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## Dear Friends of Mary Lou Kalla Foundation:

### December 2019

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation, Inc. extends our warmest wishes during this joyous holiday season. Your contributions have made a measurable impact on the lives of students in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, and has provided them with the second chance they deserve. With your help, our projects have continued to grow in scope. We have continued to offer educational and medical services to communities in need and we are sincerely appreciative of your commitment to our mission.

We have made tremendous progress in promoting the education of Bangladeshi students and Sri Lankan disabled students, despite many challenges. Though educational inequity continues to loom large, we will continue to provide a voice to the voiceless, and demand justice for everyone, regardless of race, class, or ability. Your solidarity as we embark on a new year of progress is essential, and we thank you for your generous support thus far.

We thank Reverend Robi Hubert Gomes, CSC, our Bangladesh Representative of MLKF for his assistance, and we also thank Donald De Alwis for helping children with disabilities in Sri Lanka through his Motion Project initiative.

MLKF is a volunteer run 501c (3) nonprofit organization and is funded through your generosity. We hope you will support our projects by making a tax-deductible gift to MLKF.

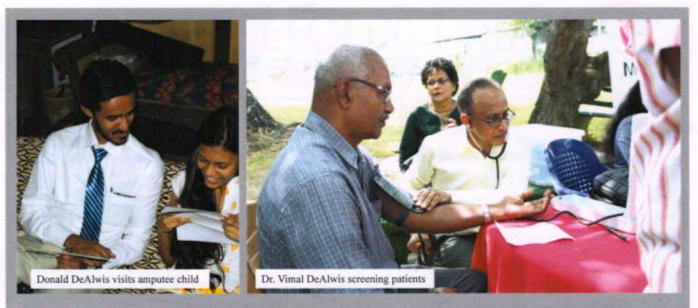
#### BOARD MEMBERS OF MARY LOU KALLA FOUNDATION WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

Jude V. Gomez **Dr. Vimal De Willie Gomes** Mark J. Kalla Agnelo G. Christopher **Mabel Gomes** President Secretary Alwis Gonsalves Esq. Rodrigues 347 545 9896 301 706 9602 202 409 4023 CPA, Treasurer Vice President 612 245 7115 202 345 4120 202 285 1329 301 928 9604 Disabled children in Sri Lanka

## Disabled children in Sri Lanka thanks Motion Project for supporting them

The Motion Project supports the social and educational welfare of physically disabled students in Sri Lanka through targeted tutoring services and conditional cash transfers. Donald DeAlwis traveled to Sri Lanka in winter of 2018 to improve monitoring and evaluation efforts of our educational grant program in Sri Lanka. He met with leadership at the Colombo Friend-in-Need Society, including executive board president Nihal Abeysekera, to learn about and collaborate on the clinic's new 3D-printing initiatives. Donald concluded his meetings with clinic leadership with a generous donation





towards the clinic's prosthetics manufacturing program, and towards their educational grant initiative. Donald expanded the Motion Project's reach in Sri Lanka by conducting several home visits and incorporating new students into the educational grant program. Donald also participated in a Colombo Friend-In-Need Society mobile clinic just outside of the old capital of Colombo, where the clinic provided complimentary health and vision screenings for local villagers, law enforcement, and municipal sanitation workers. Health screenings were facilitated by several physicians in attendance, including Dr. Vimal Sam DeAlwis, Vice President of Mary Lou Kalla Foundation.

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation donates solar panels and upgraded battery power system to Beribaid Junior School (BJS) for their computer class

in Jalchatra, Tangail, Bangladesh

# **Corpus Christy High School (CCHS)** in Jalchatra, Bangladesh

receives MLKF donated laptops this year for their computer class



Last year, MLKF donated 17 new laptop computers to Rev Robi Gomes, CSC, our Bangladesh representative to start a new computer learning center in September of 2018. However, Rev. Gomes left for the Philippines this August for one year of studies. Therefore, he decided to hand over the donated laptop computers to Corpus Christy High School since most of the students in his

computer learning center also attend CCHS. The students now have more computers in their classroom and benefit from their use. The school has 459 students (306 girls and 153 boys).

The Bangladesh Government made it compulsory for high schools to offer computer class. Therefore, the school was very grateful that MLKF donated laptops to help students learn about computers and how to use them. Mr. Jude Gomez and Rev. Robi Gomes visited CCHS on 19 September 2018 and met with the headmistress and teachers of the school.



Jude V. Gomez, President of MLKF visited replacement of the solar panels and upgraded Beribaid Junior School (BJS) on September 19, the battery system so that the students could 2018 along with Rev. Robi Hubert Gomes, CSC., use the computers for their learning. The our MLKF representative in Bangladesh. The students are very grateful to MLKF since school was established in 2003 and is located in they have power to operate the computers for the rural area of Tangail District.

BJS has 71 students (41 girls and 30 boys) and 5 teachers. The students come from poor families and walk to school about 2 miles each way.

Students do not have electricity in their homes nor at their school. The school successfully added solar panels to power several computers in a computer lab. However, the solar panels were damaged by lightning last year. MLKF made a donation for the

their learning needs.







Archbishop Moses Costa with Mary Ann Young & her family



# Archbishop Moses M. Costa, CSC receives a grant for building a community center in the remote tribal hills of Lama, Chittagong, Bangladesh

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation, Inc. (MLKF) along with the Knights of Columbus from St. Camillus Church and St. John The Baptist Church Councils hosted a dinner reception for Archbishop Moses Costa, CSC and His Excellency, Dan W. Mozena, former U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh on June 18, 2019 at St. Camillus Church Hall in Silver Spring, Maryland. The reception was attended by over 130 people who have been supporting MLKF projects in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Mr. Agnelo Gonsalves, Treasurer and Mr. Jude V. Gomez, President handed a check for \$30,000.00 to Archbishop Moses Costa towards the building of a community center in Lama, Chittagong for the marginalized tribal people. They usually work in the fields as day laborers and lack basic education. Most of their children do not go to school but instead work with their parents in the fields. This community center will provide them with education, healthcare needs, social awareness and personal development through various programs. The construction of the foundation of the center has already started and will take about 6 months to build. We are grateful to our donors for their generous contribution over the years, which have led us to our largest gift so far for a project.



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