



CANBERRA TAMIL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

PO. BOX 44, CIVIC SQUARE, ACT, 2608, AUSTRALIA

A Testimonial of collaboration by Canberra Tamil Association with Vanni Rehabilitation

In 1983 the small community of Sri Lankan Tamils living in Canberra felt the need for a formal identity for themselves and formed the Canberra Tamil Association (CTA). Today CTA is one of the largest cultural organizations in the ACT and surrounding region.

CTA has always promoted awareness of the plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka during the difficult three decades since its inception. After the end of the civil conflict in Sri Lanka in 2009 we became aware of the extreme difficulties faced by the Tamils in the war affected areas. In 2013 we were contacted by Vanni Rehabilitation for support in fund raising to provide assistance to those suffering in Vanni and we gave them a hand by organising an event in that year and again another one in July 2018.

Vanni Rehabilitation (Tears of Vanni) volunteers based in Sydney regularly travel to remote locations in Vanni at their own cost to work closely at grassroots level with the NGOs and volunteers in the region and collect information on the needy. This information was presented at the functions and resulted in several people becoming interested. The proceeds were remitted to Vanni Rehabilitation. (\$6000 in 2013 and \$11000 in 2018)

Subsequent regular reports with evidence of delivery on projects and the use of funds, confirms that Vanni Rehabilitation operations are fully transparent, and that 100% of funds reached needy families in Vanni. We have received letters of appreciation and positive feedback from the beneficiaries and schools principals.

I will be happy to answer any queries.

31st July 2018

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Web link: http://www.canberratamilassociation.org.au/about_cta.html