Amma Fact Sheet

Full Name: Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi

Description: spiritual leader and humanitarian

Born: 27 September 1953

Place of Birth: Parayakadavu, Alappad Panchayat, Kollam Dt., Kerala, India

Language: Malayalam

No. of People Embraced: 36 million

Programs Conducted in: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Dubai, England, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritius, Reunion, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, USA

Main Positions Held:
Founder, Embracing the World
Founder & Chairperson, Mata Amritanandamayi Math
Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University
Founder, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences (Amrita Hospital)

Awards Bestowed:
Fashion4Development "Medal of Honor" (New York, 2015)
Kavithilakam Pandit Karuppan Award (Kerala, 2014)
Doctorate of Humane Letters from SUNY (Buffalo, 2010)
Prix Cinéma Vérité (Paris, 2007)
James Parks Morton Interfaith Award (New York, 2006)
Philosopher Saint Sri Jnaneswara World Peace Prize (Pune, 2006)
Mahavir Mahatma Award (London, 2005)
Centenary Legendary Award of the Int. Rotarians (Cochin, 2005)
Gandhi-King Award for Non-Violence (Geneva, 2002)
Karma Yogi of the Year (*Yoga Journal*, 2002)
Care & Share Int. Humanitarian of the Year Award (Chicago, 1998)
Hindu Renaissance Award (*Hinduism Today*, 1993)

International Addresses:
2015: UNAI Conference on Tech. for Sustainable Development (New York)
2014: Joint Declaration of Religious Leaders Against Modern Slavery (Vatican)
2014: Conversations on Compassion (Stanford University)
2013: 100 Birth Ann. Celebrations of Sw. Vivekananda (New Delhi)
2012: United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (Shanghai)
2009: Inauguration of Vivekananda Int. Foundation (New Delhi)
2008: Summit of the Global Peace Initiative of Women (Jaipur)
2007: Cinéma Vérité Film Festival (Paris)
2006: James Park Morton Interfaith Awards (New York)
2005: Rotary International, India (Cochin)
2004: Parliament of the World's Religions (Barcelona)
2002: Global Peace Initiative of Women Rel. & Spiritual Leaders, UN (Geneva)
2000: Millennium Peace Summit, UN (New York)
1995: Int. Celebrations at the 50th Anniversary of the UN (New York)
1993: Parliament of the World's Religions 100th Ann. (Chicago)

Homes constructed:	More than 47,000 in 75 locations throughout India
Total resources dedicated to disaster relief since 2005:	$75 million U.S.
Scholarships for poor:	More than 50,000 worldwide
Trees planted:	More than 1 million (part of UN's Billion Tree Campaign)
Free medical for poor:	More than 4.1 million since 1998
Poor fed annually:	10 million in India, 150,000 in U.S.
Pensions for poor:	100,000 throughout India
Children taken care of in orphanages and children's homes:	500 in orphanage (India) & 150 in children's home (Kenya)
Poor women helped to start home businesses:	more than 100,000 across India in more than 6,000 groups
Official Websites:	www.amma.org
	www.facebook.com/MataAmritanandamayi
	www.embracingtheworld.org
	www.amritapuri.org
	www.amma-europe.org
	www.aimshospital.org
	www.amrita.edu

*Embracing the World is a global network of charitable projects conceived by the Mata Amritanandamayi Math (MAM), an India-based non-governmental organization with special consultative status to the UN's Economic & Social Council and the UN's Department of Public Information.

Humanitarian Overview of the Mata Amritanandamayi Math / Embracing the World

The Mata Amritanandamayi Math (globally known, with its sister organizations, as Embracing the World) exists to help alleviate the burden of the world's poor through helping to meet each of their five basic needs—food, shelter, healthcare, education, and livelihood—wherever and whenever possible. MAM is especially focused on helping to meet these needs in the aftermath of major disasters. Augmenting these efforts, it works in the fields of environmental conservation and sustainability.

I. BASIC NEEDS: FOOD
- Feeding 10 million people annually in India; distributing milk, rice and other items to tribal areas
- Amma's Kitchen in 50 cities serves more than 150,000 people annually in North America
- Feeding-the-hungry in Mexico, Costa Rica, France, Spain, Kenya, Brazil, Slovenia, Australia
- Working to provide clean drinking water and sustainable agricultural solutions for 101 villages in India.*

BASIC NEEDS: SHELTER
- Constructed more than 47,000 homes for the homeless in 75 locations throughout India
- Relocation of slum-dwellers into 1,600 clean, new apartments in Pune and Mumbai
- Orphanage for 500 children in Kerala and children's home serving more than 150 in Nairobi
- Four care-homes for the elderly in India
- Providing new clothing for more than 400,000 people in poverty annually
- Working to provide proper homes, community centers and street lights in 101 villages throughout India.*

BASIC NEEDS: HEALTH
- Constructing 2,000-bed Amrita Hospital in Delhi NCR
- 1,300-bed Amrita Hospital, with 43 specialty departments, provides free care to poor
- Five satellite charitable hospitals
- In total, MAM has provided totally free care to more than 4.1 million people since 1998
- House calls for pain management
- Cancer hospice in Mumbai and clinic for people with HIV & AIDS in Trivandrum
- Cataract Surgeries, White Canes for Blind Children and Medical Camps in Kenya
- Treating Preventable Blindness in Mexico
- Organ Transplants for People in Poverty
- Working to train health-workers and to conduct medical clinics at 101 villages throughout India.*

BASIC NEEDS: EDUCATION
- Providing values-based education to more than 100,000 students at 75 institutions across India, including the No.1 globally ranked Private University in India, the five-campus Amrita University
- Award-Winning Adult Education: Helping tribal populations achieve Fair Trade through literacy
- More than 50,000 scholarships worldwide – keeping children in school in India, Japan, Haiti, Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia and Spain
- After-school tutoring for tribal children and slum-dwellers
- Schools for the differently-abled and school for hearing impaired
- Working to provide scholarships, literacy through tablet technology and tutoring for 101 villages throughout India.*

BASIC NEEDS: LIVELIHOOD

- Empowering 100,000 women via start-up capital, vocational education and access to microfinance opportunities with government-regulated banks
- Pensions for 100,000 people including widows, women in poverty and people with disabilities
- Traditional Arts School and Industrial Training Center
- Vocational Training Center in Nairobi gives young adults tools to break free from poverty
- Training women to build toilets for themselves and their communities
- Computerized vocational training and life-enrichment education for thousands of women annually via more than 30 centers throughout India, as well as through our 101 villages program.*

II. EMERGENCIES

- Puttingal Temple Fire (2016): Rs. 10.5 million in financial aid to victims and their families
- Chennai Floods (2015): Provided evacuation help, food and medicine as well as Rs. 50 million donation
- Nepal Earthquake (2015): Food, blankets and shelter and 2 tons of medicines
- Jammu-Kashmir Floods (2014): $4 million in relief with focus on house construction
- Typhoon Yolanda, Philippines (2013): $1 million in aid
- Uttarakhand Flash-Flooding (2013): $10.7 million in aid
- Kerala Landslides & Boating Accident (2013): Rs. 100,000 given to bereaved families
- LPG Tanker & Fireworks Factory Explosions (2012): aid packages to families of dead and injured
- Japan Earthquake/Tsunami (2011): $1 million for education of orphans
- Haiti Earthquake (2010): Medical supplies, shelter materials, scholarships
- Floods in Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh (2009): $10.7 million relief package including medical care, food, supplies and 1,000 homes for the displaced
- Cyclone Aila, West Bengal (2009): Medical care, food and supplies
- Floods in Bihar (2008), Gujarat (2006), Mumbai (2005): more than $1.5 million in medical aid, food, supplies and shelter
- Hurricane Katrina, USA (2005): $1 million U.S. to Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund
- Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004): $46 million in relief (built 6,200 tsunami-resistant homes, 700 new fishing boats and an evacuation bridge, provided vocational training for 2,500 victims).
- Earthquake, Gujarat (2001): three villages rebuilt from ground up (1,200 homes)

III. ENVIRONMENT

- Donated $15 million to the Namami Gange -- Clean the Ganges Project (2015)
- Currently doing $15 million worth of toilet construction and other environmental efforts in Kerala
- Member Organization of the UN Billion Tree Campaign: over 1 million trees planted worldwide
- Innovative waste management with comprehensive recycling and composting at institutions
- Clean India, Beautiful India: Cleaning drives in cities, temple grounds, rivers, parks, etc.
- Environmental Awareness Campaigns, including the online InDeed Campaign for Nature
- Supporting 10,000 impoverished people to grow organic vegetables on their own land
- Sustainable Communities: Permaculture at our centers worldwide
- Providing solar- and hydro-power solutions for rural villages

IV.   RESEARCH

- Researchers at Amrita University are innovating new uses for existing technology and inventing new products and approaches to solving some of the world's most pressing problems.
- Human-computer interaction for everyone: Pushing technology's envelope to embrace the poor
- Education everywhere: Virtual laboratories to level the playing field
- A-VIEW: Cutting-edge, open-source distance-learning platform
- Amrita RITE: Tablet-based learning in remote communities
- Creating and Deploying Wireless Technology for Detecting Landslides in Kerala and Himalayas
- Fighting an epidemic with biotechnology: Innovating low-cost solutions for diabetes care
- Innovative energy technologies for rural villages
- Working to deploy mobile technologies for health and empowerment in 101 rural villages*
- Providing Internet signal to fishing boats 45 km past normal reach for improved safety
- Vulnerability Mapping for India's Women
- Centre for Gender Equality & Women Empowerment with UNESCO Chair being established
- New Method for 30-minute cancer detection and other Nanotechnologies for health

* These are all part of the MAM's Amrita SeRVe (Self-Reliant Villages) Programme to make 101 villages throughout India self-reliant, launched in 2013.