

Subject: Swami Aradhana Day - SOULS update April 24, 2020

Sent: Friday April 24, 2020

Sairam Dear SOULS members,

We trust you and your families are staying safe during this COVID situation.

Since the last updates from the General body meeting in Jan 2020, with Swami's grace we made more progress towards our vision to create Prasanthi Dham in Dallas. In tribute to our dear Lord, on this Aradhana day, we are pleased to provide you with the following SOULS' updates and offer them at His divine feet.

ADMINISTRATION

SOULS Mission:

Establish Prasanthi Dham, a spiritual and community center in North America to promote the message of Sri Sathya Sai Baba for individual transformation and service to the community. A spiritual center where Sai Devotees can feel emotionally closer to Prasanthi Nilayam.

SOULS Organization updates:

We welcome the following new officers to SOULS team.

- Dr. Vijay Nama & Dr. Raj Natarajan joined as Advisors to SOULS Board of Trustees
- Mrs. Aruna Sampath joined as Mission Coordinator to SOULS Executive Committee

Support in other functional areas:

Our sincere gratitude to the following individuals who are helping in different functional areas of SOULS project.

- Paddy Padmanabhan, who is instrumental in building Sathya Sai & Shirdi temple facilities in Ohio and served in key organizational positions in SSIO, is guiding and consulting with us on project execution
- Prof. Sudhir Bhaskar, Honorable professor of Sathya Sai Institute of Higher learning, is guiding us on infusing spiritual aspects to SOULS project
- Mahidhara Surendra, who has general construction and contracting experience with Architecture background has been guiding us through the building construction process
- Mamta Amin, Geetha Anand, Pavithra Karthik, Manisha Chavva, and Rohit Rao, have been spending several hours in creating the building design and land layout.
- Chandrashekar Vishweshwara, helping with SOULS website
- Malini Ratnam, helping create a marketing and awareness strategy for SOULS purpose and vision

SPIRITUAL SADHANA – HRIDAYAVASI SAI

Before we install Swami in the Prasanthi Dham, we need to install Him in our hearts – with this inspiration, Mrs. Aruna Sampath took the responsibility of leading this effort to materialize Prasanthi Dham that already exists on higher realm.

With current situation, propagation of the essence of this program is already happening through multiple on-line devotional sessions as facilitated by SSIO. More details will follow as we pass through the time.

BUILDING ACTIVITIES

- Meeting multiple vendors in the areas of – Architects, Civil and Structural engineering consultants. We are seeking and receiving their scope of work and bids.
- We are in the process of finalizing these vendors.
- Weekly deliberations on building plan and land layout is happening among SOULS building team. A miniature model with balsamic wood is created. A similar effort is underway to create a CAD based 3D- model for a better visualization of the building.
- Initiated the process of pre-construction meetings with City of Plano; it is rescheduled pending COVID situation.

FINANCE

- ACH debit module is added to the SOULS' bank account.
(ACH stands for Automated Clearing House, a U.S. financial network used for electronic payments and money transfers. Also known as “direct payments,” ACH payments are a way to transfer money from one bank account to another without using paper checks, credit card networks, wire transfers, or cash)
- This will make the members' contribution simpler and an online process. It also allows for a monthly/periodic contributions.
- Tax filing for 2019 is in progress

WEBSITE / COMMUNICATIONS

- A new web domain for SOULS is created and activated. Please visit www.saioutreach.org

SOULS OFFICERS

If you have any questions, suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the SOULS EC officers.

- Sarma Gunturi - President, Board of Trustee
- Srinivas Somisetty – Central Coordinator, Board of Trustee
- Jagadish Upadhyay – Fiscal Coordinator, Board of Trustee
- Dr. Vijay Nama – Advisory Board of Trustee
- Dr. Raj Natarajan – Advisory Board of Trustee
- Aruna Sampath – EC Member, Mission Coordinator
- Saman Illangasanghe – EC Member, Operations Coordinator
- TBD – EC Member, Communications Coordinator
- TBD – EC Member, Finance and Accounting

We appeal to all of you to be part of this “Once in our lifetime” project with your help where you can make this project move forward.

Thank you

Sincerely

SOULS Executive Committee