

CHETNA: Changing Lives in East Champaran

A partnership with the Emmanuel Hospital Association

Country: India

Category: Health care

Project number: 98260

Need Feb 08: \$80,148

This project improves the lives of people in poverty in Bihar state. A Primary Health Care approach is improving the health status through provision of preventive, curative, and promotive health care. A great emphasis is on the establishment of women's cooperatives which participate in resource sharing, facilitate receptiveness to change and build self esteem by equipping women with literacy, knowledge and business skills.

Update from Project Manager, Mr. Subhas Das, March 2008

Jhitkaiya village in Bhakhri Panchayat had been inaccessible by vehicle, since the village path was cut off during the recent floods. This meant that the village would miss out on much needed medical help, as we were unable to take a vehicle into the village to set up a medical camp.

The village youth group realized the problem and decided that they had a social responsibility to do something about it. They organized a meeting with some of

the village leaders to agree to a plan of action, but they got a very negative response. The youth, however, were not discouraged and went to see the local Mukhia who was pleased to see their enthusiasm to help their community and so he agreed to fund the renovation of the village path. As soon as there was a road to the village the youth group approached us and requested we conduct a medical camp in Jhitkaiya village.

As 70% of India's population is under 35 years of age, there is a growing need to mobilize the youth to become involved in social actions and development. We believe that by inspiring the youth to feel socially responsible, we are helping to form a good foundation for future community development.

The youth group loves to meet together and plan how to help their community as well as participate in CHETNA's "Barthe Kadam" life-skills program.



aid that gets there

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