

# ANNUAL REPORT

CHARITY NO.1133461











2025



"We are daily wage workers and could not afford to improve our water access ourselves. Before this project, collecting water took a long time and affected our health. After the water project, clean water is closer to our homes. This has made a real difference to our daily life."

- Srimathi, Community Member from the Upcountry Water Project

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# 1. Introduction and Executive Summary

## 1.1 CHAIR'S STATEMENT FOR THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORT OF SERENDIP CHILDREN'S HOME

Sixteen years ago, Serendip was formed in response to a very real and immediate need. In the aftermath of the war in Sri Lanka, many children were left without parents, stability, or support. What began as a small, focused response to those children has, over time, grown into something wider and deeper, shaped by the changing realities of the communities we serve.

Over the past 16 years, Serendip has reached more than 20,000 individuals across Sri Lanka. Some of the changes we have been part of have been life changing. Others may appear small from the outside. A child staying in school, a family having regular meals, an elder no longer feeling forgotten. But each of these moments matters. Our work has never been about quick fixes. It has always been about staying, listening, and continuing, even when progress is slow or difficult.

This year tested us in ways we did not expect. As we moved towards the end of the year, with ongoing projects running steadily across children's programmes, therapies, elders' support, women's livelihoods, and community initiatives, Sri Lanka was hit by a severe cyclone in November. Heavy rainfall, flooding, and landslides caused widespread disruption, particularly in the hill country. These are areas where life is already fragile, where families live with very little margin for loss. The impact of the cyclone did not just damage homes and land. It interrupted livelihoods, schooling, access to food, and a sense of security for families we have worked alongside for years.

While Serendip responded immediately where possible, the effects of this disaster will not be short lived. The coming year will be challenging. Families are trying to recover while still meeting their daily needs. Children are carrying uncertainty into classrooms. Women who were building small but steady incomes are facing setbacks. The work ahead will require patience, flexibility, and resilience.

And yet, this is precisely why Serendip continues.

I am often asked how we keep going, especially when setbacks feel overwhelming. The answer is simple, though not easy. We continue because walking away would mean accepting that some lives matter less than others. We continue because the people we work with do not have the option to give up. They adapt, endure, and carry on with dignity, even when circumstances are harsh. The least we can do is stand alongside them.

Serendip has never promised easy solutions. What we offer is commitment. A promise to remain present, to respond honestly to changing needs, and to keep working, even when the path ahead is uncertain. As we move into the next year, that commitment remains at the heart of everything we do.

With gratitude,

**Trisha Williamson**

Chairperson, Serendip Children's Home





# 1. Introduction and Executive Summary

## 1.2 OUR OBJECTIVES

Our objectives are shaped by long term relationships with the communities we work alongside. While the focus of our work remains consistent, the way we respond continues to evolve as needs change or become more urgent.

### Community Development



Community development sits at the centre of our work. We focus on supporting families within their own environments, responding to the practical challenges they face in daily life.

### Education and Skill Development



Education and skill development remain central to everything we do. From early childhood support and school resources to vocational training for young people and women, we focus on practical opportunities that help individuals progress. These pathways may be modest, but they open up real possibilities for learning, confidence, and longer term change.

### Health and Well-Being



Health and wellbeing are addressed through direct, everyday support. Through initiatives such as preschool breakfast programmes and food support for elders, we aim to improve nutrition, routine, and stability for those most at risk.

### Economic Empowerment



Economic empowerment plays an important role in reducing long term hardship. Through livelihood assistance and income generating support, we help families move towards greater independence and household stability.



# 1. Introduction and Executive Summary

## 1.2 OUR OBJECTIVES

Across all areas of work, our objectives remain simple and consistent. We stay present, respond honestly to need, and continue working alongside communities through both everyday challenges and unexpected crises.

### Inclusive Learning Support



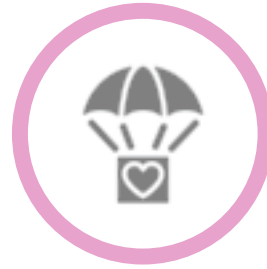
Inclusive learning support has become a core part of our work. We support children facing developmental delays through therapies, sensory based activities, and guidance for parents, helping families better understand and support their children.

### Infrastructure and Environmental Sustainability



We also respond to practical needs linked to safe living conditions, particularly where access to clean water or secure shelter affects daily life, focusing on improvements that are manageable and guided by community priorities.

### Emergency Relief



Emergency relief has become an unavoidable part of our objectives. When natural disasters or climate related events disrupt daily life, Serendip responds to immediate needs while remaining mindful of longer recovery.



# 2. Reflecting on the Past Year 2025

## 2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Inclusive learning continued to grow into one of the strongest areas of our work. During the year, our centre became better equipped to support children facing developmental delays, and the number of children attending therapies increased steadily. Alongside direct support for children, we ran several parent training sessions, helping families better understand their children's needs and feel more confident in supporting them at home. The progress we saw

### Inclusive Developmental Support

Inclusive learning continued to grow into one of the strongest areas of our work. During the year, our centre became better equipped to support children facing developmental delays, and the number of children attending therapies increased steadily. Alongside direct support for children, we ran several parent training sessions, helping families better understand their children's needs and feel more confident in supporting them at home. The progress we saw was not sudden or dramatic, but steady and meaningful, built through consistency and trust.



### Learning through arts and movement

Fine arts and physical activities remained an important part of daily life at the centre. More than 300 children now attend sessions in dance, music, performance, karate, and yoga. These activities help children build confidence, discipline, and emotional expression. They provide structure, enjoyment, and a sense of achievement, particularly for children who have limited opportunities outside the centre.



# 2. Reflecting on the Past Year 2025

## 2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Care and connection for elders

Support for vulnerable elders expanded over the year. Our bi monthly food assistance programme now reaches around 350 elders, providing regular nutritional support and a sense of connection. For many elders, these visits offer reassurance and dignity, reminding them that they are not alone and that their wellbeing still matters.



### Supporting women to build stability

Through livelihood assistance, we continued to support women and families in strengthening household stability. In the areas where we work, opportunities for women to earn an income remain limited. By providing training and practical resources, we supported more than 300 individuals to develop income generating skills, helping families manage daily needs and support their children's education.



# 2. Reflecting on the Past Year 2025

## 2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Improving access to clean water

Access to clean water remained a priority in the hill country. During the year, we supported the development of several water delivery systems that bring water directly from natural sources to communities. These systems serve multiple villages and hundreds of families, reducing daily hardship and improving health and safety.



### Supporting young learners

Support for young learners continued through regular and one off initiatives. Through our monthly education support, we helped over 100 children from families facing severe financial hardship to attend school with greater stability, covering essentials such as meals, school supplies, and learning materials. Alongside this, our annual education materials programme reached over 2,000 students with items needed for their studies. Teachers reported improved attendance, concentration, and confidence among children receiving this support.



# 2. Reflecting on the Past Year 2025

## 2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Responding in times of crisis

Towards the end of the year, a severe cyclone caused widespread disruption across Sri Lanka. Unlike seasonal flooding, this disaster affected large parts of the country and caused lasting damage to homes and livelihoods. Serendip responded immediately with emergency support, and this work will continue as families face the longer recovery ahead.



"My child has developmental difficulties, and we could not afford therapy privately. Through Serendip, he receives therapy and I receive guidance on how to support him at home. This support has helped my child cope better with learning and daily routines."

- Sivarani, mother of a child attending the Inclusive Learning and Development Programme

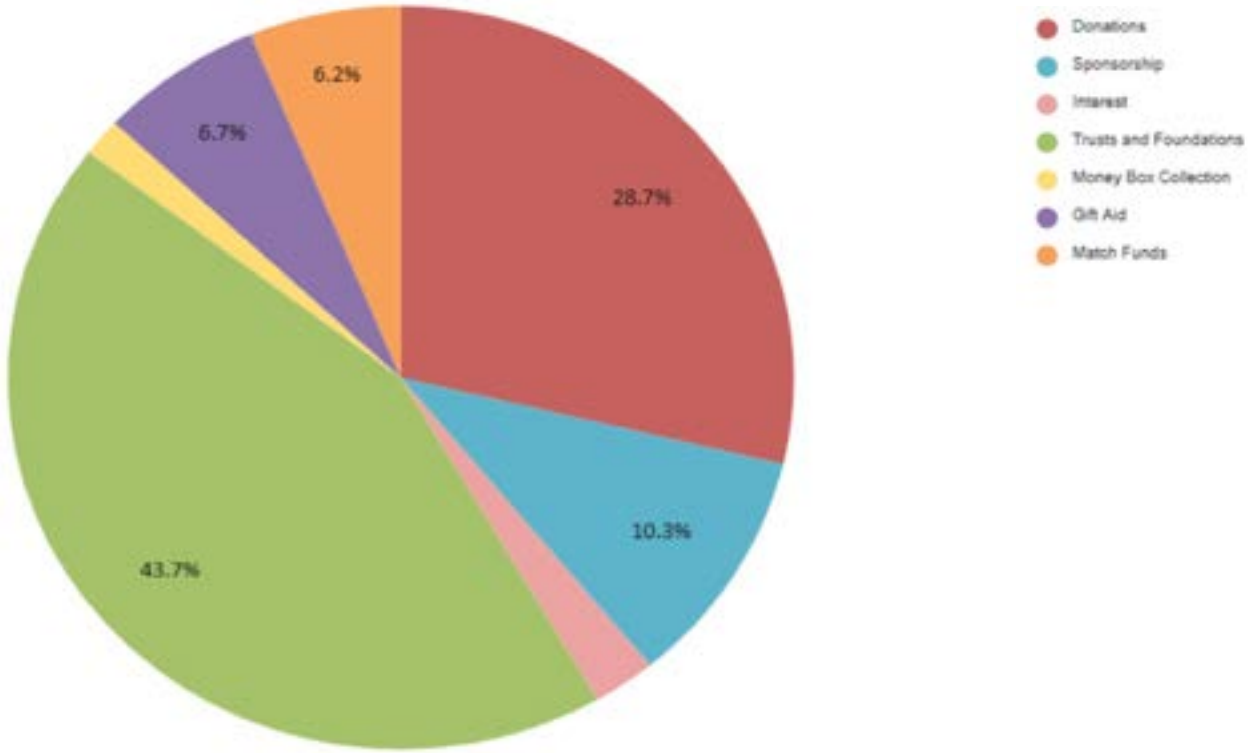


# 2. Reflecting on the Past Year 2025

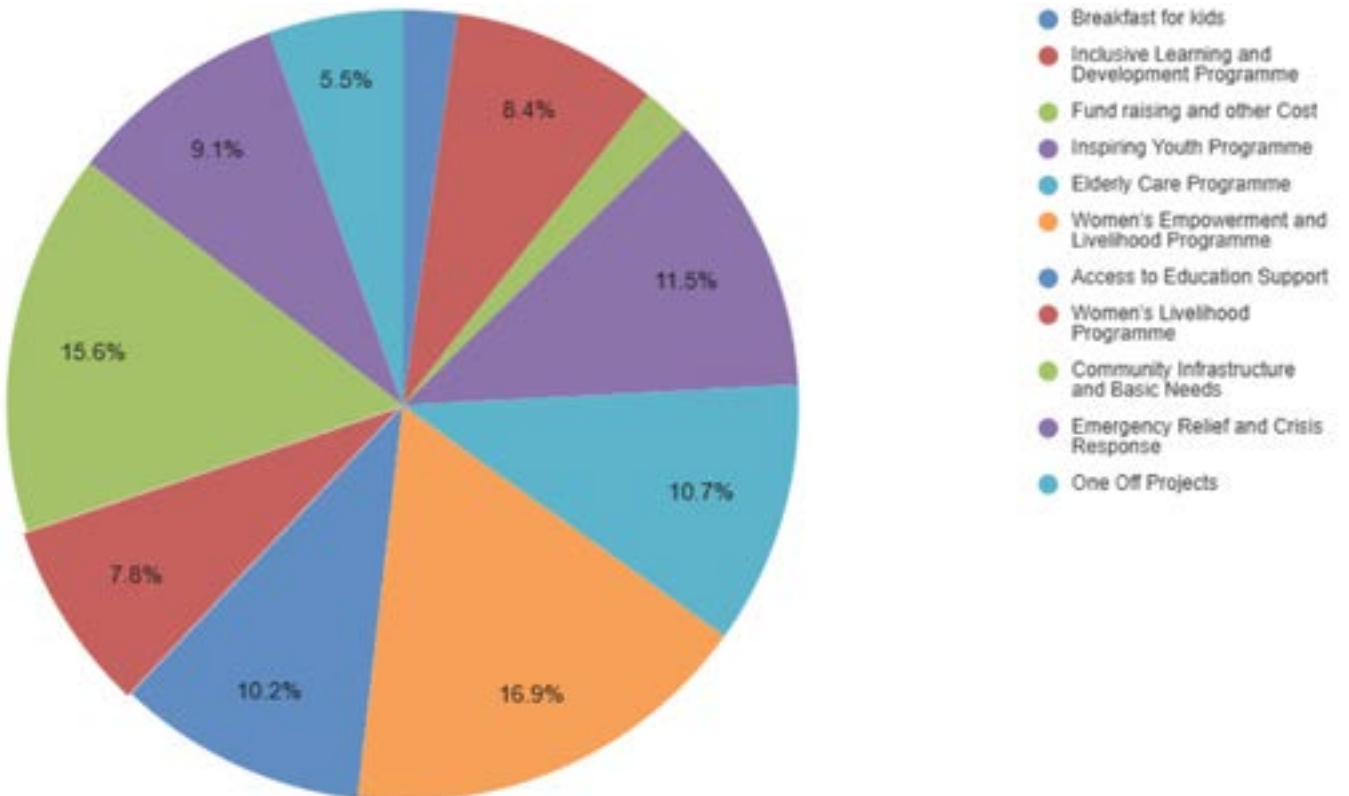
## 2.1 KEY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following Financial Statements are for Financial Year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

**Total Income - £166,573.00**



**Total Expenses - £158,548.00**



# 3. Our 2026 Goals

As we move into the year ahead, our goals reflect both what we have learned from the past year and what communities are telling us they need most right now.



### **Psychosocial and psychological support for communities affected by the cyclone**

The scale of disruption caused by the recent disaster has highlighted the emotional toll carried by children, families, and elders. In 2026, we aim to introduce structured psychosocial support, working alongside local and international professionals, to help individuals process loss, anxiety, and uncertainty as part of longer term recovery.



### **Strengthen inclusive learning support for children and families**

We will continue to develop our therapies and family support for children facing developmental delays, ensuring services remain accessible, responsive, and grounded in practical care for both children and parents.



### **Support women led households through vocational training**

Based on what we see on the ground, skills training for women continues to make a meaningful difference to household stability. In the coming year, we aim to support more young women to develop practical skills that enable them to earn an income and contribute confidently to family life.



### **Improve dignity and wellbeing for vulnerable elders in rural communities**

We will continue and strengthen our support for elders, focusing on nutrition, regular contact, and dignity, recognising the importance of consistent care for those who are often overlooked.



### **Maintain access to education, healthcare, and livelihoods for low income families**

Across all our work, we will continue to support families to meet everyday needs, helping children remain in education and households cope with ongoing economic pressures.

These goals reflect a commitment to steady, thoughtful progress. In a year shaped by recovery and uncertainty, our focus remains on listening, adapting, and staying present for the communities we serve.

"Being a volunteer at Serendip has shown me what it means to work with respect and care. The culture here is about listening to people, not judging them, and doing the work properly even when it is difficult. I feel proud to be associated with Serendip because the focus is always on people, not on recognition."

- Volunteer



# 4. Trusts and Foundations 2025

We are truly grateful to the trusts and foundations that continue to support our work. Your help has made a real difference, allowing us to reach those who need it most.

BRIAN  
MURTAGH  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

CB & HH  
TAYLOR 1984  
TRUST

CHRISTA-  
DELPHIAN  
SAMARITAN  
FUND

EDUCATIONAL  
AND  
GENERAL  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

HIMAT  
TANNA  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

HUDSON  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

KENT FAMILY  
TRUST

LADY YUEN  
PENG MCNE-  
ICE TRUST

LOVE ALL  
SERVE ALL  
INTERNA-  
TIONAL  
CHARITY

MARSLAND  
MCADOO  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

OHM SHAKTI  
AMMA  
KAAPAKAM

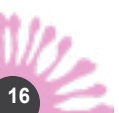
PARADIGM  
NORTON  
TRUST

PETTIT  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

RBC TRUST  
COMPANY

REUBEN  
FOUNDATION

RHODO-  
DENDRON  
TRUST



# 4. Trusts and Foundations 2025

SPERANZA  
TRUST

ST MARY'S  
CHARITY

ST PETER'S  
AID FOR THE  
NEEDY (SPAN)

THE AE-  
COM  
FOUNDA-  
TION

THE ALLAN  
& NESTA  
FERGUSON  
CHARITABLE  
SETTLEMENT

THE BROYST  
FOUNDA-  
TION

THE CARRON  
CHARITABLE  
SETTLEMENT

THE  
CLAREMONT  
TRUST

THE CUCKOO  
HILL TRUST

THE DE  
LA RUE  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

THE FAR-  
THING  
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THE FATHER  
O'MAHONY  
MEMORIAL  
TRUST

THE FULMER  
CHARITABLE  
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THE HYNE  
TRUST

THE PAT  
NEWMAN  
MEMORIAL  
TRUST

THE R G HILLS  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

## 4. Trusts and Foundations 2025

We are truly grateful to the trusts and foundations that continue to support our work. Your help has made a real difference, allowing us to reach those who need it most.

THE RAIN-  
DANCE  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

THE  
SHELTON  
TRUST

THE TULA  
TRUST

VIJAY AND  
SHAMA  
BHARDWAJ  
FOUNDATION

WARD  
FAMILY  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST

WILLIAM  
LEECH &  
LADY LEECH  
CHARITY




# 5. Partnerships

We are proud to work in partnership with platforms like JustGiving, Payroll Giving, Benevity Cause, Big Give, and other organisations, which help us connect with supporters and sustain our mission.

EXPLORE OUR PARTNERS:





"I have no income and cannot afford to buy food. Many days, I used to go hungry and sleep without eating. Serendip started supporting me 2 years ago and now brings dry food every month. Knowing that someone will come and check on us has made a difference."

- Elderly Care Programme beneficiary

# 6. How You Can Help

The work Serendip carries out across the North, East, and Central regions of Sri Lanka is shaped by the generosity of supporters, the encouragement of trusts and foundations, and the commitment of volunteers and field teams who work closely with communities every day.

If our work resonates with you, there are simple ways to be part of it:

Supporting our projects through a donation helps us continue essential programmes in 2025 and beyond.

Sharing your time, skills, or experience as a volunteer helps strengthen the work we do on the ground and behind the scenes.

Every contribution, whether large or small, helps us keep going and reach those who need support the most.

## 6.1 DONATE TO FUND VITAL PROJECTS IN 2026

Your donations make a direct impact on those in greatest need. You can contribute in the following ways:

### 1. Set up a Monthly Standing Order Donation:

Name : Serendip Children's Home  
Sort code : 60-04-36  
Account no : 11637749

### 2. Make a One-off Donation via Justgiving:

<https://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome/donate>

### 3. Explore Other Donation Methods:

<https://serendipchildrenshome.com/>

Every £1 you donate will be used effectively to help the most vulnerable in 2025.

## 6.2 VOLUNTEERING WITH SERENDIP

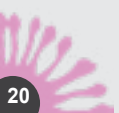
Serendip is supported by people who give their time to help the charity with practical tasks such as fundraising activities, events, and communication with supporters.

Volunteering is flexible and based on what individuals are able to offer at any given time.

If you are interested in supporting Serendip as a volunteer, please get in touch.

## HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you would like to HELP us in our charitable work why not JOIN our facebook group on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/serendipchildrenshome/>  
VISIT our website on <http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com/>  
or why not give us a DONATION via <http://www.justgiving.com/serendipchildrenshome>



## My contact details

Full Name:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Mobile Number:

Email Address:

## My donation

Amount (in figures): £5/ month  £30 /Month  Other Amount

£10 /month  £50/Month  £ /Month

Amount (in words):

Date of first payment:  /  / 20

and thereafter every month until further notice and debit my account accordingly

Payee Bank Name:

Payee Account Name:

Payee Account Number:  Sort code:

## My bank details

Account name:

Account number:

Sort code:  -  -

Bank name:

Bank branch address:

Signature:

Date:  /  / 20

## Gift Aid Declaration



I would like tax to be reclaimed on my donation under the Gift Aid Scheme. I am a UK taxpayer and pay an amount of income tax/or capital gain tax at least equal to the tax that can be reclaimed on my donation.

Yes  No

**Please send your completed form to:**  
Serendip Children's Home  
34, Brightling Road,  
Brockley,  
London SE4 1SQ

**For more information:**  
[www.serendipchildrenshome.com](http://www.serendipchildrenshome.com)  
[trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com](mailto:trisha@serendipchildrenshome.com)  
Call: +44(0) 7799756158  
[www.facebook.com/SerendipChildrensHome](http://www.facebook.com/SerendipChildrensHome)

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# 7. Image Gallery

