

IMPACT ~ MAY 20

"Today , me and the community is blessed to have clean drinking water and protect us from the virus covid-19 by maintaining the healthy hygiene practice"

Kaveri Kala Manram



IMPACT-May 2020

Healing stories

01-05-2020

INTRODUCTION

We are witnessing the pandemic spread of COVID -19 evolving very quickly. Sri Lanka is on lockdown and curfew which has restricted on food supply.

Due to the scarcity of food in many parts in our country, various social institutions are providing dry food relief. Sri Lanka has under gone civil war for 30 years, people are used to shortage of food have under gone worst crises during these years. Getting relief has always been Sri Lankan culture. Unfortunately, we have seen number of people who have become accustomed of receiving free relief.

Once it becomes a habit it's hard to give it up.

It is really sad to know they are not using their knowledge, skills and the natural resources. Keeping this in mind KKM had worked tirelessly to uplift the community empowering and encouraging with honor and self-respect. Supporting livelihood, wells for irrigation, conducting workshops in Agriculture organic gardening, natural fertilizer. Supporting farmers to be an agripreneurs. Linking them with markets and business and cooperative. Such a like this kind of empowering being lightning midst of COVID19 darkness in our region.

We are kindly requesting all the social institutions to give awareness to people who are getting relief. We will have to face more of this dilemma in the future.

There will be a time we will not be able to get any relief aboard or here.

Please empower and educate them to be independent using the natural resources facing challenge in their life.

KKM thank TLMEW, EMPOWER, BLOSSOM TRUST, VANNI HOPE, CHILD AID LANKA, AMERICAN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT&THE ROTARY FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL for the cooperation, generous support, care and love to our community in many aspects.

FROM EDITORS HEART



Confident to Challenge...•

I have been working as a volunteer with KKM for last two years. My life long dream was to give back my service to the Srilankan community in some way. When the opportunity presented itself, I moved from Australia to my home country with the help of Rev.Joshua and his staff. I thank my brother Shivantha for his inspiration and introducing KKM. I was inspired by the high motivation, ambition and goals of KKM in helping the community. I have accepted a request from KKM members to take on the responsibility of editing and showing the positive impact true stories from the community during this time of dealing with Covid-19. People have lost hope and faith in this present situation, which is beyond our control, but there are still many people who trust the environment and have steady faith, hope, and confidence to challenge any shallow conditions with courage and willpower. KKM will bring out these true stories of the members sharing their experiences.

Over the 22 years KKM has been working out with the community to teach them become self-reliant, more confident and independent. Many have disciplined and put in to practice.

Thank you, We will provide you with more positive impact stories in June 2020

Covid-19 has made a positive impact on all us

Indrani living in Utrupulam Kilinochchi and a valuable cooperative member of the women empowering team. Many people in the community are running around anxious, stressed, and panicking about shortage of food for their living during this covid-19. Even in this situation my family is managing to eat healthy nutritious food daily.



We never slept on an empty stomach. We never lived on imported food

items or easy take away food. We have our own organic garden; we looked after our native self-growing plants in our environment. We have plenty of native vegetables such as, papaw mango, native brinjal, lotus roots, Murunga, and many more green leaves which are high in food value and save our income. Anyone who practices to preserve and promote native plants will never go hungry.



have

after

our



I will share my family healthy staple breakfast recipe with all ingredients from my garden. **Scrap a green papaw,**

scraped coconut, add turmeric, onions, green chilies Moringa leaves and stir-fry in coconut oil.

Total cost is Rupees 25. Our cooperative woman farmers learned many native nutritious cooking

from the community cooking demonstration of (SUVI AVAI) TASTE FORUM by KKM.



Covid-19 has made a positive impact on all us" **TO STOP AND THINK."** All the precious gifts our native mother has provided for survival.

lifesaving support& Covid19



.Visvalingam living in Koduvamadu Batticaloa with my family. I was affected by leprosy developed deformity. I was unable to work due to my deformity for 40 years. My family was struggling to get an income for living. We have no water facility to drink or daily use in my village. Today me and the community is blessed to have clean drinking water and protect us from the virus covid-19 by maintaining the healthy hygiene practice. I thank and appreciate our donors for the lifesaving support.

Visvalingam was another person in the community as a leprosy victim. Until today he is appreciated, valued and recognised in the whole community in Koduvamadu. It is a divine miracle. Today about 85 families in the community get their clean drinking water and are able to prevent the virus of Covid-19 by maintaining health and hygiene practice. Visvalingam welcome everyone in



the community with his unconditional love to use his well. He is loved and praised by the community. Visvalingam's family has started a home garden for their use.

Overcome the challenges of Covid19



I am proud to support my community and my family in sharing my garden crops at these difficult times of survival for food. My life saviors were KKM and providing us the basic living during our difficult times. Today my family is able to overcome the challenges of Covid19 because of practising healthy life style.

Kandan Ranjan living in Manar with his family. Couple of my family members were leprosy victims in 2015. Faced social discrimination and isolation in the society.



Ranjan had his own home garden. The positive support and encouragement given by KKM showing a new path in his life. Inspired him to continue and extend his garden. Ranjan is a hard worker. His passion, resilience and dedication has inspired many in the community to follow his footsteps.

Ranjan believes he have a personal responsibility to make a positive impact on society.

SMALL GESTURE GOES A LONG WAY IN -Covid 19

KKM received a phone call from a family man requesting for dry ration to support his family during these difficult times. We discussed his skills and needs he was ready to make a living helping the community. He is Yogeswaran living with his wife and eight-year-old son. He is a construction labour worker and for nearly a month with the present situation unable to support his family. We gathered ideas to empower him to start selling street to street mobile vegetables. Fortunately, a good Samaritan was willing to lend his motorbike to him. KKM bought a carry box for his motor bike for Rupees 4000 and gave starter money of Rupees 2000. Linked with our cooperative women farmers for the fresh organic vegetables to be collected daily. He is really happy doing his work providing the unable and the elderly to get daily fresh vegetables. There was a demand



1. This has three-way contributions.
2. Helping the community to stay home safe and get fresh organic vegetables delivered.
3. Supporting women farmers to sell their daily fresh products.
4. Earning income to support his family.

Yogeswaran has got his legal curfew and sales permit in mornings and evenings.

It's great to see everyone getting together providing a valuable contribution to the community. KKM is happy to see that with Rupees 6000 and empowering one individual makes a difference in his life during these challenging times.



I am able to continue my business during COVID 19



Parimaladevi living in Trincomalee with my children. I cater fresh healthy home cooked food to the community as an income to survive. I am able to continue my business during these difficult times. I really thank,for the encouragement and motivation.



Parimaladevi living in Trinco with her children. Her husband was a deep-sea fisherman. Couple of year's back he went for fishing and never turned back. The family lost him in the sea. This situation was a challenging struggle in their life. Parimaladevi is a strong independent working woman. She started her catering business to support her children. Her son walks a fair distance to school daily. She was reluctant to get any one's support for her sons' bicycle. Realizing her situation KKM assisted with her business where she was able to generate more income and saved money for her sons bicycle which was a positive achievement to the family. She is still able to continue her business to the community during these challenges of Covid-19. Parimladevi wants to extend her business to help out the community and be an entrepreneur one day.



The courage, determination, positive thinking and hope will make Parimaladevis dream come true.