

# Ekam-Community Pediatric Health Project

Annual report 2007-08

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### Our Promise and Performance

*No child should be refused of health care because of financial constraints, no parent should feel guilty of not able to give adequate health care & no doctor or hospital should feel guilty of refusing patients because of financial constraints.*

It was heartening to see how so many people shared this emotion, especially doctors, without whom we could not have done any thing. In 2007-08, we screened more than 9000 children in orphanages, schools and slums, and provided them with primary healthcare facilities. More than a 100 children have been treated for secondary & tertiary care. This multi-level support from hospitals, doctors and local NGOs has helped provide immediate access to the best medical facilities and saved the lives of many children.

By the end of 2008, Project *Ekam* aims to cover 40000 children and provide them with ID books, case-sheets and insurance policies. This is an ambitious project, dream of universal health care is big enough to consume mind, energy and soul of entire nation. we cant even think of achieving something without the support and participation of the Government and corporates. We do see a lot of synergy in government, private and individuals, which can bring down cost, avoid duplication, and reach all the children through *Public- Private partnership* and hope we don't have to see another child die for want of money.

### Coming together:

Project *Ekam*, a community pediatric health project, was launched by Confederation of Indian Organizations for Service and Advocacy (CIOSA) on July 1, 2007. The project is based on the underlying belief that the joint efforts of doctors, hospitals and the NGO community will go a long way in making quality medical care accessible to underprivileged children.

Ekam's need was felt in view of limitations in *child health care*. Hence started with the vision of *Right to Health for Every Child & the mission is to provide every child, regardless of his/her financial means, a high quality, comprehensive, continuous health care, delivered in a respectful, caring and family centred environment – a Happy & Healthy Home*.

Ekam is supported by Pediatricians, Nutritionists, Social workers and

### Quick Facts

- Launched in 2007
- Net worked with more than 172 doctors and 51 hospitals
- More than 100 children were given secondary and tertiary care
- Continuous medical care to more than 9000 children

### Health Status

- Curative services favor the non-poor: for every Re.1 spent on the poorest 20% population, Rs.3 is spent on the richest quintile.□
- Only 10% Indians have some form of health insurance, mostly inadequate
- Hospitalized Indians spend on an average 58% of their total annual expenditure
- Over 40% of hospitalized Indians borrow heavily or sell assets to cover expenses
- Over 25% of hospitalized Indians fall below poverty line because of hospital expenses

**Our Partners and Supporters**

NGOs covered - 52

- Home based NGOs-28
- Community-9
- Community & Home-7
- Special schools-7
- Special homes-1

NGOs having their own doctors-10

**Total No .of hospitals Networked-51**

- Pediatric-30
- Eye-7
- Dental-4
- Cardiac-7
- ENT-3

**Total No. of Paediatricians volunteered-172**

- Screening doctors- 40
- Referral doctors- 132(nodal clinics)

**Total No. of Nutritionists visited-2****Total No. of Yoga organisations visited-2**

**“ Beena (name changed), 9yr old female child, father is a coolie had recurrent UTI & bilateral renal calculi, screened & identified from community health screening programme. Child underwent pyelolithotomy at KKCTH & doing fine”**

Yoga instructors in Chennai, Project *Ekam* has partnered with 51 hospitals and 172 pediatricians in the city and come a long way towards making quality healthcare accessible to children who may not be able to afford such medical care. Pediatricians volunteer their time while hospitals provide subsidies to the children who are treated. The local NGOs facilitate the process, thereby making the access to medical care easier for the children.

**Project One**

**Orphanages:** EKAM has assigned pediatrician to the orphanages near by , on 15th of August 2007, Balasubhostsav simultaneous camps were organized in 20 orphanages by pediatricians screening 1800 children. The medical care to the new born babies abandoned in orphanages was most challenging and expensive. Nearly 98 admissions were from these orphanages,. In the last one year, it would not be an exaggeration to claim that but for the combined efforts of Doctors, Hospitals and NGOs many children would have lost their lives.

**Project two:**

**School Health Programme:** The school health programme was started in the month of December in North Chennai, in partnership with KKCTH. The team of pediatricians, ophthalmologists and dentists visit the schools twice a week., the referrals are followed by the local NGO. So far 4000 children have been screened.. In these schools children had more dental and eye problems which are being followed up.

**Other services:** Child Guidance Clinic run at Mehta Children’s Hospital offers counseling , therapeutic interventions & rehabilitation to differently abled children. Most of the infants from orphanages needed nutritional support & early stimulation. Last year 50 children treated at this clinic

**Financials:** The major support for the medical treatment is from Shirdi Sai trust. The Donation received directly was Rs 7.18 lakhs, direct payment to the hospitals Rs 13.49 lakhs. The administration and salaries are supported by The Ma Foi Foundation.

**“ Sam (name changed), 16yr old boy, semi orphan, from Maranatha Adi children’s home at Ayyappan thangal was screened in the orphanage & identified to have Tetralogy of Fallot. Child was operated at SRMC & doing fine.”**

## Our partners in change

Shiridi Sai trust who gave us the first cheque to support children from orphanages, they have been supporting us through. Mr.Dilip Mehta from Mehta Children's hospital supported us in admitting the orphanage children & conducting free training programmes for the caretakers.

Dr Sridharan and Dr J K Reddy from Kanchi Kamakoti CHILD's trust hospital were keen to start school health programme in North Chennai & because of this the programme today reaches to more than 4000 children. Dr.Vijabharathi Rangarajan & her team from SMF hospital, Dr.Kurvilla Thomas, Dr.Shivabalan ,Dr.Nisha,& Dr.Senthil for admitting & treating KKSS orphanage children. Sr. Danis Mary & Dr.Subramayam from St.Isabel's Hospital were keen to start community screening in Thoraipakkam, & Lifeline hospital, Perangudi for conducting Cardiac surgeries by Dr.N.K.Kapadia. Most of the Children had dental and eye care eye problems in these schools, the support of Dr.Chandra Gupta, Gupta Dental Clinic, Dr Rathnaprabu's team from Meenakshi dental college and Dr.Madhivannan's team from MN eye in treating them were phenomenal. Still many children needs to be treated.

All these hospitals had immense faith on us, inspite of delay in payments they bore with us. The list of doctors who have helped us is endless, Dr.Ranjit , for conducting free echos, Dr Prasad, Dr.B.Chidambaram, Dr.Ramesh, Dr.Nandhini and Dr Balamurugan for conducting surgeries, Dr Muralinath for doing free scans, Dr R.ShanmugaSunderam and Dr Lakshmi from Mehta NICU & Dr Suchitra Ranjit and her team from Mehta PICU in treating the most sick babies from Kalaiselvi Karunalaya Orphanage,,Dr Anuradha & her team from Mehta Child Guidance Clinic for rehabilitating differently abled children.

And many more who are visiting orphanages regularly like Dr.Remma Chandramohan, Dr.Meena Thyagarajan, Dr.Lathadattatri, Dr.Sharada,Dr.Ramesh, Dr.Gopal, Dr.Rajamurali & Dr.Mahender

There were non doctors who have been part of this, Ms Meera her commitment and rigor she brings into our system. Bro Siga Animation Centre and ISHA our local NGO partners who have helped us reach the community, make sure the right children get right treatment.

We thank them all for their support.

## Treatment Statistics

Total No. of children screened-9848

### Orphanagaes

Screening of children in -3,500

- Total No. of Admissions
- Past 1yr - 98
- Intensive care- 23
- NICU- 17
- PICU- 6
- General ward- 69
- Surgical interventions-6
- Hypospadiasis correction-1

### School Health programme

- No of schools 11
- Total children : 3954
- Total children screened (community):
- 2394
- Pediatric : 23
- DENTAL : 45:
- EYE : 30

### SURGERIES

- Pyelolithotomy- 1
- Cardiac- 3
- Submandibular cyst excision- 1
- Scalp Abscess drained- 1



**CIOSA**

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**Www.ciosa.org.in**

**EKAM**  
**Right to health for every child**

**Www.ekamoneness.org**

EKAM is a community Pediatric Project of CIOSA. CIOSA is a network of NGOs, corporates and Individuals to collective espousal of social causes. CIOSA has more than 200 NGOs, 13 Corporates, individuals across Tamil Nadu.

**Trustees**

- Mr K Pandiarajan, Trustee
- Mr PN Devarajan, Trustee,
- Mr Sankar Mahadevan, Trustee
- Ms Latha Rajan, Trustee
- Ms Latha Suresh
- Ms Kaveri Natarajan
- Mr Aditya Misra
- Ms Hastha

**Staff**

- Project Director Dr Sai Lakshmi
- Project coordinator: Ms Olga
- Prasanna, Project Manager, CIOSA

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## **Be a part of big vision**

It doesn't take statistical gymnastic or clairvoyance to understand the problem we face in our country, keen ears, sharp eyes non-judgmental mind, compassionate heart and willingness to get out of our house is all it takes to be a part of the solution. There are many ways you can be part of us.

- Supporting 1000 children health care :Rs.10,000 per month
- Supporting health camp:Rs.5000 per camp
- Supporting intensive care per child: Rs.10,000 per child.

**Cheque in the name of CIOSA. Donations are exempted under 80 G.**