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Case Study

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The Ayurvedic Child and Adolescent Care Center

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Abstract

The Ayurvedic Child and Adolescent Care center is a first of its kind center, which provides ayurvedic treatment that harmoniously blends with occupational therapy, learning and speech therapy, clinical yoga, psychology etc. for mental and physical issues of children and adolescents up to the age of 20 years apart from acting as the main center of the project called Spandanam. The popularity of the center spread far beyond the confines of the state. Dr. Sreekumar Nampoothiri who is the brain behind the center tried to establish the center as an independent institution but was facing challenges from lack of support, resource and budget constraints. The policies of the government were also working adversely in accomplishing his vision of the center. Since the center was catering to disabled children, it was very different from regular government initiatives and hence required differential treatment than other healthcare initiatives. The case elucidates the daily workings of the center along with impacts of employment policies, agency support and policy paralysis that challenged its continued existence.

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