



# Sparsh Hospice

## QUARTERLY REPORT

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2024

Alleviating pain and suffering













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#### Sparsh Hospice celebrates 13 years of service on 11th September, 2024



We are delighted to share that Sparsh Hospice, Hyderabad, Telangana, completed 13 years of palliative care service provision on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2024. The hospice is an initiative of the Rotary Club of Banjara Hills Charitable Trust.

The project arose from the lack of awareness about palliative care for end-of-life patients and the urgent need to alleviate the pain and suffering of the terminally ill. The founders of the hospice were inspired to initiate a project which transformed personal pain to a greater benefit for the society. Since its inception, the center has rendered compassionate care to over 10,000 patients

suffering with advanced cancer, and other serious life limiting illness and their caregivers.

On surpassing this milestone, the team shares, "What began as just a vision has now grown into a beacon of compassion, supporting patients and their families in the most challenging times. Over the years, Sparsh Hospice has become a trusted name in the palliative care sector, and we are incredibly grateful for the unwavering support of our donors (SBI Foundation, Phoenix Foundation and many others), Trustees, staff, volunteers, and the entire community, whose efforts have made this journey possible."

The team has organised a formal event on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2024, to commemorate the anniversary on World Hospice and Palliative Care Day.

Congratulations Team Sparsh! We wish you surpass many such milestones.

You that seek what life is in death,
Now find it air that ones was breath.
New names unknown, old names gone:
Till time end bodies, but souls none.
Reader! then make time, while you be,
But steps to your eternity.

- Baron Brooke Fluke Greville, "Caelia 83"

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## GOVERNING BOARD



PADMA BHUSHAN SHRI K VARAPRASAD REDDY, CHAIRMAN SHANTA BIOTECHNICS



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DIRECTOR, APOLLO CANCER INSTITUTE



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SHRI M. MAHENDAR REDDY (IPS), RTD. DGP, TELANGANA POLICE

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



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T VIJAYPAL REDDY TRUSTEE, SECRETARY AND CORRESPONDENT, ST. PETER'S ENGINEERING COLLEGE



TANVI PAMNANI TRUSTEE, DIRECTOR, BUSINESS & PARTNER IN R & D ENGINEERS

### TRUSTEE'S DESK

As the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service of others" These words resonate with all the compassionate people who have stood with Sparsh since its inception. They have been the change they envisioned for the organisation, alleviating pain and suffering for the terminally ill."

Rotary Club of Banjara Hills' flagship project, Sparsh Hospice, has been receiving immense love from the community and I, on the behalf of the board extend sincere gratitude to all. Project has reached more than 11,500 beneficiaries and grown from the handful of number of team to 100+.

This quarter Rotary Club of Banjara Hills was privileged to host Rotary International President-Elect Mário César Martins de Camargo at Sparsh Hospice. He lauded the services and called the staff members as GUARDIANS of the community. In 2022, current Rotary Intl President Stephanie Urchick visited the centre and appreciated the service.

I request every soulful people to become GUARDIAN OF SPARSH by pledging monthly Rs. 500 (or multiples thereof). This will ensure the continuous & uninterrupted care for terminally ill patients, by building a corpus enough for sustaining the project for longer period of time.

Any contribution to this will add to a greater good. For details please contact us on 7995027878.

Best Regards Dr. Anitha Patibandla, Trustee, RCBHCT

#### **OPERATIONS HEAD'S DESK**



Radhika Kancherla Operations Head Sparsh Hospice

Dear well-wishers.

I am pleased to share our quarterly report for July to September 2024. As we have completed 6 months of the FY 24-25, we have immense gratitude to donors, our beneficiaries, stakeholders, and partners to show their trust in Sparsh for extending much needed care and compassion to people in need. Our long-term CSR partner SBI Foundation and Kotak Mahindra Prime Limited has helped in strengthening the core activities. At the same time I extend my gratitude to other partners such as Shriram Housing Finance Ltd and Visakha Industries Ltd for extending their support.

Till September 2024 we have cared for more than 11,500 terminally ill and reached more than 35,000 family members.

This quarter we were honoured to host Rotary International President-Elect Mário César Martins de Camargo who lauded the services of Sparsh Hospice. In 2022, current Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick visited the centre and appreciated the service.

This achievement is owed to the dedication of all our Board members, Rotarians, donors, volunteers.

Your trust fuels our mission.

Thank you for standing by us.

#### MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dr. Vivekanandam Medical Director Sparsh Hospice

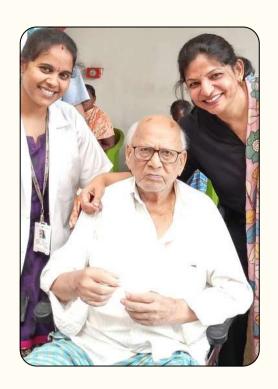
As the Medical Director, I have the privilege of seeing the remarkable work done on the ground to extend comfort care. The past quarter was a crucial one.

Palliative care is not just a medical discipline; it is an embodiment of care, kindness, and understanding. Our team exemplifies these values, going above and beyond to ensure that our patients experience the highest quality of life possible. As we move forward, I encourage medical fraternity to come forward and become a part of the legacy. My best wishes with IAPC chapter in Telangana for advocating on palliative care.

It is not possible by proper guidance. Sparsh's Medical Board plays a crucial role in ensuring care quality, defining care-related strategies, and upholding ethical standards and values. Our esteemed medical board includes Dr. P. Gopal (Chairperson), Dr. Rohini Reganti, Dr. M. Subrahmanyam, Dr. Phani Sree S, and Dr. Anita Patibandla.

With the utmost respect and gratitude!

## **STATISTICS**



846

#### Total new beneficiaries

In Patients 408

Out Patients 107

Home Care 331

52

Medical Equipment Distributed

**1,200** Kgs

Dry Ration Distributed

283

Hours of training provided to college students, volunteers & others 2,538

Indirect Beneficiaries

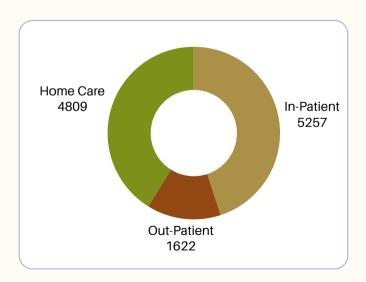
2,724

Follow up calls

1,465+

individuals were sensitised through various outreach programs 11,688

## BENEFICIARIES SERVED SINCE 2011



## QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

#### 75 kWp solar plant inaugurated for a greener tomorrow

With the support of Infosys Foundation we have inaugurated 75 kWp solar power plant.

Taking a giant leap towards a sustainable tomorrow, Infosys' support for the project will help to reduce carbon footprints, ensure long-term cost savings and will benefit 2,500 beneficiaries per year.

With this, Sparsh Hospice has achieved the target of 80% of CMD. It is a significant milestone for a standalone hospice in India. We look forward to having a long-term engagement with Infosys in building a sustainable community and serving the terminally ill.





#### **Governing Board Meeting**

Our Governing **Board** meeting was conducted this quarter where 5 of the 6 members present. were Trustees Governing and Board discussed about the project updates and strategies to efficiently expand the footprints.



#### Sparsh onboarded as SVP INDIA'S NGO partner

We have been onboarded with SVP India Hyderabad Chapter, who will be supporting us with strategies to strengthen our corpus strategies. Our 3 lead partners - Charu Srinivasan, Sharada Akkineni and Bindu Yamani will be helping us in the journey with SVP India.

Thank You SVP India for trusting us!

# Introducing SVP Hyderabad's newest NGO partner! SPARSH HOSPICE Sparsh Centre for Palliative Care provides holistic careaddressing the physical, psychological, spiritual, and social needs of individuals facing life-threatening illnesses. Our comprehensive hospice services include inpatient, home-based, and outpatient care, offering personalized support to both patients and their families.





#### **Experiential Learning with Singapore Cancer Society**

Our team members, Dr Anjaneyulu Konda, Head - Home Care and Medical Officer, and Anusha Cheekati. Head Nurse, visited Singapore Cancer Society where they learned the best practices of institute. They had opportunity to discuss on usage of opioid, symptom management, operations and other. Both members also joined them for the home visit to understand the approach and how Sparsh can adapt it for efficient fleet management.

They also joined the 2nd Singapore Palliative Care Quality Improvement Conference (SPCQIC) 2024 during their visit. The global platform allowed team to get an insight on innovative strategies in the palliative care sector.





## **Rotary with a mission**

#### Leading the compassionate way

Rotary International President-Elect Mário César Martins de Camargo lauded the services and said Sparsh members are the last soldiers and guardians of people suffering from life limiting illness."

Rotary International **President-Elect Mário César Martins de Camargo,** who will assume office for the role of President in 2025, visited Rotary Banjara Hills (RI Dist 3150) service project, Sparsh Hospice – Centre for Palliative Care, on September 27, 2024, as a part of his international peace tour.

#### **Compassionate community**

Camargo was accompanied by Rotarian Trichur Narayan "Raju" Subramanian, RI Director, Rotarian Aniruddh Roy Chowdhury, RI Director and Rotarian Flt. Lt KP Nagesh RI Director Elect, K. Sarath Choudary, District Governor and Ram Prasad, DG Elect.

During his visit, several projects under Health on wheels-district 3150 were displayed. The President and Secretary of the Rotary Club of Banjara Hills, Dr. Anita Patibandla and Rotarian K.V. Murthy respectively, accompanied by other delegates, took Camargo to the showcased service projects.

#### **Service projects**

The service projects included mobile palliative care vans, ENT & hearing screening van, cancer screening bus,

mobile eye care bus, mobile mammography test bus, mobile blood bank, mobile bone & joint clinic with X-ray unit.

During the tour of the mobile vans he mentioned that "It is incredible that Rotarians have come forward to make the healthcare services accessible to people at their doorstep."

#### **Lauded Sparsh**

Upcoming President lauded the services of Sparsh Hospice while addressing the Rotarians and Sparsh Hospice staff at the facility. While expressing his gratitude towards the Sparsh Hospice staff he said "You are the last soldiers and guardians of people suffering from life limiting illness."

He emphasised that it is an incredible job which Rotary Club of Banjara Hills members have achieved in 11 years, scaling and sustaining such a huge service project is 'incredible'.

For all who were waging a grim battle at the hospice, Camargo's presence had a sobering influence on them with words of encouragement.



DATE	NAME & ADDRESS	Email	TEL. No.	COMMENTS
27/SEPT/202	Y MARIO DE CAMARGO	morsio camango @	(1) 22441	YOU ARE THE LAM
		Rotary ong	5426	SOLDIERS OF LIFE,
				THE GUARDIANS OF
				OUR LAST HOPES.
				MAY THE DEITIES
				INSPIRE YOU TO KEED
				WORKING.





## INTRODUCTION



Sparsh Hospice is a center for palliative care where free of cost symptom care and pain management services are delivered to the terminally ill through a state-of art in-patient & outpatient facility.

Our free services are also extended to the needy beneficiaries at their respective homes through 6 fully equipped and staffed home care vans. We have also started OP clinics on fortnightly basis in the two other districts of Telangana. The services are under the umbrella of Rotary Club of Banjara Hills Charitable Trust and all statutory compliances are up to date including 8°G, 12A, CSR 1 Certificate, audited balance sheet. The trust is registered under Registration Act 1908, guided by Indian Trust Act 1882 having Registration no 139/2011.

We are also registered under FCRA Act under the social category. We are also certified by GuideStar India with 'Platinum' Rating, and Collaborative Philanthropy (earlier Charity Aid Foundation).



To provide exceptional palliative care services, free of cost, to terminally ill patients hailing from all sections of the society



To render differential palliative care service to add value and provide comfort in the end-of-life days of terminally ill patients



To encourage, facilitate and spread awareness about palliative care through educating, training, extending services & research.

## **OUR STRATEGIES**

#### In-patient services

- Doctor's, nurses & counselling consultation
- · Patient and attender stay
- Medicines
- Food
- Home like environment



#### Out-patient services

- Free Consultation
- Medicines Medical Equipment's
- Tele Consultation
- Doctor's, nurses & counselling consultation
- Extended OP services at Nizamabad (Indur Cancer Hospital) Karimnagar (CAIMS)



#### Home care services

- Doorstep Services
- Medicines
- Medical Equipment
- Need-based Dry Ration Support
- Doctor's, nurses & counselling consultation



#### Training & Education

- Certificate Course in Palliative Care for Volunteers
- GDA Training Program
- Volunteer training
- College Student Training Program
- Creativity, Activity, Service Program for school children



#### Awareness & Advocacy

- Raising Awareness in Palliative Care
- Promoting Advocacy in Palliative Care



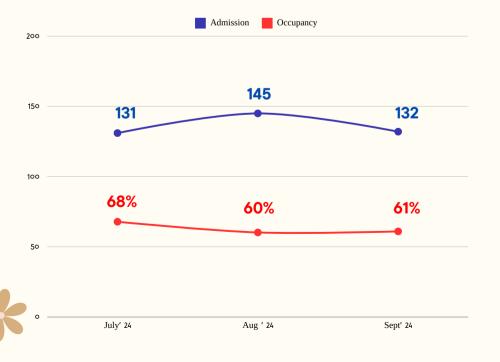




## **HOSPICE CARE**



Sparsh Hospice is 82-bedded state-of-the-art facility with all amenities to meet the ends of beneficiaries and their caregivers. At a hospice, we provide free stay, food, medicines, attender stay, and other amenities free of cost for the in-patient beneficiaries. We also celebrate festivals, beneficiaries & their family members birthdays and any other special occasion at facility. Our center features dedicated wards for pediatric patients, females, and males. We provide comprehensive medical, psychological, social, and spiritual care under one roof, entirely free of charge.



#### **Admission**

July'24 131

Aug' 24 145

Sept' 24 132

#### **Occupancy**

July' 24 68%

Aug' 24 60%

Sept' 24 61%

# STEP TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE

"Madam nee daggara ko vachanu" (Madam, I am walking towards vou), told seven-year-old \*Jashi with his face glowing with excitement, as he held onto his new walker during a physiotherapy session at Sparsh Hospice - Centre for Palliative Care. \*Jashi, who suffers from Ventriculitis Hydrocephalus, chronic а neurological brain condition caused by the buildup of cerebrospinal fluid, comes from a small agrarian family of six. His primary caregiver is his grandmother, and with no mobility in his lower limbs, Jashi has never experienced the joys of childhood that most children do. Over 1 in 3 people affected by neurological conditions, the leading cause of illness and disability worldwide.

For 7 long years, Jashi's life had been confined to a state of dependency—he had never walked, gone to school, or played with friends. His world revolved around medications, caretakers, and immobility.



Over 1 in 3 people are affected by neurological conditions, the leading cause of illness and disability worldwide.

At Sparsh Hospice, we strive to make such transformations possible. For families like Jashi's, whose challenges are far from over, having a child with Hydrocephalus often means a lifetime of care and uncertainty. Yet, with the right support, interventions, and love, even small victories like Jashi's first steps can bring immense hope and strength to families facing the toughest of journeys.

Sparsh Hospice continues to work tirelessly to ensure that children like Jashi are not defined by their conditions, but by the possibilities they can achieve through care, compassion, and community.

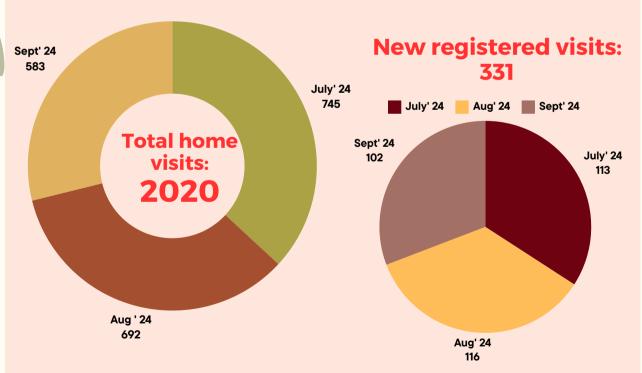
THANK YOU Kotak Mahindra Prime Limited for supporting paediatric beneficiaries!



## **HOME CARE**

Home is where the heart finds comfort and connection. In the final stages of life, being surrounded by loved ones and peace departing in universal desire. Guided by this philosophy, Sparsh introduced its Homecare services in 2016, ensuring that patients receive compassionate care in the comfort of their own homes. Our fleet of 6 Homecare vans now reaches around 80 new patients every month, thanks to the generous support of SBI Foundation. This quarter we have added two halt centres for efficient operation of the vans.







## **CARE WITH DIGNITY**

Sai Shiva Teja, a 21-year-old B.Tech graduate and the elder son of a family of four was recently diagnosed with synovial sarcoma in

his right thigh, when his life took a sudden turn. When he was thinking of getting an

IT job and helping his family to lead a good life, this news had shattered his life. Synovial sarcoma accounts for 9-10% of cancer caused in soft tissues

When the family reached out to Sparsh the disease had progressed significantly, resulting in a large, foulsmelling wound on his leg that frequently bled. After undergoing treatments. his doctors several informed his family that no further medical interventions could help. Despite understanding the prognosis, Sai's family, especially his mother, remained in deep denial, clinging to hopes that he might somehow recover.

Sai himself was unaware of the full extent of his condition. In their search for support, the family found Sparsh, contacted online. The team accompanied by a doctor, arrived at Sai's home to offer their assistance. They first engaged with Sai's family, carefully explaining the prognosis and helping them confront the reality of his illness. The family members, though overwhelmed, felt supported by the compassionate and clear communication.

During this initial visit, the family expressed their struggle with managing Sai's wound. They were



# Synovial sarcoma accounts for 9-10% of cancer caused in soft tissues.

spending nearly ₹600 daily on wound dressings but were uncertain about how to perform the care correctly.

Recognizing the family's financial strain and their need for continuous support, Sparsh informed them about the MPHW team, who could assist with regular wound care. This partnership eased the family's burden and provided much-needed guidance.

We also give medications for pain management for his intense discomfort. Additionally, we also provide medical equipment for comfort at home.

Although his mother struggled to accept that Sai's time is limited, she and the rest of the family felt profoundly grateful for Sparsh.

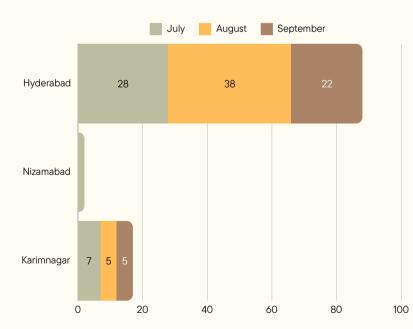
## **OP CLINIC**

Out-patient (OP) consultations can often be a neglected area in palliative care. We are committed to providing highquality care to service-users who choose to come in periodically for pain wound dressings, management, counselling, and to share a sense of community at the hospice. Having the extra layer of support can make a big difference to the quality of life. Expert management and telephonic medical advice can help avoid those unwanted trips to hospitals.

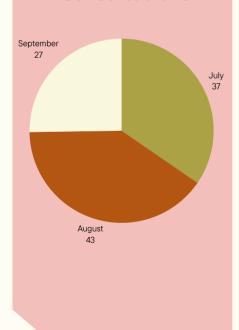
Currently we extend the services with 3 OP Clinics:

- a. Sparsh Hospice, Hyderabad
- b. Indur Cancer Centre, Nizamabad
- c. CAIMS, Karimnagar

## New OP Consultations clinic wise



## Total Consultations





#### Tele-health

In cases where patients are unable to travel, teleconsultation facilitates remote medical appointments. One family member can attend, which facilitating communication. This is particularly valuable for patients requiring pain medication, ensuring access to necessary care without physical travel.





## Coming closer to the community!

In the partnership of link hospitals we have started pain clinics in Nizamabad and Karimnagar with the aim to increase accessibility of palliative care.

out to us:

Nizamabad: +91 78931 18921 Karimnagar: +91 78931 16562

#### **Community awareness**

During our OP Clinics in different cities we utilise the time to spread awareness on palliative care in the nearby areas. This helps in letting people know about the pain clinic available in the city and also about the need of palliative care.

16









To enhance expertise and bolster workforce in palliative care, we've initiated several programs to achieve the goals as follows:

- Offer no cost hands-on training program for General Duty Assistants.
- Started 'Course in Palliative Care for Volunteers (CCPCV),' a 36-hour offline program, which is a collaborative effort between Sparsh Hospice and the Indian Association of Palliative Care (IAPC).
- Providing college students with internships or observer roles, we offer comprehensive training to raise awareness about the field of palliative care.
- Volunteering opportunities for all age groups.
- Prioritising upskilling our current staff, exploring innovative palliative care approaches.
- Initiated Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)
   Program to create a compassionate community.

## Activities during the quarter are as follows:

- 1 month OJT to GDAs from other healthcare institutes.
- CAS Certification classes for students from Boston, USA, Lovely Professional University, Oakridge International School and other renowned institutes.
- Conducted value education program for IIIT students.
- Training to care team staff members on electronic patient management system.

282 hours of training programs conducted

773 individuals trained on palliative care



In India there is very little awareness about palliative and end-of life care which is complicated by the perception that Hospice care is often associated with giving up. Therefore, it is the need of the hour to spread extensive awareness about palliative care amongst the community including doctors, healthcare professionals and other stakeholders. Concept of Palliative care is 3 decade old, since then hospice and palliative care services have been developed through the efforts of committed individuals and volunteers. But now it is time to come together and work on its integration into the national level policies to reach each nooks and corners of the country.

1465+

individuals were sensitised through various outreach programs

## Activities during the quarter are as follows:

- Pediatric palliative care awareness program in a local basti of East marredpally, Hyderabad.
- Pediatric palliative care awareness program in prostate cancer screening camp at Nizamabad.
- Pediatric palliative care awareness Montessori Walk at Necklace Road, Hyderabad.
- Palliative Care sensitization program at Hamsa Homeopathy medical college and research center.

## **GALLERY**



Sparsh 13th Inception



**Musical Evening** 



**Bonalu Celebration** 



Janmasthami



**Ganesh Chaturthi** 



**Doctor's Day Celebration** 



Varalakshmi Pooja



**Independence Day** 



Home care



A pediatric beneficiary paints joy with every stroke.



A soul at peace, in prayer.



Compassionate Care



Mehndi, a moment of grace.







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