

Giving Today's Street and Slum Children a Better Tomorrow

30th April 2021.

Dear Friends.

Reference: Help with the Covid tragedy in India

As you will have seen in the news the covid pandemic has hit India with a vengeance and is spreading wildly throughout the whole country and many people are dying.

At Future Hope, as a charity that provides opportunity for society's most vulnerable children, we have been affected too with cases in our community. We have set up our own Covid ward in our school building whilst continuing to run our school online for all our students.

In the ward we look after those who have tested positive for Covid from our homes' children, staff, day scholars and their families in the slums. We ensure that everyone gets good food, rest and the correct medical help which is spearheaded by our wonderful nurse, Shohani, and our doctor Muktish. Three senior staff, Basudev, HP Shah and Mintu run the ward on a twenty-four-hour basis ensuring that continuous care is given; they are assisted by alumni Milan and some of the senior boys and girls.

India is a large country with a huge population but if everyone works together, and helps in their own small way, we have a chance of saving more lives and getting the situation under control.

With Kolkata in the midst of elections and huge uncertainty -- will there be a lockdown? will vaccines remain free, or will they cost Rs 600/- (impossible for a poor family) and be available to everyone? -- we are trying our best to look after our children, their families, and their communities in the slums.

To do this we need medicines, PPE, oxygen cylinders and an oxygen concentrator, bed sheets and mats so we care for those who are severely affected by this terrible virus. We are also trying to ensure that everyone we know is vaccinated with at least the first vaccine. As families' livelihoods become threatened, we also foresee a need to provide emergency ration packs again to offer them the lifeline they will need to survive this pandemic.

Please help us to keep everyone safe. You can donate online at www.futurehope.net and we will ensure your donation will reach the children, and their families who need it, very quickly.

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Future Hope is a charitable organisation which provides opportunity through its homes, school, sports and medical programme for some of the most vulnerable children from the streets and slums of Kolkata, India.

We put society's most vulnerable children at the centre of all we do, and after 34 years we understand the problems that they face, and the solutions that dramatically and permanently change their lives for the better.