

Ceylon Fellowship of Service

Prithipura Home

*Over 60 Years of
Lifelong Care*



July to December 2023



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 60 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 nine house mothers, two kitchen staff, a 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

Improving and Expanding Our Infrastructure

Although the economic situation in the country has improved, very high prices of food, medicine and other basic necessities remained high. This meant a continuous challenge to run the Home efficiently with cost savings in the face of still low donations and danes. While donations have improved, they have not reached pre-covid and economic crisis levels.

The Home also faces difficulties in recruiting and retaining house mothers and other staff.

A new member of the Home, Mr. Salman Ilyas, Director of Maliban Textiles (Pvt) Ltd a long established family owned group in the garment industry, offered to undertake the upgrading of our buildings at his own cost. Initially building work on a new cottage for women and a new activity centre have been planned and is making good progress together with a complete overhaul of Canada Cottage. Rosy Cottage will be upgraded once these three buildings are completed by April 2024.

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Ilyas for his generosity. His offer came about on a chance visit to Prithipura Home in December 2022 when he and his wife Sakina visited to give a dane and gifts to our residents and staff.

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



Activity building



New cottage for female residents

July to December at the Home

In July counsellors from Sumithrayo Negombo visited the Home and conducted a session with the house mothers to discuss their work and personal problems. They also spoke with two of the residents. They are intending to make regular visits.

In August Ms. Cynthia Chan, International Governor of the Commonwealth Iconic Federation, celebrated her birthday with the residents of the Home and gave each one a gift. She has promised to help the Home.

In September the foundation stones for the new female cottage and the activity centre being built and donated by Director of Maliban Textiles, Mr. Salman Elyas, were laid. Construction began during the same month.

In November Mr. and Mrs. Van den Bos and their daughter Natalie, longtime supporters of Prithipura, visited the Home and were hosted to lunch. The annual fundraising sale was held at the Lionel Wendt.

In December Sumithrayo Negombo counsellors came for a third session with the staff. There were private meetings with the different staff members as well group interactions. Matron took two residents for the CIS Junior School for their Christmas concert. A Christmas party was held at the Home. Dr Shivani Wijeratne of the Dental Institute visited with her colleagues for a dental clinic for the residents and staff. Ms Drucille Gomes, a friend of the late Priya Goonetilleke who was an artist, musician and great friend of the Home, had a sing-song with the residents and staff and hosted a dane in memory of Priya. She also donated a painting done by Priya.



Fundraising and Donations

The annual fundraising sale was held in November and raised one million rupees through the silent auction, raffle tickets, sales of products made by the Home and donations.

The Home had a table at the sale held at the Women's International Club organised by the Cancer Society in conjunction with a fund raising walk.

We received a donation of Rs. 2 million from the estate of Mrs Vera Fonseka of Melbourne Australia.



Mrs Cynthia Chan



The Van den Bos family



Laying foundation stones



A session with Sumithrayo Negombo

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.

July to December 2023

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.

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: cfs269prithipura@gmail.com
Website: [www. http://cfsprithipurahome.com](http://cfsprithipurahome.com)**