



CANDLEAID LANKA KIDNEY DIALYSIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Report for the period March – June 2023

Introduction:

CandleAid Lanka launched the Kidney Dialysis Assistance Programme (KDAP) in February 2021 with a focus to support patients diagnosed with chronic kidney disease (CKD) needing regular dialysis. These patients hail from low-income families in various parts of the country. 65 such patients have been assisted up to now.

During the period under review, 1 March to 30 June 2023, CandleAid identified, screened, and assisted 14 such patients. Their details are given in this report.

Fund activity:

Total donations received up to 30.06.2023	LKR 3,615,353.43
Total allocated /disbursed	LKR 3,045,950.00
Balance in the KDAP funds as at 30.06.2023	LKR 569,403.43

P.A.Lasath - KDAP 52



Lasath (54) from Elpitiya in the Galle district was diagnosed with CKD in 2022. Both his kidneys were damaged. Prior to his illness he was engaged in a wholesale business selling vegetables. Due to his health condition he had to close the business. His wife is employed at a garment factory and earns LKR 30,000 per month. Lasath's elder daughter is married and lives separately. The son (17) is studying for his GCE A/L. The family gets some financial assistance from their relatives. In addition, Lasath receives LKR 5,000 from the District Secretariat, a grant given to kidney patients.

Lasath receives dialysis once a week. He is currently under treatment for wounds that developed in his legs. Doctors have advised that he is not in a suitable state for a kidney transplant.

Being unable to travel by bus to the hospital, he is compelled to use a private transport costing about LKR 5,000 per visit. He is also required to purchase plasters and gauze whenever they are unavailable at the hospital. They cost LKR 3,000 per dialysis session.

CandleAid assisted him with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and medical expenses.

H. K. Priyantha - KDAP 53

Priyantha (53) from Imaduwa in the Galle district was diagnosed with CKD in 2021. She receives dialysis once a week at Karapitiya hospital. Priyantha also suffered a heart attack in 2021. She has to spend approximately LKR 4,000 for a single visit to the hospital by three-wheeler. When the medicines are not available at the Hospital, she needs to purchase same at LKR 6,000 per month.

Priyantha's husband is a farmer and earns a meager income of LKR 12,000 to 15,000 per month. Their elder son (22) is an apprentice painter at a garage and earns a very small income. The second son (19) is a diabetic patient. who has to take insulin four times a day. He also developed a cyst in his liver which was surgically removed in 2020. Subsequently both his legs became numb. Due to his health condition their son had to give up his schooling.



Priyantha's family receives a Samurdhi grant of LKR 4,000 per month. She also receives LKR 5,000 from the District Secretariat, a grant given to kidney patients.

CandleAid assisted her with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for her traveling and other medical expenses.

Agnes Matilda - KDAP 54



Agnes Matilda (56) from Weerapokuna, Kurunegala was diagnosed with CKD in 2022. She receives dialysis twice a week at the Chilaw hospital. Due to her physical condition Agnes is unable to travel by public transport to the hospital and therefore is compelled to travel by three wheelers at a cost of LKR 3,500 per trip. Matilda has to spend around LKR 12,000 per month to purchase medicine when it is unavailable at the hospital. She also has to purchase plaster and gauze and pay for her medical tests prior to dialysis.

Agne's husband is a laborer and earns a meager income which is not sufficient for her medication. Their elder daughter is married and lives separately. Their second daughter takes care of Agnes hence she is unable to engage in a job. The youngest son works as a temporary driver. The family receives a Samurdhi grant of LKR 2,100 per month. In addition, Agnes receives LKR 5,000 from the District Secretariat, a grant given to kidney patients. Due to the family's economic situation, they approached their Priest at the church for assistance and he introduced them to CandleAid.

CandleAid assisted her with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for her traveling and other medical expenses.

Rajkumar Vinith - KDAP 55

Vinith (13) from Orugodawatta, Wellampitiya was diagnosed with CKD when he was 3 months old. Since then, he has been under medication. Vinith has not been able attend school from his childhood and instead he attends a tuition class to learn to read and write. Since 2022, Vinith needs to be dialysed twice a week at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital (LRH). Due to very poor eyesight he also needs to visit the eye clinic once every three months.

Vinith's transport to and from the hospital costs LKR 1,200 per visit. When medicines are unavailable in the hospital, they have to purchase same.

Vinith's father Rajkumar is a labourer earning a daily wage of approximately LKR 25,000 to 30,000 per month. His wife is unemployed. Their elder son (17) and daughter (13) attend school.

Vinith receives LKR 5,000 per month which is given to kidney patients by the Divisional Secretariat. They do not receive Samurdhi allowance. CandleAid assisted Vinith with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and other medical expenses for six months.



H. S. T. Sewwandhi - KDAP 56



Sewwandhi (28) from Suriyawewa in the Hambantota District, is partially disabled. She has attended a school for the deaf in Tangalle and in 2016 entered Colombo university to study Sociology/Sinhala & Media. Unfortunately, in 2017, she was diagnosed with CKD. She was compelled to halt her tertiary education.

Sewwandhi undergoes dialysis twice a week at the Embilipitiya General Hospital. She travels 80 km to and from the hospital by public transport, costing LKR 1,000 per day. When she is very feeble, she travels by three-wheeler which costs LKR 2,000 per trip. Sometimes she has to incur an expense of LKR 7,000 per month if the prescribed medication is unavailable at the hospital.

Sewwandhi's father is a diabetic and heart patient and thereby unemployed. Her mother is a casual worker earning a meager income of LKR 4000 to 5000 per month. Her elder brother and sister are married and live separately. Another elder brother, who is hearing impaired works as a labourer. Her younger brother (17) is a Buddhist monk. Her younger sister is studying in grade 10.

Sewwandhi receives LKR 5000 per month from the Divisional Secretariat. CandleAid assisted Sewwandhi with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for her traveling and other medical expenses.

Chanaka Rohana Nanayakkara - KDAP 57

Chanaka (43) from Kalutara South was diagnosed with CKD in 2022. He is registered at Maligawatta Hospital for a cadaveric kidney transplant. Meanwhile he undergoes dialysis twice a week at the Nagoda Base Hospital. Chanaka travels to the hospital by three-wheeler at a cost of LKR 1,600 per trip. When medicines are unavailable in the hospital, he needs to purchase same costing LKR 12,000 to 15,000 per month.

Chanaka was employed at Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation as a casual laborer earning LKR 40,000 per month. Due to his poor health condition his services were discontinued. He has not received the Samurधि grant since December 2022. However, he receives LKR 5,000 per month from the Divisional Secretariat. Chanaka's wife sells betel and homemade packeted ice cream earning a meager income. Their eldest daughter (22) is employed as a customer care assistant in a bookshop in Kalutara. The family depends on her salary of LKR 28,000 per month. The other two children (15) & (5) are schooling.

CandleAid assisted Chanaka with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and other medical expenses.



Thennakoon Mudiyanselege Thennakoon - KDAP 58



Thennakoon (62) from Siripura Polonnaruwa was diagnosed with CKD in 2008. Since 2022 he undergoes dialysis twice a week at the Polonnaruwa General hospital. He has to travel 50 km to the hospital and the cost by public transport is about LKR 600 per visit. The cost by three-wheeler is LKR 2,400 per visit. Thennakoon has to purchase his medicines and bandaging material at a cost of LKR 2,400 per month.

Thennakoon was a farmer, but he is no longer engaging in farming, His wife is unable to work as she tends his needs. Their elder son is farming and contributes towards the family income. Their second son is a temporary driver whose income is around LKR 40,000 per month. Their third son's vision is partially impaired, and he is unemployed. Their youngest son (15) attends school.

Thennakoon receives LKR 5,000 per month from the Divisional Secretariat. CandleAid assists Thennakoon with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and other medical expenses.

T. Vishadhi J. Fernando - KDAP 59

Vishadhi Fernando (48) from Moratuwa was diagnosed with kidney disease in 2022 and has to undergo dialysis twice a week at the Kalubowila Hospital. Since she is unable to travel by public transport, the three-wheeler fare costs LKR 3,000 per visit. Whenever her medicines are unavailable in the hospital, she needs to purchase same at a cost of LKR 2,000 p.m.

Vishadhi's husband runs a small garage next to his residence. He earns around LKR 30,000 - 40,000 p.m. They have two children (17) & (10) attending school. The family faces severe financial challenges. She receives LKR 5,000 per month from the Divisional Secretariat.

CandleAid assists Vishadhi with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for her traveling and other medical expenses.



Jeganathan Sandrasekaram - KDAP 60



Sandrasekaram (37) from Bandarawela was diagnosed with CKD since 2022 and needs dialysis twice a week from the Diyatalawa hospital. He also visits clinic at the Badulla hospital once a month. When medicines are unavailable in the hospitals, he needs to spend LKR 3500 p.m. to purchase them. His travel cost to the hospital is approximately LKR 500 per visit.

Sandrasekaram was working in a small-scale hotel in Colombo as a cook. He has two school-going children aged (13) and (9). His father-in-law and mother-in-law too live with them. They live in a rented house paying LKR 6,000 p.m. His father-in-law assist the family. The church also supports them. They do not have any other income.

Though entitled they have not received the Samurdhi grant in the past months. However, they receive the LKR 5,000 given by the Divisional Secretariat.

CandleAid assists Sandarasekaram with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and other medical expenses.

Mohamed Saheed Mohamed Hilmy - KDAP 61

Hilmy(58) from Darga town, Beruwala has been diagnosed with end stage CKD and undergoes dialysis once a week from a private hospital. Hilmy received the Presidential fund of LKR 200,000 on 17 January 2023 and is hoping to undergo a transplant. The estimated amount for his transplant is approximately LKR 3,500,000 of which the price for the kidney is LKR 1,700,000.

Hilmy 's travel cost for dialysis is approximately LKR 7,000 per visit. Hilmy was employed as a security officer in an international school in Darga Town. His wife is unemployed. He has four children. Eldest daughter is married, and the second daughter is unemployed. The younger two children attend school.

At present his mosque assists him with LKR 20,000 p.m. His relatives and the village people too assist him with LKR 30,000 to 40,000 p.m. His monthly expenses are LKR 100,000. He receives the monthly allowance of LKR 5,000 from the Divisional Secretariat.

CandleAid assisted Hilmy with LKR 8,000 per month for six months for his transport and medical expenses.



W.M. Bandara - KDAP 62

W. M. Bandara (64) from Galoya junction Polonnaruwa was diagnosed with CKD in 2012 and currently needs dialysis twice a week at the Polonnaruwa hospital. Bandara travels by public transport for his dialysis. The monthly cost of travel is LKR 3,500. In addition, he needs to purchase medicines at a cost of LKR 2,500 p.m.

Bandara was a farmer. His wife works on casual basis and earns a negligible salary. Their relatives support them when possible. They receive the Samurdhi allowance of LKR 1,500 and a monthly allowance of LKR 5,000 from the Divisional Secretariat.

CandleAid assists Bandara with a donation of LKR 8,000 per month for his traveling and other medical expenses.



Sumana Kanthi - KDAP 63



Sumana Kanthi (53), a widow from Padaviya in the Anuradhapura district was diagnosed with CDK in 2010. Since 2020 she needs dialysis twice a week at the Padaviya hospital. She also has suffered paralysis of the right side of her body. Sumana needs to spend about LKR 2,000 per month for her medicines. She travels for dialysis by public transport which costs her LKR 1,000 per month. She cannot afford to travel in three wheelers.

Sumana's husband too suffered from kidney disease and had passed away in 2010 at the age of 43. He was employed at the Irrigation department in Padaviya for 10 years as a labourer. He had lost his NIC, Birth Certificate and a few other important documents. Due to this and Sumana's condition, she is not receiving his pension. Sumana's only son (13) attends school. He helps his mother at home and accompanies her to hospital as well. The school financially helps her son to purchase his stationery and other school needs.

Sumana receives LKR 1,500 as a Samurdhi grant and the monthly allowance of LKR 5,000 given by the Divisional Secretariat. CandleAid grants LKR 8,000 per month for six months towards her medical and travelling expenses.

G.D.Harshini Vinodini - KDAP 64



Harshini (28) from Padaviya in the Anuradhapura district was diagnosed with CDK in 2016. She receives dialysis thrice a week at the Padaviya Hospital. The doctors have advised a transplant if they could find a donor. She has to spend LKR 2,000 for her medicines whenever they are unavailable at the hospital. She travels to the hospital by bus paying LKR 900 per visit. A three-wheeler costs LKR 1,900 per visit.

Harshini's husband abandoned her two years ago. Her mother cultivates their home garden. The produce is only sufficient for their family consumption. Her younger brother is employed in a welding shop in Colombo and earns a very small income. She has a little brother studying in Grade 3.

Harshani comes from a poverty-stricken family and there is no one to assist her. CandleAid grants LKR 8,000 per month for six months for her medical and travelling expenses.

Herath Manike - KDAP 65

Herath Manike (47) from Weheratennagama, Bogaswewa was diagnosed with kidney diseases in 2022. She receives dialysis twice a week at the Padaviya hospital. She travels 18 km by public transport costing LKR 800 per visit. On days when she is not too well, she travels by three-wheeler costing LKR 3,000 per trip.

Herath Manike's husband is a farmer and also engages in masonry earning around LKR 30,000, which is not sufficient for her medical and household expenses. Their neighbors help them whenever they can. Their only son was ordained as a Buddhist monk.

She receives LKR 1,500 from Samurdhi and the LKR 5,000 from the Divisional Secretariat.

CandleAid supports her with LKR 8,000 p.m. for her medical and transport expenses.



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Conclusion:

The number of CKD patients in the north central province keeps increasing. The reason for this is not yet established. There are some patients from other areas as well. CandleAid reaches out as far as possible assisting these patients for a period of 6 months to meet the associated costs of dialysis.

As always CandleAid is able to render this assistance due to the generosity of its network of donors and sponsors and well-wishers who have united to ease the burden of these CKD patients giving them a better chance to combat their debilitating disease.

We thank all our donors and volunteer coordinators who support is in this programme.

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