

From the Editor's Desk

Year 21-22, had a terrifying beginning. Just as we were all thinking that COVID is behind us, it hit back with a vengeance. The Delta Variant, turned out to be deadly. Every new day was more depressing than yesterday. Shortage of beds, shortage of Oxygen, shortage of manpower, shortage of medicine. Only thing was not in short supply- Bad news.

Our team, stood firm in this crisis. Everyone went beyond their call of duty and worked day & night caring for sick and those on the cusp. We further prepared ourselves for third wave, working towards mitigating the myths and promoting vaccination.

In six months, with exemplary courage of our on-ground-soldiers, we achieved a remarkable feat of vaccinating nearly 45,000 people in the region. Needless to say, this wouldn't have happened without generous Support from HDFC, Reliance, CII Foundation and many other donors.

Vaccination

In April and May, at mere sight of our vehicle, the villager would scurry to the forest. Myths about vaccination that it causes blindness, impotence or even death were rampant. Our barefoot soldiers – our community health workers, our social workers, went from village to village, door to door, day & night, faced abuses, threats but did not deter from bringing in awareness and answering every question. They won over their confidence. Little wonder, we had serpentine queues outside our hospital for vaccination.



One such courageous Community Health Worker, Sonali Bhoir, worked day & night and barring very senior or severely unwell patients achieved a remarkable feat of 100% vaccination for her village.



Under a Banyan Tree

Oddly enough, the main impediment for the vaccination was not availability of the vaccines, but availability of internet connection. Before choosing a village for vaccination camp, we had to test availability of uninterrupted internet connection. We conducted over 50 camps in various villages. Sometimes the internet connection was available only under a tree away from the vaccination centre. Our social workers ferried people or documents between the two locations and ensured that everyone vaccinated was registered on the government website.



Our barefoot soldiers



MLDT is now in USA

We are pleased to announce that we have a registered Charitable Tax Exempt Non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in the USA called MLD Community Care. MLDT well-wishers based in the USA can connect to us through MLD Community Care. Last year, we were able to fundraise \$40,000 for COVID support from individual donors and corporate donation matching programs.



New Equipment in our Hospitals

Thanks to ICICI Bank, DMart, HT Parekh Foundation, L&T, Scholl IPN and many others, our Palghar and Malad hospitals now have new state of the art equipment such as C-Arm, Work station, Suction Machine, Autoclave, NST, USG, Ventilators, Physiotherapy equipment, Digital X-Ray etc.



C-arm



USG machine in use



NICU

Important Milestones for next year

While we will continue looking after adolescent girls, expectant & lactating mothers, children between age 0 to 6 years, we plan to embark upon new challenges in upcoming year. To name a few:

- Creating a care centre for Geriatrics
- Helping women with family planning procedures
- Handling Cataract and ophthalmic disorders
- Empowering women with livelihood opportunities
- Rejuvenating dead water sources
- Subsidized NICU, ICU care
- Subsidized joint replacement and other orthopaedic surgeries
- Free diagnostic services like X-Ray, ECG, 2D Echo, CT Scan etc.

Some of our Partners & Well-wishers of last year



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