

## PERSON TO PERSON (PTP)

Funding treatment for patients unable to pay their medical bills at Christian Medical College, Vellore

Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore is a teaching hospital in southern India. Initially founded to provide treatment for women and poor people excluded from good healthcare, it continues today to serve the underprivileged, providing free or subsidised treatment to many needy people.

## WHAT IS THE PERSON TO PERSON FUND?

In spite of CMC working hard to minimise healthcare costs, some patients are still not able to afford treatment. The Person to Person (PTP) scheme provides an opportunity to contribute to the cost of a specific patient's care.

Donors give money to the PTP scheme, which is used to provide small, targeted grants (up to approximately £100) to help pay the hospital bill for individual patients. Often this treatment is lifesaving.

Each donor will receive a report from CMC with a summary of all the patients who were sponsored by UK donors that month and a patient story demonstrating the impact of their donation.

In 1964, **James**, a young tribal boy from a forest village in Jharkhand, travelled to Vellore. He joined the x-ray technician's course and learned how to run an x-ray machine. He then spent his life working in a small hospital near his home in Hiranpur. For many

years, he was the only x-ray technician in the entire district!

Fifty-five years later, James found out that he needed a prostate operation but there was no specialist surgeon in Hiranpur. So James started his second journey to Vellore. His endoscopic surgery was successfully done at CMC. The PTP fund covered all the costs. Before returning home, James and his family sang a song of thanksgiving:

"We have seen the love of God in

the healing work at CMC!"

Madhubala's family lives in the slums of Vellore. Many years after her marriage, Madhubala was delighted to learn she was pregnant. She went for regular antenatal checkups at CMC.

In the 7th month of her pregnancy, her doctors gave her the terrible news that her baby was not growing. Madhubala had pre-eclamsia and severe anaemia; her life was at risk.

She was admitted to CMC for an emergency caesarian. The doctors saved her life, but her premature baby weighed only 700 grams.

CMC cared for the infant for 2 months.

Madhubala's family could only afford a fraction of the operation and newborn care costs. The PTP scheme covered the rest. Madhubala and her baby are safely back home now. "My baby is healthy and growing!" smiles Madhubala, "Our family is blessed to have the care of people like you and CMC."

One of the key benefits of the PTP scheme is the matched funding provided by CMC. CMC will increase your donation up to four-fold to provide a patient grant. Your donation can also be Gift Aided (if you are a UK tax payer). This means a £16 donation may provide a grant of up to £100 which could pay for a short hospital admission.

Matched funding is available for donations up to £100, with this level of donation paying for an operation such as a hernia or caesarean section with associated pre and post-operative care.

CMC bears the entire cost of administering the scheme so every penny given goes directly to help poor patients.

## TO GET INVOLVED

CMC seek to help around 3000 patients a year through this scheme. In recent years Friends of Vellore UK has sent £40,000 annually but we need an increase in donations to maintain this level of giving. You can give a one-off donation or make a regular contribution to the PTP Fund either using the form below or visit our website: www.friendsofvellore.org and go to the donate page.

Name:
Email:
• I would like to receive patient reports by email / post (please circle as appropriate)
• I would like to give a one-off donation of £
Please make cheques payable to Friends of Vellore UK or deposit in our bank account (Sort Code: 40-02-13, Account No: 41865986). If you would like to make a regular donation, please complete the standing order form below.
GIFT AID DECLARATION
I want to Gift Aid this donation, and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years, to Friends of Vellore UK. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or capital gains tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.
Signed
BANK STANDING ORDER FORM
To: The Manager of
Please pay Friends of Vellore UK at HSBC, 281 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick, London, W4 4HJ Account No: 41865986, Sort Code: 40-02-13, the sum of £
Signed Date

Thank you for your donation. Please send your completed form to: Friends of Vellore UK, 2A Chalk Lane, Cockfosters, Barnet, EN4 9JQ.