

Ceylon Fellowship of Service

Prithipura Home

*Over 60 Years of
Lifelong Care*

July to December 2024



Since 1960, the Ceylon Fellowship of Service Prithipura Home has flourished in tranquil surroundings on three and a half acres of land in the coastal town of Wattala.

The Ceylon Fellowship of Service Prithipura Home was inaugurated in 1962. Under the guidance and dedication of Bikkhu Sumana, the Home initially began as a boys' home. There were three huts with cemented floors, wooden walls and thatch roofs. It had four residents with a few house mothers to care for them.

Today there are 60 residents housed in seven cottages on the premises, giving the feeling of an extended family unit. Four cottages - Norad, Canada, Jayewardene and Rosy - house male residents while the females live in Bates, Prithi and Nasima. Our staff numbers eleven house mothers, three kitchen staff, a matron, an assistant matron, an administration officer, a gate keeper, a gardener and a driver.

Our mission is to care for the residents in a community environment that enables them to live life to the fullest. We offer a safe place for the well-being and rehabilitation of the residents who need special care and attention due to mental, physical, social or economic reasons. At the Home, residents are encouraged to develop their own personalities and identities.

VISION: A home for people with mental and physical disabilities

MISSION: To care for our residents in a community environment that enables our residents to live life to the fullest

Home Faces Continued Financial Challenges

With donations down drastically, the Home continued to face financial challenges in meeting the ever rising cost of food and basic essentials as well as necessary increases in staff salaries and other requirements. Lower interest rates have also depleted revenue.

This year we need to double our fundraising efforts so any assistance and ideas you may have are very welcome. The piano and violin recital held in August managed to tide us over last year and we will need a similar event this year to bridge the revenue gap.

On the bright side, the new activity centre opened for business and two cottages were renovated and an entirely new cottage was built with the generous donation and construction team of Mr. Salman Eliyas, who attended the opening ceremony with his family. The areas around the cottages were paved to provide easy access. The result was a much nicer look all round.

Despite the financial setbacks, the residents were able to enjoy many activities such as visiting the zoo and attending musical shows. Several groups from companies and NGOs visited the Home to share food and entertainment with the residents.

If you can help in the way of donations or your time, please contact the Home on +94 112930447 or +94 743802141.



July to December at the Home

In July, residents enjoyed snacks cooked at the new activity centre. The Sumithrayo team had its regular session with the house mothers.

In August, the Asiri Surgical team provided lunch for the residents and there was a musical event. A visitor from the Netherlands who had volunteered at the Home previously came back. Ten residents and staff attended the fundraiser concert.

In September, the Home participated in the Women's International Club sale.

In October, Litro Gas celebrated children's day with the residents. The Kotalawala Defence Academy sponsored lunch and tea with entertainment at the Home. St. Benedict's students conducted a sing along party.

In November, the new women's cottage and activity centre were opened. The residents were treated to a visit to the zoo. The Rotary Uptown Club had magic show with music and food. The People's Bank staff had lunch and a music session for residents.

In December two residents and Matron attended the CIS Junior School year end concert. A Christmas party was organized by the Catholic Social Media Unit with a magic show. There was also a dinner with carol singing. The Colombo Medical Faculty conducted a medical camp.



Danuja, who was sent to the Home by the Balangoda Courts at 11 years of age, will be enrolled at the government sponsored Vocational Training Institute in Seeduwa in January 2025 to follow a course in IT.

Danuja had acute leukaemia and the bones around his knees and feet were affected. He recovered after treatment at Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama. He was then rehabilitated at the Rehabilitation Centre, Ragama General Hospital, where he had surgical repair as well as rehabilitation. He was fitted with leather shoes with braces that made assisted walking with crutches possible. He attended further rehabilitation and psychological assessment at the Ayati Centre, Ragama.

After rehabilitation, he attended a government school where he has sat for his O'Levels in December 2023. Danuja is a talented artist and musician. He attends weekly rowing training conducted by the Paralympic Association.

Management

Lakshman Ranasinghe took over as treasurer from August.

Ashoka Gunatilleke, the Finance and Administration Officer, resigned at the end of July and R.A.S. Rohana, a retired Airforce officer, joined as Administration Officer in November. Gayani Gunawardene rejoined as Assistant Matron in July.

Fundraising and Donations

The Home was very fortunate to have a generous donor, Salman Eliyas, who undertook the construction of a new activity centre and a new women's cottage as well as renovating two other cottages. Salman and his family were present at the opening ceremony. The area surrounding the female cottages was paved so that it does not get flooded.

The activity centre was equipped with a smart TV, fans, tables and chairs, cupboards, a magi board and cooking utensils and equipment. The cottages were provided with TVs and furniture.

A fundraising piano and violin recital by Sulara Nanayakkara and Johann Peiris was well attended.



Would you like to contribute your time and effort towards making a difference in the lives of the differently abled? We are looking for new members. If you feel you can help us with fundraising and organizing events, please contact Swun on 0776242511 or at swunkou@gmail.com.

January to June 2024

Direct Donations

Ceylon Fellowship of Service

Account No.000-163-0360

Bank of Ceylon (Code-7010), Kollupitiya Branch (Code 034)

Address: 28, St. Michael's Road, Kollupitiya, Sri Lanka

Swift Code-BCEYLK LX

Please forward a copy of the deposit slip by email or WhatsApp.

Please draw cheques in favour of "Ceylon Fellowship of Service". All monetary donations are acknowledged by the issuance of an official receipt.

LEND A HAND

As a charitable organization, CFS Prithipura Home looks to the community for annual support. State funding offsets only a small part of the cost of caring for residents, so private donations are essential. The Home receives contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations. There are many ways in which you can support the Home.

MEALS

Donate a meal for the entire home (residents and staff) for the day. You have a choice of breakfast/lunch/tea or dinner with a selection of menus. We would like as many donations as possible towards food because giving them a proper meal is difficult with the minimal funding we receive.

**For more information, contact +94 112930447 or +94 743802141
or by email: prithipurahomecfs269@gmail.com
Website: [www. http://cfsprithipurahome.com](http://cfsprithipurahome.com)**