

First I wish to thank the staff in Kandy for their hospitality and efforts in making it a very successful trip for myself. Both of my parents were teachers, so I appreciate the sacrifices the Pahansila staff make so that we may have a viable project. The skills that make a great teacher-enthusiasm, dedication and caring for the students is universal. I observed an abundance of all those qualities in the Pahansila staff.

At Sarana Sevena Boys Home the English skills of the older students was very impressive. 18 months ago they did not know their ABCs. In the class I observed this trip, they were speaking in complete sentences after comprehending different shapes. Possibly it was just me feeling good about our work, but it appeared to me there were many more happy faces in the group, as they had a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment. Being involved with the students on a weekly basis, the teachers may not be as appreciative of the progress, but having dropped in after a 18 months, I was totally appreciative of the progress made.

The OL class at Kalyanodaya was another rewarding experience. The students made me understand the cultural appreciation for learning in Sri Lanka. The students seemed very sincere in their desire to take advantage of this opportunity they have been given. The temperature the class room (at least 95 F) did not dent the enthusiasm of the teacher or students. As I learn more of the importance of the OL exam in these students' lives, I see just how important this little extra help is.

As we move forward into '07 the below is a review of my final discussions with Nande and Sube, and ideas for future growth.

The technical training available for the students National Youth Council Youth Center, and Technical College, Arrupola meets our students' needs. The problem is after investing in a student's education for several years, they are many times thrown out on the streets with no suitable environment to go to. If the student upon leaving Sarana Sevena qualifies for additional vocational training, I would be willing to assist in getting him that training, plus pay for a foster home with a good environment to assist him in this very critical time in their lives. Again, I try to look at our project as an investment in lives and not a simple charity. It would be a shame to lose this investment at such a critical time. Not just in money, but the time that the teachers have spent with the students. Because of the relatively small size of the Sarana Sevena Home, I would anticipate a small number of such students initially.

Singithi Sevena Orphanage

Dr. S. Kumar with Anjani had identified an orphanage with similar needs as Sarana Sevena. They showed me a copy of the proposal, but I did not take it with me. The proposal is on a word document. If Anjani could forward that document to the Pahansila staff and to be worthy, I can properly support it with staff and fund it in a similar fashion to Sarana Sevena. (Also they have 6 computers, if we do set up a program there, possibly the older Sarana Sevena students can go there for computer lessons)

Sarana Sevena Orphanage

Sarana Sevena needs a new kitchen. Nande said he will get an estimate of the funds needed for a proper kitchen. Once that information is gathered please forward to myself for review. Like the septic tank, this is a quality of life issue that I would like to address. I think the matron works very hard for the children, and hopefully this will make her life easier.

Pologllawatte School

Many needs are evident. Library very sparse, but staff is dedicated. Not sure where you want to go with this, but I am open to suggestions.

I hope the above generates ideas as we go forward. But above all, I appreciate the quality of your efforts so far, and do not wish to dilute our outcomes just for the sake of growth. Everyone here is a volunteer with lives and families which makes your dedication to Pahansila even more special. Please tell me what tools you need to improve the lives of the needy children of Sri Lanka, I will do my best to get you those tools.

Kelley Davis