### BCTA Public Health Division

# News Letter

"Firmly Rooted.....Growing Responsibly"

April, 2024



# **Public Health**

# BCTA -Making a Difference in the Fight Against Tuberculosis

The Baptist Church Trust Association (BCTA) stands as a beacon of hope and compassion, deeply committed to serving those in need since its inception in 1932. Rooted in the principles of faith, BCTA has tirelessly championed various social causes, with a steadfast focus on enhancing the well-being of individuals and communities across Delhi and beyond.

At the heart of our mission lies a profound sense of responsibility towards those afflicted by tuberculosis (TB), a disease that continues to ravage countless lives. We firmly believe that we carry the burden of alleviating the suffering of TB patients, recognizing the urgency and significance of our role in this global health crisis.

This has been a year of untiring dedication to this cause, through our flagship project Dream Delhi, in conjunction with National TB Elimination Program (State/STDC/Stop Tb/CTP Union) made so much effort in helping us in many ways, which enabled us to reach out to people living with TB bringing about tangible change and hope where it was once lacking.

### **NTEP**

Baptist Church Trust Association (BCTA), in collaboration with the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) and the State TB Training and Demonstration Centre (STDC), has undertaken a significant initiative to provide nutrition support under the Nikshay Mitra program. This initiative represents a crucial step towards addressing the complex challenges faced by individuals battling drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB).

Among our many other accomplishments in Delhi, we have been able to supply high quality nutrition supplements to persons affected by DR-TB through our outstanding support for these patients. In turn, the PMTBMBA and Nikshay Mitra-sponsored community-based activity demonstrates the fact that nutrition is very crucial in fighting tuberculosis and allowing recovery.

In view of the economic hurdles faced by DR-TB patients, BCTA admits that proper nutrition supplements are necessary to boost immune systems, encourage drug compliance and improve general health outcomes. The provision of essential nutritional kits via Nikshay Mitra has significantly reduced financial burdens, improved treatment adherence rates and improved welfare among BCTA-supported DR-TB patients. BCTA is a forward-looking organization that concentrates on increasing and sustaining such nutritional assistance programs with an aim of reaching more MDR TB patients who need food to recover from their illness. We are bringing forth real transformation and fostering hope towards better days.

### **DREAM DELHI**

Dream Delhi, initiated by BCTA, received recognition from the STOP TB Partnership (UNOPS/USAID). Dr. Sudhi Nath represented our organization at the World Conference on Lung Health in Paris. We continue to address Drug-Resistant TB, providing comprehensive support across 10 districts in Delhi, including psychological aid. TB Ambassadors offer crucial emotional support at Chest Clinics. Responding to NGO feedback, we're exploring vocational training for sustainable employment post-cure, in collaboration with the State TB Cell.





### DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

BCTA conducts regular advocacy sessions and learning opportunities across all districts to raise mass awareness and promote strategies for ending TB. These sessions aim to educate communities on prevention, treatment, and support available. By fostering understanding and action at the grassroots level, BCTA contributes significantly to the fight against tuberculosis, ultimately striving for a TB-free future.

#### CONSULTATIONS

BCTA maximizes professional support from STDC and partner organizations by hosting brainstorming sessions and learning workshops. These collaborative efforts shape course plans of action, leveraging insights from industry leaders well-versed in the field. Through strategic partnerships and knowledge exchange, BCTA remains committed to advancing its mission effectively, ensuring impactful initiatives to serve communities and combat challenges like tuberculosis.











### **ADVOCACY**

BCTA harnesses management-run schools as platforms for spreading awareness and providing training to students, teachers, and staff. Dr. Chopra, with professional expertise from STDC, collaborated with us in conducting sessions within our school campuses. Through these initiatives, BCTA ensures holistic education on crucial issues like tuberculosis, empowering school communities with knowledge and resources for prevention and support. Such collaborative efforts underscore our commitment to fostering healthier and informed environments for all.

## Newsletter

### Social Projects - Gurukul, Sampark & Jagriti



#### **Project Gurukul**

Project Gurukul made significant strides in bridging the gap between informal and formal education systems. Our team's relentless efforts, coupled with the generous support of volunteers, saw over hundreds of successfully enrolled in government schools. We've maintained consistency, facilitating 35-50 enrollments per quarter. Beyond academics, our programs foster creativity, cultural engagement, and sports activities for underprivileged children. We prioritize holistic development, organizing health camps, painting competitions, awareness programs on TB and encouraging parental involvement in education, health and vocational training for adolescents, ensuring a brighter future for all.



#### Proiect Sampark

Sampark- a program run under Gurukul. It is set up more equitable and inclusive future. to spread tuberculosis (TB) knowledge across Gurukul chapters. We go beyond education in these establishments; we engage parents and the larger community as well. This encompasses regular workshops, lively street plays and interesting drawing competitions so that people know about TB in general. By involving all members of society, we emphasize everyone's duty to fight against this illness. Jointly we work together towards creating significant impact which will make future free from TB possible through collective effort."





Project Jagriti is dedicated to empowering women across Delhi NCR through adult education (Pehle Padayi Fir Silayi). Beyond literacy, we equip marginalized women with legal knowledge, general awareness, along with special focus on TB as well and access to government programs. These empowered women, now our TB Ambassadors, advocate for TB awareness within their communities and families. Despite challenges like economic disparities and social stigmas, Project Jagriti persists. Through partnerships and adaptive strategies, we're committed to overcoming barriers and fostering social upliftment. Together, we envision a society where every woman thrives, contributing to a





#### **Kunal's Success: A Story of** Resilience, Hope, and **Community Solidarity**

Kunal's world turned upside down at fourteen when tuberculosis struck. With humble earnings from a rickshaw, his family struggled to afford treatment in a city where every rupee mattered. Then, "Dream Delhi" from BCTA stepped in, lifeline. Volunteers offering became pillars of support, guiding family through healthcare maze. They didn't just provide medical help; they offered comfort during tough times. As Kunal's health improved, he found renewed hope and even enrolled in school. His family, inspired by the kindness they received, joined TB awareness efforts, spreading hope in their community. Kunal's journey isn't just about surviving TB; it's a testament to the power of human connection and resilience.

