



Volunteers to Assist Children with Disabilities Limited (VACD)

(Licensed and registered as private benevolent limited liability companies in Australia, USA & Sri Lanka)

<https://www.vacd.org.au> & <https://vacdusa.org/>



Key Points

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Sri Lanka

Area - 25,330 sq. miles / 65604.399 sq. kilometers

Population – 21.4 million

Density: 846.9/sq. mile

GDP: \$92.504 billion

Per Capita: \$4,265

Gini co-efficient: 39.8

Ethnic majority: 74.9% Sinhalese

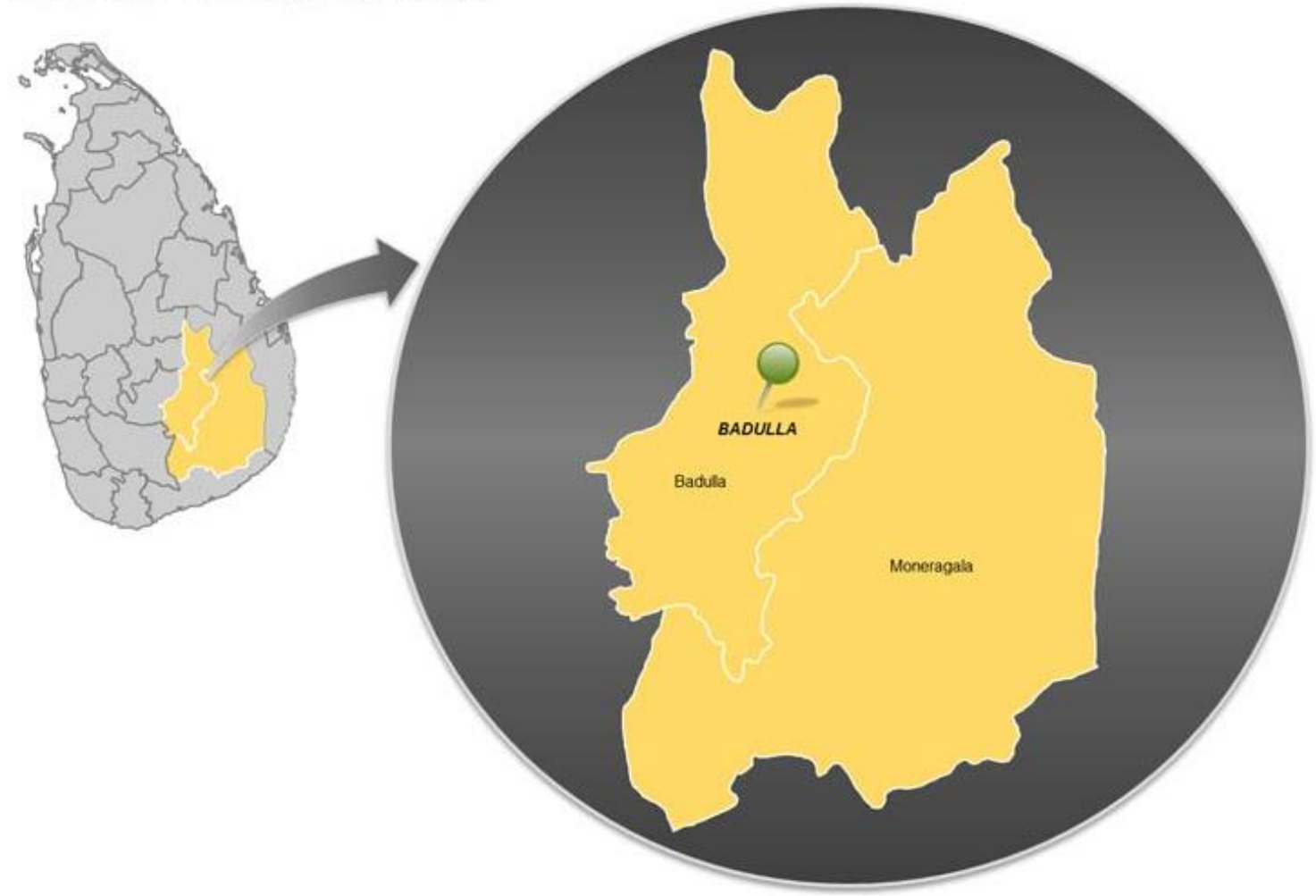
Religious majority: 70.2% Buddhists





Uva Province

Sri Lanka
Districts of Uva Province



Population: 1,259,800

Density: 380/sq. miles

Gross Regional Product: \$ 1.26 billion

GRP Rank: 8th out of 9

2 administrative districts: Badulla & Moneragala

Official Estimate of Children with Disabilities in Badulla District: 2,142

Unofficial Estimate of Children with Disabilities in Uva Province:

(Estimated total in Badulla & Moneragala Between 6,500 to 8,500)



Introduction of VACD

- Established on 27th December 2011 in Bandarawela (Uva Province, Sri Lanka). VACD USA established on 16th May 2017. Second VACD centre opened in Badulla in 2018.
- Supports and uplifts children with congenital impairments and their impoverished families.
- Team of 133 volunteers and 8 paid staff (Sri Lanka, Australia & USA).
- 2 VACD centres serving 350+ registered children and the 3rd centre in the Township of Welimada to be opened soon.
- A significant requirement for the expansion of services in the Uva province through well planned and targeted outreach, health, rehabilitation and awareness programs.
- Covid-19 has had a serious negative impact on VACD children, their health and the welfare of their families.



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We aim to enrich the lives of children with congenital impairments and their families in impoverished regions of Sri Lanka and enable them to escape the vicious cycle of entrapment by providing them with appropriate infrastructure, rehabilitation, training, counselling, and income generation opportunities. In addition, we endeavour to eradicate widespread discrimination, myths, superstitions, and abuse towards these children through community engagement, awareness, and advocacy.

Our Mission Statement



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Projects and Programs

- Establish VACD centres in key townships where there is a high concentration of children with congenital impairments.
- Provide them with free clinical support, rehabilitation equipment, and guidance in preventative health care.

- Conduct early intervention programs for pre-school aged children with congenital impairments.
- Provide skills and training to parents to care for their children.

- Conduct an awareness program to educate parents and the community about biological reasons for disabilities.
- Address broader social and cultural issues to eradicate stigma and discrimination.



Refurbish and modernize VACD centres by replacing existing outdated equipment and defective second-hand physical therapy equipment with custom-built specialised equipment to comply with national and international OH&S standards.



Upgrade vocational and life skills audio-visual training equipment.



Usage of this equipment at public venues for awareness and advocacy programs.

Prioritised Projects for 2021/22



Expected Outcomes

Expected Outcome 1

- Eliminate potential injury and health risks to our children with the help of specialist equipment.
- Provide ongoing progress reports to the Health & Education committee.

Expected Outcome 2

- New exercise and physical therapy equipment will develop children's physical strength and motor skills. It will help overcome physical and emotional stresses.
- Children's progress reports made by visiting paediatricians.

Expected Outcome 3

- New audio-visual and musical equipment will assist children in vocational activities with progress being monitored by teachers.
- The board will monitor advocacy and community support trends along with awareness workshops for parents and the community.

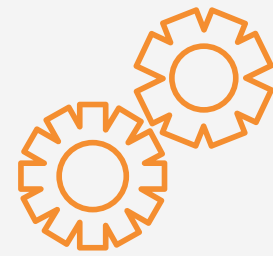


Why this Project?



Low annual operating expenditure relative to income

- 80% - 90% for the direct benefit of children and parents.
- 5% - 10% for indirect benefits of children and parents.
- 3% - 5% for administration expenditure.
- 6 year average - 89%, 8% and 3% respectively.



New Equipment

- Need for replacement of previously purchased secondhand equipment that is now outdated and not suitable for use.
- The new equipment will enhance parents' income-generating prospects.



Health

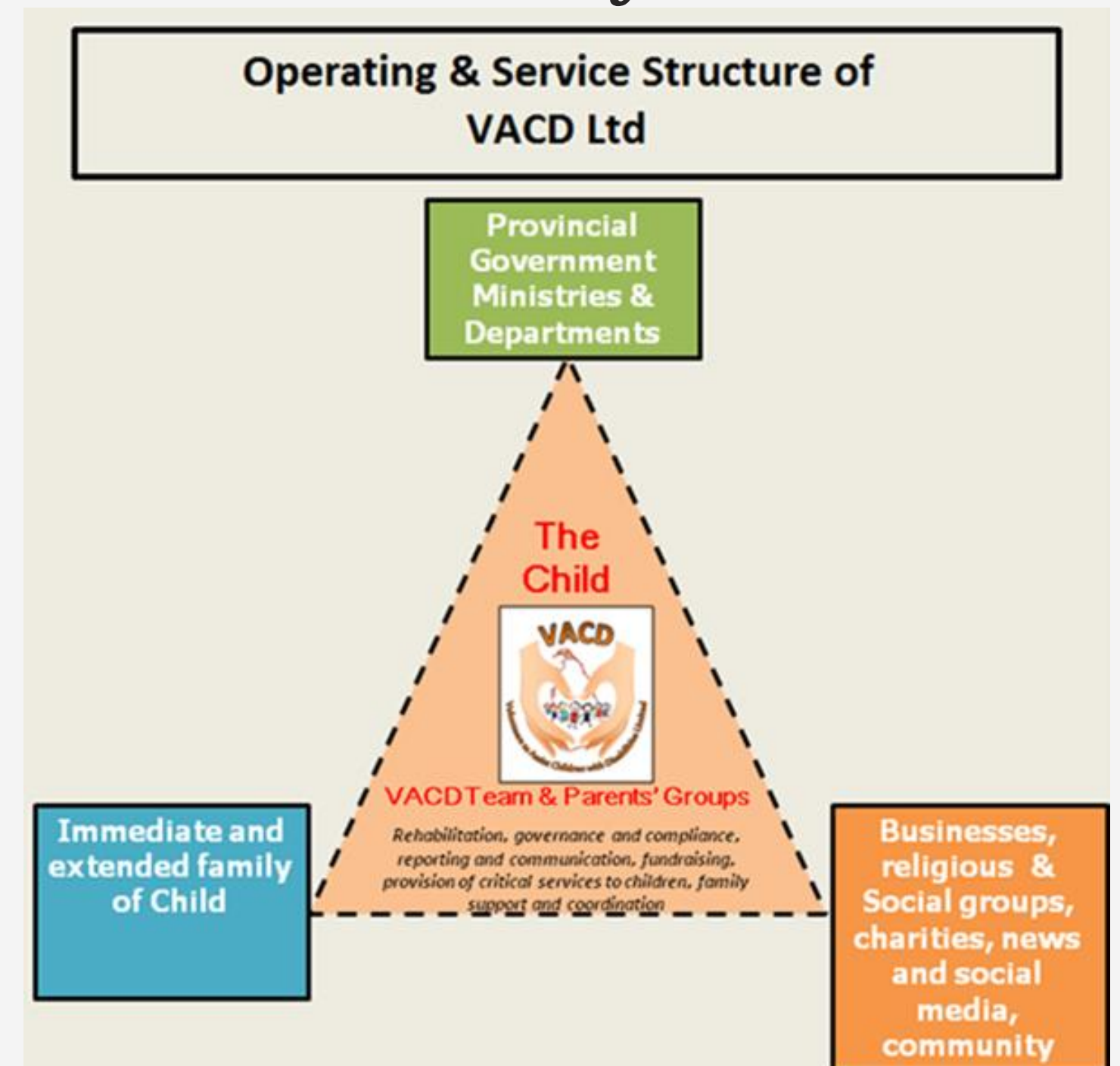
- Children with disabilities have unique talents that can be developed further.
- Need regular physical training to remain healthy.



Total Cost of the Project

SUMMARY	
Cost (rounded)	Description
US\$10,000.00	Custom Designed Furniture
US\$3,000.00	Audio Visual Systems
US\$8,000.00	Vocational Training Equipment
US\$6,000.00	Sports & Rehab Equipment
US\$9,000.00	Office & Musical Instruments
US\$36,000.00	Total

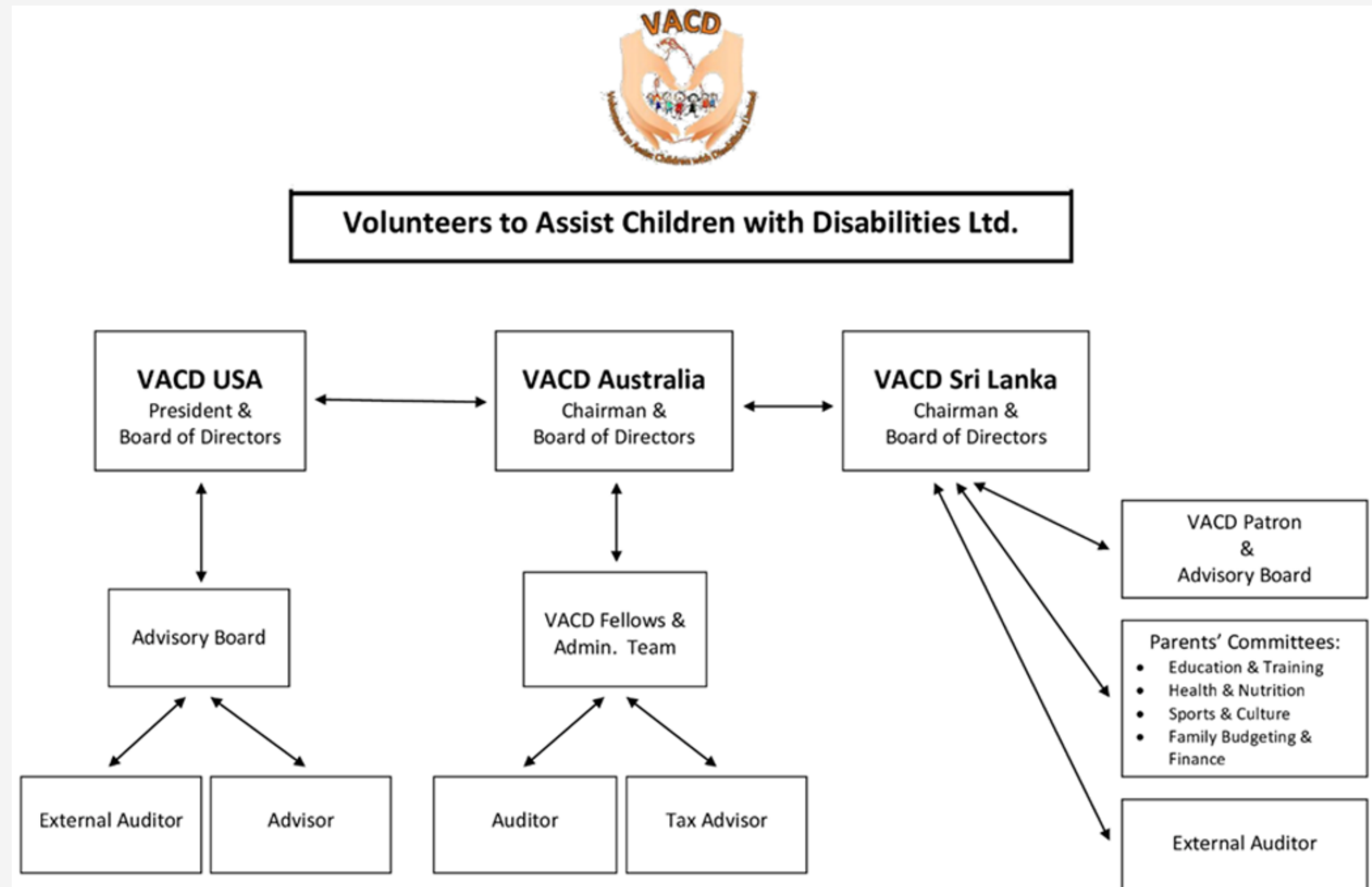
Operating and Service Structure of VACD





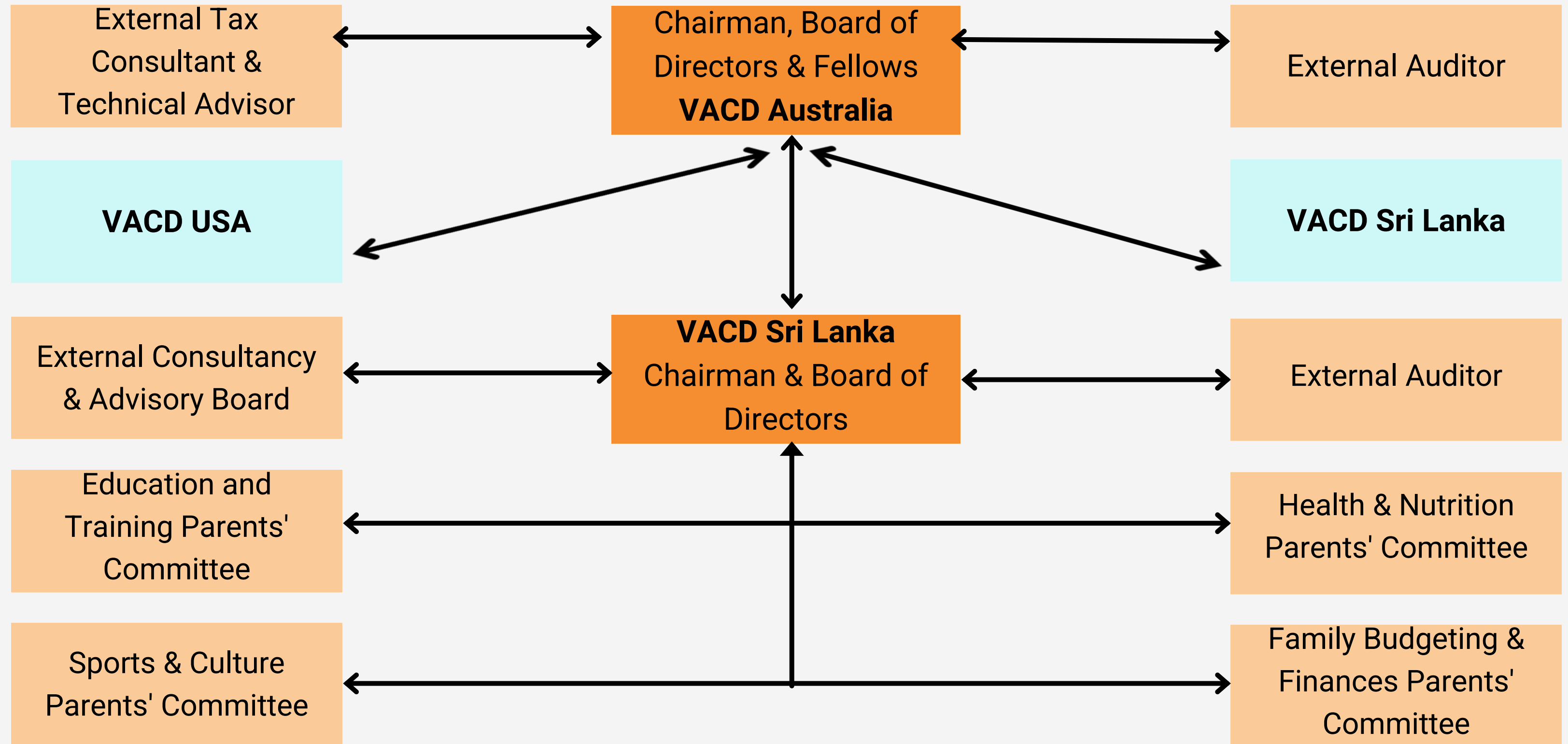
VACD Organisational Chart

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VACD Sri Lanka Organisational Chart



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The VACD Team: 141 (Volunteers - 133 & Remunerated Staff - 8)



Acknowledgement of Sponsors and Supporters

Sponsors and supporters will be acknowledged by:

- Promotion of their contribution on the VACD webpage.
- Promotion of their contribution in regular VACD newsletters (Global audience) with sponsor's logo and weblink.
- Publishing sponsors' and supporters' news via regular VACD newsletters
- Articles by our supporters and sponsors being published in the “Collaborative Partners, Supporters & Sponsors” columns in our regular newsletters.



Thank you

VACD Contacts & Tax Status

Australia:

Mr. Felix Stephen – Chairman VACD Australia (fstephen@bigpond.net.au)

Mr. Giles Gunesekera – Secretary VACD Australia (ggunesekera@gmail.com)

Mr. James Meighan – Treasurer VACD Australia (jmeighan1@gmail.com)

Tax Status : “Deductible Gift Recipient” status under subdivision 30-BA of the Income tax Assessment ACT 1997

VACD Australia Webpage: <https://www.vacd.org.au/>

USA

Mr. Rasika Padmaperuma – President VACD USA (rasikapa@gmail.com)

Mrs. Ishani Padmaperuma – Secretary VACD USA (ishanimp@gmail.com)

Mr. Dilshad Ahmed – Treasurer – VACD USA (dilshadahme@gmail.com)

Tax Status: IRC Section 501(c)(3) compliant with donations tax-deductible under IRC Section 170.

VACD USA Webpage: <https://vacdusa.org/>

Sri Lanka

Retd. Col. R M Kumarasinghe – Secretary VACD Sri Lanka (rmkuma58@gmail.com)