



Schizophrenia Research Foundation (India)



Madam Dr M Sarada Menon (1923 - 2021)

Website: www.scarfindia.org
 Twitter: @SRFmentalhealth
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Schizophrenia Research Foundation, SCARF (I) Monthly Newsletter - May 2022

SCARF India is a nonprofit organization based at Chennai, Tamil Nadu, offering a multidisciplinary, comprehensive range of psychiatric care and rehabilitation services. SCARF has been a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center since 1996.

World Schizophrenia Day Events

Every year, 24th of May is observed as Schizophrenia Awareness Day in several countries across the globe. This year we put together several events for raising awareness about Schizophrenia Paul Heritage, Professor of Drama, Queen Mary University of London and Director, People's Palace Projects, Mariana Steffen, Arts Project Manager PIECES UK & Renata Pepl, Program Manager, PIECES, UK visited SCARF for project meeting and also joined us in all the events.

SCARF Cheers in Yellow!!

SCARF India with Kael Theatre organised a street theatre performance on Schizophrenia directed by Mr Jayachandran, at Pondi bazaar, T.Nagar, on May 22, 2022. Young staff members of SCARF and the theatre group put up a very engaging and interactive play attracting around 100 - 150 people. At the end of the play, awareness pamphlets were distributed.



Award for the Best stall in NIPMED

SCARF put up a stall with the products made by our clients in NIPMED on May 24, 2022 in connection with World Schizophrenia Day.

Ms Renuka, supervisor of Vocational Training Centre in SCARF managed the stall and received an award for the best stall.



Introducing Dr M Sarada Menon Award

A new award in the memory of Dr M. Sarada Menon was introduced to recognize the efforts of mental health service users in coping with the challenges of serious mental illnesses and moving forward in life.

5 men and 2 women were chosen for the award this year.

Namma Area - A Hangout Space for Mental Health Service Users

Namma Area, a first of its kind initiative, is a physical space that service users can take charge of and engage in activities they find interesting. This space was inaugurated by the PIECES Team on May 24, 2022.

Service users can use the space for various activities of their choice like reading books, arts, yoga, exercise, music, movies or games.

This facility is available at the SCARF premises in Annanagar and will function between 3pm and 6 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We plan to gradually extend it and make it available on all weekdays. This service is provided free of cost to all mental health service users.



MAITRI awards - 10th Edition

This is an annual event to appreciate the support and care provided by families and friends in taking care of persons with serious mental illnesses and putting them on the road to recovery. This year's award besides honouring family members also included friends and neighbours.

PIECES Team from UK honoured our caregivers. Along with it the young team of SCARF organised emotionally engaging skit about the challenges in caregiving.

Special awards given to Ms. Tanya Dutt, Co-founder and managing trustee of Aatmanirbhar and Ms. P. Karpagavalli, Assistant Director, Clinical Services of SCARF for going beyond their call of duty in reaching out to patients in need.



Theatre Play at Bhavishya Bhavan

Our Residential Center at Thiruverkadu had a very engaging and entertaining morning of theatre, (theatre of the oppressed) games and fun organised by PIECES team along with the EVAM and Training Sideways. All the clients and staffs interacted and participated actively.



ART IMPACTS - building resilience, resistance and recovery through art, at the British Deputy High Commission, Chennai.

SCARF and EVAM entertainment along with British Deputy High Commission organised a lively and interactive discussion on ART and Mental health with Mr Paul Heritage from Peoples Palace Project, Dr R Mangala from SCARF and Ms Sangeetha Iswaran (dancer; research scholar and social worker) as panelists. Mr Sunil Vishnu K from EVAM moderated the session. The session was well attended and covered by press.

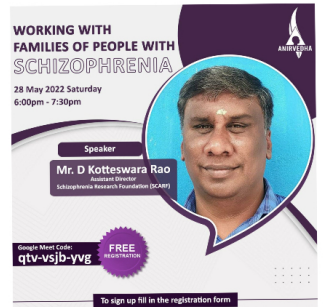


A short news capsule in NDTV: <https://tellmystory.in/take-up-an-art-for-mental-health/>

Webinars

➤ Dr Shantha Kamath spoke in the experience of treating mental health issues in women with HIV and the impact of ARV on mental health. It was a panel discussion on cancer; diabetes, mental health and other non-communicable diseases in an online policy workshop on improving the Sexual and Reproductive Health of women and adolescents living with HIV on 26th May 2022. This workshop was organised by Positive Women Network (PWN+) along with National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and other agencies with the support of UNESCO New Delhi.

➤ Mr D Kotteswara Rao spoke on a talk online on "working with families of people with Schizophrenia" organised by Anirveda Foundation on May 28th 2022.



Community Awareness program in Pudukottai

The Community team of SCARF at Pudukottai organised an awareness program in connection with World Schizophrenia Day for the employees of MGNREGS – Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.



In the Media

Dr R Thara was interviewed by Doordarshan for the show 'Nam Virunthinar' in connection with World Schizophrenia Day.

Do watch on: www.scarfindia.org



Thanks to the Press

All the World Schizophrenia Day events were extensively covered by newspapers, news channels and YouTube channels.



In the Pipeline:

This year International Conference on Schizophrenia is likely to happen on **August 25th - August 27th, 2022**
Theme: Exploring links between research and interventions in Psychoses

Visit www.iconsosscarf.org for more updates

Thank You Donate Today!

Mental health service is a need for all. Help us serve people with mental illness and provide better mental health care for all.

Visit <http://www.scarfindia.org/donations/>

"Battle of the Buffet event as part of Daan Utsav celebrations

One of the biggest Fundraising event planned to be organised for the cause of mental health