



# International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)

Issue: #45

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## Addressing Health & Wellbeing on All Levels:

### *Uttar Pradesh Flood Relief & Ongoing Projects*

IMHO's greatest strength is in our local partners, who not only do exceptional work, they are at the forefront of creating innovative and thoughtful solutions to complex issues. For IMHO, we support these local change-makers however best we can, including responding to natural & manmade disasters and developing sustainable healthcare systems.

With regard to disaster relief, IMHO acted in response to the severe monsoonal flooding that struck Uttar Pradesh, India in recent months by supporting the distribution of relief materials and supplies to the flood victims in the communities of Barabanki, Sitapur and Faizabad through local partner organization SAWED Trust with a donation of \$2,500.

In support of developing healthcare systems and services, IMHO has both continued its vital support for various projects and undertaken new ones with funding over **\$190,000 since May 2014**, including but not limited to the following:

- 1) Ongoing support** for the Jaffna Diabetic Center, "Kuruntham" Regional Alcohol Rehabilitation Center in Chavakachcheri, Kilinochchi Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Center, Jaffna Center for Neuro Development Disorders (including Autism), and various Mental Health Units. Additionally, IMHO continues to provide support for medical equipment and supplies, salaries for supporting health

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**Quick Links: *IMHO***

workers, and many hospital development projects.

**2) Prosthetics** for disabled persons and amputees in Jaffna (**\$7,825**)

**3) Capacity building training** for psychosocial workers, staff salaries, and support for the Alcohol Rehabilitation Center for Kalmunai and Batticaloa, including a donation of a laptop computer and multimedia projector for an STD/HIV Control Program (**\$16,500**).

**4) Providing cows** for selected needy families in Vanni (**\$4,100**).

**5) Elder care and income generation support** through a chicken coop for Grace Care Center seniors and young girls in Trincomalee (**\$7,200**).

**6) Embroidery and batik training** and livelihoods development support for women in Vanni (**\$5,700**).

**7) New study hall and tube well** for the Mahadeva Achchirama Children's Home in Kilinochchi (**\$6,250**). Our thanks to the volunteers and supporters from the Annual IMHO Texas Dallas/Fort Worth BBQ event in May specifically for their support of the study hall in the amount of \$5,000.



## New IMHO Website Launched!

The IMHO website just got a facelift! Check out our new (and long awaited) site and learn more about the work IMHO is doing around the globe to promote the health and wellbeing of underserved communities:

[\*\*www.theimho.org\*\*](http://www.theimho.org)

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Our Impact



\$3.7M+ Invested



15 Countries Reached



2M+ Lives Impacted



11 Years of Service



30+ Hospital & Clinics Supported

**What We Believe**

Health is a human right protected under international law. Health is not defined merely by the absence of disease or

[More](#)

**Where Does IMHO Work?**

Over the years, IMHO has engaged in relief and development work in 15 countries across the globe, prioritizing

[More](#)

**What Does IMHO Do?**

IMHO helps fill the critical gaps that exist in health care delivery systems in developing countries through our

[More](#)

**What Makes IMHO Unique?**

11 years of volunteer service (and counting...) Extensive network of proven and reliable partners on the ground

[More](#)

## Youth Continue to Inspire and Lead

IMHO youth have been a consistent source of inspiration and leadership, with volunteers engaging in all types of projects and providing crucial support to IMHO's efforts. The following individuals are some of the recent young leaders who have emerged:

### [Mathavi's Arangetram](#)

**Mathavi Sankar** from **Maryland** held her **arangetram** on May 31st in Burtonsville, with nearly 700 people in attendance. Mathavi used her special day to support two organizations that are very near to heart, one of which was IMHO. In total, she raised an incredible **\$6,027** for the organization! Mathavi just joined the University of Maryland, College Park with a prestigious Banneker and Key scholarship to pursue her passion of Biochemistry/Pre-Med. She plans to continue with her Bharatanatyam performances and charity work for IMHO.



(L): Mathavi Sankar performing at her arangetram in May; (R): Youth volunteers Tamara Shan and friends spent their summer volunteering in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka

### **Summer Volunteer Service in Trincomalee**

This past summer, **Tamara Shan** and a few friends from **Ann Arbor, Michigan** spent time with the girls of Grace Care Children's Home (one of IMHO's partners) in **Trincomalee**, Eastern Sri Lanka volunteering their time in conducting lessons and activities for the enrichment of these girls and young women. They conducted Skype sessions with the girls several months in advance, so that the girls would know them by the time they arrived. While there, they also led English lessons, games/activities, and generally provided care and companionship for the 36 girls who live there. The experience was a life-altering one for Tamara and her friends. As Tamara stated, ***"We plan to return to Grace Orphanage next year and continue our work with our new found friends. I have grown spiritually and emotionally through this experience. I have a better perspective on life and hope to devote my life to helping children like those at Grace."*** IMHO has provided support for Grace Care this year, including \$6,000 for ongoing seniors care support and \$1,200 to build a chicken coop for income generation.

### **Texas Youth Penny Drive**

In **Texas**, **Keirth, Krish, and Gouzia Sivarajah** have been busy organizing a "Penny Drive" this year to support youth in Sri Lanka. Drawing on their experiences visiting with children in Sri Lanka, they envision forming an association founded by children for children. In Keirth's words, ***"We strongly feel that with an association to help these students, we will be able to provide them with the resources and support they need to be able to thrive and succeed in their lives."***

They plan to enable other youth to share the message and the need for supporting their counterparts in Sri Lanka, and empower them to collect funds from their peers. They distributed empty jars earlier this year at the IMHO Texas annual event to collect pennies for kids, and they have recruited other youth as ambassadors (as far away as Canada, France, and Germany), to spearhead this effort in their respective schools, homes, and communities. At next year's IMHO Texas annual event, they intend to announce their total earnings and use the funds to support children at various orphanages, including the one in Tellipalai. Should you wish to get involved or obtain more information, please contact [TYPDA@yahoo.com](mailto:TYPDA@yahoo.com).

## **IMHO Canada Convention & Gala: *November 1st***

**WHAT:** IMHO Canada Annual Fall Convention & Gala 2014

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 1st, 2014; 6:00pm

**WHERE:** Scarborough Convention Centre, 20 Torham Place (Neilson & Finch), Toronto, Ontario, M1X 0B3, Canada

**TICKETS:** \$75/person (a tax receipt will be provided for a portion of your ticket price); please contact [yalnee@imhocanada.org](mailto:yalnee@imhocanada.org) or call 416.321.9555

IMHO Canada will be hosting our North American Convention & Annual Fundraiser Gala Dinner on Saturday, November 1st, 2014 in Toronto! This year's gala will feature visiting physicians from Sri Lanka and the USA who will be speaking about current needs. Proceeds from this event will help

support unique projects identified by our partners in Sri Lanka. We hope to see you there! A sincere thank you in advance for your support in making a much-needed difference in the lives of people in need.

For more details, please visit our Facebook event page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1523547211208969/>

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Difference.  
Save a Life  
with just  
\$1/day!  
DONATE  
TODAY!**

With **just \$1/day** (or \$30/month) you can help save and improve the lives of persons in need in Sri Lanka and elsewhere around the globe. Please consider making a donation to IMHO today. You can **donate online via PayPal as a one-time or recurring donation** (the amount & frequency of which are up to you).

You can also **donate via mail** by sending a check made out to "IMHO" to the following address:

**IMHO Treasurer  
955 Proprietors Road, Suite B  
Worthington, Ohio 43085  
U.S.A.**

*All donations are tax-deductible (tax ID code #59-3779465)*