



NEWS

AND CURRENT EVENTS

CHARITY NO.1133461

NEWSLETTER NO.33

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.



VOCATIONAL COURSES

For young adults, the greatest challenge is finding a job. Serendip may not be able to place them in employment but we can help by providing valuable training opportunities. We particularly focus on helping young adults from low-income families.

We have now run these courses for the last few years including professional tailoring, jewellery making, bridal make-up, cake making and icing. All can lead to full time employment in these fields or can provide some additional income if part-time or even self-employment. In the north & east of Sri Lanka every little bit of extra income can go a long way!



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

ANY AMOUNT YOU WISH!



SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Serendip takes pride in its' Livelihood program where disadvantaged, primarily single-headed families inc. widows, are given the means to earn a living. This could be poultry, goats, crop seeds etc. This program has been very successful, and it has allowed these families to sustain themselves without having to rely upon the charity of neighbours or others.



EXPANSION

We now hope to bring this program to families with Special Needs children. We have begun to collect details of such families in the area of Mullaithivu. We have so far identified 30 families that need support with income generation. The parents of Special Needs children cannot of course go out to work because many of the children need 24/7 care. The best way to support these families therefore is by providing seed 'money' (we usually purchase the items) to start up small businesses. We are also looking into the possibility of training and supporting in a similar way some of the young adults themselves with special needs. This will help them gain semi-independence as well as providing some income for the wider family. All in all, the average cost per family is between £170 to £250. Could you help by funding a family or contributing towards one?

Please contact info@serendipchildrenshome.com.





SUPPLYING SCHOOLS & HOMES

For a long time now Serendip has tried to assist in supporting the education of children in the north & east. Health, education, and literacy are closely interrelated; when children receive a basic education, it leads to healthier families. Children living in poverty come to school without the right equipment, hungry and often sick with low energy.

Providing the necessary tools helps them to focus on their lessons. We Identify such children and provide educational material to them. This can be schoolbags, shoes, and other necessary items. It is not of course the whole story given their poverty, but it is a step in the right direction. Our latest donation of materials was to three schools in the area of Gampola, an 'up-country' district.



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

£5 ON WARDS...



ONE-OFF PROJECTS

Not all Serendip's work revolves around relatively large, long-term and ongoing projects. These smaller scale, one-off forms of assistance range from providing bicycles to schoolgirls (who have otherwise to travel by foot three to four miles every day), to digging wells or tube wells for preschools and in some cases to help families who do not have a nearby water supply at all.



Sponsor one-off livelihood small business project

£250 EACH



NURSE TRAINING

Apart from the creative arts, young women in Sri Lanka are traditionally restricted in the type of fields they can find meaningful employment. For this reason, one of our important and ongoing projects is the sponsorship of nurse training. This year we have committed ourselves to support 12 students in starting a **three-year diploma course in nursing**. Upon completion the students should be able to obtain employment in the local hospitals. Once on the health professional ladder there will be varied opportunities for them build a career in this field.



A MESSAGE FROM SERENDIP'S TRUSTEES

I would like to start by thanking you for all you have done in helping the poor, impoverished, vulnerable and needy Tamils in the North and East of our homeland. Supporters' generosity has made a tremendous difference to many people's lives. You can see all of this on our YouTube channel (Serendip Childrens - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSJdt3Fwv5zoNoMNzv3RJcQ>), our website (<http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com>) and our annual report (sent to you last month). Unfortunately, due to Covid, we have had a dramatic reduction in our funding from Trusts, Foundations, money boxes from Tamil shops and regular monthly contributions from otherwise generous donors.

We are currently £20,000 short this year to carry out the essential work we have been doing for the last 10+ years. If we are not able to make up this shortfall by August 2021 - we will need to cancel some of our projects - such as breakfast for underprivileged school children and support of medicines and food for the elderly.

We are asking you for three things: -

1. If you are not already a donor or you have stopped - please sign-up to provide us regular monthly direct debit payments (details on our website <http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com>).
2. Please pass on this newsletter to as many friends and family as possible and continue to keep our charity front of mind.
3. Please volunteer your time or perhaps put us in contact with someone else who would be keen to help our charity's many activities.

I humbly thank you for all your support:

Chairperson Trisha and the Trustees, Serendip Children's Home



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>