

NATS Launches Helpline

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North America Telugu Society (NATS) in an event today launched the "HELPLINE" to better help the Telugu community in North America through its' portfolio of services. The primary objective of NATS is to address the needs and concerns that affect the everyday lives of Telugu people in North America. One of the major initiatives to achieve this goal is the Helpline for Telugu people. Helpline has been established in an effort to alleviate the current pressing concerns of Telugu people in North America.

Help Line was launched by NATS President Mr. Ravindra Madala during the Keeravani Musical Concert in Union Town, New Jersey on Saturday, July 25, 2009. The concert was organized by Mr. Vijay Annappareddy of Pharma Care and Mr. Ganesh Indukuri of Tolly2Holly to raise funds for a primary care building in the village of Ponnekallu in Guntur District.

Telugu people needing help can contact NATS HELPLINE using an easy to remember toll free number "1-888-4-Telugu". They can also submit request for help from the NATS Website at <http://www.natsworld.org/helpline>. All requests will be logged into an online system, managed by the respective teams of volunteers and accessible to the requestors for status.

Current services offered include:

Accident/death support: to help the victims of unfortunate incidents and their families with the necessary financial and/or logistical support.

Career assistance: to help Telugu people find jobs in case of job loss, provide training to equip them with the necessary skill set and more to enhance careers.

Immigration assistance: to provide guidance to people impacted by the economic downturn and the recent changes in immigration.

NATS is also working on adding more services in the near future, which include domestic violence support, medical assistance, student assistance, family services Telugu language promotion, woman advancement, etc.

President of NATS Mr. Ravi Madala said "we are pleased to launch the helpline ahead of the target date of August 15th announced during America Telugu Sambaralu in P.O. Box 810096, Boca Raton, FL 33481-006, e-mail: info@natsworld.org

visit sambaralu.org for information on America Telugu Sambaralu Orlando. We are able to do that only because of the enthusiastic volunteers across North America that came forward to contribute to this initiative. Special thanks to the director of help line Vijay Reddy and team members Anil Boppudi, Ramakrishna Putumbaka, Sridhar Kesani, Bertrand Yella, Prasanna Yadav and Srinivas Koneru for their efforts to launch the help line ahead of time."

Secretary of NATS Mr. Srinivas Koneru said "NATS is building the infrastructure that will connect those that need help with those that are willing to help, which will enhance the lives of Telugu people in North America. NATS will provide a platform that will enable compassionate Telugu people to create valuable services and is flexible enough to address the ever changing needs of the community."

The event was graced by New Jersey Congressman Mr. Upendra Chivukula, NATS Chairman Dr. Ranakumar Nadella, NATS President Mr. Ravindra Madala, TANA Foundation member Harish Koya, ATA Board of Trustee Rajeswar Reddy Gangasani, TFAS President Damu Gedala, TLCA President Venkat Mutyala, TLCA Secretary Siva Muthiki, TAGDV President Saroja Sagaram, UTAA President Dharma Reddy, TAGDV Joint Secretary Lalitha Setty, a prominent local businessman Dr. Desu Gangadhar and India Overseas Congress Secretary Mahesh Siladi.

Congressman Upendra Chivukula congratulated NATS for launching the helpline and said that the helpline is very much needed by the Telugu community in New Jersey. Dr. Desu Gangadhar and Vijay Annappareddy announced that they will provide medicines to people without insurance when they contact the helpline.

If you have suggestions on other valuable services or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact NATS at info@natsworld.org.