# Ceylon Fellowship of Service

# Prithipura Home

Over 50 Years of Lifelong Care



#### July to December 2021



Since 1960, the Ceylon Fellowship of Service Prithipura Home has flourished in tranquil surroundings on four 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 67 residents housed in six 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 and Prithi. Our staff numbers 12 house mothers, three kitchen staff, a matron, an assistant matron, administration officer and 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 Facing Tough Times with Drop in Donations

As Covid-19 continues to rage across Sri Lanka, the effects were widely felt, especially in institutions such as the Prithipura Home that relies on donations in cash and kind for its existence. The necessity to shield the residents from infection meant that people wanting to give danes were not able to enter the home, so interest dropped as did donations of other goods in kind.

The residents also felt the effects as they were largely unable to attend activity school, have dancing or music classes or participate in any outings. However, they were able to participate in planting vegetables and fruit trees and enjoy the garden outdoors. A tradition of celebrating birthdays of residents and staff as well as poya days during the month was initiated. A Christmas party was organized for staff and residents and attended by some executive committee members. It was a fun-filled afternoon with music and dancing.

Since we were unable to have the usual Christmas sale, a table was taken at the Good Market to sell Christmas decorations, cards, bags and other items made by the residents.

In December the school started functioning again along with dancing and music lessons.

Although we were hoping for a better 2022, the situation looks bleak with the precarious economic situation and the upsurge in Covid cases along with the new more contagious variant. Now more than ever we need your support and assistance in cash or kind or time to ensure that the residents are continued to be looked after as they deserve.

Please call Matron Ms. Catherine Fernandez on +94 112930447 for details of how you can help.

For further information please see our website <a href="https://cfsprithipurahome.com">https://cfsprithipurahome.com</a> and Facebook page CFS Prithipura Home







## July to December at the Home

**July:** All residents received their first vaccine against Covid-19.

ID cards were provided to all staff.

**August:** An area was prepared for the planting of fruit trees and many plants were put in. Coconut trees were also planted and composting started. Several murunga plants were also planted.

Birthdays of staff and residents were celebrated along with poya day.

Second dose of vaccine was given to the residents.

**September:** Coconut trees and medicinal garden was planted.

Fish tanks were built by the residents.

Birthdays of staff and residents were celebrated along with poya day.

**October:** Birthdays of staff and residents were celebrated along with poya day.

**November:** Birthdays of staff and residents were celebrated along with poya day.

Katina pooja was observed.

**December:** Christmas party was held for staff and residents who received gifts and refreshments from donors.

## **Fundraising and Donations**

Due to the Covid-19 situation, donations have dropped drastically. However, some regular donors were contributing dry rations. After a publicity campaign, danes also came into the home regularly. However, some days do not have any danes.

The Christmas party was celebrated with donor contributions and the staff and residents were given gifts of cash and clothes.

The home took a table at the Good Market before Christmas and sold Christmas trees, cards, bags, towels and sheets.









# **Events in Pictures**



## Management

President Ruwani Jayewardene resigned in July and Sanjeev Mohan because president. But sadly Mohan passed away unexpectedly in October, just a few weeks away from his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 5. Anoja Karunaratne took over as president and Devika Anthonisz replaced her as Treasurer.

We will greatly miss Mohan who was a very enthusiastic and hands on president, closely involved in the management of the Home including maintenance, repairs and fundraising. "During his short time as president he established efficient administration systems and managed to motivate the staff. He was a great leader who wanted to uplift the quality of care and comfort provided to the children. His aim was to change the appearance and the feel of the home. He motivated the staff to maintain the premise," said manager of the home, Chamika.







# Upgrading and Maintenance

Due to the Covid-19 situation, no upgrading was carried out because of the inability to get workmen into the home. However there are plans to upgrade cottage toilets and paint the cottages once it the situation is under control.





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 Minoli on 0775352584 or at minoli2000@hotmail.com.

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### **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-BCEYLKLX

Please forward a copy of the deposit slip.

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

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As a nonprofit 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 by email: cfs269prithipura@gmail.com
Website: www. http://cfsprithipurahome.com