



*Staff and children from  
New Light*

**T**HE CLINIC has started providing a continuing medical education program for its outpatient physicians based on the Virtual Library program, financed by Shadhika. Doctors and assistants are being trained in internet-based literature searching. Access to international medical literature is invaluable in a variety of clinic projects, such as an HIV prevention program in schools, a nutrition education project focusing on young children, and a survey of medical needs of sex workers.

Principals of the Clinic, New Light, and Uddami met in February to discuss optimal ways of cooperation among the three entities.

### **New Light**

(2004 AWARD: \$11,700)

*A night shelter and school for children of sex workers in the red-light district of Calcutta.*

**W**ITH 39 CHILDREN the original shelter is seriously over-crowded, so a second center was opened this year to accommodate an additional 19 children. Of the 58, only 3 children were not promoted in school to the next grade, a spectacular result. (Most children had not regularly attended school prior to the shelter's exist-

tence.) Among New Light programs launched this year are computer training for the older children in cooperation with Uddami, and regular gynecological clinic for the sex workers. Urmi Basu was invited for a poster presentation on high risk communities to the 15th International Aids Conference in Bangkok in July 2004.

New Light is considering setting up an older girls' home at a location away from the Kalighat center, so as to protect them from those who would try to recruit them to their mothers' profession.

*For more information:*

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