

Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project

PROJECT UPDATE



August 2018



SRI LANKA DISPLACED CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

In January 2018 we launched the Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project. This newsletter contains general updates for the project as well as some information about some additional work that we are involved with in Sri Lanka outside of the project.

The major objective of the project is:

To support and empower displaced children and young people through quality education (primary, secondary and tertiary), improved healthcare, adequate subsistence (food, clothing, accommodation, water, sanitation and recreation), a safe family-like living environment, and ongoing developmental support (physical, emotional, mental and intellectual).

This project has three main goals through which the major outcome will be achieved.

Goal one is to have a functioning farm that contributes to the ongoing sustainability of the project. The outcome of this goal will be to have a fully functioning farm with crops and animals that will provide more funds to decrease the dependency of the project on outside funding.

Goal two is to establish a Vocational Training Centre that runs short courses to train and empower young people as they transition to independent life. The outcome is that young people are provided with an opportunity to gain valuable skills that will increase their employability and livelihoods, and decrease their overall dependency on the homes.

Goal three is to empower displaced and disadvantaged Sri Lankan children through education, developmental support and a safe living environment. The outcome of this goal is that the children and staff thrive

in a family-like environment, with sound care, support and education opportunities.

We have been able to secure tax deductible benefits for this new three year Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project thanks to our partnership with Global Development Group (GDG).

If you would like to donate towards the Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project with the benefit of tax deductibility please follow the instructions below.

Step 1: Direct Bank Deposit (online)

Direct Deposit tax deductible donations can be made using the following details.

Account Name: Global Development Group

BSB: 064118

Account Number: 10200094

Reference: e.g. J. Smith J982N

Please make sure you include your initials

(e.g. J. Smith), followed by **J982N** in the reference section so GDG can trace your deposit.

Step 2: Email GDG your donation details

Email info@globaldevelopment.org.au with the following details.

- a) Your name and address
- b) Amount and date of donation
- c) Project number - **J982N**

GDG will send you a receipt for your tax deductible donation.

If you would like to contribute to the Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project on a regular basis you will need to set this up with your bank and then let GDG know that it will be a recurring donation.

We would like to thank everyone for your support towards the work in Sri Lanka. Enjoy reading through the following updates for the project.



GENERAL UPDATE

In the first six months of the project we have been focusing on raising funds for our children's homes and farm. Over the next two and a half years we have a lot of building and maintenance work that we would like to complete so we need to gather adequate funds in order for these goals to eventuate.

At the time of our first project booklet in April 2018 we had 21 girls and 13 boys under our care. Since that time one girl and one boy have returned to their families. At the time of this newsletter we have 21 girls and 15 boys under our care. One new girl has joined the girls' home and three new boys have joined the boys' home.

Three of our older children, one girl and two boys (pictures above), are busily preparing for their high school exams which will take place this month. These three young people

have been in our homes for a significant number of years - one since 2005, one since 2007 and one since 2013. Although we have not set up our Vocational Training Centre yet, we are still committed to supporting each of these young people as they enter into tertiary education. We will continue to support them until they are self-sufficient.

Two of the main needs within our children's homes at the moment are finding a proper English tutor to teach in both of our homes and finding a new male cook for our boys' home. All of the children have a need to learn English so a proper English tutor is of great importance. It is also one of the aims within our project to provide proper English classes to all of our children.

We have a lot of work that still needs to be done over the next two and a half years and we are looking forward to all of the progress that will be made.

BOYS' HOME REPAIRS

On our boys' home property we have a second building in addition to the main house where all of the boys stay. This second building contains the kitchen, dining and study area.

We noticed that the roof on this structure had become badly damaged due to bad weather and old age. The need for a new roof was evident.

As you can see from the pictures above, the bulk of the repair work on the roof is now complete.

The building still needs a bit of additional maintenance work which will be completed by our children's homes' manager and some other workers. However, the main work on this building is now complete and can be used by the boys and the staff.

SEWING CLASSES

During the month of August three ladies from Adelaide, Australia will be travelling to our children's homes to conduct sewing classes with our girls' home staff and girls.

The ladies will run a six day sewing workshop that will provide the women staff and girls with basic introductory sewing skills.

One of the aims of our future Vocational Training Centre is to provide a sewing course for young women coming out of our girls' home. The sewing workshop that will be held in August will give participants a taste of what is involved in sewing and will provide us with some insight into how a tertiary sewing course may be run and received in the future.

We are excited to hear a report of how the sewing workshop goes.



ADDITIONAL SRI LANKA NEWS OUTSIDE OF THE PROJECT

In addition to the children's homes, Door of Hope International also has a preschool in Sri Lanka. This preschool is not included in the Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project and is therefore not eligible for tax deductible donations through Global Development Group.

This year there are approximately 20 children enrolled in the Door of Hope International Preschool which is located in Vavuniya in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.

The preschool is located on a large property with two buildings. The first building is a large house that was originally built as an additional children's home. However, local government authorities decided that this

could not be used as a children's home so it was changed into a preschool. This preschool has been running for several years now.

Up until the beginning of this year the front of the large house held the preschool. Classes were held in the large open living area and one of the front bedrooms. The remainder of the house consisted of the preschool bathroom, rooms for storage and rooms for offices.

All of the pictures above with the children and a teacher were taken in the original preschool building.

In the first few months of 2018 our preschool faced pressure from the local government who requested for the preschool to be relocated from the large house on the property to the second building.

If we did not comply with the local

government's requests we faced the risk of the preschool closing down.

In order for us to successfully adhere to these requests and to meet government regulations the new preschool building needed some considerable renovation work.

This renovation work is nearing completion. The pictures above show the construction and renovation work that has been done to the new preschool building over the last couple of months. The first picture with the yellow building is what it looked like prior to the work beginning.

The original house on the property will continue to be used for the preschool offices, storage and some bathrooms. In the future preschool teachers and their families may also be accommodated in this house.

In addition to the renovation work that

is being completed on the preschool building, maintenance and repair work has also been completed on the gate that leads into the preschool property.

One of the major needs for our preschool this year has been finding a new teacher. We are happy to report that a new teacher has been found and is a good fit for the preschool and its needs. This new preschool teacher is in her late twenties and is married with one child.

If you would like to donate towards Door of Hope International Preschool you can do so through CRC Missions International. Please keep in mind that donations towards the preschool are not tax deductible. If you would like to donate please contact finance@crcmissions.org.

We would like to thank everyone who generously supports our children's homes and Door of Hope International Preschool in Sri Lanka.

PARTNER INFORMATION

Door of Hope International is a partner for project J982N Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993), an Australian NGO approved by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Tax deductible receipts for gifts over \$2 with a preference for this approved development project will be issued by Global Development Group for project J982N. If funds raised exceed the requirement for this project, funds may be directed to another approved activity.

Please note, no non-development (evangelistic, political or welfare) activities are a part of, or funded by, GDG projects.

For more information about Global Development Group please visit:
www.gdg.org.au

For more information about the project or to donate online please visit:
www.gdg.org.au/InfoJ982N

For more information about child sponsorship please email:
mike@adelaidechristiancentre.com.au



PROJECT VIDEO LINKS

Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project – Goals 1 and 2 Overview
https://youtu.be/winkv_z7Ta4

Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project – Goal 3 Overview
<https://youtu.be/PdlczG6hcGM>

Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project – Long Overview
<https://youtu.be/OxopIPYn1xw>

Sri Lanka Displaced Children Development Project – Short Overview
<https://youtu.be/37Tn7QrgGvA>