

HOPE News Bulletin

Foundation for Women & Children of Bangladesh · <http://www.hopeforbangladesh.org> · May 2010

A Newcomer's Perspective

Tenth Anniversary Banquet

Sonya Chelliah, a student at Barry University, shares her impressions from the Hope Foundation's Tenth Anniversary Banquet. "Hope Foundation has become a great symbol in my life as a persevering and endearing charity." Sonya's full story is available on page 2.

Upcoming Projects

Cleft Lip Surgery Project

Hope Foundation is working with Dr. Shahid Aziz, a maxillofacial surgeon, to provide cleft lip surgery to poor children. Dr Aziz will be travelling to a Hope hospital in November, 2010. A profile of Dr. Aziz and information about this project can be found on page 5.

Partnerships with Other Organizations

Global Nomads Contribute

Global Nomads, a student organization at the University of Florida is raising funds and awareness for the Hope Foundation. Some members plan to visit Hope Foundation projects in Bangladesh to gain hands-on experience. More information is on page 3.

Australian High Commission Grant

The Australian High Commission of Bangladesh awarded the Hope Foundation a grant to fund rural health fairs targeting women and children. These fairs will encourage women and children to use services at Hope Medical Centers in rural areas. Details are on page 3.

Medical Visits

UK Medical Students Visit

An organization of UK medical students, known as Selfless, will be visiting Bangladesh in July, 2010 as part of a health camp for the poor. This will be the organization's second visit. The first was in 2009. More information about both visits can be found on page 4.

Nova Southeastern University Visit

Nova Southeastern Medical School is sending a medical team to Hope Foundation Clinics in December, 2010. In the future, NSU will be sending medical students to Cox's Bazar Hospital for women and children to complete rotations. Further details are on page 4.

Hope Foundation for Women and Children of Bangladesh is grateful to the following organizations:



Australian High Commission

Please support our work in Bangladesh. Your donation is tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Amount: \$50 \$100 \$250 Other: _____

\$20 monthly donor (please contact Hope Foundation for EFT information)

A Newcomer's Perspective

Hope Foundation's Tenth Anniversary Banquet

I volunteered to help setup for the Hope Foundation's 10th anniversary banquet in November, 2009. I had just heard about Hope a week prior to the banquet and had a general idea of the organization's mission. Now, I cannot think of the Hope Foundation as just an organization, but rather an awe-inspiring mission. A mission of hope not only to the women and children in Bangladesh but also to the aspiring hopefuls that have a dream and want to see it fulfilled.

Dr. Iftikher Mahmood, MD gave his presentation at the banquet on how he had the vision to start the Hope Foundation a decade ago. As I listened to the presentation, I kept thinking how wonderful it is that a small South Florida organization at one time, has blossomed into creating a fundamental healthcare system in Bangladesh. I was also able to hear the testimonies of some of Hope's Executive Board and student interns that volunteered their time to sustaining the Hope Foundation and in creating a fundamental healthcare in Bangladesh. I know how important the Hope Foundation is to the patients and healthcare givers of Cox's Bazar because of the way the supporters talked about the Foundation at the banquet.

I actually felt a part of the Hope Foundation that night, just because I was able to help Hope celebrate its achievement. I hope, with confident expectation, that I too will one



The new operation theater at Cox's Bazar Hospital

day be able to begin an organization that gives hope to the ones who need it most. Hope Foundation has become a great symbol in my life as a persevering and endearing charity.

—Sonya Chelliah
Barry University,
Miami, FL

Partnering with Other Organizations

Australian Grant Awarded

In October, 2009 an application was made to the **Australian High Commission** in Bangladesh for funding for rural health fairs targeting women and children. Hope Foundation is pleased to announce that the application was successful and a grant of 12 Lakh Taka (\$18,000) was made last month. The grant is the second awarded to Hope Foundation by the Australian High Commission. The funds will be used to host health fairs in rural villages to encourage women and children to use the medical clinics. Female doctors will visit these areas during the health fair and encourage women to use health services at the Hope Medical Centers.



Link Road Market, a busy intersection near Cox's Bazar Hospital for Women and Children. Note the absence of women in this public rural

This proposal for women's health fairs was made following findings that more men than women or children were using the services at the Hope Medical Centers in rural areas. This was a result of women being shy to see male doctors and also not being encouraged to seek healthcare for themselves and their children. Many women live village-centered lives and rarely visit public places such as markets and stores, even those close by. These proposed rural health fairs will help to show the village women the importance of seeking healthcare for themselves and their families by making active use of the resources available to them.

Global Nomads Contribute to Hope Foundation



Global Nomads, a student organization founded by undergraduate students at the University of Florida, is contributing with the Hope Foundation to raise funds and awareness of the poor medical conditions in Bangladesh for women and children.

As a group of students who have been exposed to different cultural backgrounds, Global Nomads aims to aid local and global communities in achieving a greater quality of life. Global Nomads members also plan to visit the Hope Foundation projects in Bangladesh to gain experience in healthcare of Bangladesh

Medical Visits

Nova Southeastern University Visit



Nova Southeastern University (NSU) medical school will send medical team to Hope Foundation clinics in December 2010. This is following an important partnership agreement by Hope Foundation and NSU. Nova team will be composed of physicians and senior medical students and will be headed by Dr. Elaine Wallace, Associate Dean of Health division. In the future NSU will be sending their final year medical students to Bangladesh to learn about healthcare in developing countries and tropical medicine.

The students will assist the doctors at the Cox's Bazar Hospital for Women and Children and complete a clinical rotation. Nova will also give the Bangladeshi doctors and nurses at the hospital an opportunity to earn an online diploma in Global Medicine fully accredited by NSU. This is a great opportunity for Hope staff and others to receive an internationally accredited education, increasing employment prospects for local people and allowing first world medical education to be taught in a developing country. This will help improve standard of care for all the patients and will also improve the way the hospital is managed.

UK Medical Students Visit Bangladesh

In July 2010, an organization of British medical students called **Selfless** will be visiting Bangladesh to take part in a large health camp for the poor. This is their second trip to Hope Foundation hospital. Their visit in 2009 resulted in over 2000 people being treated and helped. A team of 15 students will assist visiting doctors and doctors from the hospital to get hands on experience. They are generously donating the expenses for the camps.



Elective Aid in 2009 at Cox's Bazar Hospital for Women and Children.

Upcoming Projects

Cleft Lip Surgery Project

Every year 150,000 Bangladeshi children are born with cleft lip and palates, but surgery is very expensive and there are only few trained cleft surgeons in the country. Most of these unfortunate children live their lives in shame - unable to eat properly, talk go to school and taunted by many.

Many children are abandoned at birth by their parents. A simple surgery can change the life of a child forever. Please sponsor a child to lead a better life by visiting <http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/cleft-surgery-for-poor-children-in-bangladesh/> and make a one-time or a monthly recurring donation.



Hope for Poor Children

Hope Foundation with Dr. Shahid Aziz of 'Healing the Children' will be performing 50 surgeries in 5 days at Hope's charitable hospital Bangladesh, in November 2010. The surgeries will be offered free to the poor and will include follow-up care and rehabilitation.

Special Profile

Dr. Shahid Aziz



Dr. Shahid Aziz is a Harvard and Columbia University graduate of both medicine and dentistry and is a maxillofacial surgeon at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Having Bangladeshi roots, Dr. Aziz has felt a need to give back to the unfortunate children in Bangladesh. A prominent cleft surgeon, Dr. Aziz decided to make an annual trip to Bangladesh to perform cleft surgery on poor children. This is his first trip to Hope Foundation hospital, with plans to make this an annual event. A **Cleft Center** is being proposed in the Cox's Bazar District since there are no other facilities for many miles to receive cleft surgery.

The Hope News Bulletin is prepared by dedicated volunteers. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter by mail or online please contact the editor. Articles, ideas and suggestions for the Hope News Bulletin are welcome.

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