

Influence of Second Vatican Council on the Holy Family Congregation –A Special Reference to the Rehabilitation of the Disabled People

V. M. Bindhu,

*ph.D Scholar, Post-Graduate and Research Department of History, Periyar E.V.R.College (Autonomous and
Nationally Accredited), Tiruchirappalli, 620 023, Tamil Nadu, INDIA*

Abstract: Society is a group of people living together in different families. There are nuclear as well as large families in society. In a family itself, we can see people with different intellectual levels living together. Sometimes, the disabled people are viewed as a burden to their families as well as to the society. Most often, these types of people are removed from their own families and stayed in certain institutions. Some of them become self dependent through effective skill acquisition programme arranged by the institutions themselves. The second Vatican council promotes liberalization and modernization of certain practices in the church. Family is the focus of the apostolate of Holy family congregation, founded by Bl.Mariam Thressia. It is therefore the impact of Vatican II that the CHF Congregation started different institutions for mentally and physically challenged people.

Key Words: Vatican II, Congregation of Holy Family, Disabled People, Families, Jyothi Nilayam

I. Introduction

The world has become a global village through the advancement of science and technology. As it advances in wealth and growth, the society and family face a degeneration of values. In such a context it is an urgent need, as the church invites its faithful religious people, to take the Family Apostolate to the society. The aim of the family apostolate of the Holy Family Congregation (CHF) is to bring the whole universe into reconciliation and salvation through the family imbibing the spirit of the foundress Blessed Mariam Thressia. The attempt of this article is to make a brief outline on the services of the Holy Family Congregation to the mentally and physically challenged people. The Congregation understood that they can be reached in different families through them. With the impacts of Vatican II, CHF started schools for mentally and physically challenged people.

II. Origin of the Holy Family Congregation

On 14 May 1914, Bishop John Menachery officially announced the inception of the Congregation of the Holy Family in the parish church of Puthenchira. Before a vast assembly of people of Puthenchira and several priest and nuns, Mariam Thressia pronounced before the bishop, the perpetual vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Subsequently she was given the habit of new congregation with a new name – Sr.Mariam Thressia. She dedicated herself with renewed resolve to the service of people and their families. Her apostolic zeal for the families and the preferential love for the poor became the charism (The spirit and aims of the founder of the Congregation is called charism) and the apostolate of the congregation. Her vision, in the congregation is to be identified with the Crucified Lord and be empowered to impart His compassionate Love. To share with everyone the merciful love of Jesus through family apostolate, especially with the poor and the out castes is the mission of the same congregation. Family apostolate was an unprecedented event, in the socio-cultural set up of Kerala, of that time. It is noteworthy that in the case of Sr. Mariam Thressia, her entry into the congregation, perpetual commitment and appointment as the Mother Superior of the new congregation happened to be on the same day. Rev. Fr. Vithayathil was appointed as the chaplain of the convent. The Foundress threw herself right into the heart of the society, i.e., the families, where she sought the field for the new apostolate.

Bl.Mariam Thressia entered the field of teaching apostolate with the basic goal of imparting knowledge of God. Her vision was to build up families living in holiness, reaching to them through students. ‘Through students to families’, the educational field provides a golden opportunity to build up families in intimate union with love and life. Following Bl.Mariam Thressia, with fire in the heart and wings on the feet a C H F nun Christianizes the families by engaging herself through family apostolate, social apostolate, healing ministry, teaching apostolate, works of mercy, parish ministry etc. One of the basic aims of Holy family schools are

making the young generation feels proud of the ancient culture and rich civilization of our country. The children will be taught to respect their elders and teachers as well as to all religious faith and great masters. The feeling of fraternity and national outlook will be cultivated among them. The co-curricular collective activities help to develop healthy inter personal friendships and a broader vision of life among the children. This apostolate sows the seeds of Gospel values, virtues and moral values in the hearts of every human person.

III. Give a special care to the branches of Education by Vatican Council II

The Ecumenical Council of Vatican II (The popular name for the Second Vatican Council, an assembly of all the Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church held from 1962 to 1965) dealt elaborately with the life of the church and its relationship with other churches, religions and the world. Since religious life is an essential part of the church showing forth the various aspects of the mystery of Christ it is treated in the constitution of the Church as well as in a separate decree called “Decree on the up-to-date Renewal of the Religious Life” (Perfectae Caritatis-PC) promulgated on 28th October 1965. The main theme of the decree is, to up-to-date renewal of religious life. The renewal of the religious life, envisaged by the council is not an isolated action by the religious alone, but it is a part of the renewal of the entire Church. Vatican II demands the renewal of the way of life, of prayer, and of apostolate in harmony with the present –day physical and psychological condition of the members.

Among the various organs of education, school is of outstanding importance. In nurturing the intellectual faculties which is its special mission, it develops a capacity for sound judgment and introduces the pupils to the cultural heritage handed over to them by former generations. It fosters a sense of values and prepares them for professional life. By providing friendly contacts between people of different characters and backgrounds it encourages mutual understanding. Furthermore it constitutes a centre in whose activity and growth not only help the families and teachers but also the various associations for the promotion of cultural, civil and religious life, civic society, and the entire community should take part. The second Vatican council’s proclamation on Christian education is ever guideline for educationists. “The education aims at the formation of the human person in the pursuit of his ultimate end and of the good of the societies of which, as man, he is a member, and in whose obligations, as an adult, he will share”

Moreover, in establishing and conducting catholic schools one must keep modern developments in mind. Accordingly, while one may not neglect primary and intermediate schools, which provide the basis of education, one should attach considerable importance to those establishments which are particularly necessary nowadays, such as professional and technical colleges, institute for adult education and for the promotion of social work, institutions for those who require special care on account of some natural handicap and training colleges for teachers, for religion and other branches of education. The Sacred Synod furthermore affirms its deep gratitude to those priest, religious, nuns and laity who in a spirit of evangelical dedication have devoted themselves to the all- important work of education and of schools of all kinds and grades.

IV. Jyothinilayam – A School for Mentally Retarded Students

After the Second Vatican Council, many times General Renewal Synaxis was conducted in Generalate at Mannuthy. In 1976, the synaxis members had taken many new decisions according to Vatican council. Among them, one of the decisions was to start a school at Palakkad for mentally retarded students. The congregation understood that they can reach into different families through mentally and physically challenged people. So CHF nuns started the first school for mentally challenged people at Maryland in Palakkad Province in 1978 and had given the name as Jyothinilayam. This is due to the impacts of Vatican II council. Beside this, there are four more special schools started by the same congregation. They are ‘Asha Bhavan’ at Annamanada, ‘Cyrene’ at Kodunga, ‘Kiran Jyothi’ school for the mentally challenged at Kollencode and ‘special school for disabled’ at Vallachira. Few institutions are able to give free job oriented training and academic education to the mentally and physically challenged children and youngsters, in different parts of Kerala.

Jyothinilayam School and hostel for the mentally challenged, at Maryland, Palakkad, has got very suitable infrastructure for teaching and training 107 mentally challenged beneficiaries -52 residential and 55 – non-residential, in the current year. Being away from home is a big challenge. As a specialist for disabled students, CHF have adequate equipment and fully adapted facilities to enable students to take part in a variety of activities in the campus. The inmates of this institution are mainly coming from the interior and neighboring places of Palakkad district. For the mentally retarded people, this institution stands as a light house. Through character and life formation, they are also coming to the main stream of society.

People under the age group of 5 to 31 are functioning under the support and guidance of Marian service society. Majority of the students are from very poor families. They do not have enough dress to wear and also money to buy necessary things. Nuns also have to give them free medical treatment. Therefore Marian service society has to play a major role for the better functioning of Jyothinilayam School and hostel. At times,

institution finds some people of good will and generous heart to give these students some educational materials, uniforms and cloths.

The school time is 10 AM to 4 PM with 15 minutes tea break during the mid morning and an hour lunch break at noon, for five days a week. Because of staff members' efficient care and dedication, students' communication skill and self confidence have improved very much. Students love their teachers and their residential houses. In the beginning of the academic year, each of the staff members evaluates the children and prepare special time table for each children. After that, they train them in their respective fields and conduct exams. Institutions adapt scientific methods and strategies to raise the social, physical as well as intellectual level of students.

Excursion is always a wonderful experience to children. It is a necessary component for the all-round development of a person. Many of the mentally retarded beneficiaries are not taken to any places by their parents and relatives since they are not able to behave properly in public places, not able to eat in a hotel, or enjoy sightseeing meaningfully. The mentally challenged people also have a right to go for outing and have the right to travel in buses or trains, see places, and eat in the public places like their siblings. Therefore teachers take our students every year to see different places and experience the nature and they really enjoy it. Each teacher is provided with a self – contained class room with all facilities to keep teaching aids and materials. Co-curricular subjects are taught by specialist in the particular area of specialization. This dedicated and highly skilled team supports the disabled students and they become capable of doing their own work.

The helpers in the hostel have a lot of works to do. They have to train them in eating, dressing, toileting, bathing, etc. and also have to clean the rooms, linen and to teach older students to wash dishes, make beds, wash own cloths. These are done under the direction of the hostel warden. As per the existing norms, the helper-beneficiary ratio is 1:15. Among the helpers in the school, one goes in the bus twice a day, to pick up the day trainees and other times, both of them help the teachers to train children in the school for teaching self help skills, since the students need more help in training.

Rehabilitation centers are also established for the students that would make them capable of working in an industrial establishment with the help of the industrial training. The up liftment of mentally retarded students is the part of the charism of CHF Congregation. The 'carry bag' making units and 'screen printing' units founded in the past academic year, have been running very efficiently. As part of the effort to make the children self sufficient, institution has initiated a small savings scheme for students. In the beginning stage, there were 10 students in the small saving scheme as the beneficiaries. In 1992 Jyothinilayam established 'envelop making' unit with the help of Karithas India. All the members of this institution became self-employed through the practice which they got from this institution. They can make different size and quality covers through different machines. Many inmates are able to make these covers by themselves and they became economically self-sufficient.

Special Olympics competition held on November 15th 1994 at Kollam. Thirty students from the institution attempted in this programme and they got medals in different competitions. Students of Jyothinilayam, scored fifteen gold, twenty two silver and nineteen bronze medals. Like this many prizes they got from different places by their effort. The total development of the student is the aim of this institution and because of the hard work of staff members and students' effort they can reach high. Jyothinilayam as an institution have strived relentlessly to provide consolation to these less fortunate lives through basic life skill training and support. Among the five Schools, Jyothinilayam is the first school started by the Congregation for the mentally challenged people.

Table-1 Jyothinilayam

Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out	Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out
1978	9	9			1997	16	18	13	10
1979	2	11		5	1998	23	31	17	22
1980	4	10		5	1999	29	38	12	20
1981	5	10		8	2000	18	36	15	18
1982	7	9		7	2001	23	41	21	18
1983	8	10		9	2002	19	42	18	22
1984	8	9		4	2003	12	32	16	20
1985	11	16		6	2004	18	30	18	22
1986	16	26		20	2005	25	33	22	11
1987	13	19		16	2006	16	38	28	13
1988	29	32		26	2007	20	45	30	15
1989	23	29		25	2008	16	46	35	14
1990	19	23		13	2009	14	46	39	11
1991	23	33		28	2010	19	54	48	11
1992	20	25	10	20	2011	21	64	49	5
1993	20	25	12	20	2012	17	76	51	7

1994	17	22	11	18	2013	22	91	54	8
1995	19	23	9	22	2014	16	99	62	4
1996	15	16	12	8	2015	12	107	68	

In the above chart, the details about the Jyothinilayam institute for the mentally challenged people managed by the Holy Family nuns are indicated. This chart shows the activities of the institute till 2015. For chart making, the data had been taken from the admission register of Jyothinilayam institute from the year 1978 to 2015. Each year's total number of admission, newcomers, how many are involved in rehabilitation works and how many inmates passed out of the institute etc. are explained very clearly in this chart.

V. Aashabhavan - A Training Centre for Physically Handicapped

This institution was founded for the disabled people in Annamanada, by CHF Irinjalakuda Province. The fifth synaxis of Pavanatma Province, held at Kallettumkara Provincial house in 1991 took many far reaching decisions. Among them, one of the decisions was to start an institution for the disabled people at Annamanada. Ashabhavan is a training centre for the physically handicapped and it is a non-profit making charitable institution that stands for the academic education and vocational training of the physically handicapped girls of all communities without any consideration to religion, cast, race, language or any such things. Almost all the inmates of this institution are coming from the broken families. Nuns are giving more concern towards their character formation; education etc. and also removing the bitter experiences and sadness from their minds through counselling and the inmates are getting the awareness that 'they are also God's own children'.

Asha Bhavan is able to give free job oriented training and academic education to the children and youngsters with disability, from different parts of Kerala. This Institution helps them to break their isolation, and to make them more efficient to face the realities of life and also to become self dependent. This institution also gives free residential job oriented training every year to forty orthopedically handicapped and deaf and dumb girls. It imparts training to the girls from different parts of Kerala in KGTE-FDGT (Kerala Government Technical Education- Fashion Designing and Garment Technology) and computer science.

Annamanada Gramma Panjayath staff celebrates 'Onam' festival with Ashabhavan girls in a grand manner. They organized certain programmes for the girls, like dance, thiruvathirakali, etc. followed by "Onam Sadhya". The inmates made pookkalam. Thrissur district police association conducted Onam festival in Ashabhavan. They arranged variety entertainment programmes and presented prizes to the participants. They gave Onam Sadhya to the students and presented dresses also. Asia net comedy winner Happy Baiju and Mazhavil Manorama comedy artist Murali presented some programmes on the day.

In the beginning, all the expenditures of this institution had been met by the Province itself. Later on, the institution got sponsorship from local people; some help came from IFDF (Integrated Family Development Forum), and from Dr. Sr.Regis (Gynecologist in Mariam Thressia Hospital, Kundayi) friends. All these financial help deposited in the Bank for the welfare and running of this institution. Now a day, a few students are getting government grants too.

Table-2 Aashabhavan

Year	Newcomers	Total	Went out	Year	Newcomers	Total	Went out
1993	17	17		2005	7	40	7
1994	9	23		2006	6	39	6
1995	8	31	6	2007	8	41	12
1996	10	35	7	2008	11	40	8
1997	11	39	9	2009	7	39	8
1998	9	39	13	2010	9	40	9
1999	12	38	4	2011	8	39	15
2000	6	40	11	2012	16	40	20
2001	9	38	9	2013	19	39	16
2002	11	40	7	2014	18	41	16
2003	8	41	12	2015	15	40	
2004	10	39	6				

From the starting year 1993 to the current year 2015, the twenty two years' short history is mentioned in this chart. For chart making, the data had been taken from the admission register of Aashabhavan- 1993-2015. New comers, total strength, how many went out etc. are shown in the above chart.

VI. Cyrene – A School for Mentally Retarded Students

"Cyrene" is a special school for the mentally retarded children, started by the help of 'AVARD' (Apex Voluntary Agency for Rural Development) of Irinjalakuda Diocese in the year 1996 at Kodunga. Before starting the School, there was a Holy Family convent which was taking care of the inmates. This school was handed

over to CHF nuns of Pavanatma Province after ten years. Even though it was started by the diocese of Irinjalakuda, for the first ten years it was managed by the CHF nuns. They worked hard for the welfare of the inmates of Cyrene. This institution registered as a charitable society in 1999 and got School registration certificate under PWD Act in 2005. In the beginning, there were eight students, but now the school strength is eighty three. The institution is giving special care to promote the students' self respect and self support especially through personal care. The social acceptance and social competence are also given priority with physical training, basic academic skill and vocational training. The inmates of this institution mainly come from the Panjayat of Mattathur, Varanthurappilli and Kodakara.

Every day early in the morning, the teachers together with students conduct prayer and assembly, in which they have prayer, reading of the Scripture, exercise and National Anthem by the children. They are not normal in their intellectual capacity, but in accordance with their intellectual capacity, children are categorized in six sections as pre primary, primary, secondary, pre vocational boys, pre vocational girls and one care group. This division is done based on their age, IQ and functional level. Each child is given unique attention to find out their hidden talents and make them to do their best and make the best out of their talents. Its goal is to achieve the all round development of the mentally handicapped children at the maximum possible level. Institution adopts scientific methods and strategies to raise the social, physical as well as intellectual levels of students. IEP (Individual Education Plan) is developed for each child. IEP is based on five skill areas like academics, social motors, self care and communication. Vocational training has an important role in the school curriculum.

To have better interaction and awareness, Cyrene celebrates festival days. They celebrate Onam, X'mas, and annual day, Independence Day and children's day with colorful programmes. A part time dance master is appointed for this purpose. Children participated and won prizes in the arts and sports competitions held in the Thoppe stadium by district social welfare board on world disabled day. They won many prizes in the All Kerala Special School Kalolsav at Thevara College Ernakulum and participated in the exhibitions at Malapuram, NIMH Secndrabad and Award Chalakkudy. They also attended the Sneha- Sangamams in Naipunya College Koratty, Avarid Chalakkudy and take part in district, state and national level arts and sports competitions conducted by Special Olympics Bharath, other associations and district social welfare department. The staff and students participated in the special employees meet conducted by national institute for the mentally handicapped at Secndrabad. Two of Cyrene students got golden chance for plane journey conducted by rotary club from Nedumbassery to Trivandrum. Mattathur Grama Panjayat is considering and supporting Cyrene as a special school for mentally handicapped institution. Last year Panchayat gave some furniture, like tables and chairs to the institution. The Institution is also getting state government grant and noon meal from AEO office Chalakkudy, since 2010.

The main vocational units are medicine cover making, candle making, greetings card making, umbrella making, crafts works, gardening, Flag making and tailoring. All these items are sold in the markets and the money is deposited in each student's account. In this way, the students of this institution become economically self-dependent. It not only makes them happy but also is a boost to their self image. To provide maximum personal, social and occupational competency and to reduce dependency teachers conduct study tour, outing and visits. Evaluation assessment of children's progress is done in every term and in every year. Annual general body meeting, P.T.A. meetings and staff meetings are also conducted timely, for giving suggestions and advice for the smooth running of this institution. This educational institution is under the control of General Education Body. The Educational Deputy Director visited this institution and gave special school certificate. This institution gets help, both financial and social, from parish, province and people from the local area itself.

Table-3 Cyrene

Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out	Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out
1996	20	20			2006	5	81	30	7
1997	2	22			2007	5	79	32	3
1998	6	28			2008	4	80	34	9
1999	10	38			2009	10	81	35	2
2000	6	44			2010	2	81	37	12
2001	4	48			2011	11	80	40	7
2002	9	57		3	2012	6	79	42	4
2003	13	67	25		2013	4	79	45	6
2004	10	77	28	7	2014	7	80	52	
2005	6	76	29		2015	2 ⁴⁷	82	55	

The institution of 'Cyrene' is going to celebrate the twentieth annual day. Cyrene is mainly taking care of mentally retarded students and in the above chart; it is shown all the activities of the institute from the year 1996 to 2015. For chart making, the data had been taken from the admission register of Cyrene from the year 1996-2015. The total numbers of admissions, those who are involved in rehabilitation works etc. are being explained in the above chart.

VII. Kiran Jyothi -School for the Mentally Challenged

Kiran Jyothi School for the mentally challenged started in 2005 at Paruthykkad by Marian Province of Holy Family Congregation. Later the Provincial team understood that there were many mentally challenged people living near the Holy Family Convent at Kollencode. So they took decision to shift the students from Paruthykkad to Kollencode. For this purpose stitching classes and nursery classes in Kollemkode were stopped. The same building is now being used for the training of mentally challenged people. From 2008 June onwards classes were started in Kollencode. Now this institution is standing as a light house of the society of that area. From 2008 onwards this school is running under Kiran Jyothi trust.

Mentally challenged persons are capable of doing things both physically as well as intellectually like any of us. But these abilities are not fully developed in them like other ordinary children. In order to activate the various under developed faculties of the mentally challenged children, certain activities are being conducted such as sports, painting, yoga, singing, dancing etc. The institute which comes under Elevation Panchayath is completing its seven years of service. Elevation Panchayath has provided some financial help for the education of the mentally challenged children in this institute and it is of great help. From 2008 onwards this institute known as Kiran Jyothi School is working for the development of the mentally challenged children. Today this institute is gaining more and more name and fame, by the grace of God and the good will of many generous people. In 2012 this school has obtained registration certificate from the government as per the P.W.D Act. There are many good people who are ready to offer their help for the growth and development of the children studying in this School.

This institute is dedicated to the service of the mentally challenged children and always receives support and encouragement for the development and success of this institute. The superior and the manager of this institute are always working for the welfare of this institute and encourage others to do the same. Every day early in the morning the teachers and children conduct prayer service. The birth day of each student is celebrated in the assembly and the principal wishes them with flowers, gifts and sweets. It makes them happy and feels better. In the beginning of the academic year itself each of the staff members evaluate the children and prepare special time table for each of them. After that they train them in their respective fields and conduct exams. More importance is given to the personal, social and recreational aspects which enable the character formation of the children. In the first year itself, most of the children learn the alphabet and are able to write their names as well as the names of their people at home.

In this institution, the mentally challenged children from five years of age are admitted and given proper training. According to the mental growth of the children they are categorized into different groups and classes are conducted accordingly. Self help, academic skills, communication skills, social skills etc. are given more importance in the curriculum. Speech therapy, behavior modification therapy, music therapy, play therapy, and yoga are included in the training programme of the children. The children are divided into pre-primary, primary, secondary, for the sake of smooth training. Exams are also conducted and the principal along with the class teachers and parents discuss plan programme for the future development of each student in the class.

There are many talents hidden in the minds of mentally challenged children. In order to develop and bring out these talents various activities like dancing, singing, yoga, paintings, and sports are included in the syllabus and special training is given to them. Every Friday, *sahitya samaj* is organized in the respective classes. Once in a month it is conducted for all. The children participate in the sports activities at the district level and win many prizes. Children are taught the importance of celebrations and it enables them to understand things like other people in the society. Under the leadership of the Principal, three teachers and three non teaching staff dedicate themselves and work hard for the training of the children. The staff members work together in different levels in order to train the children at their best so that the children can stand by themselves.

Regarding the mentally challenged children, their parents and teachers are playing a very important role. They need to work together to bring change and transformation in the lives of these children. Classes on awareness programme are organized for the parents to make them realize that their children are indeed a gift from God therefore they should accept them as they are. The parents are invited to school to interact with them, how to deal with the children at home and what are the things they need to be careful regarding the children. The parents are also asked to examine the exam report of their children and their signatures are obtained in the respective books.

Counselling is provided for the children and parents, and also help is provided for the parents and other members of the family to get rid of the tension and anxiety they have on the mentally challenged children. Thus Kiran Jyothi provides a sort of positive energy to the children as well as their family members. Apart from this, this school always tries to get all the facilities and favours for the children available from the government. In all the activities P.T.A plays an important role.

The generosity of many good people of this place is instrumental for the growth and maintenance of this institute. There are many things sponsored by the people, such as food for the children, equipment for their entertainment C.D. Player, mike set, furniture, firewood etc. Some people celebrate their birth day, wedding anniversary and other functions with the children and provide food for the children. The helping people are able to recognize the presence of God in these children and they are ready to help them in many ways.

The children who study here receive scholarship from the panchayath and pension from Social Welfare Association. Mr. Sivanandan provides Rs. 500 every month out of his pension for ten students coming from poor economic background. It is deposited to the children's account and is considered a blessing from God. The financial help distribution was held in our school and the following dignitaries were present: Sri. Chendamarashan M.L.A, Sri. Sivaraman the Panchayat President of Elevanchery and ward member. It was a long cherished wish of this school to purchase a bus. Through the help of our superiors a bus was purchased by Marian Province. The outings provide opportunity for children to grow in knowledge and it is an occasion for their mental relaxation and growth. Various places of entertainment, seashores waterfalls and flora fantasia amusement park are often excitement for children and they cherish these precious memories in their mind and also share with their teachers and parents.

Each convent of this Province spends a fixed amount for the helping of poor or any social charitable activity. So, 2% of the income of each convent is given to provincial house and from there it is transferred to this institution. There is no government grant for this institution. In the year 2012, the institution first applied for government grant. Even after three years, there is no reply from the government. After eight years of study, almost all the students passed out from this institution are involved in different types of jobs and they are self dependent. This Institution has rehabilitation activity also. Such as, they are making pappad, fin oil, pickle, food and vegetable processing, jewelry making, toys making from waste materials, flower making, painting, crafts items making, etc. Parents are interested to sell all these items in the markets and the money is being deposited in each one's accounts.

Table-4 Kiran Jyothi

Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out	Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out
2005	8	8			2011	9	29	20	4
2006	4	12		1	2012	4	29	22	3
2007	6	17		3	2013	6	32	24	
2008	18	32		5	2014	7	39	26	
2009	7	34		12	2015	1	40	27	
2010	2	24		4					

In 2015, the institution of Kiran Jyothi is completing ten years of service. Really, this institution is standing as a relief for many mentally challenged people of Kollencode area. From the chart, the reader can understand how many inmates took admission there, how many are working in rehabilitation center etc. For chart making, the data were taken from the admission register of Kiran Jyothi from the year 2005-2015.

VIII. Special School for Disabled at Vallachira

This Special School for the Disabled is started by Navajyothi Province of Holy Family Congregation. It was started in 2012 at Vallachira. Based on their intellectual capacity students are categorized in different groups such as pre primary, primary etc. The teachers are creating an environment for cherishing the young people who are away from their families. All our teachers have experience in their own areas of specialization as well as in special education. Therapists, councilors, psychologists etc are helping the students.

At present forty students are studying in this institution between the age group of five to forty. Even though this institution is in the beginning stage, they have also started the rehabilitation activities such as candle making, chain making, ring making, gift items making etc. For this institution, there is no grant from the government and help is getting from IFDF (Integrated Family Development Forum) of Province as well as from other benefactors. Within these few years, this institution has reached at a high level and does the sincere work for the welfare of the inmates.

The parents are invited to the school to interact and know how to deal with the children at home and what are the things they need to be careful regarding the children. The parents are also asked to examine the exam report of their children and their signatures are obtained in the respective books. Apart from this, the staff visits the families of the children very often and gives certain instructions to the parents who help the growth and development of the children. It is acknowledged by the parents themselves.

Table-5 Special School for Disabled

Year	Newcomers	Total	Rehabilitate	Went out
2012	12	12		
2013	13	25	12	4
2014	8	29	13	3
2015	7 ⁷¹	33	15	

The above mentioned chart shows the new admissions, total number of students etc. For chart making, the data had been taken from the admission register of special school for the disabled at Vallachira from the year 2012-2015. We hope, in future, this institution also will become a strong shelter for the mentally retarded people of the Thrissur district.

At present there are three hundred students in these schools. More than eight hundred students passed out from these institutions to their homes. Through these houses the nuns are reaching out to the poor families and giving them an awareness and guidance for a sound moral life. Majority of the students are very poor and from below poverty line families. Nuns also have to give them free treatment. At times, nuns find some people of good will and generosity to give these students certain educational materials, uniforms and old cloths etc. The nuns are also visiting the families of these children.

IX. Conclusion

Holy Family nuns' schools enable the physically disabled students to access the curriculum by providing the appropriate technology and adaptations to encourage independence. Disability is the consequence of an impairment that may be physical, emotional, cognitive, mental, sensory, or some combination of these. Disability is generalized as being a multi dimensional experience for the persona involved. There may be effects on body parts or organs and there may be effects on person's participation in several areas of life. Ultimate aim of the CHF institutions is to help our students feel as prepared and well – equipped as possible when they leave our institutions. Mentally challenged persons are equally capable both physically as well as intellectually like any of us. But these abilities are not developed in them like other ordinary children. As any other normal child, these children should be loved and respected in the society.

References

- [1]. CHF Charithrathilode, Vol.1, Holy Family Publications, Mannuthy, 1989.
- [2]. The History of CHF Arunoday Province Part 1, Bihar, 2003.
- [3]. Joseph Vithayathil (Fr., Chaplain of the Convent), History of Mariam Thressia (Unpublished handwritten Manuscript in Malayalam. CHFA 08, kept in the Archives of Holy Family Generalate, Mannuthy.
- [4]. Joseph Vithayathil, Mariam Thresiyude Jeeva charithram(Mal),(Life of Mother Mariam Thresia). This Diary consisted of approximately 600 pages of handwritten Manuscript extending from the years 1902 to 1926. This is kept in the Achieves of the Congregation of Holy Family Generalate, Mannuthy,Trichur, Kerala.CHFA.07.
- [5]. Vatican II, Gravissimum Educationis, Declaration on Christian Education, Rome, 28, October, 1965.
- [6]. Austin Flannery (ed.), Vatican Council 11, St.Pauls Publications, Mumbai, 2007.
- [7]. Decisions of synaxis members, meeting at Mannuthy, Holy Family Generalate, from September 7 to 12, 1976.
- [8]. Covenant of love & Directives (CHF -Constitution), Mannuthy, 2009.
- [9]. CHF. Marian charithrathilode 1976-1989, Vol.I, Maryland.
- [10]. CHF Marian Smaranika 1978-2003, (Silver Jubilee Souvenir of Marian Province), Maryland, 2003.
- [11]. Charitra Committee, C H F Pavanatma Province Charithram, Vol.11, 1989-2003, Published by Provincial Superior, Kallettumkara, 2008.
- [12]. Annual Report 2005-2006, Kiran Jyothi, School for the mentally challenged, Kollencode.
- [13]. Important General Assembly, A Short Report, January 26-30-2007, Mannuthy.
- [14]. Minutes of general body meeting of Jyothinilayam, School for mentally challenged, Maryland, 1988.
- [15]. Interview with Sr. Helen Maria, Principal of Jyothinilayam, School for mentally challenged, Maryland, on 20th September 2015.
- [16]. Annual review meeting in Silver Jubilee Year of Jyothinilayam, 2002-2003.
- [17]. Admission Register of Jyothinilayam 1978-2015, Maryland.
- [18]. 7th Renewal Synaxis Reports of Pavanatma Province May 22-24, Kallettumkara, 1997.
- [19]. Annamanada Holy Family Chronicle, Vol.III, Annamanada.
- [20]. Evaluation Report of Pavanatma Province 1994-1997 January, Kallettumkara.
- [21]. Admission Register of Ashabhavan 1993-2015, Annamanada.
- [22]. Annual Report 1997-1998, Cyrene, School for mentally and physically challenged people, Kodunga.
- [23]. CHF Pavanatma Smaranika 1978-2003, (Silver Jubilee Souvenir of Pavanatma Province), Kallettumkara, 2003.
- [24]. Charitra Committee, C H F Pavanatma Province Charithram, Vol.III, 2003-2006, Published by Provincial Superior, Kallettumkara, 2014,pp.322-323.
- [25]. Nalagamam (Manuscript) of Cyrene.
- [26]. Holy Family Convent Chronicle Vol.II, Kodunga .
- [27]. Annual Report of Cyrene 2013-2014, Kodunga.
- [28]. Charitra Committee, C H F Pavanatma Province Charithram, Vol.111, 2006-2009, Published by Provincial Superior, Kallettumkara, 2014, p.746.

- [29]. Admission Register of Cyrene, 1996-2015, Kodunga.
- [30]. CHF. Marian charithrathilode 2003-2009, Vol.III, published by Marian Provincial Superior, Maryland, 2014.
- [31]. Nutshell Report of Marian Province from 20 February, 2009 to 3 February 2012, Maryland.
- [32]. Short Report of Marian Province from 3 February, 2012 to 21 February 2015, Maryland.
- [33]. Interview with Sr.Geethi Rose, principal of Kiranjyothi, School for the mentally challenged, Kollencode, on 19th September 2015.
- [34]. Minutes of general body meeting of Kiran Jyothi School.
- [35]. Annual review meeting of Kiran Jyothi School, 2008.
- [36]. Short Report of Marian Province from 20 February, 2009 to 3 February 2012, Maryland.
- [37]. Important assembly of Kiran Jyothi School-A short report January 26-27-2009.
- [38]. Five years Evaluation Report of Kiran Jyothi School 2005-2010.
- [39]. Admission Register of Kiran Jyothi, School 2005-2015.
- [40]. C H F Navajyothi Province Charithram, Vol.111, 2009-2012, published by Provincial Superior, Thrissur.
- [41]. Annual report of Vallachira-2012-2013, Special school for disabled.
- [42]. Interview with Sr. Bianca, Former Provincial of Irinjalakuda Province. (Three Times - 1978-1982, 1982-1985, 1997-2000), Kochi, on 19th June 2014.
- [43]. Admission Register of Vallachira-2012-2015, Special school for disabled.