

IDF Child Sponsorship Program

life for a child with diabetes



Update 4 – January 2003

Thank you to all our sponsors for your continued support of the Program, which is assisting children with diabetes in developing countries. We are very pleased with the steady expansion of the program, which is now helping children in five countries. We have recently gained tax deductibility for donations made in Australia. We were invited to present a report on the first twelve months of the program at the 5th International Diabetes Federation Western Pacific Region Congress meeting in Beijing, China in May, 2002.

INDIA

We are now supporting children in the city of Nagpur in Central India. These children are cared for by the DREAM Trust (Diabetes Research Education And Management Trust). This program is run by Dr Sharad Pendsey and his dedicated workers, aiming to improve the lives of children with diabetes who live in impoverished circumstances. The Trust sponsors over 100 children with type 1 diabetes from impoverished backgrounds who receive free insulin, syringes, monitoring strips and clinical care. Dr. Pendsey and his team also look after around 26,000 adults with diabetes. Around 40% of the patients come from Nagpur, and 60% from provincial villages up to 300 km away.



ROMANIA

We have just commenced helping children with diabetes in Timisoara in Western Romania. The centre is the Cristian Serban Foundation, and is run by Prof. Viorel Serban and his wife Prof. Margit Serban together with their staff of 45. The centre provides diagnosis, medical education, prevention and treatment of complications, vocational guidance, psychological and social support, long term stay (orphans, abandoned children), and free provision of glucometers and strips to those in poor economic circumstances.

FIJI

Dr. Shabnam Prakash organised the first ever camp for children with diabetes in Fiji. The two-day camp was a great success. Unfortunately, Dr. Prakash is migrating to New Zealand. Dr. Prakash has been a trailblazer in paediatric diabetes in the country, training nurses and doctors, establishing a paediatric diabetes clinic at Lautoka Base Hospital, and instigating the IDF Child Sponsorship Program in Fiji. Her experience and dedication will be missed. However, she has arranged for Dr. Rigamoto Taito to take over the care of the children with diabetes in Lautoka and other parts of Western Fiji. Dr. Taito will coordinate with paediatricians in Suva and Lautoka who care for the children there.

THE PHILIPPINES

The clinic at the Philippine General Hospital / University of the Philippines, has organised a family group for the children with diabetes in their care, including children supported on the program. Currently we support 15 children with diabetes in Manila – these children are judged by the three clinics involved to be those in most desperate need of support. We will be able to expand the number of children supported in 2003.



Shaira, one of the children cared for at the Philippines General Hospital, having her blood glucose checked.

Thank you for your support of the program!

Graham Ogle, Martin Silink, and Anne Rogers

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