



अमरा इण्डर्यु फाउण्डेशन

**INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATION OF CHILDREN
WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES
(ACCREDITED BY NIOS)**



www.amarasoundarya.org

MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure persons with special needs are empowered to become socially and economically independent through our high standards of Special Education.

INTRODUCTION

Children with disabilities are one of the most unfortunate groups in society facing discrimination and difficulty in receiving proper education and in leading a near normal life. It is estimated that globally there are around 90-100 million children with disabilities and special needs. Organizations such as the UNICEF aim to make every child with disability reach its full potential with special education and healthcare.

In India there are 27 million children with special needs and about 2,500 schools providing special education. Some are run or supported by the government, while many are registered NGOs or private institutions. Karnataka, despite having over a 100 government schools and an even larger number of private schools for special need children, finds itself inadequate in catering to all their needs.

Amara Soundarya Foundation is one such school catering to the special needs of children with AUTISM, DOWN SYNDROME, MILD MENTAL RETARDATION AND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES. The school is the brain child of Nirmala Amarnath, who in the memory of her husband Mr. Amarnath (Award winning film producer) and sister-in-law, Ms. Soundarya (Popular actress from the south Indian film fraternity), established it in 2004 with the main purpose of realizing their dream to serve children, especially those with disabilities, with unconditional commitment. Experts from the field provide these services based on a scientific approach, in a child-friendly environment.



OUR JOURNEY

2021



2020

2018

2015

Started catering exclusively to children with Intellectual and learning Disabilities. Presently catering to 40+ Children.

2004

Started an inclusive school catering to children requiring formal as well as Special Education.



SERVICES PROVIDED FOR OUR STUDENTS



EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

NIOS ACCREDITED SPECIAL EDUCATION



THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION



VOCATIONAL TRAINING



FOR STUDENTS OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Remedial intervention (to students with learning difficulties)

An accredited centre for NIOS Exams

CONSTRUCTING AN ECO-FRIENDLY, SUSTAINABLE CENTRE AT HESARAGHATTA

SHORT-TERM VISION (2022)

- Double our annual intake
- Provide Residential Services
- Integrate global standards and practices into our special education program
- Provide a wider range of therapies
- Ensure that 25% of our students enrolled are from rural areas provisions scholarship scheme

LONG-TERM VISION (2026)

- Establish a special educator training program.
- Setup a R&D Unit to develop innovative best practices for children with special needs.
- Initiate an international exchange program
- Ensure that 35% of our students enrolled are from rural areas provisions scholarship scheme



THE GRAND VISION

- Easily accessible intervention services for rural children with developmental disabilities.
- Preparing them for employment and livelihood with dignity and respect to sustain in the mainstream business sectors
- Establishing replicable Indian special education service models across Karnataka and pan India.

ROADBLOCKS

- Due to space constraints in our present location, services can be provided only to a limited number of children
- Space for therapeutic units is also a challenge
- Lack of sufficiently large play area
- Lack of space for expanding vocational training
- Lack of space for residential facilities

THE SOLUTION

- Constructing an Eco-friendly, sustainable, residential Centre at Hesaraghatta
- Increase intake to to 240 students
(8 times of what we are catering now)
- Broaden our range of services
- Estimated cost of the project – around Rs.7 Cr



FACILITIES ENVISIONED

Open, airy classrooms with integrated learning aids to combine learning and ensure comfort for students

Residential facilities for up to 48 children



EDUCATION

- Early intervention
- NIOS accredited Special Education
- Pre-Vocational Training

DEVELOPMENT

- Speech Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Yoga, Dance, Music and Sports



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- Bakery and Hospitality
- Front Office
- Organic Farming • Multi-media

THE FIRST STEP

On the 27th of January we conducted the Bhoomi Pooja at the location of the new institute and commenced construction.

The event was attended by Sri Suresh Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of Primary and Secondary Education, Govt. of Karnataka and many other esteemed guests from the Government and the Film Fraternity.



HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE AND BE A PART OF THIS SOCIAL CAUSE FOR SPECIALLY ABLED CHILDREN

Benefactors can sponsor towards the construction either in form of sponsoring a Classroom, Dining Hall, Kitchen, Dormitory or a Lift as mentioned in Table-1 or can contribute in kind the quantity mentioned in Table-2. Any other contribution monetary or in kind is also welcome for this noble cause.

TABLE - 1

Description	Total Units	Cost for each (₹)
Classroom	31	5.25 lacs
Dining Hall	2	14.5 lacs
Kitchen	2	5.00 lacs
Lift	1	12 lacs
Dorm (with toilet and caretakers room)	Two dorms with capacity to accommodate 12 children's in each	18.75 Lacs

TABLE - 2

Sl.No.	Particulars	Quantity	Units
1.	Cement	4,030	Bags
2.	M-Sand	7,410	Cft
3.	Soil	10,860	Cft
4.	Size Stone Masonry (SSM)	9,609	Nos
5.	Quarry dust	8,708	Cft
6.	Steel TMT	16,095	Kgs
7.	12mm Aggregate	385	Cft
8.	20mm Aggregate	5,448	Cft
9.	40mm Aggregate	1,275	Cft
10.	30mm thick Block Board for Door shutter	500	Sft

The funds can be transferred to :

AMARA SATHVIKA SOCIAL AND EDUCATION TRUST

Account No: **919010087451643**

IFSC – **UTIB0002596**

Axis Bank Limited

New BEL Road, Bangalore – 560094, Karnataka, India.

The benefactors can also take the opportunity of sponsoring a Classroom, Dining Hall, Kitchen, Dormitory or a Lift in memory of their loved ones which will be recognised by way of a plaque.

All contribution by way of sponsorship or contribution in kind will be eligible for deduction U/s.80G of the I.T.Act 1961.



Smt. Nirmala Amarnath
Founder Chairperson

She was born on 27th of October 1971 in Bangalore and completed her MA and MBA in Education. She has her Diploma in Special Education, Life Skills and Family and Child Counselling. In 1997, she married Sri. KS Amarnath. Unfortunately in 2004, she lost her husband and sister-in-law Smt. Soundarya (Famous Cine Actress) in a plane crash. In order to keep their memory alive, and to realize her dream of serving children, she founded Amara Soundarya Foundation

MILESTONES:

- Founded Amara Soundarya Foundation in 2004 under the aegis of Amara Sathvika Social and Educational Trust, of which she is the chairperson. The school caters to children with Autism, Down-syndrome and other Learning Difficulties. The school strives to provide all the facilities required for special needs children, such as special education, therapies and vocational training, under one roof.
- Founded Aryaa Vocational Training Academy which offers beautician course, teachers' training and life skills to women, with a view to empower them and make them independent. This program has trained over 5000 women all over Karnataka, who have then been certified by Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Centre.
- Launched Antharmukha in 2012 to create awareness regarding prevention of child abuse. A book titled "Antharmukha, The Silent Victim", was released as a part of the launch program. The book provides a comprehensive guide to parents to identify and prevent all forms of child abuse.

- Launched various programs such as Sammilana, to facilitate the inclusion of individuals with special needs into mainstream society, Makkala Santhe, to expose society to environmentally friendly ways of living and Mahabharata Mela to revive interest in the epics.

AT PRESENT:

Currently, Nirmala Amarnath is in the process of expanding Amara Soundarya Foundation to a 10,000 Sq. ft. eco-friendly residential special education center at Hesaraghatta, where she aims to widen to the scope of activities of the institution. The construction of this project was inaugurated on the 27th of January 2021, by Sri. Suresh Kumar, Minister for primary and secondary education, Govt. of Karnataka. At the new location, Nirmala Amarnath seeks to provide all services that are required by differently abled children to lead economically and socially independent lives. The project is being implemented at the cost of Rs. 7 Crore.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

- Nagamma Foundation Award, 2009
- Yuva Global Foundation, Certificate of Recognition on International Women's Day 2014
- Rex Karamveer Global Fellow, 2015-16
- Philanthropic society of India – Social Entrepreneur – National Award-2019
- Smilofy India Foundation, Inspirational Woman Achiever Award – 2021
- Featured in Women's Era March 2021 edition in Article titled "Empathy in Holistic Special Education"

BOARD OF ADVISORS



Prof. Kalpathy Eswaran

He is a professor and researcher in the fields of physics and biology.



Smt. Lalitha Eswaran

She holds degrees in economics, education and sociology and has worked as a teacher in various reputed institutions.



Sri. Gundu Rao

Retired chairman of Associate Bank Officers Association. Excellent orator, banker and fighter for public causes



Smt. Meena Jain

Rehabilitation expert with rich grass root experience. She comes with immense expertise in the field of disability.



Sri. Surendra Singhvi

He is a practicing chartered accountant and is specialized in taxation, funding and advising NGOs



Sri. Ananth Nagraj

Director of AARKAY constructions, Narayanamrutha Foundation and Sumana Pratishtana (Charitable trusts)



Sri. R.C. Nathan

Management consultant for company development and the founder of Apna International Network.



Sri Sankaran Subramanyum

Certified Public Accountant, and Chartered Accountant M&A/JV/Strategy Consultant Founder partner of the APNA Business Network



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