

SHALOM Delhi

A Unit of the Emmanuel Hospital Association

Partner Report – April 2015

We write to thank you, for your prayers and support for Shalom during the last 12 months. We hope you are encouraged by this progress report. Your support has helped make a substantial difference in many needy lives!

Project Summary

Shalom's vision is to bring holistic transformation and hope to the lives of the urban poor in Delhi and neighboring states, with a special focus on people infected and affected with HIV/AIDS and those with life limiting illnesses. Shalom works to multiply its impact through training other organizations and churches in Delhi and other parts of North India.

Progress Update on Shalom's HIV program:

Shalom continues to provide holistic, integrated care for people and families living with HIV. In the past year, there were 216 new enrolments of people infected with HIV, making it a total of 1787 HIV infected who have been under Shalom's medical care. Most of the people registered last year were referred from Government ART clinics or by other NGOs. The hospital had 270 inpatient admissions and 856 out patient visits of people infected or affected with HIV.

Home Based Care is provided for a subset of the HIV affected families, and currently there are 113 families in this program. 19 adolescents had successfully completed the adolescent program and 2 peer educators were trained. A program reaching out to the transgender population provided care for 53 transgenders. 10 churches / christian groups in Delhi were mobilized to provide care for 20 families of the HBC program, and 2 churches to provide care for the transgenders. Involvement by churches included prayer support, house visits by volunteers and provision of food hampers. Six volunteers / interns from different organizations in India and overseas were mentored by the Shalom team. A study done with 61 children and adolescents infected with HIV and their caregivers will inform future interventions targeted towards this vulnerable group.

Hope renewed

"I am now no longer afraid of death for my son," says a smiling Rani during a recent visit to the Shalom health



centre. This was not so seven months ago when she first brought her three year old son Sonu for admission to Shalom's ward. He had been sick for more than a month with fever and diarrhea. His weight was only half of what a child his age should be. Both she and her son were HIV positive and struggling for survival. Her husband, a manual labourer had abandoned them a few months ago leaving her to fend for herself and the child. She too was weak with tuberculosis and anaemia, and unable to work. With no source of livelihood and a sick child to take care of, her situation was desperate. Fortunately her sister, who lived in an impoverished section of Delhi provided shelter. Sonu's health continued to deteriorate, and no

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medicines she got from the local hospital seemed to help. Till one day someone directed her to Shalom's health centre.

At Shalom, Sonu was diagnosed to have diarrhea, dehydration, severe malnutrition and anaemia. He was also found to have tuberculosis which he probably got from his mother. The HIV virus had reduced his immunity significantly, which is why he had frequent infections and each infection further worsened the malnutrition. No wonder his mother was afraid that he would die.



Over the past 7 months, with proper treatment, both Rani and her child's health has improved dramatically. The medical treatment that they received free of cost at Shalom, first in the ward and then as outpatients, has brought them back on the road to health. But it is not just the medicine that has restored the glow on Rani's face. At Shalom, she has felt valued as a person. The fact that she and her child have HIV has not diminished the care that they have received. The doctors and the nurses spent much time with her and she received counseling on how to take care of herself and her child. Rani now has hope for the future and a renewed impetus to go on. She is back to work as a domestic help and earning for her family. Sonu is a happy child, with round cheeks and a naughty twinkle in his eyes. They know that they have friends at Shalom who truly care and are available for them at any time.

(names changed)

Shalom is raising funds in order to continue providing subsidized medical care for people living with HIV/AIDS. The average cost of treatment for one inpatient admission is Rs 16,000 (US \$ 250) and for one out patient visit is Rs 750 (US \$ 12). If you would like to contribute financially, please contact Dr. Savita Duomai at savita.duomai@eha-health.org for details on how to do so.