



**NORTH AMERICAN  
EMPOWERMENT  
FOUNDATION**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

**EMPOWERMENT  
INITIATIVES**





## Letter from the Board

Dear NAEF Community,

With heartfelt pride and joy, we share with you the very first Annual Report of the North American Empowerment Foundation (NAEF). The past year has been filled with meaningful progress made possible through the encouragement, trust, and support of our community.

Inspired by the Jesuit missionaries who once guided our education in Sri Lanka, we have begun an education-led community empowerment initiative at Karayakkantheevu - a village in Manmunai-West, Batticaloa district of Sri Lanka that embodies NAEF's core mission. Over the past year, we have built our organization, initiated Karayakkantheevu Ganeshar Vidyalayam (KGV) transformation program, appointed a dedicated program administrator, and launched several related initiatives focused on our objectives of strengthening education, empowerment and awareness.

We are pleased to share the transformation of KGV is already taking shape. In March 2025, we achieved one of our first successes, the completion of improvements to the school facilities. With this early success, we are able to continue deepening partnerships with parents, teachers, and the broader community to address the everyday needs of students. Together, we are learning, adapting, and refining our efforts to create lasting change.

Our vision is to see KGV, an underserved school in one of Sri Lanka's most challenged districts, flourish as a place where children can learn, create, and grow with confidence. We hope this school will shine as a symbol of what can be achieved when a community unites around the belief that every child deserves opportunity and hope.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who has walked with us on this journey—from our international donors and volunteers to the families and educators in Karayakkantheevu. Your belief in our mission fuels our determination and with your continued partnership, we are confident that our collective impact will keep growing.

Thank you for being part of our beginning. We look forward with excitement to the year ahead and the many milestones we will reach together.

With gratitude and warm regards,



Joy  
Tisseverasinghe  
CHAIRMAN



Siva  
Kumar  
VICE-CHAIRMAN



Christy  
Perinpanayagam  
SECRETARY



Suresh  
Ganeshamoorthy  
TREASURER



Jude  
Jeevaratnam  
DIRECTOR



Nimal  
Veerasingham  
DIRECTOR



Vimalaraj  
Panchalingam  
DIRECTOR



Pius Krishanthan  
Program Administrator

***The North American Empowerment Foundation Board of Directors***

# Karayakkantheevu Education Empowerment Program

Our empowerment program envisions a three-phase transformation designed to promote the active involvement of parents, teachers, and the broader community — fostering a shared sense of responsibility for education.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phase One – Awakening Community Awareness</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Focuses on building trust and pride through visible acts of commitment — such as school renovations, cleanup events, and school pride days — culminating in forming local civic organizations for educational development and oversight.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phase Two – Strengthening Local Civic Organizations</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oversight of educational programs transitions to the local civic organizations, with continued strategic support from NAEF. NAEF provides mentoring, training, and tools to strengthen the newly formed organizations during the transition phase.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phase Three – Sustainable Community Empowerment</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The organizations evolve into fully functioning, community-centered, and self-sustaining systems that ensure long-term educational development.</p>

*“The establishment of the Karayakkantheevu Educational Development Society (KEDS) completes Phase One aspirations for the Karayakkantheevu community.”*

## The Community:

Karayakkantheevu, is a village in Manmunai-West, Batticaloa district of Sri Lanka. Most of its residents work as laborers in the paddy fields cultivating rice or engage in fishing. **Many of these families live**



**below the poverty line, with limited access to resources** and opportunities for economic advancement. The community faces significant challenges in terms of poverty reduction and sustainable development.

## The School: Karayakkantheevu Ganeshar Vidyalayam (KGV)

The school offers classes from Grade 1 to Grade 11, with a total enrollment of 212 students. KGV is in the heart of the community and faces significant challenges that hinder a healthy learning environment for students. These challenges are not only affecting the academic performance of the students, but also their overall well-being and future prospects. The school’s **infrastructure, resources, and community engagement require urgent** attention to ensure that it can provide a conducive learning environment that supports both students and teachers alike.



## NAEF Sponsored Initiatives

### School Clean-up Campaign



In December 2024, NAEF supported its first community-driven activity at KGV — a school cleanup campaign that brought together students, parents, and teachers. The day reflected the strong community spirit that defines our mission. Parents organized and prepared lunch for all participants, while students and teachers worked side by side to restore and refresh their learning environment.

This event became a symbolic beginning for NAEF’s broader vision of **fostering ownership and collaboration** within the community. The enthusiasm and teamwork laid the foundation for future development activities planned for the school.



### Meeting Basic Student Needs

This was the second activity supported by NAEF. The shoes and socks were handed over to the principal for distribution, bringing dignity and smiles to the lives of 55 children.



### Infrastructure Improvements



This was the third activity supported by NAEF, serving as a **visible demonstration** to teachers, students, parents, and the wider community of our **ongoing commitment** to the school. The community pitched in by providing sand and repairs to the library.

### Strengthening Educators: Teacher Training Workshops

The two-day seminar NAEF organized for KGV teachers was a groundbreaking initiative focused on **leadership, counseling, and youth development**, marking a first-time experience of professional training for many participants. The sessions were designed to strengthen teachers’ capacity not only as educators, but also as mentors and community leaders.



Throughout the workshop, facilitators emphasized the transformative role teachers play in shaping students’ personal growth, values, and aspirations. Participants explored practical strategies for guiding youth through academic and emotional challenges, fostering resilience, and creating inclusive, supportive classroom environments.

## Building School Spirit

NAEF sponsored a School Pride Day on August 1, 2025. The first ever Pride Day in the 89 years of KGV's existence, as well as for the village and the surrounding regions. The event brought the **entire community** together to celebrate the day with locally arranged parades and festivities.



## Formation of Karayakkantheevu Educational Development Society (KEDS)



Following the training sessions held on October 18th and 19th, the community representatives collectively agreed to form KEDS, which is now active. The independent organization is entrusted with overseeing the educational development and overall welfare of the village.

KEDS' first initiative focused on the voluntary repair and improvement of the main road leading to the playschool—an important step reflecting the community's growing ownership and collaboration. Ultimately, our goal is to establish **community-centered, self-regulated oversight systems** such as KEDS, Parent-Teacher Associations and Alumnae Networks to ensure the long-term sustainability of educational progress.

## NAEF Administrated-Privately Sponsored Programs

### Supplemental After School Math and Science Tuition Assistance

This program is geared towards addressing the shortage of qualified in-school teachers in rural schools,



Grade -10  
Subject -Science  
Time -5.00-6.00pm  
Total -11  
Present -08

8:47 AM

especially in Math, English and Science. The supplemental Teacher program uses local graduates to tutor the students. Currently 5 supplemental teachers provide tutoring in two different schools. The program oversight is provided by the school principals to ensure structure and accountability. The expected attendance is 75- 80%. Daily attendance updates are shared with donors/ sponsors via group chat. The program has gained visibility in the region with additional requests coming from other schools with needs identified across all subjects. Cost per teacher: LKR 15,000 per month.

### Weekend KGV Playschool

Preschoolers at Karayakkantheevu continue to face challenges in literacy, numeracy, and social development, resulting in learning gaps that persist into later grades. To address these foundational issues, NAEF introduced a **play-based teaching program** designed to make early learning both engaging and effective. Through structured, hands-on activities, children develop essential skills in reading,



counting, and communication. Storytelling, letter games, and sorting exercises help strengthen early literacy and numeracy, while cooperative play nurtures confidence and social interaction.



A key feature of the program was the annual sports day, organized in partnership with parents and alumnae. This much-anticipated event **promoted teamwork, physical activity, and a shared sense of pride** in the children’s achievements. The active involvement of families and the community reinforce the program’s broader goal—to make education a joyful and collective experience.

Currently, 38 children between the ages of 3 and 5 are enrolled in the program. Continued support from donors and the community is essential to maintain and expand this early learning program, ensuring a strong foundation for lifelong success.

### Refurbishing pre-school playground equipment

Many preschool playground facilities in Manmunai-West district of Batticaloa are in poor condition, leaving children with limited opportunities for safe and active outdoor play. In many rural communities, these playgrounds are the only spaces where young children can engage in physical activity and social interaction. Recognizing this need, the Preschool Education Bureau of Batticaloa has launched an initiative to **repair and refurbish playground equipment** across the region. The estimated cost for each school is LKR 50,000, covering essential repairs and safety improvements to ensure every child has access to a vibrant and secure play environment.



### Youth Career Counseling – Promoting National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at Sports Events



The National Vocational Qualification program in Sri Lanka offers certifications across seven levels for professional and technical skills. The program aims to provide a pathway for individuals to acquire job-relevant skills and has seven levels of certification ranging from entry-level competencies (Level 1) to Bachelor's degree level (Level 7). It is a popular option for students who have not been successful in their Ordinary Level exams and for those seeking

**practical, job-oriented training.** The program combines theoretical knowledge with practical, hands-on applications to prepare individuals for mid-level technical and professional roles. NAEF has begun partnering with local Sports Event organizers to promote NVQ pathways to local area youth. NAEF intends to hold an annual NVQ workshop for local youth post 2026 Ordinary Level Examinations.



### Funds Administration

**Treasurer's Report**  
**12 Months Ending October 31, 2025 (CAD)**  
**NAEF Funded and Administered**

**Funds Received:**

Membership Fees	\$ 4,300
Donor Contribution	11,902
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 16,202</b>

**Expenditures:**

Community Cleanup Day	\$ 187
Shoes for Kids	930
Painting and Renovations	3,822
School Pride Day	3,037
Teacher Training	884
Community Empowerment Training	1,015
Photocopier	1,023
Other School Activities	163
Website Development	973
Organization Startup Costs	708
Administrative Expenses	2,400
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 15,142</b>

**Funds on Hand October 31, 2025** **\$ 1,060**

NAEF is pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the 12-month period ending October 31, 2025. During this fiscal year, the organization received a total of **\$16,202**, consisting of membership fees and generous donor contributions.

Expenditures for the year totaled **\$15,142**, which were directed toward community development initiatives, educational support programs, school improvements, and essential administrative functions. Key program investments included painting and renovations, school pride activities, community empowerment training, and teacher training. Operating and startup costs, including website development and administrative expenses, were carefully managed to ensure responsible use of funds.

As of October 31, 2025, NAEF maintained a positive balance of **\$1,060**. This remaining amount strengthens our financial footing as we continue expanding our commitment to community empowerment and sustainable educational development.

**To our members, donors and volunteers, we extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you.** Your contributions, membership, and volunteer efforts are the driving force behind our mission. Because of your commitment, we've expanded our programs and created meaningful impact in the community we serve. Your trust inspires us to aim higher and serve better. Thank you for standing with us and believing in our vision.



**Our Logo:** The sun rising in the east, symbolizing the land of our origins and the roots of our community. Stars signify guidance and inspiration, like the North Star, and mark the foundation's origin in North America. The green and orange human icons signify our dedication to inclusivity and ensuring that our efforts benefit all without discrimination.

**Our Vision:** a future where the impoverished and marginalized communities are empowered and given the opportunities to thrive.

**Our mission:** To empower and support underserved and disadvantaged communities in Sri Lanka by creating pathways for success and ensuring they have the necessary resources to thrive.

## ***Get Involved...***

*"The impact we dream of drives every effort we make. If we stay true to our values and tenacious in our resolve, we can truly change lives"*



✉ naefoundation@gmail.com 📱 social media: @naefconnect 🌐 <https://naefoundation.com>