# Suryodaya Foundation





# Annual letter 2021

## Financial summary 2021

Due to the corona pandemic, Suryodaya's annual figures for the past 12 months look slightly different than what you are used to. In India, most schools have been closed for a long time. This is why the applications for the regular projects were much lower last spring. In addition, many schools have not spent all the subsidy awarded to them for 2020. In recent years, we have used up a bit of our assets, but in 2021 we received more in donations than we could spend on projects. Our equity has grown by more than € 5,600. It is evident that we will keep this money available for new project applications. A positive development is that there are more special projects at the moment. These have a well-defined purpose (e.g., to provide facilities for a specific school) and a limited duration. A good example is the support of the Franciscans in Bangalore in providing a hot meal to people who have lost their source of income due to the pandemic.

INCOME			EXPENSES		
Sponsors	€	13.669,25	Various cost (bank, website)	€	574,40
			Regular projects	€	4.533,00
			Special projects	€	2.944,00
Interest	€	0,30			
Total income	€	13.669,55	Total expenses	€	8.051,40
EQUITY at 30-11-2021:				€	57.889,36

Your donations remain very welcome, and we hope to be able to count on your generosity again in 2022!

Sarvodaya's IBAN account at the TRIODOS Bank is NL 74 TRIO 0379 4205 11

Suryodaya has an ANBI recognition. You can realize a tax advantage by making a regular gift. (www.belastingdienst.nl)

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## Word from the chairman

2021 was again strongly influenced by the corona pandemic around the world. India was hit hard, but fortunately the situation has improved in recent months: Maybe because of the different climate? The schools are now open again.

However, the consequences of the pandemic will continue to be noticeable in Indian society for a long time to come, especially among the poorest. Because of all this, support remains very necessary.

Schools were closed for a long time in 2021. As a result, our contributions to the projects have been lower and we have also received less information from our projects in the form of reports. The annual report from us is therefore shorter than you are used to. Now that the schools are open again, our support for the development of youth will be asked again.

The composition of the Board of the Foundation has changed. Bram van Leeuwen has left the board. For many years he has fully committed himself as treasurer and secretary. We owe a lot to him. Bram, thank you very much!

Ferry Vermeire has become a new board member. He has worked in India for years and knows Arogyamma and John from that time. Ferry will be involved in, among other things, the renewal of the website.

In the past year we have had two video conversations with our project coordinator at the Franciscans in India, Rajasekhar Gopu. It was a special experience to be able to consult directly with him, even if via a screen.

On behalf of the children in India, the board would like to thank you very much for your contribution to the Suryodaya Foundation. Your support will continue to be desperately needed in the coming years.

Despite everything, the board wishes you happy holidays and hopefully a new year that will be less influenced by the corona pandemic.

Els Henrichs, chairman

## Corona in India; the consequences for children

Covid-19 is spreading rapidly across India. Children and young people who escaped an infection are now being hit. In Bangalore, infections were diagnosed in 543 children this summer by the GGD. Not only do more children become infected, but with the delta variant that is roaming around in India also the symptoms are more severe. In some states, such as Rajastan, for example, this leads to hospitalization of children with severe respiratory complaints; something we hardly see in the Netherlands.

The risk of serious illness comes on top of the already heavy toll the pandemic is taking on children. Due to the Coronavirus, 120,000 children lost their primary caregiver in the first 14 months of the pandemic. In the last few months this increased with another 43,000 children. Many have since been orphaned.



The already chronic poverty exacerbates the situation for many children; malnutrition and the number of children between 6 and 10 years old who no longer go to school increased from 1.5% in 2017 to 5.3% in 2020.

Just like with us, the schools were closed from March 2020 and online education could only be followed through expensive private schools if the family had a computer and internet. That is only possible for the few, resulting in rising illiteracy. Job loss of parents or the loss of a parent forced the poorer children to work to support the family.

The number of Covid-19 cases in India is still greatly underestimated. Officially (worldometers) there would be 32.6 million infections with 437,000 deaths out of a population of 1.37 billion people. According to the US Department of Development, the number of covid-related deaths is much more between 2.9 and 5.8 million, most of which fell between March and July 2021 due to the spread of the delta variant. A further rise in the number of infections will have dramatic consequences for society, including the already overburdened health care system.

There is no vaccination program for children and adolescents in India. The vaccine is only available free of charge to citizens aged 45 and over, others have to pay for the costs themselves. As a result, only 10% of the population is fully vaccinated. Workers and school children therefore remain very susceptible to the virus. Despite this, many states have schools, businesses, and government agencies that were closed reopened again from September with all the negative consequences that that entails. Epidemiologists and microbiologists expect new records in the number of people tested positive in October and November.

#### Sources:

Silva, A. (21.07.21). https://www. wsws.org/en/articles/2021/08/28/india28.html. Consulted at 10/11/2021. Arya, D. (28.08.21). https://www.BBC.com/news/world-asiaindia-58281442. Consulted at 10/11/2021. https://www.worldometers.info/coronaviru s/country/india/ Consulted at 10/11/2021. Chin, NC and Prasanna, S. (10.10.21). https://www.channelnewsasia.com/cnainsider/broken-children-covid-19-orphanschild-labourers-india-2229326. Consulted at 10/11/2021.



Hindus on the way to the Ganges, photo Getty images

## Studying during lockdowns

I'm Chandana and I'm in tenth grade. My family and I had all kinds of difficulties and problems during the lockdown due to corona. First of all, I would like to illustrate the positive side of the lockdown.



It turned out to be a golden opportunity to let my creativity run wild in practicing new hobbies and developing unknown talents. I have spent a lot of time reading books and watching educational programs on TV, doing puzzles to maintain my concentration, and drawing and painting. My mother gave me cooking lessons.

We don't have a computer in the house, so I could only follow the lessons via my mobile phone. I had to either write down the homework and then take a picture of it to send to the teacher or make it online on the phone. Often, we had no electricity or internet and I had to miss classes as a result.

Studying online is not easy, working on the mobile phone made my eyes and fingers hurt. I was able to follow the online lessons, but everything was easier when we still had lessons in the classroom and direct contact with the teacher. I missed the directions of the teachers, their encouragement and inspiration and of course the friendship of my classmates.



Children at the homework class

## Letter from the children from Neerlagunta

We, the children of Neerlagunta would like to write you a letter about our experiences during the lockdowns. We think it's been a tough time for everyone. Our school and homework center were closed. A friend's father passed away and we couldn't go to his house. At home there was not much to do, and boredom set in. We did receive online lessons, but that it is different than in class. A lot of education has passed us by. When we can go back to school, we can see our friends again, play together and talk to our teachers.



Working hard at school

Our parents could no longer go to work. Luckily the government gave us rice and dahl. After the normal lessons we had homework guidance online. At home we celebrated our birthdays without new clothes and cake. The homework center is like a second home. Here we study, talk about our doubts and insecurities, play with our friends and eat oatmeal in the evening. Every year we celebrate Independence Day, Children's Day and Christmas together with former students. We share experiences with them and there is also food for everyone. The homework center gives us books, uniforms and writing materials. We often go to a friend after the homework help.

Unfortunately, that was not possible last year. We missed it. It feels like the clock has been turned back two years. Fortunately, the schools are opening again, and we can go back to normal. Now it is important that we do our best to get back into the normal rhythm. We must work hard on that with the teachers.

We thank you for your interest in us and wish you all the best.

## Can you also make a difference for these children?



On the website <u>www.Suryodaya.nl</u> you will find much more information about us and all our projects. There is also an extensive collection of photos about our work. You can donate directly via the website with iDeal. We can be found on Facebook under the name Suryodaya Foundation.





stichting

### SURYODAYA

om een zelfstandig bestaan voor kansarme kinderen in India



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