

ENGINEERS CHARITY FUND

TAMIL ENGINEERS FOUNDATION

*A charity organisation committed to helping disadvantaged people
around the world*



Welcome to Newsletter Issue 12! We wish you and your families' happiness and health in 2021!

Background

Engineers Charity Fund (ECF) was established in 2007 to collectively participate spiritually and morally for the long lasting peace in our homeland. This is a non-political, non-profitable and charity focused organisation. The main objective is to help in-need school / university children, orphanage centres, hospitals and other charity organisations in North and East of Sri-Lanka. Additionally, in recent years ECF has conducted several projects for youth with disabilities and rural families in Australia. ECF is a registered organisation with a licence to raise funds for charitable purpose, and has a tax deductible status.

We have undertaken many charitable activities over the past 14 years – which have been well received. This newsletter will detail the projects delivered in the past 12 months.

Our Vision

We are a global caring charity organisation that aims to help the needy and affected people in North and East of Sri Lanka, and other disadvantaged people around the world.

Our Mission

To provide financial and moral support to help the needy school/university children, orphanage centres, hospitals and other charity organisations in North, East and Upcountry of Sri-Lanka while maintaining strong links with other local and international charity organisations.

Our Values

- Respect, care and help each other
- Maintain honesty, integrity & excellence
- Provide moral and financial support to needy and disadvantaged people
- Inspire a legacy of social awareness and compassion

Regional Funding

In general, our humanitarian projects are implemented in five regions of North & East Sri Lanka: Mannar, Trincomalee, Vanni, Baticaloa and Jaffna Areas.

Collection Summary 2020

Due to COVID19 restrictions and social distancing issues the cultural program “Enthira Maali- 2020” in Sydney and Fundraising Events in other States were cancelled. However, as per previous years, we have received generous and kind hearted contributions from our members from Australia and overseas to continue our humanitarian efforts.

The total collection in 2020 was approximately \$ **124,000**





THAI PONGAL VILLA AT SYDNEY MURUGAN TEMPLE

Engineers Charity Fund celebrated Thai Pongal day at Sydney Murugan Temple on 14 January 2020. Temple bhajan was performed by the members followed by serving lunch and prasatham to more than 1500 devotees. ECF members, families and friends participated in this great event, forming a platform for engineers, professionals, well-wishers and their families to meet and network.



ESSENTIAL MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

Base Hospital, Chettikulam

\$58,800 was donated to Base Hospital at Chettikulam for essential medical instruments as requested by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Ahilendran. This project was funded with the collaboration of Rotary International and AMAF. ECF and AMAF contributed \$11,400 each and remaining amount \$36,000 was donated by Rotary International. .



BUSH FIRE APPEALS

NSW, VIC and SA

\$15,000 was donated to State Fire Authorities in NSW, Victoria and South Australia to help volunteer fire fighters and the families who have been affected by the severe bushfire in early 2020.





DONATION TO BASE HOSPITAL POINT PEDRO

\$7820(Rs 1.0Million) was donated to Base Hospital at Point Pedro by TEF Vic Chapter for the renovation & extension of the male ward.



FUNDING FOR A REMOTE SCHOOL

Trincomalee.

\$850 was donated to a remote school at Trincomalee to provide school books & stationery to the needy children.



COACHING CLASSES: HARI ILLAM

ORPHANAGE Batticaloa

\$5355 was donated to Hari Illam Orphanage, to provide coaching classes in Maths, Science and English for grade 8 and 11 students who lost their parents due to civil unrest. There are about 56 children at this centre and 13 children from this orphanage are continuing their tertiary education at various Universities (including two students at Faculty of Engineering). TEF has been supporting the children at Hari Illam for several years now.



REVOLVING LOAN PROJECT in Memory of

Late Mr. S'Muttu Sivarasa

Madduvil South, Chavakacheri, Jaffna

Revolving 'no interest' loans totalling **\$4155** was provided to 10 women headed families (Rs50,000 each) to establish livelihood projects i.e. sewing, cow/goat rearing, corner shop, short eats, farming etc. This project was funded by E73 batch engineers with the support of TEF members and implemented by Centre for Child and Youth Employment (CCYE) through Sivan Arul Illam foundation

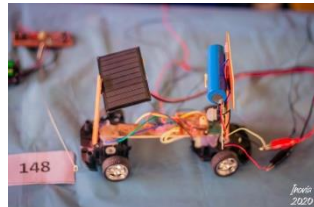
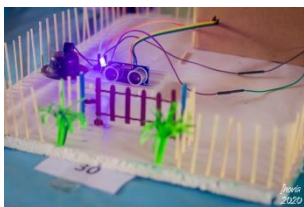




IT EXHIBITION VAVUNIYA

All University Students Development Association

\$2000 was donated to All University Students Development Association in Vavuniya to fund the IT Exhibition for Grade 6 to 12 students in Schools in North & East to motivate them to follow science subjects in their GCE OL & AL.



REVOLVING LOAN PROJECT

Kopay, Jaffna

\$3000 worth of no-interest loans were provided to 9 women headed families (Rs40,000 per family – Total Rs360,000) in Kopay/Jaffna area to establish livelihood opportunities i.e. sewing, goat/cow rearing, farming, short eats, corner shop etc. This project required no new capital funding and used the money recovered from previous Revolving loans provided by ECF and implemented by Sivan Arul Illam/ CCYE.



COVID19 SUPPORT – TURBANS AUSTRALIA

NSW & ACT

\$1700 was donated to Turbans Australia which includes rice & dhal to provide cooked meals & dry food items to elderly and student visa holders in NSW and ACT.



UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Eng Faculty at Killinochchi

\$3685 was provided to Eng Faculty at Killinochchi of Jaffna University to provide Scholarships (Rs4000 per month) to 10 selected needy students based on their family and financial situation.



DONATION TO BATTICALOA SINGING FISH

TUBE WELL & 2 Toilets

Kathiravelu, Batticaloa

\$2500 was donated to Batticaloa Singing Fish organisation to construct a Tube Well and 2 Toilets at a remote school at Batticaloa.



REVOLVING LOAN PROJECT

Sripidy, Jaffna

\$2800 worth of no-interest loans were provided to 9 widowed women headed families (Rs40,000 per family) to establish livelihood income generating opportunities (sewing garments, poultry, farming, snacks etc.). This project required no new capital funding from ECF, and used the money from revolving loans given previously, in late 2017 in Mannar and Mullativu. This project was implemented by Sivan Arul Illam and CCYE of Jaffna.



REVOLVING LOAN PROJECT

Velani, Urvahathurai, Jaffna Area

\$2000 worth of no-interest loans were provided to 10 women headed families to provide them with new bicycles for children to go to school, tuition etc. This project required no new capital funding and used the money recovered from previous loans provided by ECF and implemented by Sivan Arul Illam and CCYE.



CHILD SPONSORSHIPS – 10 Students

Nuwara ELLIYA, Rotary Club

\$3255 was donated to Rotary Club of Nuwara ELLIYA to provide Child Scholarships to 10 underprivileged children from the tea estates of Nuwara ELLIYA based on their family details and financial situation to encourage the students to continue their education.



COVID19 SUPPORT - TAMIL RESOURCES

CENTRE - Sydney

TEF with the support of Peradeniya E89 batch mates, made a donation of \$2000 to help 40 families in Sydney financially affected by COVID19 restrictions by providing them with essential grocery delivery such as, rice, dhal, chili powder, tin fish, chick peas, rice flour etc.



COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency Relief

Donated by
Tamil Engineers Foundation
Engineers Charity Fund - 09121837

தமிழ் பொறியியலாளர் அமைப்பு வழங்கும் நிவாரண உதவி.

கொரோனா தொற்றுநோயின் அடித்தின் நிமிர்த்தம். அரக விடுவித்த கட்டுப்பாடுகளினால் தற்காலிகமாக பொருளாதார நெருக்கடிகளுக்கு உட்பட்ட உள்ள மக்களுக்கு உதவுகமாக வழங்கப்படும் நிவாரண உதவி

www.tamilengineers.net Email: info@tamilengineers.net

COVID19 SUPPORT - DISTRICT CIVIL

SOCIETY - Batticaloa

\$1000 was donated to Batticaloa District Civil Society to distribute dry food packs to 140 vulnerable families in Batticaloa area.



COVID19 SUPPORT- SENIOR SCHOOL

EDUCATORS

Northern Province

\$850 was donated to Senior School Educators in Northern Province to distribute emergency relief dry food items to 100 vulnerable families in Northern Province area.



COVID19 SUPPORT - SRI MAHA

MUTHUMARI AMBAL TEMPLE

Keerimali, Jaffna

\$4500 was donated to Sri Maha Muthumari Ambal Temple at Keerimali to distribute dry food items to 380 affected families in Keerimali area.



COVID19 SUPPORT - FM RADIO STATION

Malisanthi, Jaffna

\$500 was donated to FM Radio Station at Malisanthi, Jaffna to distribute essential dry food items to affected people in Vadamarachi area.



COVID19 SUPPORT - SHANTHIHAM

ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH & COUNSELLING - Jaffna

\$3000 was donated to Shanthiham Association for Health & Counselling to distribute dry food items to affected people in Jaffna and surrounding areas.



COVID19 SUPPORT - DESTITUTE

WELFARE FUND - Mannar

\$1000 was donated to Destitute Welfare Fund at Mannar to provide essential food items to 72 affected families in remote areas of Mannar.



UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Batticaloa University

\$3050 was provided to Rotary Club of Batticaloa to award scholarships (Rs.3000 per month) to 10 affected students whom were selected based on their family and financial situation.



COVID19 SUPPORT - ANNAI SARATHA CHILDREN HOME - Trincomalee

\$1000 was donated to Annai Saratha Children Home at Trincomalee to provide essential food items to the affected people in Muthur, Trincomalee area.



COVID 19 SUPPORT - ROTARY CLUB Mannar

\$1000 was donated to Rotary Club of Mannar to distribute essential food items to affected people in remote parts of Mannar area.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME - Jaffna University

\$3800 was donated to Jaffna University to provide Scholarships to 10 students (Rs4000 per month for 12 months period) based on the family details and income, to motivate and encourage them to concentrate on their studies and follow their dreams without the financial stress.

DONATION TO KAARAI BHARATHY COLLEGE - Karinagar, Jaffna

\$1500 was donated to Kaarai Bharathy College at Karinagar to fund the teacher's salary for the after school coaching classes for Grade 6 to Grade 12 students in the Karinagar area.

COVID19 SUPPORT - HINDU COUNCIL OF SRI LANKA

Kilinochchi and Mullativu Area

\$1000 was donated to Hindu Council of Sri Lanka to provide essential food items to the affected people in Killinochchi & Mullativu area.



COVID19 SUPPORT - YOUTH DEVELOPMENT "AHAM" - Trincomalee

\$1000 was donated to Youth Development "AHAM" at Trincomalee to distribute essential food items to affected families.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME- Kelaniya University

\$1500 was donated to Tamil Society at Kelaniya University to provide Scholarships to 4 students (Rs4000 per month for 12 months period) based on their family details and financial situation, to motivate and encourage them to concentrate on their studies and follow their dreams without financial stress.

CHILD SPONSORSHIPS TO HINDU MAHALR MANRAM - Batticaloa

\$850 was donated to Hindu Mahalir Manram Batticaloa to provide Child Sponsorships to 3 girls (Rs6000 per month for 6 months period). This was used to find their hostel as they attended GCE AL classes.

DONATION TO ORPHANAGE CENTRES FOR SPECIAL MEALS – North & East

\$1630 was donated to various orphanage centres & elders homes in North & East for providing special meals to the children.



DONATION TO “HOPE” ORGANISATION Trincomalee

\$2700 was donated to “HOPE” Organisation at Trincomalee to fund 3 teachers for 12 months period to help differently able children .



DONATION TO ALCOHOL COUNSELLING SESSIONS IN NORTH & EAST of SL

\$2280 was donated to an NGO at Jaffna to implement Alcohol Counselling Sessions at North & East of Sri Lanka.



DONATION TO SWAMI VIPULANANDA CHILDREN HOME AT BATTICALOANDA CHILDREN HOME, BATTICALOA

\$2435 was donated to Swami Vipulananda Children Home at Thiruppalugamam, Batticaloa to construct a new concrete stand for the elevated water tank. This project was implemented by “LIFT” NGO at Batticaloa.



SHANMUGA GIRLS HOME DONATION

Trincomalee

\$650 was donated to Shanmuga Girls Home at Trincomalee to provide new clothes to the girls at this centre.



DONATION FOR CHILD SPONSORSHIPS Ooruni Organisation, Vanni – 10 Children.

\$3700 (Rs480,000) was donated to Ooruni Organisation at Vanni to fund Child Sponsorships to 10 children.

DONATION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Batticaloa

\$2250 was donated by TEF Vic Chapter to CARITAS EDED in Batticaloa to fund primary school teacher's salary in remote areas.

DONATION TO BISHOP OF TRINCOMALEE

\$4500 was donated to Bishop of Trincomalee to support the families of low socio economic level in remote areas.

DONATION FOR FURNITURE & WATER TANK TO A SCHOOL – Thirukovil, Ampari

\$3750 was donated to "LIFT" NGO to organise furniture and water tank with a stand to a school at Thirukovil, Ampari.

DONATION FOR A PHOTO COPIER TO A REMOTE SCHOOL – Ampari, Eastern Province,

\$1350 was donated to fund a Photo Copier to a school at remote part of Ampari, Eastern Province.



DONATION FOR CHILD SPONSORSHIPS Sivan Arul Illam / CCYE – 11 Children, Jaffna

\$1850 (Rs240,000) was donated to Sivan Arul Illam / CCYE to fund Child Sponsorships to 11 children at Jaffna area.

DONATION FOR RESEARCH PAPER

Eng' Faculty at Killinochchi

\$585 was donated to a Jaffna University Student through "Anbalayam" to fund the research paper.

DONATION FOR CHILD SPONSORSHIPS Sivan Arul Illam / CCYE – 31 Children, Jaffna

\$4700 (Rs606,000) was donated to Sivan Arul Illam / CCYE to fund Child Sponsorships to 31 children at Jaffna area.

DONATION TO RAMAKRISHNA MISSION – Flood Relief to Jaffna & Vanni

\$1000 was donated to Ramakrishna Mission to distribute flood relief measures to affected families in Jaffna & Vanni area.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS in NSW & OTHER STATES

Due to COVID19 restrictions and social distancing issues, all fundraising events and dinners in NSW and other states were cancelled in 2020.

PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020

ECF has undertaken humanitarian projects in 2020 to the approximate value of **\$141,685.00** as detailed below,

- a. Child sponsorships - \$23,852.00
- b. University Scholarships - \$9,194.00
- c. Revolving Loans & Livelihood Projects -\$16,238.00
- d. Humanitarian Projects & Support to Orphanage centres - \$31,296.00
- e. Educational assistance projects - \$22,200.00
- f. Medical assistance projects - \$19,220.00
- g. Local Projects (Australia) - \$19,685.00

Child Sponsorship and support to orphanage centres

Problem Statement

As per published statistics Northern Province of Sri Lanka has about 12,000 ¹children who have either lost one or both parents out of which about 2,000 children are living in child development centres operated by voluntary service organisations. In addition, Eastern Province has about 1,800 ²children living in similar centres. There are more than 125 such centres across north and east of Sri Lanka at various level or condition. Government subsidy of Rs. 500/- per month is paid for each child in these centres which is barely enough to meet their basic needs. Many of these centres depend on donor support to look after the children and help them grow and achieve their ambitions.

In addition, there are children who have either lost one or both parents living with their families or relatives who also need assistance for basic needs and education.

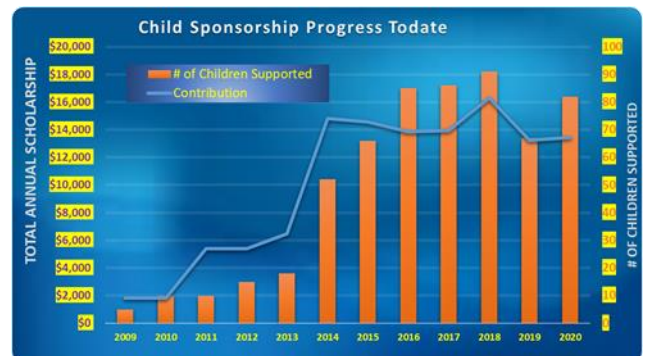
Our Vision

To provide support to about 1% of needy children (Approx. 150 children) without one or both parents in the North and East of Sri Lanka on a regular basis.

Though we recognize and support that the best model for these children will be to live in a home environment, either with their remaining parent or relatives, we also recognize that the immediate need of the children in these centres cannot be ignored and we aim to gradually work with organizations to support home based care as well.

TEF Contribution to-date

Over the last few years through the support of its donors TEF has contributed around \$121,060 to-date which includes both Child Sponsorship & contribution to Orphanages.



¹ Statistical information of the Northern Province, 2014, Chief Secretary's secretariat, Northern Province

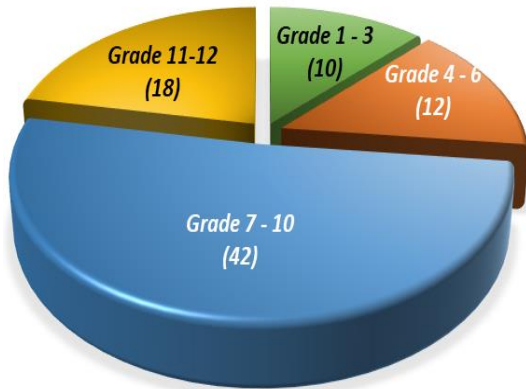
² Annual Implementation plan, 2013, Department of probation and childcare services, Eastern province



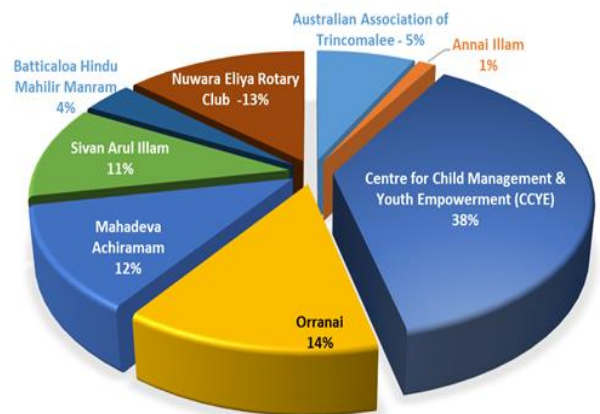
Status

TEF currently provides child sponsorship support to about 91 children across north and east of Sri Lanka through different organisations operating on the ground. As per our vision we are also working with organisations such as Ooruni, CCYE and Rotary Club (Nuwara Eliya) to support home based care for these children.

STUDENT DISTRIBUTION BY GRADES



CHILD DISTRIBUTION BY ORGANISATION



Performance monitoring

The above organisations monitor the children’s’ progress and provide us with biannual progress reports from the schools. Child’s need for support is continuously reviewed by the organizations and reported before funding is released for the next phase. If the child’s need changes that allows us to divert the support to another needy child.

Livelihood Projects

Problem Statement

Sri Lanka’s north and east had to bear the brunt of the brutal civil war over a thirty-year period which left many families without their sole bread winners. There are many thousands of women headed families finding it hard to make their ends meet. Based on public estimates in 2015 there are about 90,000 families headed by single woman (affected) in the Northern and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. TEF identified this as a major gap and started funding for this noble cause since 2013. The aim of this program is to give these families a much-needed head start to stand on their feet. This has been proven very successful as the funds are revolved after a fixed term to help another group of families.

Our Vision

To strengthen the capacity of the local community and especially the women headed families to become self-sufficient through engagement in fair and equitable livelihood opportunities, including small business / industries while providing long term benefits and increasing opportunities for interaction within and between communities. We use revolving loan as an interim vehicle for achieving the above objective though we are continuously exploring other feasible vehicles to realise our vision. We provide the needy families with a capital fund to start a small business so that they could stand on their own feet in a year or two. We also ensure that this Capital fund will be repaid in a fixed term so that it could assist another deserving family.



TEF Contribution to-date

Since 2013 through the support of donors, Tamil Engineers foundation has contributed close to \$84,000 towards this cause to create livelihood opportunities through various activities such as poultry, farming, goats rearing, dairy farming, sewing, food preparation etc. in the districts defined in foundation's constitution. Since 2013 to date, we have revolved more than 25 projects through various charity organizations benefiting more than 820 families. 540 of those families were supported through CCYE/Sivan Arul Illam Foundation.



Status

During 2019/20 we revolved 20 revolving loans to new families which were dispersed in the previous years for livelihood projects. Only a nominal administration expense to the managing organizations was incurred in re-establishing the livelihood. We continued providing funding to setup vegetable gardening, poultry, food business, corner shop, small business etc. to 10 deserving families from Thambiluvil, Batticaloa district through Hindu Council of Sri Lanka. In conjunction with Sivan Arul Illam we implemented a similar project to support 9 deserving families from Kondavil, Jaffna district.

We are confident that such projects will continue to revolve and help multiple groups of people over a longer time frame. This is an effective way of making an impact in the lives of the needy, where the loan gets revolved at the end of each term to benefit new families whilst multiplying the beneficiaries.

Revolving loan projects implemented from Jan 2020 to-date are.

Project	Funding (AU\$)
Revolving loan project to help needy families in Thambiluvil, Batticaloa via Hindu Council of Sri Lanka	\$2,885
Revolving loan project to help needy families in Kondavil, Jaffna via Sivan Arul Illam.	\$3,241
Administration cost to revolve previously funded revolving loan projects by Sivan Arul Illam.	\$421
2020 TOTAL to date	\$6,457

Selection and Performance monitoring

The beneficiaries for our livelihood/revolving loan programs are identified by various credible organizations. In the previous years, TEF has worked closely with the local organizations such as CCYE (Centre for Youth Empowerment), Sivan Arul Illam, SLS Trust Inc, Hindu Council of Sri Lanka, Hindu Mahalir Manram, Lions club of Batticaloa, Valvagam etc. to select the appropriate recipients for the program through a fair process. These are credible organizations and we are proud to be collaborating with such organizations to help the needy. These organizations work at grass root level and work closely with the local government bodies. This collaboration helps to identify the appropriate beneficiaries for our programs. The local authorities and these organizations keep a record of the recipients and ensure to provide us with regular reports on the progress of the program. We also get in touch with the beneficiaries to ensure they are benefitted by the program. TEF ensures proper checks and balances are in place to ensure the integrity of the projects funded. So far TEF has been able to support more than 260 recipients and been able to revolve the loans up to 3-4 cycles in the target areas.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO UNIVERSITY AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING STUDENTS

Problem Statement

Every year around 3,000 students from the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka are admitted into various academic programs at different universities. In addition, there are many students who enter vocational training institutes too. A percentage of these students face financial hardship due to loss of family income because of the loss of their parents or the loss of parent's jobs during the internal conflict. They struggle to afford the day to day expenses such as accommodation, food, travel etc. and study related expenses. Though the government has recently increased the "Mahapola/Bursary" scholarships which most of the deserving students are entitled to receive, in most cases this is still insufficient for some students who do not receive any other financial support from their family.

Our Vision

To ensure each deserving student from the areas identified in article 3.3 of the constitution who is not receiving another form of support enough to continue his education without undue financial pressure be provided with financial and moral support.

We will also explore feasibility of converting some of the scholarships to interest free loans which they could pay back in the future to support other students.

TEF Contribution to-date

TEF has funded a total of around \$88,000 in university scholarships over the years and 336 students have benefitted from these scholarships to-date. In addition, TEF has also made three fixed deposits with the following universities for ongoing scholarships.

- \$15000 in 2015 - For scholarship scheme at the Engineering Faculty, UOJ, Kilinochchi.
- \$10,000 in 2016 - For scholarship scheme at University of Jaffna.
- \$7,300 in 2018 – For Prof. Thurairajah Memorial Gold Medal award for best performance in Civil Engineering.



Status

Currently TEF provides scholarship for 60 students from North, East and upcountry areas who are studying in four universities (Peradeniya, Moratuwa, Batticaloa, Jaffna and Engineering Faculty at Kilinochchi which is under University of Jaffna). In addition, we are also funding 10 students from vocational training institutes to assist in their expenses during the training period.

The beneficiaries from these universities for 2019/20 Scholarship schemes were finalised and funded at the appropriate time. TEF has made arrangements to select the beneficiaries for 2020/21 and will fund an annual amount of about \$4,000 per university to support 10 students at each university in due course. (In 2020/21).



Selection and Performance monitoring

TEF offers these scholarships through administration/registrar, student unions and cultural societies such as university Tamil society etc. Periodic reports are received from the administering body. Priority is given to students who have lost their parents or come from women headed families, facing financial hardship in continuing their tertiary education.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

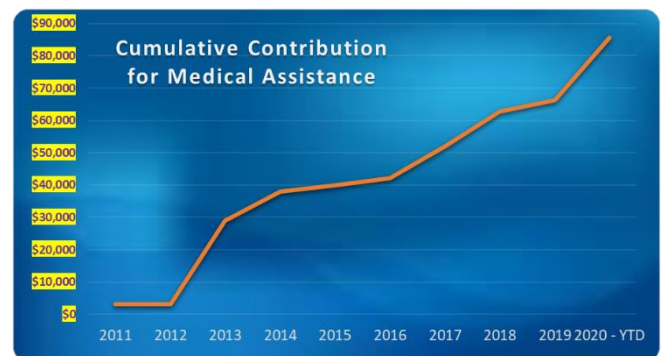
Problem Statement

Due to recent war, there has been a shortage of medical professionals and resources in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. This has resulted in several people not receiving essential health care in these areas. These include cataract surgery, limb fitting and other facilities.

Our Vision

To complement the available local medical resources and provide support where local resources are lacking for the needy in regions of Mannar, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Vanni, Jaffna and upcountry areas as identified in the constitution. Identify and prioritise the neediest and fund treatment in areas such as eye care, limb fitting and other facilities with the help of medical professionals in these regions.

It is imperative that we work collaboratively with focused organisations working in the area of medical assistance, such as Australian Medical Aid Foundation (AMAF) and The International Medical Health Organization (IMHO).



TEF Contribution to-date

Over the last ten years donations were made for limb fitting, cataract surgeries and medical equipment for hospitals lacking basic facilities. To date TEF has contributed over \$85,000 in medical and health related projects.

Status

Recent medical assistance projects of note are,

1. TEF donated \$11,400 to fund medical instruments to Chettikulam Hospital in Vavuniya district in collaboration with Rotary Clubs of Kellyville, Strathfield, and Colombo South and AMAF. Total estimated cost of this project was \$58,860 (Rs7.0 Million) and was jointly funded by TEF, Rotary Club and AMAF. The implementation is currently underway through Rotary Club of Colombo South.
2. Amount of \$7,850 (Rs 1.0Million) was donated to Manthihai Base Hospital at Point Pedro towards the refurbishment of the Male Wards. Jaffna Medical Faculty Doctors and Hartley College Old Boys also donated Rs1.0Million each towards this project.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

Problem Statement

Due to the recent war, there has been a severe shortage of trained teachers and adequate educational resources in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. This has led to a sharp decline in the educational achievement of students from these areas. Only around 50% of students qualify to study A/L from the O/L examinations in the districts such as Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu etc. In addition, there is a severe lack of qualified Science, Mathematics and English teachers for O/L in these districts. Similar conditions also prevail in the upcountry areas. This trend needs to be reversed and the academic standard of students in these areas must be improved to enable these students to gain admission to Universities, technical Colleges, or trade related courses to enable them to establish an alternative career path.

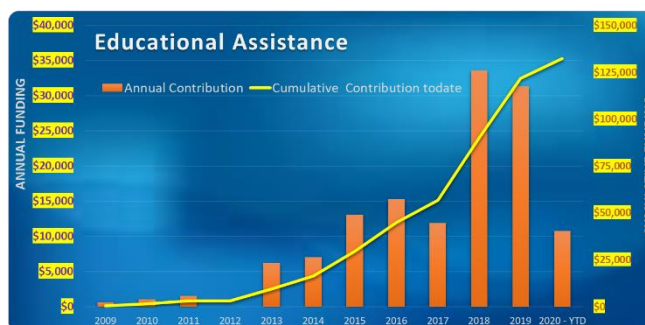
Our Vision

To provide educational support and resources to disadvantaged students in North and east of Sri Lanka to ensure academic standards are improved in these areas so that the student can gain admission too Universities, Technical colleges or other trade related courses to establish a career path.

This involves conducting intensive coaching classes with the aim of improving the results in the GCE (O/L) and GCE (A/L) examinations and providing awards for high achievers in science and mathematics stream in five educational districts.

TEF Contribution to-date

Over the last nine years, TEF has been funding projects through SJC87 initiative and Trincomalee District Development Association to conduct coaching classes in Vanni, Trincomalee and Batticaloa districts. In addition to this TEF also contributed towards various educational resources for the benefit of students in orphanage centres and schools in remote area. A total in excess of \$132,000 has been funded towards this cause over the years.



Status

In 2020 TEF has contributed \$10,750 towards educational improvement projects. Some of the notable projects are,

- Science Exhibition by “All University Students Development Association” Vavuniya.
- Additional coaching classes to the children at Hari Illam Orphanage, Batticaloa and for the disadvantaged students at Karainagar.
- Assistance to remote schools in Trincomalee.
- Supporting Caritas EDED in Batticaloa to pay primary school teachers.



Humanitarian, Local & Other country Projects

Problem statement

Due to the civil war in Sri Lanka, most of the TEF members and their donors have migrated to Australia and to other overseas countries and made it their home. In addition, their children were born, educated, and found employment, in this new home. As an organization we have an obligation to support the worthy local charities and pass on our gratitude to the local communities.

Our Vision

TEF made a commitment to channel about 5% of the total annual funding towards worthy humanitarian causes locally (in Australia) and in other countries other than Sri Lanka.

TEF Contribution to date in previous years

1. Donated iPad to the Westmead Children Hospital
2. Donation made to Cancer Institute of Australia
3. Donation to Diabetics Australia
4. Donation to Prema Vasam a home for Physically and Mentally challenged children in Chennai, India
5. Donation to Coast Shelter (Gosford, Central Coast)
6. Donation to Rural Aid for Drought Relief Fund for helping farmers in drought areas. (2019)

Recent Donations

a. BUSHFIRE APPEAL - Donation of \$15,000 to various Fire Authorities to help the volunteer fire fighters and for the families who have been affected.

Many parts of Australia experienced unprecedented catastrophic bushfires in late 2019 and early 2020 which destroyed vast area of farmland, residential homes and many lives in NSW, Victoria, and SA. The bushfire impacted several local farming communities in rural and regional Australia. The impact of fire was detrimental and devastating to the families in the rural community. The bushfires were widespread and not only affected farmers but also other businesses providing services for farming related activities and the families of the fire fighters. Tamil Engineers foundation donated \$15,000 in total to various bushfire authorities in various states as detailed below.

- Donation of \$4000 to NSW Rural Fire Service
- Donation of \$3200 to South Australia Fire Service
- Donation of \$4000 to Vic Fire Service
- Donation of \$3800 by Tamil Senior Citizen Association of ACT & TEF to NSW Rural Fire Service

b. COVID19 EMERGENCY RELIEF MEASURES in Australia – Donation of \$3685 to provide relief measures to the affected families.

Many families including elderly, homeless and jobless people in Australia experienced hardships and devastation by recent COVID19 pandemic shutdown and restrictions. Many lost their jobs or cut down their work hours and struggled to feed their loved ones. Tamil Engineers foundation donated \$3685 as detailed below to provide cooked meals and grocery to the less fortunate families to reduce the financial stress.



- Donation of \$1650 to provide cooked meals and grocery to elderly, unemployed and student visa holders in NSW & ACT.
- Donation of \$2000 to provide grocery to bridging visa holders and refugees.

C. Humanitarian projects in Srilanka

Communities living in the North-East of Sri Lanka and in Australia and other Countries do need assistance during emergency situations such as bushfires, floods, pandemics etc. Any timely humanitarian help from the public, during an emergency would be greatly appreciated and would go a long way in providing relief to the affected public.

- Provision of COVID-19 relief to needy people in Jaffna, Nelliadi, Keerimalai, Mannar, Vavuniya, Mullaitheevu, Trincomalee and Batticaloa.

Organisation, Location	Funding (AU\$)
Shanthiham Association of Jaffna	\$3,000
Batticaloa District Civil Society	\$1,000
Rotary Club Mannar	\$1,000
Destitute Welfare Fund (Annai Illam), Mannar	\$1,000
Youth Development Aham Trincomalee	\$1,000
Annai Saratha Girls Home, Muthoor, Trincomalee	\$1,000
Senior Schools Educators NP	\$850
Pasanga FM Radio Malisanthi, Nelliady, Jaffna	\$500
Shakthy Cultural Association, Batticaloa	\$1,700
Hindu Council of Sri Lanka (Vavuniya & Mullativu)	\$1,000
Sri Muthumariamman Temple, Keerimali	\$4,500
Total COVID Pandemic emergency Support in Srilanka	\$16,550

- Provision of clothing to Shanmuga Girls Home Trincomalee.
- Donation to the Association of Visually Handicapped, Jaffna
- Provision of special meals (sponsored by various donors) to children living in Hari Illam Batticaloa and Mahadeva Children Achchiramam, Kilinochchi.



List of projects undertaken

- Child Sponsorships to 74 children who lost their parents
- Scholarships to University students (50Nos)
- Revolving Loan Projects (Micro Credit) to help the women headed families to establish a livelihood income.
- Funding to hospitals for essential items & renovation of patient wards.
- Funding for books & stationaries to School at remote areas.
- GCE O/L & A/L Coaching Classes
- Financial support to Orphanage Centres / Elders homes.
- Donation of Bicycles to affected school children.
- Providing funds for special meals to children at Orphanage centres.
- Books, stationaries, IT equipment for remote schools
- Educational assistance to schools & students at remote areas.

Appreciation

Many organisations have worked with us, hand in hand over the years to implement our charity efforts effectively to help the underprivileged and affected people in our homeland.

- Ramakrishna Mission. Hindu Council of SL.
- Sivan Arul Ilalm, Mannar. Mahadeva Archiramam Children Home, Kilinochi. Hari Illam Orphanage Batticaloa.
- Rotary Club, Kellyville, Sydney/Colombo South. Lions Club Batticaloa.
- International Sustainable Livelihood Foundation, USA. Anpuneri Organisation, California, USA
- Sydney Murugan Temple April Pongal Group. God Owned Children Foundation.
- Australian Association of Trincomalee (AAT). Trincomalee District Development Association (TDDA).
- Shivananda College Batticaloa, OBA, Hindu Mahalir Manram, Batticaloa
- LIFT NGO at Batticaloa. Ooruni Org at Vanni
- Udippidy American Mission College (OBA—Sydney). Jaffna University Graduate Association.
- Destitute Welfare Fund at Mannar, Cinmaya Organisation for Rural Development (CORD) and Siva Poomi Disable School at Kondavil
- Olivia Homes, Melbourne. Avopiling Pty Ltd (Sydney)
- University of Jaffna/Batticaloa/ Peradeniya/ Moratuwa, St Johns College 87 Committee and Northern Provincial Dept. of Education.
- Sai Group in Melbourne. Annual get-together (Pera 78 batch) camp organising group.
- Our members and well-wishers in USA, UK, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong & Sri Lanka

The committee extends its sincere gratitude and thanks to everyone who has made contribution in helping the Engineers Charity Fund financially assist the needy people in our homeland and Overseas.

The total amount donated to humanitarian activities in 2020 has exceeded **\$140,000 (Rs 18.3 Million)**. Also there are few projects in evaluation stage which will be funded in early 2021. This indicates that tremendous support is given by you to our charity. We like to commend our members for their great support, generosity and passion towards helping the affected people in our homeland. We hope your support will continue for the years to come.

Voluntary contributions for 2021

For more details or to make a contribution, please contact the committee members or access the Engineers Charity Fund website at www.tamilengineers.net/

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others” - Mahatma Gandhi

~ Thank you ~