

REV. SR. THECLA CAMACHO – Foundress and Former Head, Department of Social Work, Stella Maris College, Chennai.



Rev. Sr. Thecla instituted the Shanthi Bhavan, the Stella Maris College Welfare Centre in 1954 – with numerous activities in the campus for children, youth and adults from the lower socio-economic background, such as a Day Care Centre, Sponsorship program, night schools, nutritious meal schemes; counseling, tailoring and field work training for Social Work students rendering yeomen services for many decades. This institution has been reorganized now as SMC DRIVE (the Stella Maris Centre for Development of Resources for Inclusion and Vocational Enrichment) offering many services for the students and the community.

She was a knowledgeable academician and practitioner. She demanded proficiency and professionalism. She was also known to be a gentle, caring, meticulous and very hardworking person, dedicated to upholding the dignity of the human person.



Shanthy Bhavan

In keeping with the changing needs of the society the Centre has now realigned its activities renewing itself as Stella Maris Centre for Development of Resources for Inclusion and Vocational Enrichment- SMCDRIVE.



Stella Maris Centre for Development of Resources for Inclusion and Vocational Enrichment- **SMCDRIVE**



The Centre was inaugurated on October 27, 2015.

VISION: Empowering poor and disadvantaged individuals, families and communities towards fostering an inclusive and just society.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CENTRE ARE:

- To provide basic Counselling and Clinic services
- To link resources with people by providing appropriate referral services
- To train and equip volunteers with basic helping skills
- To offer livelihood skills/training programmes for women, children and youth
- To provide education and support services for children.
- To provide support services for the elderly
- To develop support groups for families in keeping with the changing trends in family and society.
- To collaborate with Government and Non-Government Organizations in executing development programmes that enhances people's well-being.

BENEFICIARIES- We work with women, children, adolescents, youth, transgenders, the differently-abled, students and the nearby communities of the College namely Thiruvikakudirapu, M.K.RadhaNagar, GangaikaraiPuram, S.S.Puram, Nakeerannagar, and MKR Nagar.