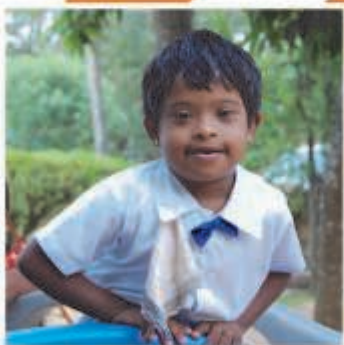


# Navajeevana



**Annual Report 2008**

Navajeevana's **vision** is to see people with disabilities as equal participating members of a non-discriminating society

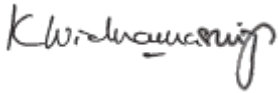
Navajeevana's **mission** is to be a resource centre to empower and to promote equality and social inclusion of people with disabilities through rehabilitation, networking, capacity building and community awareness on preventing disabilities

## Message from the Chairperson

Welcome to Navajeevana's 2008 annual report. 2008 was a year in which Navajeevana overcame enormous challenges and finally achieved its long term aim of completing its fully accessible rehabilitation and social inclusion centre. This centre, with its beautiful and functional new buildings will give people with disabilities access to the services they need under one roof. A major step forward indeed.

Navajeevana has long promoted the inclusion of people with disabilities and has sought to include people with disabilities at all levels of the organisation. I am therefore proud in our twenty-first year we have gained a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who too has experience of disability. I wish Major Anil Seneviratne well in his new role.

I hope you find this report inspiring and informative, look forward to another year of bringing new life to people with disabilities, and of course extend my endless thanks to everyone who helped make it happen.



## Message from the CEO

It was with great pride that I accepted the position as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Navajeevana halfway through last year. I have immense admiration for what the organisation, guided by its founder Kumarini Wickramasuriya, has achieved over the last 21 years.

My pride in accepting the position was also accompanied by knowledge of the challenges I would face, as I am all too aware of the challenges facing people with disability in Sri Lanka today. Despite the fact that the Sri Lankan Government has committed to giving legal protection and equality to people with disabilities, the huge gap in systems, mechanisms, knowledge and awareness to realise these rights makes **Navajeevana's job all the more necessary.**

My challenge will be to guide the organisation to achieve even greater heights and to be better equipped to serve the needs and represent the rights of people with disabilities. My experience in working with and for people with disabilities and my own real life experience of living with a disability for last 13 years will assist me performing this task. But we will need your continued help. Therefore, I invite all of you to contribute to make a difference, give new life to people with disabilities in what ever capacity you will be able to do and I thank you for your continued support



Kumarini Wickramasuriya  
Founder/ Chairperson










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Major Anil Seneviratne  
Chief Executive Officer

## 2008 at a Glance

-  **Over 3000 clients accessed our services**
-  **Over 1300 new clients accessed our paramedical services**
-  **We provided training to 506 parents/ care givers in caring for people with disabilities**
-  **We helped 162 people to enter employment**
-  **We saw 1646 clients under our mental health rehabilitation programme**
-  **We employed 64 staff**
-  **We opened our fully accesible training centre for people with disabilities**
-  **We gained international recognition as our Chair was named Eminent Personality of the Year by Lions Club International**
-  **We started our “responsible tourism” project in partnership with Mercy Corps**

# Community Based Rehabilitation

For over twenty years, our ethos has been to reach the unreached. We know that only by working in and with the local community can we hope to access people with disabilities in the poorest and most deprived areas of southern Sri Lanka.

In 2008 our community based rehabilitation programme remained at the heart of our work. Our dedicated field staff worked with 3487 clients and identified 430 new clients to access our services. The clients ranged in age from young children to older people, and were spread across the Hambantota and Matara districts of southern Sri Lanka.

We were delighted in 2008 to start a partnership with Community Business and Technology Developers (CBTD) to raise awareness on the rights of people with disabilities in the community. This project, which is central to our vision to see people with disabilities as equals in society, involves three networking programmes per month where professionals and others, such as the police, lawyers, and officials in the education departments work together to improve awareness of rights.

Navajeevana also ensured that community networking took place at the grass roots level during 2008. We **successfully supported nine disabled people's organisations (DPOs)** in building contacts with officials

from government and from non-governmental organisations through networking events. These events, which took place across the region, were an opportunity for the DPOs to present their future plans and to build networks to work towards equality and inclusion. Over 80 participants registered at these events, and their support will be a great strength in helping DPOs achieve their desired goals.

**Building support for and understanding of the rights of people with disabilities has been a core part of our CBR work in 2008**

Since 2002, Navajeevana has provided community mental health services in partnership with Basic Needs. In 2008 Basic Needs moved away from the project area and Navajeevana officially became the implementing body on mental health in collaboration with the Health Ministry. During this time, we worked with our partners to provide family support services to 1129 adults and

529 children with mental health needs, and helped 562 clients access self help groups.

Training and education has always been an important way in which Navajeevana has worked towards its vision. The opening of our brand new residential training centre, funded by Gulf for Good, has been an exciting development and has reinvigorated our training programmes. We look forward to involving more people in our training and education work in 2009, and plan to implement a nutrition and prevention of disabilities programme.

## Mr Gunapala's story

**"I fell from a coconut tree in 1999 which left me unable to walk. My injury left me feeling depressed, lonely and worthless. I had been given a wheelchair by my local hospital but it was hard and uncomfortable, and gave me sores.**

In 2006 I met a field officer from Navajeevana. She visited me regularly and helped me come to terms with my injury. I must admit, when I first met her I was in very low spirits and had given up on life. But slowly I got more confident.

My field worker helped me do small things around the house, like fixing things and making toys for my grandchildren. She also arranged for me to get training in how to make brooms from coconut leaves and how to make oil lamps. I have begun to sell these and am starting to make a small income for my family. This is so important to me for my own pride.

Navajeevana sent a physiotherapist out to see if they could do anything about **my old wheelchair. Although I couldn't afford to pay them, I contributed a small amount and now Navajeevana has given me a lovely comfortable wheelchair. After my accident I wanted to die but now I love living again."**



# Special Education

2008 was another year of achievements for **Navajeevana's four special schools. From the opening of a brand new school at Navajeevana's centre in Tangalla** funded by the Brighter Life Foundation Switzerland, to the individual achievements of our children, every school had special events which will be long remembered by everyone involved—big or small.

Ever since we started our special education programme over twenty years ago, Navajeevana has recognised the importance of bringing children together to celebrate special events. We know that these help children develop vital social and interpersonal skills. We started the year with Santa Claus visiting the Tangalla school in early January. The children had a fun day with Santa, dancing and singing and even teaching him the first steps of an oriental dance.

Appropriate celebrations to mark Sri Lankan Independence day, the Sinhala and Tamil New Year and full moon poya days as well as the annual educational trip were planned and worked out with much commitment by the children, teachers and parents.

In early 2008, volunteer art therapists from the UK worked in the Tangalla school to help the children explore their creativity. A beautiful art exhibition was put on at the end of the three months. Volunteer Lucy Frasier said: **"We wanted the children to realise that with art, the only boundaries are the limitations of their own imaginations"**

Funds to start up libraries at the schools was another great achievement of 2008. A beautiful new library funded by the eminent Sri Lankan author Michael

Ondaatje was opened at the Colombage-ara school.

In July, another memorable event was the arrival of young volunteers from the UK through World Challenge **to beautify the garden at Navajeevana's headquarters** as well as to give a new look to our outreach school in Angunukolapelessa, in one of the most rural communities we work with.

**Ever since we started our special education programme we have recognised the importance of bringing children together to celebrate special events.**

Provision of livelihood support to parents from low income groups was a long felt need. In 2008 we were able to fulfil that need with the help of a local group of caring people whose support provided the necessary funds for this project. One parent was able to re-start **his blacksmith's business, which is now** bringing him a substantial income. Several other parents who had stopped their home gardening or agricultural projects due to lack of water, received equipment such as water pumps. They too now get a good income by selling garden produce.

Teachers and parents alike were full of pride in December when one of our hearing impaired clients sat her G.C.E (O/L) exam. This client had attended our outreach school for nursery and continued to come to us for support classes after entering mainstream education.

**Children's performances in dance and rhythm at various** events organised by Navajeevana, participating in art competitions at school/ district level, with non-disabled peers created positive awareness among civil society and helped to build confidence in our children.

As always, none of this work would have been possible without the support of our friends and funders, and we remain extremely grateful.

Students take part in classes at **the Tangalla special school's brand new premises** at the Navajeevana centre.

The school, which opened on 2 May has with eight class rooms, a dancing room, specially designed art room, lunch room, working area for mothers/ carers and a kitchen area. Work on the playground is underway as of early 2009.



# Institutional Based Rehabilitation

Navajeevana's institutional based rehabilitation (IBR) work has been a growing part of our holistic service to people with disabilities since the audiological unit opened in 2000. Since then we have grown to be the largest single provider of paramedical services to people with disabilities in the region.

The opening of our rehabilitation and social inclusion centre, where we can offer a range of therapies and services under one roof has been a major step forward in 2008. Due to the tense security situation in Sri Lanka, we decided to open the different parts of the centre as they were ready rather than plan a large public opening.

Nevertheless, the centre's opening has resulted in a record turnover of organisations and interested people visiting the centre, which in turn has increased the use of and referrals to the IBR department tremendously. The number of new clients receiving support from the IBR department increased to 1302 - an increase of 361 on the previous year.

Thanks to CBM, our lifelong supporters and friends, all the equipment in the physiotherapy unit has been successfully upgraded. This upgrade, which includes new electrotherapy machines, will enable us to continue to provide high quality services to our clients. The unit was also fortunate to benefit from a volunteer physiotherapist from the UK for three months.

**The opening of our rehabilitation and social inclusion centre has been a major step forward**

In April, the IBR unit showcased its services at a unique event organised by the Tangalle Base Hospital. The event, which was a medical exhibition to raise awareness of existing services and the need for a new intensive care unit in the area, included a one-day clinic with free consultations and medication for patients.

The exhibition featured a display of medical and paramedical services available in the area, including those provided by Navajeevana, and was attended by Healthcare and Nutrition Minister Mr Nimal Siripala De Silva. This was a valuable opportunity to build contacts in the medical sphere and Navajeevana's stand was well attended throughout the three-day exhibition.

Navajeevana's wheelchair workshop was faced with a new challenge in 2008, as a paraplegic client was in need of a specialist low level "trolley" wheelchair. Together with the physiotherapy team, the unit was successful in producing the first of this kind of wheelchair for our client, which has greatly improved her mobility.

Our core aim to reach the unreached was given a boost in 2008 as the residential ward was opened. This ward, which can house people with disabilities accessing treatment and their carers, was opened on 28 August 2008 by Tom Bradley of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Fife and Kinross in Scotland.

## Mrs Premalatha's story

"When I was sixteen years old, I had a terrible accident. I was caught in a gun trap and badly injured both my legs. Although I was allowed to leave my local hospital I had awful pains in my legs for many years and could only walk using my heel on my right foot as the pain was too terrible to bear.

After some time, I heard about Navajeevana's prosthetics and orthotics unit. Initially staff at Navajeevana had hoped that a splint would help me recover. They tried everything—splints, an orthosis, exercises.

When they realised that these were not working and that I was still in tremendous pain, they talked to me about amputation. At first I cried and cried, but the staff were kind to me and made me realise that my leg had been so badly deformed by the accident, that this was my best option. I was terrified but I trusted them

Some time later, after my operation and a long period of recovery I came back to Navajeevana. They helped fit me with a prosthetic leg. Two months later I could walk again. I never thought I would walk easily like I can today, but now I am no longer reliant on crutches to get around, and can help my son with his cultivation. This is the life I have dreamed of for 35 years."



# The Navajeevana centre

One of the biggest challenges for 2008 also resulted in our greatest achievement—the transformation of **Navajeevana’s head office into a fully accessible rehabilitation and social inclusion centre, and the start of work on the “responsible tourism” project.**

With the patience of our funders, we battled delays, adverse weather, staff shortages, heightened security in Sri Lanka and numerous other problems to create a **“one stop shop” where people with disabilities can access all the services they need under one roof.** As this report shows, we are already seeing the benefits of the centre - with children in our schools learning, developing and becoming empowered in their new premises, more and more people accessing our IBR services, and staff working with better equipment in better facilities. Above all, the prestigious location and public face of the centre is a huge step towards upgrading the status of people with disabilities in Sri Lanka.

As ever, this hugely important work could not have been completed without our funders. Thanks is given at the back of this report, but special mention must be given to the Brighter Life Foundation Switzerland for the Tangalla special school; CBM for the physiotherapy, speech therapy, prosthetics and orthotics, audiological and administrative buildings; Gulf for Good and the Brighter Life Foundation for the residential training centre; and the Freemasons of the Province Fife and Kinross Scotland through the Freemasons of Scotland of

Sri Lanka for the residential training wards.

A further exciting project in partnership with Mercy Corps to develop the centre further into a centre for responsible tourism began in 2008. This project, which was well underway by the end of 2008, will contribute to the rehabilitation of marginalised groups including people with disabilities and those affected by the tsunami, through providing them with the skills and opportunities to make a valuable and lasting contribution to local tourism.

**The prestigious location and public face of the centre is a huge step towards upgrading the status of people with disabilities in Sri Lanka.**

Under this project, people with disabilities are being trained in the production of quality and upmarket products, the sale of which will benefit **them and support Navajeevana’s services.** A coffee shop and juice bar is also being developed, which will further contribute to bringing livelihood support to people with disabilities and their families

Among other activities, renovations of the pantry, floor, coffee shop and craft shop area was completed during by the end of 2008. The furniture and equipment needed for the coffee shop were acquired in December, with the coffee shop ready to open in January 2009.

A five day training session on rush and reed was conducted. Training on pillow lace making has also been successfully started (see below), with plans to continue this into 2009.



People with disabilities are trained in lace making as part of the responsible tourism project (above left), and a client lights the oil lamp at the opening ceremony of Navajeevana’s coffee shop (above right)

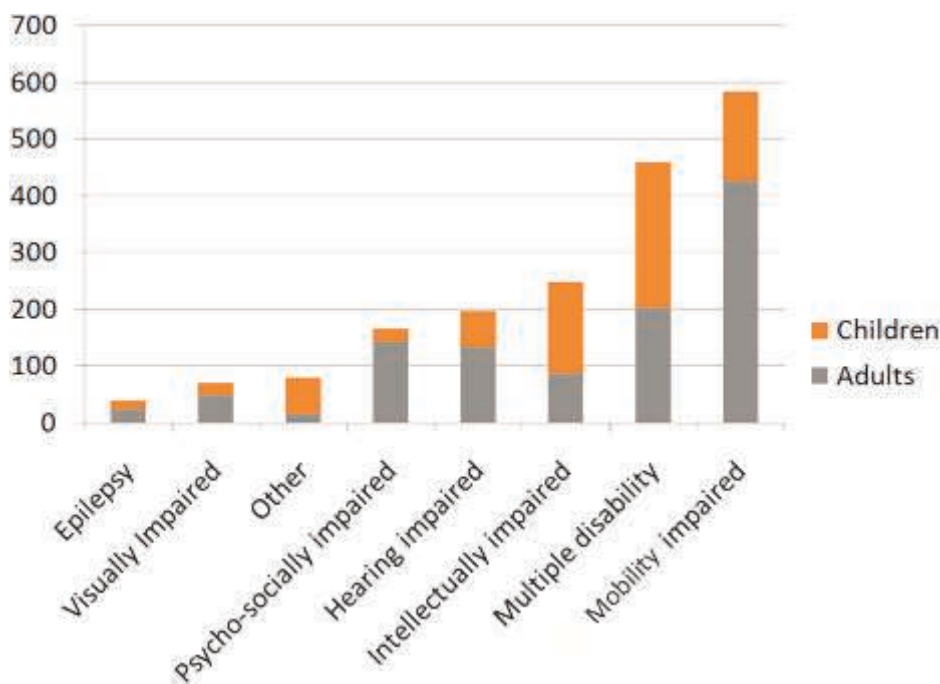
# Looking to 2009

**In 2009 we will:**

-  **Further develop the training centre and the responsible tourism project**
-  **Develop a nutrition and prevention of disability programme with a permanent health exhibition**
-  **Run an end of year variety show with students and past students of our schools and clients from vocational training centres**
-  **Work to see the inclusion and rights of people with disabilities as core parts of the government's social development and education programme**
-  **Continue to push for improved rights for people with disabilities and for children**

# Departmental Statistics

**Graph I: Clients in the CBR programme by disability**

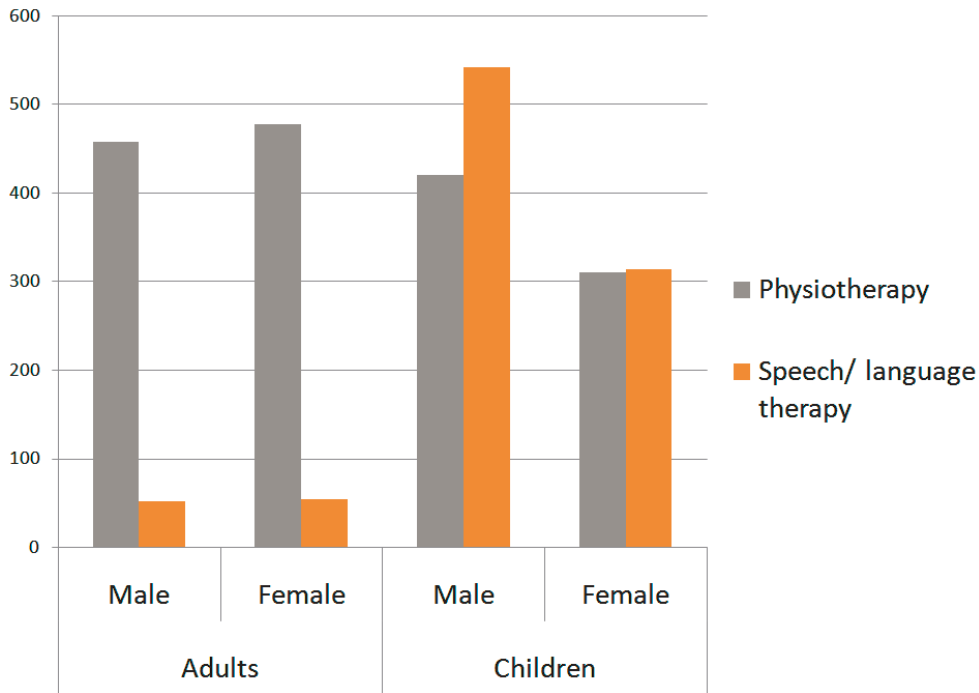


**Table I: Clients in the community mental health programme**

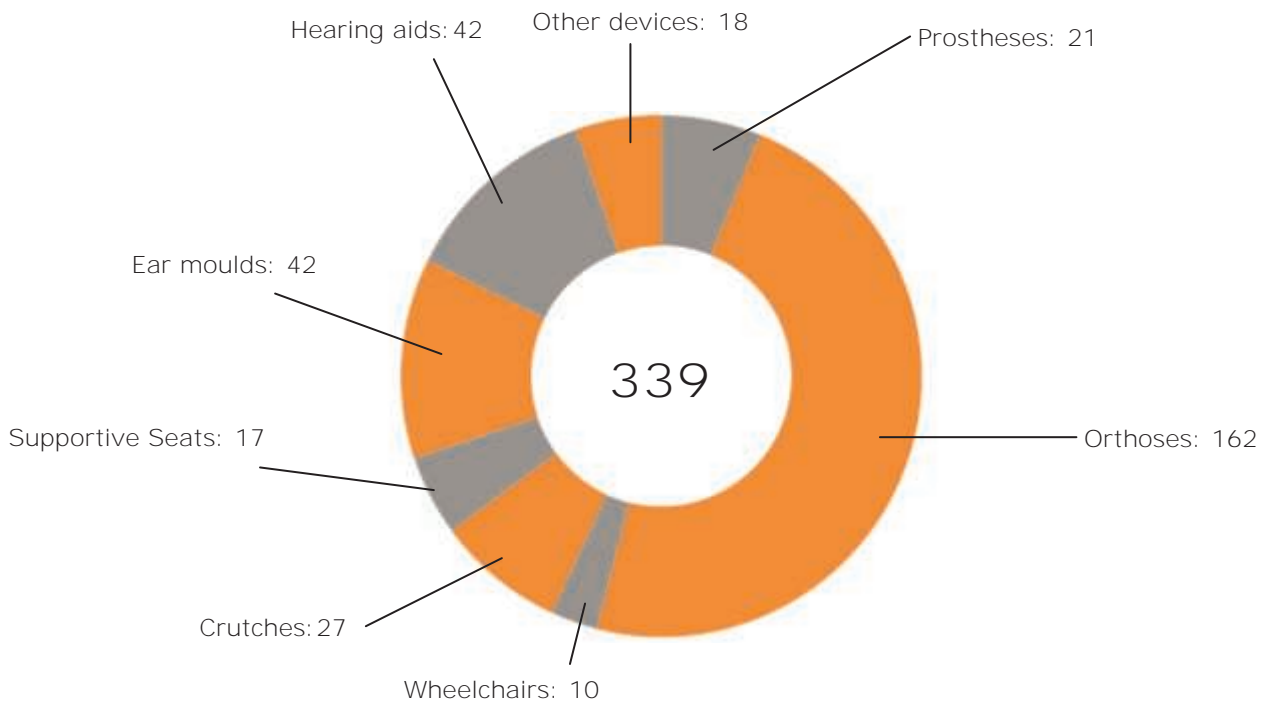
Consultations	# Adults			# Children		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
By MH professional	39	17	56	0	0	0
By MH community workers	45	346	391	0	0	0
<b>Clients seen</b>						
Clients seen	# Adults			# Children		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
By MH professional	671	741	1412	112	122	234
By MH community workers	671	741	1412	112	122	234
<b>Medical/ psychosocial interventions received</b>						
Medical/ psychosocial interventions received	# Adults			# Children		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Antiepileptic drugs	88	71	159	11	18	29
Antidepressive drugs	110	143	253	2	8	10
Antipsychotic drugs	9	18	27	0	0	0
Therapy /counselling	208	401	609	71	63	134
Family support	536	592	1128	110	119	229
Self-help groups	173	389	562	0	0	0

# Departmental Statistics

**Graph II: IBR unit - therapy statistics**



**Graph III: IBR unit - IBR devices made and dispensed**



A full set of statistics and data is available from Navajeevana on request

# Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Navajeevana Rehabilitation Tangalla, which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2008, and the statement of income and expenditure, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

## **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

## *Scope of Audit and Basis of Opinion*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. We therefore believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

## Opinion

We were unable to establish the existence of property, plant and equipment of Rs. 98,933,001/- disclosed under note No.01 to the financial statements due to non-availability of updated fixed asset register for the last 3 years and further no depreciation has been provided on property, plant and equipment as required by the Sri Lanka Accounting Standard 18 Accounting for Depreciation. The effect of provision of depreciation has not been quantified.

We did not observe the counting of the physical inventory stated at Rs. 1,860,002/- as per Note No. 3 to the financial statements as at 31st December 2008, since we were not invited for same. Therefore we were unable to satisfy ourselves as to the above inventory quantities as at that date by alteration procedures.

In our opinion, except for the matters referred to in the preceding paragraphs, so far as appears from our examination, the Association maintained proper accounting records for the year ended December **31 2008 and the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Association's state of affairs as at December 31, 2008, and its excess over expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards.**

Without further qualifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 25 to the financial statements which describes that the company has provided gratuity for the year 2007 erroneously. Therefore to correct the accuracy of financial statements, 2007 figures have been restated.

## Report on other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

These financial statements also comply with the requirements of Section 151(2) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007.

KPMG Ford, Rhodes, Thornton & Co. – Ruhuna: 30 Middle Street, Fort, Galle 80000, Sri Lanka

# Income and Expenditure

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2008

INCOME	2008 (Rs.)	2007 (Rs.)
CBM Monthly Grants	8,160,640	6,898,937
CBM Additional Grants	-	1,374,685
Local and Foreign Donations	9,362,721	9,890,858
Other Donations	85,924	228,400
Sponsorships	3,880,118	8,004,806
Amortised Capital Grants	2,896,683	3,905,521
Tsunami Fund Amortisation	50,000	1,250,000
Other Income	2,788,103	2,105,801
Sales Proceeds	859,210	244,597
	<b>28,083,399</b>	<b>33,903,605</b>

EXPENDITURE	2008 (Rs)	2007 (Rs)
CBM Funded Staff Salaries and Related Costs	7,200,000	6,000,000
CBM Funded Administration Expenses	960,640	898,937
Audit Fees	45,000	35,000
Subsidies	47,800	49,284
Expenses from Private Donations	9,707,525	8,966,967
Sponsorships	6,436,951	4,972,596
Material Utilization	553,955	666,980
Travelling and Transport	51,301	42,461
Tsunami Fund Expenses	50,000	1,250,000
Revenue Expenses from Capital Grants	2,896,683	3,905,521
Other Expenses	2,666,942	3,149,527
	<b>(30,616,797)</b>	<b>(29,937,273)</b>
Excess before finance income	(2,533,397)	3,966,332
Finance income	2,683,381	3,679,451
Excess before income tax	149,983	7645,783
Income tax expense	(90,072)	(45,580)
Excess for the year	<b>59,912</b>	<b>7,600,203</b>

# Our Staff

## Board of Directors

Kumarini Wickramasuriya ( Founder/Chairperson)  
Suresh de Mel  
Ranjith Jayantha  
Brindley de Zylva  
Rudolf Gauhl  
Dr. Ranjith Atapattu  
K.A. Wimalasena  
M.P. Subadra

## Executive Directors

Janaka Hemathilaka (Former Project Director –  
resigned 31st July 2008)  
Major Anil Seneviratne (Chief Executive Officer –  
from 1st November 2008)

## Admin & Finance

Rashmi Purasinghe  
M.M. Riyas  
Nayana Apsara  
Randima Samindi  
N.C. Hettiarachchi  
Inika Gamhewa  
Nandana Dasantha ( has left )  
Maduri Wagasinghe ( has left )

## CBR Team

Sepala Samarasinghe  
K.Sunil  
Monika Rohani  
M.A.Sumanaseeli  
Nandani Gamage  
Vineetha Ambeypitiya  
Rathnalatha Garusingha  
W.A. Krishanthi  
R.N. Munaweera  
Yamuna Kodithuwakku  
H. Indrani  
K.D.C. Udayangani  
A. Amaraweera  
Nirmal Maldeniya  
G.G.I Madumanthi  
H.G. Damayanthi  
J.P.C. Nirosha ( has left )

## Special School Team

Christine de Alwis Edrisinha  
W.A.K. Kusum  
Lalani Samarawickrama  
Shyamali Priyanthi ( has left )  
P.P. Chandrakanthi  
Pinthika Hewage

Vijithani Samaranyake  
Priyantha Gumhewa  
Thushari Sandya Attapattu  
H.A. Samanthika Nilmini  
W.A. Shirani  
Vineetha Chandanayake  
Rohini Dayananda  
Dayawathi Kodithuwakku  
T.G Ranjani  
H.P.K. Neranjala  
Rani Renuka  
G. Ariyawathi  
R. Puhulhena

## IBR Team

H.R. Prasanga  
A.T. Arun Kumar  
Indrajith Prasanna  
Awanthi Gajasinghe  
Gangani Gunaratne  
Samantha Udagama  
Eranthika Harshani ( has left )  
Jayani Eranga  
H.V. Chandima  
W. Eranga  
Sumudu R Kumara ( has left )  
M.K. Pradeep Nishantha  
K.A. Buddhika Sameera

## Responsible Tourism

Shaman Jayasundara  
Nalini Galappatti  
E.G. Suneetha Mallika  
K.G.A. Nilanthi

## Other staff

G.K. Karunasena  
Velu Marimutthu  
K.A.Albert  
Priyanthi Muthumala

# Our Thanks

## Partners and Donors in 2008

Christoffel Blindenmission (Asia Desk, South Asia Regional Office and Sri Lanka Liaison Office)

Brighter Life Foundation, Switzerland  
The Freemasons of the Province Fife and Kinross  
Scotland through the Freemasons of Scotland -Sri Lanka  
Basic Needs Sri Lanka  
Community Business and Technology Development (CBTD)  
SLCDF Sri Lanka  
Helping Hands  
Gulf for Good, Dubai  
Mercy Corps  
Tourist Board- Sri Lanka  
Meta Australia  
Stichting Lilliane Fond  
Unesco Club Kettwig through Mr. Ananda Ratnayake  
Ev. Kirchengemeinde Kettwig through Mr. Ananda Ratnayake

## Donors

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Hope for Children SL  
CAMID -Handicap International  
Stichting Kermesse Francophone  
Stichting Protestants Sleun Fonds  
**Queen Elisabeth's Grammar School**  
MJF Foundation  
A & D Cars (Pvt.) Ltd.

## Individual Donors

Irfan Husain  
Olof Williamson  
Leonora Merry  
Fried Helm Goundscheid Sieglinde and Unie Doemges  
Beverly de Silva  
M. Lorenze  
Agnes Bodmer  
David Menhinick  
David & Dorothea Mol-Verwey  
Queenie Elias  
Diva & Dayanthi Sandarasagara  
Leslie Sirimanne  
Lalith Ratnayake and A.B. Rathnaika  
Rebecca Ayrton  
Suresh and Aroshini de Mel  
Mangala & Chandrika Yapa  
Fair Oak  
Sheila Darzi  
Fred Lewis

## Acknowledgements

Ministry of Social Services and Internal Administration  
Department of Immigration and Emigration  
Department of Social Services  
District Secretariat of Hambantota  
Divisional Secretariats of Tangalla, Bellatta, Dickwella, Dondra, Katuwana, Angunukolapelessa, Okewela, Walasmulla, Ambalantota, Embilipitiya  
Southern Provincial Council  
Hatton National Bank, Tangalla  
KPMG Ford Rhodes Thornton & Co.  
D.L & F de Saram  
Team of Leo Burnett  
CEO & staff of Uda Walawe Army Camp

We thank the volunteers of Challenges Worldwide, Outreach International, World Challenge and Kamloops, Canada

A special thank you to the Board of Directors and the many friends of Navajeevana who have supported and worked hard to meet the needs and requirements of busy diaries and calendars during 2008 and who have helped us grow through the years in numerous other ways.

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Government approved charity since 1987 No.: 11/4/14/1721/87

Navajeevana is a child friendly organisation

Annual report 2008 designed and written by Leonora Merry

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