

FRIENDSHIP CHILDREN HOME

IMPACT

REPORT

2006-2026

A 20-Year Journey of Care & Growth



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Our History



In June 2006, a distress call reached VOICE Trust from a nearby village: a one-and-a-half-year-old baby girl was at risk of being abandoned. The VOICE team immediately rushed to the village and discovered that the child's aunt, a widowed agricultural worker, was preparing to leave for work in Kerala with her three sons. The baby girl, her late brother's child, had lost both parents, and no one was willing or able to care for her.

Recognizing the urgency of the situation, VOICE Trust reported the matter to the District Collector. Moved by the case, the Collector advised VOICE Trust to establish a children's home for 20 orphan and semi-orphan children—marking the beginning of what would become the Friendship Children's Home (FCH).

The VOICE team shared this vision with Dr. K. Govindha Raju, founder of SEVAI, who suggested approaching AEM (Les Amis des Enfants du Monde), an international organization supporting orphaned and vulnerable children across 15 countries. VOICE Trust applied, and in August 2006, an AEM mission led by Jean Paul Plagnat and Roland Cremades visited and approved the "Joy to Children" programme. FCH was launched with 15 orphan children. AEM supported the construction of essential facilities, including two living rooms, an infirmary, and two storerooms, while VOICE Trust utilized its existing infrastructure such as classrooms, kitchen, dining space, and sanitation facilities.

By 2009, with 22 children enrolled, the District Collector formally approved FCH, and the District Social Welfare Office began guiding its functioning. Children were enrolled in nearby schools in Siruganur—primary education (Grades 1–5) for younger children and higher secondary education (Grades 6–12) for older ones.

In 2011, the Government officially registered Friendship Children’s Home under the Juvenile Justice Act. Required certifications—including a license from the Tahsildar, building stability, health and sanitation, and fire safety—were obtained, ensuring compliance and formal recognition.

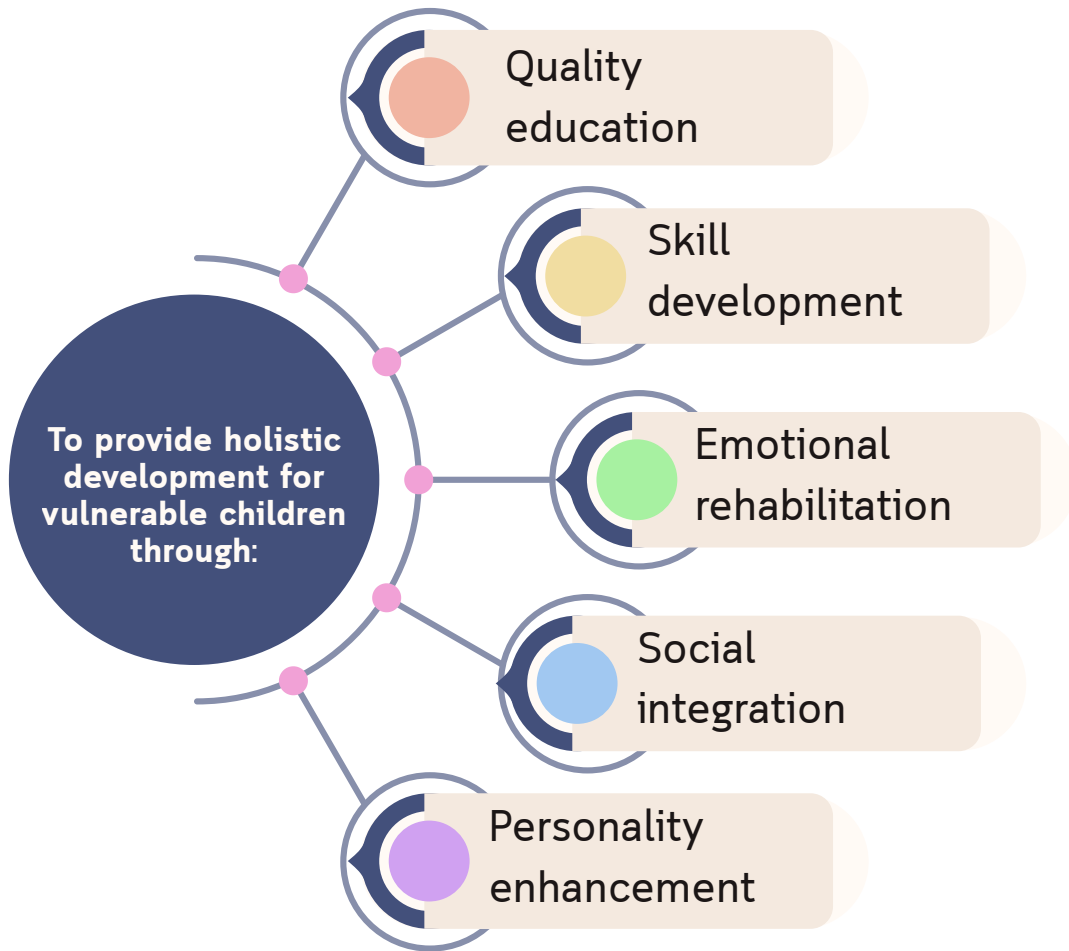
As of the academic year 2025–2026, FCH supports 34 school-going children and 8 college-going adolescents. Since its inception, 87 children have successfully passed through the home, all of whom are now employed, with three having begun families of their own.

Parallel to this, in response to the 2004 tsunami, the Indian Centre for Research & Development of Continuing Education (ICRDCE) encouraged VOICE Trust to establish the Ertram Rural Community College (ERCC). Recognized by Tamil Nadu Open University, ERCC began in the 2005–2006 academic year with 105 students across five one-year diploma trades. The institution quickly gained recognition, with students winning two gold medals and one silver medal at the state level, along with several first ranks in subsequent years. When ICRDCE faced challenges in supporting higher education, VOICE Trust once again approached AEM, which extended support through the TERA (Technical Education for Rural Adolescents) programme from 2007 onward.

Every year, representatives from AEM visit VOICE Trust, interact with the children of FCH, and share their progress with donors across the world. VOICE Trust deeply values AEM’s continued care and commitment to disadvantaged children globally. Together, they remain dedicated to restoring dignity, opportunity, and joy to children who are orphaned, at risk, and in need.



2.1 MISSION



FCH was initiated under the “Joy To Children” program with a vision to create not just a shelter, but a developmental ecosystem where children feel safe, valued, and empowered.

2.2 LEGAL AND STATUTORY RECOGNITION

2009:

Received district-level approval

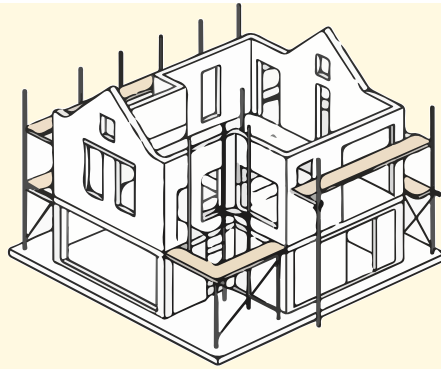
2011:

Registered under the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, ensuring compliance with national child protection standards

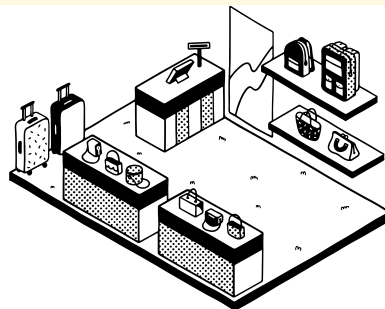
3. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND AEM PARTNERSHIP

Initial Infrastructure Support

Since 2006, AEM has played a foundational role in building Friendship Children's Home by supporting the development of essential infrastructure, including living spaces, kitchen, and dining facilities, ensuring a safe and nurturing environment for children.



Construction of living spaces



Kitchen and dining facilities



Basic infrastructure under
various development phases

Funding Transition and Sustainability Model

In 2010, AEM communicated limitations in continuing full financial support due to:

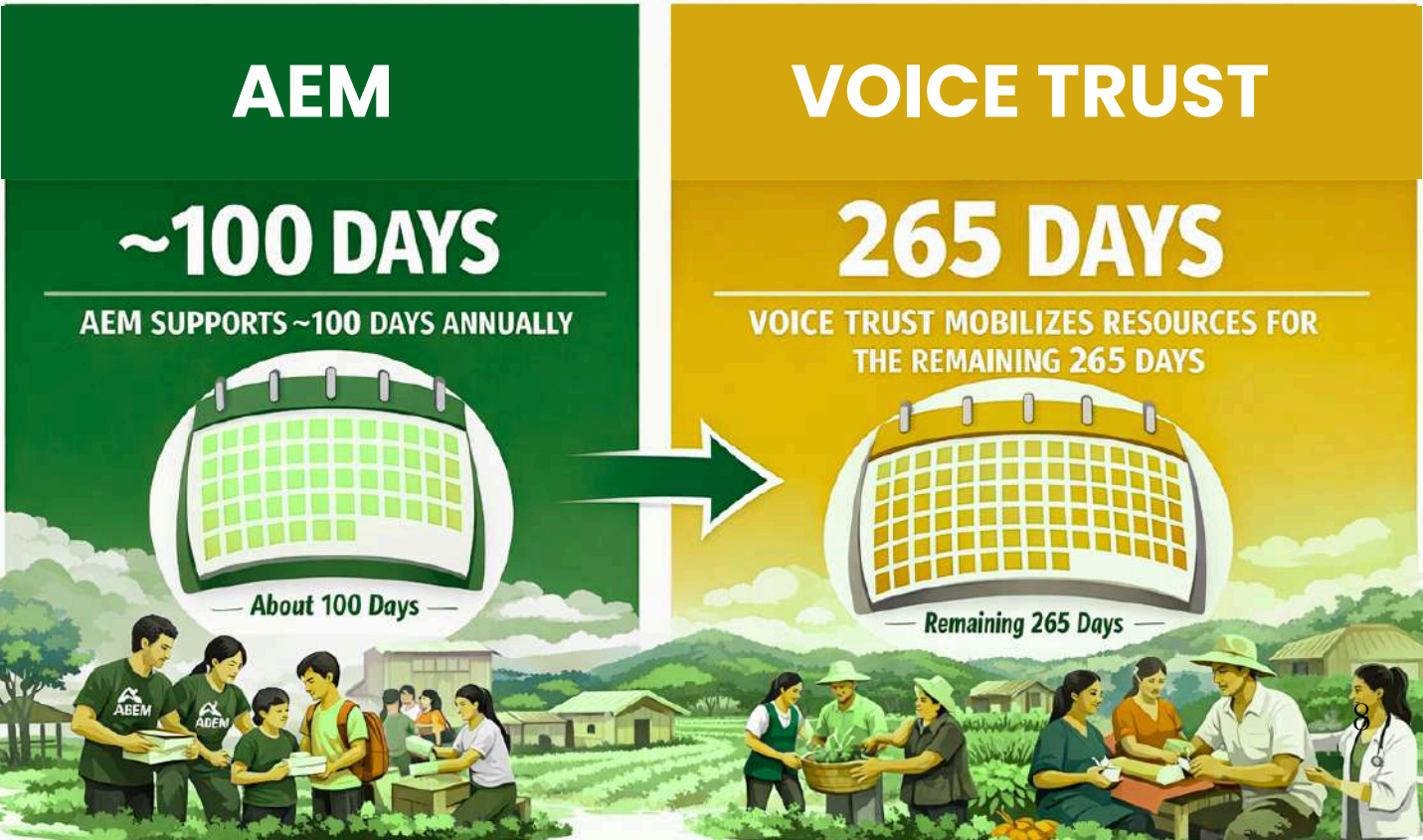
1. A comparatively smaller number of children in residential care versus school programs



2. Decline in donor contributions in France



This posed a critical challenge for VOICE Trust. After discussions, a shared responsibility model was established in 2012:



2022

A renewed outreach campaign gained visibility after coverage by the Village Cooking Channel



(30.4 Million Subscribers)



In 2022, a renewed outreach campaign significantly expanded visibility after Friendship Children's Home was featured by the Village Cooking Channel, which has over 30.4 million subscribers. This exposure helped reach a wider audience and strengthened public awareness of the Home's mission and needs.



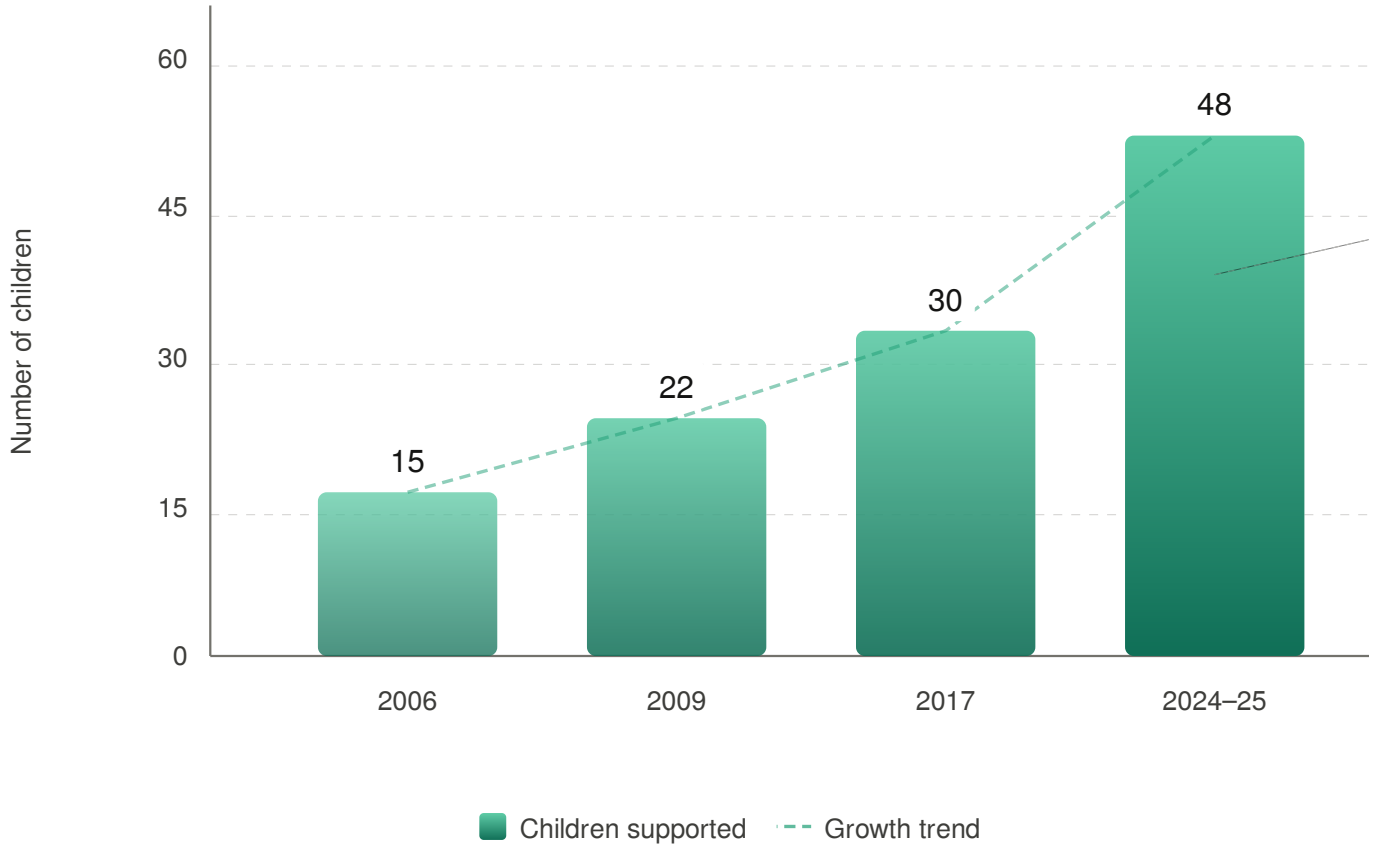
Despite these efforts, financial instability remains a challenge due to inconsistent local donations.



4. REACH AND GROWTH

Reach & Growth

Impact in Numbers — FCH Children Served Over the Years



FCH Reach & Growth — Impact in Numbers

This infographic visually tells the story of FCH's expanding impact over nearly two decades. Using a bar chart with four key milestones, it tracks the steady rise in the number of children supported by the organization: Starting modestly with 15 children in 2006, FCH grew to 22 in 2009, then 30 in 2017, and reached its highest point yet with 48 children in 2024-25 — more than tripling its reach in under 20 years. The dashed trend line reinforces this consistent upward trajectory.

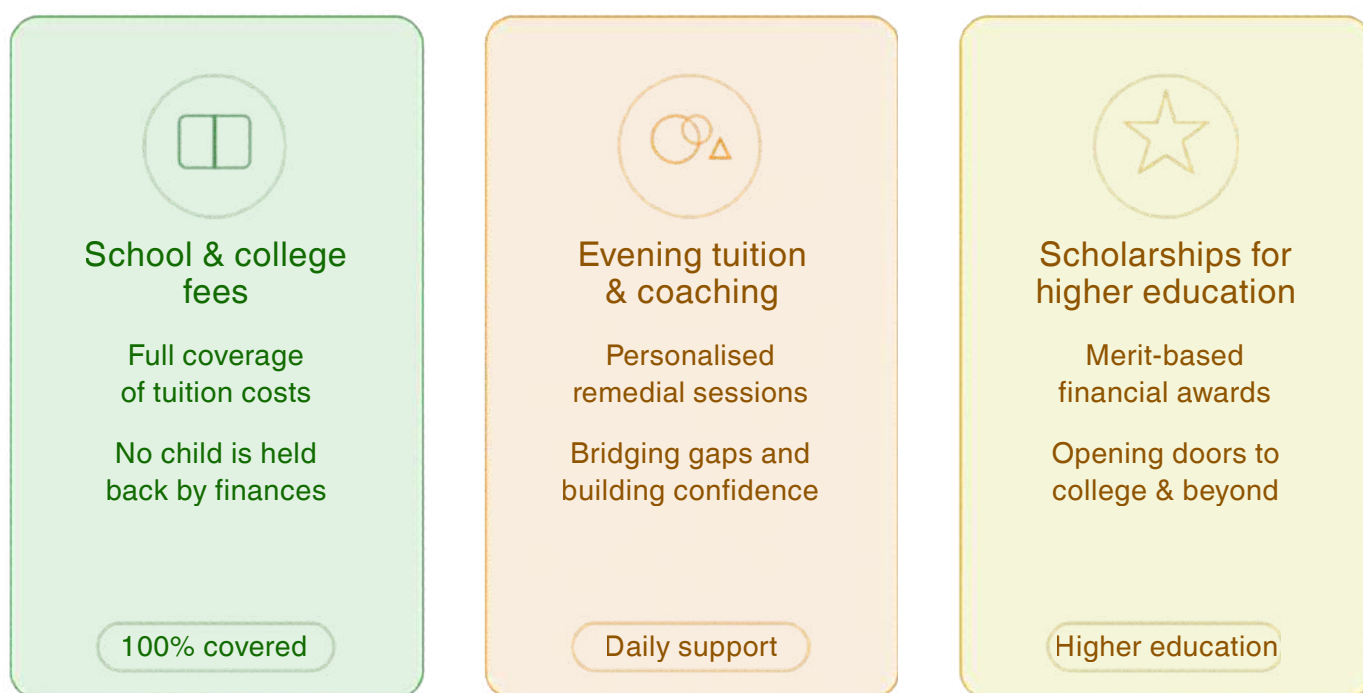
A special callout on the latest bar highlights that the 48 children are split between 40 school students and 8 college students, reflecting FCH's expanded scope to support young people into higher education.

The overall message is clear: FCH has grown steadily while maintaining its commitment to individualized care — serving more children every year without losing sight of quality.

5. EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Academic support

How FCH invest in every child's education



FCH ensures no child is left behind — from classroom to campus

Investing in Every Child's Future

At Friendship Children's Home, education is not seen as an expense, but as a lifelong investment in each child's future. Recognising that many children come from vulnerable and disrupted backgrounds, FCH ensures that financial limitations never become a barrier to learning and growth.

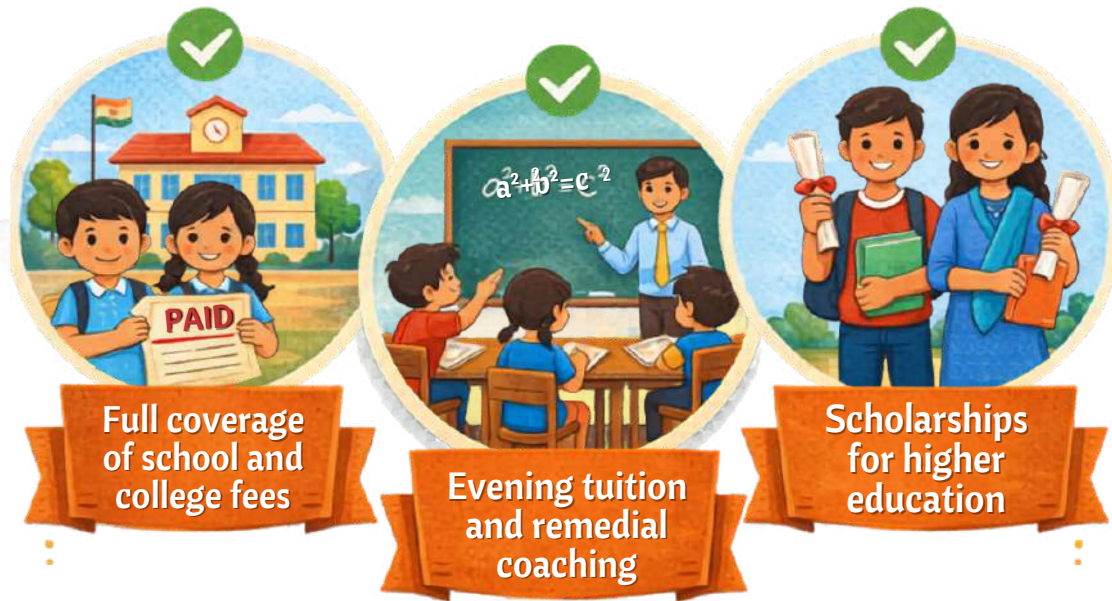
The Home provides 100% coverage of school and college fees, including tuition and essential academic expenses. This commitment ensures that no child is held back due to financial constraints, allowing them to continue their education with stability and dignity.

Beyond financial support, FCH offers daily academic assistance through evening tuition and personalised coaching. Special remedial sessions are designed to address individual learning gaps, helping children build confidence, improve performance, and stay motivated in their studies.

For students pursuing higher education, FCH extends scholarship support through merit-based financial assistance, enabling them to access college opportunities and professional courses. This continued support ensures a smooth transition from school to higher education and career pathways.

Through this comprehensive approach, FCH stands by its commitment that no child is left behind—supporting them at every stage, from the classroom to the campus and 12 beyond.

5.1 ACADEMIC SUPPORT



Friendship Children's Home ensures that every child has uninterrupted access to quality education.

- Full Coverage of School & College Fees: All tuition and essential academic expenses are fully funded, removing financial barriers to learning.
- Evening Tuition & Remedial Coaching: Daily study sessions and personalised support help bridge learning gaps, strengthen fundamentals, and build academic confidence.
- Scholarships for Higher Education: Merit-based support enables students to pursue college education and professional courses, opening doors to careers and personal growth.



5.2 SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPOSURE



English language training (ANN Foundation, USA)



Creative development through storytelling, arts, music, and dance (Pachyderm Tales)



Mentorship programs with CAF America and Caterpillar India

FCH goes beyond academics to nurture creativity, communication, and life skills:

English Language Training: Volunteers from the ANN Foundation (USA) provide structured language classes to improve fluency and comprehension.

Creative Development: Storytelling, arts, music, and dance sessions through Pachyderm Tales help children explore their talents and build self-expression.

Mentorship Programs: Partnerships with CAF America and Caterpillar India offer professional guidance, career exposure, and personal mentorship to broaden horizons.

5.3 LEARNING CHALLENGES AND SUPPORT



Many children arrive at FCH with traumatic experiences that affect their academic performance.

Only about 10% of past students have achieved high academic scores, highlighting the need for focused support.

The majority of children benefit from:

- Personalised Coaching tailored to their individual learning needs
- Emotional Support to address trauma, build resilience, and restore confidence
- Confidence-Building Interventions through activities, mentorship, and creative programs
- FCH’s holistic approach ensures that each child not only learns but also grows emotionally and socially, preparing them for higher education, careers, and life beyond the Home.

Majority Require:



Personalized Coaching

Tailored Guidance



Emotional Support

Care & Understanding



Confidence Building

Boosting Self-Esteem

6. PSYCHOSOCIAL BACKGROUND AND CHILD WELL-BEING

Distressing Backgrounds

Children arriving at Friendship Children's Home often come from deeply traumatic and challenging circumstances, including:

- **Abandonment by Family:** Some children have been left by close relatives, including parents or guardians.
- **Exposure to Extreme Trauma:** Many have witnessed events such as suicide in the family, or faced social exclusion due to criminal allegations associated with their household.

Impact on Children

These experiences leave lasting emotional and psychological effects, including:

- **Emotional Trauma:** Deep-seated fear, grief, and anxiety.
- **Psychological Distress:** Difficulty coping with everyday life and learning.
- **Low Self-Esteem:** Feelings of neglect, rejection, and inferiority.

Core Approach: Acceptance, Care, and Empowerment

FCH prioritizes creating a nurturing environment where children feel safe, valued, and loved. Key strategies include:

- **Emotional Acceptance & Care:** Providing consistent support to help children feel wanted and secure.
- **Education & Self-Reliance:** Combining academic learning with life skills to empower children to become independent and confident.
- **Gradual Motivation & Learning:** Supporting children step by step to rebuild confidence and encourage a love for learning.

Recreational & Cultural Activities

To further support emotional well-being and personal growth, children participate in:

Arts & Music Programs: Developing creative expression and boosting self-confidence.

Heritage & Cultural Activities: Connecting with culture and community, building a sense of identity and belonging.

Through this holistic approach, FCH ensures that children not only recover from trauma but also thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Distressing Backgrounds



Abandonment by Family



**Exposure to Suicide in the Family
(e.g., Criminal Allegations)**

Impact on Children



Emotional Trauma



Psychological Distress



Low Self-Esteem

Core Approach:

FCH Prioritizes:



Acceptance & Care
Making Children Feel Loved



Education & Self-Reliance
Gradual Motivation & Learning



Recreational & Cultural Activities
Arts, Music & Heritage Programs

7. SUNDAY AGRICULTURE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Launched in 2020 under the Technical Education of Rural Adolescents (TERA), the Sunday Agriculture School is a flagship program aimed at reviving interest in agriculture as a viable profession and equipping rural children with practical skills for sustainable livelihoods.

Key Achievements

- Reached 18 villages
- Trained 717 children in modern agricultural practices

Through SAS, children not only learn farming techniques but also gain exposure to entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and sustainable practices, helping them envision a future in agriculture or allied professions.



Launched in 2020 under the Technical Education of Rural Adolescents (TERA):

Key Achievements



18 Villages
Covered



717 Children
Trained

Outcomes



21 Children
Started Home Gardens



Sold Banana
Bunch for ₹800



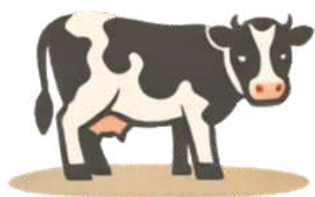
Girl Pursued
Agriculture Degree



8. SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

8.1 DAIRY UNIT (2013)

 Supported by Salvatorian Relief Action (Belgium)



5 Cows
Maintained



Daily Fresh
Milk Production



Supports
Community Nutrition

Established in 2013 with support from Salvatorian Relief Action (Belgium), the Dairy Unit at Friendship Children's Home was created to provide a sustainable source of fresh milk for the children while promoting community nutrition.

Key Features & Support

- Maintains 5 cows to supply daily fresh milk
- Ensures consistent nutritional support for children and beneficiaries

Impact

- Provides daily access to fresh milk, supporting health and growth
- Improves overall nutrition and dietary balance for the children
- Introduces and promotes sustainable dairy practices within the Home

The Dairy Unit combines self-sustainability with child well-being, ensuring that nutrition is both consistent and locally managed.

8.2 ECOLOGICAL GARDEN (2016-2017)

Developed with the dedicated involvement of 58 French volunteers, the Ecological Garden transformed a thorny, bushy landscape into a fertile and productive agricultural space. This initiative not only enhanced the Home's self-sustainability but also provided hands-on learning opportunities for children in organic farming and environmental stewardship.

Key Outputs

- Produces organic vegetables, greens, and lemons for daily consumption
- Serves as a practical learning space for children to engage in sustainable agriculture

Further Improvements

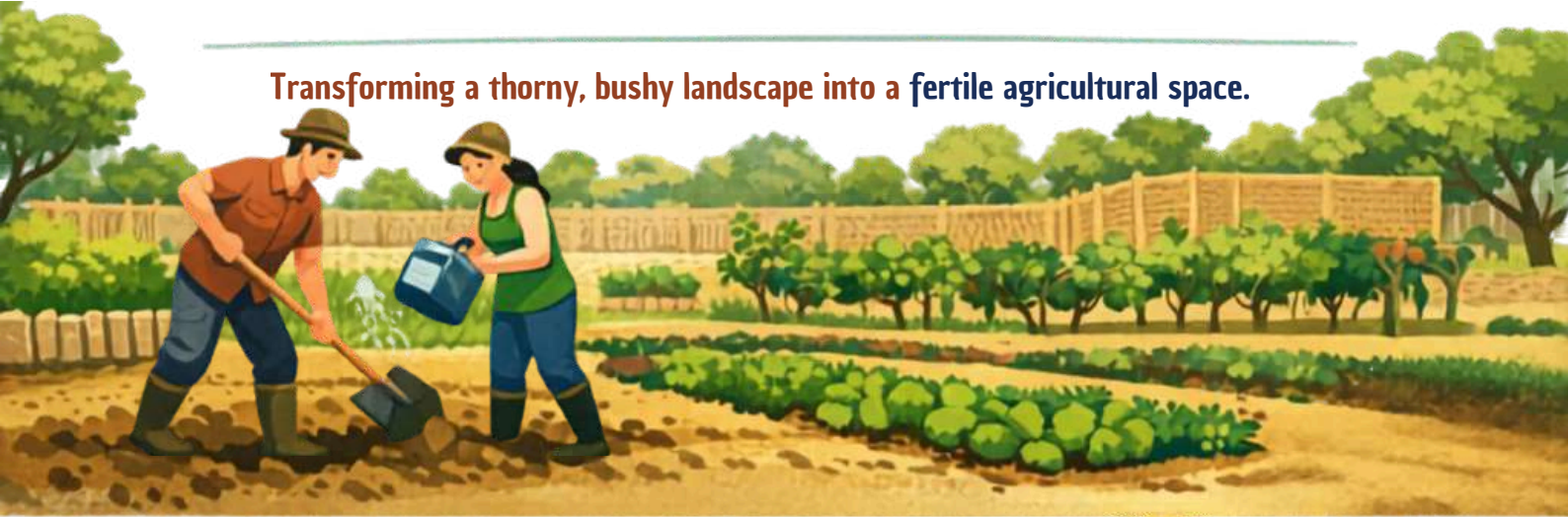
- Enhanced water resources to support year-round cultivation
- Increased biodiversity creates a healthier ecosystem

The Ecological Garden is a living model of sustainability, combining nutrition, education, and environmental care, while empowering children to connect with nature and agriculture in meaningful ways.



Developed through the involvement of 58 French volunteers

Transforming a thorny, bushy landscape into a fertile agricultural space.



The garden now produces:



Organic Vegetables



Greens



Lemons

Further Improvements in:



Water Resources



Biodiversity

9. ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL EXPOSURE

Visit to Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Trichy

Children from Friendship Children’s Home were given the unique opportunity to visit the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Trichy campus, a Central Government Centre of Academic Excellence. This exposure combined learning, cultural exchange, and recreational activities, enriching the children’s personal growth and broadening their horizons.

Key Highlights

- Cultural Exchange: Children learned about local traditions, heritage, and cultural practices.
- Games & Sports: Engaged in fun activities, interactive games, and sports events to build teamwork and physical confidence.
- Talent Development: Participated in workshops, creative sessions, and skill-building activities that nurtured personal talents.

The visit fostered a sense of belonging to a larger academic community, expanded their worldview, and encouraged holistic development beyond the classroom.

Cultural Exchange



Learning about traditions & heritage

Games & Sports



Fun Activities & Sports Events

Talent Development



Workshops & Skill Building

10. OUR SUCCESS STORIES

Anandhi: An M.Com student on her own feet

Anandhi entered Voice Trust as a young girl in the third grade, carrying responsibilities far beyond her years. With no father, a mother battling mental illness, and a younger brother to think about, her childhood was marked by instability and uncertainty.

Yet, within the support and structure of Voice Trust, Anandhi found the strength to rebuild her path. Today, she has successfully completed her Bachelor's degree in Commerce (B.Com) and is currently pursuing her Master's degree (M.Com), all while working part-time to support herself.

Anandhi now stands as a symbol of quiet resilience; independent, determined, and capable of shaping her own future.



Krishnamoorthy: From Engineering to the Manager's Chair

Krishnamoorthy joined Voice Trust in the fifth grade alongside his brother, after losing the stability of a traditional family. With no father and a mother who had remarried, life could have easily derailed his future.

But Krishnamoorthy carried within him an exceptional gift, a natural grasp of learning that set him apart. He excelled academically, scoring an impressive 430 out of 500 in his 10th standard.

Building on this strong foundation, he went on to complete his Mechanical Engineering degree. Today, Murthy works in a reputed company, having previously gained experience with Hyundai Motor Company, and now holds a permanent managerial position.

His journey reflects not just talent, but the power of opportunity meeting potential.

When brilliance is nurtured, it transforms into lasting success.



Raji: From Loss to Lifesaving Care

Raji's story began with deep loss. She joined Voice Trust in the third grade, just one week after losing her mother. With no father and overwhelming grief, she carried trauma that shaped her early years, often leaving her with very little emotional tolerance.

But healing is not always loud, it can be slow, steady, and deeply transformative.

Today, Raji stands in one of the most demanding and compassionate professions. She works as a nurse in an operation theater, assisting in critical procedures. For the past six months, she has been serving with dedication and earning a monthly salary of ₹15,000.

From a place of pain, Raji has grown into someone who now helps heal others. She turned her wounds into a reason to care.



Ayyappan: Self-Made Civil Engineer

Ayyappan came to Voice Trust in the sixth grade, facing a life without parental support. With no father and a mother who had remarried, he had to learn early what it meant to stand alone.

But Ayyappan chose to build, not break.

He pursued Civil Engineering and went on to work independently in government contract projects for two years, earning, learning, and growing on his own terms. Through his hard work, he achieved milestones many dream of: buying his own bike, getting married, and establishing a stable life all through his own efforts.

Today, Ayyappan's journey is a testament to self-made success. He didn't wait for a foundation, he became one.



Rooted in Care: A Garden Grown by Young Hands

At FCH, growth is not just measured in classrooms, it is nurtured in soil, care, and shared responsibility.

What began as a simple idea has now blossomed into a sustainable garden, lovingly planted and maintained by 48 children. Together, they sow seeds, water the plants, and watch life grow, learning patience, responsibility, and the quiet joy of nurturing something of their own.

This garden is more than greenery. It provides fresh, nutritious vegetables that become part of their daily meals, creating a cycle of nourishment that begins with their own hands and ends at their own plates.

In tending to this garden, the children are not just growing food, they are growing a deeper connection to the earth, to sustainability, and to themselves.



11. GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

10.1 Leadership



Administrator:
Mrs. Janet Preethi



Managing Trustee:
Mrs. A. Jecinta

10.2 Staff Structure



Coordinator:
Mr. Surendar



Boys' Guide:
Mr. Ponnar Suresh



Girl's Guide:
Ms. Jensi Fathima

10.3 Staffing Support

- From January 2026, the Azim Premji Foundation (Wipro) supports salaries for 17 staff members
- New staff recruitment planned from June 2026

12. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND FUTURE VISION

11.1 Current Challenges



Inconsistent Local Donations



Rising Operational Costs



Dependence on External Funding

11.2 Strategic Plans



Develop Income-Generating Activities



Expand Infrastructure for 100 Children
(As per Government Approval)



Seek Partnerships with AEM & Other Donors

13. FOUNDER'S NOTE

Since 2006, Friendship Children's Home has grown through commitment, resilience, and the strong support of AEM, which helped build essential infrastructure and a nurturing, child-friendly environment.

In 2010, due to reduced donations and program priorities, AEM scaled down its support. This was a major challenge, leading to a 2012 agreement where AEM supports 100 days annually, and VOICE Trust mobilizes resources for the remaining days. While outreach efforts have brought support, financial uncertainty continues.

Recent milestones include wider visibility through the Village Cooking Channel and three-year staff salary support from the Azim Premji Foundation. However, long-term sustainability remains a concern. We aim to expand facilities for 100 children (as approved) and develop income-generating activities.

The children we serve come from deeply vulnerable and traumatic backgrounds. Our priority is to ensure they feel safe, valued, and cared for before focusing on education. While some excel academically, many need continuous emotional and academic support, along with exposure to enriching activities.

We do not label them as "orphans." Inspired by AEM, Friendship Children's Home represents a space of belonging, where children grow in care, dignity, and companionship.

Together—with AEM, VOICE Trust, and supporters worldwide—we continue to build a future rooted in compassion, responsibility, and hope for every child.



A. GREGORY
PROJECT DIRECTOR
VOICE TRUST
18, Thathachaiyar Residency,
Mambalasealai, Tiruvaneikott Post,
Trichy - 620005, Tamilnadu, India.

PHOTO GALLERY.

Exposure & Experiences



Harish Kalyan @iamharishkalyan · 6m
It can't get better. This is a true blessing 🙏❤️ for us. Thanks @LACinemaTrichy 🙌

Monisha Uday @MonishaUday · 17m
Eventful day ❤️ Our Trichy Friendship Home orphanage kids watched #lubberpandhu at @LACinemaTrichy Thanks to the theatre management's generous act of sponsoring the tickets and snacks. Kids enjoyed this super cool movie. @iamharishkalyan @tamizh018



Sustainability Initiatives



Sunday Agriculture School



SKILL DEVELOPMENT



EDUCATION & LEARNING



CREATIVE ACTIVITIES



PICTURES FROM THE PAST



VOICE Trust in partnership with AEM – Building friendship with children in need



Created in 1970 by Mrs Minnie Gallozzi-Ulmann to help the children victims of the Vietnam war, the association « The Friends of the Children from Vietnam » renamed in 1976 « The Friends of the Children of the World » ("Les Amis des Enfants du Monde" or AEM in French) has been expanding ever since.

As a non-profit non-political and non-religious association, the function of the AEM is to provide long-term help to children in need either through local action in the area, or by looking for a French foster family for those who no longer have a future in their own country.



AEM is an association recognized as a public facility

Key figures

The Friends of the Children of the World

Adoption

More than 6000 children, from 10 countries, adopted over the last 40 years.
One of the largest adoption agency in France.

Help on-site

Annual budget of around 700 000 €

- Divided between thirteen countries in Asia, Africa and America.
- Supporting around 60 projects or « roofs », managed by our local partners.



Helping the AEM helps 5000 children every day to prepare for their future.



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**Here and abroad,
we give
their future
a chance.**



Adoption

We provide a family to children who have no future in their country of birth.

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE CHILDREN

The method and the authority set up by the AEM for adoption give the child's interest top priority. It is about offering them a real, effective and material stability in a family in France.

THE FOSTER FAMILIES

The files of the couples attending the adoption process are studied carefully to ensure the child's well-being when living in the family.

ASSISTING THE FAMILIES

In the departments, representatives are specifically trained to accompany the foster family throughout the journey to adoption.

Meetings, information and exchanges lead to the development of mutual trust between the couple and the AEM.

AEM is classified as an Authorized Organisation for Adoption (OAA) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development.

On-site assistance

We finance education and medical care for children in need.

BECOMING RESPONSIBLE AND AUTONOMOUS ADULTS

The programmes supported by the AEM are centred towards the complete education of children (food, education and medical care). They offer real prospects to the children.

ANSWERING LOCAL NEEDS

« Country » AEM teams identify local actions compatible with their own objectives.

These teams work hand in hand with local correspondents managing the projects. They evaluate needs and work on site every year to make sure their actions are followed.

FINANCING THE ACTIONS

Donations, sponsorship and products of the volunteer actions are the only financing of the projects. The AEM ensure rigorous administration of this funding and act in total transparency.

AEM is a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO), present on three continents.

A shared commitment

for the future of the children of the world.

AROUND 400 DELEGATES

The AEM are represented in France by a strong and friendly network of volunteer delegates.

AN ACTIVIST, INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT

Delegates commit themselves individually to support the actions of the AEM, and use their talents and skills to serve children in need all around the world.

UNITED AND SHARED ACTIONS

Events, group or individual actions, allow the diffusion of the projects of the AEM and the funding throughout France.

CONSTANT TRAINING

The delegates attend regular training to adapt to a constantly changing environment. Each respects the shared ethic and the law of the countries in which they work.

AEM is an association established under the French law of 1901, recognized as a public facility and authorized to receive donations and legacies.



“Every child deserves a world where learning, laughter, and love grow together. At Friendship Children’s Home, we nurture hope, curiosity, and confidence, empowering each child to thrive and make a difference.”



Our Website
www.voice-trust.org

DONATE 

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