# "Amy Carmichel" - Hilfe für Kinder in Indien e.V.



Hetzboldstr.17, 99631 Weißensee/Thür.

## Amy-Newsletter December 2023 – March 2024

Dear fosterparentss, friends and supporters of our sponsorship project,

here is another detailed report on the situation in Pandur from Mrs Mano. Just a few brief additions from me first.

With regard to the conversion of the Frolich Home into a hostel, there is some very recent positive news that could not yet be included in Mrs Mano's comments: today (4 March 2024), the confirmed decision of the church leadership was finally received. The relevant paper was still missing for the application to the state authorities.

As the current school year comes to an end in a few weeks, we are now working towards a new start as a hostel at the beginning of the new 2024/2025 school year on 1 June.

Bishop Samraj has informed that due to the changes in the church administration, there was a communication gap between the TELC and the government office in New Delhi. As a result, certain documents could not be submitted in time. This has now been rectified and there is optimism that transfers to India will soon be possible again.

After Mrs Sharly, a young lady from Pandur, was able to work in Dresden for a year last year via the international exchange programme through the Leipzig Mission, this year for the first time one of our girls is volunteering in Germany via the ELM Herrmannsburg. Mrs Dayana will be in a kindergarten in Braunschweig until February 2025.

Mrs Luise, who is currently still volunteering in Pandur, will be the last German volunteer in India for the time being. The ELM has not found any applicants for India this year - and the LMW has already suspended the exchange programme to India for the second year, as the Indian embassy in Berlin, which is responsible for the Eastern region, has not been issuing work visas in a church context for two years.

So much from my side. Now I'll hand over to Mano. A blessed spring and Easter time to all!

With many greetings,

With San

Winfried Stelle, Project-Coordinator "Amy Carmichel"

(04. März 2024)

#### News Letter from November 2023 to February 2024 - 4 months

Let me greet you with the verses from the Bible which say as follows:

"I give thanks to you for all your loving kindness, your faithfulness and for your promises. When I pray, you answer me, and encourage me by giving me the strength I need." Psalm 138 v. 2(a) and v.3.

Dear Fosterparents, Friends and Well wishers of our Amy Carmichel Project (Frolich Home and Amy Foundation (India)

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Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. To write the "Monthly Letter" it gives me great pleasure to express my profound gratitude to our Father who has led us so far. It is very important to thank our Heavenly Father who was mindful on us of His promise, kept and fed us throughout the 19 years from 2004 ever since the Amy Carmichel Project started which we completed successfully. In this juncture, I would like to thank our Project coordinator, Mr.Winfried Stelle, our Fosterparents and all Well-wishers for their support given to our girls and few boys for their school education, later followed by training which is called "Extended Fostership", which has sprouted and blossomed as "Amy Carmichel Hostel for Girls" and "Amy Foundation" (India).

In my last Amy News Letter from March 2023 to October 2023, sent on October 28th 2023, I forgot to write about the new volunteer Miss Luise Fielenbach sent by ELM under the North-

South Volunteers program for 6 months from 27.09.2023 to 26.03.2024. After attending a seminar in Chennai, Miss Luise came to our Frolich Home on the 2nd of October, 2023. In my last letter, I wrote that she translated my Amy News Letter in German. Miss Luise is of great help to me in the office as well as in the other administrative side with all her abilities and talents, being "an All Round Worker". She conducted Flute Class for our few children (R.Rakshitha (AC 12-18), R.Rithik(AC 12-18), A.Freeda Yazhini (a new admission in July



2022) and few boys from the village, our (congregation members) in the evening after the school and sometimes when the children had leave on Saturdays. The few girls who are staying in the Manager House had special coaching classes at the school and, therefore, could not come in time to learn flute.

#### Now the report starts from November 2023 to February 2024.

On Sunday, 29th October, 2023, a Free Medical Camp was organized by a "Trust" of the Medical College Hospital of Ramachandra Chennai. The "Trust" selected our TELC Frolich Home for Girls, Pandur where there is a spacious place for the Surgeons to test the eyes and teeth, on free of cost. The Doctors brought the tools and machines etc. from their hospital as well as their own medical staff. (photos enclosed). As the Medical Camp took place free of cost, many of our village people in and around Pandur could be benefited through this Medical Camp. After a week, spectacles were provided freely. Therefore, I demanded no money from the Medial Camp for the place given and the electricity used by the team the whole day. Many of our former and present students of our Home with their parents came and I was very happy to see them all.



From 26th to 31st of October 2023 as usual the week was celebrated as "Reformation Week" of Martin Luther" having every day a program in the evening at 6.30 based only on the life of Martin Luther where our girls regularly participated whether they were at home or in the Frolich Home. On one evening was a song competition on the life of Martin Luther which also started at

6.30 in the evening and ended at 8.00 in our church. Our children from the Sunday School R.Rakshitha (AC 11-18) and A.Freeda Yazhini got 1st prize. There were the other groups – the Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship, Youth Group, Junior Ministry, Church Choir, 12 prayer cells etc. participated. On the 31st of October 2023, a special service at 8.30 in the morning was conducted when our students 1) A,Prasanna (AC 22-15,) 2) D.Dayana (AC 16-05), and K.Vasanthi (AC 08-06) read the history about



Martin Luther life since only those who are confirmed are eligible to go in front to read.



On 06.11.2023, in the Sunday Divine Service, the newly elected Pastorate Committee Members (5 male and 1 lady for the next triennium, 2023 to 2026 were installed in the church by our Pastor. The lady is me, refused many times to become a PC Member as so often have to attend the PC meeting which always takes a long time, leaving the children and the work behind.

On Saturday, the 2nd of December, 2023, the children had no school so we all went like in every year to clean the church and the full campus before the decoration. After cleaning only, we could start beautifying the

church with the Advent Stars and other articles which I have got from Germany many years ago and few items later from our Fosterparents. After the 6th of January, the Epiphany Day Service, the next day we removed them and placed them carefully in a separate so called "Christmas"

Almara" to be used for the following years.

On the 3rd of December 2023, the First Sunday in Advent, the orchestra came from the village chapel in Pandur to our main church, having their prayer first there and then started at 4.30 in the morning with singing the Advent songs (orchestra) with music band and few other musical instruments. The orchestra came first to our Frolich Home to greet us for the Advent.

On the 4th and 5th of December 2023, a strong "Mikjam" cyclone hit Tamilnadu, especially Chennai, Chengleput, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur. Many coconut trees' branches and bark fell down. To clean the campus, 2 laborers were engaged for a day to avoid snakes hiding under the garbage. The big and long standing coconut trees were damaged by the lightning and thunder hit. Those damaged trees had to be cut off as there is a danger that they may fall on any day on the road passers when they walk on the pavement. It is a pity that we have no lightning/thunder arrester, (lightning conductor/rod). There was one on the top of the church tower for many years, but while erecting a big cross on the tower, it was removed. This lightning conductor safe guarded the buildings 25km distance away from our area.



From 04.12.2023 to 08.12.2023, all the schools, colleges and training centers were closed due to the continuous rain which caused flood everywhere. So the girls who had no shelter at home due to the water entered their houses, came to the hostel. But as the Home is closed, they all were accommodated in the Manager House, ate and slept until the water receded. 1) R.Rakshitha (AC 11-18), 2) R.Rithik (AC 12-18), 3) A.Freeda, 4) A.Ashitha Merlin, (AC 11-17), 5) P.Banu Priya (AC 08-12), 6) V.Preethima (AC 19-11), 7) A.Lydia Krenapu (AC12-17), and 8) C. Manusha (09-19). Our Christmas and New Year celebrations took place in the wetness due to the rain water standing everywhere.

On the 9th of January 2024, our new Hostel Board Chairman Mr. Jeyakumar Devapiriam and Mr.S.John Baskar, Accountant ,TELC came to visit our Home and we could discuss many things, especially about the long pending Remittance money etc. At that time, we discussed also about the way how to run the Hostels again from January 2024. Then they told us "The Homes who do not receive in future funds from abroad", that Homes should get an order from the Church

Council to send a resolution passed by the CC for changing the name "Home to Hostel". In this case the 2 officers told us about the resolution that is changing name from Home to Hostel fits only to the TELC Boys Home and not to our Frolich Home as we receive funds from Germany from the Fosterparents. And the Frolich Home should get the "Renewed Certificate of the Societies of Registration Act.

Therefore, we sent letters, e-mails etc. to the Bishop, Secretary CC and other "office bearers of the church" continually, to send us the Renewed Certificate of the Societies of Registration Act but there was no reply or any action taken till today. Hoping that we get the Renewed - Certificate of Registration Act soon, we from our side were preparing the documents. Few weeks ago 2 of our Home staff went to the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Tiruvallur with the prepared documents and another paper which the 2 officers handed over to us to show it to the Government. But the DCPU did not accept that paper, but insisted them only to come again when the Certificate of Registration Act is received from the Church.

But later on we came to know from the well wishers of our Home that there is no possibility to get in the long run a Renewed Certificate for the Registration of Societies of Act. So I also felt it is a waste of time waiting for the Certificate. Therefore, I talked with the Chairman, Hostel Board about this matter and he agreed to my decision and said that he will take necessary steps to get for us the necessary certificate "that means changing the name from Home to Hostel "TELC Frolich Hostel for Girls" Pandur. So I have applied to the Church Council Secretary (refer my 2 letters) 2) My letter to the Chairman Hostel Board, TELC dated 5th of February 2023 under copies to the office bearers, TELC. When the CC Meeting takes place, this matter will be discussed and resolution passed by signing all the members of the Church Council. It is very sad that everything gets so delayed.

At the end of January, 2024, the students of XI std. 1) A.Lydia Krenapu (AC 12-17), 2) A.Ashitha Merlin (AC 11-17), 3) M.Abinaya (AC 07-18), 4) R.Jenitha (AC 04-18) and 5) S.Barathi (AC 01-18). Studying in the TELC Kabis Higher Secondary School Pandur got a free bicycle.

The Government Practical Examination for the following Students:

12th standard on February 12 to 17, 2024.

- 1) A.Prasanna (AC 22 -15)
- 2) S.Dharshini Priya (AC 05 -18)

and for 11th standard on February 19 to 24, 2024.

- 1) A.Lydia Krenapu (AC 12-17)
- 2) A.Ashitha Merlin (AC 11-17)
- 3) M.Abinaya (AC 07-18)
- 4) R.Jenitha (AC 04-18)
- 5) S.Barathi (AC 01-18)

and for **10th standard** on February 23, 2024

- 1) C.Manusha (AC 09-19)
- 2) G.Priya Dharshini (AC 08-16)
- 3) S.Janani (AC 11-14)

#### **Now come the Finance Matters:**

You may know that there is still an outstanding amount being Rs.5,37,088.00 due to our Home from November 2021 to June 2022. (Ref. my letters dated Jan.11, 2024 and 27.01.2024 to the Accountant Mr.S.John Baskar TELC under copies to the Bishop/President and the Office Bearers

Leipzig and TELC. (papers can be requested).

As we were short of money not being able to pay the full fees for the Extended Fostership Students and special Gifts to the students and pay the pending bills etc., our Project co-ordinator was kind enough to pay the expenses after receiving my statement of expenses account from July 2022 to October 2023 being €uro 18,496.00 but this was rejected by the Government and sent back to Germany by the Indian Bank with the remark that the TELC Bank Account was not (no longer) authorized for money transfers from abroad. (Ref. letter of Mr.Winni dated 21.01.2024). The main reason that we could not pay the special gifts for the children because we didn't receive the "exchange rate" while asking so many times to the Church. But there was no reply till today.

I have to thank our Project co-ordinator Mr.Winni more than 1000 times who had been so kind enough to understand the present situation of our Home and started an appeal for donations via the sponsorship WhatsApp group for an initial amount being €uro 500.00 when I sent my supplication/appeal by WhatsApp at the end of January 2024 with tears and prayers. I am glad and thankful that our Amy Board in its meeting sanctioned €uro 600.00 from the emergency fund and sent the donation to the private account of the volunteer Luise which is in the Indian currency Rs.53,520.00 and thus had relieved me from all my anxieties.

Once again I thank our Project Co-Ordinator, Fosterparents and Well- wishers for their continuous support and that the members of our Amy Board who had understood the situation and sanctioned € 600.00 from the Emergency Fund from which we could settle the bills. After paying the bills, the statement of expenses will be sent to our Project co-ordinator with Xerox of the bills.

As I wrote in my previous report, on a broader perspective, we are in a highly endangered political situation. Now, the students, supported by our Fosterparents have a greater responsibility to move out of their defined limits and reach out the people who need help. At this time, our thoughts turn gratefully to all who have made the progress possible through their tireless support.

The monthly report is the mile stone and an opportunity for review and reflection with praising and thanksgiving God for the fruitful service of our Project co-ordinator, Fosterparents and Wellwishers for all their hardships and great effort made everything possible in the happy days as well as in the days of darkness and difficulties.

It is my duty to appreciate our Project Co-ordinator, Amy Board Members, Well wishers and donors for their exemplary dedication towards offering their support for uplifting the down trodden children. May our God bless you abundantly to continue your support in the vineyard of our Lord Jesus Christ for His glory. I wish our children who all were helped by our Amy Project to achieve great heights and cater to the needs of our society and church. I also thank everybody for their excellent ministries they are carrying out for the extension of the studies after the schooling. As you all know, the Amy Carmichel Project, helped many young girls and few boys for getting higher education through Amy Foundation (India). Now we are in a status to think about our Fosterparents and well wishers and their help which rendered to many (poor and needy).

May our Lord Jesus Christ guide us in all our ways in success when we prepare again the documents when we get resolution form the Church Council for "Changing the name from Home to Hostel" to run the Home in the new academic year that is from June 2024.

Major repairs in the Missionary Bungalow: My Letter dated 16.02.2024 sent to the Bishop/President TELC with photos, requested him to send an Engineer from TELC to prepare an estimate to be forwarded to the Leipzig under copies to the "Office Bearers, Leipzig as well as

TELC".

**<u>Visitors:</u>** The foster mother of S.Blessiyal (AC No.09-17) came to visit her and stayed for a few days in our Home.

Our girls and boys who all got support through our Amy Carmichel Project from the year 2004 are very proud to be the children of Amy Carmichel project. I take immense pleasure in giving thanks to each one of our Fosterparents, well wishers and donors.

With many kind and thankful greetings,

Yours sincerely,

Mano

(*Please note: The letters mentioned in the report can be requested if required*).

### **<u>Date preview</u>** (as of 04.03.2024):

<u>Foster-parents meeting 2024:</u> Saturday, 24 August 2024 in Weißensee, in the St. Nicolai community centre. A small festive programme is planned (20 years of the Amy Project) followed by coffee and a festive church service to conclude the day.

Please make a note of the date!

<u>The Foster-parents visit 2024</u> will take place between 22 September and 12 October 2024. (Please note, this is the planned period, **not the exact travel date**).

The trip is planned for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  weeks this time. Included will be a multi-day trip to Trichy (with domestic flight). **Registrations are now possible.** 

<u>Please note:</u> The Foster-parents visit is always a guided group tour offer. Participation is possible for up to 20 people.

**India afternoons or evenings** are also possible in your town / parish by arrangement. Please send enquiries to Winfried Stelle.

Mail: amy.carmichel@web.de or Phone.: 036374-21258

The **next newsletter** is expected to be published in June 2024.

The next **transfer to India** will take place as soon as possible.

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## **Interest in a Foster-parentship?**

Foster-parentship of one of our boarding school children is already possible for 17.50 euros per month, a study sponsorship for approx. 25.00 euros per month (as of March 2024).

New sponsorships will hopefully be possible again soon.

The Foster-parentship project can be reached at amy.carmichel@web.de

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## Helping with a donation?

Amy Carmichel / DE95 1203 0000 1020 3209 56 / BYLADEM 1001 / Deutsche Kreditbank AG

Thank you for your support!

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