



POLIO CHILD RELIEF MUMBAI

Mumbai, Feb/Mar 2010

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2010 PCR-Mumbai Project Progress-Report

With this Project-Update *POLIO CHILD RELIEF-Mumbai* would like to express deep gratitude to all those who have contributed in 2009 to help the project be a success and beneficial to many poor, underprivileged and physically challenged children and youth. We are glad to be working in a community that takes interest in our cause and working side by side with us, improving many lives of the disadvantaged for the better. Thank you each and everyone.

Space being limited here, we can only make mention of a few patients, who either completed, or are still being in treatment.

We intend to launch a new Website in 4 to 5 months time, which will supply more current updates and news. As the project is more and more in need and gaining awareness, we will also apply to make PCR-Mumbai a legal entity, a registered Charity this year. We hope this will all go well and we thank those working with us on these changes and upgrading the project. As we face new challenges and tasks, we are glad to have a new member, Bandu P., on our team, who'll be working with us full-time. He has been dedicated to the cause for a long time. Below you can see a picture of him of ten years ago.



Best wishes from our small, but growing team: Josef, Nisha & sister Tanuja, Michelle and baby Leron-Roshan.

Bandu Pandit, new full-time coworker on our team in 2010

Right from the beginning of our Charity project more than 10 years ago, Bandu took a great interest to assist us in caring for the many patients. Over the years he's been a valuable help, got the necessary training in Social work as a part-time volunteer and took part in establishing the project. He dedicated much of his free time to our cause. Starting February 2010, Bandu is becoming a full-time member of our team, overseeing the project coordination. We are thankful to have Bandu on our team to propel the project forward.



Dr. Paresh M. Desai, Ortho. surgeon

Dr. Desai made his clinic, Shraddha Ortho Hospital in Malad(E), Mumbai available for Polio children to get free treatment. We feel honoured to be working with him, an extremely skilful and dedicated surgeon and kindhearted individual, always open to be of service to those in need.



Sohel (9), treatment successful completed

His is an amazing story and case, which turned out to be very successful. Soheli's transformation from literally crawling to walking! In the picture on the left one can see the dirt on his lower legs, obvious signs of moving round about by crawling a lot. Prior to his treatment Soheli was barely able to stand on his own. He suffers from deformity from the hips on down, due to Poliomyelitis and a birth defect.

Sohel first received two 'Eggers' correctional surgeries, one in each knee, then a 'Welpius' operation. Later, 'Release' operations in both hips were carried out by Dr. Desai. After a stage of exercising and therapy another correctional surgery in one knee and ankle had to be performed before Soheli could finally complete the treatment.

Now he and his poor family from the rural area of Arungabad in Maharashtra are much relieved and thankful for the improvement.



Sohel going around in his neighbourhood - happily and now all on his own!

Picture-Log: (Left) Soheli in his condition before his treatment started three years ago, at the end of 2006. Middle: Soheli with his mother Khwaja at the Shraddha Hospital after one of his operations. Right: Soheli at the time of his last checkup in December 2009 - now a happy boy, slowly improving his walking day by day!

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Left: Ashwini showing the deformity on her left arm outside her hutment home.

Middle: Dr. Desai performs surgery in the operation theatre of his hospital, assisted by nurse, helper & anaesthetist.

Right: Bandu checks on Ashwini after operation and encourages her.



The story and treatment of Ashwini Chavan (13 years), suffering from disability due to Cerebral Palsy

After moving to our new residence one year back, we started surveying the area for needy, disabled children. Along the wall of a big factory we came across an endless line of poorly setup hutments. In one of them lives Ashwini, 2nd youngest of a family with 5 children. They all live in the one-room hutment, well below poverty level. Her father has no work and mother a part-time job as a sweeper. Ashwini suffers from deformities in her right arm and leg due to Polio. She is amazingly cheerful, despite difficult living conditions. At a medical checkup Dr. Desai suggested two operations, one in her lower arm, two in her hand, to help her gain more control and use of her hand and fingers. The 1st OP, a corr. surgery /muscle transplant below the elbow, was successfully carried out and now Ashwini is able to lift her right arm and hand on its own, without having to support it with her left hand.



A step forward for Aditya(8), battling against severe handicap



Top: Josef, PCR-Mumbai Project Manager with Aditya at a recent checkup.

Right: Aditya with a bandage on his left leg after removal of implant. Corr surgery has improved his upper legs, but tibia bones are still severely deformed. A med. exam is to be scheduled.

Aditya suffers from 'Osteogenesis Imperfecta', a genetic disorder, where bones are not formed properly. Instead, too much tissue and cartilage are being produced, causing an imbalance, with continual micro-fractures taking place, resulting in deformities, especially in the lower body parts.



Santosh Dhotre(17), now all smiles after successful operation!

Left: Santosh showing his deformity in his left foot, which grew worse since infant hood.

Middle: Though partly disabled on leg and arm he works at a garage.

Right: Santos glad for the treatment.



Santosh works not far from our residence, in a tyre shop by the road side, where he has a job as a helper doing hard manual work. He is able to manage that, but only with difficulty due to deformities in left arm and foot, caused by Polio. He limps around while doing his work. Recently he got admitted under our project for treatment of 3 surgeries in his foot: a Tripple Arthrodesis, a Staindler Fasciotomy and a muscle transplant. All surgeries were carried out in one session and went well. We are hoping with Santosh that they bring improvement. He is very thankful for this chance.



Left: Marzini Shaikh(13), before treatment.

Middle: Nurse Netra spends time with her after a major surgery. Right: Marzini enjoying more mobility; exercising now with a walker.

Progress of Marzini(13) from Aurangabad / Semi completion of treatment

Marzini suffers from severe disability since birth due to Cerebral Palsy. She was unable to stand and walk. Though her condition being not easy to treat, Dr. Desai examined her and corr. surgery with a muscle transplant in both knees was carried out first, then release operations in hips. 80-90% of her deformity got corrected, but an add. 'Eggers' surgery in each knee was needed.



Thank You & PCR-Mumbai's Appeal

A big Thank-You to all those, who assisted and supported PCR-Mumbai's humanitarian project throughout 2009. We couldn't carry on our services to those in need without such kind help and deeds!

Please continue to support our genuine cause during 2010, sponsor operations and treatments, so we can better the lives of more needy, underprivileged and disabled children. Thank you for your kind efforts. May you too - prosper and be blessed in every way! Warm regards and Best Wishes from us all,

PCR-MUMBAI TEAM, Josef S. & Volunteers