



IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh



Newsletter

December 2024
Vol 2 No 3

Cosmopolitan Centre (3rd Floor)
22/2 Babor Road, Block-B
Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207

Dial: +880241022646-51
Email: impact@dhaka.net
Web: www.impactfoundationbd.org

THE IMPACT FOUNDATION UK SUPPORTS THE FLOOD VICTIMS IN BANGLADESH

FOOD SUPPORT

The eastern part of Bangladesh was struck by a devastating flood in August causing catastrophic damages to homes, crops and livestock, including the Feni, Noakhali and Cumilla districts that further exacerbated the vulnerabilities of already at-risk populations, displacing families and leaving them in dire need of necessities such as food, clean water, and medical care.



With a financial grant from IMPACT Foundation UK, IFB supported 2,802 poor families with physically disabled members, women-led households, and families with elderly family members in September and October with food packages containing essential items to meet the immediate nutritional and hygiene needs of the families after the disaster. Through this food support, approximately 14,010 people were benefitted.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to IMPACT Foundation UK for their generous support in the relief assistance to the vulnerable in need.



MEDICAL CAMPS

In the aftermath of the devastating flood, the immediate health needs of the affected communities became a critical concern. With the kind support of IMPACT Foundation UK, IFB organized free medical camps in the Sonagazi and Parshuram Upazila of Feni district to address the urgent healthcare needs of flood victims.

The floods created an environment ripe for the spread of waterborne diseases, such as diarrhea and skin infections, which rapidly became a major health crisis in the affected areas. In addition, there was an increased demand for healthcare services for vulnerable groups, including elderly men and women, children, pregnant women, and adolescent girls—who are particularly susceptible to illness and health complications during times of disaster.



Each medical camp offered free consultations, medications, and preventive care to the families who had lost access to healthcare services due to the flooding.

SONAGAZI UPAZILA

IFB organized a month-long medical camp providing vital healthcare to 2,920 flood-affected individuals in Sonagazi (sub-district) of Feni district, addressing the immediate medical needs of the disaster-affected people.

A dedicated outreach team – (one male doctor, one female doctor, and six volunteers) worked tirelessly to provide free medical check-ups and essential medications to the vulnerable, including children, pregnant women, and the elderly to treat common diseases health issues, such as diarrhea and infections which escalate in such environments.



PARSHURAM UPAZILA

Another medical camp was organized in Parshuram Upazila (sub-district) from October 23, 2024, until 20th November, 2024 for the treatment of common diseases, mostly waterborne diseases and problems of the skin, and eye, which exacerbated and became widespread. IFB's medical team provided free medical consultation and treatment to 2,760 flood victims.

Dr. Iftekhar Hasan Bhuiyan, RMO, Parshuram Upazila Health Complex during his visit to the medical camp on 13th November stated, "People of all ages are visiting the medical camp, and receiving free treatment. IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) is providing free medications to the people affected by flooding."



SSMT SUPPORTS RESETTLEMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION OF DEMOLISHED HOUSES



A comprehensive needs assessment on Parshuram Upazila, located in the border area near India, was conducted by IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) that called attention to the dire situation of many families whose homes had been destroyed by the floodwaters. In response to IFB's appeal, Social Services and Management Trust (SSMT), a national charitable organization, granted financial support for the rehabilitation of ten affected families in the sub-district, offering these families a fresh start after the devastating loss of their livelihoods and shelter.

The construction is being carried out and will be completed in two phases. As the construction of the new homes progress, there is a renewed sense of optimism among the families.

BACHAO, USA SUPPORTS POOR CATARACT AND ENT PATIENTS

BACHAO, the Bangladeshi American Charitable Organization, based in California, USA, has committed to continue to support IFB with a grant to provide cataract and ENT surgical treatments for 120 poor patients in 2025. BACHAO has been supporting IFB since 2014. BACHAO's long commitment towards IFB has supported a significant number of underserved people with eye and hearing disability treatments until now.

DAK FOUNDATION SUPPORTS POOR PEOPLE IN BANGLADESH

IMPACT JIBON MELA MEHERPUR

Dave and Kerry (DAK) Foundation, named after its founders, Dave and Kerry, is an Australian non-profit organization that supports and empowers individuals, particularly those affected by disabilities and other challenges. This year, the DAK Foundation granted significant financial support for clinical and outreach activities under the Prevention and Cure of avoidable disability through the Impact Meherpur Programme. The programme is dedicated to supporting rural women, children, and underprivileged people in Meherpur for two years to uplift their lives for a more inclusive society.



PROSHANTI PROJECT

The extended Proshanti Project, funded by the DAK Foundation of Australia, provides free surgical treatment to impoverished rural and underserved women suffering from uterine prolapse across 18 districts in Bangladesh, bringing crucial healthcare services to areas where access to specialized treatment is limited. The project provides surgical interventions performed by locally trained surgeons, helping women to regain their health, dignity, and quality of life. Uterine prolapse, a critical health condition severely affects a woman's physical well-being and daily life. By providing free surgical treatment, the Proshanti Project is alleviating the suffering of these women and improving their health outcomes.



Beyond surgical intervention, the project also equips the nurses with specialized training at its' working areas to ensure proper care and support to the women affected by uterine prolapse, both during the recovery phase and in the future management of such conditions. The Proshanti project not only provides immediate medical assistance but also contributes to the long-term improvement of women's health in these communities.

REFLECTING ON LAMIA'S JOURNEY OF CLUBFOOT

Lamiya Khatun was born to a family of 5 members. Her father, a small businessman from Jhenaidah came to Impact Masudul Haque Memorial Community Health Centre when his daughter was six months old. Lamia was born with clubfoot, a common birth defect. For Lamia, this condition marked the beginning of a challenging journey.

Lamia, the second child of Mohammad Mashiur Rahman and Asma Khatun is from a small village in Jhenaidah. When Lamia was born, it was her grandmother who first noticed her deformity. Both the feet of Lamia were turned inward and downward, making it impossible for her to stand or walk normally. Her parents, though initially concerned, were unaware of the condition, and did not know what to do. Her father discussed with many, but no one could provide him with a solution until one of the neighbors suggested him visit the Impact Masudul Haque Memorial Community Health Centre, where children born with such conditions are treated.

At the age of about six months, Lamia was taken to the hospital, where a doctor examined her and suggested a series of plasters before being given orthotic shoes to correct the alignment of her feet. Accordingly, both her parents agreed to strongly comply with the treatment procedures for the well-being of their daughter.

By the time Lamia reached the age of 2 years and 8 months, she began to show significant improvements. With the shoes, she began walking, albeit with some assistance in the early stages. Her progress was remarkable, and it was clear that the combination of medical treatment and parental care had made a lasting impact on her development. Quoting Lamia's father, "I cannot express how grateful I am to IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh, the doctor and the staff, who treated my daughter. She is learning to walk properly."

Lamia's story is not just about overcoming clubfoot, but also about the unwavering love and commitment of her family, who stood by her every step of the way.



THE JIBON MELA ACADEMY, A NEW ACADEMIC BUILDING FOR THE IMPACT NURSING INSTITUTE

The 7-story Jibon Mela Academy, a state-of-the-art nursing educational facility in Amjhupi, Meherpur, is being constructed on the same complex as the Impact Jibon Mela Health Centre. The academy is a symbol of the progress of the Impact Nursing Institute in enhancing nursing education and fostering a skilled healthcare workforce to serve the local community and the surrounding region.

The construction of the academy is expected to be completed by June 2025. Once finished, the academy will feature modern classrooms, practical labs, a library, student accommodation, and administrative functions, ensuring that students have everything they need to thrive. There will be additional facilities for dining and a gymnasium. IFB acknowledges the significant support from the Lutz and Hedda Franz Charitable Trust (LHFCT) for funding for the construction of 6 floors and the UK IMPACT Foundation for financing for the first two levels including the Foundation of the building.



Mr. Nahyan Ameen, an English Instructor, shares his views on the Impact Nursing Institute

I am thrilled with the remarkable work of The Impact Nursing Institute, a beacon of hope and opportunity for young women in the rural areas of Bangladesh. In Bangladesh, poverty is widespread, and opportunities are scarce. This non-profit nursing college stands as a transformative force, offering educational opportunities and career prospects for rural young women.

The Impact Nursing Institute provides a three-year Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery, designed specifically to uplift young women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Many of the students come from families where their fathers are subsistence farmers and their mothers are homemakers. For these families, the prospect of having a daughter trained as a nurse represents not just a personal achievement but a significant contribution to their household's financial stability. By empowering these young women, the nursing institute is not only giving them a professional pathway but also creating additional breadwinners within their families, thereby creating economic stability in the rural communities near Meherpur. Meherpur is a border town, the last district of Khulna before the Indian border, covering a large population of potential students, with residential facilities available to all students who attend the college.

Currently, the students benefit from a unique and immersive educational experience, studying on the property of the Impact 'Jibon Mela' Health Centre in Meherpur. This setup allows them to engage with real-time patient care while pursuing their degrees. The curriculum combines theoretical knowledge with practical training. The students have access to modern technology, including a computer lab, modern-day medical machines, a well-equipped operating theatre, and comprehensive labs. Courses cover a broad range of subjects including English, science, food and nutrition, midwifery, birthing, nursing, ethics, pharmacology, and a wide array of subjects all aimed at preparing them for the demands of the healthcare industry at home and abroad.

The most exciting development on the horizon is the construction of the new six-story building, slated for completion in 2025. This state-of-the-art facility will be a significant upgrade from the current setup, offering modern amenities and comfortable residential accommodations for the students. The expansion will enable the teachers to enhance their educational offerings and provide an even better environment for learning and growth.

The Impact Nursing Institute is not just about education; it's about transforming lives and communities. By offering a pathway to a high-demand profession, they are contributing to the broader healthcare sector in Bangladesh, where there is a continuous need for skilled nurses to serve an ever-growing population. The students are equipped with the skills and knowledge to make a tangible difference, both in their own lives and in the health and well-being of their communities.

As the Impact Nursing Institute continues to grow, it is exciting to think about the future and the increased opportunities it could bring. The institute's commitment to providing a world-class education in a supportive and practical environment is unwavering. They look forward to welcoming more students into the program and witnessing the positive ripple effects of their success throughout their communities.

I thank all the supporters and the staff members for their continuous efforts in making this vision a reality. Together, they are creating pathways to empowerment and transformation for young women in Bangladesh.

IMPACT Norway supports riverine poor people

Impact Norway provided a grant to support several corrective surgeries at the Jibon Tari floating hospital and make a difference in the lives of riverine, rural children suffering from clubfoot conditions through life-saving surgeries. Clubfoot, a congenital condition, affects thousands of children in the country, many of whom live in underserved communities where access to proper medical care is limited.

Through this support, IFB continues to enhance the well-being of marginalized populations by ensuring access to critical healthcare.



Donate Now/Contact
IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh
Cosmopolitan Centre (3rd Floor), 22/2
Babor Road, Block-B
Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207

Dial: +880241022646-51
Email: impact@dhaka.net
Web: www.impactfoundationbd.org



<https://www.facebook.com/www.impactfoundationbd.org/>



<https://www.instagram.com/p/CcKdE1mLRRo/>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQcE8c59uSWTCKjWz69Reow>