

Anne Ferrer Essex, England, 1947

Anne Perry began working as a reporter for Indian magazine "The Current" in 1965. Three years later, she met Vicente Ferrer during an interview and was stirred by his philosophy and work for the disadvantaged communities in Maharashtra. In 1969, she gave up her work as a journalist to start fighting poverty with Vicente Ferrer and along with two other volunteers, and they co-founded the Rural Development Trust (RDT). In 1970, Anne Perry and Vicente Ferrer married.

Anne started spearheading the interventions during the 1970s when the conditions in the Anantapur district were severe and drought consequences included extreme poverty, malnutrition, unemployment, illiteracy and worsening health conditions. She designed and implemented programs with a focus on children, women and persons with disabilities, as well as in community health and hospitals. Later she was involved in programs with a focus on ecology, livelihoods, and habitat.

Anne has been residing in India for almost 60 years and is currently an Indian citizen. During her 50 years of experience in the developing world she has received several prizes such as the Jamnalal Bajaj 2015 award for the development of women and children, the Hamsa Award 2015 given by the Andhra Pradesh Government for her contribution to rural development, and the Robert Burns Humanitarian Award received in Scotland in 2018.

Anne Ferrer is now the Executive Director of RDT.