

KIDNEY DIALYSIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JULY TO DECEMBER 2024.

Since its launch in February 2021, Kidney Dialysis Assistance Programme (KDAP) has been instrumental in providing crucial assistance to patients diagnosed with chronic kidney disease (CKD) who require regular dialysis. These individuals often come from low-income families across various parts of the country. Up until now we have assisted 78 such patients, making a significant impact on their lives.

During the period under review, 1 July to 31st December 2024, CandleAid identified, screened and assisted 12 new patients whose details are given in this report. Their stories reflect the value of this project. The reach of our programme heavily relies on the generosity of individuals like you. Your support can make a profound difference in the lives of these individuals, providing them with access to life-saving dialysis treatments. Your support is not only a donation, but also a lifeline for those battling CKD. Together we can make a positive impact on the lives of these patients and their families.

Total Donations received up to 31.12.2024 **LKR 4,478,584.90**

Total Allocated/Disbursed: LKR 4,365,950.00

Balance in the KDAP Fund as at31.12.2024 LKR 112,634.90

C M Niluka Samankanthi - KDAP 79



C. M. Niluka Samankanthi is a 45-year-old mother of two daughters battling chronic kidney disease since 2019. With her kidneys non-functional, she undergoes dialysis twice weekly at Kalubowila Teaching Hospital. Her husband, an epileptic patient, works as a daily wage casual worker, barely managing to support the family. Their youngest daughter, aged 19, is still pursuing her studies, adding to their financial burdens. The family faces severe economic challenges due to her condition. CandleAid has enrolled Niluka for assistance starting July 2024 to help alleviate their struggles.

L Asanka Perera - KDAP 80

L. Asanka Perera is a 42-year-old battling chronic kidney disease since February 2024, requiring dialysis twice weekly at the National Institute for Nephrology and Kalubowila Teaching Hospital. He is preparing for a kidney transplant in the near future. Asanka's wife is his primary caregiver, and their 16-year-old daughter is sitting for her O/L exams this year. Unable to work due to his illness, the family struggles to meet daily needs. CandleAid enrolled him for assistance starting July 2024 to support him during this challenging time.



G K Neil Ajith Samarakoon - KDAP 81



K.Neil Ajith Samarakoon is a 46-year-old father of two, battling chronic kidney disease since 2023, requiring weekly dialysis at the National Institute of Nephrology. With a below-knee amputation, he faces difficulties traveling from Andiambalama for treatment. Previously employed in a hotel, he is now unable to work, leaving his wife, a clerk, as the sole breadwinner. Their children, aged 21 and 16, are in university and school, preparing for exams, adding to the family's financial strain. CandleAid assists Neil with a monthly donation of LKR 8,000 starting July 2024 to help alleviate their struggles.

Rushantha Kumar - KDAP 82



Rushantha Kumar was a 20-year-old battling chronic kidney disease since 2010, requiring dialysis every five days at the General Hospital Colombo. Despite a kidney transplant 3 years ago, he developed lung disease requiring treatment at Welisara Hospital. One of four siblings, all afflicted with CKD, Rushantha tragically lost two sisters to the illness, and his younger brother also requires dialysis. The family, reliant on the father's income as a daily casual worker and the mother's limited earnings as a domestic helper, faces immense financial struggles. CandleAid enrolled Rushantha for assistance in July 2024, but sadly he succumbed to his illness in December 2024.

Damith Kumara - KDAP 51

Damith Kumar is the 16-year-old brother of late Rushantha Kumar detailed above, battling CKD since 2018, requiring dialysis three times a week while awaiting a kidney transplant. Considering their exceptional situation, CandleAid has extended its grant to support him for another six months.



H A. Sanjeewa Prabath Rajakumar - KDAP 83



H. A. Sanjeewa Prabath Rajakumar is a 46-year-old father of two young sons battling chronic kidney disease. He requires dialysis twice a week but receives only one session weekly at Negombo Hospital due to high demand, and financial constraints prevent private treatment. Formerly a tractor driver, he is now unable to work and relies on relatives and friends for survival. His family includes his frail mother and his sons, aged 5 years and 1+, who face severe financial hardships. CandleAid enrolled him for assistance starting August 2024 to help cover medical expenses and basic needs.

Dinesh Ranga Kumara Fernando - KDAP 84

Dinesh Ranga Kumara Fernando is a 42-year-old father of two who has been battling chronic kidney disease since 2020. He requires dialysis twice a week but receives only one session weekly at the Maligawatta Dialyzing Center due to high demand, worsening his health with fluid accumulation and breathing difficulties. Additionally, a bladder issue exacerbates his condition. Once a three-wheel driver, Dinesh is now unable to work, and his family relies on the meagre income of his 20-year-old son to survive. With a frail mother and mounting medical expenses, the family is in desperate need of support. CandleAid assists him with a monthly donation of LKR 8,000 from August 2024.



G. G. Sriyalatha - KDAP 85

G. G. Sriyalatha is a 54-year-old mother of one, suffering from kidney failure caused by a serpent bite in 2022 that left both her kidneys non-functional. She undergoes dialysis twice a week at Kalubowila and Homagama hospitals. Running a small roadside boutique, her illness hinders her ability to work regularly, leaving the family in financial distress. Her daughter is preparing for her A/L exams, and their hardships are compounded by the absence of her husband, who left them long ago. The family urgently needs financial assistance to cover daily expenses and support the daughter's education. CandleAid provides her with a monthly donation of LKR 8,000 starting August 2024.



W W M Saranga - KDAP 86



W W M Saranga is a 22-year-old second-year Accountancy student at HND Ratnapura, diagnosed with chronic kidney disease in June 2024. She requires dialysis twice a week at a cost of Rs 10,650 per session and has already undergone 10 sessions. Her mother, a teacher, is the sole breadwinner, as her father is not living. Saranga's younger sister, aged 20, is also pursuing her studies at the Kelaniya Campus. The family struggles to manage daily expenses and medical costs, leaving them in dire need of support. CandleAid enrolled her for assistance starting August 2024.

J M Ajantha Kumara - KDAP 87



J. M. Ajantha Kumara, a 39-year-old, has been battling chronic kidney disease since 2023 and undergoes dialysis twice a week at Kalubowila Teaching Hospital. Formerly a spray painter, he is now unable to work due to his illness, which has affected his eyesight. He is also a diabetic. His elder daughter, in A/L, had to leave school to work in a boutique, while his younger daughter is in Grade 8. The family relies on Ajantha's brother for support but faces severe financial difficulties. CandleAid enrolled him for assistance starting September 2024.

C M Amesh Jeevendra Peiris - KDAP 88

C M Amesh Jeevendra Peiris, a 37-year-old father of a 2-year-old child, has been battling CKD since 2023. He requires dialysis twice a week at the General Hospital, Colombo and is awaiting a kidney transplant, which is financially out of reach. Amesh previously ran a small business repairing computers and installing CCTV systems but can no longer work due to his health. His wife is also unemployed, leaving the family struggling to meet basic needs. CandleAid provides him with a monthly donation of LKR 8,000 starting September 2024.



A B Anurasiri - KDAP 89

A B K Anurasiri, a 61-year-old father of two school-going sons, has been suffering from chronic kidney failure since 2023. He requires dialysis twice a week but only receives one session weekly at Kalubowila Hospital due to limited availability. He cannot afford an additional session at a private hospital, which costs Rs 12,000. Formerly employed at Etisalat Lanka, he is now unable to work, leaving the family without an income. Anurasiri's family is in dire need of financial support. He has been enrolled in CandleAid's KDAP since September 2024.



CONCLUSION

All of the above patients are given the monthly assistance for a period of 6 months, and if their situation remains critical, CandleAid endeavours to extend the assistance depending on the availability of funds. Wherever there is provision, CandleAid seeks to assist them through its other assistance programmes as well, such as the Gift A Meal programme. Unfortunately, many CKD patients are forced to give up their regular employment due to the physical demands of long-term dialysis and other health issues. While patients who find a suitable donor may undergo kidney transplant surgery, most are placed on cadaveric transplant lists, which requires prolonged periods of dialysis. National hospitals offer free dialysis but due to high demand, patients do not get their prescribed number of dialysis which compels them to seek private medical services. Furthermore, patients often have to travel long distances for their free dialysis sessions, which can lead to additional expenses in lieu of transport and other incidental expenses.

We would like to express our gratitude to all Donors who have generously contributed to support CandleAid's Kidney Dialysis Assistance Programme (KDAP). Your contributions have made a meaningful impact in providing much needed assistance to patients suffering the consequences of CKD. Bar none, all these patients come from low-income families who are already burdened with acute financial challenges.

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