APPEAL

SUPPORT DHAWALE HOSPITAL, PALGHAR TO FACE THE COVID-19 CRISIS



Dear Friend,

This comes to you at a crucial time when the national crisis induced by the proliferation of the COVID-19 pandemic has started engulfing Palghar District and impacting the functioning of our hospital in Palghar (known as RHH). RHH is the **ONLY** charitable health care facility available to the Palghar community. All other private medical facilities have scaled down services and the government hospital is being earmarked to deal only with the pandemic patients. We continue to offer 24/7 Homoeopathic and allopathic casualty, Covid-19 screening OPD, Lab, Radiology, Dialysis, Emergency Medical, Paediatric, Gynaec and Surgical admissions. We have prepared isolation ward and ICU facility for COVID-19 patients which will be pressed into service if the government directs us to treat them. Patients admitted in our Geriatric center and Psychiatry ward are being cared for. At the time of writing, 5 positive cases and 5 suspected have been reported in Palghar district.

The lock-down declared has produced immense stress on the resources of the RHH in that

- 1. The travel of the clinical and non-clinical staff as well as transportation of materials and medicines required for treatment has been severely affected due to non-availability of public transport
- 2. The daily earnings of the hospital have sharply nose-dived by almost **50**% due to the inability of the patients to travel and the government directive to curtail non-emergency services
- 3. The current services, viz. dialysis, inpatient and emergency services with the investigation facilities (X-ray, Pathology, etc.) need to be maintained needing the minimal service staff on the floor and consumables have to be paid for.
- 4. In addition, due to the lock down, a number of dialysis patients hitherto receiving the service elsewhere, cannot travel and hence have turned to us for their survival. This has necessitated our extending the dialysis by starting an extra shift.

In spite of the limitations, our clinical and non-clinical staff has braved all sorts of odds and has continued to keep the emergency services going. The Consultants and postgraduate students have held the fort with whatever limited protective equipment we have. ICICI Bank has chipped in to help us in purchasing the personal protective gears, thus reducing safety concerns.

Even today, we have almost 50% bed occupancy inclusive of ICU & dialysis services necessitating the services of 30 doctors, 45 nurses, 10 dialysis technicians and 70 service staff. Monthly salaries to these personnel is a priority. The consumables and the operational expenses need to be paid for.

The hospital is facing a resource gap of almost **Rs. 18 -20 lakhs per month** due to closure of various OPDs and cost being incurred to bring & feed patients & staff at the hospital. We need to bridge this gap to keep the hospital running. The situation is fluid and likely to change on a daily basis. The Trust has no cash reserves to dig into.

We need urgent financial assistance to help us tide over the crisis so that we may continue to serve. The spirit and determination of our team is phenomenal. It needs support from the community.

Kindly donate generously (Bank details given below)

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Director, RHH

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Trustee, MLDT

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