



Annual Report, 2014-15

The Ebola crisis and suffering of the African people was a significant issue affecting peoples' health and wellbeing during the year 2015. A minor one-off donation of \$1000 to the Ebola Appeal of *Medecins Sans Frontieres* (Doctors without Borders), Australia was made to help in its fight against the disease.

The most significant achievement of the year, however, was the establishment of partnership with *Shishu Sarothi*, Guwahati and starting of the Early Intervention Centre in Goalpara, Assam. The initial proposal of six months started from January, 2015 and identification, assessment and initial therapy services have been provided in the weekly camps. An amount of \$5377.55 was provided to *Shishu Sarothi* and work in the Centre started in Goalpara with the primary goal of establishing rapport and trust with local people first before holding camps in the villages. The locally based coordinator and field worker are doing the tasks of identifying disabled children, informing parents of camp dates, facilitating their coming to the camp and providing preliminary advice. Twenty two (22) children have been identified so far and registered with the Centre.

On the fundraising side, it was a quiet year with participation in only one activity, the Spring Festival of Whitehorse City Council. We are again fortunate to have been given this opportunity and an amount of \$670.00 was raised in the event. Due to the busy schedule of our members and volunteers, no other events were possible. There were 9 active members and 17 ordinary members, a total of 26 members.

Moving forward, we have three big dreams for the coming year (2015-16):

1. To equip the Early Intervention Centre, Goalpara to provide regular services to the children in the area. Over the course of next few years, our dream is to make it a full-fledged disability service centre for lower Assam, India.
2. To provide for a carer for the special needs of the disabled children in Shihusgreh, Guwahati and to be able to continue this support
3. To expand the community based rehabilitation work done by Prerona, Jorhat to more villages of the district and make therapeutic services accessible to the people.

Thank you to all the members and volunteers for making the year 2014-15 a success and look forward to your participation in the coming year to help us achieve our goals.

By, Dr Deepali Dhillon, President

Dated, 17th of November, 2015