



The Key Activities of the Project Implemented by Rose Charities Srilanka with the Prime Funding of Swiss Optimus Foundation

- **Early Childhood & General Education Support**
- **Special Impact Programs**
- **Post Secondary Women's Education / Training / Other Programs with Primary Focus on Women and Girls**
- **Sustainability Programs**

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IT IS THE END OF ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR FOR RCSL'S ECCE Program!

At the concluding stages of 2011, about 250 Preschoolers have been graduated from Early Childhood Education Program by the **ROSE Preschools** and are getting geared up for Primary Schools.

This program will ease their way into primary schooling next year. For them, it has been an excellent and enjoyable experience in the past two or more years with the carefully designed learning and extracurricular activities of Rose Preschools. With the 7 preschools which had been established in 2010 and another seven Preschools were started in 2011, there are **14 preschools** from Kalmunai and Sammanthurai Education Zones in Ampara district with **more than 600 children** of ages 3 to 6 getting access to the Preschool Education under the Rose ECHCE program funded by the **OPTIMUS/SWISS Foundation**.



- **Bharathiyar Preschool, Malwatta.**
- **Nehru Preschool, Karaitivu.**
- **Sithanaikutti Preschool, Karaitivu.**
- **Aims Preschool, Karaitivu.**
- **Immam Hazaly Preschool, Chalambaikeny.**
- **Iwa Preschool, Sammanthurai.**
- **Weharagama Preschool, 10th Colony.**
- **Rose Preschool, Periyaneelavanai.**
- **Rose Preschool, Annamalai.**
- **Mega Preschool, Chalambaikeny.**
- **Zahira Preschool, 12th Colony.**
- **Rose Preschool, Veeracholai.**
- **Rose Preschool, Veeramunai.**
- **Domino's E.C.E. Centre, Kalmunai.**

Expectantly, in the future, like this year Rose Charities Srilanka is setting up the intent, in due

course, to increase the number of Preschools in order to enhance access to some form of ECCE to as many children as possible from low income families of Ampara and Batticaloa Districts either through pre-school for the lucky few, or through support programs.

A total of about 32 committed teachers who have received trainings and the skills in the art of joyful learning dedicated their time with the help of the supervisory staff, coordinators, help coming all the way from Canada and the remarkable guidance of the **Chief Executive Officer Mr. Anthony Richard** at the helm.



From the Desk of CEO, Mr. Anthony Richard.....

We were called by various names; 'Amda', 'Rose Charities', 'Rose' and so on. Since 2005, we have been focusing on various activities that present opportunity for a quality life for under privileged in Ampara and Batticaloa districts. Along the course we jumped through loops and hoops in order to achieve what we have intended for. Today we are on the bridge of success. We would not hesitate to say, this was possible with the understanding and association of various international and local agencies. The major financial support of AMDA international, at the early part of 2005, Rose Charities Canada, from 2005 to 2006, CIDA, Canada from 2007 to 2009 and Swiss Optimus Foundation from 2010 up to 2012 have brought us all the way.



Through these activities we are not only building up the society but also taking the Organization to a self-sustained position in the future. The recent evaluation done by the external evaluator from India suggested that we should phase out from the present *Implementer* role to a *Facilitator* role. This could be considered as a success to a program implementing organization. The hard work behind this triumph is the untiring efforts and commitment of the Staff Members of Rose Charities Srilanka. The guidance given by the Rose Charities Canada in every step of ours is praiseworthy.

Beyond 2011, RCSL is looking forward to extend its activities and services to produce added accomplishment in Education, Sports, Health & Nutrition, Vocational Training Activities and Livelihood Development.

Beyond 2012, we hope to find a Grant to continue our dedicated service to the community.

I Wish You all a Prosperous New Year!



A load of provisions had been bought and stored temporarily in RCSL office. The staff put their own time and effort on packing and distributing. More than 1500 members of Rose Community Based Organizations and Rose Children Clubs were provided with relief provisions

Since the last flood in 1957, since the Tsunami of 2004, eastern province of Sri Lanka had begun the year 2011 with such devastation due to heavy rainfall that continued for more than a month, without a break, accompanied with flooding and strong wind where Rose Charities Srilanka was involved in.

RCSL Started Its Activities with Heavy Rain and Flood!

More than 900,000 were affected with 13 deaths in Eastern province in which about 120,000 in Ampara district and 500,000 in Batticaloa district. The roads blocked for any types of transportation caused difficulty of relief reaching the affected areas. In Kalmunai Education Zone about 10000 students were affected. People faced severe problems in lavatory facilities and getting drinking water. Paddy land, cattle and poultry farms were badly affected in Kalmunai. Houses were completely and or partly damaged. Welfare stations were set up in Batticaloa and Ampara districts to serve the affected. Emergency medical camps were set up in main cities. The staff of RCSL was also victims of this disaster. Some of their houses were damaged. RCSL

set up a temporary shelter and food for its staff. An emergency relief unit was set up by RCSL for any immediate emergencies in areas of Ampara District. The Rose preschools, the Rose Library and the Rose Community Centre were flooded. Intense rain and flooding in almost the entire project area made a halt in almost all of the programs. RCSL had to put most of its activities on hold to embark on a flood relief activities within the communities it was working in. For more than a month, the project office had been transformed into a relief centre. It was estimated that the activities of Rose Charities Srilanka had been delayed by at least three months due to the floods. This caused gaps, delays and or in some cases no events in the scheduled programs.

With strenuous efforts, RCSL emergency team visited villages affected and isolated by the flood and analyzed the situation. Relief goods and food supply had been provided. Staff members cooked meals for displaced. RCSL with the DS of Navithanvely arranged boat services to get to the main land. We had kept Swiss Optimus project managers informed of this situation and have verbally received an extension of delivering on the activities.



Primary Enrichment Program 2011

The Grade 5 Scholarship examination is a highly competitive Sri Lankan examination conducted by the Department of Examinations.

In recent years the exam has become extremely competitive. Every parent's goal would be to get a good school by preparing their child to obtain a high mark in Grade 5 Scholarship examination. This may be the hardest exam in Sri Lankan school system, considering the age of the candidates.

RCSL, under its Primary Enrichment Program has intended to improve; *the access of low-income children to primary education, the quality of primary education through teacher training workshops and Integrate school drop-outs back into school.*

RCSL helps students who are from areas of poor income generation and do not have the resources and access to gain practicable knowledge to prepare them for exam by conducting Enrichment classes after schools.

RCSL is not only focusing the Grade 5 students but also preparing Grade 4 students in advance to sit for the Scholarship Exam in the year after.

School drop-outs were re-integrated with expenses, such as school uniforms and books back into school.

In 2011 RCSL has implemented the Primary Enrichment Program in 14 schools in the area with a total of 410 students in grade 5 and 11 schools with 314 students in grade 4.

The Primary enrichment classes for grade 5 students were started in February and came to completion in June. The Grade 5 students who underwent the enrichment classes sat for the Government Exams in the later part of August, 2011. The result of this exam was released in October, 2011 which showed the actual outcome of the program. The 2nd phase of the Primary Enrichment Program for Grade 4 students was started in July and

ended in November, 2011.

Grand finale: As a part of the conclusion of this enrichment classes some of the students who were unable to afford for educational materials were issued with past paper books. This has been done with the association of Dr.A.Jogarajah of Loyal Publications, Colombo.

Achievement: Analysis based on a set of indicators shows, through the Primary Enrichment Program in 2011, there was an improvement in Grade 5 Scholarship Exam results in the area to increase the amount of government scholarships awarded to students

Felicitation: A ceremony was organized to mark the achievements where students of various schools who involved in primary enrichment classes and passed the Scholarship Examination in 2011 were given certificates of recognition and medals of honour.



Secondary Enrichment and University Entrance Program 2011

Fundamentals: The **Sri Lankan Ordinary Level (O-level)** and **Advanced Level (A-level)** are General Certificate of Education (GCE) qualifications conducted by the Department of Examinations which is based on the British GCE qualifications. An O-level is a qualification of its own right, but more often taken in prerequisite for the more in-depth and academically rigorous Advanced Level exams the qualification by which is used as an entrance for Sri Lankan state universities.

In recent years the exam has become extremely competitive and even traumatic for most high school students in Sri Lanka, since only top 11% of students who pass this exam are selected to the state universities by the government agency tasked with university admission, the University Grants Commission. Admission at undergraduate level to these public universities is based solely on the results of the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination and the Z-score, which considers the difficulty level of the subjects. Due to restricted facilities admissions have become extremely competitive.

RCSL's Involvement: GCE O-level Enrichment;

The annual Education Enrichment program implemented by Rose Charities Srilanka was inaugurated on the 6th of June 2011. Classes for the students who are going to sit for the GCE O-level Examination in December 2011 were conducted. Science, English, Math, Tamil and History have been the subjects in focus. There were about 461 students from 9 schools in Ampara and Batticaloa districts were the beneficiaries of this year's program. 45 Teachers were engaged for conducting the classes in 7 centers. 8 field staffs and a team of project staffs were involved for the effective implementation of the program. Program came to an end in October 2011 with a grand Seminar series in subjects such as Mathematics and Science.

Grand Seminar Series:

A team of experienced teachers with the aid of multimedia and using animation techniques conducted a series of Mathematics and Science seminars 6 to be exact for a grand total of about 500 students from 13 schools. More than 15 teachers were involved in these seminars.

GCE A-level Enrichment or University Entrance Program;

Classes for the students who re-sat the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in August 2011 in the Arts stream were conducted. The classes were started in February and came to completion in July. Political Science, Hindu Culture, Logic and Scientific Methods, Tamil and Drama & Theater were the subjects in focus. There were about 40 students from Kalmunai, Natpiddimunai, Navithanveli, Karaitivu Veeramunai and Mandur areas of Ampara and Batticaloa districts benefited from this year's program. 5 Teachers were engaged for conducting the classes in Education Development Society, Kalmunai. A team of project staffs was involved for the effective implementation of the program. As part of the Enrichment Classes review classes were held by the teachers and model exam papers in each subject were given to the students which would be then discussed.

In order to Increase access of post-secondary education to Female Students from low income families by subsidizing the cost of post-secondary education for parents and students a Scholarship has been awarded to identified students. In 2011, three students have received such scholarships.



Women Support Group By Numbers

GROUPS : 18
MEMBERS : 1854
MEETINGS : 18 / MONTH
WORKSHOPS : 6 / YEAR
ANNUAL MEETING : 1 / YEAR



Women's Support Groups & Vocational Training Programs

Women Support Groups were created in communities to; Create awareness in women's rights and empowerment, Facilitate guidance and counseling for women in the support groups, Improve women's sustained economic independence by teaching skills like saving, Increase the educational and income opportunities for isolated young wives, Improve economic independence of women and Increase awareness and accessibility of credit to low income families, particularly women who are household heads.

From these support groups; Girls/Wives/Mothers who are either Unemployed or a Widow or Displaced due to the past war

situations or Someone who has finished their higher education and looking for job opportunities or Women who don't pursue higher education to gain skills **were selected and occupied in Vocational Training Activities in order to;**

Help them to gain skills to obtain job opportunities to support their families and Give them the prospect to improve their livelihood and to establish their own business in a small scale.

With this we intent to reduce the poverty in selected villages.

For the year of 2011, Nine Vocational Training Programs were successfully completed in RCSL's

Vocational Training Centers, in Kalmunai, Karaitivu, Malwatta and Vellavelly. A grand total of 245 students have completed their trainings and been graduated. Each training program is well designed to meet the needs of the participants and conducted by certified teachers who were well trained and have experience in said filed. Transportation assistances were given to selected participants who are unable to provide for their transportation. After the training, the progress of the women are monitored and according to the needs and necessities, advice, guidance and micro credit loans are issued for these women to pursue employment.



Rose Girls Clubs & Sports Clubs are the Foundation to a Dazzling Future



The expectation is these Rose Girls Clubs & Sports Clubs activities not only lead these children's future life bright but also develop their skills, leadership, unity, ability and knowledge.

In 2011, Rose Clubs' activities accomplish more and more through 11 Girls Clubs and 4 Sports Clubs with more than 350 members of ages 10 to 17. Members are mainly from lower income generating families and or related to members of Rose Community Based Organizations. Girls from both Tamil and Muslim communities of Pandiruppu, Kalmunai, Natpiddimunai, Annamalai, Karaitivu, Veeramunai, Malwattai and Veppayadi areas, who do not have adequate access to sports and other social activities join the clubs to attain their interest. The main objective of the formation of Clubs is to promote social support groups among girls and to increase the participation of girls on sports and other social activities by which increasing awareness of the importance of academic excellence. In addition, to promote the university entrance level and bring peace through education. Moreover, work for the welfare and protecting the rights of children in collaboration with Government and Non-Government Organiza-

tions to increase the leadership activities and build the cooperative behaviour among different communities. In 2011, club meetings and sports trainings lead the way for many productive decisions and outcomes. The Sports for Girls Program creates a sporting network that is available for and used by youths in order to build up peace and leadership. Assistance is given for further development. In the beginning of the year Club members who were affected by the flooding and heavy rainfall were issued with provisions and food materials under the RCSL's Emergency Relief Program. The club members implemented dengue eradication and awareness programs to the people in need. Each club was issued with sports materials and equipments in order to promote their sports activities and to give the opportunity to

develop their abilities through sports activities.

Grand sports meet of all the children clubs was organized where nearly 300 children participated and awarded medals and trophies. Mobile libraries have been set up to encourage reading skills, general knowledge and to spend their time on valuable manner. Children of the Clubs are included in the Education and related Enrichment Classes conducted by Rose Charities Srilanka in order to re-integrate the school drop outs back in to school.

All the children have started the habit of saving, interested in developing peace and harmony among communities, got interest in sports and related activities, actively participated in taking preventive measures to stop spreading dengue and participated in basketball training. The students learn to accept the defeat and the victory both the same.



A project evaluator's view...!

providing critical support in terms of education, girls' sports and to a certain extent health of mother and child but also supplementing government's education and health systems to ensure that the hitherto underserved communities are able to access improved facilities and services. The project is also **developing local capacities** through community based groups such as women's groups, girls' groups and girls' sports team. **The most important strength of the project is its team.**

Another strength of the project is establishment of **excellent relationship with government officials**. This project is a rare example of a beneficial working relationship between government and civil society organization. The project is in the process of **establishing systems** to enable it to further improve its efficacy. **The next phase of the project** could focus on consolidating gains from the present phase while working towards sustainability and phasing out (at least from present role to a more facilitator's role)."



In the middle of the year, The Organization and its project had to face an external evaluator from Hyderabad, India Ms. Joshi, who was associated with Swiss Optimus Foundation. In her report she has summarized the project as follows; **"...the project has identified critical support areas as felt by the project com-**



Good Health and Nutrition Essential for Education

Entire activities of Rose Charities Sri Lanka are directly and or indirectly focusing the development of **Child Education** and improving **Livelihood of underprivileged groups**.

In order to promote **Education** (Preschool, Primary and Secondary), more care on **Nutrition** of the children is vital requirement. In a chosen area, Public, Children, Pregnant & Lactating Mothers and Parents of Preschool Children will be given **Guidance & Advice and Awareness** with the alliance of the Department of Education and the Department of health. These programs offer full awareness in *Health & Health Habits, Hygienic Measures, Importance of Preschool Education & General Education, Child Nutrition, Breast Feeding & Complementary Feeding, Family Planning, Infectious Diseases & Control, Child Care, Nutritional Foods, Immunization, Importance of English Language Education, Reintegration of School Drop-out, Vocational Training, and Livelihood Development*.



The Mother & Child Drop-In Programs in coordination with the MOHs in the district, who determine the needs of the area, are facilitated in various subject matters. In 2011, RCSL has assisted by implementing 11 Mother & Child Drop-in Group Program Sessions.

The Awareness Programs target Expectant Mothers, Lactating Mothers, as well as Young Women, Widows and Parents with Grown Children. RCSL implements these Awareness Programs on the requests based on the requirements of various communities.

RCSL chooses Resource Personal based on the content of the workshops which are conducted in various issues. In 2011, RCSL has facilitated 6 Awareness Program workshops.



The Child Health & Nutrition Programs aim Parents of Children of Rose Preschools. The program itself focuses on the importance of proper nutrition for children between the ages of 3 and 5. RCSL also provides Nutrition Supplements during these workshops. In 2011, RCSL has executed 2 Child Health & Nutrition sessions.



At Risk Female, Child and Family Counseling Programs are facilitated in coordination with the Mental Health Unit, Base Hospital, Kalmunai. The Community Support workers visit the identified areas affected by the civil war for the past 30 years and recognize the

needs for counseling individually or as groups. Issues such as early marriage, alcoholism, suicide, child labor, and school dropouts have been identified among people. In 2011, RCSL has carried out 5 mass counseling programs.

Mother & Child, Health & Nutrition and Awareness Programs - 2011, an Overview

Date	Program	Participants
26.01.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 83 Pregnant & Breast Feeding Mothers of 6th Colony, Navithaveli MOH
29.01.2011	Awareness Program	For 55 Preschool Parents and Teenage Mothers of Malwatta
15.02.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 93 Pregnant and Lactating Mothers with Children under 5 years old of Kallaraisal, Sammanthurai MOH
28.02.2011	Awareness Program	For 74 Pregnant and Young Mothers of Veppayadi
01.03.2011	Child Health & Nutrition Program	For 46 Primary School Parents of Malwatta
07.03.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 72 Teenage Mothers, Preschool Mothers and Preschool Children Veeracholai, Navithaveli MOH
22.03.2011	Awareness Program	For 61 Young and Unemployed Women of Vellaveli
31.03.2011	At Risk Female Counseling	For 54 Young and Unemployed Women of Vellaveli
07.04.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 73 Pregnant and Breast Feeding Mothers of Kannapuram, Vellaveli MOH
05.05.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 79 Mothers of Selvapuram, Vellaveli MOH division
19.05.2011	Awareness Program	For 65 Young Widows of Thumbenkerni, Vellaveli
10.06.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 84 Pregnant Women and Feeding Mothers of Nediavaddai, Vellaveli MOH
07.07.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 90 participants from Sangarpuram PHM area
02.08.2011	Awareness Program	For 95 participants from Kannapuram GS area
18.08.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 100 participants from Thumpankerni PHM Area
18.10.2011	Awareness Program	For 92 participants from Thampalawattai, Palamunai GS Area
25.10.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 78 participants from Vivekananthapuram PHM area of 9 th division
07.11.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 79 participants from 40 th Colony GS area
17.11.2011	Mother & Child drop in group Workshop	For 80 participants from Kakachivaddai PHM area
24.11.2011	Child Health & Nutrition Program	For 50 participants from Thikkodai GS Area
24.11.2011	At Risk Female Counseling	For 90 participants from Thikkodai GS Area
17.12.2011	At Risk Female Counseling	For 250 participants from 40 th Colony GS Area
21.12.2011	At Risk Female Counseling	For 300 participants from Kakachivaddai GS Area