



V - EXCEL EDUCATIONAL TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT



2023-24

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FOUNDER-DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



V-Excel is a year older and has extended its footprints even further. We have worked relentlessly and tirelessly to provide education, support and resources to the children who come to us. Our "no-turnaway" policy ensures that we work with every parent and child that reaches out to us for help, regardless of where they are on the socio-economic ladder. V-Excel gives them hope which, in turn, is a transformative catalyst in their lives.

True progress and positive, sustainable change are the products of time, hard work, and a willingness to stand shoulder to shoulder with those who live and breathe the challenges we aim to overcome. We know we cannot solve every problem, but with collaboration and determination, we can accelerate real progress for real people every day.

Through our work, we continue to transform the lives of children and young adults with special needs and those on the autism spectrum. Our focus is on social inclusion now and on improving the future for every generation. We have done a lot, but a lot more remains to be done. We have been fortunate to have steady donor-partners to help us along and committed staff who make things happen. Somewhere in all this, I truly believe that the work we do has a divine sanction and it is a prime-mover that motivates and challenges us to do more.

We are happy to have you with us in this journey.

With utmost gratitude,
Dr. Vasudha Prakash

ABOUT US

V-Excel Educational Trust is a non-profit, non-discriminatory NGO committed to the lifespan education and empowerment of children and young adults with developmental disabilities. V-Excel was founded in 2001 by Dr. Vasudha Prakash, herself a Special Educator and Clinical Psychologist. She has an able team of experienced multi-disciplinary professionals comprising of special educators, therapists, counselors, skill trainers, among many others. V-Excel has impacted over 85,000 individuals with special needs and their families across India. The Trust now has 21 centers, each offering a range of individualized, customized and contextualized developmental services.

V-Excel's mission is to make a difference in the world of disability. Its core philosophy is that every individual has the potential to learn; and so, V-Excel's program focus on abilities, not disabilities. With a goal of effective inclusion, V-Excel educates and empowers individuals with developmental disabilities to be dignified, independent, contributing members of mainstream society. The organization and its Founder have been recipients of many awards.

V-Excel is a unit of Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham Charitable Trust, and is headquartered in Chennai, India.

Date of Establishment : 29 Aug 2001
Registered as a Public Charitable Trust
Registered under FCRA (075901092)
PAN : AAATV3623Q
12AA : 374/2001-02
80G : DIT(E) No. 2(445)/01-02
Donations to V-Excel Educational Trust
are eligible for tax exemption under
section
80G of IT Act

A unit of
Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham
Charitable Trust

Financial Auditors

P.S. Subramania Iyer & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Jayashree Apartments,
New No. 60, Old No. 39,
2nd Main Road
Raja Annamalai Puram
Chennai 600 028

ABOUT US

V-Excel Educational Trust has been awarded the GuideStar India Platinum Seal for the fifth consecutive year.

GuideStar India Platinum (Champion Level) is a Seal issued after thorough due diligence of an organization for legal & financial compliances and a certification that the organization is transparent and holds itself accountable to not just its stakeholders but also to the general public.



V-Excel is also proud to be a Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) America validated organization.

Organizations that have been validated by CAF International have completed an extensive application and due diligence process with one of the CAF International's Global Offices. The CAF International Validated Organization Badge is awarded to organizations that are structured and operated as nonprofit entities. This is confirmed by a validation process that goes far beyond a simple reliance on a foreign government database.

VISION & MISSION

VISION

To promote the social inclusion and societal participation of individuals with intellectual and cognitive deficits, across all age groups, under an umbrella of resources and services.



MISSION

Facilitating the development and delivery of treatment therapies, educational programs, training programs, and sports programs and residential and independent living programs

- The development of global outreach programs that will facilitate the sharing of best practices and programs with the global community and beyond
- Understanding the nature of Autism Spectrum Disorder, raising awareness, and promoting the value, acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities
- V-Excel Educational Trust is committed to helping people with special needs fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives, through:
 - creating awareness, dispensing credible information and striving for public policy initiatives to pave the way for lifelong individualized services
 - training volunteers, professionals, parents and caregivers in disciplines of disability
 - supporting research into the causes of special needs and into the effectiveness of treatment procedures for people with autism and other disabilities

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Early Intervention

Remedial Education

Special Schools

Counseling & Assessments

Teacher Training

Placement Services

Vocational Training

Outreach Programs

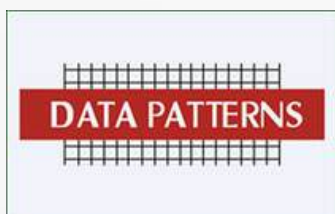
Professional Workshops

Consultations

KEY FUNDING SOURCES



RASEE CHARITABLE TRUST



SUCCESS STORIES



Trainee **Saiyuvashree Dharmarajan** from V-Excel's Srirangam center was placed at the Eswari Cool Drinks Shop, Thiruvanaikoil, Tiruchirappalli. She had been diagnosed with having an intellectual disability. She was trained on functional academic skills, learning traffic signals and rules, exchanging currency, understanding sentences, following up specific situations, increasing the speed of work, understanding tasks and completing them and performing assigned tasks without disturbing others.

Saiyuvashree participated in vocational training class with great interest. She stayed engaged and self-motivated in kitchen activities (powder preparation, leaf vadam preparation and baking).

Ahmed Suhail, aged 19, had been coming to V-Excel, Erode, since 2018. He was diagnosed as having mild cognitive difficulties and poor academic skills. He was on medication for occasional seizures. He was under the care of his mother, a single parent, and Suhail was one of twins. He had behavioral issues and sleep disturbances. He was addicted to screens and would watch TV and his mobile for long hours.

An assessment was done and behavioral therapy was initiated. Calming activities like painting were given and he was trained on functional academic skills like money, time, and numbers. From individual sessions, Suhail joined the day program after dropping out from school. With time, he improved and was cooperative. Now, he has a job in a wholesale shop as a godown keeper. He also helps with other daily chores and is happy.

V-Excel is in constant touch with him to help whenever the need arises.

Niranjan Udhayakumar, a student in V-Excel Erode, was diagnosed as having ASD and started his program in 2022. He had difficulties making and sustaining eye contact, sensory and behaviour issues. He also had seizure disorders. An Individualized Progress Plan (IPP) was made after a series of assessments, observations and discussions. He was started on therapy and remedial sessions. After two years, a reevaluation was done. Since his challenges had reduced considerably, he was recommended for the school program, initially for two hours. Niranjan cooperates well and engages in the activities given and is a source of assurance and motivation.

PLACEMENTS & INTERNSHIPS

On the auspicious day of Guru Purnima, July 3, six trainees from YES unit of Nashik, started work in the assembling unit of **Nashik Metal Dust Company**. The officials of the company received them and gave them a short orientation tour of the factory. One Special Educator, Mr. Mahesh Jawale, would be hand- holding them for at least 3 months. V - Excel has taken the responsibility of handling the commute of the trainees.



Five trainees from V-Excel received an opportunity to train and intern under Ms. Sharadha Dharmaraj, Brand Manager, at **Writer's Café** from November 2023. Trainees Lokesh and Ashwin (VTU), Rekha (KLC) and Akshaya and Srinivasan (YES) were assigned to different outlets of the Cafe. They were accompanied by teachers/trainers from the respective units to help with the transition to the new work environment. The paid training and internship program is for six months and performance will be assessed then for future employability. This was a much-awaited opportunity as trainees will get a great chance to work and learn at their kitchen along with trained professionals. This will also give them experience in improving their social and communication skills.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The OutReach Learning Center for Exceptional Children, in Pollachi organized a **musical event** to create awareness, acceptance and accommodation of children and individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders on April 25. The center's alumnus, Kashyap Kanna (18 years) now pursuing his Diploma in Music (vocal and violin) performed on stage. Through the center's efforts, Kashyap today is a happy individual pursuing his passion in music. He is one among many young adults with special needs, having hidden talents and struggling hard to overcome the challenges of ASD. The event was a small initiative supported by the Lions Club of Pollachi Pride and Ist Harmonic Music Store, Pollachi.



Mr. Ishwar Gopinath, a friend, and the son of Mr. B. Gopinath, CEO of the Residency Group of Hotels, Chennai offered to host trainees from our Vocational Training Unit, Adyar, at a **'Special Space'** at their restaurant 'Bikes and Barrel' on April 29. Every trainee participated with enthusiasm and relished the music and ambience. V-Excel is grateful to the staff and the people present at the event for their patience and understanding, and active participation.

V-Excel was invited to conduct **Sensitivity Awareness Training** at Novotel OMR and SIPCOT on May 9. There were 60 participants in both sessions, including staff and management. V-Excel's trainers comprised of Gayathri Suryanarayanan and Jayadevi Jayaprakash. The interactive training sessions were well-received and the feedback was very favourable. We are grateful to Prince Singh (Learning & Development Executive) and Kenneth Rocha (Learning & Development Manager) who share with us a common vision of creating an inclusive culture for the specially-abled.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

YES, Chennai, celebrated the closing of the academic year 2022-23 with an **art fair, 'Kalai Sangamam'**, a day dedicated to native folk art. This was held on 17 May 2023 and the day started with prayer and chanting, followed by an archery and sword fighting workshop conducted by Mr. V. Balakrishnan, founder and artistic director of Theatre Nisha. Following this, a pottery session was conducted by volunteers from Take A Step. They had brought along a pottery wheel and the trainer Ms. Prarthana worked with trainees and staff in making small clay pots and bowls. Mr. Manikandan, renowned master for native folk dances of Tamil Nadu, conducted a *thappattam* session with great passion and patience. He made sure that all trainees and even the staff experienced the taste of our folk dances.



V-Excel inaugurated its latest **satellite center in Pandharpur** on July 9. It takes a lot of commitment and perseverance to accomplish this. The hope is that children and their families will avail of, and benefit from, the services provided.

The EI /VRC Unit is now **associated with the Bharathi Rehabilitation Centre**, Coimbatore to provide technical support and guidance. An orientation program for the therapists, special educators and teachers was held in July followed by assessments for 44 children. Individual therapy, special education, and skill assessments were administered. Following this, there was a training program for the staff to facilitate the implementation of the goals set for the students.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

V-Excel has partnered with Tata Power for their **PayAttention - Autism Support network** in Tamil Nadu. The network is mainly for the training and sensitization of public workers (Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) and Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and primary school teachers) as early identifiers and support providers for children with Autism. V-Excel conducted the first set of 3-day training workshops in Tirunelveli in July.



An event celebrating 40 years of FICCI FLO, Chennai, was held at the Leela Palace, Chennai on July 16. The ceremony was graced by Ms. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, MP, Lok Sabha. A part of the celebrations involved a performance by Dr. **Sudha Raja's Choir** of FLO. She had also invited a few staff members and trainees from YES, Chennai to sing with the choir.



V-Excel Educational Trust inaugurated a **Vocational Training Center in Solapur** on August 4. The center will provide vocational education to students to prepare them to be gainfully employed or self-employed. V-Excel is grateful to Shri Sunil Baldawa for donating all the vocational training set up.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

As part of placement activities, V-Excel has tied up with the Bengaluru-based NGO, **EnableIndia** and to be a part of their project, Specialisterne. Through this project, individuals with special needs will be given job readiness training for 8 weeks (about 2 months) followed by a possible internship for 6 months. Candidates were invited from outside of V-Excel and interviews were conducted in YES. Twelve 12 candidates, including 4 from V-Excel, were shortlisted for the program. This training will commence tentatively from the second week of September.

V-Excel's 2nd Annual Art Exhibition, **Tattva 2023** (Freedom of Expressions), was held with great fanfare at the SPASTN Auditorium in Tharamani, Chennai on October 28. The Chief Guest for the event was Mr. Shyam, a renowned artist, while the Guest of Honour was Mr. S. Seetharaman, Executive Chairman of Super Auto Forge (P) Ltd. Photographs and paintings from 8 participating NGOs and special schools along with the host V-Excel, were on display and were up for sale. All artwork that was on display underwent a strict vetting process by an unbiased third-party art expert. 60% of the artwork were sold out and the proceeds went to the respective artists. All 65 special artists were felicitated with an award, a certificate and a gift hamper. This free event was open to the public and was well-attended by patrons, participants, and well-wishers alike. It was also covered by the print and visual media.



The **Annual staff picnic** in Nashik was arranged at the Grapes County Eco Resort. It included a guided tour of the garden with tropical trees, herbal and many exotic plants, butterfly park, outdoor pool and lake. A large space was dedicated to expand the growth of native flora and turned the place into a biodiversity hotspot. Vermicomposting practices and biogas plant were used to light street lamps. There was a gravity-based root zone system for waste water management. All the staff members participated with full enthusiasm and team spirit, which made this day special and memorable.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The students from V-Excel Erode **participated in the cultural events** organized by the Department of Neurology, Nandha College of Arts and Science. They won the first prize for fashion, second prize for yoga and third prize for group dance. Also, from V-Excel, Ms. Anu Ranjana Rajabarathi won first prize in running, Pranyaa Muruganatham won first prize for ball transfer and Ms. Kavya Muthukumar secured second place for bag filling. The Erode center has many children with severe conditions and they have come a long way.



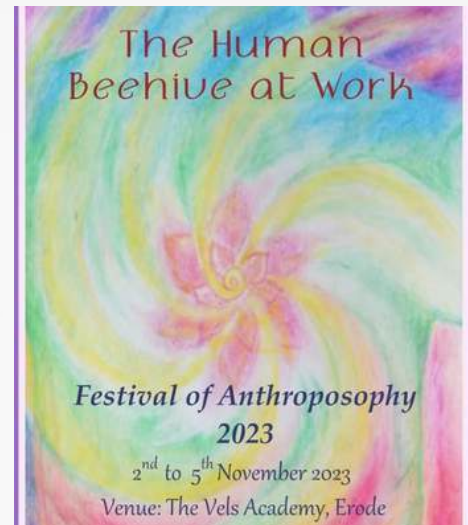
The students from Ananda Karuna Vidyalayam participated in the sports event conducted by The Karma Yogi Trust, **The Real Heroes Sports meet** at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai. Students participated in different categories of field events and won medals and trophy.



Shri **Sagar Gawande**, the Sports Trainer at V-Excel, Nashik was appointed as a representative of special children's parents for Nashik District for special Olympics for the period of 2023 to 2027. Shri Gawande is committed to spreading awareness and inspiring special children to participate in the games for special Olympics.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The **Festival of Anthroposophy 2023** was held in November at The Vels Academy, Erode. KLC was invited to demonstrate and to give practical experience of Curative Education and Social Therapy. Six KLC staff attended this Festival, bringing in bit of awareness to many of the participants on 2 days in workshops that involved movement, handwork, music therapy, form drawing, a short main lesson, foot massage and putting together the efforts of stitching of the participants into a combined piece of a center mat. The participants had many questions regarding V-Excel's work, about how to work with children in mainstream schools and wanted to visit the school.



Nine trainees and 3 trainers from VTU and YES participated in the event **Margazhi Maatram**, an inclusive music and dance performance, organized by SciArtsRUs. The event took place in the P.S. Dakshinamurthy Auditorium, Mylapore. They were part of a choir presentation and sang 8 patriotic songs in different languages along with the Sargam Choir of children and adults. Ms. Sudha Raja, the founder of the Sargam Choir trained the V-Excel team for about 2 months for this performance. On the same evening, and despite the cyclone warnings, 12 trainees from VTU and YES participated in the 10th anniversary program of the Danzza Institute of Modern Dance. Its founder Mr. Harikrishnan and his friend Mr. Ram worked on the choreography and training.

The **Annual December Bazaar** was held on December 16th. All the 4 units of V-Excel - EI, KLC, YES and VTU in Chennai came together and held hands to make this experience a success. There was music, food, games, stalls of products made by the students, trainees and staff, and experiential learning of some of the vocational activities of V-Excel.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

On 19 and 20 December, **sensitization sessions** for the NOVOTEL staff were held in their premises at OMR and SIPCOT. The sessions were conducted by Gayathri Suryanarayanan, the counsellor Jayadevi Jayaprakash and Lavanya Ashok. The sessions focused on the disability sector and the intellectually challenged community. There were activities to understand the challenges these individuals face. Thirty-five participants were part of each of these sessions. All of them participated with great interest and wanted to know more about this sector. They were also sensitized on social inclusion and how to accommodate people with special needs in a workplace.



On 29 January, Ms. Thendral, a research scholar from Anna University, conducted a workshop at YES on **Media Literacy**. This workshop focused on appropriate usage of gadgets, healthy ways of using social media, ways to understand to validate any news on social media and the repercussions of extended screen time. This workshop also focused on how not to get distracted by adult content on the internet, and the negative impact it has on our mind. The audiovisual medium helped trainees relate to the subject and understand the points in a much better way. It also had small skits enacted by the university students depicting the pros and cons of social media.

V-Excel has signed an **MoU with Rasee Charitable Trust**, Chennai with the support of Super Auto Forge Company's CSR Initiative to set up an Early Intervention and Remedial Center for Children with Special Needs in Unamancheri village, off. Kelambakkam-Vandalur High Road, Chennai. In this regard, a Bhoomi pooja for the construction of the building was conducted on 24th Feb 2024. The Center is expected to function from June 2024 and will provide special education & therapy services free of cost to the beneficiaries.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The TheatreNisha Group conducted an exclusive **Movement Workshop** for the V-Excel Chennai staff on Saturday, 16 March 2024 at SPACES, Besant Nagar, Chennai. Twenty-seven staff members from the 3 Chennai centres of V-Excel participated and benefited from this workshop. Ms. Meera and Ms. Aparna of TheatreNisha facilitated the session which incorporated movement, music, dance and team activities supplemented with loads of fun and laughter. Our sincere thanks to TheatreNisha and its Artistic Director, Sri V. Balakrishnan, for suggesting and executing this exclusive workshop.



An **Early Intervention Training Program** for primary school teachers of RKR Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Udumalpet, in February. Dr. S. Manju, discussed the red flags seen among students with delayed developments and learning difficulties at pre - primary and primary levels. Thirty primary school and teachers benefited from this program.

Tata Power invited V-Excel members and sponsors to participate in the **Purple Fest 2024**, celebrated at Rashtrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi 26th Feb 2024, as a special invite under the aegis of the Pay Attention network. Purple Fest was organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, and Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities, and the event witnessed over 10 thousand Divyangjan and their escorts gathered at this majestic venue, fostering bonds of solidarity and mutual respect. The Honourable President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu graced the occasion with her support and encouragement. Children with disabilities, accompanied by their teachers and parents, were invited to Amrit Udyaan exclusively for a memorable experience, further enriching the day's festivities.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

V-Excel's monthly free concerts under the *Tarang* banner continue to bring cheer and inclusion. The coordination and scheduling is being diligently done by Mrs. Usha Suresh, a faculty member of KLC. The music for each program falls under a different theme and this year featured themes such as Ayodhya, Moods of the Mandolin, Mother & Son, Colors of the Flute, Mangala Geetam, Nardhana Ganapati, Colors of the Sarangi and Lord Shiva.



FIELD TRIPS

Field trips offer valuable opportunities for children with intellectual challenges and autism to learn and engage with the world around them. With thoughtful planning, individualized support, sensory accommodations, and clear communication, these outings can be enjoyable and educational experiences. V-Excel's field trips involve an effective collaboration and communication among parents, caregivers, educators, and behavioral therapists to make each field trip successful and memorable.

On 25 April, 19 members (trainees, parents and staff) from YES visited the **Sri Venkateswara Temple in Tirupati** for an exclusive darshan. The trip was organized by RYA (Rajasthan Youth Association) Metro Food Bank Trust. They were provided comfortable T-shirts and caps for easy identification. A special train was chartered with entertainment on board, timely meals, and special arrangements were made for a quick yet undisturbed darshan. All the participants of this trip were extremely thrilled and a few parents were overwhelmed with joy and satisfaction. They were also given a bag loaded with gifts and *prasadh* as takeaways.



V-Excel was granted passes to witness the live **Launch of Chandrayan-3** on July 14, 2023, thanks to Dr. T. Ramasami, our Advisory Board member. Dr. Ramasami is a former Indian Science and Technology Secretary. Forty students and trainees from KLC, YES and VTU and 27 staff members went on this trip. They were accompanied by sponsor members of the Lions Club of Chennai Golden Cultural Capital and Lions Club of Chennai Infinity. Besides Dr. Ramasami, V-Excel is extremely grateful to Dr. Sankaran Sathiyavagèswaran, SHAR (ISRO), Dr. Srinivasa Reddy, Mr. P. Gopikrishna, Group Director, SHAR, (ISRO) and Mr. Nagendran who helped and coordinated the passes. All the students put forth their best foot and adjusted, managed themselves till they returned home.

Kindergarten and Grade 3 students and teachers of KLC visited the **Chetpet Eco Park**. They played happily in the merry-go-round, slides and swings and enjoyed the walk around the park. The children enjoyed the boat ride. They then visited the Parthasarathy Temple at Chetpauk.



FIELD TRIPS

The students and teachers of Grade 4 and 5 of KLC visited the **Kapaleeswarar Temple** on August 1. It was an auspicious day of *Aadi Sevvai* where people came in hordes to visit Karpagambal and pray to the *Punnai Maram* or *Sthala Vruksha*. Even though, the temple was packed with devotees, the children had a wonderful darshan of all the deities and saw the different places within Kapaleeswarar Kovil. Beyond an academic experience, this was a very significant visit for the children. They were calm and composed in the crowd. Many of them extended a warm hand of friendship to the people they met at the temple which was reciprocated with equal warmth. On the way back, they visited the Santhome Basilica and Church at Santhome.



Trainees, teachers and staff of VTU went on experiential learning trip to the **Traffic Signal Park and Museum of Possibilities** in August 2023. The park staff explained the basic signals on the road and trainer Rishi Subramaniam translated and gave demos to the trainees. After the park they visited the Museum of Possibilities and observed all the tools. They also played few games.

In September, 25 trainees and 10 staff from YES visited **Anandam Old Age Home** and Anandham Learning Centre near Ambattur. The residents of the home and the children from the learning centre had rehearsed and joyfully performed dances for the visitors. They were provided a good lunch, tea and snacks and were given a tour of the impressive facilities at the Learning Centre. Before leaving, a few trainees shared gifts with the residents and experienced the joy of giving. The trip was inspiring in many ways and offered valuable lessons in diversity and inclusion.



FIELD TRIPS

The trainees from VTU went on a field trip to **Smart Bazaar** at the EA Mall, Chennai. Smart Bazaar had allotted a specific time for V-Excel and all the staff were very courteous and patient. Trainees were able to identify their own brands and each one was assigned with one trainer each. They were taught to check the bill and the items before payment. They were asked to use calculators while making payments. Everyone enjoyed the experience.



In December 2023, YES team was invited to **Novotel, SIPCOT** for a tour of their live kitchen. The trainees were taken around the kitchen where they were the various cuisine and hygiene measures were explained. They were given a live demo of pizza making. This was followed by a grand buffet lunch. Everyone enjoyed the experience of the star hotel menu. As a token of gratitude, the trainees presented the Novotel team and the executive chef with cupcakes made from our YES kitchen.

Twenty-seven members (17 trainees and 10 trainers) of YES, Mylapore, travelled to **Mysuru** on a 5-day outstation trip from January 7. The outbound journey to Mysuru was on an IndiGo flight while the return was by the Vande Bharat train. The IndiGo crew took complete in charge of the formalities and were very supportive. The in-flight team at Chennai met us near the boarding gate with gifts and chocolates. The team visited the Namdroling Monastery Golden Temple, Nisarghadhama Bird Park, Harangi Elephant Camp, Mysuru Zoo, Lokaranjan Aqua World Underwater Zoo, Chikkadevamma Kudil, Mysuru Palace, Brindavan Gardens and Srirangapatnam Temple. The return journey by Vande Bharat to Chennai Central was equally good and comfortable. Thanks to Aditya Tours and Travels and special thanks to the IndiGo staff at Chennai and Mysuru and to the parents, donors and all well-wishers for their immense trust and support.



FIELD TRIPS

The **sensory parks** built by the Chennai Smart City project have specially designed infrastructure to cater to the special needs of the differently-abled children of the city. The infrastructure is so designed to stimulate the different sensory organs of the participants, giving them a one-of-a-kind experience. Children from the EI unit visited the park at Kotturpuram in February, for an exemplary experience.



Ten trainees and 8 teachers from VTU, Chennai, went to **Singeri**. Their flight to Bangalore was very comfortable with constant support and care of the Indigo staff. Trainees had darshan of Goddess Sharada and both Acharyas blessed trainees individually and took time to appreciate all the products made by them. All had a good stay at the Parampara Resort in Horanadu. The return journey was on a Starlink bus.

The vocational students in Solapur went on a day-long visit to **Naladurg Fort** along with teachers. Students enjoyed various games there and listened to the history of the fort under Shivaji Maharaj.



On 22 February, the staff and trainees from YES, Mylapore, went on a field trip to **Arignar Anna Zoological Park**, Vandalur. They rode the battery car service around the zoo. Despite the humid weather, trainees showed great enthusiasm and watched all the animals.

FIELD TRIPS

Grade 1 and Grade 3 students and teachers of KLC went to **Senganthal Poonga**, Gopalapuram in March 2024. The children enjoyed the play area in the park, the park full of trees and flowers. They had lunch in the park and returned to school.



In March 2024, the students and teachers of KLC went for a visit to **Vandalur Zoo**, as part of their main lesson story. The children were overjoyed looking at the different animals at the zoo. They were especially excited to see the Royal Bengal Tiger, The White Tiger, Lion and Lioness, Rhinoceros, Giraffe and an Otter which sat on top of a rock silently. They rode the zoo bus to go around the zoo, which helped the children to have a safe and good view of all the animals.

Eight senior school students and 4 teachers from KLC went on an overnight trip to **IYAL VANAM** a farm in Molasur, near Tindivanam. They reconnected with the earth, stepped out of familiar land, breathed fresh air, and met more of the world.



CAMPS

V-Excel conducted several camps during the year. Many of these were free and intended for children experiencing developmental delays. The objective of these camps was to assess children for areas of lags through comprehensive evaluations. The results of these assessments were shared with parents and caregivers and recommendations were made for a way forward.

The Early Intervention Unit in Chennai organized a **summer camp** with 10 students in April 2023. The theme of the camp was "Power of Play". The day started with Circle Time and included activities like Dots and Splashes (for fine - motor skills), Number Games, On the Floor (for movement), Traditional Games for building gross-motor skills, Focus and Attention and Therapy-related games.



V-Excel's special school Kaleidoscope Learning Center (KLC), organized a **summer camp** for its students from April 18 to May 12 with the physical help of teachers and therapists and under the guidance of Mrs. Gita Bhalla (Associate Director). Nine students participated in this camp and teachers reported many positive changes in the students resulting from the structure, work and care.

A **free medical camp** was organized in May at the Outreach Learning Center for Exceptional Children, Pollachi in association with Ahalia Medical College and Hospital, Palakkad. Dr. Kavya Sri, Paediatrician, and 5 house surgeons conducted screening and consultations for 25 students with special needs along with their parents. Free medication for 14 days were provided to all students in their campus.



CAMPS

On 18 May 2023, a **free eye and dental checkup camp** was held at YES, Chennai, for all the trainees and staff. A team from SpecsMakers conducted vision checks and handed out prescriptions. The dental checkup was done by a doctor from Dr. Smilez Dental centre. This camp was organized by the CSR team from Kauvery Hospital, Alwarpet, Chennai. 30 participants, including trainees and staff members, benefitted from this camp. They were also given discounts on any follow up/review visits and treatment, if required.



On July 15, 2023, Dr. Diksha Agarwala, consultant obstetrics and gynecologist, Kauvery Hospitals, Chennai, visited YES and met parents, trainees and staff members to address the **common health issues of women**. She shared tips and suggestions on personal hygiene, period management and menopause issues. She met all the staff members individually and clarified their doubts on women health.

As part of V-Excel's outreach program supported by Chola MS General Insurance, a **3-day screening camp** was conducted in Olcott Memorial School in August 2023. Mrs. Lekshmi Ramesh conducted a teachers' sensitization program. Therapy and remedial interventions were done for 102 students aged between 3 and 9. Reports and interpretations were discussed with the teachers.



CAMPS



The Early Intervention/V-Excel Remedial Center of V-Excel got an opportunity to conduct an **assessment camp** for 12 children with special needs identified by the pediatricians and occupational therapists of the Dr. Jeyasekharan Hospital, Nagercoil. This was conducted in August. V-Excel is grateful to Dr. Renu Devaprasath and her team for the hospitality and support extended. Discussions were held on plans to extend services to more beneficiaries.

The EI team conducted a **sensitization camp** at the NEST School, Kodambakkam, on September 29, on 'Classroom Behaviour Management'. Twenty-five teachers participated.



Sundram Educational Trust and V-Excel Educational Trust conducted "**A Class Apart** - Batch 1, Module 3" workshop in June, 2023 at Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Mylapore, Chennai. V-Excel's faculty included Mrs. Gita Bhalla, Mrs. Kejal Bhakshi, Mrs. Neha Bharadwaj and Ms. Puja Bhalla. 28 teachers participated in this workshop.

The EI unit, supported by Chola MS General Insurance, conducted a 3-day **screening camp** at the Korattur Government School in October. Fifty-five students from grades I to IV were screened and assessed during the camp.



CAMPS



The EI unit, supported by Chola MS General Insurance, conducted a 3-day **screening camp** at the Cathedral Free Primary School, Chennai for students in grades I to IV. Ten children were identified as having substantial difficulties in their psychomotor development and/or learning.

As a part of PAYAUTENTION, an initiative by Tata Power, for the awareness and sensitization of autism, a **screening camp** was conducted in Tirunelveli in November.

On December 8, a **dental checkup and parent counseling camp** was held at V-Excel Pandharpur. Dr. Amruta Doshi, a dentist, and member of the Inner Wheel Club, and President of the Inner Wheel Club, Mrs. Anuradha Haridas, presided.



The EI Unit, supported by Chola MS General Insurance, conducted a review assessment camp at the A.M.P. School, Kallikuppam in January. Twenty-six students from grades II and III were assessed during the review.



The EI and Remedial Unit organized a **free health camp** on March 2, in association with Kauvery Hospital, Chennai. Doctors from Kauvery Hospital addressed oral hygiene, eye examination, and general health. Parents and children were given guidance on maintaining good health.

CELEBRATIONS

In Indian culture, festivals are more than just occasions for celebration; they serve as a medium to the deepest and most profound aspects of life. Each festival carries its own unique significance, offering valuable lessons, spiritual insights, and cultural traditions that have been passed down through generations. V-Excel provides a microcosm of the same celebrations.



International Yoga Day



Ashadi Ekadasi



Eid



Guru Purnima



Independence Day



Onam



Raksha Bandhan



Krishna Jayanthi



Ganesh Chaturthi



Teacher's Day



Vijayadashami



Diwali

CELEBRATIONS



Karthigai Deepam



Children's Day



Christmas



Vaikunta Ekadasi



Pongal



Saraswati Puja



World Autism Awareness Day



Holi



Women's Day

AWARDS & ACCOLADES



The Surya School of Music recognized and awarded Dr. Vasudha Prakash and Mrs. Usha Suresh, Coordinator of the *Tarang* concert series, for their contributions in the field of Special Education and for organizing *Tarang* (the monthly music program for the special students and trainees) respectively, on 6th January at the Centenary Hall, P.S. Secondary School, Mylapore, Chennai



Dr. Vasudha Prakash, Founder- Director, V-Excel was accepted into the 2023 Gratitude Network Fellowship Program. This was a 12-month leadership development program for social entrepreneurs looking to scale their organizations. Fellows receive guidance from a dedicated Coach as well as help from sector advisors, a network of peers, in-person learning opportunities, and on-going support post-program.

Each year, the organization conducts a search for the most innovative, dedicated social entrepreneurs who are serving children and youth in various parts of the world. Thousands apply, and through a careful vetting process, the organization select 30 to 40 Leaders per annual cohort, growing each year.

Gratitude Fellows are committed and ready to expand their organization's impact through leadership development and growth, organization capacity building, and thoughtful strategic planning.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

V-Excel Nashik's Bridges Learning Academy won First Prize for the second consecutive year in the district-level inter-school dance competition 'Muskaan' for the physically and mentally challenged. This competition was organized by the Sakshamm Foundation. The theme for dance was "social messages".

There were two dance sequences by V-Excel, Nashik, under the Mentally and Physically Challenged category. Thirteen schools participated under this category. Bridges Learning Academy (BLA) performed on the theme 'Avoid overuse of mobile phone by promoting outdoor games'. Students of BLA portrayed 16 sports activity with dance on a song clip of 'Yahaan Ke Hum Sikander'.



On Teacher's Day, V-Excel's school counsellor, Ms. Pradnya Apte, received the Nation Builder Award from the Rotary Club of Nasik.

The Navdurga Award was presented to V-Excel's Regional Director Mrs. Jayanthi Vishwanath for rendering her commitment and devotion to an important social cause i.e., the rehabilitation of children and young adults with special needs. The Award was instituted by Rastriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), North Maharashtra region and felicitated 15 selected women for their outstanding work in their respective fields.



PAPERS & CONFERENCES

The International Conference on "Inclusion and Integration of Persons with Disabilities across the Lifespan" was organized by the Manipal College of Health Professions (MCHP) and Amar Seva Sangam (ASSA) on 12th February and 13th February 2024. Ms. Gayathri Suryanarayanan, the Center Coordinator of the Youth Empowerment Services Unit (Mylapore), presented a paper on the Effective Processes for the Inclusion of Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities in Transitioning to Open Employment.

Her paper covered the steps and challenges involved in open employment of such individuals and was based on experiential evidence. The presentation was well-received and appreciated by the panel of judges and the audience.



9 am to 11.30 am	Welcome Address	Dr. Kundan Chopade
11.30 am to 11.50 am	Lamp Lighting & Felicitation	Performance
11.50 am to 12.15 pm	Diagnosis of Autism	Dr. Suchit Tamboli
12.15 pm to 12.40 pm	Management of Autism	Dr. Suneel Godbole
12.40 pm to 12.25 pm	Overview of Therapies	Dr. Radhika Honap
12.25 pm to 12.45 pm	Autism & Epilepsy	Dr. Shriganesh Patil
12.45 pm to 1.00 pm	Importance of Diet in ASD	Dr. Ashwini Godbole
1.00 pm to 1.30 pm	Question and Answer Session	All Panelists

9th April 2023 Time - 11am to 2 pm
 Venue - Raghoji Hospital, Hotgi Road, Solapur. Applied For MM Credit Points
 Please attend in large numbers
 Dr. Kundan Chopade, Secretary, IAP, Solapur
 Dr. Ashutosh Yajurvedi, Secretary, IAP, Solapur
 Dr. Deepa Bahladi, Secretary, IAP, Solapur
 Mrs. Sumita, V-Excel C

Early identification of children with developmental delays and disabilities is critical for ensuring that they meet their potential and have a bright future. Doctors, especially Pediatricians and Neurologists, play a very important role in this process as parents approach them when their child does not meet the development milestones in areas such as speech, response, motor control, communication, and social skills. Recognizing this, V-Excel's Solapur Center had organized a significant event on Sunday, 9th of April. This was a Doctors Conference topics relevant to Autism.

PAPERS & CONFERENCES

The annual **Avapanam Conference** was held in "The Friends of Camphill, Bangalore" Campus, from January 5-7. One of the forums in the conference was allotted to viewing V-Excel's play, *Kadambari*, with a subsequent group sharing and discussion. Neha Bharadwaj and Puja Bhalla, who directed it, were invited to talk about the process of pre-production, the preparations and the presentation. The staff from KLC shared thoughts inner work for teachers, community participation, working as a human beehive, and co-creation of students and teachers.



The **India Inclusion Summit (IIS)** is a community-driven platform for creating awareness about disabilities. Their 11th year celebration was held in Bangalore at the Radisson Blu on November 4, 2023. Mrs. Lekshmi Ramesh and Mrs. Lavanya Ashok represented V-Excel Educational Trust at the summit. The summit did not follow the normal way of conducting conference, presentation, focus group and more. It was a platform provided for unsung heroes and celebrated the human spirit.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

V-Excel's Board of Trustees guarantee sound governance procedures, fulfill fiduciary duties, and give general direction to the business. The board oversees the Trust's operations and ensures that the public's trust is preserved. In addition, they are in charge of maintaining societal esteem and donors' loyalty.

The members of V-Excel's Board of Trustees bring with them diverse ideas, perspectives, and expertise on the Trust's matters. They are professionals who have held managerial roles and have participated in organizational decision-making.



Padma Shri
Dr. V.R. Gowrishankar
Chairman



Dr. Vasudha Prakash
Founder-Director



CA G. Rajagopal
Trustee



Kandaswamy Bharathan
Trustee



Radhakrishnan Iyer
Trustee



Prakash Natarajan
Managing Trustee

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Gita Bhalla

Associate Director

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Program Director - Vocational and Rehabilitation Services

Jayanthi Vishwanath

Regional Director (West)

Jayadevi Jayaprakash

Counseling and Assessments

Lekshmi Ramesh

Coordinator - EI & Remedial Center

Charumathi Sriram

Coordinator - Vocational Training Unit

Gayathri Suryanarayanan

Center Coordinator - Youth Empowerment Services

Sivaprakash Balasubramaniam

AGM - Administration

FINANCIALS

Balance Sheet

Assets as on	31-03-2024	31-03-2023
Fixed assets	1,03,47,438.58	1,07,34,443.01
Loans and Advances	5,95,846.00	5,54,846.00
Cash and Bank Balances	7,27,89,796.53	5,86,73,402.38
Other Current Assets	6,00,745.47	4,88,016.62
Excess of Expenditure over Income (if any)		
Total Assets	8,43,33,826.58	7,04,50,708.01

Liabilities as on	31-03-2024	31-03-2023
General Fund (Unrestricted Fund)	5,48,38,827.99	4,06,73,236.10
Corpus and Endowment Funds	1,52,20,000.00	1,51,20,000.00
Less: Accrued Interest		1,40,948.18
Current Liabilities and Provisions	2,96,755.00	4,91,880.02
Excess of Income over Expenditure (if any)	1,39,78,243.58	1,43,06,540.07
Total Liabilities	8,43,33,826.57	7,04,50,708.01

Income and Expenditure

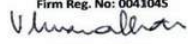
Income for the year ended	31-03-2024	31-03-2023
Donations	5,92,76,555.80	5,29,10,708.01
Interest Income	42,91,023.00	23,97,817.70
Excess of Expenditure over Income		
Total	6,35,67,578.80	5,53,08,525.71

Expenditure for the year ended	31-03-2024	31-03-2023
Employee Benefit Expenses	1,70,06,580.00	1,39,88,543.00
Depreciation and Amortization Expenses	16,15,289.23	17,36,200.60
Other Expenses	3,09,66,465.99	2,52,77,242.04
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,39,78,243.58	1,43,06,540.07
Total	6,35,66,578.80	5,53,08,525.71

Place: Chennai
Date: 23-09-2024

For V-Excel Educational Trust


Authorised Signatory

As per our report of even date
P.S. Subramania Iyer & Co
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No: 0041045

V. Swaminathan
Partner
Membership No: 022276

For V-Excel Educational Trust


Managing Trustee

GET INVOLVED

AS INDIVIDUALS

Join us to be part of a movement for change. Be an advocate for the rights of individuals with special needs.

There are a number of ways you can show your support:

VOLUNTEERS Our volunteers work 'behind the scenes', supporting the work of our members and helping with our administration. You don't have to be a member to volunteer with us.

DONATE Donations are vital to our work. Your gift to us is an investment in hope. Each year we help hundreds of families from all over India cope with the effects of Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Pervasive Development Disorder (PDD), and other developmental challenges. Thanks to the generosity of donors, so many children will regain limitless possibilities, so many families will regain hope, and so many who previously felt hopeless will learn to open doors they never knew existed.

FUNDRAISE FOR US Having a disability or raising a child with a disability can be challenging. At times it can be stressful, especially because special needs often translate to additional expenses that are foreign to most people. But people in your network may step forward to help, but may not know what you need, and they can't get involved if they aren't asked. Beyond the simple ask, you want to make it easy, and there is nothing easier than contributing online.

AS CORPORATES

- Strategic philanthropy through charity donations
- Cause-marketing initiatives
- Events and sponsorships
- Innovations and project solutions for children



Volunteers from Hexaware



Volunteers from Take-a-Step

V-EXCEL NETWORK

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Tel: +91 44 24521986
(In association with ESVI Sarada Foundation)

90 Luz Church Road
Mylapore, **Chennai** 600 004
Tel: +91 44 24983638
(Supported by Dr. Sudhir Krishnamurthi)

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Anna Street, Gangai Nagar, Kallikuppam
Ambattur, **Chennai** 600 053
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Tirunelveli 627 001
Tel: +91 462 4001668

25/24 Meenakshi Sundaram Street
Thirunagar Colony, **Erode** 638 003
Tel: +91 424 2266068
(Supported by Super Auto Forge)

12 Srinivasa Nagar, 4th Cross
Thiruvanakoil, **Srirangam**
Tiruchirappalli 620 005
Tel: +91 431 4013533
(In association with Kinchitkaram Trust)

Outreach Remedial Center
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Pollachi 642 001
Tel: +91 94891 71969

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Opp. Shankar Nagar
Takli Road, Dwaraka
Nashik 422 011

A26 Indira Nagar
Vijapur Road
Solapur 413 003
Tel: +91 217 2305526
(Supported by Shri Dilip Kulkarni)

Veedhata Building,
Thakre Chouk, New Karad Naka,
Pandharpur 413 304
Tel: +91 99752 62099

Academic Concepts, Inc.
33 Pine Street
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
USA
Tel: +1 (732) 619-7944
(Partner Institution)

Donate



In India



Outside India

Contributions to V-Excel Educational Trust can be made by cheque/DD/cash at any of the V-Excel branches.

Use Net Banking/Wire Transfers for online donations at www.v-excel.org

Donors from India can avail of tax benefits under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. Donors from the USA can avail of tax exemptions under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code.

V-Excel and Academic Concepts are eligible for matching grants in India/USA and to receive foreign funds under FCRA.

Write to info@v-excel.org or visit www.v-excel.org for details

THANK YOU

To all our donor-partners:

We are truly grateful for your consistent and unquestioning support and generosity during the year. It helps us focus on our core objective of providing lifespan services to individuals with special needs.

Many of you have been and continue to be our friends and benefactors over many years. Through your contributions and support, you have become partners with us in this long, but yet fulfilling, journey.



<https://www.facebook.com/freehearts>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/VExcelEducationalTrust>

<https://www.instagram.com/vexceleducationaltrust>

<https://twitter.com/vexceltrust>

<https://www.linkedin.com/school/v-excel-educational-trust/>