



carelanka

*Annual report 2014*



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## Introduction

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### Foreword

Carelanka has become a grown up child. As we started in 2005 as the Ayesha Foundation and Dutch-Lanka Friendship Foundation with just a little help for Boossa School (Galle district) and Sarana Children's Home (Ampara district). Nowadays we have shared our knowledge, power and energy and are able to give total support to six projects in the South and East of Sri Lanka. And the seventh project is about to get started.

More and more Carelanka interferes in the Sri Lanka society, which gave us the chance to collaborate with local authorities and institutions who are all involved in the social-welfare branch.

As the foundation is a Dutch guest in Sri Lanka we have to adapt to the culture and economical exposure of the country. And as a guest, at some point in time, we have to implement our exit strategy, which is one of the crucial pillars of our work.

Our head office is situated in the Netherlands, with the two founders as voluntary managers. They take care of fundraising, public relations, accounting, the policy and structure of the charity and the awareness program at schools and churches.

In Sri Lanka a Dutch voluntary country coordinator worked part time for us to manage the daily activities on the sites. A team of Sri Lankan professionals gave her support. This has come to an end this year and local staff manager the projects now

Managers the Netherlands

mr. Gerard de Jong

ms. Kirsten Giethoorn



## Carelanka / the Netherlands



Carelanka is a Dutch based charity -registered under CoC 50061925 / ANBI 822526098- with a board and two managers. The managers are the founders and initiators of the foundation.

The board monitors and advises the managers.

Carelanka is a joint venture of two Dutch foundations: Ayesha and Dutch-Lanka Friendship Foundation (DLFF).

Ayesha, founded in 2005, in first started to support Boossa School and Sahabandu Boys Home.

DLFF, also founded in 2005, started with the support for Sarana Children's Home and Sarana Elders Home.

Carelanka starts new projects. In 2010 it started the support of Jayawardana Home for the Blind. In 2011 it started Metta Day Care Center. Sarana Day Care Center was started August 2012. Early next year the Foundation will start with the support of a home for abused girls in Ampara. An initiative of the Ampara General Hospital.

In the Netherlands, all projects are managed as one foundation: Carelanka. This idea was worked out after a lot of misunderstandings by Dutch sponsors and donors about the use of three foundations.

## Carelanka Foundation / Sri Lanka



The aim of Carelanka Foundation Sri Lanka is to support people who are often neglected. Grown ups and children with any kind of disability, who stay on a permanent or on a daily base on a project might be supported by the organization.

Carelanka Foundation Sri Lanka is a small foundation that works in conjunction with the YMBA in Galle. Since the end of 2011 Carelanka and YMBA contribute together the care for new started project: Metta DayCare Center.

The cooperation, however, exists already for a long time. It started with the collaboration to improve the living conditionconditions at Sahabandu Boys Home in Wanduramba, an YMBA project.

In 2010 both organizations supported Jayawardana Home for the Blind, with great success. The residents of the Home are now completely self-supporting.



## Ayesha Foundation / Sri Lanka



The Ayesha Foundation was established in 2005 shortly after its founder, Gerard de Jong, went to Sri Lanka to help out at a children's home in Galle. Main goal of the foundation was to help institutionalized children and children in difficult family circumstances. Main projects were the support to the Boossa School and to the Sahabandu Boys Home. As it is the priority of the foundation to work with local



institutions, for the Boossa school the cooperation started with the Boossa Aid Development Foundation and for the Sahabandu Boys Home with the Young Men's Buddhist Association.

## Dutch-Lanka Friendship Foundation / Sri Lanka



Dutch-Lanka Friendship Foundation, hereafter referred to as DLFF, is a registered NGO. DLFF's aim is to develop the talents of children and adults with a disability and to offer a fine old age to the elderly. Since 2005 DLFF supports the boards of Sarana Children's Home, Uhana, Ampara District and Sarana Elder's Home, Ampara, to improve the living conditions of the residents of the Homes. Sarana DayCare Center, started August 2012, on Sarana Children's Home compound is a newborn project, under supervision of Sarana Children's Home board. DLFF gives support in two lines: in first to share knowledge, in second in a financial way. The Sri Lankan Project Manager, Mr. E.A.P. Ariyawansa, is responsible for the daily performance of the work on the projects in the Eastern Province. The Sri Lankan Field Manager, Mrs. Ranjani Rajapaksha, implements the activity program at Sarana Children's Home and Sarana Daycare Center. At Sarana Children's Home and Sarana Daycare Center DLFF has appointed a staff of nine members.

## The presence of a Dutch country coordinator



Our Dutch country coordinator, Miss Manon Kuin, managed the projects of Carelanka, Ayesha and DLFF for a number of years. She is educated as a development expert in the field of disabilities. In the past years she learned to speak Sinhalese and learned a lot about the Sri Lankan culture. She worked for the Foundations on a voluntary part time base, with a payment of allowance. In April 2014 the formal relationship between Miss Manon Kuin and Carelanka has come to an end. The local partner organizations and our local staff has matured enough to be able to manage the projects. This is in line with our ultimate goal to hand over the projects at some point in time to the Sri Lankan people.

Even though she is no longer formally connected to Carelanka, she continues to pay weekly visits to the Metta Daycare Center in her capacity of development expert in the field of disabilities. This in close cooperation with our partner, the YMBA.



## Facts and Figures

### *Fund inflow*

The three foundations: Carelanka, DLFF and Ayesha raised in 2014 the amount of € 63.207,00 divided as follows:

- Carelanka: € 19.013,00
- DLFF: € 27.442,00
- Ayesha: € 16.752,00

This income was sufficient to pay for all expenses in the joint six projects. None of this income has been spent on office cost or travel expenses or fundraising. All donations were spent in the six various projects. Dutch businesses offer their service for free as a manner of socially involved entrepreneurship. The traveller himself pays travel costs. Details can be found on the ANBI page on our website: [www.carelanka.nl](http://www.carelanka.nl)

### *Visits*

The two Dutch voluntary managers travelled in total seven times to Sri Lanka and had numerous meetings with authorities and local organizations.

This year residents and pupils of our projects could welcome nearly twenty of our sponsors on site. The sponsors reported to us that the information, which was given the past years, compared with the reality on site. All of them were touched by the happiness and fine environment at the homes.

### *Dutch Board*

In the Netherlands Carelanka is monitored by a board. Four times a year they meet each other.

Mr. Piet van der Meulen	Chairman
Mr. Gerard de Jong	Treasurer
Mrs. Kirsten Giethoorn	Secretary
Mr. Kees Zachariasse	Member
Mrs. Suzanne van Emden	Member

### *Professionals*

Carelanka is an organization of Dutch volunteers. The background of the volunteers is in the field of pedagogy, welfare or special needs. Carelanka's ambition is to find the knowledge in Sri Lanka itself. For that reason the Carelanka Dutch staff consists of three members only: the founders and the country coordinator until this year. In the course of 2014 the country coordinator stepped back as described earlier. Local professionals run the projects. These professionals have a background related to the field.

Nonetheless sometimes Dutch volunteers co-op with the local professionals. The main aim for these volunteers is to develop themselves. Carelanka gives them a chance to share knowledge with each other.



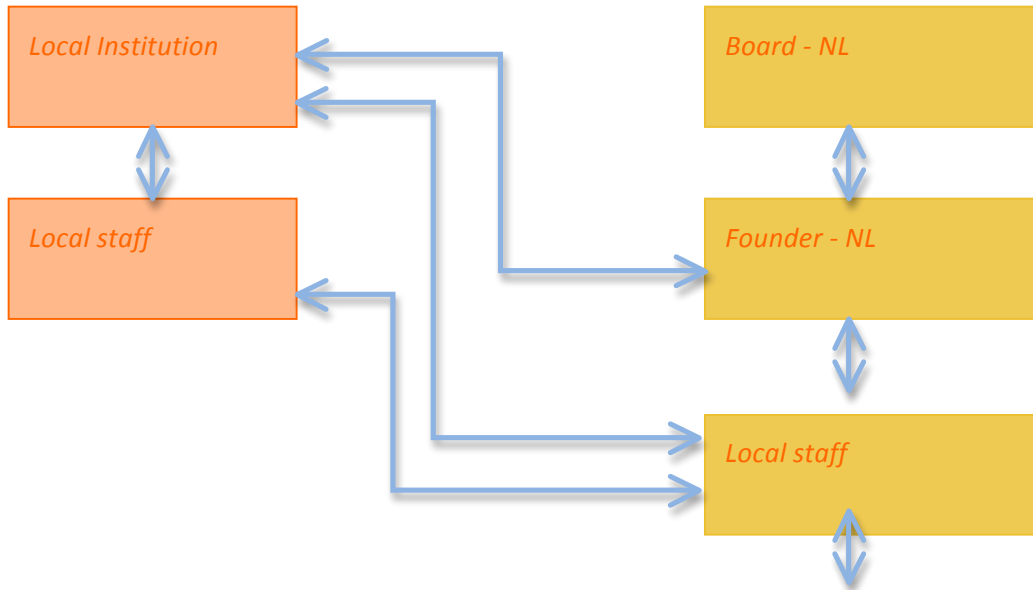
*Cooperation between local institutions and Carelanka*

The local authorities have the final responsibility on the projects. Carelanka is only a guest. The local institution has give Carelanka a task to give temporarily support to increase the life circumstances of the beneficiaries.

*Communication lines*

Local Management

Carelanka management



## Mission

Carelanka's mission is to create a safe and devotedly community at the supported projects; a community in which elderly people, disabled women and pupils with a disability feel free to develop their talents and to be as they are.

## Vision

Our vision is to offer personalized service at the projects, by sharing knowledge with the local staff, with respect for local customs and habits.

## Exit strategy

Even before we start a project, we already have the exit strategy clearly in mind. A project starts at request of the local authorities. The local authorities stay responsible for the project, its daily policy and the beneficiaries. Carelanka only takes temporarily responsibility for just predefined tasks. We will give those tasks in return to the local responsible institution in the near future.

Stage 1: Carelanka gives its full support by giving financial support and by sharing knowledge.

Stage 2: The local institution and Carelanka determine a high degree of satisfaction about achieving the objects. We start with local funding in co-operation with the local authority.

Stage 3: The project is given to the local authorities and Carelanka keeps an eye on it from a distance.

## Method and Evaluation

All Carelanka projects have the aim to become independent from foreign support at some point in the future. The so-called exit strategy is defined in each project plan, which is constantly updated.

All projects are conducted in a manner that relates to the local culture and with respect for the local religion. To be able to do that Carelanka works closely with local organizations, which varies from project to project.

Progress in the projects is carefully monitored and matched with the objectives set out in the project plan. If necessary the project plan is adjusted. The objectives vary from project to project, but the heart of each project is to improve the quality of life for vulnerable people and help to open doors to a better future.

## Marketing, Fundraising and Awareness

To be able to run the Carelanka projects in a professional way the foundation puts a lot of effort in fundraising in the Netherlands. Locally we create more and more awareness for the "Carelanka" brand. Fundraising is done through a variety of local activities in churches, schools and companies down to the level of individual families. Through the





years, a growing group of ambassadors is helping the board members with local initiatives.

Besides marketing and fundraising to help cover the cost of running the projects, our awareness program in the Netherlands is mutually important. We give lectures at schools, churches, service clubs or businesses about abilities of people with disabilities in Sri Lanka. We also provide the audience with common information about Sri Lanka. Our awareness program is an important issue of our voluntary work in the Netherlands, to create a community who is interested in, considerate towards and well educated about people living in another social-economical situation.

Communication lines are set by website, Facebook, Linked-in, digital newsletter, paper flyers and our annual paper up date.

Fundraising in Sri Lanka is even important! One day, the Dutch interference will stop and the local organizations have to manage the source of income themselves. Carelanka gives a helping hand to start the fundraising. For each project we create a network of benefactors. The local Country coordinator trains the management to maintain this network and to keep a proper administration.

## Review to the projects

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### Sarana Children's Home

#### *Brief introduction*



Sarana started in the early eighties as a children orphanage. Not only (economical) orphans were brought in, also children with any kind of disability. Over the years, the orphans were taken home by relatives or got married. The disabled children remained seated, and became adults.

In the beginning of 2005 DLFF started with the support of Sarana Children's Home. In first we offered the 30 residents, mainly women with a disability, an activity program.

The living conditions of the residents were very poor. Some women were locked up.

No one had the opportunity to develop her talents. After a while of working with the

residents we noticed that without adequate mental and physical care and reconstruction work of the buildings people could not develop their skills to their full potential. We extended our aims by giving medical support and starting the reconstruction project. After two years of support some residents were looking for a new challenge and we started a social- primary school trainings program for them. Meanwhile DLFF supported the board and staff of Sarana in a financial way and equally important by sharing knowledge.

### *Board and staff*

o Sarana Children's Home was not only in 2012 and 2013, the award winning Children's Home in Ampara District, but also in 2014! Nilmini Madam –matron-, Miss Wimelawathee –assistant matron-, Radeesha teacher -activity program-, Mrs. Ranjani – assistant project manager-, Mr. Ariyawansa -project manager-, Miss Ayesha -cleaning lady-, and Sarana Board achieved great results, with their commitment throughout the home.

o At the end of 2010, within five years after the start, the Dutch and Sri Lankan boards agreed to start with the exit strategy. An exit strategy means that the involved third party steps back and hand over the responsibility of the temporarily taken over tasks to the origin party. In 2011 we started with the independency of the staff. The Sri Lankan project manager visited the Home often, but not on a daily base. During his visits he monitored the situation and gave suggestions to improve the staff's skills when necessary. In 2012 the project manager continued the monitoring in that same way. In 2011 we handed over the financial responsibility to the Board and staff. Although the charity still paid for the medical care, maintenance and reconstruction work of the buildings and social welfare of the residents. In 2012 we continued this way of independency and extended it by doing the bookkeeping by the matron, which was checked by the treasurer of the Sarana Board and DLFF project manager.



In 2013 we started the local fundraising. Sarana Board and DLFF project manager created a network of private people and institutions that are involved in Sarana and are willing to help in any kind of way.

In 2014 the board received many external support through finances, means and goods. The fence has been painted, the entranceway paved, a summer hut was built and finally the board of Sarana has created a Sarana Shop.

As of 2013 the local board and DLFF work closely together regarding the compound, homes and garden. Our strong partnership consists of the board being responsible for manpower, whereas DLFF is in charge of the delivery of materials. As a consequence, we were able to build a toilet facility connected to the dormitory of the residents this year.

### *Financial situation*

o The Dutch fundraising was adequate for the fixed costs. We could continue to achieve the objectives we set out.

o The Sarana board managed, according to the exit strategy, the maintenance of the buildings and garden.



### Activity Program

- o It is mentioned by people that the low level residents still develop themselves in a social context. Some of the residents start to speak, some of them respond to simple instructions.
- o The residents of Sarana and the children of the Sarana Daycare center work together on a regularly basis on common activities. Both the children and residents consider this as very pleasant.
- o The activities program are gradually altered taking into account that the residents are aging, consequently the activities are less intensive and also includes moments of rest for the more older residents.

### Social-Vocational Program

- o Ranjani teacher has given a lot of practical counseling sessions for the residents.
- o Mid 2013 the Sarana Shop opened its doors. This shop is located at the veranda of the Home and managed by one of the residents, Malika. People who are visiting the Home can buy some stationary, personal care items of creative items made by the residents. The revenues are used to fund the activity program. Malika earns an allowance, which is saved on her bank account. Last year Malika has learned to fully manage the shop by herself. Her dream in life is to open a shop outside the Sarana compound, we noticed that she is ready, concerning her skills and experiences. The board turned her dream into practice and by the start of 2015 her shop will be opened, followed by celebrations and festivities on this joyful occasion.
- o We took the residents on a trip several times. They went to Miyangana, to visit a temple and hot water spring. For Vesak they visited Ampara town to witness the Vesak decorations themselves.
- o The residents of the Elderly Home and the children of the Daycare center celebrated the local festivities and religious days together.
- o After weeks of practice, the residents could show off their dancing skills to a group locals of during several dancing competitions in Ampara.
- o This year we celebrated the farewell of Sudharma en Chamila! They got married and moved in with the family of their significant other. Ranjani, teacher, keeps close contact with both of them to help them with building a life outside Sarana.
- o Kanchana passed her final school exams. She now works as an assistant in the Daycare center. She is doing a terrific job and enjoys being an assistant very much.



### *Reconstruction work*

- o No major reconstruction work financed by DLFF has been executed this year. On the contrary major reconstruction work was carried out donated by the board. A fence has been painted, the entranceway paved, a summerhut was built, we were able to built a toilet facility connected to the dormitory of the residents this year and finally the board of Sarana has created a Sarana Shop (see picture).
- o It is of significant importance to keep maintaining the renovated buildings in order for them to keep their current state. Therefore our close partnership consist of the board being responsible for manpower and DLFF is in charge of the delivery of materials.

### *Health program*

- o Six days a week Miss Ayesha, the caretaker, helps residents with their personal hygiene and by cleaning the buildings.
- o Several residents visited specialized doctors.
- o Every month a doctor visited the Home for regular consultations. These doctors are doing their work on a voluntary base.

### *2015 Future plans*

- o We will proceed with our exit strategy as planned. We are on schedule with the steps that have to be taken. This means that we will support the Sarana Board by fundraising in Sri Lanka, to get more financial independency.
- o We will give support by starting and carrying out the maintenance calendar of the buildings and compound.
- o The procedure, set up last year, of the management and communication with the project manager and the initiator in the Netherlands will be continued in the same line. The project manager sends his report weekly. Moreover he sends his monthly administration and twice a month a Skype meeting is scheduled.

## Sarana Children's Home

### *Brief introduction*



In 2008 DLFF started to support the board of Sarana Elders Home, situated in Ampara, to improve the condition of the buildings, to give the 25 residents a decent life. In consultation with the board, staff and residents we renovated the buildings: electricity, roof repair, sanitary facilities, water management, foundations of the buildings, kitchen, tiling, window- door repairs, painting, everything was done by a local contractor, who worked with local laborers and materials. During the reconstruction work we have kept in mind that hygiene, safety and accessibility is our prior concern. Another important fact is that the board has the

ability to maintain the buildings after DLFF has completed her tasks. For that reason we built to Sri Lankan measure and will give the board support to start up their own local fundraising.

Beside the construction work, we also offered the residents a social program. They went on trip to the beach, a temple or a festival. We introduced the Psycho-Social Intervention Program – a local group of people comes to visit the Elders Home to have a chat with the residents- and we introduced the Adoption Program – each resident has a local family who will look after him/her for a year. Nowadays 40 elders are living at Sarana Elders Home.

### *Management and board*



- o Just like the Children's Home, Sarana Elders Home was awarded as best Elders Home in Ampara District in 2014.
- o In accordance to the exit strategy, the matron of the home has to do the bookkeeping of the medical care. DLFF is paying for medical expenses, the Sarana board has to justify her spendings. The transfer of responsibility was successful.

### *Financial situation*

- o We were pleased to learn of the ongoing support of Dutch sponsors for the fixed costs.
- o The Sarana Board did their administration well. They could take care for several fixed costs, such as funerals and general food.
- o Several local institutions supported the Elders Home in a material or labor way. This way of sponsoring is more than welcome. DLFF supports the initiatives taken by Sarana Board to win structurally local donations.

### *Health program*

- o The elderly people need more medical care than others. Most of the medical care in Sri Lanka is without any charge. And in case that there has to be paid, DLFF can give support. We supported multiple eye surgeries and Ayurvedic treatments and transport of the residents.
- o Hygiene is very important for the health of the residents. For this reason the program 'a clean site' was established in 2013. Staff and residents are informed on risks of food garbage due to this awareness program. As a consequence, bins were placed. This program is continued successfully in 2014.

### *Social intervention program*

- o Social wellbeing of the residents is one of our main objectives. If you feel socially comfortable, you will feel healthier. Keeping this in mind the project



manager launched two social programs in 2010. In 2013 the project manager has transferred the organization process of the program "Adopt a Grandparent" to the board of the Sarana Elderly home. Unfortunately, we learned in 2014 that this valuable project is currently inactive.

- o In 2015 we will help the board to launch this program again. 'Adopt a Grandparent' are families living near Ampara, who will pay attention to a granddad or grandma assigned to them for a whole year. The elderly residents will look forward to their visits where they can learn about the latest gossip and news.

- o Another social project that we transferred to the board of Sarana in 2013, is the Psycho-Social Intervention Program. Several local institutions visit the Elders Home for a meeting with the residents, to talk with them about daily life or to sing with them. Also this program is not continued by the local board in 2014. The project manager of DLFF will guide the board with organizing and setting up of these relevant meetings.

- o Some residents developed skills for gardening, cooking or embroidery themselves. It is not only the activity, but also the contribution to the home, which makes them feel happy.

- o The elders went for a trip to the beach and Kumana National Park, a temple and celebrated Buddhist Festivals together.

### *Reconstruction work*

- o We have accomplished our reconstruction last year. From this point on we will give support by maintaining the work that has been done.

### *2015 Future plans*

- o We will implement the exit strategy, by giving more responsibility to the board and staff regarding local fundraising and bookkeeping.

- o The social programs will be continued. The board and matron will receive more guidance as towards implementing and executing the programs.

- o We will continue to provide financial support for the maintenance of the work that has been done and the medical care.



## Sarana DayCare Center



### *Brief introduction*

- o Sarana DayCare Center, on site of Sarana Children's Home, is a newborn DLFF project. The disabled women of Sarana Children's Home were once brought in as a handicapped child as the parents couldn't provide and take care of them.

The handicapped child also brought the family in a precarious financial situation. Nowadays, while the residents of Sarana are grown up disabled, they still live in the Home.

With this in mind, we started the Daycare Center, to keep the



child at home and in the community and develop their talents.

At first we conducted needs assessments regarding parents with disabled children. Also we researched the goals and objectives of local government institutions concerning disabled children. Outcome of this research is there is a need for a daycare for disabled children. Daycare is suitable for each party: the children can learn skills that fit their possibilities. The parents can continue their daily life when the child is in daycare. Which means that for both is no interruption of family life. Government institutions also gain benefit from daycare facilities. Families can increase their income and contribute to the local economy. Children are not placed in a children's home, which saves a lot of public funds.

On site of Sarana Children's Home the Sri Lankan government has built a new building. In this building, DLFF could start the DayCare Center in August 2012.

As DLFF is a guest in Sri Lanka, one day we will leave. For that reason it is very important to get local authorities involved from the start. The Sarana Children's Home Board, is ultimately responsible for Sarana DayCare Center. A network of local institutions with knowledge about disabled children supports Sarana Daycare Center

### *Management and Staff*

o The DLFF assistant project manager will be responsible for the everyday practice at Sarana DayCare Center. Two teachers and two teachers assistants are teaching 20 children five days a week. The teachers assistants are residents of Sarana Children's Home . We give them the opportunity to develop their social and working skills in a safe environment. A cleaning lady is responsible to keep the building clean, maintain the



garden and to give a helping hand when a pupil needs some extra help with the personal hygiene. A kitchen mother takes care for the food and beverages. Each morning the pupils are collected by the DLFF van, driven by our own driver. At the end of the day the children are brought home again.

o A Dutch teacher of a daycare center has voluntarily supported the Sarana team with their class management this year for three months.

### *Financial situation*

Our opinion is that costs should be minimized, to ensure the continuation of the project after the departure of DLFF. Step by step the costs must be covered by local funds. Immediately at the kick off, we started with a parents fund. This tuition fee is paid on a monthly base.

### *Activity Program*

The pupils, aged 5 till 14 year are suffering from any kind of disability. For that reason they cannot attend a regular or special need school. At Sarana Daycare the teachers are looking for the specific talent of each child, and will develop that talent. The children will coop with gardening,



cooking, cleaning and at the vegetables market. These skills are very useful for their future at home. Some of the children have the ability to learn to write and read, those pupils will be educated in that way.

An important part of the program is the place of the children in the social environment. This year they participated in the community with several dancing items. They also went to Miyangana

### *Parents Awareness Program*

Frequently, the parents are invited to attend a parents meeting. During that meeting the Sarana Daycare staff informs them about the progress of the center in general. During every meeting a specific topic about disability and possibility is illustrated by an expert. The parents are closely involved in the project. Often, after a parents meeting, they are doing 'Shrama Dhana', which means a donation in a practical way by cleaning the compound for example.

### *2015 Future plans*

o As we started in mid-2012 we will develop our successful programs and continue our main achievements, while building further on our lessons learned.

In 2012 success factors were the veggie market, 'playing the real world' such as pretend to cook and dancing. Several performances on stage are planned.

Success factors of 2014 were the social participation projects of the children.

o We will train our staff on time management and differentiation in class situations.

o As a second step in financial independency we will create a network of 'Friends of Sarana Daycare Center'. Also the Dhana program will be launched.

o As the results of each child are monitored and marked on a frequent base, we are planning on handing out certificates as a reward.

o Starting from 2015 a child physical therapist specialized in children with disabilities will start to support the team for three months.

o Also this year a teacher from a daycare center from the Netherlands will advise the staff and board on class management for three months.

## **Ampara Safe House**

Carelanka likes to be in motion. When a local partner requests for help, we see if we



can give them heed. Early 2014 General Hospital in Ampara asked or we can provide support in setting up a shelter for abused girls. The hospital has built the shelter. The guidance back to society is central point of the training for the girls. The local social workers DLFF can give a helping hand by training the staff in the home and guide them. Issues that are addressed include: building self-esteem and attention to the normalization of social norms with adults and peers. We expect Safe House Ampara can open its doors mid 2015.



# Boossa School

## *Brief introduction*

The Boossa School is founded in 1906 and serves the village of Boossa and its surroundings. Boossa is a relatively poor fishermen's village with mostly low educated families. The school does not get much support from the government in spite of the fact that it is a government school. The project started in 2005 and since then the school grew from 60 to 150 students. The local partner organization of the Ayesha Foundation is the Boossa Development Foundation. Initially the Ayesha foundation supported a large variety of activities of the school as a whole. Since the start of 2013 we have started to concentrate on the Special Education Unit with children with mental disabilities and with children with a hearing disorder.

## *Special education*

The children are now finally divided into two groups: the children with a mental disability and a group with children with a hearing disorder. The new classroom is now being used by the last group as this classroom is a bit away from the rest of the school that produces a lot of noise.



- Volunteers have trained the teachers in a variety of techniques that were new to them. As a result the teachers have not only improved their skills, but have also become more excited about helping the children to develop themselves more.
- A speech therapist, Mrs. Anoma, comes a bit less frequently than before as she is busy in many projects. She works with the children in a group and individually. Not only the children are educated, but also the regular teachers are being trained in the speech therapy techniques. Overall, speech therapy is a slow process but we have seen enough progress to continue these lessons.
- The school library now contains books, suitable for children with mental disabilities. The children use the computer classroom in small groups under guidance of the computer teacher.
- The children of the Special Education Unit are maintaining a small piece of land in the school's vegetable garden.

## *Financial situation*

- As in the past years the foundation has received sufficient funds to run the Boossa school project. Major investments are done only as the funds are available.

## *2015*

- We expect both classes to grow further in 2015.



- We help to finalize the schools sportsground.
- With the Boossa Aid Development Foundation we will work hard on finding local funding to work towards an exit strategy in the years to come.
- As part of our Dutch awareness program we will continue to receive visitors in the school under the supervision of the principal of the school.

## Sahabandu Elder's Home

### *Brief introduction*

The Sahabandu boys home is founded in 1995 and is run by the Young Men's Buddhist Association but falls under the authority of the department of probation and childcare. We are involved since 2006. Early January 2014 the home is transformed into an Elder's Home in close cooperation with the District Social Service and our local partner, YMBA.

### *Project description*

- Over the years all buildings on the grounds have been renovated or renewed. At this point in time it is only a matter of maintenance and therefore the financial burden is a lot less the earlier years.
- Our prime goal is to create a safe living environment for the elderly. The matron, Mrs. Jayanthi, and her assistant coordinate the work involved. In total 17 female elderly are now living in the Sahabandu Elder's home.

### *Financial situation*

- As in the past years the foundation has received sufficient funds to run the Sahabandu project. The cost is minimal as the YMBA covers most expenses now.

### *2015*

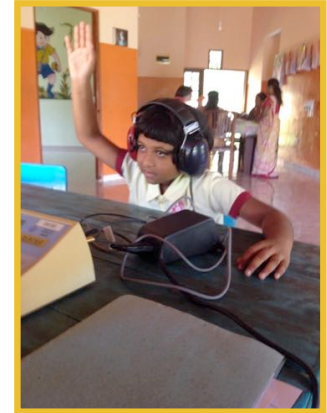
- Our goal for this year is mainly to activate the elder's, as they have been very passive so far. We will train Mrs. Jayanthi to be able to organize activities suitable for the age group.



# Metta Day Care Center

## *Brief introduction*

- o Metta DayCare Center is now open for over four years. A lot of progress has been made. Every day 15 children come to Metta. They are being picked up by our transport service and dropped off at home at the end of the day. We can conclude that the Metta Daycare Center fills a gap for mentally disabled children in the region. All children make tremendous progress and the economical situation of the parents is significantly improved. As Carelanka is a guest in Sri Lanka, one day we will leave. For that reason it is very important for us to have local authorities involved from the start of the project. The YMBA, based in Galle, is ultimately responsible for Metta DayCare Center. A network of local institutions with knowledge about disabled children support Metta.



## *Management/staff*

- o The management is in the hands of Carelanka and YMBA, in the person of Mr. Sarath Dias, president of the YMBA. Staff consists of three teachers, who work on a daily base with the children. Three staff members give facility support. Two gardeners maintain the grounds. Various fruits, spices and vegetables grow on the Metta land. This is used in the kitchen and also sold as a source of income to help make this project financially independent in the future.

## *Activity program*

- o The requirements for children to come to Metta are: no school access possibility, mental and/or physical disorder, concerned parents and living in the neighborhood. We now serve a coherent group of 17 children aged between 4 and 17 years. We employ three teachers, with knowledge and experience as a Montessori schoolteacher and affinity with disabled children. We have trained and continue to train the teachers to become professionals. This year one teacher is replaced. The new teacher is very organized and a great addition to the staff.
- o Various volunteers spent time with the teachers and the children to improve the skills and develop the talents. Staff of Metta and the Sarana Daycare Center in Ampara meet to exchange experience and to be trained by professionals.



The children are being picked up daily and are brought back to several pick up points.

On the basis of a prepared schedule the children develop different kind of skills: personal hygiene to become self sufficient, social behaviors to be prepared for a life outside their family and Montessori activities such as music class, crafts, games and sport. Some of the older children learn to work in the garden surrounding the buildings. This can be seen as vocational training.

### *Financial situation*

As in all Carelanka projects we depend for this project also on kind donations from churches, companies, schools and individuals. So far



Carelanka has received sufficient funds to start up the Metta Daycare Center, but as this is a longer-term project the foundation is seeking sponsorship on a regular bases. Monthly or quarterly donations will help to manage the project in an even more adequate way. We hope that we can achieve this by proving that this project is a really make a difference in the children's and their families life.

### *2015*

- We will continue to add more children. Children will be divided into groups based on their capabilities and age.
- These groups will grow up to 15 pupils. Two teachers will manage a group. One extra teacher will support all groups.
- In 2011 Metta DayCare was dependent on its income by sponsoring of Carelanka. In 2012 we started with financial independency by starting dhana. Dhana is a common way of almsgiving in Sri Lanka. Families from nearby offer lunch meals or other goods. This has worked well so far, but not all days are covered yet. The calendar for Dhana is filling up step by step now.