

Health for All

FIRST EDUCATION WITH HEALTH FOR ALL (U.K.)
CO-OPERATION EDUCATION AND LIASON PROJECT (H.E.I.)
MAIN CENTRE
KANJIAR BIHAR



Working with the poor for a better future

Patron: The Most Revd. and Right Hon. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

Annual Report 2012

Registered Charity No.1076913

As always, it's a pleasure to be writing for the Health for All Annual Report. The work with the Health Team in India and the midwives and health workers in Ethiopia has continued as a result of all the generosity of Health for All supporters.

This year we include two short reports from villagers in Bihar directly affected by the work of the Health for All team.

Maya Devi tells how the health team saved her son who was suffering from the consequences of malnutrition. Health for All not only supports the Health Team work but also their ongoing training. The work in the villages that Maya Devi refers to is carried out in collaboration with UNICEF.

Munna Devi provides one example of how self help is supported in the villages, providing micro credit and training to develop skills among the village women allowing them to raise their own income. There are a number of photos in this year's report, including the one on the front cover of village women attending training courses.

In Ethiopia the regular visits by the Kent midwives have continued, supporting the development of Ethiopian midwives and health care workers. The midwives were joined last year by a group of paediatric nurses and paediatrician Dr David Long, responding to a direct request for support in developing child health training. These visits will continue for the long term, providing real help in the areas of mother and child health, two of the most challenging areas of health care in Africa.

As always, none of this would be possible without your support for Health for All. On behalf of everyone, thank you.

Dr Mark Jones

Maya Devi's Story

"My name is Maya Devi. I live in the village Keshapi. Life is hard for us but we manage to make a living by growing a few crops on the very small plot of land we own. We have to supplement this by working as daily labourers on other peoples land for about 100 rupees a day (about £1.20). Food has become very expensive for us; we see the prices rising every week. We struggle to buy basic food like rice.

Some weeks ago our youngest son Ritik became ill. We tried to give him as much food as we could but he did not improve. We knew about the clinic run by People First and took him for treatment. The nurse told us he was suffering from malnutrition. He weighed about 7kg and may have had some kind of jaundice as his palms were yellow.

He was referred to a doctor in Bodhgaya where he received excellent care and good medicines at no cost to us. We just did not have the money to buy the medicines he needed. His weight increased to 9kg in about 8 weeks and he became healthier due to all the care given to him. Due to the help and advice we got from the Health Team he is continuing to improve at home.

The nurse explained to me that there are people in the United Kingdom who donate money so that the team can work here in the villages. I want them to know they have saved my son, who was in great danger and now is well. I want them to know that it is impossible to thank them enough for what they have done, and although I may never meet them a place is always in my heart for them all."



Maya Devi and Ritik

Munna Devi's Story

"My name is Munna Devi. I am 50 years old and I am a member of the Santoshi Self Help Group in the village of Piani, Bihar.

The idea is we all give a little money, and with this, fund loans so members can start something to earn money for their families. In our little group members have taken loans for making incense sticks and for buying a sewing machine to repair and make clothes. Some members of the group have also received training and they can use their skills to help the group start small enterprises of their own.

This is me with my little village shop; it has really changed my life. I earn enough to help feed my family and I am not experiencing any difficulty in repaying the loan."



Munna Devi

These micro credit schemes when administered well can be a fantastic way to reduce poverty in a really positive way. Interest rates are low and are recycled back into the group to help others. Peer pressure produces very few defaults. The loans are only available to women, all of them poor, and the scheme can offer a real lifeline to them. Saving very small amounts, these Self Help Groups have made significant loans, directly helping families most in need. Health for All has always supported this important programme.



Dr David Long

Ethiopia: A Child Health team join the midwives

A team of three paediatric nurses, Lesley, Lizzie, and Claire, and a paediatrician, Dr David Long, travelled to Ethiopia in late October and took part in a variety of teaching activities. The visit was highly successful with excellent contact being established between medical and nursing departments in the local hospital. The hospital has established a programme in child health nursing. We took part in formal teaching sessions and were also able to work with nurses on the children's ward. We were also able to identify the need for many basic pieces of equipment which may be a focus for the future.

Lectures, practical sessions and ward round teaching for medical students, junior medical staff and students in child health were carried out by David.

The programme to address the shortage of health care workers in rural areas is an innovative programme enabling health care workers to develop knowledge and skills specifically in child health. There are a large number of trainees, and there is a heavy teaching workload for the small number of experienced permanent staff.

A collection of books was taken, most of which were purchased with Health for All funds.

We were impressed with the enthusiasm and dedication of local staff, and it was a privilege to be able to support their activities. The families and children were warm and welcoming and it was all quite humbling at times. We envisage developing the partnership and anticipate further visits to Tigray, with the aim of supporting the local efforts to increase the amount of health care in the region and, above all, improve the lives of children and their families.

Lesley Long

How You Can Help

We are most grateful for all donations. Our work would not be possible without them. Many of our supporters give regularly by Standing Order arrangement and this is particularly helpful with the on-going running costs of our projects. We are able to re-claim tax on all personal donations made by taxpayers and a simple declaration enables us to add a further 25p to each £1 donated. We try to take full advantage of this worthwhile facility. Cheques payable to 'Health for All' please.

Donations can also be made on-line at www.justgiving.com/hfa/donate and, if you wish to create your own fundraising page, go to www.justgiving.com/hfa/raisemoney.

If you wish to specify whether your gift be used in India or Ethiopia, please make this known to us and we will ensure that your donation is used accordingly.

A full copy of our most recent audited accounts can be viewed at www.charity-commission.gov.uk.

Further details from Sue Blacker or Sharon Ashmore at:

Health for All

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