



*INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN & YOUTH
OF THE JAFFNA PENINSULA*

PROJECT PROPOSAL

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Gods Own Children is a secular , non political ,non profit organization, currently operating three non-fee levying Special Needs Schools in the Jaffna Peninsula. These schools are in operation in Ariyalai, Point Pedro & Siththankerni. The following types of students are accommodated in these schools.

- Intellectually and physically challenged children
- Children from poverty stricken families
- Children whose families who have been directly or indirectly affected by the war e.g. Children of Internally Displaced Persons (IDP's)
- Children whose families who have been directly or indirectly affected by the tsunami e.g. Children who are traumatized, children whose families who have lost housing and employment.
- Children who are backward in the mainstream schools, and are identified as Slow Learners
- Children who have dropped out from school.

Children who are backward in the mainstream schools, and who are identified as Slow Learners, are provided Remedial Education, part-time during the week ends. All the other children attend the schools full-time.

- Last year, a Total of approximately 360 Students of both Genders attend the schools.

Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world - Nelson Mandela

NEED

Due to the ongoing and previously prolonged war , and destructive tsunami, the literacy levels of the student population in the Jaffna Peninsula had dropped drastically. This was evident in the results of the General Certificate of Education, Ordinary Level Examination. Jaffna very much in behind in the provincial rankings. This despite the Jaffna region boasting of the highest literacy levels in the world, some decades ago.

Needless to say, if children of reasonably affluent families and middle class families faced many challenges to their lives, the lives of disadvantaged children would definitely be one of despair.

The education and literacy levels of all the disadvantaged children in the Jaffna Peninsula have to be increased, if they are to have a meaningful future and contribute positively to Society. They also need to be provided with

nutritious food to ensure adequate growth and development. Most of the children come from backgrounds where their parents cannot even afford to provide their children a morning meal before they come to school. However, thanks to the generous donation provided to GOC by the International Medical Health Organization (IMHO) , we now provide a fresh glass of milk and a nutrition mid day meal to all our children during school.

On some days (on average twice a month) , other individual donors provide lunch in memory of a loved one on the occasion of a birthday , wedding or death anniversary or any other event. On such days , school extends to extra time , during which additional coaching or sports activities are done.

Gods Own Children Foundation has been in the forefront of assisting disadvantaged children in the Jaffna Peninsula realize their full potential, so that later they can help build their communities and contribute positively towards the community.

Gods Own Children has made a meaningful and measurable contribution since 2005 towards access to quality education for disadvantaged children in the Jaffna Peninsula. This contribution has also ensured that the providers too have gained experience in the imparting of a valuable service to the disadvantaged children in the Jaffna Peninsula. **All this has been possible though the dedication and commitment of Donors, the Voluntary and Teaching Staff and all our Well-Wishers.**

We need to continue our Journey. We need to expand, to encompass all other disadvantaged children in the Jaffna Peninsula.

However , we realize that many of the children will not be able to gain admission to University or Technical College. We should not allow such disadvantaged children graduating from our schools after the GCE Examinations to idle at home and depend on subsidies and handouts. It is indeed a sorry state of affairs that a proud community once known for its enterprise and hardwork , has to now depend on subsidies and handouts. We have to create a situation where such youth become responsible persons in the community and earn their own living. It is therefore essential that all the youth who do not gain access to higher education , are trained for employment and provided with income earning opportunities.

With the above objective in mind , we inaugurated Phase I of our planned Employment Training Centre , and commenced a Sewing Centre for girls in Manipay. We intend to expand this venture to other areas as well, and also add on other Employment Training Programmes as well including Training Programmes for males.

However, if we need to expand , we need funds , and the support of donors is essential. **We are pleased to provide a series of proposals for the kind consideration of donors.**

PROJECT 1

FUNDING A SEWING TRAINING CENTRE

ONE OFF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Cost of purchasing 5 Sewing Machines (5xRs 26,500) | Rs 132,500 |
| Cost of purchasing Chairs (20 x Rs 1200) | Rs 24,000 |
| Cost of purchasing other furniture | Rs 20,000 |
| Cost of purchasing Sundry Items for the Training Centre | Rs 20,000 |
| Maximum TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE | Rs 196,500 |

MONTHLY OPERATING COSTS

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Rent | Rs 5,000 |
| Electricity | Rs 1,000 |
| Salaries(2 Teachers) | Rs 12,000 |
| Admin Staff (1 staff) | Rs 4,000 |
| Total Monthly Cost | Rs 22,000 |

Locations

We hope to establish Employment Training Centres in the following areas.

- 1.Point Pedro
- 2.Ariyalai
- 3.Siththankerni or Chulipuram

Syllabus for the Sewing Training Programme

The syllabus for the Sewing Training Programme includes teaching of 10 different hand stitching sewing methods , stitching of various types of garments including Shirts, Skirts, Blouses, Saree Blouses, Trousers, Shalwar, Baby Dresses , and also altering and modifications of various garments.

Duration of Course

78 hours

The Centre will be open from 9am - 5 pm every day.

A Batch of students = 20

While 5 students will be at the Machines , others will be doing other activities simultaneously , such as Cutting , Stitching by hand etc. Therefore , a teacher will be handling 20 students at one particular time.

A Batch of Students will be attending 3 Hour Training Sessions for a day.

The timings of Class Sessions would be from 9 AM - 12 PM in the Mornings and 2 PM 5 PM in the afternoons.

Sample Class Schedules for illustration:

Batch WKA1 refers to Weekday Afternoon Batch 1 , and will be on on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 PM 5 PM. Therefore , to complete the 78 Hours Sewing Training Programme , this Batch will take 9 Weeks.

Batch WKA2 refers to Weekday Afternoon Batch 2 , which will commence later , and will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 PM 5 PM. Therefore , to complete the 78 Hours Sewing Training Programme , this Batch will take 13 Weeks.

By this method , we will be able to train a minimum of 500 girls per year with the available resources (5 Sewing Machines & 2 Teachers)

At the end of the Sewing Training Programme , A Diploma will be issued by a Reputed Business School. We are going to have talks with Government Officials to accredit this course. We will also market this qualification among garment manufacturers overseas too.

Appeal to Prospective Donors

We appeal to prospective Donors to consider Funding the above mentioned venture. Such a venture could be Funded and Sponsored by a Family Donor Group in memory of a loved one.

If the Family Donor Group is going to Fund the entire capital expenditure, and also finance the monthly operation cost, GOC is more than willing to Name the Employment Training Centre after the Loved One of the Family. Eg: **The Late Mrs Lakshmi Nagaratnam Employrnt Training Centre for Youth** .The Sign Board in English and Tamil will be done accordingly . In addition, a large Photograph or Portrait of the Loved One will be displayed prominently in the main reception area of the Employment Training Centre.

The Training Centre of course will be Managed and Administered by GOC. Since the Monthly Operation Costs will be around 250 US Dollars , a Family of 5 would be able to finance the entire monthly costs , by each member contributing about 50 US Dollars per month.

Accountability

GOC will send the accounting statements pertaining to the particular Employment Training Centre to the Donor Group each month. GOC will also send photographs of all activities at this Employment Training Centre , with of course all our literature we produce regularly such as our Newsletters and Reports to Donors.

Tranparency

To ensure transparency , GOC suggests that the Family / Donor Group, appoint a Nominee in the Jaffna Peninsula , who will be an observer on the Management Committee of the particular Employment Training Centre. This nomination would enable the

Donor Nominee to have access to all the activities of the Employment Training Centre and to also be an Observer at Meetings , and to make suggestions for improvements and point out shortcomings as well. The Donor Nominee will also be able to provide independent verification of Reports to the Donor Group.

Once the Sewing Training Centre is established , we can expand the Employment Training Centre to also accommodate the conducting of other Employment Training Programmes to train males as well. We would be renting out a very large house, keeping in mind that we need to expand. Some Diaspora Well Wishers have offered to provide their houses rent free , but al of them might not be in the needy areas.

The other Employment Training Programmes we have planned include Training in Poultry Farming , Workshop based courses such as Electrical Wiring, Plumbing , Masonry , Carpentry etc. Since we already have the infrastructure in place, Operation Cost will be only for the Teaching Costs of such a Project .We can provide more details of such inclusions of these Employment Training Programmes on request.

PROJECT 2

FUNDING A SCHOOL

We also need to expand our Special Needs School to other areas to encompass more disadvantaged children in the school system. These school children are so backward that they don't attend the usual mainstream schools

Locations

There is a dire need to start up Special Schools in Puthur , Chavakachcheri & Chulipuram

The following Proposal for Funding a School is for one having 5 Classrooms capable of accommodating 150 Students in Total.

ONE OFF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

COST OF FURNISHING A SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOL

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Cost of Chairs (150 X Rs. 800 per Chair) | = Rs. 120,000/= |
| Cost of Tables (38 X Rs. 2500 per Table) | = Rs. 95,000/= |
| Cost of Installing Blackboards for 5 Classrooms (5 X Rs. 7,500 per Blackboard) | = Rs. 37,500 /= |
| Cost of Cupboards for 5 Classrooms (5 X Rs. 7,500 per Cupboard) | = Rs. 37,500 /= |
| Cost of Teacher's tables for 5 Classrooms (5 x Rs. 3,000) | = Rs. 15,000/= |
| Cost of Teacher's chairs for 5 classrooms (5 x Rs. 1,000) | = Rs. 5,000/= |
| Cost of one Play Swing | = Rs. 30,000/= |
| Cost of one Play Maz Slide | = Rs. 17,500/= |
| Cost of one set of Early Learning Material | = Rs. 25,000/= |
| Cost of Learning Charts | = Rs. 7,500/= |
| Total | = Rs. 390,000/= |

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR FURNISHING ONE SCHOOL =
APPROXIMATELY RS. 400,000/= (US \$4000)

MONTHLY OPERATING COST OF A SCHOOL

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Teachers Salaries (5 x Rs. 5,000) | Rs. 25,000/= |
| Electricity | Rs. 1,000/= |
| Wages for Watcher (Night Security) | Rs. 4,000/= |
| Wages for Helper/ Nanny | Rs. 3,500/= |
| Rent | Rs 5000/= |
| Total Monthly Operating Costs | Rs. 38,500/= |

APPROXIMATELY US \$400

As we mentioned earlier , we appeal to a Family Donor Group to consider assisting the children of the Jaffna Peninsula by Funding a School in Memory of their loved one/s.

Appeal to Prospective Donors

We appeal to Prospective Donors to consider Funding the abovementioned School Project . A School could be Funded and Sponsored by a Family Donor Group in memory of a loved one.

If the Family Donor Group is going to Fund the entire capital expenditure , and also finance the monthly operation cost of the school , GOC is more than willing to Name the School after the Loved One of the family. Eg: **The Late Mr Kanagaratnam Swaminathan Special Needs School . The Sign Board in English and Tamil will be done accordingly . In addition, a large Photograph or Portrait of the Loved One will be displayed prominently in the main reception area of the School.**

The School of course will be Managed and Administered by GOC. Since the monthly operation costs will be around 400 US Dollars , a Family of 8 would be able to Finance the entire monthly costs , by each member contributing about 50 US Dollars per Month.

Accountability

GOC will send the accounting statements pertaining to the particular School to the Donor Group each Month. GOC will also send Photographs of all activities at this school , with of course all our Literature we produce regularly such as our Newsletters and Reports to Donors.

Tranparency

To ensure transparency , GOC suggests that the Family / Donor Group, appoint a Nominee in the Jaffna Peninsula , who will be an Observer on the Management Committee of the School .This nomination would enable the Donor Nominee to have access to all the activities of the School ,and to also be an Observer at meetings , and to make suggestions for improvements and point out shortcomings as well. The Donor Nominee will also be able to provide independent verification of reports to the Donor group.

“ What we are doing is only a small drop in the mighty ocean , but if we don't do it , the ocean will be lesser by it “

- Mother Theresa -

GODS OWN CHILDREN KEY PERSONNEL

PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON

Dr. B. Anandkumar, Justice of the Peace.
Chairman Gods Own Children Foundation.
4, Pinto Place, Colombo 06, Sri Lanka.
Tel 0094 77 3627 055
Email - gods.ownchildren@gmail.com

SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON

Mrs. Anne Mary Jecintha Anton
Director / Principal Gods Own Children Foundation
140, Temple Road, Jaffna, Sri Lanka.
Tel 0094 21 222 5796
Email gods.ownchildren@gmail.com

GODS OWN CHILDREN LOCATION INFORMATION

- Colombo Contact : 4, Pinto Place, Colombo 06, Sri Lanka.
- Jaffna Office : 140, Temple Road, Jaffna, Sri Lanka.
- Ariyalai School : 107, A.V. Road, Ariyalai, Jaffna
- Point Pedro School : 2, Kandavudaiyar Lane, Puloly, Point Pedro, Jaffna.
- Siththankerny School : Dutch Road, Vaddu East, Siththankerny.

GODS OWN CHILDREN BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS.

Account Name : Gods Own Children
Bank : Nations Trust Bank, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
Account Number : 002100011742
Swift Code Number : NTBC LKLX

“Education...beyond all other devices of human origin , is a great equalizer of conditions of men -- the balance wheel of the social machinery.....It does better than to disarm the poor of their hostility toward the rich ; it prevents being poor“.

Horace Mann