Help support Erasha's family

charityapple



Project Background

Meet Erasha, a 26 year old widow from Unawatuna. She used to work in a garment factory until her husband, Priyankara, was diagnosed with throat and tongue cancer earlier this year. Priyankara underwent radical surgery in order to remove his tongue and treat the disease to stop it from spreading. He was at the cancer hospital in Colombo for several weeks but the doctors were not able to improve his situation and he had to leave with a bleak prognosis. By then, he was no longer able to verbally communicate to his wife and two children, Osadi (daughter, 4 years old) and Ditula (son, 1 year 8 months old), and was unable to eat without being tube fed.

Priyankara used to drive a trishaw to generate the main family income but as his health suffered, so did their income and they were no longer able to pay rent, which led to them being evicted from their home. The family of four then moved in with Erasha's parents. Priyankara survived for a few more weeks but eventually the cancer wore him out and he passed away on the 20th of May, 2014.

Priyankara left not knowing how his family would continue and unable to express his final thoughts to them. Erasha and her children continue to live with her parents and their sole income is from her father who works as a mason on a contract basis, which does not guarantee a fixed income for the household. Erasha is prevented from going back to work as there is no one to look after her children, and everyday proves to be a struggle, where some days see them eating only rice and coconut sambol for all their meals.

Osadi, her daughter, is no longer able to go to Montessori as they cannot afford the fees, and Erasha would love for her to return, as food and education for her children is her main priority.

Result

Charity Apple has successfully collected funds to three months sponsor Erasha's family on a monthly basis for three months by covering their cost of food, electricity and education. The total cost for three months was Rs.49,200/- which we handed over to her on the 6th of January 2015.

