

Dear Havonos members,

Warm greetings from the Child Development Center in Mankulam!

First of all, I would like to thank you for your generous support of our children's home. Thanks to the help of kindhearted people like you, we can meet the needs of the children who come to us for protection and education.

Currently, 30 school-aged girls live in our center. As mentioned in previous posts, many of these children have been referred to us by the juvenile court and the Department of Probation and Childcare Services. These children come from families who cannot afford their education due to financial hardship. At our CDC, we strive to improve their lives by providing everything they need—including extra classes, counseling, therapies, sports, yoga, dance, leadership training, and motivational programs.

In March of this year, seven of our girls passed their Ordinary Level exams. Two of them are now pursuing vocational training at the Good Shepherd Institute in Vavuniya. Five others have been successfully reunited with their families, and we are supporting these families with their livelihoods.

It is also important to note that we cannot keep children in our center after they turn 18. For those who have completed their education, we offer vocational training. If a child wishes to continue their studies, we arrange this outside the center, under our supervision. Currently, one of our girls is studying at university, while another is enrolled in career development courses.

Although our congregation provides sponsorship and the government provides an annual grant, this support alone is not enough to cover all costs. Therefore, we gratefully accept both local and international donations to provide better care for our children. We also seek ways to support families directly, so that more children can remain living with their parents.

Thank you again for your generous quarterly contributions and for organizing the annual flower drive to raise funds for us. We are deeply grateful to all the members of Havonos. May God continue to bless each of you and grant you good health and happiness. Sincerely,

Sr. Sumithra

Child Development Center, Mankulam

