



SB Devi School Health Program

SB Devi Charity Home

THE CLINIC SIGNIFICANTLY expanded their program since last year. They now have a branch clinic in the neighboring red-light district (a different one from where New Light is operating) where they provide AIDS education, distribute condoms, and provide medical care for sex workers. They also established regular periodic visits to several area schools to provide medical and dental checkups, and vaccination services.

Shadhika funds the Clinic's library/information center. With the 2002 grant, the Clinic arranged

access to a wide variety of online medical information services, hired a computer operator, and trained her in searching the medical literature. The result is that the Clinic is now supported with regular medical literature searches. Our 2003 grant provides funding for continuing and expanding this service, including an equipment upgrade and making literature service available to other non-profit social service projects besides the Clinic itself.

Paripurnata

SHADHIKA's original project, Paripurnata, has at last secured all the necessary permits to start the construction of the new facility. We are told construction is imminent and are anxiously awaiting news of progress on this front. Meanwhile the work of the half-way home continues and is drawing the attention of the mental health profession. The Department of Psychiatry of Bangalore University considers Paripurnata's work on re-integrating their residents into their families and society as path breaking and suggests documenting their strategy in a book. Paripurnata has also launched cooperative lay-education programs with other community service organizations focusing on promoting the acceptance of former patients into society. Liaison workers continue to maintain contact with former residents' families and provide consultation services on the social aspect of mental health to neighboring communities.

BIG NEWS

SHADHIKA MELA TO BE HELD SPRING 2004

SHADHIKA'S ANNUAL MELA will be rescheduled to March instead of September and will take place at a new location. The change in date is necessary in order to avoid having the MELA on the hottest day of the year and because the Stangl's have been spending more of their time, including the summer, out of the country. The change of venue is required by the new schedule, as in March we have to count on rain. Important consequences:

We will not have a MELA in 2003.

In the past, we have typically raised over 90% of our annual foundation budget through our Mela, related auction and other festivities. Because we will not have a Mela in 2003, we are appealing to your goodwill to send us a direct donation instead. We will be contacting you again in November to ask for your support and give you an update on the Spring 2004 Mela. Thank you in advance for your support.