



# NEWS

AND CURRENT EVENTS

CHARITY NO.1133461

NEWSLETTER NO.32

## GIVING IN MOTION

Although Serendip runs some long standing projects we are always looking for new schemes to support. These are just some of our latest initiatives.



### COVID-19 SUPPORT

Most countries suffered from the global pandemic some more than others. In an effort to slow down its spread many implemented 'lockdowns' i.e. keeping all but key workers at home beyond essential shopping. In the West Governments ensured that food stores remained open. In other countries however such lockdowns had dire consequences.

In Sri Lanka, a national lockdown started on the 20th March 20 and it affected thousands of poor people (mainly labours & farmers) by removing their meagre income. There was very little Government support on hand. This lack of support was and still is a worry as without any income many have to starve for many days.

Serendip has however been able to supply over 2000 food packages amongst low income families in the north & east of the country. The beneficiaries are mostly day workers (labourers) who lost their only income in the lockdown.

We are very grateful for the donors that made this happen. Most were private individuals but among them was the Tamil Forum of Malaysia.



### ONE OFF PROJECTS

Even in the middle of the Covid pandemic, we have been digging common tube wells for families who have no water in their vicinity. It is so hard to see family members, especially elders, having to walk many kilometres to fetch water. We have also been helping schools with some emergency supplies such as hand basins, protective face masks etc.



### HELP FOR ELDERLY

During the Covid-19 crisis we became aware of the large numbers of elders living in the north & east of Sri Lanka who are having to fend for themselves after their children have left. The children of some of them had disappeared or had been killed during the war. Some others had themselves been disabled during the conflict or are feeble and incapacitated due to their age. These elders are leading a lonely and difficult life. The only income some of them receive is the small amounts of cash the government provides them as poor relief.

We are now running a new project (Help for Elders) which consist of three sub-projects.

1. Provision for Elders. We now supply dry rations to as many as we can afford every other month.
2. Livelihood support. We supply for example livestock such a goat(s), cow(s), chicken(s), or a water pump for farming, to enable them to earn a small income to make them self-sufficient.
3. Meeting immediate Community needs such as repairing wells, building toilets, etc

Sponsor students books & educational material on any of your special occasions

**ANY AMOUNT YOU WISH!**





## BREAKFAST FOR KIDS

Two years ago Serendip put in place a pilot project to ensure that the most disadvantaged under five-year olds living in rural areas in the north Sri Lanka received a breakfast before their pre-school day began.

Missing a breakfast in a child's formative years can leave them ill-equipped to focus on their studies and can stunt their growth & development. So far, we have put in place the necessary facilities to supply a daily school breakfast in nineteen schools but are eager now to massively extend this provision to another twenty schools to reach many more hungry children. Due to Covid-19, our Breakfast for Kids project has been paused for a few months. We will be starting over again in September when the kids are back to school.



## UPCOMING NEW PROJECT

Many students in the north & east of Sri Lanka focus on vocational subjects as they are seen as the most immediately useful. However, there are many professions that will be both rewarding to the individual and the wider community. One such is the law which is a noble and well-paid occupation and can assist fellow citizens who are in need of legal support.

To help make this happen we will soon be launching a new project, namely sponsoring pupils/students to study law. We will help pay for expenses throughout the law course and assist in up-skilling relevant subjects such as English.

Sponsor a child... food & educational material for as little as

**£5 ON WARDS...**

Sponsor one-off  
livelihood small business project

**£250 EACH**



## SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

Although Covid has impacted upon the charity's work we have tried to maintain all our programs regardless. For example, our important Special Needs programme.g.providingspeechtherapy,isnormallyrunby attending special needs units in some local schools in Kilinochchi but has had to be run only in our own centre.

Similarly, parents are taking part in a weekly training program run by professionals, virtually. Simple yoga techniques and physical activities are taught holistically to improve emotional and physical wellbeing for parents and children. These sessions are proven to be a very useful for many parents.



## YOU CAN HELP!

Many of our beneficiaries are poor and struggling and Covid only made matters worse so we do hope you can join with us in delivering these worthy initiatives. We are currently looking for sponsors to support us to help our elder's livelihood initiative but you can give a donation large or small to any of the above projects.



## HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you would like to HELP us in our charitable work why not JOIN our facebook group on

<https://www.serendipchildrenshome?fref=ts>

VISIT our website on <http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com/>

or why not give us a DONATION via <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome>