AHP Graduation Programme

The graduation ceremony for the students of Allied Health Professionals was held on 16th December. Dr. Richard David, Director of Francis Newton Hospital, Ferozepur, Punjab, graced the occasion by his presence. It was attended by our Director Dr. Sudhir Joseph and Deputy Director Dr. Grace Cherian, along with other staff members and students.

The Director in his welcome speech reminded us that this institution has been training health professionals for over 100 years and our students are the flag bearers of this institution. He wished success to all the students and stressed upon the yardstick of success which is not measured by how rich and powerful a person is but true success is how good and dedicated we are to our work and how much we care about our patients.

Dr. Grace Cherian gave the overview of courses. It started in 1988 with only IMA certified course in Laboratory Technology. At present there are 12 diploma courses which are affiliated to CMA IMA and the year St. Stephen's Hospital has started a new course which is Diploma in Hotel Technology. There are also four degree courses affiliated to CMA IMA.

Rev. R. D. Ranadive, coordinator of AHP, thanked the teachers who gave their valuable time to teach the students. The chief guest Dr. Richard David congratulated the students on graduating from a historical institution which has completed 125 years. His message to all the students was that there are two days for which we should not worry. One of them is yesterday with all its mistakes, pains, and sorrows. Yesterday is past and nobody can bring it back as it is gone forever. The other day for which we should not worry is tomorrow, with all its adversities, as it is beyond our control and yet to be born. This leaves us with only one day, which is today. He said that there is a lot that we can do with our today so we should live our day at a time.

The chief guest gave the degrees to the graduating students and the prizes were given by the director and deputy director for the students who stood first in the university and best students from each specialty.

Dr. Elizabeth Patras in her address thanked all the heads of departments for encouraging and supporting their students and congratulated all the parents. She also thanked the other departments who helped in making the programme a success. Everybody then joined in singing the hospital anthem. This was followed by a delightful cultural programme performed by the AHP students, comprising dance, skit, and songs which was much appreciated and enjoyed by the audience.

Wedding Bells

Reena (Staff Nurse) with Vicky
Kamal (Staff Nurse) with Bhupinder
Avin (Nursing with Vithal)
Sanjeev (Junior Instructor) with Biren
Ashish Khanna (Engg. Maintenance) with Maitri
Ruchika (Reception) with Sameer
Bhawna (Nursing) with Ravinder
Parivasha (Nursing) with Vivek
Sandeep (Junior Instructor) with Sumeet
Sharman (Nursing) with Anil
Bhavna (Nursing) with Pratik
Priti (Nursing) with Raju

Dr. Renuka Joseph, Editor

Welcome

Mr. Atma Blount (CEO) Clinical Services, Ms. Charlotte Ranadive, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, Ms. Harish (Assistant Professor, College of Nursing), Ms. Rosita Nair, Assistant Personnel Officer, Mr. Santergat Stephen (Accountant), and Mr. Pratik Joseph, Assistant Personnel Officer.

We also welcome all the staff who have joined the various other departments of our hospital.

Retired

Bimala R. Mehta, Asha G. R. 1946, 33 years of dedicated service in the hospital. We wish her all the very best in her years to come.

Editorial Team: Dr. Nidhi R. Papriwala, Ms. Debra George, Dr. Renuka Joseph
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From the Director’s Desk

The decision to start a Medical College belonging to St. Stephen’s Hospital has ignited a debate among both our staff and our friends. Does St. Stephen’s Hospital really need to go into an area which requires major changes in the hospital layout, investment in infrastructure and staff, and is not meant to generate any financial profit for the institution? There are those who feel that the hospital should continue to focus on Post Graduate training only. Others doubt the financial viability. A few have even stated that if the current Christian Colleges cannot provide enough human resource for Christian mission work, what will our newly established college achieve? All these are genuine concerns.

St. Stephen’s Hospital enjoys a unique privilege, both in terms of patient loyalty as well as in its location. In these days of “Corporate Medicine,” salaries are often the prime motivators for new people joining an institution. We, with our commitment to keep our services affordable, will always struggle to attract new staff. A medical college would help us to attract people who are interested in teaching as well as medical research. While a postgraduate course is useful in maintaining the structure of departments, Doctors who come for such courses are products of institutions where much stress has been placed on a service-oriented career. Such inclinations can ideally be motivated during the undergraduate course and are more difficult to introduce once a career path has been chosen.

We, at St. Stephen’s Hospital, have taken pride in the values fostered by our staff—values of selflessness, medical ethics, and love and concern for others. These are the values we would like to pass on to future generations to ensure both the sanctity of the privilege of being in God’s arms in the process of healing, as well as continuing the legacy of Christian Missions. No price is too great to achieve these goals.

Dr. Sudhir Joseph, Director

St. Stephen’s Hospital: The Mother NGO for Homeless

"35 For when I was hungry, you gave me food; when I was thirsty, you gave me drink; when I was homeless, you gave me a welcome; when I was ill-clad, you clothed me; when I was sick, you visited me; when I was in prison, you came to see me." 36 When, Lord, the righteous will reply, did we see Thee hungry, and feed Thee; or thirsty, and give Thee drink? 37 When did we see Thee homeless, and give Thee a welcome? Or ill-clad, and clothe Thee? 39 When did we see Thee sick or in prison, and came to see Thee? 40 But the King will answer them, “In solemn truth I tell you that in so far as you rendered such services to one of the humblest of these My brethren, you rendered them to Myself.”

- Matthew 25: 35-40

Homelessness does not mean just absence of a home or shelter. It actually implies complete breakdown of the support system that a home provides. Sadly, our city has a large population of homeless who have no support of home. A large number of poor and sick come to mega cities, like Delhi, in their quest for survival and end up living a life which is no better than death.

The homeless face constant deprivation, neglect or hostility from various sections of society and government agencies. There are a handful of NGOs who have been struggling to provide rights and respect to them within their capacity and resources. However, due to the enormity of this problem, very little has been done. There is a need for concerted efforts by the Government and the NGOs to improve the situation.
Following the vision and mission of St. Stephen's Hospital, the Community Health Department took a lead and developed an integrated Development Programme for Homeless with Mission Convergence of Government of NCT Delhi. It is based on a systematic approach to a comprehensive solution to the problems of homeless through NGO-Government people-partnership. St. Stephen's Hospital was selected to spearhead this unique programme as Mother NGO in 2006 and coordinate the programme for entire Delhi. Within a short span of time the programme has proven to be extremely effective, creating new hopes for thousands of homeless.

The role of Mother NGO - The Community Health Department of St. Stephen's Hospital is:

- Strategic planning and identification of stakeholders
- Setting up quality standards and process controls for all services delivered by the Homeless
- Capacitizing of Homeless Resource Centres and other NGO's
- To campaign advocacy, dialogue and sensitization activities to catalyze support from the general community, press, students etc. for the issues of homeless.
- Organizing dialogue with the experts, academics, civil society activists and the government officials for continued improvement of policies and services for the homeless
- Evolving partnerships with institutions for delivery of specialized services for homelessness such as mental health, education, etc.
- Promoting research activities pertaining to homelessness
- Coordination of integrated mobile health services, Health Information System and health awareness programme for the homeless
- Monitoring and supportive supervision.

- Number of Winter Shelters increased from 17 in 2009 to 27 in 2010
- Permanent shelters increasing from 17 to 64 in 2010
- Presently total shelters are 154
- Water Rescue Programme - 4 rescue teams running from 10 AM to 2 PM
- Helpline for Homeless
- Janabas: The MNGO assisted the government to develop a special programme of nutrition for homeless and poor.

Under this programme the homeless can get a hot meal for a cost of Rs. 15 - for 1000 kcal through nearly 50 kiosks. This is now a flagship programme of Woman and Child Development of government of NCT Delhi.

- Development of a clear government policy framework for homeless
- Health Care Plan for Homeless
- 48 health camps per month & assistance facility for patients needing hospitalization
- Increased participation of NGOs in more than 45 NGOs are working for the cause of homeless

Vocational training and employment opportunities for the homeless:
- Pappad Making Unit for the homeless women at Rajpurur shelter
- Communication groups of Homeless with Special Abilities: The MNGO has organized a group of 40 homeless persons with special abilities. They distort their handcrafts and products and are given to the traders. Each person is able to earn up to Rs. 300 per day for such campaigns. Efforts are on to make the process more professional so that they can earn more and on regular basis.

Dr. Amnod Kumar
Head of Community Health Department

Lamplighting & Graduation Function 2011

The Lamplighting & Graduation Function 2011 of the College of Nursing of our Hospital was organized on 15th Feb 2011 in the Conference Hall. Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, Nursing Superintendent of Christian Hospital - Ghaziabad, presided over the function as the Chief Guest. The function started with a prayer song by the Hospital Choir. Then the lamp was lit by the Chief Guest and the dignitaries on the dias. The Chief Guest in her speech urged the nursing students to realize how important the role of a nurse is in the health care team and how her 24-hour vigilance helps save the lives of her patients. She also exhorted the students to uphold the standards of this profession.

Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson (Chief Guest), Prof. (Mrs.) Pramodini Mehta (Principal) of Dr. Richard Dovil (Director) at the Lamplighting Ceremony

The Best Outstanding Graduate Award of the year 2011 was conferred upon Mrs. Mohini C. Joy for her outstanding performance in academic and extra curricular activities. Mrs. Swati Massey, alumnus of the graduating batch expressed her views about her alma mater. The programme ended with the Hospital Anthem.

Inauguration of the Nursing College Library & Computer Classroom

The new College of Nursing Library is a complete renovation of the old library as well as the new Computer Classroom were inaugurated on 16th Feb 2011 by Dr. Richard Dovil, Medical Superintendent of Florence Nightingale Hospital - Faridpur, Puducherry. Some of the governing body members were also present beside the hospital staff and students on this memorable day of the College. The library is equipped and has around 2000 books on various subjects. There is a separate section for journals and thesis. The library receives about 10-15 journals every month. The library is also equipped with a photocopier machine. The librarian, Mrs. Sunay Toppo, manages the entire functioning of the library under the guidance of Prof. (Mrs.) R. Ramabbi, Principal, College of Nursing. The books are being classified based on the new software 'e-governments' and bar coding of the books is also in the pipeline. The students and faculty make use of this library diligently and stuff from other departments also comes here in search of books and journals to enhance their knowledge.

Dr. Richard Dovil inaugurating the new Nursing College Library and the new Computer Classroom

The 2011 Batch of 1st Year Nursing students of both B.Sc. (Hons) in Nursing and General Nursing & Midwifery (GNM) programmes came forward to light their candles. Then they recited the Nurse's Pledge under the leadership of Mrs. Alesmamma Mathew, Dr. Nursing Supdt. of our hospital. This was followed by a prayer song, 'Lord make us instruments of your peace', presented by the 1st Year Nursing students asking God to guide and lead them in this noble profession. The GNM graduands of the Batch of 2007 received their certificates from the Chief Guest. The valedictory students of both B.Sc. and GNM programmes were also awarded certificates and trophies in this function.

The Computer Classroom has twenty-five computers including one with internet facility. This classroom aids the students in their practical work, in addition to theoretical research, with assistance from the Computer Dept. of our hospital. The students also utilize this classroom for thesis-related work and other assignments.

Feva Geevargheese, Editor

The Road Ahead

We have great hopes and aspirations for future. We plan to augment the linkages with the entitlements of homeless for various schemes. We also plan to develop sufficient number of shurtle which can accommodate 500 homeless. Developing a sustained response system with adequate health and social support would be major priority for the coming year.

Feba Geevargheese, Editor