an enjoyable and memorable day for everyone involved.

We thank the JCI Madurai Meenatchi Team for their visit and for investing their time and energy in encouraging and supporting the children.



ALUMNI FAMILIES GATHER FOR ANNUAL GET TOGETHER

From 15–17 May, 12 alumni families (51 members) gathered at the Goodwill campus for their second annual reunion. Alongside reconnecting and sharing memories, participants carried out voluntary service activities, including campus cleaning and renovating three rooms into accommodation spaces.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME



Thriving Roots, hosted an empowering programme for tribal women, especially widows, focused on building confidence and sustainable livelihood opportunities. Led by Mr Paul Prakasam and Ms Sophia from Chennai, the session encouraged open dialogue, helping participants share challenges, explore income-generation ideas, and support one another.

Through impactful one-on-one interactions and the support of Goodwill India's team, the program fostered renewed hope and self-belief. Participants left with greater clarity, confidence, and a strengthened vision for a self-reliant future.

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW TEAM MEMBERS AT GOODWILL CHILDREN'S HOME, THANDIGUDI

Goodwill Children's Home, Thandigudi, is pleased to welcome three new members of staff this summer, each bringing valuable experience, dedication, and compassion to the care and support of our children.

Miss Perlin (left) joins as House Mother, drawing on her strong educational background and nine years of teaching experience to provide encouragement, structure, and support to the children in our care.

Mrs Veera Narmatha Devi (middle) joins the team as Counsellor and Teacher, bringing more than 15 years of experience in school leadership, academic planning, and student guidance.

Mrs Dhanalakshmi (right) joins us as House Mother and Assistant Cook, where her warmth, resilience, and caring nature will enrich daily life at the home.



ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP DAY - A CELEBRATION OF HOPE AND IMPACT

On 30 May, Thriving Roots (TORP), KC Patti hosted an Annual Sponsorship Day, bringing together 40 sponsored children, their families, and the Goodwill India team in a spirit of gratitude and celebration.

The event was graced by senior members of the Society and staff from across the programme. Beyond the celebration, it offered children a meaningful opportunity to understand the true value of sponsorship, recognising that they are part of a wider community of support, and that their education is made possible through the generosity and belief of their sponsors.

Children were inspired to study well, build strong character, and dream bigger, while parents gained renewed appreciation of the programme and their role in supporting their children's journey. The gathering also strengthened a sense of belonging, connection, and shared purpose across the TORP community.

Above all, the day reaffirmed that sponsorship is not just support—it is an investment in future changemakers.



INDIA OFFICE FUNDRAISING

The India office took important steps towards raising local funds and strengthening long-term sustainability. Appeal letters were sent to more than 1,100 companies and individuals, while former supporters were re-engaged through targeted donor communication. The team also encouraged donors to mark birthdays and anniversaries by sponsoring meals for children, creating new opportunities for community support. In addition, proposals were submitted to corporate foundations and funding agencies to support education, nutrition, safe water, sports, and smart classroom projects for vulnerable tribal children and families.



NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS ENHANCE CARE AND EDUCATION AT SANARPATTI BOYS HOME



Sanarpatti Boys Home has welcomed three new team members whose appointments will further strengthen day-to-day care, wellbeing and educational support for the boys.

Mrs S. Selvarani (left) joins as Janitor, helping maintain a clean, safe and healthy environment across the Central Office and Boys Home.

Mrs Gowri (middle) has also joined as a Tuition Teacher, providing evening academic support to help improve the children's learning and educational progress

Mrs M. Nagalakshmi (right) has been appointed as full-time Cook, where she will prepare nutritious meals and support the boys' health and wellbeing through daily care.

These appointments reflect our continued commitment to providing holistic care and creating a supportive environment in which every child can thrive.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT DONATION INSPIRES KADAYAMALAI YOUTH

Goodwill is pleased to have supported the Kadayamalai Youth Club with a donation of sports equipment, encouraging greater participation in sport and recreation among local young people.

Kadayamalai is home to around 50 families, many of whom have benefited from Goodwill Children's Homes' long-standing support for education. Over the years, several children from the village have progressed through school and even into higher education, emerging as inspiring role models for the next generation.

The distribution event brought together around 20 enthusiastic youths and was presided over by Mr Bhupathi Raja, Village Head of Kadayamalai. The equipment was formally handed over by Mr Ram Rahul on behalf of Goodwill Children's Homes Charitable Society.

The initiative reflects the vital role of sport in fostering teamwork, discipline, leadership, and healthy living. The young participants welcomed the donation with great appreciation and excitement, eager to make full use of the new resources.



CAREER GUIDANCE PROGRAMME EMPOWERS TRIBAL AND RURAL YOUTH



Goodwill Children's Homes, in partnership with Youth's Network to Educate and Empower the Weak (Y-NEEW), conducted a one-day Career Guidance Programme in May at Goodwill Boys Home, Sanarpatti, Dindigul.

Around 100 students, including tribal youth and 10th and 12th pass-outs, attended. Experts from educational institutions provided guidance on higher education, career options, government schemes, scholarships, and education loans.

The programme motivated participants to plan their future studies and careers. Refreshments and lunch were provided.

Goodwill and Y-NEEW have also signed an MoU to collaborate on the development of underprivileged and tribal communities.

CELEBRATING SUPPORT THROUGH ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL'S MISSION GIVING PROGRAMME



St Albans Cathedral's Mission Giving Programme continues to make a meaningful difference to charities across the community and beyond, and Goodwill Children's Homes is truly fortunate to be among its many grant recipients. On Saturday, 13 June, the administrator had the pleasure of attending the Evensong event hosted for supported charities, where she was delighted to meet members of the Mission Giving Committee in person and express our sincere gratitude for their ongoing support. The service itself was a special and uplifting occasion, made even more memorable by attending alongside our long time volunteer, Ms Helen Bishop (insert), whose dedication has been invaluable to our work.

Donation Form

SUMMER APPEAL 2026



I would like to donate:

£15 ☐ £30 ☐ £50 ☐ £ Other amount

Bank details: Goodwill Children's Homes **Bank:** HSBC **Sort Code:** 40-35-09 **Account Number:** 41144561
REFERENCE: **SUMMER APPEAL**

GIFT DONATION CHEQUE

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: Goodwill Children's Homes

YOUR DETAILS

Full Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid can be reclaimed by Goodwill from the tax I pay for the current tax year, if you sign the following declaration:

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

CAREER GUIDANCE & JOB OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME – KC PATTI



A Career Guidance and Job Opportunity Programme was recently held at Thriving Roots, KC Patti, bringing together students and members of nearby tribal communities for a day focused on learning, aspiration, and access to opportunity. The initiative was delivered in collaboration with Agam Foundation, Arogya Agam, Adhavan Solution, and Thriving Roots, with coordination by Mr R. Senthil Kumar, ensuring smooth execution.

Students across different academic stages received tailored guidance. Those completing Grade 10 were supported in choosing appropriate higher secondary streams aligned with their interests and future goals. Higher Secondary (+2) students explored a wide range of further education

pathways, including course options, colleges, scholarships, fee structures, and overseas study opportunities. Practical guidance on application processes helped students take confident next steps.

The programme also extended to adults from tribal communities, offering clear information on job opportunities suited to varying education levels, including options for those without formal qualifications. Participants gained valuable insight into salaries, benefits, and employment prospects.

A key focus was on future-ready skills, with introductions to free vocational training in areas such as solar technology and electric vehicle servicing—opening pathways to sustainable employment.

With around 45 participants, the session created a strong sense of encouragement and possibility. The day concluded with shared refreshments and meals, fostering community connection alongside learning.

Overall, the initiative marked a meaningful step in strengthening access to education, skills, and employment opportunities for rural and tribal communities in KC Patti.

ANNUAL MEETING BRINGS GOODWILL COMMUNITY TOGETHER

In April, Goodwill Children's Home, Thandigudi, hosted its Annual Meeting for parents and guardians of orphaned and semi-orphaned children. It was a warm and joyful gathering that brought together families, staff, and supporters.

Parents and guardians from Goodwill Nursery and Primary School also joined the celebration. The day began with a heartfelt welcome from the children, followed by refreshments and the start of the Annual Day programme.

Mr Balamurugan, Superintendent, delivered the welcome address, and Mr Charles, Head Teacher, presented the Annual Report, highlighting the children's progress and achievements over the past year.



Staff and representatives shared encouraging reflections on the children's growth, while vibrant cultural performances showcased their talent and confidence. A highlight of the day was the children presenting reports in both English and Tamil, demonstrating their learning and development.

