



ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



TRANSFORMING EDUCATION AND REIMAGINING ELDERCARE

SATHYA EDUCARE COMPETENCY TRUST



Vision

To see some enduring improvement in the competency of how teachers teach and how elders are cared for

Mission



EDUCARE

Work selflessly with in-service and pre-service Pre-K to Grade 10 teachers over a sustained period of time to help them make a lasting change in their competency

ELDERCARE

Enable holistic care for elders empowering them to age joyfully and develop caregivers and support them to care for elders with compassion and competency



Education Transformation

Through its multi-dimensional project ETTELL (Education Transformation through Teacher Empowerment Leading to Learning), SECT works towards empowering teachers by enhancing their teaching competencies.

In 2023-24, ETTELL worked in two key areas -

- **Focus Area 1**
In-service Teachers' Professional Development
- **Focus Area 2**
Pre-service/ New Teachers' Training and Support



Single School & School System Transformation

SECT's Single School Transformation programs this year continued its work in schools like SVVK and VVSEI which saw a remarkable shift in teaching practices post the interventions in 2022-23.



This year, the focus was on equipping teachers for effective lesson planning, impactful assessment strategies and establishing a mentoring system among other aspects. New schools were also added to the program this year, thus expanding ETELL's reach through its professional development programs for in-service teachers.



As part of the school system transformation, SECT's work with the Anekal Taluk schools resulted in a grand expo - Kalikotsava, showcasing innovative pedagogical approaches and strategies. Additionally, this year, SECT also joined hands with Vidya Bharathi Organization to incorporate the schools affiliated with them into their school system program.

KALIKOTSAVA - Celebrating Teaching & Learning

SECT's collaborative work with the schools in Anekal Taluk in the past couple of years resulted in a first-of-its-kind educational expo in the district in the month of January.



This 2-day exhibition was a perfect platform for teachers from the participating schools to showcase the latest pedagogical approaches and innovative practices that they have put to use in their classrooms for effective learning.



It also served as an excellent opportunity to reach out to nearly 600 visiting teachers from various schools and teacher education colleges in and around Anekal.



Growing Our Reach

COLLABORATION WITH VIDYA BHARATHI ORGANIZATION, KARNATAKA

This year was significant in scaling up SECT's transformative work among in-service teachers by working jointly with the schools affiliated to the Vidya Bharathi Organization.



Over 100 teachers from across the state of Karnataka attended programs organized in the towns of Hebri and Kalaburgi that aimed at familiarizing them with the recommendations of NEP 2020. This helped drive home the idea of experiential learning and adopting new-age cooperative learning strategies while planning their lessons.



A 5-day residential program was also organized for close to 50 Master Resource Persons of Vidya Bharathi Schools from various districts in Karnataka at the Sathya Educare Development Training Centre in Byrapura. The idea behind this was to start a ripple effect of teaching and learning wherein the MRPs were responsible for equipping teachers in their respective districts with 21st century teaching-learning practices.

Crafting Content Mastery

Strengthening pedagogical content knowledge (PCK) among teachers has been one of SECT's key initiatives. A lot of time and effort has been spent over the last few years on developing a PCK program model that enhances the teaching practices seen in most schools.

Having made humble attempts with single schools like SVVK and VVSEI, today SECT has successfully run PCK programs in nearly 20 schools including school clusters in Anekal Taluk and those part of Rashtrottana Vidya Kendra.



Over the year, the PCK program has emerged as a crucial need among teachers to ensure continual learning and advancement of skills, practices and use of various tools and strategies to enhance the classroom experience for their students.

Setting the Right Foundation

Tremendous amount of work has been put in by the team at SECT ensuring that students have the right educational foundation from the start based on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) principles . The Literacy Attainment Program (English and Kannada) and the Numeracy Attainment Program have been designed to achieve this mammoth task.

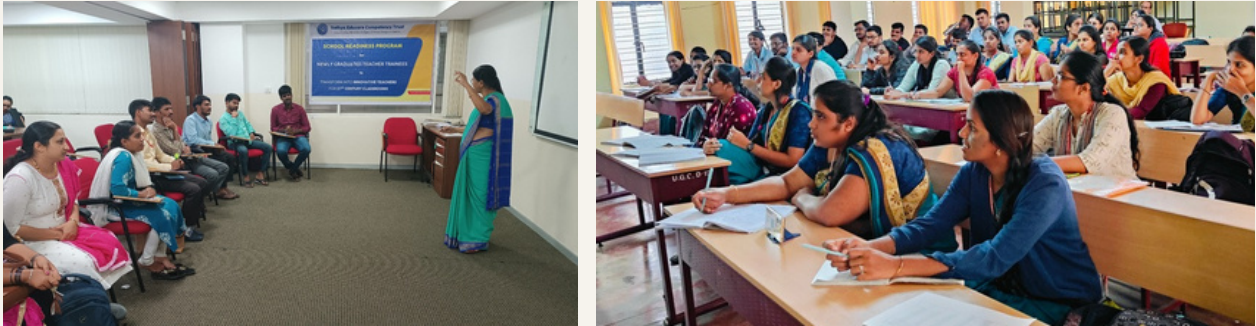


The English Literacy Attainment Program this year specifically focussed on Phonics and Reading and equipped teachers to employ these newly learnt skills and tools in their classrooms to help the students improve their reading ability.

Kannada Literacy and Numeracy Attainment programs were similarly designed and delivered to acquaint teachers with ECCE frameworks and guidelines to leave a lasting impression on the children.

Getting Future Ready

Apart from equipping and empowering in-service teachers from schools across Karnataka, ETTELL also focuses on training pre-service teachers through their School Readiness Programs.



These having had many successful runs and this year too, the SRPs saw over 50 graduates and teacher educators from various teacher training institutes get trained and equipped in modern day teaching-learning practices aligned with NEP 2020.



The SRP is designed primarily to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical application in real classroom situations. The young student teachers benefitted thoroughly from these programs and felt ready to go out and be dynamic, inspiring teachers for the future generations.





Eldercare Enhancement

Since 2021, SECT has been on a mission to improve the quality of life and care for the elderly through its Eldercare Enhancement programs. These programs are designed to create a holistic support system for the elderly and the caregivers committed to their service.

In 2023-24, under Eldercare Enhancement there were three key pioneering initiatives -

- **Focus Area 1**
Geriatric Care Specialist Development Program
- **Focus Area 2**
Elder Wellness Centres
- **Focus Area 3**
Geriatric Health Steward Program



Committed to Care

Over the course of the year, SECT focussed on training and equipping care specialists and health stewards to enhance their service to the elderly community. Through the Geriatric Care Specialist Development Program and the Geriatric Health Steward Program, SECT trained nearly 40 individuals who were committed to care for the elderly through their services.

Some found employment opportunities with care provider agencies in Bangalore while others continued their work for community care in the associated villages. In the Shimoga district, health stewards were deployed in over 30 villages, and they conduct regular health check-ups and monitoring of essential health metrics for the elderly community. This initiative was well received by the community and has contributed towards better health management of the elderly residents.

Similarly, in the Bangalore Rural district, the health stewards have been actively running elder wellness camps across villages that provide health check-ups along with medical consultation and medicine distribution by visiting physicians. Additionally, mobile wellness camps were also conducted in Byrapura that helped extend the reach of these services.



Building a Compassionate Community

This year was also important in establishing Elder Wellness Centres that aimed at delivering holistic elder care alongwith community engagement. It was observed that the elderly population yearned for a sense of community and companionship, and through these centres SECT was able to not only ensure physical well-being, but also help improve their social and mental well-being.

The wellness centre in Byrapura has been operational and serving the elders in the Byrapura village and surrounding areas thus creating greater health awareness among the locals. The centre provides free health screening services regularly and also conducts general check-ups and physician consultations for the elders.

Other initiatives under the eldercare ecosystem this year included community building activities in both rural and urban settings. These included creating elders club, organizing health talks and other wellness sessions, hosting recreational activities and games while also conducting health screenings, regular check-ups and physician visits.

SECT also joined hands with local schools, self-help groups, and government departments to help serve the community better. The volunteers from these institutions and organizations came on board with SECT to create health-focussed community spaces and a safe haven for the elderly.



Cultivating a Skilled Workforce

Working in line with SECT's vision to empower and equip the workforce, the Eldercare wing also focussed on developing content and delivering it through online platforms to in-service elder caregivers and family caregivers. The idea behind this was to ensure continuous learning and growth for the caregivers to be skilled and well-equipped with recent trends and technologies in the field of healthcare.

A curriculum has been put in place for this purpose, and the entire module has also been integrated into the trust's website for ease of access to learners. The hybrid model of the course gives the freedom to learners for self-paced online learning as well as offline in-person sessions for enhanced engagement and assessment.

SECT aims to increase its reach and impact through these educational programs by partnering with high-schools and paramedical institutions in the coming year. Through these carefully designed programs the intent is to provide essential skills and knowledge, and equip the learners, be it professional caregivers or even family members of the elderly, with tools and insights needed to care for the elderly.

Considerable efforts have also been put into developing learning, mentoring and monitoring tools to make these process more efficient and effective. These tools will ensure continuous engagement and enhanced learning, thus helping SECT cultivate a skilled workforce for eldercare.



Conclusion

2023-24 has been a year of growth and great learning for SECT. From hosting an extremely successful event like the Kalikotsava to expanding to new school systems on one hand, to training and equipping caregivers through multiple programs and putting plans in place to reach many more for the betterment of the quality of eldercare in our society on the other hand, SECT has proven to be truly committed to its mission to transform education and reimagine eldercare.

The tireless efforts of the teams that work towards achieving these dreams are commendable and it is through their hardwork, planning and execution that SECT is able to keep at its transformative work in the society.



With a vision to bring in equity in education and give dignity to the elderly, SECT continues to ideate, innovate and implement practices to develop and enhance the workforce that will positively impact our society.