Felicitations

At a combined meeting of Impact India Foundation’s Trustees and the Medical Advisory Board held on 29th September 2015, our retiring Trustee, Mr. Y.H. Malegam was felicitated by Impact India’s Chairman Mr. R.C. Sarin. A memento was presented to Mr. Malegam for his long and outstanding association of 32 years with Impact India Foundation.

Excerpt from
VIDARBHALine

Deepak Sawant assures separate Lifeline Express for Maharashtra

Minister for Public Health & Family Welfare Dr. Deepak Sawant, Chairman of the Assembly & Public Accounts Committee and MLA Gopaladas Agarwal, former Chief Secretary of Maharashtra and Trustee of Impact India Foundation Jayant Kumar Banthia, Collector Dr. Vijay Suiryavanshi and State Health Director Dr. Mohan Jadhav during the visit to Lifeline Expres project in Gondia.

District Correspondent
Gondia May 11
The Public Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Deepak Sawant who was in Gondia on Monday, paid a visit to the Lifeline Express Hospital Train. The Minister inspected all five coaches of the special train and appreciated the facilities made available there by Impact India Foundation. He also interacted with the beneficiary patients and was happy to know that they were satisfied with the services.

Minister Sawant has promised to propose an independent Lifeline Express like train for Maharashtra State. He informed that he will talk to the Union Railway Minister Dr. Suresh Prabhu and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in this regard. “Having separate train will give help in reaching out the health facilities to more people in the State and we would be able to hold more camps for the betterment of the society” opined Sawant.
Visitors to Impact India

Ms. Judi Stagg and Ms. Ciara Howard
Chief Executive and Fund Raising Officer

Impact Foundation, U.K. visited Impact India's Office on 14th March, 2016, and were presented an overview of Impact India's Lifeline Express and Community Health Initiative projects.

Mr. Jean-Francois de Lavison (JFL) of Ahimsa Partners, France, a staunch supporter of IIF, visited the CHI at Wada and IIF's Head Office in Mumbai in December 2015. JFL expressed interest in equipping the two new additional LLE coaches with equipment for the detection of Oral, Breast & Cervical Cancer, TB, Malaria etc.

Coffee Table Book: With the Lifeline Express Ghazipur Project, Mahindras completed sponsorship of 15 Lifeline Express projects - Total 3000 volunteers served and 64,565 patients benefitted.

To mark this landmark, a Coffee Table Book on the Lifeline Express - "RENEWING HOPE TO THE PEOPLE" was published by Mahindras Esops (Employee Social Options). Copies of the beautifully illustrated books were handed over to Impact India Foundation on 28th January 2016.

Officials of Impact Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) visit Impact India Foundation (IIF):
A team of officials led by Prof. Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Founder Trustee, Impact Foundation, Bangladesh, visited Impact India Foundation on 25th January 2015. A proposal was discussed to bring IFB's Jibon Tari Floating Hospital to Bengal and IIF's LLE to Dacca for cross country medical medical treatment.

Mrs. Zelma Lazarus, Founder Director & CEO, Impact India receiving the Coffee Table Book from Mr. Sushil Singh, V.P., and Mr. Gilroy Correia, Senior Manager, CSR, Mahindra Group, on 28th January 2016.
LIFELINE EXPRESS (LLE)

We are pleased that the Indian Railways has given us two additional coaches to augment our services to include prevention and control of cancer and family planning. General Surgeries for hernia and hydrocele will also be conducted. With the increase in services, we anticipate that the seven coach Lifeline Express will serve about 11,000 underprivileged rural persons at each project, free of cost.

INAUGURATION OF LIFELINE EXPRESS PROJECTS

Inauguration of 163rd LLE Project at Habibganj, Bhopal, by Mayor Mr. Alok Sharma & Municipal Commissioner Dr. Tejaswi Naik

The 164th LLE project at Datia, M.P. inaugurated by Dr. B. Prasad, Member of Parliament, Bhind, Datia constituency, accompanied by Mr. N. Mishra, Health Minister of M.P. This project was sponsored by Dr. Prem Malhotra, UK, in memory of his parents Mr. Radha K. Malhotra & Mrs. Shanti Malhotra.

Patients being examined at the 63rd LLE Project at Habibganj Bhopal

Breast and Cervical Cancer programme was conducted at the 164th project.

The 165th LLE project inaugurated by Mr. Rathod, Health Minister, Rajasthan, at Bharatpur Railway Station. Dr. Gopal Sharma, Chief Medical & Health Officer, Bharatpur and VP-CS, Mr. Sushil Singh of Mahindras accompanied Mr. Rathod.

Inauguration of 166th LLE Project by Hon. Executive Director of BHEL, Jhansi accompanied by Shri Ravi Sharma, Member of Legislative Assembly, Jhansi.
The 167th LLE project, sponsored by Mahindra & Mahindra at Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh was inaugurated by Mr. Manoj Sinha, Minister of State for Railways, on 20th November 2015. Mahindras completed sponsorship of 15 Lifeline Express projects and produced a beautiful Coffee Table Book.

VISITORS' REMARKS

Mr. Pradeep P., IAS, Collector & District Magistrate, Nandurbar - Commendable job from LLE in providing top medical services to the needy. Looking forward for further such engagements with them.

Mr. K. Chandrasekhar, ED & CEO, Maithon Power Ltd. - It is a delight to see such facilities on a moving train. My best compliments and success to the team.

Mr. K.N. Jha, Divisional Controller, Dhanbad - The Lifeline Express is an excellent hospital on rail. It should be replicated to provide health services to the poor in rural areas.

B.D. Sahil, Chief Engineer & Project Head, DVC - This is a unique Lifeline Express. Such type of express should be extended to other parts of the country. Please keep it up.

Dr. Deepak Sawant, Health Minister, Maharashtra - It is a new era in medical field which is utmost in medical practice. All the Team is dedicated and giving good service to humanity. Really making Disabled to Able. Maharashtra Government will definitely work on it to cater the services of medical field.

Mr. Ashok K. Beeyani, Asst. General Manager Curadev Pharma Pvt. Ltd. - Lifeline Express is helping the poor disabled persons by providing medical assistance in rural India. This is a very good social work which they are doing and extending help to more people. We are very much thankful to them for performing this noble work.

Mr. Gopaladas Agrawal, MLA, Gondia - It is a matter of great honour and pleasure that the Lifeline Express has come in our Gondia district again. I am thankful to Impact India, Government of Maharashtra, District Administration and specially to Mr. Banthia Sir Trustee Impact India and D Shri Suryavanshi due to their efforts this dream has become true. I wish all the success to this mission.

Mr. Manoj Sinha, Hon’ble Minister of State for Railways, New Delhi - Great work is being done by Impact. Thanks to Impact and Mahindrars. Please keep it up. It will go a long way in serving the people of this country.

168th LLE Project at Nandurbar, Maharashtra, sponsored by Emirates Airline Foundation and inaugurated by Mr. Pradeep P, IAS, District Collector, Nandurbar District, accompanied by Civil Surgeon Dr. Bhoi & District Health Officer Dr. Baviskar, and Dr. Rajnish Gourh.

Surgeries and Post-Operative arrangements at the Civil Hospital, Nandurbar.
COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE (CHI)

CHI at Parali (Population: 60,000) in Wada Block - The project sponsored mainly by Volkart Foundation Indian Trust, from April 2012 to March 2016 has been completed. The District Government has institutionalised most of the successful programmes thus paving the way for more projects in the CHI:

- Information, Education & Communication Sessions - 5,709 sessions held for 1,06,443 attendees
- Village Health Committees - 581 sessions held to activate 54 Committees and grade them according to performance
- Baby Wraps distributed and infants were treated with Nebulizers
- 3,859 girls were vaccinated against Rubella
- School Health Monitors - Teachers and Students were oriented to screen students
- Sanitary napkins were distributed to 5552 women and adolescent girls

Dasra Giving Circle funded CHI at Sakharshet (Population: 40,000) - 2015 - 2018:
9 Health, Nutrition & Education (HNE) Sessions for Adolescent Girls were conducted for Non-school going Adolescent girls. 61 centres were identified for future HNE sessions, which will be challenging in view of the high migration rate. Questionnaires were distributed to students of 5th to 9th standards and the 11th standard to assess their knowledge.

Adolescent Girls - Life Skills Education sessions held, girls tested for Anaemia and Ferrous Sulphate Tablets distributed
COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE

Village Health Committees (VHCs) - 197 community volunteers participated in the formation of 26 VHCs

Capacity Building of Government Health Staff (GHS) - 111
GHS attended 2 sessions

Volkart Foundation has gifted a Sports Utility Vehicle to the CHI, which has been used for staff travel from Wada to Jawhar to conduct Health Nutrition Education sessions, carry project equipment and deliver donated supplies to schools.

Water Wheel Project
A model ‘Water Wheel’ has been developed by a group of 9 students of HR College, Mumbai. The Water Wheel is a 50-litre rolling drum and is a safe alternative to carrying water heavy water pots on the head which causes series of back and neck related physical issues.

The women pay a nominal amount for the purchase of a water wheel. To make up the amount, they use their spare time to be trained in making ‘tote’ bags, for sale. With this income they are able to buy water wheels and also financially aid their families.
OBITUARY

Tribute Song for Raj Sir

Pay respect millions of times to ...
a person born
once in a lifetime
I pay tribute to Raj Sir
Raj Sir has unparallel magic
Gives support to everyone
How he could connect to our hearts
I pray tribute to Raj Sir
He patiently tried to overcome the illness
He gave motivation to everyone
I pray tribute to Raj Sir
Time has ... indeed been cruel
Time deprived us of someone so valuable
Time has made us all orphans
I pay tribute to Raj Sir
I have only one wish in Life
To take ahead CHI
I will strive dedicatedly to achieve his dream
I pay tribute to Raj Sir.

***

(Composed by: Devidas Palve, CHI Field Staff)

P.M. Rajasekharan
January 15, 1948 to February 16, 2016
Chief Operating Officer
Impact India Foundation
passed away on February 16, 2016
in Kerala, after a long illness patiently borne.
Raj, as he was affectionately known to all, will be missed by his colleagues for his dynamic approach to work, compassion for others and wise administrative abilities.
May his soul rest in peace.

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Rajnish Gourh, formerly Chief Executive, Lifeline Express, succeeds the Late Mr. P. M. Rajasekharan, since 1st March 2016 as Senior Operating Officer. Dr. Rajnish is a trained professional with rich and diverse experience of more than 9 years. We wish Dr. Rajnish best of luck in his new assignment.

Dr. Sujay Joshi was inducted into Impact India’s Community Health Initiative as Project Director with effect from 15th October 2015. Dr. Sujay brings with him extensive experience in the Health Sector. Good Luck Dr. Sujay in your assignment at the Community Health Initiative.
IT WAS A SIMPLE WISH.
All it wanted is that people should not through neglect and ignorance become disabled and thus robbed of their productivity and joy.

Twenty five years ago on 16th July 1991, the Lifeline Express, the world’s first Hospital Train, was launched on its path-breaking journey, restoring sight, movement, hearing, correction of clefts and more to thousands of disabled persons in rural India.

After 173 projects all over the country, and having medically served over a million patients this unique Hospital Train has proved that when the vision is clear and the will is firm, Hands will always rise to help. And now, we celebrate the birth of an extended Lifeline Express with increased capacity seven coaches - to medically serve the disabled poor. Let us rejoice in the knowledge that our enlightened leaders the Government of India, the Indian Railways, Corporate Heads and more - have recognized the value of the Lifeline Express and ensured its continuity for a long time to come. The Lifeline Express has been the model for several other countries to replicate this unique project with Hospital Trains and Riverboat Hospitals.

Today we salute the Surgeons, medical personnel and volunteers from India and abroad, who have donated their time and skills to the success of the Lifeline Express, and the thousands of others who have raised their hands for Impact. We know that the human spirit resolved to reach out to help, cannot be stopped now and in the future.

The Lifeline Express our Rainbow of Hope

Our dream is for
a Lifeline Express Hospital Train in every State
to serve the disabled poor in rural India

(Mrs. Zelma Lazarus)
Founder Director & Chief Executive Officer
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