

STICHTING HELLABEEM

Project for 48 disabled youth age 12-18 year in Sri-Lanka

Private initiative of Helène Heijen and Jan van Beek from the Netherlands and the couple Lahir from Sri-Lanka

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www.hellabeem.org

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This is how the project will look like in 2006

THE PROJECT SO FAR

In February 2003 Jan and I went to Sri Lanka again. Together with Lahir we asked three builders for an estimate and we saw the projects they had already built. One of them is a very experienced and capable builder who can manage big projects and who is used to working for demanding foreigners. We also visited a few institutions so we can learn from the way they are managed. We visited an institution for the deaf, an orphanage, a polyclinic revalidation centre and a 'Mother Theresa House' for mothers and children who have been abused. These are small institutions, which are mostly sponsored by private people and companies from abroad. What struck us was that some of these 'traditional' buildings – which means that not much attention is paid to construction – were already dilapidated. Also hygienic circumstances were rather bad.

The houses that we are going to build will fit in perfectly in the surroundings. They will both be an organic unity and at the same time meet western standards for the disabled.

In an orphanage we visited, about ten children were housed in one pavilion and looked after by a 'mother' to give them the idea of home. We liked this very much and decided to have an 'auntie' in our pavilions.

We have cleared the ground from weed and in December electricity will be installed, to start with a little shed. The site is fenced and barbed wire has been put up. In the middle of 2004 we will start with the infrastructure, the water supply and we will start building the traditional school building and the first pavilion. At the end of 2004 Jan will sell his house and this money should provide us with a new house on the site. In 2006 our house in Bussum will be sold and this money will bail for the minimum of exploitation and enable us to go and live in Sri Lanka.

FINANCE

Hellabeem costs a lot of money. One part is financed by ourselves. For another part we are dependent on others. We want to thank everybody who has supported us financially so far and we are also very pleased with the support of North Sea Lions of € 50.000 which enables us to realise the first stage of our plans.

If we manage to collect another € 25.000 ourselves from donations, activities and campaigns, the NCOD (the National Committee for International Cooperation and durable development) will double this amount. € 50.000 would be a fantastic amount of money for our project, which will cost

€ 500.000.



You will understand that we hope to interest private people as well as companies in support of our project. Will you help making our dream come true?

If you become a **friend of Hellabeem** with a minimum contribution of € 25 a year, you will help 48 poor and deprived children in the age of twelve to eighteen, with a handicap of their legs through illness or amputation due to landmines or other accidents.

WHAT WE OFFER

We will offer them a thorough education in Hellabeem, where they will live and go to school. With a team of qualified teachers and counsellors we will provide them with the best of physical and mental care. Apart from physical education by means of health care and sports, we will pay special attention to their emotional education by training them in art and drama in order to learn them respect themselves and each other with their different religious backgrounds.

The most important thing for these children is to become as independent as possible. They will be able to move around in a wheelchair or walk with crutches. Finally they will be able to start their own business or workshop and of course we will continue to support and advise them.

ACTIVITIES

In the past few months we organised a number of activities to raise money for Hellabeem. We had an auction of art, a sponsored run. There were several markets where second-hand books, jewellery and all kinds of products were sold.

For more details visit our website: www.hellabeem.org

THANK YOU

We, Mahrooza, Lahir, Jan and myself, are working day and night to make our dream come true and we feel very much supported by the many people who appreciate our work.

We hope very much that you will support us and help us by becoming a **friend of Hellabeem**.

On behalf of Mahrooza, Lahir and Jan I thank you very much.

Helène Heijen



Mahrooza,

Lahir,

Jan,

Helène