

MEMO TO: BOD officers and members
FROM: Dr. Ayya and Thej Kartal
SUBJECT: Youth Forum
DATE: November 20, 2012

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve to carry out the Youth Forum Program described below and appoint a committee member as Program Director to interact with all chapters to implement the program.

BACKGROUND: BOD has been reviewing the VSNA Plan, for several months, as presented by the Planning Committee. As a result, we published "Veerashaiva Model Community" in the annual convention at Palo Alto.

Youth Forum is an important of this initiative. The following Youth Forum Program creates the much needed space for youths to become active in VSNA.

YOUTH FORUM PROGRAM

Our youths have been demanding for VSNA to present them our faith Veerashaivism as connected to their life in N America. We have identified " Kayaka and Dasoha" aspects of faith, which connects effectively to our youths. In N America, volunteerism and charity are well recognized in daily life. Therefore, the concept of Dasoha in Veerashaivism fits well with the main stream values.

The Program Director will work with the chapters to promote the Youth Forum Program; and identify a Youth Forum Leader in each chapter to carry out local projects.

YOUTH PROJECTS AT THE CHAPTERS

PROJECT 1: FREE HEALTH CLINICS

The chapter will encourage doctors in the chapter to donate their time to conduct the clinic and the youths can provide all the leg work. Periodical clinics will be conducted in designate camps where free health check-ups are conducted.

PROJECT 2: TEACHING DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN

This project is well suited to our community which is over flowing with educated people. It is necessary to investigate local community service agencies which are active in this area. Both parents and youths work side by side on this project resulting in parent/youth bonding.

PROJECT 3: FEEDING THE HOMELESS

This activity is well recognized all over. Local charity organizations and churches will help us identify opportunities for us in this area.

PROJECT 4: CANINE VISIT

It is accepted that dogs contribute to emotional health of humans.

Certain hospitals encourage compassionate citizens to take their dogs to visit needy patients. Our youths love this project. In this project we need to connect dog owners with the designated hospitals

THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES HELP YOUTHS, AND ALSO PARENTS, TO INTERNALISE OUR FAITH. PARENTS WORKING TOGETHER WITH YOUTHS WILL CREATE MUTUAL BONDING; THEREBY YOUTHS WILL GRADUALLY ASSUME LEADERSHIP ROLES.