

### **Assistance for Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom and Toilet**

**Name :** Ritesh Kumar

**DOB :** 08.09.2009



**Name :** Rynal Kumar

**DOB :** 22.07.2011



**Disability:** Duchene Muscular Dystrophy

**Need:** Diaper, Accessible Bathroom & Toilet

**Address:** Voivoi Settlement, Legalega, Nadi

**Contact Person:** Pravin Kumar (Father) - 9583744

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Rynal and Ritesh Kumar are brothers residing in Legalega, Voivoi, Nadi. In 2021, their mother passed away due to breast cancer. Their father left his work place to care for his disabled sons fulltime. With no source of income, they now rely on Social Welfare monthly Disability Allowance and donations or gifts in kind.

Both boys are on diapers and would require assistance of someone 24/7. Their father Pravin Kumar is 53 years. He says, “lifting my sons and being a sole caregiver, has now been very hard for me. The boys are now grown up and have put on weight”.

The assistance of wheelchair accessible bathroom and toilet gives all of them a sense of privacy and dignity. Otherwise, the boys are carried outside to bath, exposed to the public (neighbors or passer – by). For now, being 15yrs and 11 yrs. respectively are not conscious of embarrassment being exposed of their nudity.

VSIAF learnt of their identity after our volunteer based at Nadi visited them during food rations distribution. The team travelled to Nadi to visit as well as to scope.

Their medical report states their type of Disability – Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy - are a group of genetic disorders that result in muscle weakness over time. Each type of muscular dystrophy is different from the other and has no cure. Medical opinion advised that acting early may help the person with this type of disorders to lead a full life, however in Fiji, has no treatment and leads to early deaths.

Despite them being physically challenged, they are healthy young boys, very cheerful and talented. They enjoy the abilities that they still have and does things like feeding themselves, they respond to communications (hear and speak), good timekeepers, keeping watch and reports over going - ons at home.

Spending the days with Ritesh and Rynal during construction of their new wheelchair Accessible Bathroom and toilet is a new learning experience for us. Discovering their capabilities was such a joy to witness. Even though they were sitting up the whole day, they were engaged in activities, keeping each other focused. They were either playing with their toys or focused on TV. At times, they teased one another or compete each other who to nag for their dad’s mobile phone- to browse through pictures or watch movies. Both very well versed with apps on the phone.

Structure of their home is of roofing iron but bathroom and toilet are of concrete. The assistance commenced on 21.11.22 While awaiting delivery of materials from the hardware the carpenters started dismantling bathroom structure that was erected. Bathroom structure was too narrow to fit an extra person in the case of Ritesh and Rynal who need the assistance of someone to attend to them.

**Medical Report:**

**NADI SUB DIVISIONAL MEDICAL HOSPITAL**  
Hospital Road  
P.O.Box 214  
Nadi  
6701128/6700563

**MINISTRY of HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES**  
*Shaping Fiji's Health*

31/01/2017

Dear Sir,

Re: Pritesh Kumar and Rynal Kumar

DOB: 08/09/2009 and 22/07/2011

NHN: 990173896/ 990187468

Voivoi, Nadi : \*

**Diagnosis:**

- Duchene Muscular Dystrophy

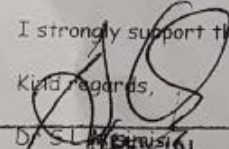
This is to confirm that these brothers suffer from a genetic condition called Duchene Muscular Dystrophy. This condition only affects male individuals and their life expectancy is around the second decade of life in an environment with appropriate medical support. In a country like ours where there is no support for them the life expectancy is usually around the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> decade of life. They usually have normal birth but their development usually regresses by the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of life. They are usually wheelchair bound by the 4<sup>th</sup> year of life with full nursing support before their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Kumar boys have a brother with similar condition who died before his 11<sup>th</sup> birthday. They have 4 sisters who are all well.

The burden that this genetic disorder has on their family is phenomenal. His parents will definitely need support whether financial, housing or care taking.

I strongly support their application for financial assistance based on these reasons.

Kind regards,



**DR. S. L. PRASAD**  
NADI SUB DIVISIONAL HOSPITAL  
Locum Paediatrician

## Scope of Works:

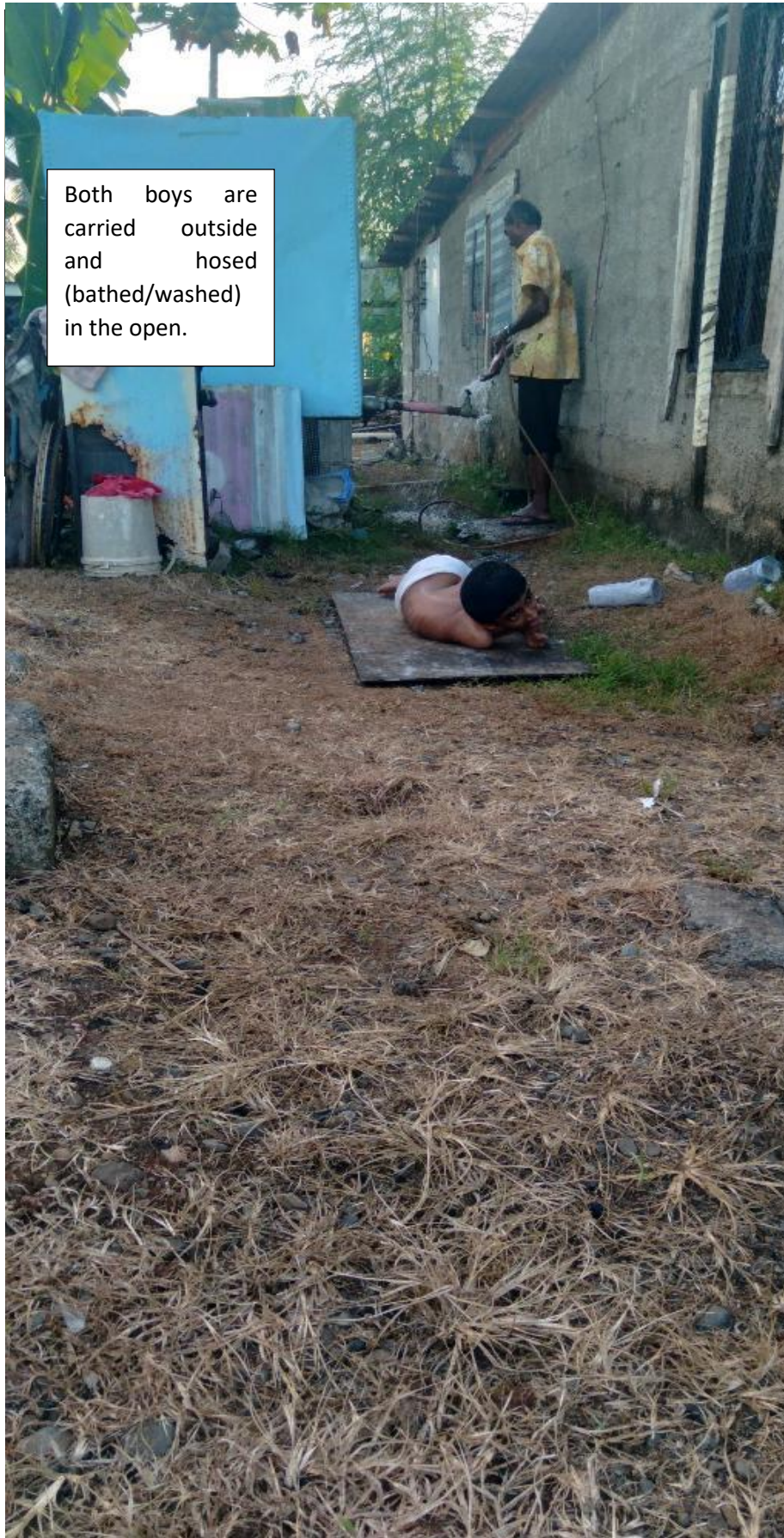
- Dismantling of old cement bathroom wall
- Block laying
- Plastering works
- Raising of bathroom flooring
- Installation of tiles
- Installation of louvre frames & louvres
- Installation of plumbing works
- Digging and installation of septic drums
- Installation of sink & hand towel rack
- Installation of bathroom door
- Painting works
- Installation of grab rails
- Widening existing inside doors to allow wheelchairs to pass through

- **Gallery:** Before Construction;





Both boys are  
carried outside  
and hosed  
(bathed/washed)  
in the open.

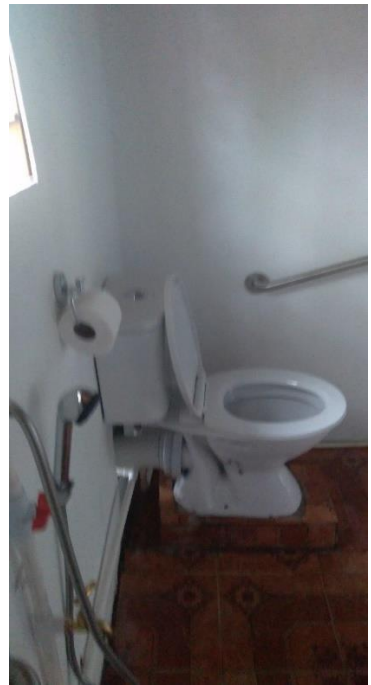
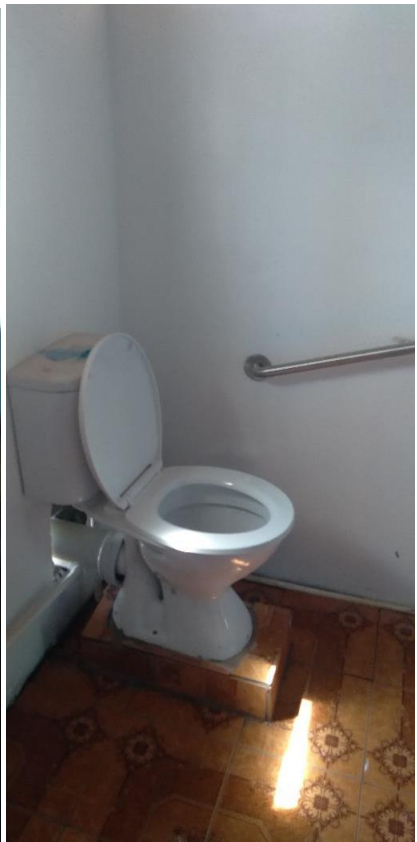
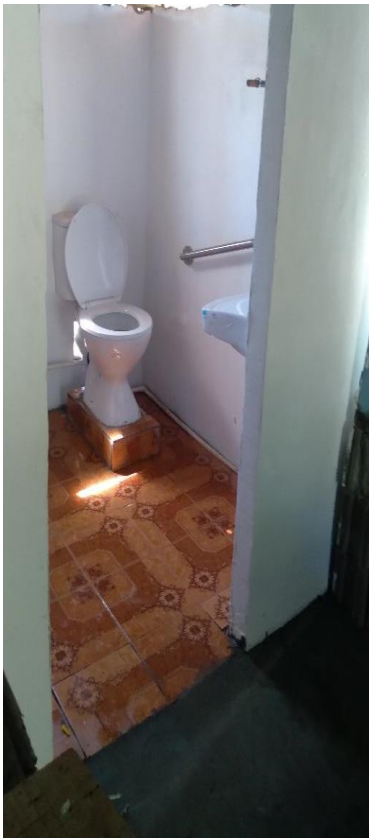






**Assistance to accessibility bathroom & toilet completion pics :**









**Boys Capabilities:**



