

Community Health Project: Bangalore

Status: Ongoing
Project Partner: Adventist Medical Centre- Bangalore
Country Office: Asian Aid Australia
Duration: April 2011 – March 2013
Budget: \$36,000
Project Coordinators: Quentin Campbell
Nixon Samuel (Adventist Medical Centre: Bangalore)

What does this project aim to achieve?

This Community Health project aims to provide affordable health care to the poor in three urban slums in Bangalore, Karnataka, and to children in five schools in the surrounding area, while raising awareness about good hygiene and proper nutrition with the view of improving their health and increasing their life expectancy. People living in urban slums have low income and do menial work. Anaemia, water-borne diseases, respiratory infections and alcoholism are some of the concerns of the urban dwellers. Children in the urban slums drop out of school and engage in unhealthy activities regularly.

The Adventist Medical Centre in Bangalore wishes to extend its community health program for the neighbouring Doddigunta, LR Puram and Banaswadi Railway Station slums and five schools to include medical screening, intervention and referral through outpatient clinics, and training seminars and presentations. Funding will help the Adventist Medical Centre team and their partners provide health education to community people, run free outpatient clinics for slum dwellers with an emphasis on maternal and child health, occupational therapy assistance and referral to heavily-subsidised specialist services, organise free monthly dental and eye clinics, conduct yearly health camps at schools, provide free deworming tablets for children who need them and organise regular school presentations on health, hygiene and nutrition.

Who does this project help?

This project will help more than 10,000 men, women and children who live in the Doddigunta, LR Puram and Banaswadi Railway Station slums, and some 250 children at the Sunshine Orphanage and the Adventist School on the same campus, Nirikshea, Bandhavi and MTOS schools nearby. It is anticipated that at least 30 health educators will be trained to help raise awareness and educate others within their communities.

The project will also help family members, neighbours and friends of these groups of people.

Why has Asian Aid chosen this project?

Asian Aid has chosen to support the Community Health Project because it believes this project can make a *real* and *positive* difference in the lives of some of the most disadvantaged people in Bangalore. With an emphasis on health education, prevention and training of children, as well as adults in understanding good hygiene, proper nutrition and the dangers of alcohol, it is anticipated that the positive impacts of this project will help not only the current generation of slum dwellers and school children, but also their communities in the future.



When will this project begin and/or end?

The Adventist Medical Centre in Bangalore has been involved in community health projects for a number of years, but this intensified stage of their community health program will start in April 2011. It is anticipated that this stage will be completed by March 2013.

How will this project be funded?

This project will be funded by Asian Aid Australia through donations made specifically to this project by our donors and supporters. Asian Aid's partner, Adventist Medical Centre in Bangalore, will implement the work.

What can you do to help?

Asian Aid needs to raise \$36,000 to support Adventist Medical Centre's work in this area. You can help us give hope today by donating specifically to this project. To donate, visit www.asianaid.org.au or call us on (02) 6586 4250 with your credit card details.

An opportunity to volunteer may also exist for people with medical skills (doctors, nurses and/or medical support staff) by going to India. Call Quentin Campbell on (02) 6586 4250 (+ extension 1333) for more information about this opportunity please.

We value your practical contribution and continued prayers for the work Asian Aid does. We could not do it without you.

Thank you.