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WOMEN
IN NEED

“Giving is not just about making a donation, it’s about making a difference”

(Cathy Cavin – CEO of the United Nations Foundation)

Thank you for the difference you are making to so many lives

Migrant communities continue to struggle during India’s lockdown



As the UK sees a decline in infection and mortality rates from COVID-19, cases in India are on the rise. Two months on from India’s lockdown, WIN has seen migrant communities become increasingly more desperate for food. Unable to work and without funds to sustain life, some families are completely dependent on WIN for survival.

Hungry children queue for food and re-join the line in the hope of a second helping



£50 feeds 200 hungry men, women & children during the COVID 19 crisis.



The Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem Grand Commandery of the Castello

The Grand Commandery of the Castello donate funds for an ambulance



We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the council and members of the Grand Commandery of the Castello, jurisdiction of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem, for their recent donation of 20,000 Euros. This incredible donation is for the purchase and maintenance of a new ambulance for the charity.

The Grand Commandery of the Castello has supported WIN for 10 years. Our first donation was for an ambulance, which continues to operate as a mobile primary health care service in the slums of Nagpur.

The new ambulance will be a much-needed addition to our mobile health care service - Thank you!

Above: Hospitaller (Philanthropic) Chev Paul Warren

Below: WIN's mobile clinic



Solving problems is what we do best

Every woman who approaches WIN for help presents the charity with a new set of challenges. And those of us involved in the front line work, relish the opportunity of finding solutions to quite complex issues. The following story illustrates some of the difficulties we face when helping women in need.



HIV+ Vijaya was dying when WIN met her 5 years ago. 1st line ART's had stopped being effective, and her CD4 count (white blood cell) had dropped to a drastic 34 cells/mm³. A healthy immune system will have a range of 500-1,600 cells per cubic millimetre of blood.

To receive 2nd line ART's at Nagpur's government hospital, Vijaya had to take a viral load test. The problem here was that the only government testing centre was in Mumbai, 525 miles away. Vijaya, like countless others in her position was expected to travel 20 hours by train to Mumbai, a city she had never visited before. The viral load test was available in Nagpur at a private clinic, but government hospitals have a strict policy of not accepting diagnostic tests done privately. Besides, Vijaya was too sick to travel to Mumbai, and certainly unable to afford the £50 cost for a private test. The situation looked bleak.

The voice of an underprivileged, dying woman can be ignored in a hospital where countless others compete for attention. Government hospital doctors are confronted with hundreds of patients every day and can become hardened to prioritising support for those with a realistic chance of survival. WIN on the other hand, champions the cause of the weak and ignored. By campaigning on Vijaya's behalf, we persuaded the authorities to accept a viral load test from a private clinic. This exception to rigid hospital protocol saved Vijaya's life.



Facts about ART – Anti Retroviral Therapy

1. ART involves taking a combination of HIV medicines every day
2. People with HIV should start taking ART as soon as possible
3. ART cannot cure HIV but can help those infected live longer, healthier lives by reducing the viral load - ideally to an undetectable level

Left: Vijaya today with her daughter



Helping Swati regain her confidence.

Vijaya's niece Swati suffered extensive scarring as a child after falling onto a gas cooker during a seizure. Though she's learnt to live with the physical scars, it is the psychological scarring which has caused her the greatest pain.

When WIN met Swati she was living with her aunt. Vijaya, despite her own poor health, took Swati into her home, which she shared with her elderly mother, 14 year old daughter Rani, and her 16 year alcoholic son, Avinash.

Swati's own parents forced her out of the family home. A scarred Indian woman has little prospect of getting married. Secondly, Swati's low self esteem affected her ability to find employment, making her a burden on her parents.

WIN offered Swati a chance to pursue further education, but bullying at school made this a frightening prospect. Instead Swati set her heart on the modest dream of becoming a seamstress.

We understand how important financial independence is for an underprivileged, single woman. Without it, she may be vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. When WIN found an opportunity for Swati to work in a job that paid well,

offered free accommodation, and in a city where she would gain valuable experience - we grabbed it!

The job was working for a petrol company in Bangalore, comparatively a more progressive city than Nagpur. The only draw back was that she needed computer skills, which at the time she didn't have. Following a six-month IT crash course, Swati moved to Bangalore and embarked on her new life.

Today Swati earns three time more than any seamstress, has made news friends and has bags of confidence!



Far from being a burden, today Swati is a great source of strength and support to her aunt.

When Vijaya was ill, Swati provided financial help to her aunt. She also convinced her cousin Avinash to stop drinking, something no one else had been able to do. Then Swati helped Avinash get a job with the same company in Bangalore.

From right to left: Avinash, Swati and her friends

Your donation does
make a difference

Thank you so much JAZBA!

Once again, we are indebted to our friends from JAZBA for their phenomenal support this year. Their passion, energy and sheer hard work is truly remarkable x

Below are their own thoughts about this year's competition.

We hope everyone is safe and well during these unprecedented times! We hope this announcement will brighten your quarantine a little bit 😊

Jazba is proud to announce that we will be donating \$20,000 to Women In Need in Nagpur, India once again this year! This could not have been made possible without our army of dancers, friends, family, sponsors, donors, and of course our community that overwhelmingly supports us every year.

In addition to our monetary donation, we will be sending 50 care kits to Nagpur to be distributed to WIN patients. Each of these kits contain essentials such as sewing supplies for the women and were made by our very own 10 competing teams at the Jazba 2020 mixer. Not only this, but our dancers themselves decorated the pouches with illustrations and words of encouragement. We hope that these care kits are able to help patients in their endeavours and also remind them that they have support from across the world! [#fortheWIN](#)

DANCE **PASSION** CHANGE



Jewel of Satpura Cycle Tour 2020

Join us for a ride you'll **never** forget!

WOMEN
IN NEED

Oct 23 – Nov 2, 2020
Central India
start2womeninneed@gmail.com

Will the Jewel of Satpura Cycle tour go ahead? We hope so!

The question in many people's mind is "when will we be able to fly again?". At present nobody knows the answer, but we would like to reassure those of you still interested in the event, that all the hotels are on standby and

prepared for last minute bookings. *We will pull all the stops out to make the JSCC a fabulous experience!*

The Society of Indian Doctors (Cleveland) donate £1,000 in memory of Dr Poornima Nair Balupuri - a much-loved GP and friend to many

1963–2020



Dr Nair passed away after a prolonged Covid-19 illness, which she fought with her great strength of character.

We wish to express our sincere condolences to her family, friends and colleagues.

We would also like to thank Dr. Rajesh Nanda and the Society of Indian Doctors for their generous donation to WIN in Dr Nair's memory