

## CandleAid Lanka

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### Gift-A-Meal (GAM) Programme Overview

CandleAid's food programme is called the "GIFT-A-MEAL" programme. This programme caters to destitute families who struggle to place food on the table for their children due to low income levels.

Sponsorships are solicited from donors who want to help such a family for a minimum period of one year. The annual sponsorship donation is LKR 24,000 (LKR 2,000 per month) plus 10% admin fee totaling LKR 26,400.

Each beneficiary family is recommended for sponsorship by a person who is familiar with circumstances of the family. If the family is accepted for sponsorship, the person recommending usually becomes the coordinator who links the family with CandleAid Lanka. He is expected to ensure that the monthly disbursement made is utilized for the purpose for which it is intended.

Since 2019 July, CandleAid credits LKR 2,000 to the beneficiary's bank account at the beginning of every month. The beneficiary is required to purchase dry rations such as rice, dhal, cowpea, dry fish etc., to the value of LKR 2,000.

All sponsors are required to complete and return a "Sponsor detail form" together with their donation. Overseas sponsors are able to make their donation in any currency of their choice. All modes of remittance are indicated in the ways of remittance document, which can be downloaded from our website <https://www.candleaid.org/donate/>

The coordinators are required to abide by the laid down procedures of this programme which includes the submission of bills of foods purchased quarterly. If the beneficiary family fails to submit the required documentation, the sponsorship is suspended from the ensuing month. If the beneficiary family does not regularize the lapses despite reminders sent by CandleAid, the sponsorship is then terminated effective from the date of suspension. The sponsorship will then be regretfully transferred to a new family under advice to the sponsor.

Once a sponsorship is finalized, details and photograph (if available) are forwarded to the sponsor together with the receipt for the donation made. A renewal notice is generally sent to the sponsor two months ahead of the due date giving the sponsor the option to continue or discontinue the sponsorship. CandleAid expects to be informed if any sponsor is unable to continue the sponsorship due to any reason whatsoever, so that they could find a new sponsor for the family, without interrupting the sponsorship.

Anyone who wishes to join the above programme could please contact us in order to obtain the necessary forms for completion and for more details.

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