

MOBILE HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE IN SINDH

PROGRESS REPORT

December, 2010 - April, 2011



Organized by
Hayat-e-Nau Society for
Human Development, Hyderabad



In-collaboration with
St. Elizabeth's Parish, Catholic
Diocese of Hyderabad

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INTRODUCTION

Hayat-e-Nau Society for Human Development is a local, officially registered NGO with a strong grassroots base within the local communities of district Hyderabad (population: approximately 2 million) where it works. It commits itself to work for integral and sustainable human development and seeks to be in solidarity with the poor, marginalized and oppressed in their efforts for empowerment, development and the promotion of their dignity and human rights.

Hayat-e-Nau believes that God's love extends to all human kind.

The main focus of Hayat-e-Nau is to improve the quality of life of **Children & Youth with Disabilities** by providing rehabilitation services, daily life skills and primary education adapted to their ability as well as working for the **Empowerment of Women**, within local communities, through capacity building that address **Development Issues, Gender Equality, Health, Ecology, Emergency Response and Right Based Disability Awareness**. This is accomplished through the medium of street theater and interactive dialogue sessions.

SUMMARY

Devastating floods hit Pakistan throughout July/ August / September, 2010 causing havoc to the land and displacing over 20 million people out of a total population of 160 million people.

Since the flood: Hayat-e-Nau has been engaged in providing medical relief to the flood victims in district Hyderabad, Jamshoro and Thatta. Hayat-e-Nau team dedicatedly participated during the medical relief work; we set up mobile health clinics from October, 2010 till to date in collaboration with **St. Elizabeth's** parish, Hyderabad, which is under the care of **Franciscan Friars**.

From the beginning we targeted those communities and groups of people not being reached by the government, local authorities, political parties or other NGOs. This meant traveling long distance over bad roads which washed away in parts and this was a real challenge to the expertise of our driver. We focused on the poorest and most in need in the districts Hyderabad, Jamshoro and Thatta of interior Sindh who were camped along the road side or huddled in small groups for protection. Many of them belong to minorities and tribal groups who were afraid to seek refuge in the official camps set up for those belonging to the majority.

In November our approach changed from emergency response to focusing on rehabilitation. The core members of our team met to discuss the reassessment of needs in this phase in the light of what had been shared with them by the local

communities and groups they were helping. A plan of action were drawn up, consonant with funds available.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- ⊙ Contribute to the well being of women, men, girls and boys.
- ⊙ Contribute towards the provision of essential health care services curative, preventing and promotion for people affected by flood.
- ⊙ Increase nutrition surveillance of children in flood affected areas in order to timely detect and treat malnourished children.
- ⊙ Contribute to reducing morbidity & mortality rate by communicable disease outbreak
- ⊙ Reduce the impact of communicable disease such as malaria, acute diarrhoeal disease, cholera, gastro, hepatitis etc. in flood affected people

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

Flood affected population of Districts Hyderabad, Jamshoro and Thatta, Sindh – Pakistan

METHODOLOGY

- To organize 70 Free Mobile Medical Clinics in flood relief camps and flood affected villages to reach out 10,500 populations (estimated 150 patients in each medical clinic) of target districts. To achieve the target during the reporting period we successfully reached out 11,388 populations.

CONSOLIDATED GENDER WISE OUTCOME REPORT OF MOBILE MEDICAL CLINICS (Taluka Level)

S. No.	Taluka & District	Total number of mobile clinics	Male	Female	Children	Total Population (Covered)
1	Latifabad – Hyderabad	28	967	1,352	1,797	4,116
2	Kotri – Jamshoro	23	838	1,253	1,405	3,496
3	Jati – Thatta	11	728	706	822	2,256
4	Sujawal – Thatta	08	382	523	615	1,520
Total		70	2,915	3,834	4,639	11,388

CONSOLIDATED REPORT - Diseases and Patients treated

S. No.	Name of Diseases	Total number of Patients treated
1	Cough	2,057
2	Fever	2,444
3	Gastro-intestinal tract infection	1,660
4	Eye/ Ear infection	1,627
5	Skin infection	654
6	Others	2,946
	Total	11,388

During these medical mobile clinics, our doctors along with the health team identified 09 disabled children and adults in Taluka Jati and Taluka Kotri who need special assistances and have been able to help them through the services of our own Rehabilitation Centre or others as appropriate.

Our current funds will enable us to continue our mobile medical clinic services up till October, 2011. Thanks for the ongoing financial support (from May, 2011) of this work by the **Mr. Roperto** (*Rawalpindi – Pakistan*), **Mr. Phil Kint** (*The Netherlands*) and **Fr. Samson Shukardin, OFM** (Parish Priest – St. Elizabeth’s parish, Hyderabad).

SUCCESS STORY OF BABY RAZIA

My name is Edal Lashari and I am living in a small village of Taluka Thul District Jacobabad. I have one child named baby Razia (15 month old) and she became ill 5 months back with persistent fever. We visited many doctors in Jacobabad and they diagnosed her as anemic (a blood deficiency). As a result of the flood disaster her treatment was stopped and we were all shifted to relief camps in and around the New Subzi Mandi (wholesale vegetable Market), Hyderabad. Razia became weaker day by day.



We also visited many doctors in Civil Hospital, Hyderabad and got treatment there. Laboratory investigations showed that she has very severe anemia. Half a pint of blood was transfused during her treatment. We observed some improvement in her health, so she was discharged from the hospital on our request because we couldn't afford the cost of further treatment and we went back to our relief camp.

One day the medical team of Hayat-e-Nau visited our camp and saw baby Razia and after



taking a complete medical history, doing a physical examination and seeing previous laboratory reports the team doctor advised her immediate hospitalization.

Initially I did not follow the doctor's advice because I was worried about the expenses involved. When the team visited us again a few days later, they were shocked that I

hadn't taken the child to the hospital. I explained my dilemma and then Hayat-e-Nau team took care of further treatment expenses and arranged blood transfusions. Thanks to the care and concern of Hayat-e-Nau my daughter has '*new life*' and I have a beautiful healthy baby daughter. I was hopeless for my daughter but Hayat-e-Nau gave me the new ray of hope.

SUCCESS STORY OF MRS. KARAM BIBI

A 76 year old lady, Mrs. Karam Bibi lives in Chaudhari Karam Din's village 3 – 4 km outside Kotri town. She became ill 3 – 4 months back and has been bed-ridden for the past 3 months. She is unable to walk, sit or change her position in the bed and was very malnourished. Actually, she had a fall as she tried to escape the flood waters. No fracture was seen, but due to pain, weakness, psychological trauma and immobility she was confined to bed.

One day, the Hayat-e-Nau medical team visited our village and we sought advice from them. The team doctor listened to her story, gave her a thorough



examination, prescribed medication and taught us how to do exercises with her that would help strengthen her body and encouraged the family to take turns sitting with her and cheering her up.

After about 2 weeks we were very surprised to see the improvement in our grandmother. We had visited many doctors in Jamshoro, Kotri and even in Hyderabad but we hadn't noticed any real change. But whatever medicines the Hayat-e-Nau doctor gave her seems to have given her a new lease of life. Our grandmother is now able to sit up, go to the washroom (with support), has started eating again and has become her usual chatty self.

We are deeply grateful to the Hayat-e-Nau medical team for working this wonder. Our grandmother had almost given up all hope of getting better, not a day goes by without her saying a prayer for the team and the work they are doing for flood affected families. She is the joy of her grandchildren and they are hers.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED DURING ORGANIZING MOBILE MEDICAL CLINICS

- Non availability of female doctor and female staff.
- Some patients required hospitalization.
- One visit to an affected area is not a solution - follow up visits are essential.
- Availability of clean drinking water remains the main problem.
- Limited water supply affects hygiene - people do not have the means to keep themselves clean.
- People leave it too late to take child/ mother for medical treatment because of poverty.
- Continue to face difficulties in reaching villages in district Thatta due to damaged roads and infrastructure.
- Tiredness of medical team due to long distance travel.
- Some patient needs urgent surgical treatment.
- Finding proper accommodation facilities for the medical team in remote areas.

NEEDS OF FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE ARE AS FOLLOWS

- Clean drinking water, sanitation and hygiene.
- On going health care services (Medical Assistance)
- Awareness raising on basic health and hygiene.
- Basic health and hygiene facilities.
- Training to TBAs and LHVS regarding mother and child health Care.
- Proper education system.
- Awareness regarding women & children basic rights and child sexual abuse.
- Protection of vulnerable women and children living in temporary, insecure accommodation.
- Adequate shelter.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The **Hayat-e-Nau** society for human development, and St. Elizabeth's parish Hyderabad would like to say thanks- to our generous partners, supporters because of your help, we were able to provide life saving medical relief to thousands of families in need.

Furthermore, thanks to the local administration especially Mr. Sikandar Ali Shah (relief camps in-charge, Hyderabad), AHD- Hyderabad, SRO- Thatta, Pastor Shakir-Kotri and other volunteers for their cooperation and facilitating our health team in the flood affected areas of Jati and Sujawal - Thatta.

Thank you once again for your important and much needed support; it is your friendship and concern that makes our medical relief work possible. God Bless You All....

PICTORIAL VIEW

Activities of Free Mobile Medical Clinics for Flood Affectees in Sindh

Dr. Kashif Minhas is examine and advising patients during mobile clinics in different villages in Sindh



Children are happy to receive free health care facility and medicines



These Children are suffering badly with Skin infections due to non availability of proper health & hygiene facilities and clean water at their villages



These children need urgently surgical operations, if any body/organization wants to help these needy children, we will welcome them to join hands with Hayat-e-Nau to provide assistance to these children.



This child is a patient of Cleft lip & palate



Patient of pterygus



Patient of Rectal prolapsed



Patient of Lymphadenopathy

Patient of congenital oosteoarthritis of thumb



Rev. Fr. Samson Shukardin, OFM (Parish Priest) and Javed Sadiq (Executive director) during monitoring visit of mobile medical clinic at New Subzi Mundi (vegetable market) – Hyderabad