



Anaikatty Rural Community College

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2021

WELCOMING YOU TO SHARE WITH US ON THE EXCITING JOURNEY OF COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATIONS THAT WE HAVE BEEN HEADING TOWARDS DURING THE PAST DECADE. WITH MARCH 2021, WE HAVE COMPLETED 9 YEARS OF IMPACT OF THE RURAL AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN ANAIKATTY IN THE SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL FRONT.

As the second wave of corona is slasing India mercilessly and as lakhs of new covid cases red the charts everyday, there is a new kind of lockdown with relaxed restrictions imposed by the government. However Educational Institutions including ARCC has had to go Online since the 20th of April 2021. But we have been getting ready for this for 2 weeks!

In January 2021, 42 new students were present for our induction program. The Current strength of the ARCC is 80 in different fields of study. We have brought in new systems to keep in par with the Corona times. Trying to be pro-active, we have trained the staff and students to do Online Classes which has come in handy right now. In this news letter, summarising the activities of the first quarter or the year, we would like you to hear from the administrative team of ARCC, a report of what has been happening at our center in Anaikatty.

2021- What a start!



COME JOIN ARCC!

HEAR FROM OUR FIELD CO-ORDINATOR. HIS NAME IS ALWIN ALEX. HE TAKES CARE OF ADMISSIONS, STUDENT CO-ORDINATION, EVENT CO-ORDINATION AND JOB PLACEMENTS.

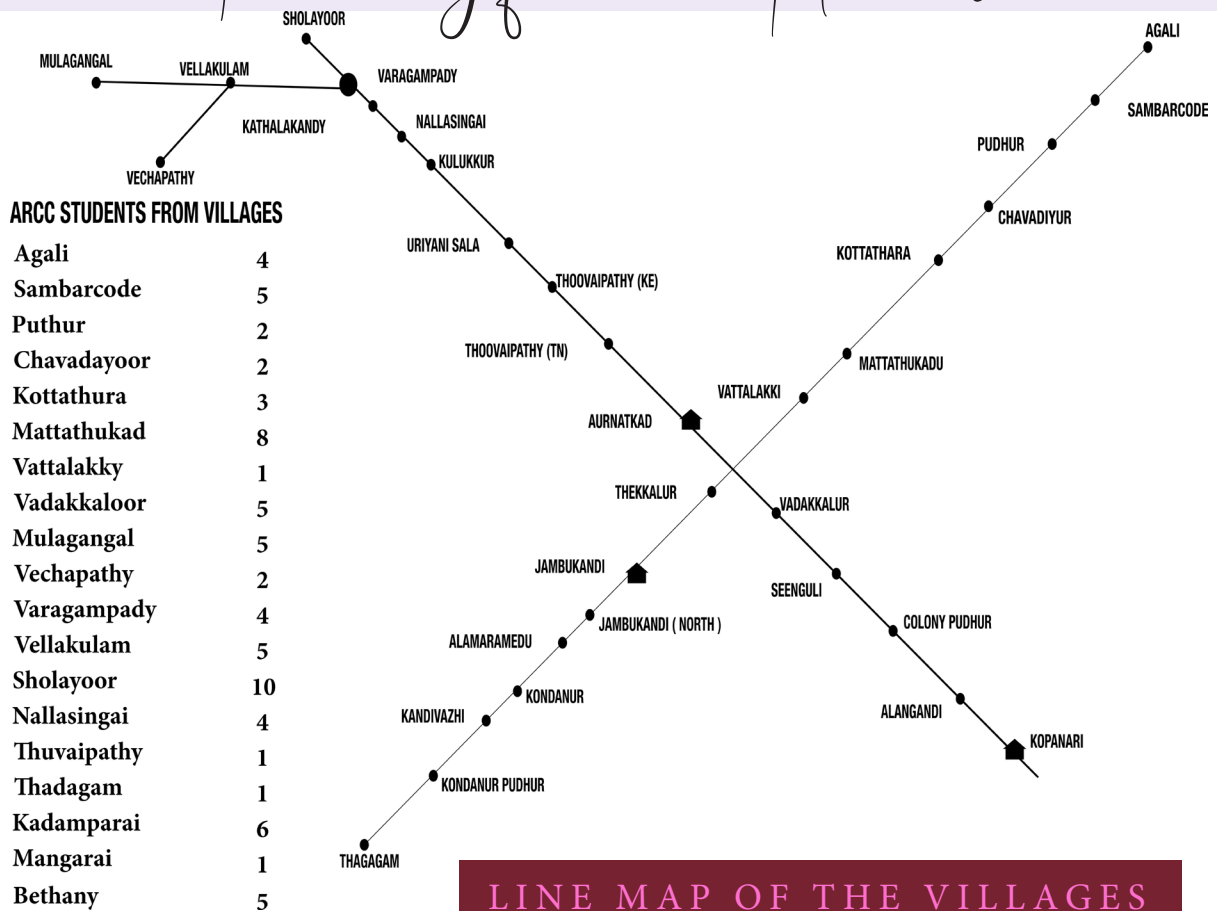
ADMISSION REPORTS FOR APRIL THIRD WEEK

DEPARTMENT	NOW
TAILORING	12
BASIC COMPUTER	7
TALLY	7
BEAUTY THERAPY	11
HEALTH CARE ASSISTANT	18
MOBILE SERVICE	8
HOUSE WIRING	8
CATERING	5
BASIC COMPUTER(SUMMER COURSE)	4
TOTAL	80

“I have been working as a field coordinator in ARCC for last two years. I travel to the nearby villages to find out dropout boys and house wives who are interested in picking up learning again. I talk with them regarding the types of Courses, duration, timing, fees details etc. I interact with them as a family member so they will trust me and they will come to the ARCC Centre to enroll themselves. During the course time we teach them Motivational thoughts and interview skills. After completing the Course we lead them to job opportunities. Each and every department have their own social networking groups and we conduct training and events for all the students on and off. Alumni students also participate in these events. I talk with the trainers once in a week and find out how the students are doing and who are in the risk of dropping out and I talk to the students and solve their problem revive those students again”

ALWYN ALEX, FIELD CO-ORDINATOR

Traveling from the Interiors



Many of these students travel from the interior villages. In some villages there is no public transportation and they come by jeep. Every month, it costs around Rs.20,000 for the travel expenses of these students. We pay them to and fro charges which averages around Rs.50 / student / day. Some departments like Computer, Tailoring and Nursing hold everyday classes. While the beautician, catering have thrice a week. Mobile Phone Servicing and House Wiring departments have classes once a week.

MEET MANAF

MANAF TRAVELS 60 KMS FROM MANMARKADU TWICE A WEEK TO ARCC TRAVEL TIME 1.45 MINS. PARENTS ARE COOLIES OR LABOURERS.. HE IS COMING TO LEARN TALLY TO GET AN IT JOB. IT COSTS RS.130 EVERY DAY TO COME AND GO. HE HAS REQUESTED ₹100 FROM US AND THE REST HIS PARENTS PAY.





Academics



UPGRADING OUR FACILITY

MRS. RADHIKA RAVI IS AN MBA GRADUATE, A CAPABLE ADMINISTRATOR AND MANAGES THE TRAINERS AND STUDENTS WELL AND CO-ORDINATES THEIR CLASSES, QUALITY CHECKS THEIR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISES ALL ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTER.

"In each of the departments there are 8 to 10 student in all classes at ARCC and we try to aim for the attendance to be above 80% but sometimes it is 60% because of different events. Students come to the center at 10.30 AM.

Students are given exercises in the lessons they have learned on a daily basis. The lessons learned will be recorded in their note books, signed by the teachers and marked. The students attendance is also noted. The tests are conducted once a week. Test is a new concept and there are some who are fearful about it. So we have informal tests, and give Prizes to students in order to encourage them to write or do well in the test. Practical exams are conducted once a month for Students.

If they do not come to class we contact them by phone and ask for information. If they have a problem, the teachers talk to the students as a friend and guide them. A leader has been selected in all the classes. The leader will report all the information to the whatsapp group. If the teacher is unable to come that day, the leader will accept the responsibility of making arrangements for engaging the students. Teachers in all departments are arranged to meet once a week and help and counsel the students".

MRS. RADHIKA RAVI
ACADEMIC CO-ORDINATOR



Our facility was upgraded this year, with the purchase of 6 New Computers with the new versions of OS and other software for the computer department. The printer also was replaced, with a printer, scanner and copier. The UPS has been repaired. New UPS batteries have been purchased as the old ones were not working. We had to continuously repair some of these equipments, as the dust from the road was getting into these. So we have also fabricated a glass door to the front of the Center, to make the computer room closed to dust and also to reduce noise.



Extras

MONDAY MORNING ASSEMBLY

Every Monday the students assemble and one of the staff, teaches them the lessons from Life Skills. This has been very instrumental in bringing about oneness and unity in the students and to be motivated by one another. The students are also encouraged to share a quote or a thought on this day.

SPOKEN ENGLISH

LIFE SKILLS

“We designed ‘Life Skills’ to impact each and every student’s life and it gives us a great joy when we see their characters change and lives Shaped. New lessons and Moral values and Motivational thoughts are given to the students every week. One of the ARCC staff discusses the lesson points during the Monday assembly. These are also discussed in the individual classes. So when reiterated again and again, it sinks into the students and the staff who are channels in passing the message. This give them new hope for living.

Life Skills topics include: Lessons about great leaders, Real inspiraonal stories, The great power of thinking, Leadership Qualities, moving from failure to the ladder of sucess. Also lessons to help students build up their character inspiring them to be agents of Help in the society, by respecting religion, to handle different kinds of relationships. These principles make a social impact on them and influences their character. The students and staff who need counseling also are taken care of and we walk with them during tough times in their lives.”

MRS. BEULAH DEVASAGAYAM,
CERTIFIED COUSELOR & LIFE SKILLS TRAINER

*Revathy: (health care assistant student)
“I used to collect notes everytime regarding Life Skills class, in my life and it helps me a lot to take right decisions at the right time in my life”.*



“I have been teaching English to tribal and rural women in Anaikatti for the past 3 months. The total number of students is approximately 30 and I take classes in 2 batches, twice a month. The students are very interested to learn English however, I have observed that they have a lot of shyness in speaking the language and since the classes happen twice a month there is a long gap between 2 classes which sometimes demotivates them from learning. In a bid to bridge this gap, I have introduced a blended learning approach where I could incorporate digital teaching methods. This will be done through Google Classrooms where I could share learning materials and give them assignments and worksheets for them to practice regularly. As a first step, we have collected their email addresses and have successfully created a Google Classroom ID for them. This blended learning methodology will also help the students improve their digital skills which is the need of the hour. We are positive that this methodology will definitely motivate them to learn English and change the way learning happens”.

MS. SHEEBA CAROLINE, A CORPORATE TRAINER
WHO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT TRAINING OUR ARCC
STUDENTS

Trainings



“MAKE YOUR OWN BIRTHDAY CAKE” TRAINING

Cake baking training took place on February 26th at our center. It was taught by Mrs. Ida Bexel, who runs a famous cake pastry business in Coimbatore. For some of the tribal students, it was entirely a new thing and a wonder. It was attended by catering students and many other alumni. Training was given in baking a cake and doing the icing, so the students can make money out of making birthday cakes. The students participated in the training but yet to start a business out of it. They have been encouraged to try it out a few times.

TRAINING IN MAKING HERBAL SANITARY NAPKINS:

Training was given to the students to make Herbal Sanitary Napkins in February this year. A one day training was conducted where 10 tailoring alumni students took part in it. Mrs. Rejula who is the founder of this herbal napkins, came herself and told about the specialties and requirements of the herbal napkins. ARCC purchased the raw materials from her, and she showed the students how to make them and also in three different sizes. The students who learned in the training coached other students. So these students are now making napkins generating income at Home.



Courses

SPOKEN ENGLISH



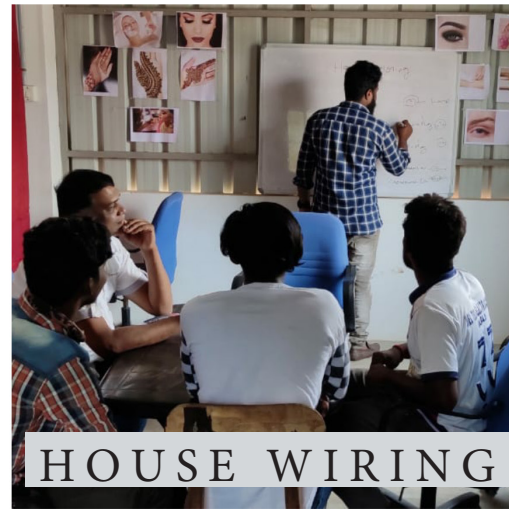
CATERING



COMPUTER



HOUSE WIRING



BEAUTY THERAPY



MOBILE SERVICE



HEALTH ASSISTANT



TAILORING



Hear from our students

SUCCESS IN JOBS & BUSINESS:: INCOME

"I am Nirmala and When I lived in Thadagam near Anaikatty, I learned about ARCC and took the Tally course. The staff helped me learn well and now I am BSS Certified. I belong to a very hard working family. So I travelled everyday to study and work for the purpose of earning an income for my family.

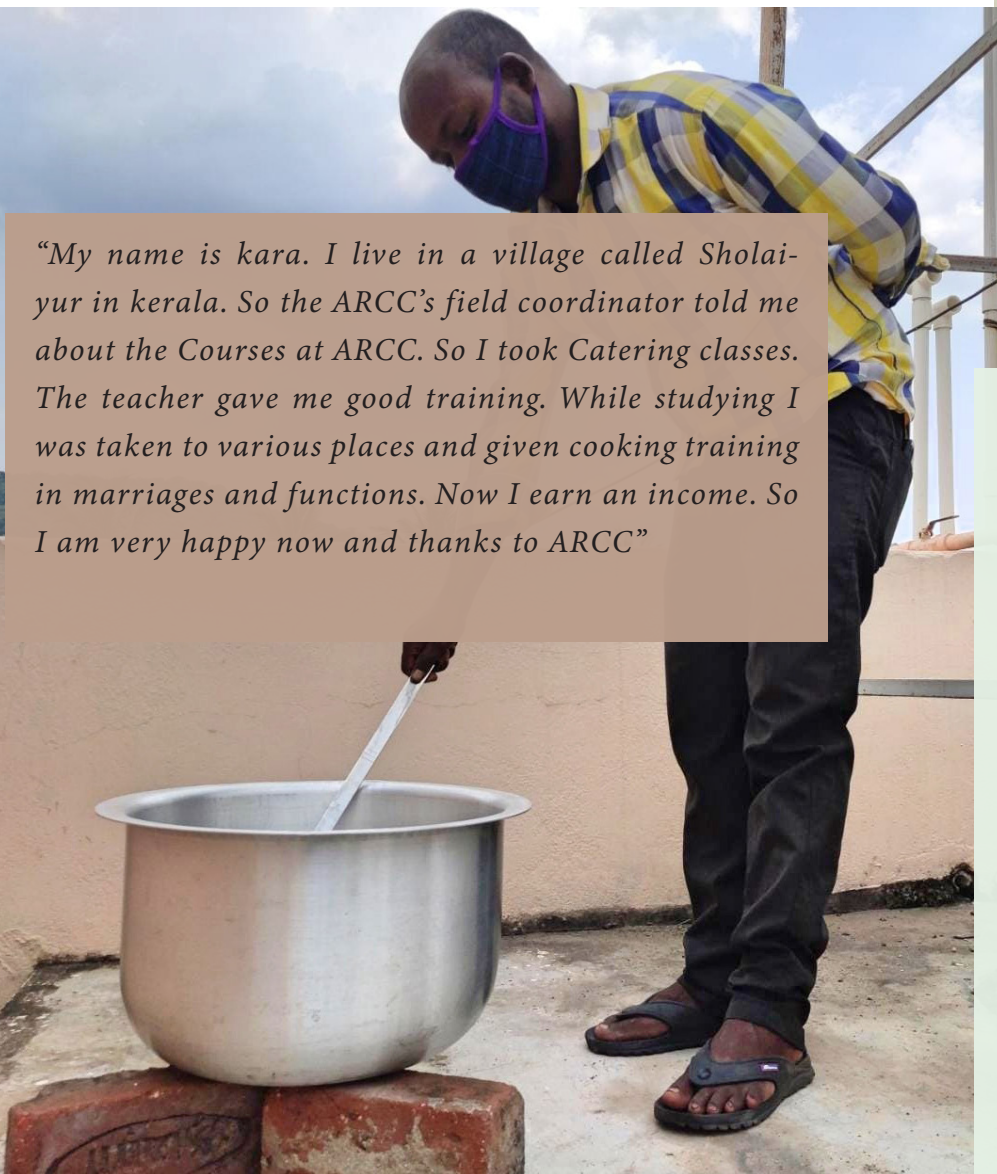
Today I am working as an accountant in a company in Tirpur. The income from my job is useful for me and my family. So the whole reason for this is ARCC and I extend my thanks to ARCC".



"My name is kara. I live in a village called Sholaiyur in kerala. So the ARCC's field coordinator told me about the Courses at ARCC. So I took Catering classes. The teacher gave me good training. While studying I was taken to various places and given cooking training in marriages and functions. Now I earn an income. So I am very happy now and thanks to ARCC"



"My name is Maheshwari and I live in the village of Solaiyur in kerala. My dream was to become a nurse. Last year I got trained to be a health care assistant at ARCC. So the training and classes given by ARCC were very well presented. I was given bus fare by the ARCC which helped me not to miss a class. So I learned this course and got a BSS certificate. I am now working in a government hospital in kerala and I am earning Rs.15000. Thanks to ARCC for fulfilling my dream".





Group Work Station (GWS) is the Income Generation Wing of ARCC. We started injecting it into the mainstream course slowly from January 2020. During the initial Corona times, we had to ignore this and focus on Online classes. But towards late Oct 2020, we stepped gas on it and motivated and pushed the students into entrepreneurship, which gave them a good exposure. In Jan 2021, we have integrated it into the academic system, giving this GWS a 40% focus, while academics will have the main focus of 60% of time and resources.

Group Work Station

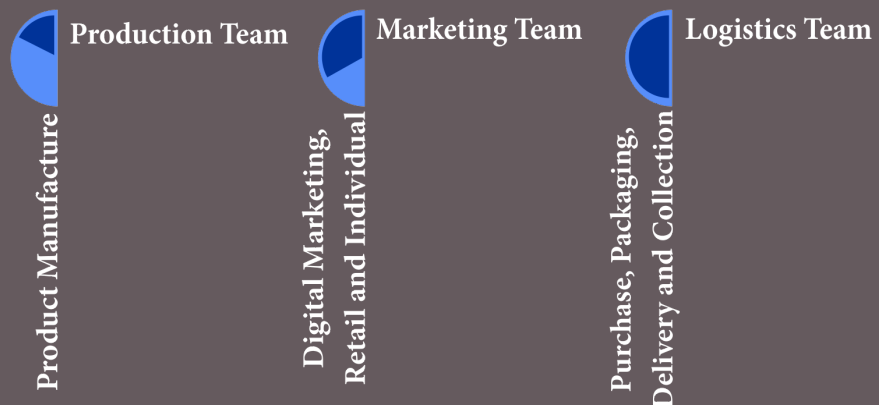
Why GWS?

We saw that during the first 8 years, only 30% of the students have made use of their skill training while the rest did not go out and apply their learning because they did not want to commute or leave their place of nativity. So we have designed a plan to teach them entrepreneurship as well, so they can earn income and sell their products. GWS consists of groups in each department consisting of the trainer, Students and some alumni. We are looking to bring in an industrial link also into this group in future.

We have a pictorial representation of what the students do during the GWS Cycle.



There are 3 main teams working on it:



GWS Teams



1. Production Team:

 <p>TAILORING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Night Dress •Night Pants •Herbal Napkins •Herbal Mask 	 <p>CATERING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Alla Purpose Masala •Wheel Chips 	 <p>BEAUTY THERAPY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Herbal Hair Oil •Herbal Hair Shampoos 	 <p>MOBILE SERVICING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Phone Servicing •Kits 	 <p>HOUSE WIRING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Solar Power Bank •Automatic Day Night Switch
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This team is involved in actual production of the product. Some departments have tasted some profit while some are still on the way. We mobilized some small funds to be the Working capital for these projects and for trial production of some of these products. This team is involved in purchase of raw materials, production and packaging.



2. Marketing Team:

The marketing team connects with each of the trainers and the production Co-ordinator to check the stock, pricing and helps to promote sales. The team members sell the product in their neighborhood. After the Sale of the products, during the end of the month, there is a pay out day, when the Group leader pays out labour and profit if any for the team members.

Angella Davis, helps in Marketing on Social Media, connecting with retailers and individual customers for selling the stock, collecting feedback from the customers and also for taking orders.

RATE CHART

S.NO	Product Name	Cost	Marketing	Profit	Selling Price
1	Night Pants	177	25	48	250
2	All Purpose Masala	39.5	3	2.5	45
3	Herbal Napkins	69	10	10	89
4	Herbal Hair Oil	50	10	10	70
5	Wheel Chips	11.15	4	4.85	20
6	Ordinary Herbal Mask				25
7	Herbal Mask with piping				50

3. The Logistics team:

The Logistics team comprises of some students as a support structure to help the GWS team. This team was given special training to purchase raw materials needed for making a product, how to send products through courier etc and also for buying packing material, printing out sticker labels for product packaging. They also work on a weekly basis. They also help in delivering products for sales to the stores and then sent out later to do collection of sale amount.

Baby Steps...



EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF GWS:

GWS is a new born baby right now. But some of the expectations we have towards this integrated program would be:

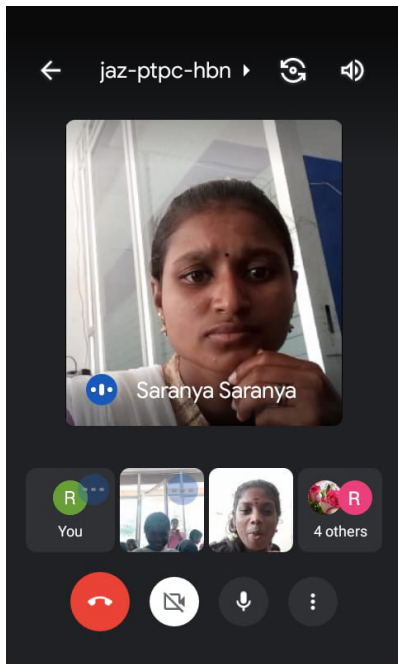
1. Experiencing Entrepreneurship first hand, as the students are involved in the various processes of the project cycle.
2. Work and Labour income for those actually doing the Work.
3. Marketing margin for those interested in marketing the products
4. Profit sharing or return of investment for the investors
5. 10% for the ARCC Corpus fund
6. Experiencing Leadership, Group Working, Communication and all aspects of training

OTHER INCOME GENERATION INITIATIVES

ARCC is taking some strides towards generating income to become self-sustaining in a few years. As a part of it, we are looking to establish a community level project for Production of Goat Cheese, leveraging on the main occupation of the people of Anaikatty which is goat rearing. First a feasibility study project will be conducted to check all the technical, economic and social aspects of the project, before we can venture into it. We have purchased 2 goats for ARCC, a male and a female: Jongen and Mejsei. In future, we wish to make inroad into the community of Anaikatty bringing in the concept of GWS to the people of Anaikatty, teaching them entrepreneurship and making them self-sustainable.

Proactive ARCC

Getting ready for Online Classes
Corona 2nd Wave Lockdown



The ARCC Team, with fresh set of students this year, have been getting ready for Online classes. The tribal students have no clue of Online Networking Platforms and some of them do not have smart phones. But the ones who do, have been given training to meet through Google Meet. The rest of them are reached through conference calls. Some of the classes through Whatsapp video calls. The trainer gets to choose the platform for Online Learning, according to the student composition and their access to internet / smart phones. Some of them meet in their villages if they are from the same area.

Also our Income Generation Program GWS has been getting ready to take the production work Home and Work from Home during these times. There will be the Logistics Team who will be on the run commuting between teams, while the co-ordinators will be taking care of the smooth functioning.

The Admin Team has online meetings every Friday afternoon to solve the problems of the different functional teams, and to supervise the output.



WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

We would like to thank all our sponsors and well wishers for being so involved with the ARCC project. Your encouragement has helped us to accomplish a lot of things. We thank the Lord God Almighty for His grace and favor in all our steps towards giving the people of Anaikatty a Hope and A Future!