

CandleAid Lanka

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Dear Friends of CandleAid

COVID-19 – 3rd Initiative

Yes, we hit the ground running!

It was the 4th of June when we woke up to an extension of the lockdown which is still going on.

We have more than 1500 beneficiaries spread out among 1361 families registered with us. They are all people who live below the poverty line. That is why we give them monthly financial assistance. Primary and secondary students receive LKR 1,500 and undergraduates, cancer patients and destitute families receive LKR 2,000. With the Corona lockdown these families are affected very badly as most of their breadwinners are daily paid workers.

Last year we gave each family LKR 2,000 in the months of April, May and June making it a total of LKR 6,000 per family. This was in addition to what they received every month. Then again when a lockdown was imposed on the Western Province, we disbursed LKR 3,000 per family in November 2020.

Now we are battling the 3rd wave and that is why we woke up on the 4th of June and “Hit the Ground Running” to take care of our impoverished families once again.

Yes, with a lot of challenges and a lot of generosity we have come to the end of the battle. 1361 families have received the additional LKR 3,000. It is a life saver for them especially when the lockdown was further extended till the 21st of June, with a strong possibility of a further extension.

We were able to credit LKR 3,000 to all these families as their bank accounts are registered with us. This was followed up with 1361 SMS messages to inform them they have this extra gift.

I certainly do not possess the wisdom of words to adequately articulate how much this LKR 3,000 meant to people in need.

As one hearing impaired undergraduate wrote, her father, mother and herself shared one packet of rice. That is all they could afford. She simply did not know how to express her gratitude for this extra LKR 3,000 – she just said “I love you” in her sms to CandleAid.

Let us all be happy that even in some small way, CandleAid along with its friends and committed staff helped 1361 families; averaging five per family unit, that is a whopping 6805 hungry people satiated.

Thank you
Blue skies

Capt. Elmo Jayawardena
Founder-President

“It is better by far to light a solitary candle than to curse the darkness”