KARUNASHRAYA
BANGALORE HOSPICE TRUST

Newsletter

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER APRIL- JUNE, 2017



Karunashraya Memorial Day Celebrations 2017



ELICIT (End of Life Care in India Taskforce) and CANDID (Citizens Action Needed for Dignity in Death) at Karunashraya



Mr .Sudeep Sinha, Director HANS Foundation, visited Karunashraya.

PATIENT'S STATISTICS / FIGURES: APRIL TO JUNE

In- patient care

Admissions - New:	254
Re admissions:	152
Deaths:	190
Total No. of patients:	406

Home care

Admissions - New:	073
Deaths:	049
Total Home Visits:	678

Total number of patients from APRIL 2017 - JUNE, 2017

In-patient total Admission :	406
Home care service:	289



HANS visit

Mr .Sudeep Sinha, Director HANS Foundation, visited Karunashrayaon June 16, 2017 and spent his day interacting with our Trustees and staff members to know about our various initiatives. On May 17, 2017, a team from Hans Foundation visited the hospice to shoot a documentary video on Karunashraya's activities and services.

Memorial Day

May 01, 2017 was celebrated as Memorial Day at Karunashraya. This was the day when our first patient entered the hospice. To commemorate this special day, family members of various patients spoke about their experiences at the hospice and highlighted the care given to them and their loved ones. This was followed by music and dance performances by our nursing staff that made this event entertaining and remarkable.



Collaboration with Hospices:

Mr. Mathew George Chandy, CEO Karunashraya recently visited the Sparsh Hospice in Hyderabad. In the recent past, Mr. Ram Mohan Roy, CEO of Sparsh Hospice had visited BHT-Karunashraya to understand and observe the workings of our hospice to better run Sparsh.

VCR Stake Holders Meet – Hyderabad, 20th May.

VCR Park is a cancer focused knowledge and innovation bio cluster being set up in Vishakhapatnam on 500 acres. BHT had signed an MoU with VCR in the field of Palliative Care. Our CEO Mathew Chandy attended the inaugural meet. The one day meet was attended by over 60 people comprising CEO's of various companies as well as top level officials from the government of Andhra Pradesh.

International Yoga Day

On June 21, 2017, Karunashraya in collaboration with The Art of Living celebrated the International Yoga Day by organizing a two-day yoga workshop for our nursing team. The workshop was led by Ms. Pallavi, from The Art of Living. She guided our staff into a state of relaxation through ancient spiritual art. The workshop was quite beneficial for the nurses as it taught them ways to maintain a calm mindset and approach work with serenity.



Farewell to Dr. Kumaravelan

May 24, 2017 was the last working day for Dr. Kumaravelan. He will always be remembered as a humble and enthusiastic doctor who has touched many lives through his commitment, care and dedication. A fantastic human being, Dr. Kumaravelan has been associated with Karunashraya since May, 2012. The entire Karunashraya family is thankful to him for his contributions and wishes him the very best in his future endeavors.



First Drop Theatre

On May 13, 2017 First Drop Theatre organized a performance for our nursing staff. They enacted the lives, interests and experiences of our nursing members on a lighter note. It was an enriching experience for the nursing team.



Sports day at Karunashraya

Sports day was organized on May 22nd & 23rd 2017 at the hospice. It provided an opportunity for the nursing team, doctors and all other employees to participate in multiple sports activities. It was a fun-filled event which sparked excitement and was enjoyed by everyone including the patients.



Dept of Education & Research

The advocacy work of Karunashraya continues at local and national level. In early April Dr Nagesh Simha and Dr Jeremy Johnson spoke on "Integrating Palliative care into Oncology" at a day-long CME programme organized by the Cancer Relief Society, the Regional Cancer Hospital, IMA and Snehaanchal Hospice in Nagpur. In May, Dr Johnson also spoke on Ethical Issues in End of life Care at a large meeting organised by the Oncological Society and Palliative Care Centre in Bhopal.

Perhaps most notably, Mr Gurmeet Randhawa, Nagesh and Jeremy participated in a symposium at Mathura, with speakers and attendees from all parts of India and diverse backgrounds. Nagesh spoke on "Spirituality" and Jeremy on "Transitions in care and Non-beneficial treatments" The culmination of this significant and stimulating meeting was the signing of the "Mathura Declaration", a call to action for ensuring humane care at the end of life. This advocacy was felt to be necessary against a back-drop of inadequate awareness amongst the public, care-providers and policy makers, of the complex issues around compassionate and appropriate care of the dying person. Furthermore it pledged support for the work of CANDID (Citizens Action Needed for Dignity in Death) and ELICIT (End of Life Care in India Taskforce) of which Dr Nagesh Simha is a founding member and leading light. Karunashraya intends to also support and promulgate this work.





Mrs Sangeetha N. joined as a Nursing Tutor. She comes to us with considerable experience in nursing education and will be contributing to our Quality Improvement Programme through our in-house nurse training.



An email from a patients family member.

Hi,

First of all my heartfelt thanks for the support you provide for number of persons who are at the final stage of their life.
We detected that our beloved father has cancer during stage IV. We couldn't beat the strength of this deadly disease even after the surgery, Allopathy / Ayurveda / naturopathy treatments. When our doctor directed us to Karunashraya, we were really worried whether it is easy to get admitted, whether any recommendation is required etc etc.. But when we visited Karunashraya, we were extremely awestruck seeing their Vision, Mission and their work. They admitted my father immediately based on our Doctor's written statement and patient's health condition. My father was there for 2 weeks before his soul departed his human body. During those 2 weeks time, the care which he got at Karunashraya is simply great. Food (served n number of times as per patient's wish), pain management medicines, Qualified Doctors, Kind and caring nurses, entertainment programs, calm and peaceful pleasant environment ... No words to explain.
Whatever the patient asks (food and facilities), it was provided to him/her. Nowhere had I found the "We are serving you free of cost. Don't take advantage of that" attitude. Though my father might have missed us during his last days, I'm sure that we could not have taken care him better than Karunashraya. In the 30 years of my life, the place where I found "Real service to mankind", the place where I understood the real meaning of the word "Service" is KARUNASHRAYA. Keep up your excellent services.

Manju (name changed)



Nurses Day

The International Nurses Day was observed on May 12, 2017 where a get-together was organized for the nursing staff at the hospice to commemorate the day.



Volunteers from Sanman group, Giri Mallige Mahilasanga, India Art Foundation, R.K group and Intel as well as our well-wishers such as musician-singer Mr. Amarnath spent their valuable time in the hospice. They also engaged with our patients and staff members through various entertainment programs. They had conducted various dance, music and magic shows which have given joy and put a smile on our patients' and staff's faces.





TCS World 10K Bangalore

Our team of 20 nurses and few volunteers participated in "Majja Run", organized as part of TCS World 10K Bangalore Marathon on May 21, 2017.The objective was to raise awareness about the dire need in our country for palliative and hospice care as well as educate people about the services offered at Karunashraya.







Support from Educational Institutions:

Several educational institutions such as Christ College, St. Joseph College, Welinger College and Ivy Aspire continue to support our palliative care initiatives by sending volunteers to the hospice and organizing entertainment programs for our patients and staff.







Corporate visits:

The CSR teams from corporates such as Tata Coffee, Dell, Citrix, SAP Labs, McAfee, GE, Cisco, Intel and IDX visited BHT-Karunashraya to know more about the hospice and various services provided here. They were happy to be involved in all-round assistance which included preparation of nutritious meals, gardening activities, making cotton balls for wound care as well as providing fun-filled entertainment through various games, songs and dance performances.