

We Care

Because nothing else matters!



THERESA IGNATIA D'SOUZA

Founder

(1924 - 2011)



she lives on... in the lives and hearts of people

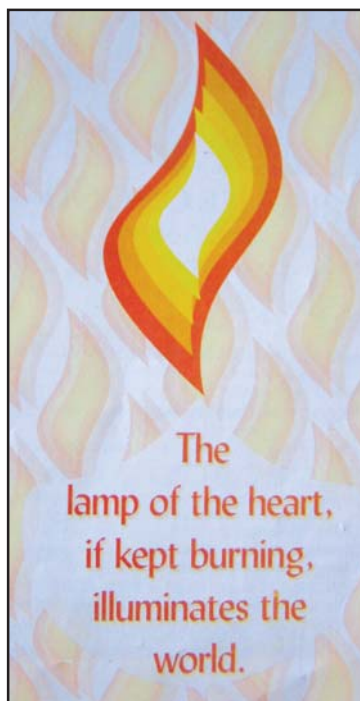
Newsletter 2011 – For Private Circulation only

EDITORIAL

'She lives onleaving her heart-prints behind'

'SHE LIVES ON

In 1999 when Theresa Ignatia D'Souza (1924 – 2011) decided to set up a Trust to ensure education opportunities to the poor and deserving students, little did she realize that she was lighting a little lamp that would one day bring light into the lives of many. This little lamp that she lit 13 years ago continues to burn brightly and its flame lives on in the lives of thousands of people who have benefitted from this Trust, WE CARE.



In the past 13 years (1999 - 2012), hundreds of children (spread over eight states in India) have received the light of education through scholarships, mid-day meals, nutrition, tuition, hostel and mess fees, study materials, uniforms, free tuitions, camps and outings and other education programmes supported by WE CARE. Children, from the nursery classes to high school, colleges to professional courses, have benefitted. Today many are well placed in suitable jobs as teachers, nurses, engineers and even a chartered accountant. Many have gone abroad and have become prosperous. We feel a sense of pride at this achievement, small though it may be, in comparison to other organizations. She lives on

The community based rehabilitation (CBR) programme for disabled and challenged was initiated in 2003. It began with a pilot project and steadily scaled up, now actively reaching out to 432 persons with disability. Over the past 9 years the CBR programme has benefitted persons with disability in the target areas, supporting them in accessing various schemes and right of theirs, such as doctor's certificates, bus and train passes, pension and scholarships, aids and appliances, etc. The programme also makes accessible medical, therapeutic and nutritional support to persons with disabilities, along with facilitating integrated camps for children, vocational and employment skills trainings, forming of self-help groups and an association for disabled. Further through the CBR programme

the beneficiaries continue to participate in sports and cultural competitions, celebrate world disability day, and much more. The CBR programme aims not only to directly help disabled persons, but also to enable society to take responsibility, accept and participate in the rehabilitation process. Thus thousands of people, including school children, have received awareness about disability through our staff and printed materials. College students, especially those pursuing MBA have benefited by getting an opportunity to witness and participate in these programmes, thereby inculcating in them a spirit of care and concern for the persons with disability. The programme for caring for disabled persons has spread its wings to reach out to places like Varanasi too, where WE CARE supports patients who are mentally challenged. She lives on

WE CARE has been reaching out to the sick and suffering in many ways. Besides supporting patients in purchasing medicines and paying their hospital bills, we extended medical assistance to patients suffering from cancer, diabetics, renal failure and psychiatric care. Over the years many patients have benefited. In 2002 we made an attempt to set up a Homeopathic Dispensary at Belgaum. Eye camps were conducted in Panakahalli village and its surrounding areas together with Arvind Eye Hospital. Health camps and skin screening camps were conducted for school children in various village communities in and around Bangalore. Nutrition awareness camps were conducted for children, women and pregnant mothers to promote awareness on health care. She lives on....

WE CARE has supported renovation and electrification of houses, both in Panakahalli Village, in Tamil Nadu and in Wankaner, Gujarat. After the Gujarat earthquake in 2002 WE CARE made a small but significant contribution by renovating 15 houses of families who were not covered under any government or non-government programmes. Under another programme, support for the construction of houses was also taken up at Palamaner village, Andhra Pradesh and in Begur, village, Bangalore. A few years later, we took up a programme for renovation and electrification of houses in a remote village of Panakahalli, Tamil Nadu. As part of the village development, a bore well was also sunk to supply drinking water to the villagers. She lives on

Under our programmes for Women and Child Development, WE CARE initiated many programmes such as celebration of women's day, formation of women's groups, counseling, nutrition awareness programmes for pregnant women and vocational skill development such as paper bag making, tailoring and thread spinning. In order to reach out to new-born children, a special programme called Premankur (seeds of love), was initiated by a group of committed women, who stitch baby clothes for newly born children with their own hands and distribute the same in hampers to mother's and their newly-born at government hospitals. WE CARE also supports the non-formal education programme for children at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Besides, WE CARE has been supporting children in orphanages, hostels and widows in need. She lives on

WE CARE has a support programme for Senior Citizens, especially those who have no family support and are financially weak. Monthly rations are distributed in order that they may have basic food security. Seven senior citizens and their families have been regularly receiving monthly rations. Monthly nutritional support is also provided for persons with disability who are economically weak. Recently we have also undertaken the responsibility to provide food support to senior women destitute, living in a home at Khammam. She lives on.....

Persons affected by Hansen's disease have a special place in WE CARE. Although we do not have a full fledged programme for care of such persons, we have a fund created exclusively for the benefit of them through which they receive support towards education, social and economic rehabilitation. It is a providential co-incidence that WE CARE is registered on the 30th January, which is also the birthday of our Founder, the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and World Anti-leprosy day. Over the years cured patients have received financial support to purchase buffaloes and also to construct a house. She lives on



WE CARE has also provided opportunities for our youth, especially those seeking employment.

We provide the young with a launching pad towards better employment. We have provided a conducive atmosphere where a young person without any office skills and training can empower themselves and then launch out to better options. We employ young people without skills, train them, empower them and then send them to search better employment. When young people come searching for employment, they are nervous, shy and poorly equipped in communication and other skills. Soon they learn and grow in confidence, such that many of our former staff are now well placed and doing well for themselves. She lives on

The name, WE CARE, chosen by Theresa D'Souza for the Trust, has been most apt. At the centre of our programmes and activities is truly a heart that cares for people. For the care and concern shown by WE CARE has not been merely financial but also emotional. We have always tried to build a relationship

with individuals and groups of people whom we encounter, which include our donors, benefactors, well-wishers, staff, volunteers, beneficiaries and the public. On many occasions we have gone out of our way to assist someone in need. We have dared to take risks and even suffered being cheated in the bargain. But that has not stopped us from reaching out in love and service to those in need. We believe that every human person is important and hence we have wasted time in listening to people and trying to find a solution to their problems. Care and Concern for people summarizes the philosophy of WE CARE. We have tried to instill this value in our staff and those whom we meet. She lives on

Looking at her life, makes us reflect on how one person can make a difference to our world, in small but significant ways. She was not wealthy, nor was she gifted with any special talents. A simple housewife, who bore twelve children and with the support from her husband, John Paul, brought them up in the best way possible. Their priority was always to provide their children with the best education they could afford. And after she had completed her duties as a wife and mother, she set her heart on ways to reach out to others, especially the needy. WE CARE is the way in which she expressed this desire and dream. A dream that has already touched the lives of thousands and will continue to impact many more in the years to come. She lives on

Theresa Igantia D'Souza, Founder of WE CARE, passed away on 01st August 2011 at Providence Nilaya, Bangalore. Her mortal remains were cremated. Now her memory lives not on a tombstone, not on photographs publicized on the pages of newspapers ... but on the hearts and in the minds of people. She came into our world quietly and went away quietly. But she has left her heart-prints on the lives of many.



Many who have received support, care and concern from WE CARE have not known or met her. But her memory and light lives in them, in the hearts of people whose lives she has touched whose lives have been touched by WE CARE. The lamp that she lit 13 years ago burns brightly and will continue to give light to the lives of many in the years to come.

'SHE LIVES ON

TOTAL EXPENDITURE DURING THE PAST 13 YEARS ON VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

(In order to get a glimpse into how WE CARE has impacted the lives of people, we have given below the expenditure on various programmes carried on by us.)

PROGRAMMES	AMOUNT (Rupees)
Educational Programmes	1,01,20,530
Rehabilitation of persons suffering from Disability, Hansen's Disease, Alcoholism, etc.	32,95,700
Women and Children Programmes	2,78,221
Medical Assistance and Health Care Programmes	6,83,225
Help for the Poor, Senior Citizens, Destitute, etc	2,96,836
Developmental Programmes (Housing, Gujarat Earthquake, Bore well, Electrification of houses, etc.)	41,32,790
Employment Assistance and Vocational Training	2,76,759
Administrative Expenses including Repairs and Maintenance	8,37,542
Establishment Expenses (Assets)	47,48,257
TOTAL	2,46,69,860

EDITORIAL – Part 2

This newsletter covers the activities and programmes for the calendar year 2011. The financial information relates to the year 2010-2011. Some pictures in the following pages do not exactly correspond with the text where these have been placed. We have arranged the pictures to suit the layout of the pages.

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST, SOCIAL ACCOUNTING

In our efforts to enhance the quality of our work and to ensure the optimum cost-benefit we have made an effort to count the number of persons who have benefitted from the programmes and activities that were conducted in 2011. The figures given in the statistical tables are taken from our records. The details given in the table under each activity is not complete because the real number of people who benefit from our programmes is not easy to determine. The information however will give the reader a fair view.

WIDENING OUR HORIZONS - NETWORKING WITH OTHERS

In order to promote and facilitate our programmes and activities WE CARE has chosen the path and spirit of networking with government and non-government organizations. This has enabled us to multiply our presence and to presently have our hands and feet in ten states of India, namely Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkand, Gujarat, Assam, Nagaland, and Arunachal Pradesh. It is our dream that by the year 2015, we will be able to mark our presence in many more states and touch the lives of more people in India.

NETWORKING WITH TECHNOLOGY

Internet technology has revolutionized the way we think and work. Through our website www.wecaretrust.org we have been able to reach out to our donors, friends, volunteers, beneficiaries and others. Do visit our website to view the current programmes, photographs and other information that we have been uploading from time to time. We will be grateful to receive your feedback on our website and concrete suggestions to improve its presentation. We also request you to kindly provide a link to our website on your facebook, blog or personal website.

We thank David James, proprietor of Cybertech Systems, Bangalore and his staff, especially Vanishree and Hema for their invaluable support in maintaining our site. We sincerely thank volunteer Conrad Colaco for his valuable suggestions and for ensuring that our website is kept updated.

MEMORIAL AND CORPUS FUNDS

Over the years, many individuals have come forward to set up memorial and corpus funds in the name(s) of their loved ones - a beautiful way to preserve the memory of someone you love. There are presently 48 (forty-eight) memorial and corpus funds. We invite you to create a memorial fund in your name or the name of your loved ones in WE CARE and thereby have the privilege of being remembered in the lives and hearts of the people. More information is available in the following pages.

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO AIFO

We wish to place on record, our heartfelt thanks to AIFO, Italy for their continued support and encouragement in providing financial and technical support for the CBR Programme. Our thanks also to Amici di Raoul Follereau (Trust), Bangalore, India, for their support and encouragement in carrying out the CBR programme. Our special thanks to Jose M V, Administrator, and all the staff members, Dr Jayanth Kumar, Project Coordinator, Dr Manimozhi, Health Coordinator, Dr. Parthipan, Research Project Coordinator, Patrick, Accountant, Lucy Bhaskar, Office Assistant, Nyjil George, IT & Systems, and Krishna.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS

Every year we have many persons who support and assist us in carrying out programmes. We wish to thank each one of them individually for their valuable help. **Through this space we express our heartfelt thanks, gratitude and appreciation to all of you, people of goodwill, who support, encourage and participate in our programmes and activities. THANK YOU !**

To our friends, donors, benefactors, and well-wishers, for your generous contributions, by way of donations (in cash and kind) and for your valuable moral support, friendship and prayers. We are confident that you will continue to encourage our work in the future too. We rely on your generosity and goodwill to carry out programmes that benefit the poor and needy. We assure you that your donation has made and is making a difference in the lives of many people. We remember you in our daily prayers and we ask all our beneficiaries to pray for you. We hope and pray that God Almighty may bless each one of you and your family members in a special way that He Knows best. We encourage our donors to use the internet or core banking facilities in order to make your donations. Detailed instructions with full information about our bank accounts are available on our website **www.wecaretrust.org**

To those who associate with us in carrying on our programmes and activities: Principals of Schools, Directors and Coordinators of Programmes, Social Workers, Friends, Volunteers, Benefactors, Donors, Professionals, Government Officers and Staff, Other Social Organizations, and so many others.

To, Baptist D'Souza, Advocate and his office staff, for his unstinted support and guidance in legal matters connected with our property. To, Joseph Paul, Mangal Computers and his staff, for servicing our computers. To, Calistus Fernandes, Dr. Sheila Daniels, Anthony Das, Liza Pereira, Miriam Jacob, Dr. Nagendra Prasad, Susan Philips, Lakshmeesha, Deepti Colaco, Eliza Pereira, Fr Joji, Fabiola and other volunteers for their assistance in carrying out the programmes.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(Ordinary people for ordinary people!)

In the year 2011-12 our Board consisted of the following: Fr. Trevor D'Souza, Managing Trustee, Jose M V, Jt. Managing Trustee, Member Trustees: Angeline Sunderraj Pradhan, Celine Soans, Gerard D'Silva, Joseph Sequeira, and Rochelle (Lobo) D'Gama. Rochelle (Lobo) D'Gama resigned on 30th September 2011. We thank her for the valuable service rendered as Trustee of WE CARE for many years. Our sincere thanks to all the Trustees for their valuable support, cooperation and guidance.

FINAL WORD – THANK YOU

We have briefly highlighted some of the activities and programmes carried out during the year. All this would not be possible without the generous donations and support from you, our donors and benefactors. Our staff have played a vital role, both on the field as well as in the office, ensuring that the programmes are carried out with commitment and on time. Volunteers have supported us with their services, especially in carrying out programmes. Their involvement is highly appreciated. Our Trustees, have been a constant support and source of encouragement all along.

We cannot close this message, without remembering with gratitude our divine patrons, St. Joseph and St. Anthony of Padua. Many of our works and dreams have been successfully accomplished by their divine intercession.

With best wishes,
Fr. Trevor D'Souza,
Managing Trustee.

31st December 2011

All donations are eligible for **TAX BENEFITS** under **Section 80G** of the Income Tax Act 1961. Kindly note that our accounts are open for inspection by the Income Tax Department. Kindly mention your full postal address, email id and permanent account number (PAN) when making your donation.

For details on how to make donation kindly visit our website **<http://www.wecaretrust.org/donations.htm>**

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATS - 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HUMANKIND

This year Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO or AMICI) is celebrating its 50th year of service to humankind. A spark ignited by a young man, Raoul, has become a raging fire. Not wild but gentle in nature and bringing light and warmth to thousands around the globe, especially the poorest of the poor in Third World Countries. WE CARE too has been supported by AIFO in carrying on the CBR programme for disability. WE CARE extends our congratulations and warm greetings to the AIFO Board Members and also to their large band of volunteers who help in raising funds to support various projects in India and abroad. We wish them many more years of generous and selfless service to humankind. It is significant that in the 50th year AIFO, Italy, has a memorable event to celebrate, namely, the AIFO Board electing its first woman President, Dr Anna Maria Pisano!!!



DR. JAYANTH KUMAR Y B - PERSEVERANCE PAYS

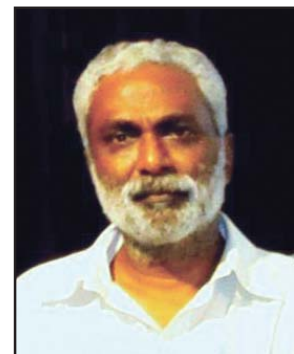


Our hearty CONGRATULATIONS to Dr Jayanth Kumar Y B on completion of his doctoral studies in CBR. Jayanth was a normal child who lost his sight at the age of 11 years. From that time onwards life has been a struggle for him. With determination and courage he pursued his studies at Shri Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind (SMRAB). After his graduation he worked for the education of other persons with disability at TRDC (an affiliate of SMRAB). He later on took employment as the CBR Project Officer at AIFO. He got married, and is blessed with a beautiful daughter. He got immersed in CBR work and began to train the staff of other organizations.

He has travelled widely to present papers on CBR, even at international seminars. Last year he completed his doctoral studies and was awarded a Ph. D. from Sri Venkateshwara University, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh. WE CARE is grateful to Dr Jayanth for the technical support and training he imparts to our staff. With best wishes and regards, from Fr Trevor and all the staff of WE CARE.

DR. NATARAJAN MANIMOZHI A MAN OF PASSION AND DEDICATION

Our Hearty CONGRATULATIONS for this well deserved award and recognition. The passion and dedication through which Dr Manimozhi drives the programme for Leprosy eradication and treatment with passion. This is something we will all do well to learn from. Dr Natarajan Manimozhi, Medical Coordinator, AIFO India, who will be presented with the Manohar Diwan Memorial Award – 2011 for his selfless services to the cause of leprosy. We wish him all the best for the future too. WE CARE is grateful to Dr Manimozhi for the technical support and training he imparts to our staff. With best wishes and regards, from Fr Trevor and all the staff of WE CARE.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES

(Highlights)

**At WE CARE we believe that
money spent on the education of a child is NOT an expense
but an INVESTMENT in the future of our children and of our nation**

We are certain that the seed sown today, by supporting the education of a child, will surely grow into a big plant and bear abundant fruits in the years ahead. Thus, we have expanded our education assistance by reaching out to more children in different parts of India. During the year **2010-11** the total amount spent on educational activities was **Rs. 10,32,923**. The education programme covers scholarships, free tuition classes, nutrition, health care, honorarium to teacher-volunteers, uniform, books, study materials, rent for class rooms, etc.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION REGARDING BENEFICIARIES AND PROGRAMMES IN 2011

Basic Education for Social Transformation, Gujarat	102
Carmel High School, Darjeeling, West Bengal	50
St Mary's Junior High School, Etah, Uttar Pradesh	57
Assisi Convent School, Etah, Uttar Pradesh	14
Sacred Heart's High School, Khuzama, Kohima, Nagaland	14
Maryknoll High School, Barkur, Udupi, Karnataka	60
Don Bosco Centre, Rangajan, Golaghat, Assam	24
Sarang Talab Education Programme, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	281
Sneha Nilaya Orphanage, Bangalore, Karnataka	60
Pratiksha Nivas, Free Evening Tuition Class, Bangalore, Karnataka	45
Hands of Hope Programme, Panakahalli, Tamil Nadu	1
St Joseph's Girls High School, Belgaum, Karnataka	50
St. Paul's High School, Belgaum, Karnataka	50
Save N Study, Bangalore, Karnataka	16
Students in various schools	51
Students in various colleges	7
Students in professional education	4
Study materials for the children of Dialysis Patients	27
Counseling services for students	12
Volunteers and Collaborators	42
Total	967

THE BEST GIFT YOU CAN GIVE TO A CHILD IS THE GIFT OF EDUCATION!!!

Scholarships and Education Assistance

Assistance is given to poor and deserving students to support them to pursue their education. At WE CARE we have introduced both individual as well as institutional scholarships. Under individual scholarships, students can apply directly and are granted the assistance after their application is processed. Under institutional scholarships, the students apply and are granted the assistance through the school or college. Our scholarship programme is undertaken all over India and so far has covered institutions or individuals in **8 states**. While most of the scholarships were given to school students, some were also given to college students and those pursuing professional courses like teachers training (B.Ed.), Nursing (GNM), etc.

Project Sarang Talab, Varanasi

In 2009 we undertook the support of 146 children in 5 centres under a programme called Project Sarang Talab, in Varanasi. These centres were mainly for non-school going children from the slums, from families who have migrated from other states and the children of domestic workers and rag-pickers. This year we expanded the programme to include 267 children under 7 centres (Benipur, Mushharbasthi, Puranepol, Nakhigat, Amardeep, Panchkroshi and Goura). The programme centres are located under the open sky, due to lack of place. This leads to absenteeism and irregular attendance of the children. During the summer, the centres are shifted to the shade under some nearby trees. The support for this programme is in the form of honorarium for teachers, clothing, study materials and nutrition.



This programme is being carried out in association with the **Franciscan Servants of Mary, Varanasi Province**. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the coordinator and all the volunteer teachers for their hard work and dedication. Our thanks to Sr Daisy Paul and Sr Ashrita who coordinated the programme and to the volunteer-teachers.

Excerpts from the monthly and annual reports of Project Saran Talab. Training programmes were



conducted for the volunteers-teacher on the Right to Information and on Children's Parliament. Cultural programmes were conducted for the children on festivals and major national days, such as such as Divali, Christmas, Teacher's Day, Independence Day, Republic Day, Children's Day, etc. A health programme was conducted in Nakhigat center in which around 40 mothers participated. Regular family visits were made to motivate the parents and keep them informed about their children's progress. Nutrition was provided to the children in the form of puffed rice, ground nuts, mixture etc. During the month of April, the marriage season, many children are engaged

in carrying lamps on their heads as part of the marriage procession. By this they earn some income to support their families. During such times the children remain absent. During the rainy season too, the classes get affected. This year the children received sweaters as the climate was very cold during the month of December. The programme has attracted many children from the nearby by villages, including young girls. This is a good sign and we hope that we will be able to attract and motivate many more children to receive education. From these centers some children are being prepared to enter formal schools. One private school in the area has come forward to enroll these children in higher classes because of their age. Gradually many parents are coming forward to place their children in formal schools.

BEST (Basic Education for Social Transformation) Programme, Gujarat

The BEST Programme supports the education of **102** poor and rural children in Wankaner, Gujarat. The support is in the form of honorarium to teachers, rent for tuition classrooms, uniforms, study materials,

etc. This programme is being carried out in association with the **Franciscan Clarist Congregation, Noida Province**. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the coordinator, Sr Alphonse Mary, and all the volunteer-teachers for their hard work and dedication

Excerpts from the monthly and annual reports of Project BEST. Many of the parents of the children under this programme are illiterate and work in factories or mills earning daily wages. The animators visit the homes and meet the parents regularly. During these visits they speak to the parents about the value of education and motivate them to send their children to school. Programmes and competitions were conducted during the year in solo singing, speech, drawing, sports, rangoli, dance, local traditions and cultures. Cultural programmes were also conducted for the children on festivals and major national days, such as Rahki, Christmas, Independence Day, Republic Day, Teacher's Day, Children's Day, etc.



The children of the 7th standard were taken to Rajkot to participate in competitions. Owing to these programmes the children are becoming more confident and creative. It has also helped us to discover their hidden talents. Mock exams are conducted for the children twice a year to help them to prepare for the school exams. Awareness was given to them in topics such as hazards of tobacco, gutka, and health hygiene. On 22nd September a medical camp was conducted for 57 children. Children were provided with education materials, sweaters, and uniform. Regular parent-teacher meetings are conducted to enlighten the parents about their children and to keep them motivated to send their children regularly to school. The

parents are happy that their children are receiving education, unlike themselves who were unable to study because of the life situations. Many students after moving out from this programme who enter high school are faring well and some are even securing the first rank. The continuous support given by WE CARE have really helped the children to blossom.

Free Evening Tuition Classes at Pratiksha Nivas, Bangalore.

Educating our young children is an important nation building activity. It is with this in mind that we started the Free Tuition Classes at Pratiksha Nivas, Bangalore. On our visits to families, we realized that the houses are small, crammed with clothes, vessels, household things, a small kitchen, wash room, etc. barely providing any space for a child to study. Lack of a proper environment and lack of basic facilities can be a great deterrent to study. Under the free evening tuition class programme, children are invited to come over to our centre and do their studies. At Pratiksha Nivas they have a proper space, chairs and tables and proper lighting. In order to beat the irregular supply of electricity, we installed solar lighting to ensure that the children can study without interruption. A teacher has been appointed to take care of the children, maintain discipline, motivate them to come regularly, to keep their attendance and to look into their progress and wellbeing. Volunteers are invited to help out to teach the children.

Our heart felt thanks to teacher **K Yashodha** and volunteers Madhu Satish, Pearl Lewis, Samarjit Dixit, Philomena D'Souza, Mamatha Kulal, Anthony Das, Chamundeswari, Ratnakumari, Anupamma, Martin Joseph, Girija, Christy, Arvind Kumar, Pooja, Rakhi Roy, Jagdish, and others for their assistance in carrying out the evening tuition classes. The total number of children benefiting from this programme ranged between 35 – 50.

Excerpts from the monthly and annual reports of Free Evening Tuition Classes at Pratiksha Nivas, Bangalore. As the children come from different schools and classes, some from English and some from

Kannada medium, the volunteer teachers make it possible for us to keep costs low and benefits high. We have also noticed that the strength of the class increases or dwindles according to the quality and number of volunteers. On weekends, the children are provided an opportunity to play indoor games, are taught arts and crafts, basic stitching skills, music, dance, drama, mono-acting, singing, talent contest, computers, and other activities that help the children to broaden their horizons.

Every evening the children are provided nutritious drink made from ragi flour, milk and sugar. Students who are weak in their studies and some who are troublesome were counseled, after which we found much improvement. On some occasions the parents of the children too are counseled on how to deal with their children. The teacher and CBR staff make it a point to visit the families of the children and interact with their parents. Parents are motivated to send their children regularly for the tuition classes and also to provide emotional support for their children. At Pratiksha Nivas, the children have formed themselves into a club called, the Nehru Children's Club (NCC). Under this banner many activities and celebrations are conducted.

During the year 5 MBA students from Jyothi Nivas College, Bangalore conducted a one-day integrated children's camp (for normal and disabled children). A nutrition camp was conducted by our CBR staff for the benefit of the children.

Many significant dates and events are celebrated, such as Republic and Independence days, Divali, Christmas, Teacher's day, Children's day. One day fun camps and outings were also organized for the children. Their



parents were invited to accompany them on the outings to visit orphanages, old age homes, visit to parks, etc. During the year the children visited Sneha Nilaya Orphanage and Gowpyatha Makkala Kendra.

During the year the children had a visit by guests (Antonio Lissoni, Sr Arcangeli Gabriella, Libero Ponticelli and Scelci Paolo) from AIFO, Italy. The World Disabled Day was celebrated by the children by performing some cultural items and having a drawing competition.

Efforts were made to teach spoken English to the students and also to introduce them to



reading books. However there was not much success in this direction. Parents are happy with the evening tuition classes. Many of them have expressed that they found positive changes in their children after they started attending the classes. Many children who were at the beginning shy and withdrawn, slowly begin to interact and participate in various programmes.

Sneha Nilaya Orphanage, Bangalore

WE CARE has been supporting 62 (orphan and poor children) at Sneha Nilaya Orphanage towards nutrition and hygiene since 2009. This programme is being carried out in association with the **Franciscan Sisters of the**

Immaculate, Bangalore. During the year some children from the Nehru Children's Club visited the children at Sneha Nilaya and interacted with them. Our thanks to Sr Louisa, Coordinator and to her staff for their cooperation in conducting the programme.

Excerpts from the programme reports 2011 and visitors' book its quite energizing and refreshing to come here and spend time with students .They are bright kids good in studies willing to learn more and show full energy everyday. Yashoda is doing a great job. Kids love Yashodha a lot and they mingle very well with the volunteers as well. Best wishes to the kids and to the programme. Keep doing good, keep enjoying! (**Samarjit Dixit**, Volunteer for Evening Tuition Class. Staff of Wipro).

I involved myself as a student-volunteer tuition class for one month to the small kids. It was an



awesome experience with them. The kids are very interactive and ready to learn. I tried my best to teach them many things but from them I learned so many things. This kids are very studious and willing to learn more and show full energy every day. Yashoda is doing a great job. The kids love her very much and she has also helped them in many ways. I saw one thing that was really surprising for me. These kids are very curious in learning math. I didn't see such kind of interest in many other children. Today I am not feeling too good because this is the last day for me to be with the children. I will really miss them. Thank you! (**Roshan**

Sharma, 2nd year MBA student, Chennai. Roshan spent one month with WE CARE as a student volunteer).

I was very happy to see the joy in the faces of the children and their beautiful performance for this special day. I would like to come and also help the children and educate them with my knowledge. Thank you!! (**Libero**). Here I had the possibility to see and understand and above all experience peace from every body. (**Palorome**) Both Visitors from AIFO, Italy).

I was really happy to visit WE CARE project. It's a need of the community and not addressed by any NGO particularly the Ragi powder nutrition activity. I wish all the best to the team. Thank you! (**Dr. Parthipan**, AIFO India)



WE CARE is doing excellent service to those in need. Many have been helped with children education in mobilizing good resources by way of various persons available. The organization is also empowering women and the disabled to lead a useful life, with dignity. (**Dr. Sheila Daniel**, Department of Psychiatry, St John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore).

It is a wonderful experience to share with the people who have faced difficulties in their lives. It is a new hope for the disabled. Keep it up. (**Ms Vedha**, (Physically Challenged), Officer, Corporation Bank).

Encouraged! A very important way for me to understand your work and helpful for my volunteer of children overall work of staff is very good. Awareness and empowerment for all your people. (**Sr Gabriella Arcangeli**, AIFO Volunteer, Italy).

Very encouraging ... lot of activities happening here. I am sure they will learn more about life and to be in a position to empathize with those less fortunate. May God bless everyone and may love abound. (**Madhu Sathish**, Child Psychologist, Benefactor and Volunteer).

It is a great experience for me to be away from the hospital and to be in Pratiksha Nivas, (WE CARE Programme Centre). It is a unique experience. My thanks to Fr Trevor for giving this opportunity for all members of Care-takers of St John's Medical College Hospital who struggle to live. It was a great success. The members felt very happy. Thanks to Ms Leena Lobo who contributed a lot towards educating us on health insurance schemes. (**Eliza Pereira**, (MSW), Head of Department, Medical Social Work, St John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore).

It was a wonderful experience to be with women group and to explain to them on saving and insurance schemes. It was an enriching experience. (**Leena Lobo**, LIC Agent).

**EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN IS A
NATION BUILDING ACTIVITY
JOIN HANDS WITH WE CARE
IN BUILDING OUR NATION**



COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION (CBR) PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

(Highlights)

The CBR programme for challenged persons has been making steady progress. During the year new areas were surveyed to identify persons with disability (PWD). At present there are 432 PWDs under our project. The total number of persons who benefitted from this programme in 2011 is 2854. The total amount spend on the programme in **2010-11** was **Rs. 4,11,700**.

Statistical information regarding beneficiaries and programmes in 2011

Activity or Programme	Persons
Aids and Appliances	31
Assessment and Referrals	43
Ashray, Home for Mentally Challenged, Varanasi, UP	27
Bus Concession Pass	34
Competitions and Programmes	70
Development of Disabled Peoples Organization (1 group)	252
Doctor's Certificate	23
Home Based Education	42
Home Visits to PWDs (64 areas)	438
Integrated Children Summer Camps (2)	58
Jaipur Foot Camp	29
Medicine Support and Follow-up	24
Meetings (planning, review and evaluation)	58
New PWDs identified during the year	30
Nutritional sensitization programmes (5)	96
Nutritional supplementation programme (18 families)	72
Pension for Disabled	10
School Awareness (4 Programmes)	203
Scholarship (From Government and others)	113
Self-employment support	1
School Admissions (Inclusive education)	1
Skin Screening (18 Camps)	665
Staff	6
Staff training (5 programmes)	23
Staff exposure programmes (3)	3
Surgery	2
Therapeutical Services	91
Train Concession Pass	23
Vocational Training (computers) for PWDs	22
Volunteers and Collaborators	20
World Anti-leprosy Day celebrations (2 programmes)	46
World Disabled Day celebrations	28
Total	2854

It is not how many people you serve, that counts. It is how well you serve them, that really matters.

CBR HEALTH ACTIVITIES

Referrals. The Jaipur Foot Camp is an annual feature organized in Bangalore by Rotary Club and Jain Association in the month of January. 19 persons were referred of whom 10 received free aids and appliances such as caliper, crutches, artificial limbs, etc. 1 child was referred for identification of disability and treatment to the **Unit of Hope, St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore.** 1 child who was referred by us received hearing aid from **National Speech and Hearing Institute, Manasa Gangothri, Mysore.** 1 person from Bangalore received a wheel chair from WE CARE.



Doctor's Certificate is an important document in the file of a person with disability and becomes the basis of further treatment and benefits. The task of issuing these certificates has been entrusted to KC General Hospital, Bangalore. Our CBR staff and volunteers assist the persons with disability in getting this certificate.



Medication. The persons with disability were followed up to ensure that they were taking their medicines regularly. Some received financial support towards purchase of medicines.

General Screening Camps are conducted regularly, especially for school going children, with the aim of identifying cases of disability. The screening was done by our CBR staff, in aganwadi's, government and private schools with the cooperation of the school authorities, teachers and volunteers. During the screening some children were identified with disability and skin infections.

Therapeutical Services such as activities of daily living skills, physiotherapy and speech therapy are given by our CBR staff to those persons who are in need. Such services help the parents and family members of the PWD to get training in providing simple yet effective therapy. Through providing training to the family members, they began to take responsibility for the PWD. The PWD benefits by maintaining and improving the health conditions in a cost-effective manner.

Nutritional sensitization programmes are conducted regularly in order to provide information on nutritional value of food. This is mainly for the benefit of children and pregnant women. Good nutrition acts as a preventive to children being born with disabilities.



Corrective and Preventive Surgery. Two families were motivated to do surgery for their disabled children. Motivation involves educating the family members about the medical advancement, removing superstitions, encouraging them to find resources to meet the expenses and referring them to suitable hospitals. In spite of this, one family refused to undergo surgery and the other postponed the same to the following year.

The Nutritional supplementation programme is meant to support families of PWD's who are economically very poor and who need additional nutrition. Every alternate month about nine family receives about seven kgs of ragi powder each supplied by WE CARE.

CBR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Inclusive education means that every child in the society, whether able or disabled, must be admitted into normal schools, as far as possible, and included within the education system of our country. Under our CBR programme we make every effort to ensure that children with disability, who can study in normal schools, are provided admission. This involves interaction with the parents, school authorities, teachers, and other to change the mind set that a child with disability cannot go to a normal school. It also involves the follow-up to ensure that the child is progressing well and feels comfortable. One girl with speech and hearing impairment was admitted to a special school through intervention of our staff.

Home Based Education means providing education at home to persons with disability, especially children, who cannot attend normal or special school because of their acute physical or mental condition or because of financial difficulties. Our CBR staff visit the houses of these children and provide them with basic education. They also follow up the children with disability who are attending special school.

During the **Integrated children camps**, children with disability are provided an opportunity to mingle with normal children and participate in all the activities conducted during the camp. Such camps give the children with disability an opportunity to discover their talents and to grow in confidence. The normal children also get an opportunity to closely interact with the disabled children. Seeing that the children with disability also have intelligence, skills and talents they come to

have a healthy respect for them and began to include them in their circle of life. It is also hoped that through such camps the general public who participate will become aware of the disabled and participate as a community in supporting the persons with disability.

During the year under CBR we initiated the **Adolescence Education Programme**. The objective of this programme was to assess the knowledge of children in government schools on changes during adolescence, HIV/AIDS, gender role, reproductive life and substance abuse. Two government High Schools one in Konappana Agrahara and Begur were targeted in which preliminary work was undertaken and a training programme for teachers was conducted.

Scholarship from Government. Every year the government of Karnataka grants scholarships to students with disability. Our CBR assist and guide the parents of the students in fulfilling the procedures so that they may receive the scholarship.



Scholarship from WE CARE and Others. In order to support the education of children with disability WE CARE identified and granted scholarship in kind (school bags, books, toys, water bottles, etc.) to disabled children in the target area. Two disabled students from our project area have also received cash scholarships from **Sri Charukeerthi Bhattarakara Vedike**. Such scholarships provide support and motivate the children to pursue their education.

Two **Teachers Training programme** were conducted in the Government High Schools at Begur and Konappana Agrahara in order to bring awareness to the teachers on how to deal with disabled children studying in their school. Awareness was also given on inclusive education and the rights of the disabled.

Awareness on disability was conducted in schools in the target area. The school children were given awareness on types and causes of disability, leprosy, need for inclusion of the disabled in our social stream and the need to change our negative mind set and superstitious beliefs on disability.



CBR ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES



Support for self-employment. During the year financial support was given to Mangala Gowri, to purchase sewing machine. Her child Shivaraj is a person with disability. Mangala Gowri and her husband are tailors and since she is unable to go for work, the sewing machine will help her to undertake work from home and also care for her child.

Vocational Training: Computer Hardware & Networking Course. In order to provide vocation and employment skills to persons with disability and the youth, a course in Computer Hardware and Networking skills was conducted by Joseph Paul, for three persons, including two persons with disability. The duration of the

course was for three months. **Computer Classes** were conducted by Manikantha, who himself is a person with disability. Ten students including our CBR staff at Pratiksha Nivas attended the course. While the students learnt computer skills Manikantha was able to earn some income from the contribution made by the students.

Physically Handicapped Pension (PHP). The Government of Karnataka provides pension to any person who is disabled. The amount varies according the percentage of disability. During the year 3 new persons with disability applied for pension. 7 persons with disability (including those who had applied in the previous year) received their pensions.





Thread Spinning. Chamundeswari, a young widow, conducted sessions for parents of persons with disability and other women from the neighbourhood teaching them the skill in spinning thread. The thread which comes in big spindles are spun into smaller bundles, which are then packed and sold in the market. The small bundles are normally purchased by flower vendors to tie flower garlands.

Bus Concession Pass (BCP). The Government of Karnataka provides bus passes at very concessional rate to persons with disability. With this pass the person can travel up to a distance of 100kms from the place of residence. The pass is normally valid for one year and has

to be renewed. During the year 21 persons with disability were referred for BCP and 13 persons received the same.

CBR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Disabled People Organization (DPO) is an association of persons with disability or their wards who form themselves into an organization in order to work for their own welfare and rights. Through the CBR programme the DPO was formed and registered as a society with the name *Navajyothi*, the New Light, in the year 2010 with 77 persons as members. The DPO has been conducting meetings for its members regularly, imparting training, motivation and information. The DPO also encourages its members to participate in various programmes such as sports and games, competitions, etc. Resource persons are invited from time to time to provide training and skills to the members. During the year 2011 the DPO



members participated and volunteered their services in conducting the integrated children's camps, independence day celebration, world disabled day, Jaipur foot camp, sports day, etc. They also assisted the members to make applications for pension, scholarships, doctor's certificates, bus pass, etc.

Visit from AIFO Delegates. On 12th November 2011, four delegates from AIFO, Italy, namely Antonio Lissoni, Sr Arcangeli Gabriella, Libero Ponticelli and Scelci Paolo visited the CBR project for a first hand experience of the same. They were given an overview of the programme after which they had a look at the documentation and records, visited the area and some

beneficiary families and interacted with them. They highly appreciated the activities and initiatives taken by WE CARE.

World Anti-Leprosy Day was celebrated on 21st January 2011 in Begur and Hommadevanahalli to create awareness among the people that leprosy is a curable disease and assist the cured patients to be rehabilitated within society.

Sports and Drawing Competition was organized by the Women and Child Welfare Department of Government of Karnataka on 1st December 2011 at Kanteerava stadium, Bangalore. 17 persons with disability from our target area took part in the drawing competition and 36 persons participated in the sports events. Four participants secured prizes. Members of the DPO, CBR staff, parents of the disabled and other volunteers also participated and gave a helping hand. Participating in such events generates lots of enthusiasm among the disabled and their families. Those who win prizes get a good feeling and are motivated to participate in other activities as well.



World Disabled Day (WDD) which is celebrated all over the world on 3rd December is to create awareness about the human dignity of persons with disability and their human right. The WDD, in Bangalore, was organized by the Women and Child Welfare Department of Government of Karnataka on 3rd December. 17 persons from our target area, including disabled, parents and CBR staff attended the programme. During this celebration, the participants got an opportunity to interact with other NGO's and persons with disability. They also received information and motivation from the speeches of various eminent political and social leaders. WDD was also conducted by the Navajyothi DPO on 11th December 2011 at Pratiksha Nivas, Bangalore. 28 persons, including disabled, parents, CBR staff and the public were present on the occasion. On the occasion scholarships and the prizes won at the Sports events were distributed to the persons concerned.

CBR OFFICE ACTIVITIES



Staff Training & Exposure: During the year the CBR staff had in-house training conducted by various resource persons. Various topics such as personality development, reporting, basic concepts of CBR, self-actualization on the vision-mission of WE CARE, documentation, computer skills, etc. Exposure programs and visits were also organized to Bangalore Community College, Sneha Nilaya Orphanage, Abhayashram, and other old age and children's homes. Through these training and exposure programmes the CBR staff equip themselves with new skills and insights, which in turn help them to improve the quality of their services to the disabled.

**EVERY HUMAN BEING HAS A RIGHT TO LIVE WITH DIGNITY
LET US TRANSFORM OUR GREED TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR NEEDS**



Our CBR Team consists of **Amala (Rani)**, Programme Coordinator, **Meena M B**, Assistant Programme Coordinator, **Yashodha** (who is also a person with disability) and **Muniyamma**, CBR Workers, **Narashima Murthy**, Office Assistant and **Augustine**, Support staff. We thank them for the valuable contribution, dedication and commitment.

Planning, implementation, review and evaluation are regular processes that make the CBR programme effective. Weekly and monthly meetings are conducted by the CBR Team in order to review and evaluate the work done and to plan for the following weeks. The review helps us to identify the progress and

difficulties and to make necessary changes whenever required. The annual evaluation for 2010 calendar year was conducted by Amici in January 2011. Mr Jose M V, Representative from AIFO, visited our office and evaluated the progress of the CBR programme, inspected the documentation, monthly plans, activity reports, and general operation of the programme. He was very satisfied with the programme and gave suggestions for further improvement in the coming years.

Survey, is undertaken to identify the new cases of persons with disability. This an ongoing process and done in two ways. One, primary survey, that is, door-to-door contact. The other, secondary survey, that is visiting schools, Anganwadis, Panchayat members, other social workers, primary health centres, etc. During the year 2011 the secondary survey was conducted in 10 new areas, namely, Hennagara, Kacharakanahalli, Kithaganahalli, Banahalli, Rajapura, Kenchallihalli, Amanikere, Ramakrishnapura, Hinnakki and Haragadde. During the survey 33 new persons with disability were identified and brought under the CBR programme.

Documentation is an important part of the CBR programme. Files are maintained for each person with disability which contains the case study form, copy of doctor's and other certificates, follow-up sheets, information of benefits received, etc. The CBR staff maintains a dairy. The work is planned out on monthly basis, based on the annual plan. Daily work is scheduled on weekly plan. At the end of the week, a meeting is held to review the work done and the same is repeated at the end of every month. Beside these, registers are maintained for different activities, along with the activity reports, photographs and statistical information. At the end of the year, the documentation becomes part of the evaluation process. Under our CBR programme, the entire data of the persons with disability is computerized and efforts are on to further develop the computerization process with the help of Dithi Infoserve Pvt Ltd., Bangalore.

CBR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play an important role in an organization. At WE CARE we have been fortunate to have many people who wish to support our activities with their resources of time, knowledge and presence. Today's world has become a global village because of networking. The power of networking enables an organization to multiply its hands, feet and presence.



Volunteers Day was celebrated on 23rd December 2011 at Pratiksha Nivas to thank all our resource persons, volunteers and friends who lent a helping hand and supported us in carrying out the programmes

during 2011. About 30 persons participated in this programme. Others who could not participate were thanked individually and were presented with gifts as a token of our appreciation for their services. Some of our volunteers and resource persons to whom we are grateful are Ratnakumari, social scientist from St John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore; Deepti Colaco, consultant for NGO's, Bangalore; Martha, Sampoorana Mary, Amalamma, Aruna and Samadhana Mary, field supporters, G B Palya, Bangalore; Joseph Paul Raj, vocational trainer, BTM Layout, Bangalore; Hiremath, KC General Hospital, Bangalore; Nagaraj, staff Mobility India, Bangalore and Chamundeshwari, vocational trainer, Mavalli, Bangalore.



WE CARE has been **networking with other Government Organizations**, such as State Commissioner for Persons with Disability; Women and Child Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka; K C General Hospital; Primary Health Centres in the target area; Block Education Officer; Government schools; Anganwadi Centres; Department of Labour and Employment, Government of Karnataka; Makkala Sahaya Vani, Asha workers, Taluk offices and local Panchayats **and Non-Government Organizations**, such as St John's Medical College Hospital, Mobility India, Association for Physically Handicapped, Amici Di Raoul Follereau Trust, Dithi Infoserve Pvt Ltd, Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind, Enable India, Rotary Club-Jaipur Foot Camp, etc. Through this networking we were able to carry out our programmes in a better manner.

SUCCESS STORY: MANGAL GOWRI—COURAGE AND DETERMINATION



I am Mangal Gowri sharing the experience of my family success. I am married and have three children. One child, Shivaraj, was born orthopedically handicapped with cerebral palsy and two normal children. My husband, Murali, is working in a garment factory as a tailor. Initially I found it hard to accept my child's disability. I used to feel depressed. I was also cheated by many people who told me that my son will become normal if I took this or that kind of treatment. Believing in them I tried everything, only losing money in the bargain. When I first met the staff of WE CARE, I was afraid to share my problems with them, thinking that they too will cheat me. But I soon realized

that they are genuine people. With the help of their staff I was able to understand my son's disability and also to accept it.

Earlier we were managing the family with my husband's salary. After the birth of Shivaraj, our financial problems began as we had to provide medical support for him. I decided not to have any more children. However I gave birth to another child. Now the salary of one person was not sufficient to support the family. So I decided to take up a job. I tried putting my son in a day-care centre and go for work. But

nobody was willing to carry him to the day-care centre. Hence I could not take up a job. While contemplating on my problems I realized that I know to stitch. I thought to myself, 'if I had a sewing machine I could take up tailoring work from home and also look after my children'. But who would provide the finance to purchase the sewing machine? During this time I was attending the self-help programme under WE CARE. Their staff began motivating us to take up some self-employment to support our families. I explained my problems to the staff and made a request to WE CARE for financial support to purchase a sewing machine. With my little savings and their generous help I was able to buy a good sewing machine. Now I take up tailoring jobs from home. I earn money to support my family and am also able to take good care of my children, especially Shivaraj.

I also received other benefits with the help of WE CARE, such as physically handicapped pension, education scholarship, nutrition for my children and wheel chair for Shivraj. Their staff helped us a lot. I am thankful for their support and help received through them.

STORY OF HOPE: SURESH - LEARNING TO BE INDEPENDENT



I am Suresh, an orthopedically handicapped. Earlier I was very nervous and diffident person and would be afraid to come out of my house. I would feel shy to mingle with others in the community. In the year 2000, I was invited by WE CARE to attend the Integrated Children Camp. I was not willing to participate in that programme. Their staff motivated me and my family. After six months I began to improve. I started to move out of the house and began to attend the free evening tuition class conducted by them. Every evening while going to their centre I had to cross the road and at the centre I got an opportunity of mingling with other children. Slowly I overcame my shyness and fears. In December 2011 I participated in the Sports Day competitions conducted by Women and Child Welfare department of the Karnataka State and I won a prize in walking race. Today I am able to move around and mix with people more freely. All this is the result and fruit of the hard work done by WE CARE, by the CBR staff and programme over the years. Thank you.

ASHRAY, HOME FOR MENTALLY CHALLENGED, VARANASI

Ashray, means a house of shelter where about 27 mentally ill patients reside. Ashray is a kind of half-way home where the mentally ill find an environment to reconstruct their lives before they can return to their families. The patients come from the surrounding villages. The patients have regular medical check ups, are given occupational therapy and counseling. But above all they are given love, care and unconditional acceptance by the care-takers. The serene atmosphere of the place also adds to their quick recovery. WE CARE provides support to the patients towards clothing, hygiene and medicine. Ashray is run by the **Indian Missionary Society** and managed by the **Franciscan Clarist Sisters, Noida Province**.

We thank Ashray for providing WE CARE with an opportunity to involve ourselves to support the sick and suffering. We highly appreciate their work and dedication in the care of their patients.

*The works of love grow slowly,
step by step,
person by person*

WOMEN AND CHILD PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

(Highlights)

The total number of persons who benefitted from this programme in 2011 is **234**. The total amount spent on the programme in **2010-11** was **Rs. 20,835**.

Statistical information regarding beneficiaries and programmes in 2011

Premankur - Clothing for new born children	83
Women's Day Celebrations	97
Women's Meetings (5)	40
Volunteers and Collaborators	14
Total	234

World Women's Day was celebrated on 10th and 13th March 2011 in Nanjapura village and Prathiksha Nivas, Bangalore. The CBR staff and women of the locality also participated in the women's day celebration conducted by Mobility India at Hebbagodi village. 97 women participated in these celebrations. The topics discussed were the rights of women, health awareness, laws relating to women protection and empowerment. Dr Sheila Daniels from the Psychiatric Department of St. John's Medical College Hospital, Mr Prakash, Advocate, and other eminent persons gave inputs during this function.



Women Group and Counseling Services. Ratnakumari, employee from St. John's Medical College Hospital and a Resource Person for WE CARE, had informal meetings with the women from the neighbourhood and the mothers of the children attending the evening tuition class in order to form them into a group. In their meetings they discussed various life situations including the difficulties they faced in their families (such as alcoholism, domestic violence, nutrition, health issues, etc). They also shared their difficulties about parenting, children's education, adolescent behaviour, etc. Five such meetings were conducted during the year. Rathnakumari provided counseling services to various women from the group.



Premankur (A seedling of love) is a programme to welcome new born babies into our world with love. The underlying philosophy of this programme is summed up in this line, **"Every child born into our world brings a message that God still loves us!"** Premankur is steered by its single minded mission of love in action. A group of like-minded women pool their resources in time, talent and money to clothe some of the hundreds of newly born babies, whose parents cannot afford to wrap them even in swaddling clothes. The fruits of our labour, in the form of clothing (both for mother and child) are gifted at different

maternity hospitals and shelter homes. It is our hope that this initiative will inspire many other women to reach out in love to these less fortunate women and their little bundles of joy!

The members of Premankur group in 2011: Dorothy Rebello, Mary Rodrigues, Jessy Almeida, June Carvalho, Jaya Miranda, Indra Miranda, Winnie Mascarenhas, Carol Beck, Lydia Fernandez, Cynthia Rosario, Marie D'Souza, Concilia Prez, Augusta Machado and Yvonne Pereira.

The volunteers and friends of Premankur in 2011: Ivy Rodrigues, Judy D'Souza, Jeanette Menezes, Meera Manjunath, Ida D'Costa, Greta Colaco, Bhanumathi, Lourdes, Beatrice Abreo and Veera Pinto.

The members and volunteers of Premankur stitch baby clothes, by themselves, consisting of about 20 or more pieces wrapped in a hamper. In 2011, **83 hampers** were distributed **free-of-cost** to mothers of newly born babies in municipal maternity hospitals, at Cox Town and Yeshwantpur, both in Bangalore. With rising prices, each hamper now costs approximately Rs.1,000/-. They also distributed gifts to the support staff of the hospitals to thank them for their cooperation and hospitality. The members meet once a month to fellowship and plan out their work. The packing and distribution is done every quarter. During the year they celebrated the 80th birthday of member, Marie D'Souza.

REACHING OUT TO THE LESS FORTUNATE IS THE KEY TO FULFILLMENT AND HAPPINESS

Indra Miranda, member of Premankur-a profile



Coming from Indra, this statement is not surprising at all. Indra has always been involved in reaching out to the poor and needy right through her early childhood in Lanka. A resident of her marriage in 1967, Indra has been through many hardships, but that has never stopped her from carrying on with her charitable activities. The loss of her husband at an early age dealt a terrible blow to Indra and her two young children, but she took it in her stride and remains ever grateful to the support she received from total strangers during her husband's illness and treatment in Mumbai.

The sewing classes that she conducted for 27 long years as a member of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul Society at Ascension Parish Church, Bangalore is a testament to her level of commitment and dedication. As a Salesian Cooperator, Indra dedicates her time to the welfare of Society. She has been instrumental in securing school admissions for less privileged children at Maria Niketan, Mariam Nivas, Christel House and the George Foundation. Additionally, Indra's work with Premankur is invaluable to the group and her keen interest in gardening, cooking and baking keep her fully occupied. We are proud to have her as a member of our group. We wish her many years of good health and service to humanity, especially the poor and needy. **(Written by June Carvalho, Member, Premankur Programme).**

Excerpts from the Programme Reports 2011 and Visitors' Book

I appreciate the interest and dedication of the employees (CBR workers). With little enhancement and guidance they will be the resourceful workers to the organization. You are really reaching the unreached. All the best. **(Rathakumari, Staff, St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore.)**

Good to see the first computer course successfully completed. I think many students will benefit from such courses. Please continue the good work. I am proud of the teachers and students who made this a success. **(Balaji)**. It was a really great and amazing learning experience for me. It was a great privilege to be associated with WE CARE. The children are able to understand things well. I wish them all the best for the future Thanks a lot. **(Murali)**. Volunteers.

I was very happy to visit the centre and see for myself the interaction taking place. It is worth visiting and I wish the centre the very best in its development. **(Premaja, Coordinator, Makkala Sahayavani, Bangalore)**.

MEDICAL PROGRAMMES & ACTIVITIES

(Highlights)

During the year financial support has been provided to **93** sick and infirm people. Support for purchase of medicines, hospitalization and other health related matters in the year **2010-11** amounted to **Rs. 1,00,371**.

Statistical information regarding beneficiaries and programmes in 2011

Hospitalization and Medicines (Terry, Salome, Sunitha, Maria Prema)	4
Volunteers and Collaborators (Kidwai + SJMCH)	4
Cancer patients (Nirmala, Zubedar Khatoon, Kannamma)	3
Dialysis patients (Chandramma, Anaroop Anthony, Shivakumar)	3
Cardiac (Sarada)	1
Meeting of Support Group of Dialysis Patients	36
Patient's Caretakers Association meeting	42
Total	93

Medical Financial Support during the year was provided to 3 cancer, 3 kidney, 1 cardiac and 4 general patients towards purchase of medicines and hospitalization. Children and persons with disability who received medical financial support during the year has been reported under other sections.

WE CARE participated and felicitated the dialysis patients at a function organized by the Medico-Socio Work Department of St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore on 19th December 2011. Various dignitaries from SJMCH, doctors, nurses, social workers and members of other social organizations were present on the occasion. Besides these, over 50 people, who included patients undergoing dialysis and their family members were also present. Cultural items were organized by the members of the support group for dialysis patients. WE CARE sponsored study materials for the 27 children of dialysis patients (see statistical data under Education Programmes).



Patient's Caretakers Association. St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore has formed an association for the persons who take care of patients on a professional basis. The Medical Social Welfare Department has been conducting meetings for the members of the association with the aim of helping them to become self-reliant and better equipped to care for the patients. The staff of WE CARE has also been actively participating in these meetings and lending a helping hand. One such meeting of the care-takers was held at the premises of WE CARE at Pratiksha Nivas on 27th April 2011 during which 35 care-takers and 7 others were present. During this meeting various problems (family, social and economic) affecting the care-takers were discussed.



Leena Lobo, LIC Agent was invited to give awareness to the care-takers about medical and life insurance. Premaja, Coordinator for

Makkala Sahayavani, Bangalore, was invited to give awareness about the legal provisions and rights of

women. Eliza Pereira, Head of Department, Medical Social Work, SJMCH, gave awareness about the needs for savings and investments. The follow up meeting was conducted on 20th July 2011 at SJMCH to evaluate the initiatives taken from the awareness given at the previous meeting. It was found that all the care-takers had taken the health insurance policy and had begun saving money.

A Meeting of Support Group of Dialysis Patients was held at Pratiksha Nivas on 22nd July 2011. The total number of patients present were 36. The aim of the meeting was to support and motivate the patients in their long drawn treatment of dialysis. Each patient shared their problems, difficulties and joys. They also shared the difficulties which their families have to undergo because of the dialysis treatment. Such kind of sharing helped them to listen, understand and learn from each other. At the end of the meeting, the patients took an oath to keep supporting and helping each other, inspite of their own difficulties. WE CARE offered their premises to the patients support group for conducting such meetings in the future.

Giving life in death. On the funeral of Mrs Theresa D'Souza, Founder of WE CARE, the mourners were requested to pay their respects not with flowers, but rather to make a contribution towards the dialysis of needy patients. The underlying philosophy behind this was twofold, namely to have a green funeral and secondly that even in death one can provide life to others. We thank all our friends who respected this wish and made generous contributions which will be used for providing support to dialysis patients.

ACCOUNTS: DETAILS OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

(For it is in giving that you will receive)

PARTICULARS	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Voluntary Contributions	2,00,070	2,86,753	21,48,730
Voluntary Donations	20,700	17,715	13,500
Interest on Investments	12,86,864	11,71,751	9,64,384
Memorial & Corpus Funds	16,70,367	24,29,987	5,86,486
Other Income	26,180	13,591	0
TOTAL INCOME	32,04,181	39,19,797	37,13,100
Education Programmes	10,32,923	8,97,270	4,28,253
Disabled Programmes	4,11,700	4,78,146	6,61,538
Children & Women Programmes	20,835	23,489	14,025
Medical and Health Care Programmes	1,00,371	2,06,859	63,482
Housing, Help for the Poor, Senior Citizens, Programmes	3,82,308	52,913	13,06,011
Administration and other expenses	37,699	1,03,665	1,06,135
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	19,85,836	17,62,342	25,79,444

NOTE: The above details have been taken from our audited accounts. The figures are in Indian Rupees. We are grateful to our Auditor, **CA. Rohan Miranda, of Lawrence Tellis Associates**, Bangalore and his staff for their valuable guidance and services.

Greetings and wishes for the year 2012

may your life be filled with the blessings of the Almighty.

From : Trustees and Staff

OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

(Highlights)

The total amount spent on Other Charitable Activities in 2010-11 was Rs. 2,81,937 and over 4020 persons benefitted from these programmes.

Statistical information regarding beneficiaries and programmes in 2011

Nutritional supplement for senior citizens and poor families	12
Distribution of used clothing (full details not available)	7
Bore well for villagers at Panakahalli, Tamil Nadu (approximate)	3000
Volunteers and Collaborators	3
Total	4020

Nutrition supplement was provided for Seven Senior Citizens and their families. The nutrition consists of food grains and provisions on monthly basis. The programme is supervised by Celine Soans, Trustee and assisted by Mr Calistus Fernandes, volunteer.

Distribution of used clothing. Used clothes given by our friends and well wishers are regularly distributed to the poor and needy. Many clothes were handed over to Sr Louisa, from Sneha Nilaya Orphanage, for distribution among the poor.

The Bore well for villagers at Panakahalli, Tamil Nadu, was completed during the year and now has become functional. Thanks to the efforts of Fr Irudayaraj and the local villagers.

Our thanks also to Elizabeth Hitchcock of Hands of Hope Ltd., Ireland, who provided the financial support for the same.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

(Highlights)

TRAINING OF STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS. In order to bring an awareness of our activities and also to impart information about social work WE CARE conducted training for students and volunteers. During the year 6 students from MBA Jyothi Nivas College, Bangalore, enrolled themselves for 20 hours of community development programme as part of their college curriculum. They were exposed to various aspects of an NGO and social work, including visiting families of persons with disability, providing therapeutic services, home based education, interaction with members of the community and conducting an integrated children's camp. The students benefited from this training programme.



DOCUMENTATION AND RECORD KEEPING. At WE CARE we have been making efforts to develop our documentation and records of various activities and programmes conducted during the year. These include, beneficiaries lists, photographs, monthly and annual reports, updating our website, new-letters, etc.

PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS. During the year many people visit our programme centre, Pratiksha Nivas. Awareness is given to them by our staff about the various activities and programmes conducted by WE CARE. This is done with the help of visits to the field, power-point presentations, photo-exhibition, interaction with our staff and beneficiaries and participation in the activities and programmes. For the general public we also share information about WE CARE through emails and the website, www.wecaretrust.org Efforts are also being made to share information through social networking sites, like Facebook.

STORIES OF HOPE: A FAMILY STORY - TAKING CHARGE OF THEIR LIVES

A Family consisting of five members. An elder son, who is married and living separately. The other three children (two daughters and one son) living with their mother, C. All the children aged above 35 years. When this family came in contact with WE CARE, we discovered that the mother was suffering from high blood pressure and diabetics and the three children are mentally challenged (suffering from acute mental illness). They were being treated by a lady psychiatrist and were constantly under her supervision. All the three of them were employed and went for work whenever their health permitted. They were overburdened with loans (some taken by pawning their jewelry), high medical bills (they needed medicines costing approx Rs.5,500 per month) and daily groceries were also purchased on credit basis. Their house rent was being paid by the eldest brother, who also provided some money towards daily living expenses. However having a limited income and having to look after his own family he too was under great stress. The family, in general did not have a matching income to meet their expenses and were unable to make proper financial decisions. Day by day their condition was getting worse and suicidal tendencies were arising. In such a situation, after consulting their psychiatrist, we took the family under our care. We spent many hours talking to them and motivating them to introduce a budgeting system whereby they could balance their income and expenses, apply their income for immediate needs and reduce the wasteful expenditure. Through proper counseling, they were motivated to go for work regularly and not lose their wages by being absent. To encourage them, we also provided a small help to purchase their medicines. Within a few months we began to see the fruits of our efforts. The family members went for work regularly, took their medicines and maintained their health, redeemed two gold loans and repaid a loan to the grocery shop. All in all, they were on the road to financial recovery. After nine months of accompanying them, they felt confident to take charge of their own lives once again. **(For obvious reasons, the names of the persons in this story are kept anonymous).**



This space is dedicated in prayerful remembrance of our donors, benefactors, well-wishers & beneficiaries who have left for their heavenly abode.

May their souls rest in peace.



NOTICE

This is to inform our donors, benefactors, friends and well-wisher that **Mrs ANITA KHAN (Nee Smith)** residing at Gopal Nagar, Kengeri, Bangalore is **NOT** an employee or volunteer of WE CARE. Neither she nor any other person has been authorized by us to collect donations or deposits for WE CARE. Our donors and benefactors are requested to **send your donations directly to us**, preferably by cheque, in favour of **WE CARE** or through bank transfer. Every donation is acknowledged by us with an **official receipt**. In case anyone approaches you to collect money on our behalf kindly bring it to our notice immediately. Thank you. Fr. Trevor D'Souza, Managing Trustee.

Giving back to society what one has received is an attitude of gratitude

MEMORIAL AND CORPUS FUNDS

**If you love someone, show it
Set up a memorial / charity fund
in memory of yourself / your loved ones
Continue to live in the hearts and minds of people
rather than on the face of a tombstone!**

We are thankful to the people who have reposed their trust and confidence in us by setting up funds in honour & memory of their loved ones or for a particular cause such as children, education, health care, widows, women, old age and leprosy patients. The funds are listed below along with the year and cause for which they were established.

2011 John and Celine Smith Fund for Senior Citizens	2007 Amanda & Ambur Fund.
2011 Kulandai Mary Ambrose Memorial Health Fund	2007 Alwyn & Bernadette Nazareth Fund.
2011 Kamala Nataraj Memorial Charity Fund	2006 We Care 4 Children Fund.
2011 Christopher Savio and Shantila Maria Correia Education Fund	2006 Cecilia Thomas Memorial Fund.
2010 Noel Lobo Prabhu Memorial Fund.	2005 We Care Education Fund.
2010 Jerry Cardoza Memorial Education Fund.	2005 Prudente & Fatima Menezes Fund.
2010 Aruldass Ambrose Education Fund.	2005 Beatrice & Charles Noronha Fund.
2010 KARDEL Education Fund.	2004 St Anthony's Charity Fund.
2010 Hailey Nazareth Penny Fund for Children.	2004 Rosario Vincent & Natalia Lobo Fund.
2009 Yvette & Austin Da Gama Memorial Fund.	2004 Osborne & Ella D'Lima Fund.
2009 Stella Sequeira Memorial Fund.	2004 Mabel Rodricks Fund.
2009 Peter & Florine Tantz Memorial Fund.	2003 Rita Nazareth Memorial Fund.
2009 Mercy Jacob Charity Fund.	2003 Karen Maryann Pereira Memorial Fund.
2009 Lazarus Rajamani & Erick Vaz Memorial Fund.	2003 John & Edith Coutinho Memorial Fund.
2009 Ivy & Rudy D'Silva Marian Charity Fund.	2003 Dr Jeanette Pinto Fund.
2009 Francis Xavier & Lilian Catherine Sequeira Memorial Fund.	2003 D Y N Murthy Fund.
2008 Alma Philip Memorial Fund.	2002 Velthoria & George Sequeira Fund.
2008 A Lazarus Memorial Fund.	2002 Shirley & Maurice D'Mello Fund.
2007 Valerie Peters Memorial Fund.	2002 Annam Manikkathan Fund.
2007 Premankur Fund.	2001 Vida & Douglas Lobo Health Care Fund.
2007 Lily & Bonaventure Memorial Fund.	2000 Women's welfare Fund.
2007 Hands of Hope Fund.	2000 SNS Education Programme Fund.
	2000 Maureen & Kevin Colaco Fund.
	2000 Leprosy Patients and Families Fund.
	1999 John & Theresa D'Souza Fund.
	1999 Initial Trust Fund.

Detailed information on each fund is available on our website

www.wecaretrust.org/memorial_corpus.htm

The interest from these funds supports various charitable activities

JOHN AND CELINE SMITH FUND FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

“I learnt the art of sharing from my grandfather”

“Who can understand the sufferings of the poor leprosy patients better than those who battled with acute poverty conditions during childhood?” asks John Smith, as he recalls his life and experiences.

I am now 79 and my wife Celine is 76 years. I was born in 1932 in South Kanara into an Anglo-Indian family of eleven children and had a rough and tough childhood period. My father was not well-off and we had difficulty at home for food and education. Childhood days were hard when hunger was a constant companion. I learnt the art of sharing from my grandfather. He used to bring soft bread neatly tucked in his umbrella but gave it away to other hunger children on the way! This art of sharing continued to be a trait in my family. After completing my basic education, I got a job in Southern Railways. I got married to Celine, who was trained in nursing and midwifery. She too had a good job in the Railway hospital.



God filled my heart with a kindness for the poor and spirit of service to the sick. During my visits to Udupi, I used to visit St Anthony's Hospital, Jeppu and donate whatever I could for the care of the leprosy patients. Leprosy was my chosen field as I had seen poor leprosy patients suffering due to isolation and social boycott.

Celine and John Smith are the pious couple with compassion for all suffering humanity. Despite health problems associated with old age, they are a cheerful couple with a large heart. Even now, they keep apart a tidy sum from their meager income for the poor and suffering. May the Lord Almighty bless you both, as you cope with old age and may your lives continue to inspire many of us.

CHRISTOPHER SAVIO AND SHANTILA MARIA CORREIA MEMORIAL FUND

“In fond remembrance of our children whom the Lord has taken to Himself”



My wife Edilda and myself, Peter J G Correia would like to create a Memorial Corpus Fund for the education of the poor and needy children in memory of our two children.

We had two children, a boy and a girl. Our daughter, Shantila Maria died at the year of one year and two months and our son, Christopher Savio at the age of 15 years. Christopher was in class 9 at St Xavier's Collegiate School, Kolkata. He was a very healthy and good boy, obedient and good mannered, good at studies and sports. He had completed 8th grade of the Trinity College of Music in violin. The last tune he played on the violin was the *Ave Maria*, at the Golden Wedding of one of our friends on

25th October 1981. Of a sudden he developed a cold, sore throat, and within a few days he was completely paralyzed. We shifted him to the best hospital, but things went worse. He died on December 4th, 1981. Later we were told by a priest that our son wanted himself to be a priest one day.

We are writing all this to give you some background of our lives. If our children were alive, we would have spent lot of money for their education, well being and up bringing and ultimately they would have been inheritors to everything we have. Now that our children are no more with us, we decided to use our property for the extension of God's kingdom of love, peace and justice.

We have read the WE CARE newsletter 2010 and have read about the marvelous work you are doing to help, care, educate and uplift the needy and the poor. We are happy to know that we are now cooperators in your work of building a world of love and peace. May God bless you and all your helpers and cooperators.

We are grateful to Peter and Edilda Correia (now in their 80's) for setting up this corpus fund. We feel sad that you have lost your children. But through this fund, you will be able to educate hundreds of children in the years to come. May God bless you and grant your children eternal rest.

MARIAN & KULANDAI MARY AMBROSE MEMORIAL HEALTH FUND

"Eternally grateful to the Lord Almighty for curing my mother"

From their loving son, Aruldas Ambrose.

This fund is set up to remember and be eternally grateful to our Lord Almighty for curing my mother, Kulandaimary from TB when I (Aruldas Ambrose) was an infant. In those days, treatment for TB was not fully developed and my father (Marian Ambrose) went through very difficult times emotionally and financially as the disease was also contagious. Our Lady of Good Health, Vailankanni, helped mom to recover her health totally and completely. After being cured, she lived a healthy life and gave birth to three more children.



My Dad had never seen the footsteps of a school, but realizing the importance of a good education, he gave all his five children a convent education because of which we are what we are today! He left Coimbatore, in Tamil Nadu and came to Bombay to eke out a living. Life here was very tough for him. Employed as an ordinary helper, he slept on the pavements, worked double shifts and before long became a textile technician from an ordinary helper. Taking lessons from his father-in-law, he became the owner of a property in Andheri, MIDC, where he realized his life long dream to set up a textiles unit of his own. Remittance from Saudi Arabia helped him a bit, but he was the architect of the small empire that he established! I took lessons of hard work, simplicity and foresightedness from him. When the industry was hit hard by innovation and invasion of foreign technology, he retired to settle down in his native soil, Coimbatore. He passed away in August 2008.

My Mom completed her elementary schooling and was a resident of Mumbai. She endured patiently the short temper of my father and made a great homemaker. She contracted TB in the early days of her marriage and has been feeble ever since. It was God's blessing that kept her alive for so long. Her patient, prudent and practical outlook towards life uplifted our family from rags to riches! Her feeble condition became fragile after her triple by-pass heart surgery in 2004. Being a very thrifty and prayerful person, she held the family together admirably, especially during the storms of life! After a brief illness she passed away in March 2011.

In March 2012 we will commemorate her first death anniversary. The fund is intended to help some poor patients needing medical help in our society.

**Children are our national assets
let us invest in their education, growth and development**

KAMALA NATARAJ MEMORIAL CHARITY FUND**“Give it to the poor!”**

Mrs Eliza Pereira, Medical Social Officer, St. John's Medical College Hospital, Bangalore, who set up the fund in the memory of Kamala Nataraj wrote us this letter. “Dear Fr Trevor, I have known Kamala for the last 25 years. She was trained by me to care for senior and sick patients. Before her untimely death on 8th April 2011, she was the resident care-taker for Mrs Theresa D'Souza, Founder of WE CARE and was residing with her at Providence Home, Carmelaram, Bangalore. According to Kamala's last will and testament, which she made on 02nd April 2011, she desired that all her personal belongings be bequeathed to the poor. She entrusted me with the task of executing her last intentions. Hence after settling her hospital bills and funeral expenses, I am handing over the balance money from her belongings to your Trust, WE CARE, with a request to kindly create a Corpus Fund in her name

and memory and utilize the same for the benefit of the poor. The proposed name of the fund: Kamala Nataraj Memorial Charitable Fund.”

Kamala was married to Late Mr Nataraj. As she had no children of her own, she took care of her husband's younger brother who was disabled. After his death, she took up work as a care-taker of patients and worked in Baptist Hospital, Bangalore for many years. Later on she provided home-care to sick and aged patients. As she had no one, whom she call her own, she moved from one patient's home to another and lived with them till their death.

Kamala was a very dedicated care-taker and looked after the patients with devotion. She was also very spiritual person and used to spend her quite time in prayer. Knowing the seriousness of her health condition, when she was asked what should be done to her personal belongings incase she should pass away? Her only response was, “**give it to the poor**”. She wanted her clothing and jewelry to be sold and the money to be given to the poor. Lying in the ICU of St John's Hospital, she was offered free treatment for an open heart surgery. But she told the doctors and nurses, “I do not want to be operated upon and I am spiritually ready to die.” A few days later, while sitting in prayer, she suffered from a severe cardiac arrest and passed away peacefully. May her soul rest in peace and may her memory live in the hearts of those who will receive benefits from her funds.

The family members of Theresa D'Souza are grateful to Kamala for the loving way in which she attended to their mother, during the last two years of her life. While staying together in the Home, both Theresa and Kamala became close friends. With the passing away of Kamala, Theresa felt her loss and a few months later passed away. May the soul of Kamala rest in peace.

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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