

VACD DIARY

(2011/2012)

27th December 2011

- The inaugural meeting to launch VACD at St. Joseph's College, Bandarawela
- A health clinic conducted by the staff of 'Child Guidance Clinic' of the Diyatalawa Base Hospital
- Refreshments, lunch and gifts for the disabled children were provided

25th February 2012

- One day workshop for parents and volunteers of the VACD program, at St. Joseph's College, Bandarawela
- Skills training program for disabled children was held concurrently with the above program

07th March 2012

- 1st General meeting with project leaders and advisory panel at Radumahala, Bandarawela
- The MOU governing the mission and activities of the charity was unanimously adopted at the meeting

31st March 2012

- A special discussion regarding specific clinics for the disabled children was held with Dr. (Mrs.) Kumuduni Cooray (Pediatric Consultant) and her staff at Child Guidance clinic of Diyatalawa Base Hospital. It was agreed that the medical team would devote every 2nd and 4th week of each month to examine the health and wellbeing of these children. This program continues to operate with a lot of success

21st April 2012

- Sinhala and Tamil New Year Festival at St. Joseph's College premises, Bandarawela.

25th April 2012

- Initial Special Health clinic at Diyatalawa Base Hospital. 8th May and final clinic was held on 25th August, 2012.

29th June 2012

- MOU with Laksaviya Foundation Australia Inc and VACD signed in Sydney, Australia

23rd July 2012

- Discussion evaluating the clinics at Diyatalawa Base Hospital Auditorium

4th August 2012

- Meeting to discuss the needs of children examined at the clinics
- 'Mother's Union of Children with Special Needs' established at Dharmashoka Vidyalaya, Bandarawela
- Skills training program for the disabled children in concurrently to the above program

14th September 2012

- VACD committee meeting at Public Service Sports Club, Bandarawela to discuss future programs and activities of the charity

15th September 2012

- One day workshop on leadership for the members of the Mother's Union at Sir Razik Fareed Muslim College, Bandarawela

25th September 2012

- Special Committee meeting of Mother's Union at Kabillawa North Community Centre to discuss arrangements for the program due on 5th October 2012

4th October 2012

- Meeting with Ms. Gabriella Vascotto – (Autism School of Victoria), Mr. Felix Stephen and Project Leaders at Skyview to discuss the teachers' training program.
- Evaluating progress made by the charity and future activities were discussed that same evening with other members of VACD working committee

5th October 2012

- 'Sihina Karaliya' – A children stage show (by children with disabilities, their parents and teachers) staged at Bandarawela Town Hall commemorating World Children's day

5th – 27th October 2012

- Skills enhancement workshop for Teachers at the Special Educational Unit of Bandarawela Educational Zone conducted by Gabriella Vascotto

22nd October 2012

- Steering Committee meeting of the Mother's Union at Samurdhi Office – Kabillawa North

23rd October 2012

- Meeting with the Mother's of Disabled Children at Diyatalawa Base Hospital Auditorium.

Ms. Vascotto shared her experiences with disabled children followed by a discussion.

24th October 2012

- Ms. Gabriella Vascotto's Farewell dinner

15th November 2012

- Sudhrashi School Program
- Health clinic for children with the assistance of Diyatalawa Base Hospital.
- Awareness program for teachers lead by Dr. Kumuduni Cooray.
- Awareness program for mothers lead by Mr. Milton Perera

5th December 2012

- Mother's Union meeting at Samurdhi Office at Kabillawa North to organize the program due on 19th December

19th December 2012

- Distribution of school books/ uniforms/ bags/ shoes at Bandarawela Town Hall for 128 children registered with the charity
- An evaluation of the program followed by Lunch with mother's of the steering committee and participating volunteers
- Distribution of Spectacles to Children

VACD DIARY (2013)

January to March 2013

- Compiling a database/ register of all children in the program that also includes details of the families of the children
- Compiling a database/register of all VACD members (Advisory, Steering, Mother's Union and Volunteers)
- Circulating and approving the code of Conduct for VACD committee members and volunteers, preparations for issuing identity cards for committee members and volunteers
- Calling for applications for volunteers, short listing applicants and conducting a training program for these volunteers

April to end of year 2013

- Sinhala and Tamil New Year celebrations – Saturday, 27th April

- 27th April – arrival of Phil Quinton – (Engineers Mission International- Australia) in Bandarawela to draw up a plan for the existing ancestral home (that is in the process of being donated to VACD) and draw up a plan with modifications, extensions and enhancement to serve as the VACD centre of the future that will provide a variety of facilities to the children
- Annual General Meeting early May
- 11th and 12th May – detailed discussions with key VACD members, advisors and Phil Quinton on future plans for the VACD centre
- Mid May – “Family Day” for disabled children and their parents (specially Fathers)
- End of May – 2nd Training program for volunteers
- June –Special education session for children who have recently joined our program
- June- Educational and awareness program for parents of disabled children under 6 years of age with the assistance of the staff at base Hospital Diyatalawa
- July - Examine prevailing health conditions and challenges faced by disabled children and key members of their families and organise a one day health camp to plan future programs and help for them with the assistance of staff from the General Hospital Badulla and Base Hospital Diyatalawa
- July – Workshop on how to communicate with disabled children – Initial program
- August - Workshop on how to communicate with disabled children – Second program
- September – Annual excursion for the children and their families
- October – One day camp for disabled children to mark “World Children’s day”
- October – Poster campaign to make the local community aware of disabled children, their rights, acceptance within the broad society etc and the VACD program
- November – Annual General Meeting of the Mother’s Union
- December – Distribute school equipment for 2014 to the children and a public concert

Notes:

1. The leadership team will spend second half of this year allocating a lot of their time towards planning for the future VACD centre, legal work transferring of the property to the charity and documenting various aspects of building maintenance and usage, fund raising, construction and modification work on the building etc.
2. There are 141 registered children with the charity as at date