



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION 2020 SOUVENIR PROGRAM



EDUCATION

THE FOUNDATION FOR
A HEALTHY LIFE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 – 7	Penney Family Visit to the Tamil North & East of Sri Lanka: October 2019 (<i>Mark Penney</i>)
8 – 9	Far Away...Yet So Close: Renal Replacement Treatment for Everyone (<i>Dr. B. Tangarajah</i>)
10 – 11	IMHO Projects in the Eastern Province (<i>Dr. K. Arulnithy</i>)
12	Update from New Arrow: Women's Livelihood Development (<i>Rudradevi</i>)
13 – 15	Improving the G.C.E. (O/L) Results in the English Language (<i>D. Sivakumar</i>)
16	IMHO's Unceasing Support to Jaffna Teaching Hospital (<i>Dr. T. Sathiyamoorthy</i>)
17 – 19	Children's Healing Garden (<i>Dr. T. Gadambanathan</i>)
20 – 21	Expression of Gratitude to IMHO by Hearing Impaired Persons (<i>K. Gopalakrishnan</i>)
22 – 23	Message from the Kilinochchi Education and Development Trust (Tamil) (<i>Dr. T. Sathiyamoorthy</i>)
24	Message from the Kilinochchi Education and Development Trust (English) (<i>Dr. T. Sathiyamoorthy</i>)
25	The Contribution of IMHO to Educational Development in Hatton Education Zone (<i>P. Sridharan</i>)
26	Implementation of Reading Groups & Early Child Care Development (<i>IMHO Board of Directors</i>)
27	Nadarajah Foundation Scholarship for Advanced Level Students (<i>K. Punniyamoorthy</i>)
28 – 30	Improving Early Childhood Education & Health (<i>S. Krishnakumar</i>)
31 – 32	Report on COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Work (<i>S. Krishnakumar</i>)
33	Continuous Support in Filling the Gaps of Sri Lanka's Free Health System (<i>Dr. N. Saravanabhava</i>)
34	IMHO-Supported Educational Activities in the UpCountry (<i>IMHO Board of Directors</i>)
35	Update from Mocha Winners' College – Maskeliya (<i>S. Johnson</i>)
36	Update from Mousakella Tamil Vidyalayam (<i>T. Kumaresan</i>)
37 – 38	Update from Theivakande Tamil Vidyalayam (<i>N. Nirmaladevi</i>)
39 – 40	Update from Gartmore Tamil Vidyalayam – Maskeliya (<i>K. Mahendran</i>)
41	Update from Luccombe Tamil Maha Vidyalaya – Maskeliya (<i>S. Viyanie Rose</i>)
42	Update from Bloomfield Tamil Maha Vidyalayam – Maskeliya (<i>N. Parameswaran</i>)
43	A Journey for a Decade with Care, Compassion and Dedication (<i>Dr. M. Aravinthan</i>)
44 – 45	Boosting the Plantation Economy through IMHO Development Projects (<i>K. Vigneshwaran</i>)
46 – 50	Update from Uyirilai – Spinal Cord Injury Association
51 – 52	Construction of a Residential Rehabilitation Center for the Mentally Ill (<i>Dr. S. Sivayokan</i>)
53 – 56	Projects Implemented by Assist R&R in the North and East of Sri Lanka (<i>Dr. V. Sarveswaran</i>)
57	Continuous Healthcare Support Services for Remote Area Populations (<i>G. Krishnakumar</i>)
58 – 59	Reflections on a Brief Time in Northern Sri Lanka (<i>A. Arulanantham</i>)
60	Valuable Support to War-Torn Communities in Mullaitivu District (<i>Dr. Thuvarathipan</i>)
61 – 62	Update from Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation (<i>Dr. J. Ganeshamoorthy</i>)
63	A New Beginning for Deaf Youth in Awassa, Ethiopia (<i>G. Buie</i>)
64 – 67	Photo Gallery



International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)

Mailing Address: PO Box 341466 Columbus, OH 43234

Physical Address: 400 West Wilson Bridge Road Suite 230 Worthington, OH 43085

Tel: (614) 659-9922 Fax: (614) 659-9933

Email: contact@theimho.org

President

Kana Devacaanthan, MD
(Florida)

Vice Presidents

Rajam Theventhiran, MD
(New York)

Kanaga N. Sena, MD
(Connecticut)

Secretary

Sri Nanthakumar, PhD
(Texas)

Treasurer

Murali Ramalingam, CPA
(Ohio)

Directors

Nanda Nanthakumar, PhD
(Massachusetts)

Sujanthy Rajaram, MD
(New Jersey)

Sinnarajah Raguraj, MD
(Maryland)

Thavam Thambipillai, MD
(South Dakota)

Legal Counsel

Ahilan Arulanantham, JD
(California)

June 6, 2020

Dear Friends,

Though we are deeply disappointed that we are unable to host our Annual Convention this year on account of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we do have much to celebrate and many accomplishments to share with you. This past year has certainly had its challenges. Yet, as an organization committed to responding in times of crisis and great need, IMHO is structured to rise to the occasion under such circumstances. With your support and encouragement, we have always found a way to persevere.

Of course, none of this is possible without the dedication, hard work, professionalism and ingenuity of our local partners who strive tirelessly to improve the quality of life for those in need. As always, we are thrilled to share with you these insights and updates from our ground partners who continue to amaze us.

At its core, IMHO is committed to addressing the gaps in society in which people's health and wellbeing suffer. We continue to support and develop the growing network of health service providers across Sri Lanka in particular, though we have become increasingly focused on investing in education in these communities as well. Education is the foundation upon which all social progress and development are based. Investing in education and the youth of today ensures not only a better, healthier and more prosperous future for them, but also of society in general.

As we look to the year ahead and the many challenges it will inevitably hold, we appeal to you for your continued support. Please join us in being a part of the change. The world needs service-driven leadership now more than ever, and IMHO endeavors to be at the forefront of inspiring positive change for Sri Lanka and for vulnerable communities worldwide.

With gratitude,
The IMHO Board of Directors

*IMHO is a registered tax-exempt, 501(c)3 non-profit, charitable organization in the United States (Federal Tax ID #: 59-3779465).
IMHO is a registered Private Voluntary Organization (PVO) with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID),
and a proud member of InterAction.*

www.TheIMHO.org

Penney Family Visit to the Tamil North & East of Sri Lanka: October 2019

By Mark Penney

A little over three years after our previous visit to the North and East of Sri Lanka we touched down in Colombo and left one tubular mode of transport for another – a ubiquitous white minivan – and took our chances with the tuk-tuks, painted trucks, kamikaze drivers, giddy goats and the world's most nonchalant cows. We wove our way eastwards steeped in the gloriously green otherworldliness of it all, adjusting to the spicy sweet assault on our senses with every refreshment stop along the way. It is, evidently, the Tamil peoples' way of having fun with foreigners by blowing their senses with a red hot curry before dropping them into a stupor with a sweet milky tea.

Approximately 24 hrs after leaving our house in the middle of England we arrived in Passikudah – our base for the first two nights and the launch pad for a week of immersion in projects funded through the exceptional benevolence of supporters of IMHO USA and Assist RR.



Day 1

Our access-all-areas journey began on the stunning beaches of Vakaraï – a fishing community decimated by the 2004 tsunami, displaced by the civil war that ended in 2009 and one still a very long way from making a full recovery. Here we welcomed the opportunity to chat with the families who are relatively recent beneficiaries of the boat project we fundraised for in August 2018. We spoke to members of the 25 families who share the 5 IMHO/Assist RR boats now fishing nightly, 75km off Vakaraï's coast, netting considerable payloads on each foray into the darkness. They leave at 6pm in the evening and return at 5am the next morning.



Since 2004 they told us, they've had little work and when they did their earning capacity as fishing boat labourers was capped at 350Rs per day (approx. £1.50). Since having a one fifth share in a boat, engine and nets, their earning capacity is now averaging 3500 Rs (approx £15) per family, per day. A 10 fold increase in their income and an inestimable increase in the life prospects of those families and their children. So what has this allowed them to do? They have bought furniture for their homes, motorbikes for themselves and jewellery for their wives - a detail we were delighted to hear as it highlights a level of comfort they have long since forgotten. In doing so these 25 families alone will have provided a welcome stimulus to the local economy, enhancing their sense of independence and self worth with every rupee exchanged. If we had turned around and headed back to the UK there and then, we would have left very happy.



From here we headed to Sampur to meet with a handful of the recipients of the 320 temporary shelters funded and built by IMHO and Assist RR in the area.

From makeshift foraged dwellings to homes that stand up to the elements, these displaced people have rebuilt their lives in

tandem with their rebuilt homes. They were healthy and happy and very, very grateful.

One woman who fled as a refugee to India and later returned as a displaced person, has impressively capitalised on her homes proximity to the local temple to turn part of it into a shop selling garments she makes beneath her porch. A fine example of when aid gives the first and, often, only leg-up necessary to gift people back the control they crave over their own destiny.



Day 2

Lurching southwards, we hugged the Ampara coastline and handed over two more boats to 10 very grateful families in Tirrukkovil. Here we met and chatted to the wives and children of the fisher men - poignant smiling reminders of the very welcome ripple effect of successful and effective livelihood projects. How joyful a thought it is, after years on or below the breadline, that those children may soon have a bicycle to call their own or the wives may be able to stride out proudly in a new sari. Dignity, we've come to appreciate as a family, is found in the smaller details of our existence.



That afternoon we headed back to Kulmani Base Hospital (North) where Assist RR handed over a phaco machine to the hospital and with that, facilitating the hospital in offering onsite cataract surgeries indefinitely. These extraordinary machines are extraordinarily expensive, so all the credit must go to the single minded determination of Dr. Sarveswaran (Chairman of Assist RR) for picking up two phaco machines at a fraction of the cost in a medical auction in the UK and airfreighting them to Sri Lanka. Who knows how many people's sight will be saved as a result? It is not fanciful to think that the number will run into thousands.

Day 3

Shifting our new base to Vavuniya in the margins of the previous day, we slept very soundly in Sarves' beautiful new venture, the Ananthi Hotel, which is just as well as we had a very early start the next morning to Thalayadi, Jaffna.

Here we handed over a further 8 boats to 4 fishing societies- 2 for Nagar Kovil East, 2 for Nagar Kovil West, 2 for Thalayadi itself and 2 for Vettalaikerni so 40 more families were able to reap immediate benefits. There's a whole lot of fish to catch - offering a whole lot of economic stability in the short term, followed by even greater economic prospects in the longer term. We had great fun witnessing the stoic formalities of the Tamil people during the handover ceremony, losing out to the skitish selfie-seeking excitement afterwards. There are hundreds of languages around the world but a smile speaks them all.





From here we skirted around the Jaffna peninsula as far as Pandattarippu, pondering how close we were to India whilst looking out across the Palk Strait. Here too we had the privilege of engaging with previous beneficiaries of the boat projects and one of the administrators who documents the yields of all the boats in the surrounding fishing villages. The incomes here too were very much more comfortable (up to 45,000 Rs per month, per family) than when the families didn't have their own boats - albeit not to the levels they were enjoying on the south east coast line. When trying to understand why this was the case, two factors emerged as possible explanations. The boats in the north east typically cover a much smaller geographic range and they drop their nets at night and retrieve them in the morning. As delighted as they were with their new found incomes, and as earnest as the pleas were from those who came to ask us for more boats so that they too could benefit - there is, it seems, scope for sharing of best practice when rolling out livelihood projects.



On our way back to Vavuniya that night, we stopped off at a shopping mall in Jaffna having been bullied by our children to buy them a KFC - UK teenager code for anything but rice n' curry. Clearly we have failed as parents in at least more ways than one. The last laugh was ours though as no amount of money or pleading could have bought them a piece of chicken that wasn't spicily 'zingered' for local taste buds. The backdrop to our pitstop was every bit as whimsical - as hordes of western clad, helmet carrying, mobile phone wielding Tamil teens emerged from the latest Bollywood film

(Pikil) a whoppin' and a cheerin' like dervishes on hot coals. This certainly wouldn't have happened in Dr Sarveswaran's youth, growing up in Nelliady! The contrast to our experiences earlier that day could hardly have been starker. The internet is changing Sri Lanka from the inside out, just as it is everywhere else - yet relatively few in the Tamil north and east have the luxury of frivolity.

Day 4

Determined to mock the notion that jet lag was even a thing - Sarves again bounced us out of bed early the next morning to be at Vavuniya District General Hospital for a cataract surgery camp that lasted all day. Rolling so much goodness into one day is food for the soul. We were privileged to witness 30 of the most vulnerable and disenfranchised patients imaginable, entrenched in poverty, and destined for permanent blindness in one or both eyes, all assembled under one roof and cared for as if they were family members by all those who gave their support. The phaco machine used by the saintly Dr. Saga Pathriage (a Sinhalese surgeon who trained in the UK, who gave freely of his time, and was accompanied throughout by his wife Sureka) restored the sight of each patient with the help of his magic hands. The machine was the second of the two donated by Assist RR through Dr



Sarveswaran earlier in the week. Henry Amalraj (also of Assist RR), Sarves and Dr. Nanthakumaran (the Director of the hospital) made sure that all patients and staff were fed, watered and treated with the utmost respect throughout the day.



You'd have to be made of stone to not be moved by how the kindness of a few impacted directly on so many. Not only, as the patients told us, were they excited about seeing the birds in the trees or reading their holy books again, they were also fizzing with the anticipation of resuming their livelihoods as labourers, farmers, gardeners, cooks and child minders for their own grandchildren. Moreover they were, at times, overcome with gratitude for dodging the bullet of irreversible darkness. It was literally enough to make a grown man cry to just be there.

Day 5

Waking to the pat, clap, wallop of fireworks to celebrate Diwali in a Hindu heartland - at half past five in the morning - was different and we were grateful to miss only a few heartbeats. The festivities had begun and so too had our day. That afternoon we ventured into the jungles of the Mannar district on red clay roads that snaked through swathes of rice paddies, coconut and palmyra plantations. Boisterous peacocks, outdone only by streetwise black faced monkeys, mocked our passage and we startled the odd toddy infused local. We were, evidently, the last thing some people expected to see. We were on our way to an off-grid village near Cheddikulam, with 150Kgs+ of clothing on the back of a flat-bed pick up.



The clothing, donated by kind Tamil Diaspora in the UK, was given out as Diwali gifts to babes in arms, very elderly villagers and all ages in between. As ever, that which we might otherwise cast aside in the West is highly prized by those a whole lot less fortunate than ourselves. They were delighted and we saw close-up how easy it is to make someone's day.



Day 6

On our last day 'in the field' we drove from Vavuniya to see for ourselves the extraordinary Malavi Central College Girls and Boys Hostels donated by Dr. Wilam and Vidya Jayaratnam - a fantastic project implemented by Assist RR (Sri Lanka) through donations that benefitted from the UK government's gift aid scheme through Assist RR (UK). If you are ever within driving distance you must go to witness them for yourselves. Currently 78 girls between the ages of 11 and 18 and 28 boys are steeped in an education that would otherwise be lost to them, in a warm supportive environment that is nurturing not just their academic attainment but their development as young

people. It is, quite simply, an inspiring and heart-warming example of what is possible when people make good on the vision and generosity of benefactors like Dr. Wilam and the Jayaratnams. Their kindness has transformed the life chances of every child in their care and of all those to come. They have achieved something very special and entirely deserve every accolade that comes their way.



And so it came to pass – our time rattling around the highways and byways of the war and tsunami effected areas of the Tamil lands culminated with a 3.30 am departure for Colombo. The cows were sleeping, even if the police and army checkpoint personnel were not. We arrived back home a full day later, tired yet enormously grateful to have had the privilege of seeing how truly transformative just some of the joint projects between IMHO USA & Assist RR have been.

You, as supporters of IMHO, have achieved so much already and my family and I are in awe of how much joy and independence your generosity has given rise to. For thousands of primary and secondary beneficiaries your support has so often proved to be only difference that exists between destitution and prosperity, ignominy and dignity, darkness and light... desolation and hope.

Whilst much exceptional, life changing work has been done we have recently seen again that there is still much work to do. All we urge is that the supporters of both charities continue to offer the boards of IMHO and Assist RR the means to transform the lives of people who have a very real risk of being entirely forgotten. Both charities have an extraordinary track record of veritably turning water into wine – delivering exceptional returns on all donations received and maximising the scope and scale of their impact.

Life is not, and has not been, easy for the Tamils of North and East Sri Lanka and without the generosity of IMHO supporters it's clear that for very many, life would be immeasurably harder. Our associations with IMHO and Assist RR have been a blessing for our family and so too have the friendships we have formed along the way. *Mikka nandri.*

Far Away...Yet So Close

Renal Replacement Treatment for Everyone

By Dr. Brammah Thangarajah, Consultant Nephrologist, Jaffna Teaching Hospital

The whole of Sri Lanka, and particularly Jaffna, is far from realizing the dream of delivering Renal Replacement Treatment (RRT- Haemodialysis, Peritoneal dialysis and Transplant programme) for everyone who needs it. Restrictions, rations and reservations have somehow made a stronghold in medical practice in our daily routine, leaving us decades behind the rest of the world, and more importantly with cringingly compromised care.

Current Situation

Haemodialysis is the only RRT option available in the Northern Province. The availability and reach of services are restricted as well. In Jaffna, the Jaffna Teaching Hospital functions as the main centre (with 10 Haemodialysis machines) along with satellite centres in Base Hospitals at Tellipalai, Point Pedro and Chavacacheri (with 3 machines in each unit). Though acute emergency dialysis is provided without compromise, long-term dialysis for maintenance is very much restricted. The number of patients enlisted for dialysis exceeds the number of slots available in a week, resulting in less than one dialysis session per patient on average (which is unacceptable by any standards). Unfortunately, it has resulted in restricting patient access to haemodialysis and rationing of haemodialysis sessions.

Immediate Measures

It's imperative to run the units at their maximum capacity. On an urgent basis, with the help of IMHO and other donors, we made each unit able to function with the maximum number of haemodialysis machines that could be supported by the water treatment RO plant. It has alleviated the crisis situation to a degree, but the situation remains far from a permanent solution. Health personnel shortage is also another limiting factor in expanding the service provision, while designated dialysis staff provision remains elusive as well. Though the Ministry of Health has promised more staff, the importance and urgency of the matter needs to be translated into action on every level through continued perseverance.

Need for Paediatric Care

Currently, Paediatric patients are dialysed amongst the adults. Though few in number, this population is expected to rise in coming years. It is the need of the hour to establish a children dialysis unit in the Jaffna Teaching Hospital with the right focus and being receptive to the sensitivities of the children.

The Way Forward

Expansion of the service provision is the only way forward. Expansion in terms of number, as well as in the modalities of other RRTs. It is unlikely these objectives will be realized in a timely manner with sole reliance on the government sector. Commitment from all concerned parties working in partnership through a recognized platform would kickstart our journey forward together, including the following efforts:



1. The immediate expansion of a new dialysis unit with a minimum of six dialysis machines plus required staff. This could work as a model centre for future expansion and set as an example for what could be provided if we are committed.

2. Provision for Paediatric Dialysis Unit – we need not wait for a paediatric specialist to be appointed and then to start from scratch. Children who are being dialysed now need to be dialysed in the right place where they rightfully belong.
3. Establishment of a Peritoneal Dialysis Unit in the coming six months. Peritoneal dialysis is an emerging modality in the country and is well supported by the Ministry. Minimum infrastructure and adequate training of staff is what lies between us making this a reality.
4. Initiation of Transplant Programme. In the coming six months, we need to take steps to retrieve organs from potential cadaver donors as an initial step and move forward from there to become a transplant centre in the future.

Let's work together for a holistic RRT with all modalities and a motto of "RRT for everyone in need by 2025!"



IMHO Projects in the Eastern Province

By Dr. K. Arulnithy, Consultant Cardiologist, Batticaloa Teaching Hospital

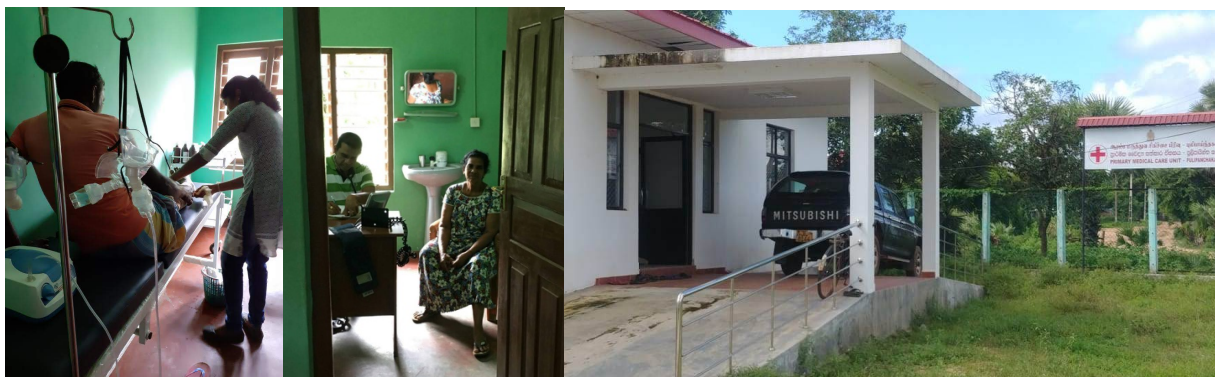
We take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to IMHO during this time of world crisis due to the Coronavirus pandemic. In addition to the special assistance given for 2,000 families in Batticaloa who were the victims of lockdown or curfew, IMHO continued its regular support without interruption.

One of the major projects this past year has been to support peripheral clinics. This effort was started in 2015. Initially, these clinics were started in Panchenai and Koolavadi at Kiran in the buildings built by IMHO during the wartime. Later on, clinics were expanded to Vahaneri and Pulipainthakal. RDHS Batticaloa spent around 2 million rupees to renovate these sites. Fifteen medical officers and nurses with three health assistants work on a rotational basis at these locations. A long-term plan is to hand over these clinics to RDHS Batticaloa. However, due to the lack of human resources, it is getting delayed.



Very soon Panchenai clinic will be taken over by RDHS. At the same time, there are more and more communities in the interior with poor access to healthcare that continue to exist, which may require assistance in the future. The main challenge that they and our health workers encounter is the challenge of transportation due to the poor road system and lack of transport vehicles.

Recently IMHO accepted to put a dental unit in Pulipaithakal, which will help to settle the dental problems of these people at the village level itself.





Some of the other IMHO projects are the Diabetic Center at Kalmunai North Hospital, which continues to run with the assistance of IMHO. The involvement of IMHO with the Cardiology Unit at the Teaching Hospital has been longstanding, as has the continuous support to the primary prevention centers. Our pre intern worker is also paid by funds from IMHO.

Apart from the hospital projects, IMHO supported educational projects in Batticaloa this year. I believe that this needs to be continued and extended. We also hope that IMHO will consider nutritional support for undernourished school students in the future.

And also, I need to thank IMHO for the financial assistance provided to Science Navigators for the development of an math and science online learning program in Tamil which is scheduled to be released soon and will be free of charge.



திருமதி. உருத்திராதேவி ரவி

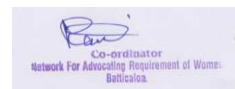
இணைப்பாளர்,

பெண்கள் தேவைகளுக்காக பரிந்துரை செய்யும் வலையமைப்பு, (நியுஅரோ)

‘பெண்கள் தேவைகளுக்காக பரிந்துரை செய்யும் வலையமைப்பு’ என்பது பரந்த அளவிலாக சேவையாற்றும் ஒரு அமைப்பு. அந்தவகையில் இந்த அமைப்பை உருவாக்குவதற்கு பொருமலவிலாக அரும்பாடுபட்டு கஸ்டப்பட்டவர் என்ற வகையில் நான் பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகின்றேன். பெண்களின் மேம்பாடு, பெண்களின் அபிவிருத்தி, அவர்களின் ஆளுமை விருத்தி போன்றவைகளை மேம்படுத்துவதற்காகவே எமது அமைப்பின் ஊடாக முழு மூச்சாக இச்சேவைகளை செய்து கொண்டு வருகின்றேன். அத்தோடு **மண்முனை வடக்கு, மண்முனை பற்று கோரளைப்பற்று கிரான்** ஆகிய பிரதேசசெயலாளர் பிரிவுகளில் உள்ள தொழில் முயற்சியில் ஈடுபடும் பெண்களையும் உள்ளடக்கியதாக குழு அமைக்கப்பட்டு, அவர்களின் பொருளாதார மேம்பாடு தொடர்பாக உதவிகள் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அந்த வகையில் கணவனால் கைவிடப்பட்ட பெண்கள், குடும்பம் தலைமைதாங்கும் பெண்கள், இவர்களை ஒன்றிணைத்து அவர்களின் பொருளாதார மேம்பாட்டிற்காக நெசவு பயிற்சி, மற்றும் மரமுந்திரிகை பதனிடும் சந்தைப்படுத்தல் போன்ற செயற்பாடுகளை முன்னெடுப்பதற்கு முயற்சி எடுக்கப்பட்டது.



இத்தொழிலை தெரிவு செய்ததன் காரணம் எமது மாவட்டத்தில் மரமுந்திரிகை உற்பத்தி அதிகமாக இருப்பதன், இதற்கான சந்தைவாய்ப்புக்களும் அதிகம்.... அதுமாத்திரமின்றி இத்தொழிலின் மூலம் அதிக வருமானத்தை ஈட்டிக்கொள்ளலாம் என்றும், இத்தொழிலை பெண்களுக்கு வழங்குவதன் மூலம் அவர்களின் பொருளாதாரம் மேம்படும் என்ற நோக்கத்திற்காகவே நாங்கள் இச்செயற்பாட்டினை முன்னெடுப்பதற்கு திட்டமிட்டபோது. மரமுந்திரிகை பதனிடும் செய்வதற்கான இயந்திரங்கள் இல்லாத நிலையில் எமது நிறுவனம் இருந்தது அச்சந்தர்ப்பத்தில், **IMHO** என்ற அமைப்பின் ஊடாக **மரமுந்திரிகை பதனிடும் இயந்திரம், தராக, Oven, சீலர்**, போன்றவைகளை எமக்கு கொள்வனவு செய்து தந்தார்கள். இவைகளை முதலீடாக வைத்து எமது தொழிலை ஆரம்பித்துள்ளோம். அதில் தற்போது **03 பெண்கள்** வேலை செய்து அவர்களுக்கான வருமானத்தை ஈட்டுகின்றார்கள். அதே நேரத்தில் எமது நிறுவனத்திற்கான இலாபமாக மூன்று மாதங்களுக்கும் ரூபா 110,000.00 கிடைத்துள்ளது குறிப்பிடத்தக்க விடயம். இத்தொழிலினை சரியான முறையில் முன்னெடுத்து செல்லும் போது எமது அமைப்பு நிலைத்து நின்று சேவையாற்றும் என்ற நம்பிக்கையுடன் முன்னெடுத்து செல்கின்றோம். இதனை வழங்கியமைக்காக **IMHO** நிறுவனத்திற்கும் இதற்காக வழிகாட்டிய நல்லுள்ளங்களுக்கும் எமது நிறுவனத்தின் சார்பில் மனபூர்வமான நன்றிகளையும் வாழ்த்துக்களையும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன்.



திருமதி.உருத்திராதேவி ரவி
இணைப்பாளர்,
newAROW



IMPROVING THE G.C.E. (O/L) RESULTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The contribution of IMHO in increasing the pass percentage of English language in the Division iii of Hatton Education Zone for the past 2 years (2018-2019)

A special project was launched in the Hatton Educational Zone, division iii, Maskeliya area schools to improve the pass percentage in the English language.



Annexure - i

G.C.E (O/L) RESULTS

No Name of school	2017								2018								2019								Increase by	
	A	B	C	S	W	SAT	PASS	%	A	B	C	S	W	SAT	PASS	%	A	B	C	S	W	SAT	PASS	%		
1	St' Joseph Collage	3	8	15	33	68	127	59	46.5	3	9	21	41	67	141	74	52	1	6	26	43	36	112	76	67.9	15.4
2	Ganapathi T.M.V				9	25	34	9	26.5			1	5	12	18	6	33		1		10	18	29	11	37.9	4.6
3	Gouravilla .T.M.V				8	103	111	8	7.2			1	15	90	106	16	15		6	14	97	117	20	17.1	2.0	
4	Nallathanneer T.M.V				4	59	63	4	6.3			1	8	44	53	9	17		3	10	45	58	13	22.4	5.4	
5	Bloomfield T.M.V			4	8	52	64	12	18.8			6	11	69	86	17	20		1	8	15	48	72	24	33.3	13.6
6	Fairlawn T.V	1		3	7	19	30	11	36.7	1	2	2	41	46	5	11			2	5	25	32	7	21.9	11.0	
7	Maskeliya Muslim V			1	4	3	8	5	62.5				3	6	9	3	33		1	2	3	3	9	6	66.7	33.3
8	Luccombe T.M.V			3	7	60	70	10	14.3			5	11	56	72	16	22		2	2	13	38	55	17	30.9	8.7
9	Mocha T.V				6	27	33	6	18.2			3	6	36	45	9	20				8	25	33	8	24.2	4.2
10	Theivakande T.V			1	2	27	30	3	10.0				5	16	21	5	24			1	5	16	22	6	27.3	3.5
11	Mottingham.T.V			1	1	15	17	2	11.8			1	1	11	13	2	15			2	11	7	20	13	65.0	49.6
12	Laxapana No.2 T.V				1	17	18	1	5.6					19	19	0	0			1		19	20	1	5.0	5.0
13	Gartmore T.V			1		15	16	1	6.3				2	27	29	2	7			2	6	20	28	8	28.6	21.7
14	Gangewatta T.V																			3	5	5	13	8	61.5	
15	Mousakellie No.1 T.V																				4	17	21	4	19.0	
16	Theberton T.V																				1	8	9	1	11.1	
Total		4	8	29	90	490	621	131	21.1	3	10	41	110	494	658	164	25	1	11	58	153	427	650	223	34	

The above result analysis shows the comparison of English results in the G.C.E (O/L) examination for the past three years. It is evident that the number of schools which have G.C.E (O/L) classes have been increased and reached to 16 in the years 2019.

In the years 2017 the percentage of pass was 25 % and it was increased by another 5% in the year 2018 with the support of IMHO sponsored English coaching classes launched by the ISA English Mr.D.Sivakumar under the direction of the zonal director of Education.

The IMHO extended their support in the year 2019 to conduct 22 coaching classes and two achievement tests, with this generous support the result was increased by 10% and the pass percentage has reached to 34%. It is a great achievement of this division because out of 16 schools, 4 schools were run even without a single English appointed teacher, On the other hand, in most of the highly populated schools.

The required number of teacher are not available. Therefore, the schools are run with shortage of teachers. Despite these facts, there has been an increase in the English results due to the tremendous support of IMHO, to conduct coaching classes for the selected students that are mentioned in the project proposal.

Annexure - ii

Comparison of results with other divisions

Schools which have shown the most increase from 2018		
DIVISION 1		
S.N	School	INCREASE
9	KUILWATTE T.M.V	47.02%
18	CARFEX T.M.V	27.92%
12	Hornsey T.M.V.	19.95%
17	DICKOYA T.V	19.50%
13	GANESHA T.V	18.90%
11	INJESTRY T.V	16.18%
2	WATAWALA T.V	14.55%
6	SHANNON T.M.V.	11.47%
5	SLGABRIELS B.M.V (T)	7.32%
19	ANNFIELD T.M.V	6.73%
4	ST JOHN BOSCO'S M.V (T)	6.40%
20	ABBOTSLAUGH T.M.V.	2.97%
3	TILLARY T.V.	2.74%
8	MALAIMAGAL T.V.	1.67%
1	HIGHLANDS M.M.V	0.88%
10	KADAWALA T.V	0.28%
14	FRUITHILL T.V.	-0.03%
7	PANMURE T.V.	-25.22%
16	DUNKELD T.V.	-80.13%
15	FORDYCE T.V.	-12.19%
DIVISION 2		
School	INCREASE	
IREBY T.V	34.3%	
KIRKOSWALD NO.2 T.V	25.5%	
NEWVELLY T.V	23.9%	
FETTERASSO T.V	21.7%	
ELBEDDE T.V	20.3%	
BOGAWANNA KILLARNEY T.V	14.7%	
NORWOOD T.M.V	13.2%	
CAMPION T.M.V	12.8%	
ST.MARY'S M.M.V	11.4%	
TIENTSIN T.M.V	6.5%	
HOLY ROSARAY M.V	3.9%	
LOINORN T.V	-4.5%	
ST JOHN DELREY T.V	-7.9%	
BARATHI T.V	-20.2%	
DIVISION 3		
School	INCREASE	
GANGEWATTA T.V	61.5%	
MONTTINGHAM T.V	43.6%	
MASKELIYA MUSLIM V	33.4%	
GARTMORE TV	21.7%	
MOUSAKELLA NO.01 TV	19.0%	
ST.JOSEPH'S TMV	15.4%	
BLOOMFIELD T.M.V	13.5%	
THEBERTON T.V	11.1%	
FAIRLAWN T.M.V	11.0%	
LUCCOMBE T.M.V.	8.7%	
NALLATHANNEER T.M.V	5.4%	
LAXAPANA NO 2 T.V	5.0%	
GANAPATHY TMV	4.6%	
MOCHA M.V	4.2%	
THEIVAKANDA T.V.	3.5%	
GOURAVILLA TMV	2.0%	

The above table shows the increase of results from 2018. According to this data in division-i and ii there are schools with red mark which are decreased from 2018. In the Hatton Education zone, Division iii is the only division which has maintained an increase in all schools with green mark.

Therefore, in conclusion we can say that the coaching classes are a huge success to achieve the target in the schools mentioned in the table.

Mr.D.Sivakumar
ISA (English)
Division – iii
Zonal Education Office
Hatton

IMHO's Unceasing Support to Jaffna Teaching Hospital

By Dr. T. Sathiyamoorthy, Director, Jaffna Teaching Hospital

The Jaffna Teaching Hospital is the only referral hospital in the Northern Province serving a population of 1.25 million. Hence, the service of this hospital is in very high demand. More than 1,000 patients get in-ward treatment each day for various diseases and ailments. On average, nearly 800 patients visit our out-patient department daily, and a further 3,000 patients visit our various clinics every day.

All the service areas are slowly growing with newly appointed staff and by upgrading the equipment system. Hence, offering quality care service is improving day by day. Providing such facilities always comes with its challenges and constraints. We frequently request organizations to support us in addition to the usual government funding. IMHO is an organization that helps us in many ways. Whenever we make requests for human resources deployment in special occasions, requests for equipment whenever we face a time of crisis, or requests for any special service arrangement, IMHO is always quick to reply and support us. This continuous support allows us to run this big institution. Over the last two decades, IMHO has invested millions in our people.

In the recent past, IMHO supported the purchase of 3 dialysis machines. Now, many patients with kidney failures are undergoing regular dialysis without delays or having to wait for long periods.

Currently, the Jaffna Teaching Hospital is managing the COVID -19 related patients as well as regular cases. We are now planning to shift part of our clinic services to new areas of land opposite to the back side of the Hospital.

Still, we are in the planning stages of a Children's Hospital at Inuvil and an Eye Hospital at Ariyalai. Further, we are planning to offer more services at Atchuvely where we are going to get 8 area cards for the Teaching Hospital.

The Hospital needs further support in order to transform this institution and to provide better care to the needy people of this region. I appreciate all members of IMHO and donors for your continuous dedication and commitment to supporting us. Wishing you all the best.



**Children's Healing Garden (Ithamali Siruvar Poonga):
A giant stride towards quality child & adolescent mental health
services in Eastern Sri Lanka**

**By Dr. Thanabalasingam Gadambanathan,
Senior Consultant and Board-Certified Specialist in Psychiatry**

The Background – Pioneers & Partners

The Mental Health Unit at Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa was the first designated mental health unit in the Eastern Province. It was started by my predecessor Dr. M. Ganesan who was working as Consultant Psychiatrist at Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa for almost a decade until he has been transferred to National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Angoda in 2009. During his tenure, Dr. Ganesan was instrumental in establishing many mental health service structures throughout the Eastern Province. The contribution by the International Medical Health Organization (IMHO-USA) regarding development of Mental Health services in general and specially for the Eastern Province is immeasurable.

The Progress – Expansion & Specialization

From 2010 onwards the focus was on establishing designated mental health services tailored to different groups of patients and as part of this agenda weekly outpatient service clinics for children and adolescents were established in year 2010 and named as “Child & Adolescent Assessment & Support Clinics”(CAASC). As the number of children and adolescents increased these clinics were expanded to two clinics per week by year 2012 to ensure the quality of care. In these clinics over time it was evident that there was a notable increase in the numbers of children presenting with intellectual disabilities and neuro-disabilities. It is also understood although there are many institutions that provide basic psychological support, remedial teaching and parental support, most of these centers lack a systematic assessment approach and qualified trained personnel. This led to the establishment of another outpatient services for children in year 2019 and this was named as “Learning & Communication Assessment & Support Clinics” (LCAASC)

The Challenges – Limitations & Difficulties

The expansion of services for children and adolescents this was restricted to outpatient services. All children who was needing inpatient support were admitted to paediatric wards and adolescents were admitted to adult inpatient units. This necessity for designated child inpatient and day care facilities were strongly felt after the Easter Day Disaster in April 2019.

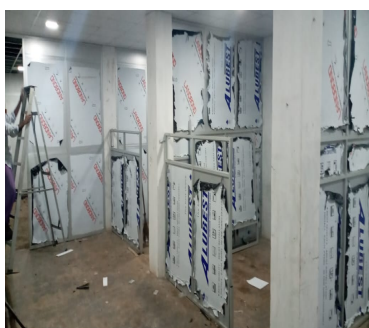
The majority of the deceased (48%) and injured (26%) were children, and we have expanded our services to “day care” for children with direct exposure as well as indirect exposure to the disaster. Most children were initially managed at our liaison unit, in a temporary “child friendly” corner. However soon we realized that the liaison unit was not an ideal place to provide counselling or therapeutic support for children partly due to the limited space and partly it was not “child friendly”.

The Process – Renovation & Recreation

We, from our unit and hospital, were able to find an unused place, an old kitchen that was used temporarily as a storeroom. The need for a “Child Support Center” was informed to Dr. Rajam Theiventhiran, and she with other Board of Directors from IMHO USA readily agreed to provide the financial support for renovation of the identified place. A formal request letter for funding support was sent by Dr. (Mrs.) K. Ganeshalingam, Director, Teaching Hospital who had decided to shift the stored items to a different place at the earliest convenience. An initial estimate amounting to 3.5 million Sri Lankan Rupees was made for a “Child Support Center – a three-roomed structure with spaces for skills assessment and day care support. Fortunately, after the shifting of stored items, we have got a space more than that was included in the initial estimate. This has led to the addition of a space for inpatient unit with attached bathroom and for a nursing station. We are extremely grateful to the board of directors of IMHO for accommodating the new infrastructures. The renovation work commenced around October 2019.



Before renovation



During renovation



After renovation

Despite some challenges, including inclement weather, most of the key renovation works were completed by March 2020. The remaining work, including putting the plaque, was again halted by the Covid-19 situation which prevented the planned formal “handing over”. Pending this, we had conducted around ten sessions for children with neuro-developmental disorders and intellectual disabilities using the therapeutic space. We are hoping to start the child in-patient services once the Covid – 19 threat has subsided and health services can return to normalcy.

The Children’s Healing Garden – Appearance & Structure



View from front (with entrance)



View from the side

DARK ROOM		FINE MOTOR SKILLS LABS	Entrance & Reception
MULTI SENSORY ROOM			
EDUCATIONAL SKILLS LAB		MOTOR SKILLS LAB	AREA-C LEARNING SPACE "Payilakam"
COGNITIVE SKILLS LAB			
	AREA-B SKILL LAB "Thiran Aaivakam"		
SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS LAB			
Toilets & Wash rooms	AREA - A Inpatient Unit "Ithamaliyakam"		Nursing Station

	Areas	Function
A	Ward	Provision of residential child psychiatric care for children
B	Skill Lab	Provision of assessment of skills and support with the improvement
	Multi-sensory room	"Sensory profiling" for children with autism etc.
C	Learning space	For children: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Practicing skills learned ❖ Supported study times for children with repeated / chronic hospital stay For Parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Parental Education ❖ Parental Support Groups

The renovated building has three different designated as areas A, B, C which are depicted in the diagram above. Each component serves different supportive functions to children and their parents (or guardians) with different needs.

The Future – Hopes & Expectations

These added new services will address the following groups of children with different levels of distress and disability. The inpatient facility (“*Ithamaliyakam*”) established will serve to provide services for children needing inpatient care due to the extent of problem, logistical difficulties in accessing services as well as those from challenging home environments. The skill lab (“*Thiran Aivakam*”) will serve in the early identification of children with skill deficits and neuro-disabilities and institute remedial actions at an earlier stage that facilitate a good prognosis / outcome for those children.

The educational space (“*Payilakam*”) will provide multiple learning opportunities for children and parents. Children with chronic physical illnesses who need frequent and or longer hospital stay will be facilitated by “supported learning hours” using this space. This space will be also used by children in inpatient facility and day care to learn and practise skills in groups. Parents will learn management of “challenging behaviours” and aspects of parental management. This space also provide the niche for parent support group programmes for those having children with ADHD, neurodevelopmental disorders, impulsive and attention seeking behaviours and emotional dysregulation. These “learnings” will enrich parents with knowledge, skills and good practices and thus empowering them to be the “cotherapists”.

In Sri Lanka, with the ongoing expansion of subspecialties in the field of Psychiatry few Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists already working in some Teaching Hospitals. Currently designated child and adolescents inpatient facilities are only available in Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children in Colombo. We are hoping that the Children’s Healing Garden will certainly attract new Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrists and thus ensure a higher quality of psychiatric care for our children and adolescents. Undoubtedly, it is **a giant stride towards quality child and adolescent mental health services in Eastern Sri Lanka.**

The Change Makers – Board Members & Supporters of IMHO USA



We express our heartfelt thanks to the President, all Board of Directors, and members of IMHO for this generous support & kind

gesture of good will. We thank Dr. Rajam Theventhiran (Vice President & Board of Director, IMHO, USA) who has constantly been in touch about the progress. Our thanks are due to Mr. Murali Ramalingam (Treasurer & Board of Director, IMHO, USA) who has visited during the renovation process that had facilitated smooth progress. Our gratitude to Eng. Henry Amalraj, President of Assist Resettlement & Renaissance (Assist R&R) and his team for their flexibility,

dedication and perfection in renovation & recreation, that has resulted in a transformation, well beyond our expectations.

We would like to convey our wishes to all the Board of Directors and members of IMHO for the successful completion of another fruitful year. Our wishes for you all to continue the yeoman services and thus “lighting up” the lives of individuals and communities living amidst diverse challenging situations.

Expression of Gratitude to IMHO by Hearing Impaired Persons

*By K. Gopalakrishnan, Patron, Vadamaradchy Organization of the Deaf (VOD)
Nelliyadi - Sri Lanka*

The Vadamaradchy Organization of the Deaf, consisting of more than 200 members, wishes to express their gratitude for the invaluable gifts they received from IMHO. Those two hundred families spread over the Vadamaradchy area come from poor families. All of them live below the poverty line. Though all the parents are deaf, their children are all hearing. Hence, the parents by their endeavor try to educate their children in the hope that at least they could one day come up in their life or may be all to help their parents too. The gifts received from IMHO have helped a great lot in boosting the education of the children.

Gift of Bicycles: Twenty-six bicycles were given to the most needy members of the group. These children had to walk about 2 – 2.5 kilometres to and from their homes every day in order to go to school. By the time they return home, they feel exhausted and may not be able to study their lessons. Now these bicycles are a great boon to them. They have been riding their bicycles cheerfully and are able to concentrate on their studies. They are also using the bicycles to go to the tuition classes, and we are sure they will progress well in their lives. The parents of these 26 children will be forever grateful to IMHO for their invaluable gift.



School Equipment: One hundred children received their school equipment from IMHO as well. All these children were selected from a total of 180 individuals. These children are also from poor families. Some of them did not even have an extra uniform to wear to school. Many of these children were without school bags to carry their books and other supplies. Now they are seen smart with the bags on their shoulders. Some also did not have writing pens, colours, exercise books, paints and other basic instruments. Now they are all well-equipped and go to school smartly and cheerfully. The parents feel happy and supported, and they wish to express their thanks to IMHO for these unforgettable gifts as well.



Plastic chairs for the Organization: Up to now, the organization had to hire plastic chairs for rent for any functions. Once in a month they all assemble for their monthly meeting, where they discuss their day-to-day problems. Besides the monthly meeting, they also have their special functions, where people from other organizations also attend. They have a Christmas party, Saraswathy poojah, Annual general meeting, etc. For all these, they were renting out chairs for which they had



to pay a lot of money in addition to the transport expenses. Now they proudly use their own chairs. Chairs are also given for rent to others and they earn some money by this transaction, and two persons are also employed to handle this transaction. The members of the Vadamaradchy Organization of the Deaf wish to express their heartfelt thanks for these gifts.

Vocational tool kit: A list of electrical, plumbing, painting and masonry tools kit, each worth Rs. 50,000/= were provided to deaf youth as a source of promoting their livelihood development. The four deaf youth who have benefitted will remain grateful for these worthy gifts. They are found very active and happy as their life has been enriched. They get enough orders now and even the public attitude toward them is improving. These four beneficiaries repeatedly express their thanks to IMHO for the valuable gifts they received.



அனைத்துலக சுகாதார மருத்துவ சங்கத்தின் (IMHO) தாயக மக்களுக்கான தொடர்ச்சியான அளப்பெரிய சேவை

—

“காலத்தினாற்செய்த நன்றி சிறிதெனினும் ஞாலத்தின் மாணப் பெரிது” என்கிறது திருக்குறள் அதாவது சரியான நேரத்தில் செய்த உதவி சிறிதாயினும் அதனை சீர்தூக்கி பார்த்தால், அது இந்த உலகத்தை விட பெரியதாக இருக்கும் என்கிறார் திருவள்ளுவர். எமது தாயகத்தில் IMHO காலத்தினாற் மிகப் பெரிய உதவினையே செய்து வருகிறது.

நீரின்றி வாடும் பயிர்கள் போன்று யுத்தம் நிறைவுற்று மீள்குடியேறிய காலத்தில், வெறுமையாக இருந்த வடக்கு கிழக்கு வாழ் தமிழ் மக்கள் மத்தியில் கல்வி வளர்ச்சி அறக்கட்டளையானது தனது பணிகளை ஆரம்பித்தது. ஒரு குளம் பயிர்களுக்கு நீர் வழங்குவது போன்று, வாடிய மக்களுக்கு KEDT யும் தனது பணிகளை முன்னெடுத்தது. குளமே பயிர்களுக்கு நீர் வழங்குவதாக அனைவரும் பேசுவர். ஆனால் அந்த நீரை குளத்திற்கு கொண்டு வருவது நதியே. இங்கே KEDT யை பொறுத்தவரை IMHO ஒரு பிரதான நதி போன்றது. இன்றுவரை தொடர்ச்சியாக எமக்கான உதவியை IMHO மேற்கொள்வதன் ஊடாகவே பாதிக்கப்பட்டு மீண்டெழுந்து கொண்டிருக்கும் தமிழ் மக்களுக்கு உதவிவருகின்றோம். வற்றாத நதி இருக்கும் வரை குளமும் வற்றப்போவதில்லை. குளத்தை நம்பிய பயிர்களும் வாடப் போவதில்லை. அந்த வகையில், IMHO ஒரு வற்றாத நதியே.

யுத்த காலத்தில் மக்கள் தங்களது உணவுத் தேவை உள்ளிட்ட பல தேவைகளுக்கு கடும் நெருக்கடிகளை சந்தித்தவேளை, அவர்களுக்கான உதவிக் கரம் நீட்டிய IMHO அன்றிலிருந்து இன்றுவரை தாயக மக்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கான பல்வேறு உதவிகளை மேற்கொண்டு வருகின்றது. யுத்தத்திற்கு முன், யுத்தத்திற்கு பின் ஆகிய இருவேறு காலப்பகுதிகளிலும் வடக்கு கிழக்கில் IMHO மேற்கொள்ளும் பணிகள் மிக மிக முக்கியமானது..

யுத்தம் நிறைவுற்று எம் மக்கள் நலன்புரி முகாம்களில் இருந்து மீள்குடியேறிய போது, மக்களின் வாழ்வதற்கான நம்பிக்கை கூட பலவீனப்பட்டு தாம் அநாதரவாக்கப்பட்டவர்கள் என்றிருந்த நிலையில் புலம்பெயர் தேசத்திலிருந்து தனி நபர்களாகவும் நிறுவன மயப்பட்டுப் பலரும் கரம் கொடுத்தார்கள். அந்த வரிசையில் IMHO ஒரு முக்கியமான அமைப்பாக இன்று வரை கரம் கொடுத்து வருகிறது.

அந்த வகையில் IMHO நிறுவனமானது KEDT ஊடாக

❖ முல்லைத்தீவு மாவட்டத்திலுள்ள மல்லாவி மகா வித்தியாலயத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள பெண்கள் விடுதியில் தங்கியிருந்து கல்வி கற்கும் மாணவிகளுக்கான மாதாந்த உதவிகள்

❖ மல்லாவி 4ம் வட்டாரத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள பெண்களுக்கான விடுதியில் தங்கியிருக்கும் மாணவிகளுக்கான மேலதிக கல்விக்கான மாதாந்த கொடுப்பனவுகள்.

❖ தரம் 1 இல் கல்வி பயிலும் அனைத்து மாணவர்களுக்கும் பந்தாரிகை, பற்பசை பாடசாலை மட்டத்தில் வழங்கி பாடசாலை ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு முறைப்படி பல் துலக்குவதற்கான பயிற்சி மற்றும் பற்சுகாதாரம் செயலமர்வுகள் நடாத்தப்பட்டு அவர்கள் மூலம் பாடசாலையில் மாணவர்களிடையே பற்சுகாதாரத்தை பேணுதலானது, முக்கியமானதொரு செயற்றிட்டமாக முன்னெடுக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இதன் மூலம் ஆரோக்கியமான ஒரு மாணவச் சமூகம் உருவாகி வருகிறது.

❖ கிளிநொச்சி மாவட்டத்தில் பின்தங்கிய பிரதேசங்களில் ஆங்கில பாட ஆசிரியர்களுக்கான பற்றாக்குறை நிலவியபோது, 25 ஆங்கில பாட ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு கொடுப்பனவு வழங்கி ஆங்கில கல்வியை மேம்படுத்தியது.

❖ முள்ளந்தண்டு வடம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு பல உதவிகளை செய்து வருகிறது. அந்த வகையில் 30 பேருக்கான முச்சக்கரவண்டி வழங்கி வைக்கப்பட்டது. அத்தோடு மேலும் சிலருக்கு குளியலறையுடன் கூடிய கழிப்பறைகள் அமைத்துக் கொடுத்தமை. மேலும் பலருக்கு அவர்களின் தேவைக்கு ஏற்றாற் போல பல்வேறு உதவிகள்.

❖ IMHO நோய்த் தடுப்பு மற்றும் சுகாதார விழிப்புணர்வு கருத்தரங்குகளை நடாத்தி மக்கள் மத்தியிலும், மாணவர்களிடையேயும் சுகாதார விழிப்புணர்வுகளை பேணுதல்.

❖ வருடாந்த இரத்தான முகாம்களை நடாத்த ஊக்குவித்தல். இதன் மூலம் வைத்தியசாலைகளுக்கு, குறிப்பாக கிளிநொச்சி மாவட்ட வைத்தியசாலையின் இரத்த வங்கிக்குரிய இரத்தத்தை வழங்குதல்.

❖ கிளிநொச்சி மாவட்டத்தில் அதிகூடிய மாணவர்கள் கல்வி பயிலும் கிளிநொச்சி மகா வித்தியாலய விஞ்ஞான ஆய்வு கூடத்திற்குரிய உபகரணங்களை வழங்கியமை. இதன் மூலம் கணித விஞ்ஞான பிரிவுகளில் கல்வி கற்கும் மாணவர்களின் கல்விச் செயற்பாடு இலகுவாக்கப்பட்டமை.

❖ பல்கலைக்கழக மாணவர்கள் பத்து பேருக்கான மாதாந்த உதவுத் தொகை வழங்குதல்

❖ புதுமுறிப்பு விஞ்ஞானக் கல்வி நிலையத்தில் மாலை நேரக் கற்பித்தலில் ஈடுபடும் ஏழு ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு மாதாந்த சம்பளக் கொடுப்பனவு

❖ விசுவமடு விஞ்ஞானக் கல்வி நிலையத்தை நிர்மாணம், மாணவர்களுக்கான மாதாந்த உதவுதொகை.

❖ பாரதிபுரம் விஞ்ஞானக் கல்வி நிலையத்தில் கணினிக் கூடம் அமைத்தல்

❖ கரடி போக்கு விஞ்ஞானக் கல்வி நிலையத்தில் e-கல்வி செயற்றிட்டம் ஆரம்பித்தமை. இதன்மூலம் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான மாணவர்களின் ஆங்கில கல்வியறிவை மேம்படுத்தியமை.

❖ போரினால் கடும் பாதிக்குள்ளான மற்றும் பெண் தலைமைத்துவக் குடும்பங்களுக்கான வாழ்வாதார உதவிகள் வழங்கல்.

இவ்வாறாக IMHO, KEDT யுடன் இணைந்து வடக்கு கிழக்கில் கல்வி, சுகாதாரம், வாழ்வாதாரம் என பரந்துப்பட்ட அளவில் தொடர்ச்சியாக உதவி வருகிறது. இதன்மூலம் இந்த துறைகளில் கடந்த காலங்களோடு ஒப்பிடுகையில் முன்னேற்றகரமான ஒரு நிலைமையினை காணமுடிகிறது. எனவே தொடர்ச்சியாக எம் மக்களின் நலன்களில் அதிக கரிசனையோடு உதவி வரும் IMHO நிறுவனத்திற்கு, KEDTயானது, எம் மக்கள் சார்பாக நன்றிகளை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றோம்.

“எழுமை எழுபிறப்பும் உள்ளவர் தங்கண் விழுமந் துடைத்தவர் நட்பு” அதாவது தம்முடைய துன்பத்தை போக்கி உதவியவரின் நட்பை பல்வேறு வகையான பிறவியிலும் மறவாமல் போற்றுவர் பெரியோர் என்ற வள்ளுவரின் வாக்கு அமைய IMHOவின் உதவியை நாமும் என்றும் போற்றி நிற்போம்

நன்றி

தலைவர்

கல்வி வளர்ச்சி அறக்கட்டளை

Message from the Killinochchi Education and Development Trust (KEDT)

By Dr. T. Sathiyamoorthy, President, KEDT

“A help rendered in the hour of need, though small, is bigger than this world.” – The Holy Thirukkural

Since the time of the conflict, there have been considerable unmet needs of our people in the war-torn areas of Sri Lanka. After release from the detention camps and people resettling, the needs have been continuous and evolving, including the need for food, shelter, livelihood projects, education and health care. Killinochchi Education Development Trust (KEDT) has been providing help as needed, funded by IMHO USA on a regular basis.

Projects funded by IMHO USA and facilitated by KEDT include:

1. Helping those with spinal cord injuries by providing 30 tricycles, bathing and toilet facilities, medication rooms and consumable items.
2. Establishment of a science center at Visvamadu School and financial aid to the students.
3. Supplying equipment and reagents to the science labs in the Killinochchi area.
4. Establishment of a computer center at Barathipuram School.
5. Financial aid to female students in Mallavi Maha Vithiyalayam.
6. Financial aid to students in Mallavi 4th Division boarding school.
7. Oral Health Program: Teaching students about dental and oral health, providing them with toothbrushes and toothpaste.
8. Subsidizing the salaries of 25 teachers for additional evening classes to help improve the standard of English education.
9. Promoting blood donation camps on an annual basis.
10. Financial aid for transportation for university students.
11. Financial support to start livelihood projects for families headed by single mothers.
12. Establishment of e-Kalvi benefiting hundreds of students to improve the standard of English language abilities.

IMHO USA in partnership with KEDT in the North and East of Sri Lanka has helped the people to improve the standard of education, health and economic wellbeing. The people who have benefitted and KEDT are very thankful for IMHO USA for their assistance so far and for their continued support.

“Through sevenfold births, in memory fares the willing friend who wiped one’s tears.” – The Holy Thirukkural

The Contribution of IMHO to Educational Development in Hatton Education Zone

By Mr. P. Sridharan, Zonal Director of Education, Hatton Zonal Education Office



IMHO has been contributing greatly to support educational activities in the Hatton Education Zone for the past 3 years. Every year, IMHO-supported schools have performed exceedingly well in government exam results. With the full support of IMHO, the Hatton Education Zone launched an exam called “**VITHYASRI**” for Grade 6-11 students. Almost 24,000 students participated last year alone.

Since this exam is conducted at the beginning of every term, it serves as preparation for the final and government exams.

Often, after the grade 5 scholarship exam, many students do not receive adequate support from their parents or school.

The “**VITHYASRI**” exam serves not only to evaluate the students but also to provide valuable guidance to teachers about where to focus their efforts for remedial activities. Moreover, a special English Coaching class was launched for selected students from 16 schools and scores improved by 10% on average.

University graduates were appointed to the schools which have a shortage of teachers for Math, Science and English in the Hatton Education Zone.

Special coaching classes were also organized for Science and Math with good results.

IMHO has also organized a nutritious meal program for the students who continued their classes after school for the G.C.E (O/L) and Grade 5 scholarship students for the last few months before the examination. This bolstered energy levels for our young students.

We are proud to say that the IMHO is an active partner of Education Development in the Upcountry schools.

I extend my sincere thanks for IMHO’s contribution to the educational activities in Hatton Education Zone. We look forward to your continued support in our future endeavors to uplift this community through educational activities.



Implementation of Reading Groups & Early Child Care Development (ECCD)

Reading Groups

IMHO has been involved in the educational activities in the Upcountry area for several years. One of the novel ideas implemented to develop education is a Reading Group in Maskeliya.



Unlike a library, this Reading Group involves groups of 10-15 children where reading is encouraged in a fun and formative way.

There are currently 37 Reading Groups in IMHO supported areas. IMHO donated all the books and all the groups are functioning well.

FLAT equipment is used to evaluate the students' reading level. The slower learners are identified and volunteers provide them with the necessary guidance and support to improve their reading level.



In addition to the Reading Groups, IMHO has contributed to developing proficiency in the Creative Arts including singing, storytelling, dancing and writing essays and poems.

IMHO has also provided opportunities to promote the leadership skills of the students through development workshops and seminars. This is a great opportunity for the future generation to help develop a model community.

Early Child Care Development (ECCD)

IMHO initiated the ECCD project in the Upcountry area in 2018. Ten pre-schools with 128 students from various areas have participated in this project. The ECCD project paves way for a smooth transmission to formal education in the government schools.

The teachers are given a monthly salary of Rs. 5,000/each, which has been occurring since 2019. These teachers train the students to develop the basic skills necessary for their lives.

Every month the teachers discuss their monthly activities and how their students are doing. Training is provided to help them achieve their goals.



Nadarajah Foundation Scholarship for Advanced Level Students

By K. Punniyamoorthy, Project Officer, IMHO Sri Lanka

Most of the students from upcountry areas fail to complete their GCE A/L or GCE O/L training due to financial difficulties. It has become a very common occurrence affecting the socio-economic progress of the students and the community at large. In order to eliminate this issue, the Nadarajah Foundation, envisioned by Mr. Siva Nadarajah of New Jersey in loving memory of his father, came forward with a scholarship program for the students.

A call for applications went out to students from different districts across Sri Lanka through social media. More than 500 students applied for this scholarship, of which 133 eligible students were selected through an interview process. These students came from Kandy, Matale, Jaffna, Badulla and Nuwara Eliya Districts. Sixty-nine of the students are in the first year of their studies, and sixty-four are in the second year. They are collectively attending 27 schools in five district areas. Each student is given Rs 2,500 per month for two years until they complete their Advanced Level classes. A total of Rs 3,990,000 is provided in scholarship funds in total each year.



Table of the major curriculum selected by the students

No	Faculty	1 st Year Students	2 nd Year Students	University Students	Total
1	Arts	35	41		76
2	Commerce	9	4		13
3	Bio Science	10	8		18
4	Physical Science	1	2		3
5	Fine Arts	6	2		8
6	B Tech	4	2		6
7	E Tech	4	4		8
8	Engineering			1	1
	TOTAL	69	63	1	133

Requirements for continued assistance include:

- The students should attend school more than 19 days per month
- They should obtain above 75 % score in all the exams

The Project Officers visit the school, talk to the teachers and the principals as well as the family on a regular basis to monitor the progress. Once in three months, we hold discussion with the parents and motivational meetings are held in the schools with the students.

Overall, the scholarship program has supported the students extremely well. Students are following their higher studies and are on track to graduate, opening up job opportunities for them. The students and their families thank Mr. Siva Nadarajah through the Nadarajah Foundation and IMHO USA for facilitating the project, which is helping to assuring them of a better future.



Improving Early Childhood Education & Health

By S. Krishnakumar, Country Director, IMHO Lanka

Introduction

The period from the time of conception of the child until the child has reached the age of 5 is referred to as the early childhood period. This is the most crucial period in the lifecycle of a child when the rate of development is very high and brain formations are established for cumulative lifelong learning and human development. There are several remarkable brief periods of opportunity that lay the foundation for emotional control, language and mathematic ability and the capacity to form social attachment. Early childhood development is highly impacted by social factors, such as healthcare, nutrition, economic development and access to education.

Target Group

For this initiative, in which IMHO has committed approximately USD \$35,000, 7 communities across 3 regions were selected:

- Three cluster schools from Omanthai Division
- Two cluster schools from Nedunkerni Division
- Three cluster schools from Manthai West Division

The reasons for selecting these areas were the high levels of socioeconomic marginalization and a history of both displacement during the war (especially between 2008 and 2009) and having been held in detention camps in Cheddiculam /Vavuniya. The majority of the people in these communities also experience high rates of poverty.

Zone	Division	Cluster School (Resource Center)			Feeding School		
		School Name	# of Teachers	# of Students	# of Schools	# of Teachers	# of Students
Vavuniya North	Nedunkerny	Muththumarinagar Puliyankulam	02	27	06	06	83
		Ilanthalir Nedunkerny	01	15	04	07	88
	Omanthai	Ingaran Marakarampalai	02	13	03	04	45
		Tharanichchudar Tharanikkulam	02	35	03	03	75
		Kalaimahal Maruthankulam	02	10	04	04	23
SubTotal			09	100	20	24	314
Madu	Manthai West	St. Anthoniyar, Anthoniyarpuram	03	54	06	08	115
		St. Anthoniyar Nedunkandal	02	25	10	12	110
		St. Soosaiyappar Kaththankulam	02	39	05	08	129
SubTotal			07	118	21	28	354
Grand Total			16	218	41	52	668

Technical Approach

The early childhood development program (ECDP) technical approach aims to improve behavioral changes in preschool children by developing essential competencies and life skills, while also improving overall health and nutrition.

Early childhood development emphasizes the importance of one major pre-condition, namely that the emphasis on instruction during these formative years should not be on teaching them specific knowledge or subject matter, but that they develop the child's overall social and cognitive abilities. Some of these goals are as follows:

1. Children become aware and begin to question & explore issues of difference in ethnicity, language, religion and culture.
2. Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy, respect and confidence.
3. Children maximize their potential for growth and development through the provision of care, nutrition, play and intellectual engagement.

Interventions

IMHO's focus for this project has been on the following interventions:

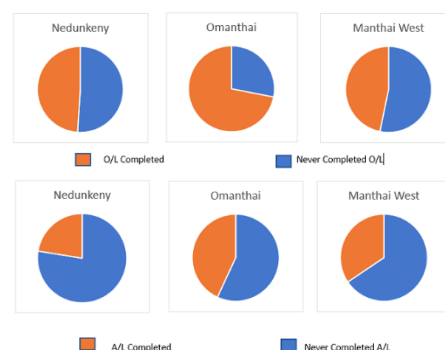
▪ **Improvement to Basic Infrastructure Facilities**

- 1) Building repairs and furnishings
- 2) Basic facility utilities such as water, sanitation and electricity

▪ **Capacity Building Training Programme for Preschool Teachers**

The capacity-building programme will be conducted for all teachers in the following topics:

- Language and Literacy
- Social Emotional Development
- Motor Skill Development
- Numeracy
- Discovery of the World
- Aesthetic and Creative Expressions



▪ **Training-of-Trainers (TOT)**

For the sustainability of the capacity-building programme, some of the trainers must be identified and trained further as Training of Trainers (TOT). A group of teachers from feeding schools in each respective Resource Center will be trained on an ongoing basis. Another requirement will be that all trainers must complete their preschool diploma course as well.

▪ **Teaching Learning Materials**

Learning and play materials, which can significantly increase student achievement, will be provided. Through play, children can unlock their creativity and imagination, develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and further develop fine motor skill. Child development experts acknowledge that play is very important in both learning and the emotional development of children.

▪ **Play Field**

As kids naturally have the tendency for play, play fields provide space for them to grow mentally and physically. We endeavor to provide a well-equipped one to each location with swings, slides, seesaw, climbing pyramid, etc., as well as games and other equipment that facilitate play.

▪ **Field Trips for Preschool Children**

Visiting places such as places of worship, public service centers like post offices, hospitals, bus stations, railway stations, other Kindergarten schools, etc. all provide opportunities for children to develop environmental awareness and understandings.

▪ **Resource centers**

The strengthening of 8 Resource Centers will support the development of a wider network of preschools. This will be done through the provision of learning materials and by conducting trainings. This project supports a number of ongoing training interventions designed to equip preschool teachers with the knowledge and skills to become effective facilitators in the classroom. These training will be conducted through the Resource Centers on an ongoing basis during after-school hours or weekends.

▪ **Nutrition Program**

▪ **Health Promotion**

Our researches acknowledge the implementation of health programme in preschools together with the parents' participation through which the knowledge of healthy living would improve children health behavior. This is based on healthy foods, physical activities and hygienic habits.

▪ **Improve Parent Awareness**

Parental involvement helps to extend learning outside the classroom, creates a more positive overall experience for children, and helps children perform better when they are in school. It is thus essential for parents to support the learning that happens at preschool when kids are also at home. Our support program aims to enhance the parents' understanding of holistic childhood development through interaction activities and training sessions focused on:

- Overall child development
- Health, nutrition and sanitation
- Gender-based violence
- Effects of parenting practices on children

▪ **Support of ECD Management Committees**

Meeting with preschool teachers from Nedunkerni and Omanthai Division



Meeting with Maanthai West Division preschool teachers



Visits by Advisors





Report on COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Work

By S. Krishnakumar, Country Director, IMHO Lanka

As other low- and middle-income countries, Sri Lanka has also been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in many ways. Since the curfew and lockdown was imposed on 20th of March 2020, normal life has changed. The most affected groups are poorer and low-income families, as they survive on daily wages earned. Children, the elderly, pregnant women, and lactating mothers from the vulnerable families in particular are the most acutely affected. In response, the Board of IMHO USA carefully studied the situation and responded quickly with **9,436 families** from the Northern & Eastern Provinces and UpCountry areas being the focus demographics for receiving relief packages.

In addition, the Board approved Rs. 3,000 loan for 1000 families in the UpCountry area and also provided PPE for healthcare workers in Nuwara Eliya District.

Relief Packages consisted of the following supplies:

- **Food items:** Each family received Rs.1,000 worth of food items, including rice, flour, dhal, sugar, soya packets, samaposa, potatoes, milk powder and dried fish
- **Loan:** Female-headed families from Mousakelle, Happugasthana and Brownlow Estate in UpCountry areas were given Rs. 3,000/each



Selection of Recipients:

IMHO Lanka Office directly contacted the secretaries of Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts to get the beneficiaries list with priority given to the following demographics:

- Underprivileged areas
- Welfare Camps
- Recently resettled areas
- Female-headed families
- Differently-abled persons

Assist RR Organization selected the beneficiaries list in Mullaitivu and Vavuniya Districts based on the above criteria, and CARITAS-HUDEEC and E4D Project Group also followed the same in Kilinochi and UpCountry areas. The total number of families that have benefited to-date are 10,436.

#	District	# of Families
1	Jaffna	2,722
2	Mannar	1,000
3	Mullaithivu	1,000
4	Killinotchi	190
5	Vavuniya	500
6	Trincomalee/Muthur	1,000
7	Batticaloa	2,024
8	UpCountry relief packages	1,000
9	UpCountry loans	1,000
	TOTAL	10,436



Continuous Support in Filling the Gaps of Sri Lanka's Free Health System

By Dr. N. Saravanabhava, Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Tellipalai Base Hospital

In many ways, IMHO USA supports people worldwide in their time of need. Its continuous support in filling the gaps in maternity care in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka in particular cannot be underestimated...

Mobile Clinics in Locations that are Difficult to Reach

In Sri Lanka, the islands of Jaffna are a unique place. A significant portion of the population lives there, although they face difficulty in accessing health systems. Unfortunately, these people have to travel to Jaffna to get safe and effective healthcare. To minimize their inconvenience and to improve their service, we conduct regular mobile clinics for maternity services. These services cover Delft, Nainativu, Kayts, Punkudutivu, and Karinagar. The importance of these services were really felt by most people during this pandemic of COVID 19 when almost all the transport facilities became paralyzed. IMHO USA was the main organization to support us with regard to staff and facilities like ultrasound scanning.



Mobile Clinics in Resettlement Areas in Jaffna

In addition, we also conduct similar clinics in recently resettled, socio-economically disadvantaged areas in Jaffna, mainly Palaly. This facility is also supported by IMHO USA.

Continuing the Facilities of Basic Infertility Treatment at Tellipalai Base Hospital

With the help of IMHO, a basic andrology laboratory was established at Tellipalai Base Hospital, and it continues to provide support in the treatment of infertility which is a burden in our society. IMHO extends its support by providing payments to the pre-interns, nursing assistants and laboratory assistants.

The financial as well as moral support of IMHO is crucial for us to continue these activities. We hope your support will continue in the future as we strive to help the poor and needy people of this region. We wish and pray for all the members and donors of the IMHO to live long healthy life.



IMHO-Supported Educational Activities in the UpCountry

By The IMHO Board of Directors

Confined to the socio-economic, cultural and political backwardness of the last two centuries, the Sri Lankan tea plantation community consists of the most disadvantaged and marginalized fractions of the population from the time they were brought from South India to cultivate the tea estates during the colonization period.

IMHO has been involved in uplifting the socio-economic and academic standards of the people by means including, but not limited, to early childhood education, support for preschool education through the provision of additional salary incentives to teachers, extra hours of schooling, nutritional supplements to students, staff salaries, conducting enrichment programs, and support for Advanced Level (A/L) education. Without proper education, boys typically become day laborers and girls become house maids and are subjected to all forms of abuse.

The above programs have impacted in some way almost all the schools in the Hatton Education Zone. In addition, IMHO also helped to form saving groups, a cooperative store, and improved sanitation infrastructure by providing clean drinking water, toilet facilities and wellness education.

In the next few pages are reports from individual schools as to student performances in their examinations.





School No: -05264

மமா/ஹவ/மொக்கா வினன்ர்ஸ் கல்லூரி, மஸ்கெலியா
CP/HZ/MOCHA WINNERS' COLLEGE, MASKELIYA

PRINCIPAL:- Mr. S.Johnson,
TEL . NO:- 052- 7210765 , 0711414860

நிலைத்திருக்கக் கூடிய அபிவிருத்தியில்
மொக்கா வினன்ர்ஸ் கல்லூரி

IMHO நிறுவனமானது எமது மொக்கா வினன்ர்ஸ் கல்லூரிக்கு பல்வேறு வகையான அபிவிருத்தி வேலைத்திட்டங்களை செய்து வருகின்றது. கடந்த காலங்களில் மாணவர்களுக்கு பாரிய அளவில் பயன் தரக்கூடிய பல்வேறு வகையான அபிவிருத்தி வேலைத்திட்டங்களையும் செய்து தந்துள்ளது. இந்த வேலைத்திட்டத்தின் மூலம் எமது பாடசாலையில் 463 மாணவர்களும் 22 ஆசிரியர்களும் பயனடைந்துள்ளனர். அந்த வகையில் IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் மூலம் பெற்று கொண்ட சேவைகளை பெரிதும் வரவேற்கின்றோம்.

அந்த வகையில் IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் ஊடாக கணிதம், ஆங்கிலம் மற்றும் விஞ்ஞான அடைவு மட்டத்தை அதிகரித்து கொள்வதற்காக கருத்தரங்குகளை நடாத்தியுள்ளது. மேலும் கா.பொ.த சாதாரண தர மாணவர்களுக்கு பாடசாலை நாட்களில் மாலை நேரங்களிலும் சனி மற்றும் ஞாயிறு தினங்களிலும் இலவசமாக மேலதிக வகுப்புக்களை நடாத்தி தருகின்றது.

விசேடமாக மாலை நேரங்களில் நடாத்தப்படுகின்ற மேலதிக வகுப்புக்களுக்கு, வகுப்பு மாணவர்கள் பசியோடு கல்வி கற்கும் நிலையை மாற்றியமைக்க போசாக்கு தரக்கூடிய வகையில் சமபோஷ மற்றும் தேநீர் என்பனற்றை வழங்குவதற்கான ஏற்பாடுகள் இந்நிறுவனத்தால் வழங்கப்பட்டது.

இது எமது மாணவர்களுக்கு கிடைத்த வரப்பிரசாதமாகும். இந்த போசாக்கு வேலைத்திட்டமானது உற்சாகமாக கற்றலை மேற்கொள்ள உறுதுணையாக காணப்பட்டது. இதனால் கடந்த கால கா.பொ.த சாதாரண தர பரீட்சை பெறுபேறுகளை விட இவ்வருடம் கா.பொ.த சாதாரண பரீட்சை பெறுபேறுகள் உயர்வடைந்துள்ளதுடன் கா.பொ.த உயர்தரத்திற்கு தோற்றும் மாணவர்களின் வீதமும் அதிகரித்துள்ளது.

தங்கள் நிறுவனம் மேலும் உதவிகளை வழங்கி எமது கல்லூரிக்கு சகல வழிகளிலும் வளர்ச்சியடைய உதவி வருகின்றது. அந்த வகையில் எமது கல்லூரியின் அதிபர், ஆசிரியர்கள், மாணவர்கள், பெற்றோர்கள், பழைய மாணவர்கள் மற்றும் பாடாலை சமூகம் சார்ந்த அனைவரினதும் சார்பிலும் நன்றியையும் பாராட்டுக்களையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்வதில் பெருமை அடைவதோடு IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் சேவை மென்மேலும் வளர்ச்சி பெற எமது பாடசாலை சார்பாக எங்களது நல்வாழ்த்துக்களைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கின்றோம்.

நன்றி.

S.Johnson
Principal
CP/HZ/Mocha Winners' College
Maskeliya

திரு. S.ஜோன்சன்,
அதிபர்


மவுசாக்கலை இல.1 தமிழ் வித்தியாலயம் மஸ்கெலியா.

எமது பாடசாலையானது ஹட்டன் கல்வி வலயத்தில் கோட்டம் 3 இல் ஒரு கஷ்ட பிரதேச பாடசாலையாகும் இப்பாடசாலையில் சுமார் 225 மாணவர்கள் கல்விப் பயின்று வருகின்றனர். முழுமையாக பெருந்தோட்டத்துறையில் வசிக்கும் பெற்றோர்களின் பிள்ளைகள் ஆவர். அதிகமான பிள்ளைகள் வறுமைக்கோட்டிற்கு கீழ் காணப்படும் மாணவர்கள். குறைந்தளவு ஆளணி, பௌதீக வளங்களைக் கொண்டு இயங்கும் பாடசாலையாகும். எமது பாடசாலைக்கு IMHO (USA) நிறுவனம் கடந்த காலங்களில் பல்வேறு உதவிகளை புரிந்து ஏழைப் பிள்ளைகளின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு பாரிய பங்களிப்பு செய்து வருகின்றது. இதற்காக இந்நிறுவனத்திற்கும் இவ்நிறுவனத்தை இப்பிரதேசத்தில் இயக்கி கொண்டிருக்கும் IMHO LANKA MASKELIYA முகாமையாளர் அவர்களுக்கும் ஏனைய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் எமது பாடசாலை சமூகத்தின் சார்பாகவும் எனது சார்பாகவும் மனமார்ந்த நன்றியை கூறும் இதே வேளை இந்நிறுவனம் எதிர்காலத்திலே பல்வேறு வளர்ச்சிகளை பெறுவதற்கும் வாழ்த்துக்களையும் கூறுகின்றேன்.

எமது பாடசாலையின் மாணவர்களின் குடிநீர் இல்லாத பிரச்சனையினை IMHO நிறுவனம் குடிநீர் வசதியினை பெற்று கொடுத்து மாணவர்கள் ஆசிரியர்களுக்கான குடிநீர் வசதியினை பெறுவதற்கான வாய்ப்பிற்கு உதவியது இந்நிறுவனமே ஆகும். அதுமாத்திரம் இன்றி மாணவர்களுக்கு கல்வி போதிப்பதற்கு ஆசிரியர்கள் இன்றி கஷ்டப்பட்ட வேளையிலே இந்நிறுவனம் இரண்டு தொண்டர் ஆசிரியர்களை வழங்கியமையினால் மாணவர்கள் கல்வி பெற்று கொள்வதற்கும் ஆங்கிலக் கல்வியினை பெற்று பெறுபேற்றை அதிகரிப்பதற்கும் உதவியது சிறப்பான ஓர் அம்சமாகும். இதுமாத்திரம் இன்றி தரம் 5, தரம் 11 மாணவர்களுக்கு தேசிய பரீட்சை நடைபெறும் காலத்தில் பெறுபேற்றை அதிகரிப்பதற்காக மாதிரி வினாத்தாள்களை வழங்கி பரீட்சை பெறுபேற்றை அதிகரிப்பதற்கு உதவியது அத்துடன் இம்மாணவர்களுக்கு மாலைநேர மேலதிக வகுப்புக்கள் நடைபெற்ற வேளையில் இவர்களுக்கான போசனை உணவு (சமபோச) வழங்கி உற்சாகத்தை மாணவர்களுக்கு வழங்கியதுடன் கல்வி கற்பதற்கும் ஆர்வத்தை தூண்டினர்.

மேலும் எமது பாடசாலை மாணவர்கள் விளையாட்டு துறையிலும் மிளிர்வதற்கு IMHO நிறுவமானது பாடசாலை வளாகத்தில் உள்ள விளையாட்டு மைதானத்தினையும் சீர்படுத்தி தருவதுடன் பாடசாலையில் உள்ள மாணவர்களுக்கான தளபாட வசதியினையும் பெற்றுதரும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கின்றேன். இதனோடு நவீன அச்ச இயந்திரம் ஒன்றும் பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்கு தேவையாக உள்ளது

இந்நிறுவனத்தின் செயற்பாடுகள் ஓர் பினதங்கிய மலையக சமூகத்திற்கு கிடைக்கப்பெறுவது மிகவும் உன்னதமான ஓர் வரப்பிரசாதமாக உள்ளமை குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. எனவே எதிர்காலத்திலே இந்நிறுவனத்தின் மூலம் மலையக வாழ் மக்களுக்கு ஒரு உன்னத வாழ்வினை ஏற்படுத்தி மேலும் எழுச்சியுற என் மனப்பூர்வமான வாழ்த்துக்களையும் ஆசிகளையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கின்றேன்.


T.கும்ரேசன்
அதிபர்
CP/HT/Mousakella No.1.T.V.
maskeliya.

மமா/ஹெவ/தெய்வகந்தை தமிழ் வித்தியாலயம் சாமிமலை.

மமா/அவ/தெய்வகந்தை தமிழ் வித்தியாலயம் கஷ்டப்பிரதேசத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள ஒரு பாடசாலையாகும். இப்பாடசாலை தொடர்ந்தும் பெறுபேறு வீழ்ச்சி அடைந்தமை குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. 2017 ஆம் ஆண்டில் எமது பாடசாலையின் பெறுபேறு பின்தங்கிய நிலையில் காணப்பட்டது. கணிதப்பாடத்தில் ஒரு மாணவன் மாத்திரமே சித்தியடைந்த நிலையில் பெறுபேறு மிகவும் வீழ்ச்சியாக இருந்த ஒரு பாடசாலையாகும் இந்த வேளையில் எங்களுக்கு IMHO (USA) நிறுவனம் அறிமுகமாகியது. எமது பாடசாலை அதிபர், ஆசிரியர்கள் IMHO (USA) நிறுவனத்தின் முகாமையாளர் அந்த நிறுவனத்தில் வேலை செய்யும் உத்தியோகத்தார்களினூடாக ஒரு கலந்துரையாடல் நடத்தினோம் இக்கலந்துரையாடலின் போது எமது பாடசாலை நிலைமையை எடுத்துரைத்து எங்கள் பாடசாலைக்கு உதவி செய்யுமாறு கேட்டுக் கொண்டோம். முகாமையாளர் எங்கள் பாடசாலைக்கு உதவி செய்வதாகவும் பரீட்சை பெறுபேற்றினை அதிகரிக்கவேண்டுமெனவும் கூறினார் அதிபரும், ஆசிரியர்களும் இவ்வுதவியை பேருதவியாக நினைத்து பெறுபேற்றை உயர்த்துவதற்கு முன்னின்று உழைத்தார்கள்.

IMHO (USA) நிறுவனமும், முகாமையாளரும், உத்தியோகத்தார்களும் எங்கள் பாடசாலைக்கு நிறைய உதவிகளை செய்துள்ளனர்.

முதற்கட்டமாக 2018ஆம் ஆண்டு தரம் 5, தரம் 11 வகுப்புகளில் கல்வி கற்ற எல்லா மாணவர்களுக்கும் மாதிரி வினாத்தாள்கள் அச்சிட்டு, எமது பாடசாலைக்கு நிறுவனத்தினர் வழங்கினர் மாணவர்கள் தொடர்ந்து பரீட்சைகளை செய்து பயிற்சிபெற்று பரீட்சைக்குத் தோற்றினர் அதன் பிரதிபலனாக தரம் 5 புலமைப்பரிசில் பரீட்சையில் எமது பாடசாலை மாணவர்கள் அனைவரும் 70ற்கு மேற்பட்ட புள்ளிகளை பெற்றதோடு இரண்டு மாணவிகள் சித்திபெற்றமையும் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. அத்துடன் 2018ஆம் ஆண்டு க.போ.த சாதாரனதர பத்திர பரீட்சையில் தோற்றிய மாணவர்களில் 10 மாணவர்கள் கணிதப்பாடத்தில் சித்திப் பெற்றதோடு, அனைத்து மாணவர்களும் 3C 3S ற்கு மேற்பட்ட சித்திகளை பெற்று உயர்தர கல்வியை கற்க தகுதி பெற்றார்கள்.

2019ஆம் ஆண்டில் தரம் 5, தரம் 11 வகுப்புகளில் கல்வி கற்ற எல்லா மாணவர்களுக்கும் மாதிரி வினாத்தாள்கள் அச்சிட்டுத்தந்ததோடு, அம்மாணவர்களுக்கு போஷாக்குணவு (சமபோஷ, பால்) என்பவற்றையும் தந்துதவினர். அதனை அடுத்து 2019ஆம் ஆண்டில் எமது பாடசாலையில் தரம் 5 புலமைப்பரிசில் பரீட்சைக்கு தோற்றிய மாணவர்களில் அதிகமானோர் 70ற்கு மேற்பட்ட புள்ளிகளை பெற்றனர். அவ்வுருடம் க.போ.த சாதாரனதர பத்திர பரீட்சையில் தோற்றிய மாணவர்களும் சிறந்த பெறுபேற்றினை பெற்றுள்ளனர். அதிகமானோர் உயர்தரத்திற்கு தகுதி பெற்றதோடு ஒரு மாணவி 5A, 2B, 2C சித்தியினை பெற்று எமது பாடசாலைக்கு பெருமை சேர்த்துள்ளார்.

அத்துடன் 2019ஆம் ஆண்டில் IMHO (USA) நிறுவனம் கணித மற்றும் விஞ்ஞான பாடங்களை கற்பிப்பதற்கு ஒரு பட்டதாரி ஆசிரியரையும் எமது பாடசாலைக்கு தந்ததவியுள்ளனர் இதனால் 6-11 வரையான வகுப்புகளில் கல்விகற்கும் மாணவர்களுக்கு கணித மற்றும் விஞ்ஞான பாடங்களில் அடிப்படை தேர்ச்சிகளை கொடுத்து அனைத்து மாணவர்களும் சிறந்த புள்ளிகளை பெற்று பரீட்சையில் சித்தி பெறுவதற்கு பெரிய உத்வேகத்தை தந்து எங்கள் பாடசாலை மேலும் மேலும் வளர்ச்சியடைய உதவிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள்.

இனிவரும் வருடங்களிலும் இவ்வாறான உதவிகளை எமது பாடசாலைக்கு தந்துதலுவார்கள் என எதிர்பார்க்கின்றோம். IMHO (USA) நிறுவனம் மற்றும் முகாமையாளர், அங்குவேலை செய்யும் உத்தியோகத்தார்கள் அனைவருக்கும் எமது பாடசாலை அதிபர், ஆசிரியர்கள், பெற்றோர்கள், பழையமாணவர்கள் மற்றும் பாடசாலை அபிவிருத்தி சங்கம் சார்பாக எங்கள் மனமார்ந்த நன்றியை தெரிவித்து கொள்கின்றோம்.

நன்றி.

N. Nirmaladevi
Mrs. N. Nirmaladevi
Principal
CPI HZI Thairakande T.V.
Upcot.



GARTMORE TAMIL VIDYALAYAM, MASKELIYA.

PRINCIPAL : K.MAHENDRAN

TE.NO : 071 573 4003

E-Mail : gartmore05285@gmail.com / mahendrank368@gmail.com

DATE : 04-05-2020

புத்தகமையாளர்

IMHO திருவணம்

கனம் கி.ம. / அம்மணி,

IMHO திருவணத்தின் மூலம் பெற்றிருக்கிற தொண்டை
தேவதாசனத்தின் எழுந்தருளியுள்ள பாலகாணல் சீடர்கள் சீர்தரம் மனமார்த்த
நன்தியினைப்பும் பாராட்டிக்கொள்ளும் ததறிவிக்கும் தொண்டின்தொடும்

காட்டிலார் தமிழ் மகா கித்தியாலமையாளர் மூலமையாக
பெற்றிருந்தோடு தொழிலாளர்களின் பிள்ளைகளை தொண்டி
கியத்தும் கண்டம்மரத்தும் பாலகாணலயாலும், கித்தி சிமர் 470
மண்ணவர்கள் கல்வி கற்கின்றனர்.

எழுந்தருளியுள்ள பாலகாணல் பல்வேறு வளப்பற்றாக்குறைகளும்
கட்டிட பற்றாக்குறைகளும் காணப்பட்ட போதும் பல்வேறு
தொண்டி திருவணங்களின் உதவியுடன் தாம் கித்திப்பணி
பெற்றபோதிலும் பெற்றிருக்கிற தொண்டி வந்ததன்மேலும்.

சித்த வகையில் IMHO திருவணமையாளர் எழுந்தருளியுள்ள பாலகாணல்
வளப்பற்றாக்குறைகளும் பல்வேறு வகையான உதவிகளை பெற்று
வந்ததன்மேலும். கட்டிட வகைகளில் பிள்ளைகளின் கல்வி
வளப்பற்றாக்குறை பல்வேறு வகையான பயணத்திற்குரிய கல்வி
சிமையுக்கி வேலைத்திட்டங்களை முன்னெடுத்து வந்ததன்மேலும்

2018 மார்ச் 2019 வகைகளில் தாம் 5 புத்தகப்பதிவில்
பதிட்டைகள் தொடர்ந்து பல்வேறு உதவிகள் எழுந்தருளியுள்ள பாலகாணல்

CP/HZ/LUCCOMBE TAMIL MAHA VIDYALAYA MASKELIYA

Principal :- S.Viyanierose

E.Mail:- 05266luccombetmv@gmail.com

மனித வாழ்வை அர்த்தமாக்கி மனித இருப்பை உயர்மட்டத்திற்கு கொண்டு செல்வதற்கு விலை மதிப்பற்ற பொக்கிஷமாக அமைவது கல்வித்துறையாக விளங்குகின்றது.

இயற்கை எழில்கொஞ்சும் மலையகத்தின் மத்திய மாகாணத்தில் ஹட்டன் கல்வி வலயத்தின் கோட்டம் மூன்றில் அமைந்துள்ள லக்கம் தமிழ் மகா வித்தியாலயத்தின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு பெரும் பங்களிப்பு வழங்கி வரும் IMHO நிறுவனத்திற்கு பாடசாலை அதிபர் என்ற வகையில் எனது மனமார்ந்த நன்றியை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன்.

அண்மை காலமாக எமது பாடசாலை கலை மற்றும் விளையாட்டுத் துறைகளிலும் முன்னேற்றமடைந்து வருகின்றது. இதனடிப்படையில் கற்றல் கற்பித்தல் செயற்பாடுகளை விரிவுபடுத்தி சிறந்த பெறுபேறுகளை பெறுவதில் அதிக அக்கறை காட்டுவதோடு இதற்காக IMHO நிறுவனம் பலவழிகளிலும் எமது பாடசாலைக்கு உதவிகளை வழங்கி வருகின்றமை குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.

இதனடிப்படையில் மாணவர்களை கற்றலில் ஊக்குவிப்பதற்காக புதிய வளவாளர்கள் மூலம் ஊக்குவிப்பு செயலமர்வுகளை ஏற்பாடு செய்து தந்து மாணவர்களின் கற்றல் ஆர்வத்தை அதிகரித்துள்ளதோடு மாணவர்கள் தொடர்ச்சியான கற்றலின் ஈடுபடும்போது ஏற்படும் இறுக்கமான மனநிலையை இலகுபடுத்துவதற்காக அயற்பாடசாலை மாணவர்களையும் இணைத்துக் கொண்டு “ஜிம்னாஸ்டிக்” நிகழ்வினையும் ஏற்பாடு செய்து தந்துள்ளனர்.

மேலும் கணிதம், விஞ்ஞானம், தகவல் தொடர்பாடல் தொழிநுட்பம் போன்ற பாடங்களுக்கு ஆசிரியர் பற்றாக்குறையாக இருந்த காலகட்டங்களில் தொண்டர் ஆசிரியர்களை நியமித்ததோடு க.பொ.த.(சா/த) மாணவர்களின் பெறுபேற்றை உயர்த்துமுகமாக மாலை நேர வகுப்புக்களின் போது போசாக்கு மா வழங்கியும் பயிற்சிகளை வழங்குவதற்காகவும் அலகு பரீட்சைகளையும் முன்னோடி பயிற்சி வினாத்தாள்களையும் வழங்கியமை எமக்கு பேருதவியாக அமைந்தது.

க.பொ.த (சா/த) மாணவர்களின் ஆங்கில அறிவை அதிகரிக்கவும் ஆங்கில பாடத்தில் சித்தியடையும் அளவினை அதிகரிப்பதற்காகவும் ஆங்கில வகுப்புக்களை நடாத்த உதவியமை. அத்துடன் எமது பாடசாலையின் முதல் முயற்சியான விஞ்ஞான பாட செயன்முறை பயிற்சிகளுக்காக எமது பாடசாலை மாணவர்களோடு அயற்பாடசாலை மாணவர்களையும் இணைத்து தரம் 10 மற்றும் க.பொ.த.(சா/த) பரீட்சையை மையப்படுத்திய பரிசோதனைகள் மற்றும் செயன்முறைகளை மாணவர்கள் பயன்பெறும் விதத்தில் நடாத்தியமையும் எமது ஹட்டன் கல்வி வலயம் முழுவதிலுமுள்ள மாணவர்கள் பயன்பெறும் விதமாக தொடர்ச்சியான மூன்று நாட்கள் விவசாய பாட கண்காட்சிக்கு பூரண உதவியளித்தமை என்பன எமது பாடசாலை கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கான பாரிய உந்துதலாக அமைந்துள்ளது.

அத்துடன் விசேடமாக எமது ஆசிரியர்கள் மற்றும் மாணவர்களின் கற்றல் கற்பித்தல் மாற்றத்தினை கொண்டுவந்த E-Learning முறையானது ஆசிரியர்கள் இல்லாத போதிலும் கூட மாணவர்கள் சுயமாக கற்கும் சூழலை ஏற்படுத்துவதாக அமைகின்றது.

இவ்வாறான கஷ்டப்பிரதேசத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள ஒரு பாடசாலையை ஊக்குவிக்கும் செயற்பாடானது இப்பிரதேசத்தையும் கல்வியில் சிறந்த ஒரு நிலைக்கு கொண்டு செல்லும் என்பதில் ஐயமில்லை. IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் இவ்வாறான செயற்பாடுகள் தொடர்ந்தும் எமது பிரதேசத்தின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு பங்காற்றும்ென நம்புகின்றேன்.



மஸ்கெலியா புளும்பீல்ட் தமிழ் மகா வித்தியாலயத்தின் வளர்ச்சியில் IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் பங்களிப்பு

மலையகத்தில் கடந்த நான்கு வருட காலமாக சமூக வாழ்வியலுடன் பின்னிப்பிணைந்த பல்வேறு பிரச்சினைகளை இனங்கண்டு அவற்றை சிறந்த முறையில் தீர்த்து வைக்கின்ற நோத்தோடு IMHO நிறுவனம் எமது பாடசாலைக்கு சிறந்த திட்டங்களை வழங்கி வருகின்றமையினையிட்டு பாடசாலையின் அதிபர் என்ற ரீதியில் பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகின்றேன்.

புளும்பீல்ட் பாடசாலை கடந்த சில வருடங்களுக்கு முன்னர் குடிநீர் வசதியின்றி பல்வேறு அசௌகரியங்களுக்கு முகங்கொடுத்து வந்தது. IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் பேறுதவியால் மாணவர்கள் மற்றும் ஆசிரியர்கள் சுகாதாரமான குடிநீரை பயன்படுத்த வாய்ப்புக்கிட்டியதோடு மலசலகூட பாவனைக்கும் பாடசாலையின் சுகாதாரமான இன்றைய நிலைக்கும் வித்திட்டுள்ளது.

உயர்தர மாணவர்களின் கற்றல் செயற்பாடுகளை அதிகரிக்கும் நோக்கோடு மாலை நேரங்களில் மாணவர்களுக்கு மேலதிக வகுப்புக்களையும் நடாத்தியது. இதனூடாக சிறப்பான பெறுபேறுகளை பெற்று பாடசாலையின் மாணவர்கள் எமது பாடசாலைக்கும் சமூகத்திற்கும் பெருமை சேர்த்துள்ளனர்.

மேலும் 2017 தொடக்கம் உயர்தர மாணவர்களுக்கு மேலதிக வகுப்புக்களை நடாத்தி வருகின்றது. இதன் காரணமாக கடந்த இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளில் பல்கலைக்கழகத்திற்கு செல்லும் மாணவர்களின் எண்ணிக்கையும் அதிகரித்தவண்ணமே உள்ளது.

அதுமட்டுமல்லாமல் இரண்டு ஆங்கில பாட தொண்டராசிரியர்களையும் வழங்கி ஆரம்ப பிரிவு மாணவர்களின் ஆங்கில அறிவினை விருத்தி செய்ய பாரிய பங்களிப்பினை IMHO நிறுவனம் வழங்கியுள்ளது.

மேலும் தரம் 5 மாணவர்களின் புலமைப்பரிசில் பரீட்சை பெறுபேறுகளை உயர்த்தும் வகையில் மாலை நேரங்களில் நடாத்தப்பட்ட வகுப்புக்களின் போது மாணவர்கள் உற்சாகமாக கற்றலில் ஈடுபடுவதற்காக சிறுநுண்ணுடிகளையும் தேநீரினையும் வழங்கி உதவியமை பாராட்டுக்குரியதாகும்.

க.பொ.த சாதாரண தர மாணவர்களின் ஆங்கில அறிவினை மேம்படுத்தவும் தேசிய மட்ட பரீட்சைகளில் பெறுபேறுகளை அதிகரிப்பதற்காகவும் தொடர்ச்சியாக வார இறுதி நாட்களில் ஆங்கில பாட விருத்தி வேலைத்திட்டங்களை ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுத்தமை குறிப்பிடத்தக்கதாகும்.

மேலும் க.பொ.த சாதாரண தரம், உயர் தரம் மற்றும் புலமைப்பரிசில் பரீட்சைகளில் கடந்த காலங்களை விட சிறப்பான பெறுபேறுகளை எமது மாணவர்கள் பெறுவதற்கு IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் மதிப்பிட முடியாத உதவிகளே வழிசமைத்தன.

எமது பாடசாலையும் சமூகமும் மென்மேலும் சிறப்பான மாற்றங்களை IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் உதவியோடு பெற விரும்புவதோடு தங்களின் சேவை மலையக சமுதாயத்தில் தொடர வேண்டுமென எதிர்பார்ப்பதோடு பாடசாலை சமூகம் சார்பில் நன்றிகளையும் வாழ்த்துக்களையும் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கின்றோம்.

“வாழ்க.... வளர்க...IMHO நிறுவனம்”

நன்றி.

அதிபர்
N. Parameswaran (S.A. Dip in Ed.)
Principal (S.L.P.S-2)
CP/HZ/Bloomfield T.M.V
Maaskettya

A Journey for a Decade with Care, Compassion and Dedication

By Dr. M. Aravinthan, Consultant Endocrinologist, Diabetes Centre, Jaffna Teaching Hospital

The Diabetes Centre of Jaffna Teaching Hospital has stepped forward into its 10th successful year and its continued dedicated service to the people of the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. This Centre was established in 2009 from the combined contributions of the Sri Lanka Ministry of Health and IMHO.

We have been serving a huge number of diabetic patients for the last ten years. The total number of registered diabetic patients has reached 14,000 in the year 2020 alone. All these patients receive regular medical check-up annually, including health education, retinal imaging and screening for complications of diabetes.

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of our Centre in a grand manner in December 2019. For this 10th anniversary year, we organized medical camps, health education programs and school health projects for and issued valuable prizes to the winners of art competitions we held in celebration as well. The regional coordinator of IMHO joined with us for this great occasion. We have published a useful well written souvenir with a lot of medical articles as well.

IMHO has been supporting us in various ways for the last ten years to carry out a dedicated service to the people of the North. We, the people of the Northern Province, particularly of the Jaffna peninsula, would like to express our sincere gratitude to IMHO for their continuous and enormous support of the activities of our Centre. We hope to have this wonderful collaboration in the future years as well.



Boosting the Plantation Economy through IMHO Development Projects

By *Kandiah Vigneshwaran*

A savings group was established in the year 2017 in Maskeliya area with the support of IMHO through the provision of staff, supervision, seed money and education to utilize the potential of the members to reshape their futures. This programme consolidates and empowers the people in the plantation sector to allow them to emancipate themselves from the stereotypical patriarchal social systems which prevails in the Up-country of Sri Lanka.

The group savings programme empowers the potential of women as well as men to manage and monitor their future needs without the support of any external institutions or forces. The purpose of this system is to promote financial opportunities for the stakeholders. Almost all the members of the saving groups are plantation workers and non-workers family members and who have different economic and social requirements.

It is a well-known factor that the wages they receive for their work is meagre, and they face huge difficulties to cope with the present skyrocketing price of goods and overall cost of living. The only way to manage these challenges effectively is by themselves. To help free them from these burdens, they must be economically stable with the limited earning income. Because of economic hardship, many struggle with common social and cultural affairs as well, including taking part in social events, wedding functions, birthdays, and even funeral rites.

Prior to joining this group, members were meeting these needs by borrowing money from neighbors or borrowing money for interest from well-off money lenders. The other way has been to pawn their jewelry to get money to face difficult situations. Sometimes the articles which they pawned may be auctioned off by the pawn brokers if they could not redeem by them back in-time. The Saving Group habits help eliminate these problems among the plantation communities through sustainable money management systems and financial skills development.

More than 700 members have been involved in this programme so far, resulting in more than Rs 5.3 million in savings. They use this money amongst themselves in rotation when needed as an interest-free loan. The success of this project has brought in many new persons, which form groups of 10-25 members. This change in practices has brought many valuable changes to the lives of these estate workers. The members of the group feel happy and satisfied to see that the interest charged on loans is circulated amongst themselves. As they say, “the interest is ours”, while getting a loan in a bank has many formal procedures, takes a long time, and the interest is lost. Moreover, all members make decisions together and act in social solidarity irrespective of race, politics, caste or religion.

Since most of the members of the groups are women, they learn leadership skills, household management skills, negotiation skills, social interaction skills and teamwork / collaboration skills. These practices help enable them to face future challenges successfully and with purpose. Further, school dropout rates have been reduced since the importance of education is stressed and financial burdens are eased. Even group confidence has improved, with once shy women feeling empowered and able to take on different roles and challenges themselves.

Another interesting finding was that during catastrophic events like a death in the family or other trauma, the group was able to give an interest-free loan to address the situation. Sometimes some of money is given to the needy family in place of government funding (*Samurdhi*), as normally it will take about 1 or 1 ½ months for government funds to actually reach their hands. Once the government authorities deliver the fund to the group, the committee will simply save those funds.

The group also lends money to the religious institutions especially when there is a temple festival (“*Kovil Thiruvila*”). The group members gather for a special meeting and provide a loan to this institution upon an agreement with an interest rate of 5% applied.



Some of the groups started small business amongst their members, which is it a great opportunity for otherwise unemployed people to earn money. Other groups started purchasing essential food items in bulk from their cooperative stores in order to provide them to members at reduced prices.

In 2019, IMHO supported starting a cooperative shop for these savings groups with an initial contribution of Rs. 950,000, which was added to the contribution of the savings group themselves at Rs. 300,000. This store now manages more than 3 million Sri Lankan Rupees worth of assets and serves more than 100 regular customers. Direct and indirect job opportunities were created to the people through this co-op. This co-op will be registered under Up-Country Co-Operative Society, which will enable the establishment of other branches. Various training programmes are planned to enhance self-employment. Also, many activities will be undertaken to market local products produced by members.

This store was also a blessing during the Covid - 19 relief time, as it was able to issue Rs. 1,000 worth of dry ration packages for 1,000 people. The store helped to give Rs 3,000 loans per family for 1,000 families. The purpose behind this Co-op is to provide goods and services to the consumers at a reasonable cost with the aim of encouraging them towards productivity, savings, investments and equal distribution of surplus goods. Also, this initiative has led to major psychological and social changes amongst the members, such as improved self-confidence, greater leadership, more productive and healthy relationships amongst family and group members, financial skills development, and more.

Caring Hands Project is another endeavor of IMHO, which aims to provide support to 120 vulnerable children and their families living in the Maskeliya area. Each of these children live a very difficult life. Most of them live without the love of their father or mother, or sometimes both. IMHO has invested funds for these children (49 males and 71 females) to fulfill their essential needs, such as food, dress and educational needs. Support is being provided for the delivery of monthly food packs and school supplies to their houses. Meanwhile, IMHO makes sure that they are healthy and doing well in school through monitoring their living conditions and meetings with guardians, school principals and teachers.



A Message from a Caring Hands Project Beneficiary



Selvasundran Sharukshi has been a beneficiary of Caring Hands project from 2016 to December 2019. Her father passed away 4 years ago. When she joined this project, her family was in a very poor condition, hence they were given support of dry food items and school stationery for a period of four years. In 2019, she sat for the G.C.E (O/L) examination and obtained 4As, 4Bs and 1S in Bloomfield TMV, Maskeliya. It is indeed a wonderful achievement of this young woman amidst the difficulties of her family situation. She added that her goal is to become a lawyer and to serve the nation. In order to sustain their economic condition, IMHO provided 3 goats. The family began to manage their livelihood with the help of these goats. She expressed her heartiest thanks to IMHO and she intimated that she is indebted to IMHO for the tremendous service to uplift her education and overall wellbeing.

இத் திட்டம் ஆரம்பித்து வைக்கப்பட்டது இத் திட்டத்தினை கொழும்பு ரொட்டறிக் கழகம் ஊடாக Dr.ஞானசேகரம் ஐயா அவர்களின் தலைமையில் தொடங்கி கட்டம் கட்டமாக எமது அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகள் 30 பேருக்கு இந்த முச்சக்கர வண்டிகள் வழங்கி வைக்கப்பட்டன.இந்த மனிதநேயமிக்க செயற்பாடானது இன்று வரைக்கும் கிடைக்கப்பட்ட பயனாளிகளின் வாழ்வாதாரத்துக்கு இன்றுவரை கைகொடுத்து வருகின்றது.இந்த முச்சக்கர வண்டிகளின் மூலம் பல குடும்பங்களில் இன்றும் அவர்களது முகங்களில் மகிழ்ச்சியை காண முடிகின்றது.



2.எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கு அனுகூலம் வசதிகளைக் கொண்ட மலசல கூடங்கள் அமைத்தல்.

மலசல கூடம் என்பது அது மனிதனாகப் பிறந்த அனைவருக்கும் மிகவும் அவசியமானதொன்றாகும்.இது எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளைப் பொறுத்த மட்டில் மிக மிக அவசியமானதொன்றாக இன்றுவரை இருந்து வருகின்றது காரணம் முள்ளந்தண்டு வடம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு சக்கரநாற்காலிகளைப் பயன்படுத்தும் எமது உயிரிழை உறுப்பினர்கள் தாமாக சுயமாக சென்று தங்களது கடமைகளை சிரமமின்றி நிறைவேற்றிக் கொள்ள இந்த அனுகூலம் வசதிகளைக் கொண்ட மலசல கூடங்கள் மிகவும் அவசியமானதொன்றாக இருந்தது , இருக்கின்றது , இருந்துவருகின்றது. இந்த மிகவும் அத்தியாவசியமான உதவியை நாங்கள் IMHO நிறுவனத்திடம் முன் வைத்தபோதெல்லாம் அவர்களும் எமது நிலமையினைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு இன்று வரைக்கும் எமக்கான இந்த வேலைத்திட்டங்களை செய்து வருகின்றனர்.இன்று வரைக்கும் கிட்டத்தட்ட 60 பயனாளிகளுக்கு மேல் IMHO நிறுவனத்தினால் அனுகூலம் வசதிகளைக்கொண்ட மலசலகூடங்கள் கட்டம் கட்டமாக அமைத்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. இது வடக்கு மற்றும் கிழக்கு மாகாணங்களைச் சேர்ந்த பயனாளிகளுக்கு வழங்கி வைக்கப்பட்டது.அன்மையிலும் இதன் தேவைகள் கிழக்கு மற்றும் வடக்கு மாகாணங்களில் இனம் காணப்பட்டு அதன் செயற்பாடுகளும் தற்போது பரிசீலனையில் உள்ளன.

3.எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கான விசேட மருத்துவ முகாம்களை நடாத்துதல்.

இவ் விசேட மருத்துவமுகாம்கள் 2 தடவைகளுக்கு மேல் யாழ் போதனா வைத்தியசாலையில் எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கு சிறப்பாக நடாத்தப்பட்டது இந்த மருத்துவ முகாமிற்கான அனைத்து ஏற்பாடுகளையும் IMHO நிறுவனத்தின் அனுசரணையோடு நடைபெற்றது.இதில் எமது அமைப்பின் பெருமளவினாலான பயனாளிகள் கலந்துகொண்டு பயனடைந்தனர் இதில் அனைத்து வகையான இரத்த மாதிரிகளும் சேர்க்கப்பட்டு அவை அனைத்தும் பரிசோதிக்கப்பட்டு அதற்கான சிகிச்சைகளும் வழங்கப்பட்டன.எமது பயனாளிகளுக்கு

மட்டுமல்லாமல் அப் பகுதியை சேர்ந்த மக்களுக்கும் இவ் மருத்துவ முகாம் நடத்தப்பட்டது விசேட அம்சமாகும்.அத்தோடு இந்த மருத்துவ முகாம் நிறைவின் பின்னர் எமது பயனாளிக்கான மருத்துவ பொதிகளும் வழங்கி வைக்கப்பட்டன உண்மையில் இப்படியான விசேட மருத்துவ முகாம்களை 3 மாதத்திற்கு ஒரு தடவை நடத்தினால் சிறப்பாக இருக்கும் அத்தோடு இந்த மருத்துவ முகாம்களை தனியாக யாழ்ப்பாணத்தில் மட்டும் நடாத்தாமல் ஏனைய மாவட்டங்களிலும் உள்ள எமது பயனாளிகளுக்கும் நடாத்தினால் இன்னும் சிறப்பாக இருக்கும்.



4.எமது உயிரிழைப் பயனாளிகளுக்காக மருத்துவ மற்றும் இயன் மருத்துவ கட்டிடம் அமைத்தல் மற்றும் அதற்கான உபகரணங்களைப் பெற்றுக்கொடுத்தல்.

எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கான பராமரிப்பு நிலையம் ஒன்றினை அமைத்து அதில் முள்ளந்தண்டு வடம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு வீடுகளில் வைத்து பராமரிக்க முடியாதவர்களையும் மற்றும் கணவன் மனைவியால் கைவிடப்பட்டவர்கள் போன்றவர்களை நிரந்தரமாக அங்கு வைத்து பராமரித்தல் அத்தோடு அழுத்தப்புண்கள் காரணமாக அவதிப்படுவோரையும் மருந்துகள் கட்ட வசதிகள் இல்லாமல் வீடுகளில் இருந்து சிரமப்படுபவர்களையும் கொண்டு வந்து அங்கு வைத்து அவர்களின் அழுத்தப்புண்களை மாற்றி மீண்டும் அவர்களை வீடுகளுக்கு அனுப்பி வைத்தல் போன்ற இரண்டு செயற்பாடுகள் இந்த பராமரிப்பு இல்லம் ஊடாக நடைபெற்று வருகின்றது.ஆனால் எமக்கு இதற்கான ஒரு மருத்துவ மற்றும் இயன் மருத்துவத்திற்கான தனியான ஒரு கட்டிடம் இல்லாமல் மிகவும் சிரமப்பட்டு வந்த வேளை எமது தேவைகள் தொடர்பாக நாம் வழமைபோன்று IMHO நிறுவனத்தை நாடிய போது எமது மிகவும் அத்தியாவசிய தேவைகளைப் புரிந்து கொண்ட அவர்கள் எமது வின்னப்பத்தினை ஏற்று எமக்கான மருத்துவ மற்றும் இயன் மருத்துவ கட்டிடத்தினை அமைத்து தந்ததோடு மட்டுமல்லாது அதற்கு தேவையான தளபாடங்களையும் எமக்கு பெற்றுத் தந்தார்கள்.உண்மையில் இவர்களின் இந்த காத்திரமான பணியின் மூலம் இன்று ஒரு சிறந்த முறையில் எமது பயனாளிகளுக்கு தேவையான மருத்துவ தேவைகள் , மருத்துவ பொருட்கள் அனைத்தும் இவ் இடத்தில் ஒழுங்குசெய்யப்பட்டு எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் அனைத்து பயனாளிகளுக்கும் பகிர்ந்தளிக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றது.இந்த செயற்பாட்டின் மூலம் எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கு ஒவ்வொரு மாதமும் அவர்களுக்கு தேவையான மிகவும் அவசியமான மருந்து

பொருட்கள் அந்தந்த மாவட்ட இணைப்பாளர் ஊடாக பயனாளிகளுக்கு வழங்கி வைக்கப்படுகின்றது. எனவே எமது உயிரிழை நிர்வாகத்தினை நாம் சிறந்த முறையில் நடாத்தி செல்வதற்கு எமக்கு இது போன்ற மிகவும் அவசியமான மனிதநேயம் மிக்க செயற்பாடுகளுக்கு அனைத்துலக சுகாதார மருத்துவ நிறுவனம் தொடர்ந்தும் எமக்கான தங்களது ஆதரவுக் கரத்தினை நீட்டி வருவது மகிழ்ச்சியே.



5.எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பராமரிப்பு இல்ல மருத்துவ தாதிக்கான சம்பளத்தை வழங்குதல்.

உமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் பயனாளிகளுக்கான பராமரிப்பு இல்லத்தினை அமைத்து அதில் தங்கி இருப்பதற்காக 10 பயனாளிகள் வந்திருந்தார்கள் ஆனால் அவர்கள் அனைவருக்கும் மிகவும் பாரிய அழுத்தப்பணிகள் இருந்தன அந்த நேரத்தில் நாம் அவர்களுக்கான மருந்து கட்டுவதற்காக மிகவும் சிரமப்பட்டோம். பின்னர் அந்த நேரத்தில் நாம் அதை சமாளித்துக்கொண்டாலும் எமக்கான இந்த மருத்துவதாதிக்கான வெற்றிடம் இருந்துகொண்டே இருந்தது. அப்போதுதான் நாம் இதற்காக ஒரு மருத்துவம் தெரிந்த ஒருவரை நியமிக்க என்னினோம் ஆனால் அந்த நேரத்தில் இவருக்கான சம்பளத்தை கொடுக்க நாம் மிகவும் சிரமப்பட்டோம். அப்போதுதான் நாங்கள் IMHO விடம் எமது அமைப்புக்காக இப்படி ஒரு தேவை இருக்கின்றது இது மிகவும் அவசியமானதொன்று எனவும் இதற்காக நாங்கள் ஒரு மருத்துவதாதி ஒருவரை நியமிக்கவுள்ளோம் ஆனால் அவருக்கான ஊதியம் மாதாந்தம் வழங்குவதில் பிரச்சனையாகவுள்ளது என்றும் எமது பயனாளிகளின் அழுத்தப்பணிகள் தொடர்பாகவும் இந்த மருத்துவதாதிக்கான சம்பளத்தை வழங்க எமக்கு ஆவன செய்யும்படி கேட்டிருந்தோம். அவர்களும் உடனே எமது நியாயமான கோரிக்கையை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு இன்று வரைக்கும் அவருக்கான சம்பளத்தை வழங்கி வருகின்றனர். அந்த நடவடிக்கையானது இன்று வரைக்கும் எந்தவிதமான இடையூறுகளும் இல்லாமல் நடைபெற்றுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றது. பின்னர் மருத்துவதாதியேருவரை நாங்கள் நிரந்தரமாக நியமித்ததன் பின்னர் எமது பயனாளிகளுக்கு மருந்துகள் கட்டுவதற்காக மருந்து பொருட்கள் மற்றும் Dressing Instrument Dressing trolley Auto clove போன்ற மிகவும் அவசியமான பொருட்கள் தேவையாக இருந்தபோது அந்த பொருட்களையும் எமக்கு பெற்றுத்தந்து இன்று எமது இந்த பராமரிப்பு இல்லம் ஒரு சீரான முறையில் இயங்குவதற்கு IMHO நிறுவனம் இன்று வரைக்கும் எம்மோடு தொடர்ந்தும் இணைந்திருப்பதினால்தான் என்பது நிதர்சனம்.



6.எமது உயிரிழைப் பயனாளிகளின் கல்வியில் மேலும் தங்களை
வளர்த்துக்கொள்வதற்காக அவர்களுக்கு தேவையான மிகவும் பயனுள்ள
மடிக்கணினிகள் வழங்குதல்.

இதனுடாக இம்முறை எமது பயனாளிகளின் கல்வி வளர்ச்சியிலும் IMHO நிறுவனம் இணைந்துள்ளது அதாவது கடந்த 2019 ம் ஆண்டு நடந்து முடிந்த க.பொ.த.சாதாரண தரப் பரீட்சையில் தோற்றி மிகவும் சிறப்பான முறையில் தங்களின் பெறுபேறுகளை வெளிப்படுத்திய எமது உயிரிழை அமைப்பின் முள்ளந்தண்டுவடம் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பயனாளிகள் தங்களது உயர்தரத்தில் தங்களை இன்னும் வளர்த்துக்கொள்வதற்காகவும் மற்றும் இருவருமே சக்கரநாற்காலி பாவனையாளர்கள் என்பதால் தங்களது மாலைநேரக் கல்வியை புதிய தொழிநுட்பங்களின் ஊடாக கற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு அவர்கள் மடிக்கணினிகளை எம்மிடம் கோரியிருந்தார்கள் அந்த வின்னப்பத்தினை நாம் உடனடியாக IMHO நிறுவனத்துக்கு அனுப்பியிருந்தோம் அவர்களும் எமது நியாயமான கோரிக்கைகளை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு உடனடியாக அந்த பொருட்களை எமக்கு பெற்றுத்தந்துள்ளனர் அந்த இரண்டு கணினிகளும் வருகின்ற செவ்வாய்கிழமை அவர்களிடம் கையளிக்கப்படவுள்ளது.



A Signature Project in Jaffna: Construction of a Residential Rehabilitation Center for the Mentally Ill

By Dr. S. Sivayokan, Consultant Psychiatrist, Jaffna

Introduction

Major mental illnesses often go beyond their direct symptoms and affect a person's ability to function satisfactorily. People who are affected by major mental illnesses may develop deficits in their functional abilities, and have a wide range of disabilities, from taking care of their personal hygiene to expressing their views properly in a social setting. In addition, their drive and energy may also be affected leading to apathy and social withdrawal. Altogether, many may lose their ability to enjoy an independent productive living.

Medications, which are used in the treatment of major mental illnesses help a lot, with no doubt, in controlling a number of distressing symptoms the patients may have. However, their efficacy is limited when considering the deterioration of a number of functional abilities of those with mental illness. In reality, though medications play a pivotal role in the management of the mental illness, they alone can't help the person to have a full recovery. In this context, the concept of rehabilitation is valued in the field of psychiatry, and a variety of rehabilitation programs have been introduced in the field. Rehabilitation programs are designed to help the mentally ill clients to recover from their functional disabilities, and to return to the state they were in before the illness, or at least to a state closer to it.

Residential rehabilitation programs are designed to help the mentally ill clients to regain their potential in basic self-care, small scale domestic works, simple food preparations, useful leisure time activities, physical and mental exercises, organizational capacities, goal directed activities, vocational trainings, and activities related to earning their livelihood and leading an independent life.

History

In Jaffna, the efforts of establishing a unit where mentally ill clients, with deficits in their functional capacities, can stay for a reasonable period and recover in a supportive and structured environment began in the early 2000s. However, it was only materialized in 2007. The first ever residential rehabilitation center of the Jaffna mental health services was inaugurated in Jaffna on the 10th of October, 2007 as part of commemorating the World Mental Health Day. This rehabilitation center was nicknamed as "The Hut" with the motto of "Gateway to Life". This initiative was supported by the WHO (Colombo), IMHO (USA) and MHS (Tellipalai).

The model which has been adopted in the Jaffna rehabilitation center is unique in many ways. From its inception, the center has been located away from the hospital and in the middle of the community, thereby enhancing the natural community interactions. The clients are accommodated in adjoining rented houses, which helps them to have a homely feeling and to learn home-based rehabilitation skills. At a time, on average, there are six male and six female clients who are cared for by twelve health care workers. This client staff ratio helps to introduce the case management model, where each client will have a designated case manager.

In addition, there are other visiting professionals who also play their professional role in the rehabilitation process. The period of rehabilitation is set as six months, and usually clients stay at the rehabilitation center for a period of four to eight months. This model of rehabilitation was found to be very successful and rewarding, and in accordance to the motto, many persons regained their life through this rehabilitation process.

The model has gained popularity among the mental health professionals in Sri Lanka. WHO – Sri Lanka and IMHO USA have given due recognition to the rehabilitation process and have been continuously extending their support in many ways. In November 2017, we had a Regional Conference on Rehabilitation in Jaffna as part of the 10th year anniversary of the residential rehabilitation center.

Challenges

Nothing is static and nothing can last forever on the same pace. The residential rehabilitation services too have experienced many challenges. Maintaining the staff members, keeping their morale and addressing their burnout have emerged as challenges, and time to time, we have to take remedial measures. But during the recent years, renting suitable houses in the community, to be utilized as residential rehabilitation facilities, has emerged as a major challenge. The process of post-war development, releasing of lands, and resettlement created many kinds of demands including the availability of houses. For the past few years, the staff members of the rehabilitation center and we, as service organizers, started feeling of the need of having a permanent structure, a set of houses for the rehabilitation center. Whatever said and done, in reality, mental health and psychiatry were not yet there in the priority baskets of policy makers and administrators. We were worrying.

A Turning Point

In 2018, a retired psychiatrist and her husband, a retired anesthetist, visited Jaffna and visited our services. When we discussed the need of having a permanent structure for the rehabilitation center, they, without any hesitation, agreed to help us to purchase a plot of land for it. With their good will and generosity, we were able to purchase a land in early 2019, and it was donated to the health department for the purpose of building a rehabilitation center. Then, we were puzzling on how to get the necessary fund to build such a structure. We started appealing to various people and well-wishers and, as always in the case, IMHO responded to our appeal and relayed that to their contacts. We were fortunate that it reached the ears of a generous family. Soon one of the family members contacted us and paid a site visit; another family member had a Skype call. Things moved fast and with God's grace, the family took a generous decision to support this project single handedly, through IMHO.

Development

A young architect gave a concept design, which included an office space with staff rooms, two single story houses and two double-story houses, which altogether comfortably accommodate minimum of 18 clients at a time. The design also included provisions for green effect and nature preservation. The concept design was then developed further by the provincial building department in order to fit into the local requirements and bid process. In February 2020, the IMHO (Lanka) signed an MOU with the chief secretary of the northern provincial council. The provincial building department kindly agreed to supervise the construction. The project was about to start in March, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was delayed. We have now revived the process again. As per the present ground situation, it is expected to have the foundation laying ceremony in the first week of July.

Reflection

Charity is being understood and expressed in many different ways. Helping a fellow human or even an animal gives anyone a great feeling, a pleasure, a mental satisfaction, a positivity, and a state of wellbeing. It is evident that the pioneers and contributors of IMHO must truly feel these marvelous experiences as they are continuing to help the vulnerable people in Sri Lanka and other parts of the world. What is important in charity is to identify the real need of the beneficiaries and to address those needs with minimum middlemen. Of course, choosing the correct recipients and partners are also of paramount importance. As a distant observer, I see that IMHO is mostly adapting these principles, and that is the reason why they are able to continue to attract the good-hearted and help the needy.

Before ending this short note, I couldn't resist mentioning a few words about the family who is contributing to this remarkable, signatory project of IMHO in Jaffna. This family, even long before COVID-19, determined to spend their wealth on a sensible project related to a population who is otherwise ignored grossly by many. If I read their mind correctly, they are planning to involve in some more projects after the successful completion of the current one. On a personal note, I take this opportunity to thank the family and wish them all the best.

**Projects Funded by IMHO USA & Implemented by
Assist Resettlement & Renaissance in the North and East of Sri Lanka**

By Dr. Velautham Sarveswaran, Assist RR

Renovation of Mental Health Unit at Batticaloa Teaching Hospital

The Mental Health Unit at Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa was the first designated mental health unit in the Eastern Province. From 2010 onwards the focus was on establishing designated mental health services tailored to different groups of patients and as part of this agenda weekly outpatient service clinics for children and adolescents were established in year 2010. As the number of children and adolescents increased, these clinics were expanded to two clinics per week by year 2012 to ensure the quality of care. In these clinics over time, it was evident that there was a notable increase in the numbers of children presenting with intellectual disabilities and neuro-disabilities. It is also understood, although there are many institutions that provide basic psychological support, remedial teaching and parental support, most of these centers lack a systematic assessment approach and qualified trained personnel. This led to the establishment of another outpatient services for children in year 2019 and this was named as “Learning & Communication Assessment & Support Clinics”.

The expansion of services for children and adolescents was restricted to outpatient services. All children who needed inpatient support were admitted to paediatric wards and adolescents were admitted to adult inpatient units. The necessity for designated child inpatient and day care facilities were strongly felt after the Easter Day Disaster in April 2019. Majority of deceased (48%) and injured (26%) were children and the hospital had expanded their services to “day care” for children with direct exposure as well as indirect exposure to the disaster. Most children were initially managed at the liaison unit in a temporary “child friendly” corner. However, the hospital soon realized that the liaison unit was not an ideal place to provide counselling or therapeutic support for children, partly due to the limited space and partly because it was not “child friendly”.

The hospital was able to find an unused space, an old kitchen that was used temporarily as a storeroom, to be used as a “Child Support Center”. The need for this centre was informed to Dr. Rajam Theventhiran, and she with other board of directors from IMHO-USA readily agreed to provide the financial support for renovation of the identified place and requested AssistRR to implement the project on their behalf. Initial estimate amounting of Rs 3.5 million was for a Child Support Center, which was a three-roomed structure with spaces for skills assessment and day care support. Fortunately, after shifting of stored items, a space more than that was included in the initial estimate became available. This had led to the addition of a space for inpatient unit with attached bathroom and for a nursing station. AssistRR have completed the renovation including the extra space and Air-Conditioning for a total cost of Rs 2.5 Million. This renovated building is now named as “Children’s Healing Garden”. The contribution by IMHO for the development of Mental Health services for the Eastern Province is immeasurable.



Providing Breakfast to Underprivileged Pupils at Ki/Sivapathakalaiyagam, Kilinochchi

This school that was created in 1982 by “1980 Engineering Undergraduates” has been serving Tamils mostly displaced by the 1977 riots from the upcountry. Most of the families around this schools depend on daily wages and are underprivileged. An anonymous donor through AssistRR has been providing funds to conduct extra lessons in Maths, English and Science before and after school time for GCE O/L pupils. As part of this project, breakfast is also provided to these pupils to encourage them to attend the extra lessons. One morning, the teachers noticed that one of the girls from this class collected her breakfast and took it away and shared it with her 2 younger siblings. The teachers later found out that the younger ones have been coming to school on empty stomachs. AssistRR heard this story and ask the principal to count the number of pupils who attend school on empty stomach. Nearly 100 pupils attend school without having breakfast.

AssistRR told this story to Dr. Rajam Theventhiran, IMHO USA, who immediately said she would discuss it with their board and would tell us whether IMHO could assist the pupils by providing breakfast. She quickly got the approval from IMHO’s board. The school has been providing breakfast at the school for the 100 pupils since February 2020. A couple of photos are given below.



Providing free breakfast at Kilinochchi Sivapathakalaiyagam School

Upgrading ICT Laboratory at Vavuniya Poompugar Kannaki Vidyalayam in Iranaiiluppankulam

This school was established in 1993 as a primary school and later upgraded to secondary school (Type ii School). Currently, there are around 180 pupils and 17 teachers at this school. The school administration recently approached IMHO USA to provide funding to renovate the ICT laboratory and to provide five new computers with accessories and computer tables to the school. This will enable school children to learn computers in a safe and acceptable environment for learning. Since Poompugar village is in a geographically isolated location and far from the main town (25 kms from Vavuniya), the school is the only resource to the students for learning. The project had been completed by AssistRR for Rs 650,000.



Upgrading ICT Laboratory at Vavuniya Poompugar Kannaki Vidyalayam

Assist Resettlement & Renaissance

Charity registered in England & Wales – Reg. No. 1151025



Teach a Man To Fish, and You Feed Him for a Lifetime – Donating Fishing Equipment in the North and East of Sri Lanka

AssistRR, with the support of like-minded organisations (IMHO USA, Tamil Forum Malaysia and CHRF UK) have been donating fishing equipment to families who were displaced from their coastal villages due to the war and were living without carrying out their livelihood. Many of them have been working as labourers for very little and have been struggling to look after their families. As the capital investment to buy a boat, engine and nets is around Rs 600,000.00 per one set, these families have been unable to afford to invest in the fishing equipment. AssistRR carried out a pilot study in Sampoor and Paadalipuram in Trincomalee, by providing 17 sets of equipment (one set = 1 boat, 1 engine and 10 nets) to 85 families to be shared between them. Data gathered later showed that these families were earning very well, and one family had already bought a boat of their own. AssistRR therefore wanted to expand this to other areas and partnered with IMHO USA to raise funds to donate more boats.

Solihull Junior School HeadMaster, Mr. Mark Penney and Mrs. Donna Penney voluntarily came forward to walk 55 km. to raise funds for this cause and walked in the UK on 25 Aug 2018. Following their walk, they raised nearly £50,000.00 in the UK and USA. Using this sum and funds raised at AssistRR dinners, AssistRR have now donated 28 sets of boats, engines and nets, in addition to the 17 sets donated (by IMHO USA – 10, TFM – 5, & CHRF UK – 2) earlier in Trincomalee district. In total 45 sets have already been given and are being shared by 225 families. These families are earning around Rs 3000-4000 per day and are very grateful to Diaspora Tamils and other nationals who have contributed.



Boats handing over ceremonies in Thirukkivil (Amparai), Verugal (Trincomalee) & Vadamarachchi East (Jaffna) and a boat trip to Vaharai (Batticaloa)

Construction of a Teachers Quarters at M/Kottaikattiyakulam Maha Vidyalayam in Thunukkai, Mullaithivu District (Estimated Cost- Rs 2,365,196.00)

This school was established in 1974 and was later promoted as a Maha Vidyalayam (Type 1C and Upto Grade 13). Currently, there are around 160 students and 17 teachers at this school. As this is situated in a very remote jungle location, teachers who come from other districts require accommodation (quarters) at the school so that they can stay at the school during school days. Although there are 2 quarters at the school at present, they are in a state of disrepair.

The school administration approached IMHO USA for funding to construct new quarters. Further to IMHO's request AssistRR visited the school and confirmed the need for quarters and also agreed to implement this project on behalf of IMHO. Up to 6 teachers will be able to use this quarters. By providing this quarters, teachers will benefit from a safe and acceptable environment for living during school days. Pupils will also have access to these teachers out of school hours and can have extra lessons from these teachers. Although funding was sought from IMHO USA by the school for Rs 5 Million, AssistRR have completed the construction for Rs 2.365 Million. Photos of foundation stone laying ceremony are given below.



Foundation laying ceremony for teachers' quarters at M/Kottaikattiyakulam Maha Vidyalayam

Work in Progress – Kaanchuramoddai, Nedunkerni, Vavuniya

1. Toilets Construction
2. Electricity by Solar panels to households

28 families were resettled in this border village without any basic facilities. IMHO have already funded 12 toilets and agreed to fund another 14 toilets in partnership with AssistRR. IMHO have also agreed to provide electricity by supplying solar panels to these households. The implementation was halted by the Coronavirus and would be implemented soon. AssistRR will implement the both toilet construction and the solar panels.



Village entrance and a house full of children in Kaanchuramoddai



Continuous Healthcare Support Services for Remote Area Populations

By Mr. G. Krishnakumar, Coordinator, IMHO Lanka

The shortage of human resources is a major challenge in providing better healthcare services to needy populations, especially those who live in remote areas in the Northern Province. This leads to people in rural areas needing to travel longer distance to access health services at major hospitals.

In order to overcome this problem, IMHO provides continuous support to our local health institutions, which are located in rural areas across the Mullaitivu District. The beneficiaries are those who live close to the Primary Medical Care Units at Thunukkai, Iyankankulam, Thevipuram and Iyankankulam and the Divisional Hospital at Unapilavu. The out-patient divisions of the above hospitals are functioning from 8.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. during weekdays, and from 8.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Most of the hospitals in the island areas of Jaffna District face difficulties on account of a shortage of medical officers. The medical officers who serve in these areas face hardships in finding comfortable accommodation, meals and regular transportation to and from their homes. IMHO supports these officers who serve in Divisional Hospitals at Delft, Nainativu and Analaitivu and Primary Medical Care Unit at Eluvaithivu with financial incentives.

Complete Renovation of Cancer Radiotherapy and Renal Dialysis Unit Building at Tellipalai Base Hospital

The cancer radiotherapy and renal dialysis units building at Tellipalai Base Hospital was built several decades ago by the family of the late Mr. G. G. Ponnappalam, which has served thousands and thousands of cancer patients over the years. It is observed that the building has been ruined progressively due to aging, leading to both patients and staff feeling uncomfortable.

In addition, for the last couple of years, the facility has shared the space with the renal dialysis unit, which is another vital service centre for patients. This too has led to difficulties and a feeling of being cramped.

Unfortunately, provincial allocations are not adequate to properly maintain the buildings. In this circumstance, IMHO generously provided a helping hand in renovating this building structure completely. This led to having better infrastructure and facilities for both units.

Thanks to IMHO on behalf of the Ministry of Health of the Northern Province for this great support to overcome the challenges in providing better health services to those in need.



Reflections on a Brief Time in Northern Sri Lanka

By Ahilan Arulanantham, IMHO General Counsel

I was fortunate to spend two months on sabbatical in Northern Sri Lanka at the start of this year, along with my father, my wife, and our four-year old daughter. We all lived together in a house in Chundikuli, Jaffna, in February and March 2020. Although I had heard about Jaffna my whole life and spent a few days there on trips before, this was my first opportunity to actually live in my family's ancestral home.

It was a magical time for all of us. We found Jaffna to be a lively place, with no shortage of social and cultural activity in which we quickly got involved. I had the opportunity to meet with people in various sectors of Tamil society, including in NGOs, different academic institutions, and technology. The time left me with several lasting impressions.

First, I met a lot of people in Jaffna who work really hard. I talked to multiple people working two jobs to make ends meet – a waiter who also does demining for an international NGO; a taxi driver who does an early morning shift of fishing four times a week; a man who helps build prosthetic limbs during the day, and then drives a three-wheeler in the evenings. Even professionals working just one job – such as lawyers and bankers – seemed to work hours no better, and often worse, than their American counterparts. I had heard it said that people in Jaffna no longer work hard because they have become dependent on foreign remittances; that was not my experience.

Second, even now, more than ten years after the war ended, the military remains a significant presence in the daily life of anyone who travels around Northern Sri Lanka. Even biking around the peninsula just a few miles from our house, I would regularly come across massive military camps, hotels and restaurants run by the army, and of course the ubiquitous checkpoints. Before long my little daughter started asking me lots of questions about “the armies.” Explaining them to her was not easy.

While each time we were stopped at a checkpoint felt like an affront to me, people living with the military presence every day seemed to accept it with a great deal of patience and resilience. I met many people who had seen not just checkpoints, but the true horrors of 2009, as well as multiple waves of violence and displacement before then. While I have no doubt that living through that trauma must have deeply affected them, it did not stop people from working hard, enjoying the good things in life, and trying to build a better world for their children, just like anyone else.



Third, poverty and other related forms of deprivation remain serious problems. The Northern and Eastern Provinces “lead” in all major indicators of poverty, and in the nation as a whole the “Sri Lankan Tamil,” “Indian Tamil,” and “Sri Lankan Moor” communities (as defined by the World Bank) remain those with, by far, the highest poverty rates. We saw these grim indicators manifested in the daily lives of people living around us, so many of whom worked for day-to-

day wages with little opportunity for savings, insufficient access to medical care, and limited educational opportunities for themselves or their children.

Our time in Sri Lanka gave me a rare opportunity to see all the good work being done to counteract these trends. IMHO has long done extraordinary work in the medical field, and that work continues. I also had the opportunity to visit IMHO's projects expanding into the education sector. It was inspiring to see that work also begin to bear fruit. And I was excited to learn about the resurgence of cooperative societies, which for years before the war had been sources of community economic empowerment.

While we had hoped to stay much longer, our trip was cut short by the coronavirus pandemic. After seven lovely weeks in Jaffna, we were dismayed to see things shift dramatically when the whole island came under curfew. And while most everyone in Sri Lanka was required to stay in their homes, in the North that rule was enforced not just by the police, but also by the military – as we learned the hard way when we tried to go to Colombo to catch a flight back to the U.S. We eventually got out only after U.S. Embassy officials called an army commander who gave us permission to leave.



Before I close, I must note that I am conscious of the date. I sit writing now on May 17th, during a time in which Sri Lankan Tamils all across the world mourn the loss of tens of thousands of our people killed in 2009, at the end of the war. It is fitting that I would take a few hours today to write something for IMHO. Although I was only a very tiny part of the effort, I still remain proud to have supported the first international NGO to get desperately needed nutritional relief supplies to the several hundred thousand people who were stranded, so cruelly, on that spit of dry land next to the ocean. Dr. Martin Luther King said that the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice. We remain steadfast in our belief that one day justice will be served for those who died in 2009.

While this time of year always fills me with sadness, my memories of Jaffna remain full of joy. When the pandemic passes, we intend to go back and continue supporting the good work IMHO and others are doing to allow the Northeast to thrive once again. My daughter wants to go back too, for a simpler reason. She attended the nursery at Chundikuli Girls College while she was there and can't wait to go back to visit. I have never seen her prouder than the day she put on her little red and black uniform. The connections we made during our time in Sri Lanka will stay with us for a long time. We will do everything in our power to contribute to our community's advancement for years to come.

Valuable Support to War-Torn Communities in Mullaitivu District

*By Dr. Thuvarathipan, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynecologist,
Mullaitivu District General Hospital*

Mullaitivu District General Hospital is the main healthcare institution for the entire Mullaitivu District catering to an estimated population of 134,000 persons, which includes some of the most badly affected communities in Sri Lanka. There are around 100 subfertility patients (couples) registered so far. Since facilities capable of performing Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) services was not established in Mullaitivu District previously, patients in need of IUI are sent to Jaffna District, which is about 120 kilometers away from Mullaitivu.

In response, the International Medical Health Organization (IMHO) donated the following equipment to stabilize IUI/ Andrology laboratory at District General Hospital Mullaitivu:

- Microscope with camera eye piece
- Counting chamber
- Tube warmer
- Centrifuger
- Media & disposable for IUI
- Refrigerator and Stabilizer
- Television

We are very grateful for the support rendered by IMHO. This equipment is very useful to our local community which has been so severely affected by war. We are hoping for the continuous support from IMHO and other well-wishers to successfully run this fertility service on a long-term basis.

As we are working with limited human resources, we appeal to the goodwill of IMHO in appointing a Research Assistant to run the IUI/ Andrology Laboratory at Mullaitivu District General Hospital and ensure smooth and continuous operations.





JAFFNA JAIPUR CENTRE FOR DISABILITY REHABILITATION

No. 05, OLD PARK ROAD, CHUNDIKULI, JAFFNA

யாழ். ஜெய்ப்பூர் வலுவிறந்தோர் புனர்வாழ்வு நிறுவனம்

இல. 05, பழைய பூங்காவிதி, சுண்டிக்குளி, யாழ்ப்பாணம்.

E-mail : jaipurj@sltnet.lk, Website : www.jjcdr.com

Regd No : L/25716 & MSS/NSPD/R/174

Tel.: 021 222 2574

IMHO Supported Projects

JJCDR is a non profitable registered organization. It was founded by the Mothers front of Jaffna in July 1987. JJCDR is the pioneer centre in the North providing prosthetics, orthotic devices and mobility devices for the people with disability. The centre also provides physiotherapy services and educational grants to students who are our beneficiaries

Our centre has for the past 32 year served the less fortunate handicapped and physically disabled Sri Lankan Population.

IMHO is one of the major donor to support JJCDR's services to help the persons with disability since 2012.

The following projects were initiated by the JJCDR in partnership with the IMHO.

1. Provision of mobility devices
2. Repair of prosthesis
3. Provision of educational grant

Provision of mobility devices

JJCDR's Physiotherapist advocates for proper mobility devices for the persons with disabilities in order to enable increased independence and safety.

Mobility devices not only helps persons with disabilities but also gives care givers time .

87 Devices were distributed among Disabled persons to enhance quality of life and to provide important functional benefit to assist the user while participating in activities of daily living.

Chairperson: Dr.(Mrs) J.Ganeshamoorthy, **Secretary:** Mrs.A.A.Aloysius, **Treasurer:** Mrs.D.Thuseetharan
Cheque in favour of 'Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation' Commercial Bank of Ceylon Ltd.,
Jaffna A/C No. 1060007293 or Bank of Ceylon, Jaffna. A/C No : 0001093042



JAFFNA JAIPUR CENTRE FOR DISABILITY REHABILITATION

No. 05, OLD PARK ROAD, CHUNDIKULI, JAFFNA

யாழ். ஜெய்ப்பூர் வலுவிறந்தோர் புனர்வாழ்வு நிறுவனம்

இல. 05, பழைய பூங்காவீதி, சுண்டிக்குளி, யாழ்ப்பாணம்.

E-mail : jaipurj@sltnet.lk, Website : www.jjcdr.com

Regd No : L/25716 & MSS/NSPD/R/174

Tel.: 021 222 2574

Repair of prosthesis

Repair of prosthesis can be more cost-effective than fitting new prosthesis.

We have calculated that the cost of repairing prosthesis averages around 16% that of new prosthesis.

Repair and maintenance measures can have benefits like:

- Preventing complete replacement.
- Extending the life of the equipment

For the period April 2019 - March 2020 ,507 prosthesis were repaired.

Provision of Educational Grant

IMHO providing educational grant for 8 physically rehabilitated amputee students to encourage them to attend school .

IMHO has donated SL Rs:2.3 million for our efforts to enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities

Board of Management of JJCDR would like to thank IMHO who has provided invaluable support that has enabled us to keep our commitments and deliver the services for the persons with disabilities.

Dr. (Mrs) J. Ganeshamoorthy
Chairperson
JAFFNA JAIPUR CENTRE
FOR DISABILITY REHABILITATION
No.5, Old Park Road,
Jaffna, Sri Lanka.

Chairperson: Dr.(Mrs) J.Ganeshamoorthy, **Secretary:** Mrs.A.A.Aloysius, **Treasurer:** Mrs.D.Thuseetharan
Cheque in favour of 'Jaffna Jaipur Centre for Disability Rehabilitation' Commercial Bank of Ceylon Ltd.,
Jaffna A/C No. 1060007293 or Bank of Ceylon, Jaffna. A/C No : 0001093042

A New Beginning for Deaf Youth in Awassa, Ethiopia

By Gregory Buie, Executive Director, Visions Global Empowerment

For the last 8 years, IMHO has supported the Deaf community in Ethiopia through providing salaries for professionals who serve this vulnerable and often overlooked demographic. In the past, this has included support for both Deaf educators and interpreters, who are a vital lifeline for the youth we serve. Without the services provided by these individuals, many students would never have the opportunity to develop absolutely critical language skills and would likely have dropped out of school entirely.

This past year, we expanded our reach outside of Bahir Dar, which is the capital of the Amhara Region in the northwest of Ethiopia, and into Awassa, the capital of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region. With a large Deaf population and almost no organization or individuals actively providing services to them, the community in Awassa has already responded with overwhelming positivity and interest.

As an initial step, we hired a full-time Deaf teacher and Interpreter last summer (July 2019) to begin working with students who are Deaf at Tabor Primary School and 2 other public schools in Awassa. IMHO provided financial support for us to employ this full-time Deaf teacher. As most students had little to no formal Ethiopian Sign Language exposure or training prior, he has focused on providing fundamental sign language skills development to both "Grade 0" students (ie: young learners and those with no language at all) and students from Grades 1-8 who are Deaf but are without any other formal language development support. Thus, amongst all groups, it was of critical importance that he first help to develop formal Ethiopian Sign Language skills and help build a sense of pride and community amongst the Deaf students, their hearing peers, the teachers/staff, and the school communities in general.

The impact of these efforts thus far has resulted in the following:

- Approximately 45 Deaf students have been reached, of which 30+ are receiving regular educational support and formal Ethiopian Sign Language training 2-3 times per week.
- Working with 3 local public schools with Deaf students on a continuous rotational basis, new relationships have been forged with these schools and with more than 20 teachers & administrators
- Enrollment has increased, especially amongst preschool / "Grade 0" students who now have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn

As always, we are deeply grateful to IMHO for their continued support and encouragement, and we hope this support will be continued in the years ahead so that we may reach many, many more Deaf youth in need. Congratulations to the entire IMHO family on another year of exceptional leadership and service!



PHOTO GALLERY











WWW.THEIMHO.ORG