



Colombo Taprobane Round Table 3

KOS PROJECT

Helping “Kids Off the Street”

June 2008

Background

KOS – Kids of the Street project is 4 years old to date. Round Table 3 have built and renovated 3 drop in centers around Colombo.

The philosophy behind KOS is to ensure young children have a place to go where they can get away from the streets. We believe that providing good infrastructure facilities will encourage youngsters off the street. The facilities provided are also instrumental in keeping the children and youth away from the risks of abuse and exploitation in the street environment.

Above centers provide children with the opportunity to enhance their skills such as Music, Art, and Sport Skills. Also vocational training is provided for children over 14 years in the areas of Handy Craft, Hand loom, Mason and tailoring etc. Apart from the above, these centers will provide informal education which is extremely effective as a form of assistance for their schools.

The day to day management of the facilities are done by the NCPA. We have worked closely with The National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) in the past . This is a government agency that run and operates the drop in centers/schools. The NCPA depends on organizations such as ours to help develop infrastructure, as their limited funds are used for daily running of these centers. For more details visit <http://www.childprotection.gov.lk/>.

Through these drop in centers the NCPA provide children with the counseling facilities. Conduct awareness raising programmes and providing reading facilities etc.

Ongoing Projects

We are looking for funding from several donor organizations to complement our fund raising activities (see brochure attached – KOS wristbands) .

We have several projects lined up

1. Sahasthipura Children's and Youth Drop-in Centre
2. Children's and Youth Drop- in Centre in Kurunegala.
3. Policy Making for KOS/NCPA drop in centers.

Total funding required

Sahasthipura – Rs. 6,000,000

Kurunagela – Rs. 2,000,000

Policy Making – Tbc

Total – Rs. 8,000,000 (USD \$ 74,500)



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National Child Protection Authority

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My Number: PU/ 2008/ 02/ 08

13. 06. 2008

Executive Board,
Taprobane Round Table 3,
Colombo.

Dear Sir,

Kurunegala and Sahasthipura Drop-in Centers

The current conditions and the requirements of the proposed drop-in center sites are identified by the National Child Protection Authority. The project outlines are attached to this letter. Your support and generosity are much appreciated and valued.

Yours,
Sincerely,

Jagath Wallawatte
Chairman,
National Child Protection Authority

C/o Altaf Jeevunjee, 24 Torrington Ave, Colombo 7

Sahasthipura Children's and Youth Drop-in Centre

Sahasthipura is a large government housing community for the poorest people of Colombo. It is in the Wanathamulla area of Colombo, which also houses many shanties. There are many children in this housing scheme, who are exposed to many of the problems associated with street children and are vulnerable to abuse, drug involvement, begging etc.



Figure 1: The Front view of Sahasthipura flats

The developments Round Table is hoping to carry out with the National Child Protection Authority for the benefit of the children in Sahasthipura are described below.

Site A- Drop-in Centre

Conversion of an empty unused Community Centre in Sahasthipura to a drop in center



Figure 2: Sahasthipura Community Centre at the present

The Community Centre currently is a dirty hall that is often a refuge for animals such as dogs and cows. This needs to be converted, in order to get the utmost utilization for the Sahasthipura children as a drop in center.

What is required:

The hall walls should be built higher, preferably see-through walls (plastic/ glass/ fiber glass?) It should be noted that any material used in the structure should not be very fragile. The floor has to be tiled. The right side in the picture should be partitioned into three rooms. (These will be used as class rooms in the drop-in centre. i.e. computer room, dress-making class, cookery etc) As discussed with the constructing officer on 12th June 2008, the classroom walls should be movable giving space to any occasion held at the drop in centre.

Site B- Playground for the teenagers



Figure 3: The site for children's playground

The four sides of the square land shown in the picture above should be covered with mesh. This could be a multi-purpose playground, designed for playing volleyball, Netball, Basketball and Badminton.

Site C- Playground for the kids



Figure 4: Site for the kids' playground

The land should be covered with mesh and there should also be a roof for the area. This is due to the possibility of garbage being thrown from the upper floor houses. There is also a garbage dump as a part of the overall housing design, which has been exposed to

the playground area as there is no door. (Figure 5) It would be nice if we can provide a door for the particular dumps, to ensure that the playground is a pleasant place for the children.



Figure 5: The garbage dump which requires a new door

LET'S HELP GET THESE KIDS OFF THE STREET.



Figure 6: Children of Sahasthipura

COST

The children of all races in the neighborhood of Wanathamulla are expected to be benefited by the project as well as the children in Sahasthipura housing complex.

ENGINEERING ESTIMATE

Item	Description	Unit	Qty	Rate	Amount
	<u>Drop in Center</u>				
	<i>Conversion of community center to drop-in center</i>				
1	Tiling				
1.1	Supply & laying of tiling	Sqft	4,696	271.40	1,274,494.40

2	Masonry Work				
2.1	Supply & build wall 9' Brickwall, work to include plastering	Sqft	1854	224.20	415,666.80
3	Painting				
3.1	Prepare Surface as necessary with Acrylic wall filler and apply two coats of emulsion paint of approved colour to internal walls and soffits	Sqft	6,550.00	35.40	231,870.00
3.2	Apply two coats of weather shield paint to all external walls as per approved colour	Sqft	6,550.00	38.94	255,057.00
4	Aluminum work				
4.1	Supply & fixing aluminum doors	nos	5.00	15,930.00	79,650.00
4.2	Aluminum partition with gibson board to cover all drainage pipes	Sqft	550.00	188.80	103,840.00
4.3	Internal Aluminum Partition for individual rooms as per client specification, with glass front top and Gipson board bottom	Sqft	3,828.00	247.80	948,578.40
	<u>Volleyball/Basketball Court</u>				
1	Supply & fixing green mesh with Gi pipe posts and metal L angle frame works, welded	Sqft	1428	265.50	379,134.00
2	Preparation of floor of court	Item	1	53,100.00	53,100.00
3	Installation of equipment, to include volleyball posts, basket ball rings and all markings	Item	1	88,500.00	88,500.00
	<u>Children's Play Area</u>				
1	Supply & fixing green mesh with Gi pipe posts and metal L angle frame works, welded	Sqft	1428	265.50	379,134.00
2	Supply & fixing transparent sheet with GI frame for protective Roof for children's park	Sqft	3400	171.10	581,740.00
3	Supply and installation of children's play equipment and repair of existing equipment	Item	1	236,000.00	236,000.00
	<u>Electrical work - Provisional Sum</u>			500,000.00	500,000.00
	<u>Contingencies</u>				500,000.00
	Total				6,026,764.60

Children's and Youth Drop- in Centre in Kurunegala

A school in Yaya 2, Ibbagamuwa Provincial Council in Kurunegala is currently abandoned due to the lack of facilities and teachers. The National Child Protection Authority has identified this school land as a suitable site for a drop-in centre which is an informal way of education that would benefit the children through skill and self awareness development. The children of Ibbagamuwa belong to the sector below the poverty line and their mothers have gone abroad as house maids. Thus the children are particularly vulnerable. The drop-in centre would target at reducing the risk of mental and sexual abuse and neglect as well as developing vocational skills of the children. To reach these aims, a psycho social support centre, vocational training centers such as information technology, cookery, beauty culture handicraft, painting, dress making, and landscaping will be established in the school. In addition, a library and a playground will be established for the use of children who attend the lessons.

Development	Estimated Cost
Playground: The playground items are already available. These should be repaired and painted. The ground requires attention with the landscaping to create a pleasant background for the children to play. A fence would add to the safety of the children.	Rs. 200,000
Library: The library needs book shelves, books and other furniture for the children's use. The floor needs to be tiled for the convenience and maintenance reasons. For safety reasons, the short walls of the hall should be built higher preferably with see-through material such as fiber glass. The hall needs to be painted and the see through walls/windows require curtains. These features are required in all other rooms.	Rs. 400,000
Kitchen: The kitchen needs pantry cupboards. The floor needs to be tiled for hygienic reasons.	Rs. 300,000
Beauty Culture Room: Needs to be tiled, salon furniture is needed as well as salon equipments.	Rs. 600,000
Recreational Room: This room will be a multi purpose area used for lectures, gatherings, handicraft sessions etc. The floor needs to be tiled, again for hygienic reasons. Furniture is needed i.e. wall cupboards, chairs and tables.	Rs. 500,000

It is targeted to progressively encourage the children to attend formal school education after the informal education provided by the drop-in centre. It is also expected that this

abandoned school will drag attention of the parents and the children again, as an effective education centre.

Policy Making for KOS/NCPA drop in centers

The NCPA has been setting up Drop in centers to provide services for vulnerable children and adolescents in geographically identified areas in Sri Lanka. This was set up to prevent sexual abuse of children and to protect the vulnerable children in the community.

These centers are categorized in to four main areas:

1. Drop in Centre for children of Migrant workers - Putlam District
2. Resource Centre for Beach children - Ampara District
3. Drop in and Resource Centre - Kurunagala District
4. Drop in centers - Colombo

NCPA also intends to utilize these centers as transit centers for children who are been transported to and fro for court cases.

The function

Setting up a supervisory and an advisory committee, which function from the head office. Each centre will be visited by a committee member once a month. It will be the responsibility of the Review Committee to monitor the activities carried out by the staff and provide them with assistance when necessary.

Coordinator from the head office will visit the centre once a month and prepare progress reports for submission to the Review Committee and the RT.

Round Table Role:

- *Will be strategic only.*
- *We will only be involved in guiding policy decisions with regards to Drop in centers*
- *We will only look at decision making in terms of infrastructure development and improvement*

Cost

This will be on voluntary basis by round table 3 members.

CONTRIBUTIONS

For any persons, club or organization looking to support this initiative please contact:

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