

March - April 2020 Appeal
ST VERONICA WELFARE COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX 5098, WEST END,
4101

**APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO ASSIST THE BETHANY JEEVAN JYOTHY SPECIAL SCHOOL
 IN MARDALA, INDIA, PURCHASE COMPUTERS TO PROVIDE DATA-ENTRY JOBS FOR
 DIFFERENTIALLY-ABLED UNEMPLOYED YOUTH.**

Disabled children and youth in many areas of India frequently are ignored or rejected by their families, and thus have little chance of obtaining independence or living a meaningful life. Often, families with children suffering a disability are very poor and struggle to provide basic necessities such as food, shelter, education and medicine. The extra costs associated with serious disability are prohibitive and may result in children and youth being unwanted and cast out of their own home. This compounds the effects of the disability.

The Bethany Jeevan Jyothy Special School was established by the Bethany Fathers over twelve years ago. It has the goal of providing care for these children and youth, focusing on their physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual development, without regard to caste or religion. In addition to providing schooling for students up to year 10 level, the youth are taught job-oriented skills such as making aracanut leaf plates and joss sticks to assist them in obtaining a measure of independence and enhanced self esteem.

Currently there are 62 students at the school plus eleven students who have completed Year 10 and are unable to obtain work. As there is paid work available for youths who have data-entry skills, the school plans to establish a computer laboratory and purchase ten desktop computers to allow graduating students to earn their own income.

The Director of the school, Father Vijoy Varghese OIC, has requested Committee's assistance in providing the funds for the purchase of computers for this purpose.



Bethany Jeevan Jyothy students



A Student Assembly



Celebrating Environment Day



Celebrating Student Success at Special Olympics

**To: St Veronica Welfare Committee – APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO ASSIST THE BETHANY FATHERS PURCHASE TEN COMPUTERS TO
 ENABLE DIFFERENTIALLY – ABLED YOUTH TO EARN AN INCOME (TOTAL COST APPROX. Au \$7,000)**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Amount: