

Date : 05<sup>nd</sup> July 2008.

To

Respected Rotarians,  
Greeting from India, Rotary Club of Madras Esplanade, Chennai.

We introduce our project namely 'Silent Melody' – identifying hearing loss at young age for children of under privileged society.

Rotary Club of Madras Esplanade under the leadership of Rotarian Murali R Rao, President 2006-07 has initiated this project with the help of "Padmashri" Dr.Mohan Kameswaran, who owns Madras ENT Research Foundation (MERF)- who in his period made him an honorary member of the club.

Rotary Club of Madras Esplanade identifies children from various Corporation Schools, (who are mainly under privileged) for any ailment in the ear or any loss of hearing – Dr.Mohan Kameswaran, MERF receive the children and screen their ear impairment and suggest medical treatment by medicine or by operation requirements, and Transportation cost is met by Rotary Club's membership. Screening of ear impairment & Doctors cost are presently borne by MERF. Due to time paucity, children are taken in a batch of a maximum of 20 and checked between 10 and 1 PM on every Saturday.

To cater the service effectively and to benefit larger size of under privileged children represented in various parts of the city, Rtn Murali r rao had appealed to his philanthropic friend Mr Nagarajan – CEO of 247customer a BPO specialty company and he has donated a Van and the club had fund raised Rs 2.00 lacs to buy the OAE equipment too during his period as President – the van runs to various districts in Tamilnadu for conducting the camp every fortnight Sunday / Saturday .

A trust in the name of Silent Melody Charitable trust is opened and Dr Mohan Kameswhwaran and Wife, along with Three Rotarians namely Rtn PP K J Chandran , a senior Advocate, Rtn Prakash Chand Bandhari – a Past President of the club and Rtn Murali r rao – who Founded "Silent Melody " all from Rotary club of Madras Esplanade were pooled in as Trustee to monitor the growth of this project .

But this is not enough for to manage the issue , as , after screening and finding out that the problem is there in the ear of any said person whether he / she who needs hearing aid / cochlear implant there is a gap towards funding it. Hence this appeal . We would be interested in creating a Cochlear & Hearing aid bank jointly sponsored or in whatever fashion you may suggest to cater to the need of the public at large who are in need of them.

By the opening of the Bank for Hearing aid / cochlear implant it will mainly help the needy to get the aid to get them implanted – rather than cribbing after being identified that they have hearing loss.

Kindly note, a mini statistics. So far from 22.7.2006, the date of start of this project, we have screened over 1628 children (1100 children this year namely 2007-08 since I could get the van to move around) out of which 347 children (21.314%) were found having disability. 269 ( 17.914%) were cured by medicine ,and balance 78 ( 16.28%) required hearing aid and 6 ( 0.36%) of them require Cochlear implant. The digital Hearing aid costs nearly Rs.15000 (350 USD) The Cochlear implant costs generally about Rs.6.5 lakhs Indian Rupees (US\$15,000) approx. and it is ill affordable by these screened ones and hence this appeal.

Kindly go through the project and advice next step for we can make a better world for them to live. (Along with us).

Yours in Rotary

Rtn. Murali r rao

President – (2006-07 )

Co-Chair-Youth, Project Selvi ( 2007-08)

Trustee -Silent Melody Charitable Trust –(Permanent )

Dist Chair- Ambassadorial Scholarship ( 2008-09)

Dist co chair- Olympiad / Project Selvi. ( 2008-09).

You may kindly revert whatever your reactions are , we welcome suggestions to improve our service to the society.



Van Donated to Silent Melody by the Mr Nagarajan



Camp at Arattavadi – 100 miles from Our Chennai Base.



The twins sister who both would require Cochlear Implant.