

Activity and Progress Report

From 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

INDIA

*In the Calendar Year 2016 **Hand in Hand** and its partner organization the **Prajnana Mission** were able to successfully carry out their joint health projects and expand their charitable services. The following projects offered free medical care and prevention for underprivileged people in India:*

- Three **Hariharananda Health Centres (HCHC)** situated in Balighai, Jagatpur/Cuttack (in the state of Odisha) and Bhisindipur (in the state of West Bengal), have treated **79.694** patients in need throughout the year 2016. Medical assistance was given in the form of 1.557 wound dressings, 21.144 laboratory tests, 126 ECGs and 245 physiotherapeutic treatments. Since the start of this program 17 years ago, a total of **785.365** people have been treated.
- At the **Village Health Project (VHP)** situated in **Arua** on the premises of the Hariharananda Balashram Residential School, **18.814** people received medical treatment. Since the beginning of this local project in 2010, a total of **78.593** people have received treatment.
- At the **Village Health Project (VHP)** situated in **Athagarh, (Upavanam)**, **10.983** people received medical treatment. Since the beginning of this local project in 2012, a total of **34.334** people have received treatment.
- **Regular Health Camps** were held in cities and rural areas of **Cuttack and Puri** in Odisha. The **Health Camps** allowed for **15.789** sick people to receive medical treatment. A total of **230.119** people have received treatment since the beginning of this program in 2013.
- **Dental Camps** were held in the Health Centres of **Balighai, Cuttack, Arua and Athagarh**. Treatment was given to **10,589** patients.
- The project **Hariharananda Program of Welfare for differently abled persons (HBKKY)** began in 2012, with the help of the National Federation of Blind, at Chandol in Kendrapara. The school is supported by the Prajnana Mission and, financially, by Hand in Hand France, who supplies them, on a monthly basis, with food and other urgent necessities.

- The **department for physiotherapy** offers high-quality care with the aim of prevention, rehabilitation and pain alleviation.
The **CBC (Complete Blood Count) device** enables doctors to make very quick diagnoses. Blood tests do not need to be sent to laboratories in Cuttack anymore, which had always been very time-consuming. As such, the waiting time for the patients to receive a reliable diagnosis is shortened considerably.
The **Computer at the reception** makes it possible to save patients' histories, allowing for more optimal and efficient treatment.

Hariharananda Balashram School

*During the academic year 2016/2017, **Hand in Hand**, together with the **Prajnana Mission**, has been continuously supporting the Balashram Residential School project in the Indian state of Odisha:*

- **475 pupils** (approximately an equal number of boys and girls), coming from destitute families have received during the past school year 2016/2017 accommodation, clothing, food, medical treatment and tuition.
- The academic school year 2016/2017 consisted of 12 school classes (including 2 pre school forms) with 22 teachers, 36 caretakers, clerical staff, workers and volunteers – all of whom constantly endeavoured to support and maintain the school and residential school services and establishment.
- This year, the second graduating class completed the Balashram school. Most of the students would like to attend the 11th and 12th school grades with a focus on economy or science. Both branches are being offered at the Balashram since July 2017. A few students will attend a College that offers arts, elsewhere.
- The plan for next year is to support students who have learning disabilities by giving them **special educational training**.
- The whole teacher staff has been trained during workshops to develop a special focus on **life values** with the children.
- At present, the school and residential quarters consist of 9 buildings. There are an additional 6 buildings outside the premises.
- The **extension of the school building** for grades 11 and 12 was successfully completed in April, 2017. The building includes 4 class rooms and 4 laboratory rooms on three different stories.
- For the new additions to the teacher staff, a 4-story building will be constructed which will offer **15 living sections for employees** and their families. The completion is planned for December 2017.

- The **new kitchen** and additional store rooms (6 rooms) as well as rooms for guests is nearing completion. The final completion is expected on August 2017.
- In 2016, the **first graduating class of 39 students** finished their studies at the Balashram. They are still looked after as a part of the newly founded project **Chrysalis**. Many former students have been very successful and are regularly in contact with Balashram. They come to visit during their holidays.
- In November 2016, the **health centre Arua**, which is located on the school premises was officially opened. Twice per week regular medical check-ups are under the program of “Village Health Projects”. The Dental Camps are organised twice a month and special paediatricians visit the school at regular intervals.
- For 2017-18, the construction of a **water treatment plant** is planned. Used water will be cleansed in an environment-friendly way and will then be reused for irrigation and washing purposes.
- In April 2017, the construction of a **biogas plant** started. The goal in the future is to maintain the kitchen without the use of firewood. This is necessary in order to mitigate the risk of fire as well as for cleaner energy.

EUROPE

- During the financial year 2016/2017, Hand in Hand issued two **Newsletters**, as well as one edition of the **Spotlight** magazine. They were released, as always, in German and English, and were sent to our donors and published on our website.
- In the same year, **the Secretary of the Prajnana Mission** visited our Hand in Hand organisation in Vienna. Our guest contributed to a positive exchange by telling our Hand in Hand supporters about his first hand experiences with the projects in India. His recollections were greeted with enthusiasm and resulted in several successful fundraising events.
- Like last year, the **President**, together with some members of the Board of **Hand in Hand as well as additional** friends and donors from Austria, Germany and Holland, visited once again the projects in India. During a visit to the Balashram Residential School, the President met with the Principal and other staff members. Some of our board members, together with friends and supporters, took the opportunity to interview pupils. This candid exchange allowed them to acquire a sincere first-hand impression, on an informed basis. The group also visited the Health Projects and the Health Centre in Jagatpur/Cuttack and were able to discuss with colleagues of the **Prajnana Mission** important aspects for future cooperation.

- Throughout the financial year 2016/2017, the **President** and **Vice President** of Hand in Hand travelled to several fundraising events all over Europe. Fundraising programmes were organised in several European cities.
- Besides the yearly General Assembly, **Board Meetings** and several workshops were held during this financial year. On top of these meetings, the members have been keeping in touch through a regular exchange of emails and telephone calls.
- Thanks to voice over IP, emails and reciprocal visits, the exchange of information between the **Prajana Mission** in India and **Hand in Hand** Headquarters in Vienna has been both continuous and highly positive.

In collaboration with our European sister organisations “Stiftung Hand in Hand Deutschland”, “Hand in Hand Schweiz”, “Stichting Hand in Hand Netherlands”, “Hand in Hand France” and “Support Group Poland”, we are able to look back on a successful year.

Vienna, August 2017