



# International Medical Health Organization (IMHO)

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## Tamil Nadu, India Cyclone Disaster Relief

Coastal villages of Chennai and other Districts in Tamil Nadu were devastated by Cyclone Vardah in December 2016 inundating low lying areas. The high velocity winds also uprooted thousands of trees and electric poles. The flooding disrupted normal living. Sawed Trust, a local NGO, in cooperation with IMHO-USA and a contribution of \$2,000, completed the Vardah Cyclone Relief Project. Distribution process was carried out during the third week of January 2017. 134 most vulnerable families in the selected target areas were ensured of basic food, clothing, etc. for five days.



## Ethiopian Deaf Empowerment Project

The funds (\$4,000) provided by IMHO to our local partner Visions Global Empowerment permitted enhancement of Audiology Services in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia. During her trip in August 2016, Dr. Catherine Clark, volunteer Audiologist from USA helped design and create a structure for more robust year-round audiology and speech services with the help of other volunteers. About 130 individuals received a hearing test/assessment and follow-up counselling in addition to staff training.

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IMHO continues to work with local partners in Sri Lanka to provide practical solutions to humanitarian healthcare needs. Projects are being completed starting this year to further sanitation improvements including construction of toilets, housing, healthcare development, support disabled health clinics, livelihood, and poor student education. Please refer to the IMHO website [www.theimho.org](http://www.theimho.org). The project updates include but not limited to the following:

### **1. Basic Subfertility Facility in Base Hospital Tellippalai \$6,500**

According to the Consultant Obstetrician, assistance is sought by several sub fertile patients. IMHO has recently approved funding to provide the basic treatment facility with Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) and Sperm Bank similar to the one established before in Killinochchi.

### **2. Spinal Cord Injured People Toilets and Water wells \$52,000**

Work to construct toilets (\$40,000) for the spinal cord injured people is in progress. The request for water wells will be considered after construction of toilets is completed.

### **3. Point Pedro Divisional Hospital Emergency Care Unit (ECU) Renovation (\$21,000)**

Due to the current ECU space limitation and to improve patient care, improvements to the ECU were planned. The renovation supported by a single donor was completed and opened in January 2017.

### **4. Ampara Special Needs Network (ASNN) Teacher Support \$22,000/ 1 Year**

Recently IMHO Board approved funding to support ASNN services to support the operation. There are about 300 plus mentally challenged and stigmatized kids ASNN serves. IMHO is helping ASNN pay for allowance to special education teachers and help the children.

### **5. Batticaloa Autism Center \$10,000**

Renovation work at the proposed center, named "Thiraniyam" is in progress and the center is expected to be open by April 2017. IMHO is supporting the establishment of this center to benefit autistic kids and their families. Special mention should be made about the Brothers of Charity's initiative to provide the needed space to house the Center.

### **6. Livelihood, Housing, and Sanitation Improvements for Resettled Families in Sampoor (\$86,000)**

About 500 plus families were displaced and returned back to their lands in the Trincomalee District in 2016 facing several challenges including housing, livelihood and sanitation improvements with toilets. There are about 250 fishing families and only 12 boats and nets were received. This project is being spearheaded by our local partner Assist Resettlement & Renaissance (ARR) and supported by IMHO and other donors to meet the basic needs which should help ameliorate the suffering of the displaced families. The basic needs include:

a) Housing for 379 families- IMHO approved 36 semi-permanent shelters (\$36,000). A total of 65 shelters thus far have been completed according to Assist RR.

b) 100 Toilets- IMHO funded 50 and other donors 50. (\$15,000).

c) Livelihood for Fishing Families: Initial funding for 50 families, 10 fishing boats and nets; one boat for every five Families, \$3,500 per boat & Nets (\$35,000)

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**IMHO helps to build Semi-Permanent homes and toilets in Sampoor.**

#### **7. Up Country Needs for Poor Communities: Local Partners- World Vision and Empower for Development (E4D)**

**Maskeliya: \$9,300**

Funds approved by the board to help special needs children classroom furniture, destitute children continue their education, and Bloomfield TMV School water supply.

a) Classroom Furniture (\$1,000)- Completed July 2016

b) Sixty Destitute Children (\$5,000) - On going, initially for 6 months (Caring Hands Project) from Nov.2016. The project will invest in the lives of these children by fulfilling their essential needs such as food, clothing and education.

c) Water Supply (\$3,300) - Completed by end of 2016. IMHO Board members visited the area and inspected the newly installed school water system.



**IMHO helps destitute children continue their education in Maskeliya**



**IMHO Board members visited the area and inspected the newly installed school water system in Maskelia.**

**Hatton: \$7,000**

Funds approved for helping on the Sanitation Facilities, Harrington Estate. There are seventy-four (74) families living in the Estate including 110 children and 84 of them are registered children in the World Vision sponsorship program. The need is for 430 toilets per World Vision, the local partner. 40 toilets were completed with funds from IMHO and handed over to the beneficiaries. The sanitation improvements are needed to help the marginalized plantation community.

**IMHO Annual General Meeting (AGM), Atlanta,  
Georgia June 17, 2017**



14th IMHO Annual Convention  
& Junior Leadership Program  
Lanier High School 418 Buford Highway  
Sugar Hill, GA, 30518 ★ June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 ★



› Junior Leadership Program



› Cultural Shows – Bharata Natyam



AGM Speeches, Project updates & Fund Raising



Empower the Lives of the Under Privileged Upcountry Community

Livelihood Assistance for the Sampoor Resettled Families

Support Operation of the Two Provincial Autism Centers

Water and Sanitation Improvements for the Disabled

› Musical Show & Dinner



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**Be the Difference.  
Save a Life with just \$1/day!  
DONATE TODAY!**

With **just \$1/day** (or \$30/month) you can help save and improve the lives of persons in need in Sri Lanka and elsewhere around the globe. Please consider making a donation to IMHO today. You can **donate online via PayPal as a one-time or recurring donation** (the amount & frequency of which are up to you).

You can also **donate via mail** by sending a check made out to "IMHO" to the following address:

IMHO Treasurer  
P.O. Box 341466  
Columbus, OH 43234  
U.S.A.

*All donations are tax-deductible (tax ID code #59-3779465)*