

# New Generation Church Delhi

## April - July 2010

It is still hot summer here in Delhi, but this year we have been blessed with a monsoon like we haven't seen in the last five years. It has rained and rained, and everything is green and lush around us. The only problem with the season is the mosquitoes, they also like the weather and are breeding in millions and diseases like dengue and malaria will now start to claim casualties around the city.

After a break in June, which is the hottest month (temp up to 45 deg. in the shade) here in Delhi, all our projects are up and running again with new challenges and opportunities. Here is an update of the ongoing work in Delhi!



### Street Kids' Centre

Street Kids Centre has 50 underprivileged children from Saidulajab attending it. During the month of March, 7 of our students sat for class III, V & VIII examination under National Open School. Out of the 7 students, 6 students passed the exams. All the students who passed the examination received a Certificate from the National Open School, which we are all very proud of.

This year the Street Kids Centre was selected as an examination centre by the National Open School including 7 students from our school, 60 students from 7 NGOs came to our school for the exam. We are very glad that the SKC got this recognition of the work they are doing.

During the month of April, after the examinations, we went on a school trip to the Delhi Zoo. This was a much awaited outing for the children as they do not have many such opportunities. The children had much fun looking at animals and just getting out of the congested slum area where they live.

After a month long summer holiday in June, the school was reopened on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Most of the kids have rejoined the school again and have also filled the enrolment forms for the examination of next year for class III, V & VIII. These are the years where formal examinations are held. Other school years are internal evaluations done by ourselves. Eventually the main school boards are held for years 10 and 12. We also have some new admissions.

### Bengali Basti School



The school in Bengali Basti has been progressing well with students ever keen to learn despite the heat of Delhi. There are now 42 regular students but the number may increase up to 50 sometimes. One of the boys passed the National Open School exams and it was with great joy that this was received. Allaudin is the first student of the school to pass the exam! Son of a rag picker, he is the only child in his family to go to school. There was a celebration in the school where the head of the area handed him the certificate and students were encouraged to study well. We hope that we will have many more of these celebrations in the area.

Rajan, Betsy and Jaipal continue to teach in the school. The adult literacy classes for women are also going on. Binita, Betsy and Indira teach the women every Friday evening. It has been a challenge for the women to come regularly for the adult literacy classes as they as they tend to have house work.



## Devli School

Devli School has 25 children coming regularly from the area and 7 of the boys from Rafa Home. It has been a good opportunity for the Rafa boys to share their resources with other kids from such a young age and be actively involved in blessing the community. The children are eager to learn and there is much excitement in the locality about the school.

Jemmy, Jyoti and Esther continue to teach in the school. Our desire is to build their foundation in education in order to reintegrate in formal education in the future.

On the last day of school in May, all the children were invited to Raffa home for a fun time watching a movie and snacks. School reopened in July after a month's summer break.



## Rafa Home

The boys of Rafa had their National Open School exams in March and all of them passed. Pankaj and Chaman passed their 5<sup>th</sup> standard exams. Mitesh and Mohit class 3. The others had internal exams.

They are doing well health wise with a steady CD4 count. The summer months had much fun activity with school projects and outings. Some of the boys went to their relatives places for the holidays while the boys who stayed back in Delhi visited the Red Fort and did other fun activities over summer.

The home has new carers in Jaipal and Jyoti with their son Anmol. This has been good for the home and for James and Esther. James and Esther and family are also doing well.

## ATULYA

Says Sarah Hill: Currently the only girl being helped and supported in the Atulya Home is Angela. A new woman is joining the home later today, her nickname is Lulu and she is from Manipur. There is more information about her below.



**Angela:** Angela has been in the home since September last year and was meant to be leaving the home in June to return to her father's village, but her father has never come to take her back. Angela is still working as a domestic help, for a family who are a part of our community studying in the afternoons. Angela struggles with her studies and is currently working on her class 3. She has enjoyed learning how to make hairclips which she takes enormous pride in being able to make. Please pray that behind the smiling face, she will continue to be healed in every way while she is staying in our home, that she will be able to move on in maturity and restoration.

**Rebecca:** In May there was a young lady called Rebecca who stayed in the home for two weeks. She is from a state in the North East of India, Manipur. At the age of 16 she began heavily addicted to drugs. Awmtea and his wife, from the community have been reaching out to people from Manipur through their work here – this is where they met Rebecca. Rebecca wanted to get out of her addiction. There was space

for her in the Atulya Home and she moved in and began her detox. Rebecca chose to leave the home after two weeks as the lure of her former life outweighed her desire to restart her life and to be free of everything that had held her back.

Lulu –She is from Manipur and is not able to speak Hindi or English – which may prove challenging! Lulu has a history of abuse in her family. She came to Delhi to work as a maid. We will find her a job and she will study in the afternoons, we will work particularly hard on Hindi and English to help the communication barrier!

Sarah and Indira continue as carers in the home.

Our small production Unit is expanding in number and in vision. miHi is the name of the clothing and accessories is due to launch over the coming few months.

miHi stands for *made in His image* and the ethos behind the business is that the women are valuable, precious and are to be treated fairly and with dignity. We believe that the workers reflect the creativity and colour of God just like the products themselves!



## **GB Road:**

Sarah Paine says: It's just over a year since we first started coming to GB Road, the main red light district in Delhi. We now know around 50-55 ladies quite well.

Mornings are very quiet as the ladies are sleeping so this is when we spend time praying for the work and catching up on admin or taking ladies to the hospital for treatment or various tests. We have lunch together and then in the afternoons we visit the brothels to see if anyone is sick and needs medicine or medical treatment we can help

We have a doctor! In March, Dr Elizabeth joined us so we're now able to have a clinic one afternoon a week where ladies we have met in the week who are sick can come and receive treatment from the doctor. Our apartment is very close to the brothels where we have most relationship, so some ladies come over, but it's still difficult to get others to come to us so we often end up going with the doctor to them, which then encourages women there to see the doctor too.

Currently, we have 3 TB patients (since February we have helped 4 patients but the 4th has left GB Road and gone home, we think). Two of these ladies we help to get medicines once a month from a Christian hospital with whom we have a good relationship, the other lady goes to a local centre 3 times a week where she gets the medicine for free - the others don't want to have to go every day so they prefer to pay for a month's medicine instead. She now goes to get her medicine, comes to our centre and sleeps, has lunch with us and then goes back to her brothel. With our apartment we wanted to establish a clinic but also to have a place where the ladies feel welcome to come chat, hang out, have chai, lunch. That is beginning to happen a little more these days, particularly since we've held a few lunches. A few ladies will come to our clinic now if they need medicine and we have two ladies who join us for lunch each day.

Ultimately we would like to see these ladies come out of this work and so we are currently looking into the possibilities of setting up a work unit, which will seek to train the ladies and provide an alternative source of income for them. We have two ladies at the moment who are very keen to find new work.

We are also in the beginning stages of extending our work to reaching the eunuch community. Many of the eunuchs are also involved in sex work and so we want to extend our healthcare program to helping them too. We hope that some of the eunuchs would be interested in working in the production unit as well.