

# DELHI HOUSE

Delhi House Society | Newsletter February 2020



*"You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations, and you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings".*

*Jesaja 58, 11-12*

## Dear friends and supporters of Delhi House,

I am honored to write some inspirational words for the annual Delhi House Newsletter. The scriptures of Isaiah 58:6-12 (our blue-print, our plan of action) often comes to my mind; it was these words sown in our hearts which we planted back then in 1996, in the barren soil of Narela village near New Delhi. The Lord watered these seedlings into a wonderful fruitful garden where oaks of righteousness grow, which shade the poor and downtrodden so they may find release of their troubles and pain. The water offered is not merely water which makes you thirsty again, but it is the living water Jesus gives which becomes in us a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

I am so thankful that Delhi House/Sewa Ashram kept its welcoming and holistic approach. That when someone is in dire need and cries out for help, we do not first look at our computer screen to see if we may act. Those helpless at the roadside are carried carefully inside the ambulance, cleaned, clothed, fed and cared for with proper diagnostics and healthcare. Their healing finds a place amidst a loving family community, which has formed itself over the years. Former patients, who are the

backbone of the physical labor that is involved with caring for the sick and disabled, plus the maintenance and construction of new buildings. They are joined by some young people whose birth I was blessed to witness so many years ago.

Then I saw the photo of Suraj (on page 5) placing with his powerful arms the first stone of the foundation of the new Learning Center. This image illustrates the redeeming power of Christ. Here is a young man paralyzed from the waist down due to spinal tuberculosis before he was even five years old. Bending over in his wheelchair he places the stone, which is to be the foundation of an educational center, firm, secure and level. Now, a young man, educated and smart, and with other such "redeemed" young men and women of the Delhi House Community, are those empowered with the Spirit and love to continue the mission.

Thank you for your friendship, love and support.

Ton Snellaert



## Diwali in Sewa Ashram – an atmospheric festival of lights but thick air in Delhi

The two festivals Holi and Diwali are the most important festivals in the Indian Hindu tradition. Diwali is the festival of lights, in which every year for one week fireworks are shot-off (so to speak New Year's Eve for one week) and all houses are decorated with countless chains of lights. Now that Delhi is one of the cities with the highest air and dust pollution in the world, the authorities are trying to limit the firecrackers. So far with only moderate success as I noticed at the end of October. (The fine dust values in autumn reach regularly the 10 to 20-fold of the value determined by the world health authority as health-endangering.) In Sewa Ashram we celebrate the festival in a special way – without firecrackers but with innumerable small oil lamps, which are ignited together and then distributed all over the area. So I was allowed to experience together with the team and the patients a special evening of lights, including a delicious feast.



Delhi, could hardly recognize the military parade. The enormous population growth in the big cities; the immense growth of individual traffic paired with little environmental awareness and an extensive burning of the fields in autumn results in catastrophic breathing conditions causing everyone to suffer. People with ailing health or respiratory diseases suffer greatly from this pollution.



The Diwali holidays were extended for all students and 5 million breathing masks were distributed in Delhi. The city faces enormous challenges and there is great need for authorities and residents to contribute to the improvement of air quality in Delhi. You would hope that the Diwali lights could create a light bulb moment to realize the way forward.

**Dirk Walliser**



## Ravi Dass – a patient story



Ravi Dass is 38 years old and originates from West Bengal in the northeast of India. He belongs to a very poor family. When he was 16 years old, he lost his parents. His father died with chronic asthma and his mother never came back when she left to look for her younger sister.

At the age of 18 he left his hometown and came to Jaipur in search of a job. He worked here for almost 8 years. When he got sick, he lost his job and so he came to Delhi with two motives: to be cured and to find a new job.

He had already become addicted to marijuana in West Bengal and started drinking alcohol in Jaipur. It was impossible to lead a good life with his addictions. And in Delhi, he had many friends with the same interests and lifestyle. He had no idea how to solve his problems.

On January 8, 2009, the Sewa Ashram team was as usual at the Yamuna Bazaar and found him lying under a bridge in bad condition. He was rescued and immediately treated and lovingly cared for. Physical and emotional healing took place in the Ashram. Slowly he began to get

involved in various areas of work. He did well and passed on to others what he had received himself. But in a sudden storm of emotions he left the Ashram in 2010.

In 2011, he came back in very bad condition and realized it was impossible for him to survive outside. You see, Ravi, also suffers from leprosy and elephantiasis (an abnormal enlargement of a body part due to lymph congestion). Since that time, Ravi Dass has embarked on a journey of inner restoration and healing and has experienced new meaning in the community of the Sewa Ashram. He is now a valuable member of the community and works with the clinical team. He cares for patients and accompanies them to outpatient hospital visits. Ravi Dass has found stability for his life and treats himself and others responsibly.

For us, it is a wonderful story of transformation and dedication.

## Sahil – from survival artist to creative artist



When Sahil was introduced to us, he was about 3 years old and was accompanied by his sister. He joined the Childrens Program of Delhi House Society back then.

### High spirits in difficult circumstances

Savita, the director of our Learning Centre, assessed Sahil in 2006 with the following words: "Sahil is relatively small for his age and behaves normally. Sometimes he is a bit cheeky. He loves to collect colourful things and likes to play ball." After Sahil had to find a new life and a new family without his biological parents, he had to deal with great challenges in his life. Nevertheless, he has not lost his joy of life in an admirable way and has always remained a bright, open child. Here are pictures I took in 2010 that show him having fun with his friends.



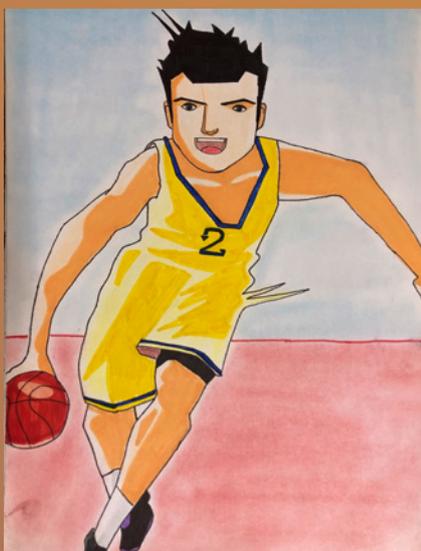
**Teenager with a passion for color and painting**

Today Sahil is pretty grown up and the love for colours is still alive in him. When I see how he has developed, it fills me with great joy. He loves playing guitar and singing, is a totally bright, responsible teenager and loves painting.

It is fascinating for me how abilities and passions, which are invested in us, find their way to realization. The environment in which Sahil grew up actually gives little room for the creative arts. And yet he dreams of becoming an artist and has been painting pictures with enthusiasm for years.

To build up a foothold with a good education after school and at the same time to specifically train and promote the abilities – this was the topic we talked about intensively during my last visit. He dreams of a life in which he can express his creative passion and I wish him that with all my heart.

**Dirk Walliser**



A picture painted in 2007 for a sponsor Sahil today – with a self created and painted polo shirt



## Foundation stone laid for the new Learning and Community Centre

### The vision of the “Community Hub” as the heart of the work

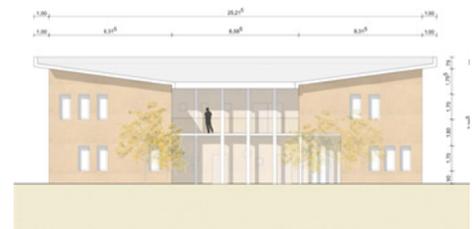
An important part of the vision in the development of Delhi House is the establishment of a “Community Hub”. A place where the heart of the Delhi House community beats. A place where people meet, learn (Learning Centre for slum children and training for ex-patients), work (offices and workshops) and live. A good place for employees, families, children and former patients.

We want to build the new Learning and Community Centre for this purpose. It will replace the old Learning Centre, which is small and dilapidated and which we must rent outside our campus. The new Learning Centre includes 5 classrooms on the ground floor and a room for the sewing classes. Here women from the slum are instructed and trained to do handicrafts on their own. On the 1st floor there will be offices, a large meeting room and small workshops for handicrafts and training of ex-patients. In addition, a beautiful playground is to be created in the open space.

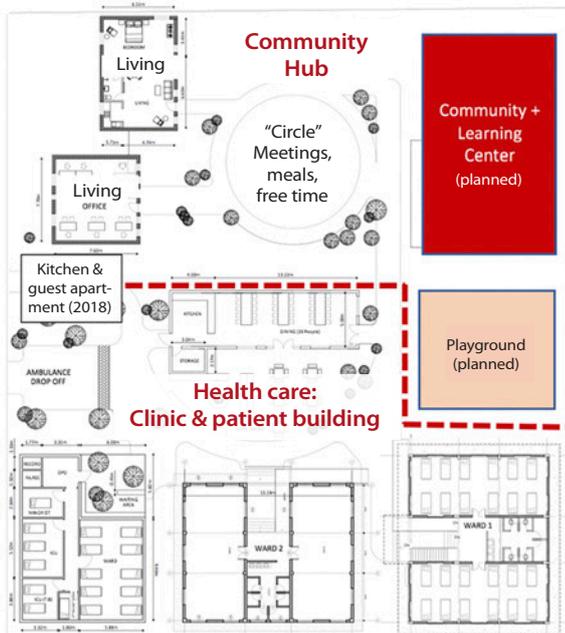
The clinic and patient buildings will be an essential part of our work on the southern part of our site and will become a separate area. At the site of the old clinic, the new Learning and Community Centre will be built on our premises.

### Architecture and financing concept

The architect Jan Schulz from Frankfurt and his team from bb22 created the basic design for the Learning Centre and donated it to Delhi House. A very beautiful building design has been created and we will build it in the same construction method and quality as our new patient and clinic buildings. Now we are ready with our Indian architect in the implementation planning and know that the construction will cost us about 170.000 US\$. With a total usable area of 390 sqm, this is favourable for our circumstances, as the construction costs in India are significantly lower than in Germany (approx. 400\$/sqm usable area). Nevertheless, this is a lot of money and we are dependent on the support of many donors. Since we can only finance normal operations from the regular donations, our construction projects need special donations. We have already been able to gain several supporters who have become part of this realization of our vision. Now we have a donation level of 65% and are looking forward to every additional building block.



## Delhi-House campus



### Laying of the foundation stone – the start is made

On November 1st we laid the foundation stone for the new building, which has been planned for 3 years. We have the confidence that the remaining funds will be donated during this process - and if this is not the case, we can take a break after construction of the ground floor and put it into operation.

The laying of the foundation stone was a great event. In the "Circle" sat the whole colourful community: children and teachers from the Learning Centre, all other staff members of Delhi House, members of our community, our patients, and the board members of the Indian Society. Everyone felt that this was an important moment, and everyone was involved by laying a foundation stone. It was an expectant atmosphere and great joy hung in the air to finally get started. Our vision with the Learning Centre of Delhi House is: We want to give disadvantaged children and their families opportunities for a better life through education. In the early summer of 2021, we hope to be able to inaugurate the new Learning Centre with the new school year and take a step into the future of Delhi House's work.



## Numbers and statistics

Dear friends and supporters,

like every year we would like to inform you about how our work is financed and how we use the funds.

Delhi House Society is funded by donors from 6 countries: Germany, Switzerland, Australia, New Zealand, USA and India. The bank details for all six countries except Australia as well as the contact details of the organizations that issue tax-deductible donation receipts for the donors from each country can be found on the last page of this newsletter. We are looking for a new partner organization in Australia.

We make sure that the administrative costs are as low as possible and that all donations are used for their intended purpose. Our foreign organizations forward 97% – 100% of the donations received directly to the Delhi Society in India.

### STATISTICS (APRIL 2018 – MARCH 2019)

- **142** admitted patients at the Sewa Ashram
- **59** former patients are cared for in Life Groups
- **107** slum children are cared for in 2 learning centres
  - 29** of which with target school entry (non-formal education)
  - 58** of which in remedial education
- **21** adults in sewing, English and literacy courses
- **5** young adults in vocational training

Annual Financial Statement 	01.04.2018 –	01.04.2017 –
	31.03.2019	31.03.2018
Delhi House Society India	INR	INR
Donations from Germany	6.318.260	6.166.001
Donations from Switzerland	2.108.996	2.048.901
Donations from Australia	1.444.912	925.183
Donations from New Zealand	869.705	793.495
Donations from USA	–	610.518
Donations from India	240.368	222.721
Interest on fixed-term deposits	118.997	174.947
Interest on current accounts	25.725	19.173
<b>Total income</b>	<b>11.126.963</b>	<b>10.960.939</b>
<b>Total expenditure excl. Investments</b>	<b>10.328.744</b>	<b>-11.373.808</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>798.219</b>	<b>-412.869</b>
Liquidity at fiscal year start (1.4.)	2.491.159	3.939.237
+ Cash Flow from Operations	+753.631	+465.260
- Cash Flow from Investments	-2.053.642	-1.913.338
Liquidity at fiscal year end (31.3.)	1.191.147	2.491.159



The following two tables show the total international origin and use of Delhi House funds. The Indian financial year always begins on 1st April, the figures shown therefore refer to the period 1.4. – 31.3. The tables document the origin of the donations by country, the amount of the investments and the ratio of earmarked donations and expenditures for the respective projects.

**Christoph Burkhardt**

### Revenues and expenses of the Delhi House Society India by projects

April 18 - March 19	Revenues	Expenses	Shortfall/overlap
Project	INR	INR	INR
Non-earmarked (*)	4'185.928	(*)	4.185.928
Sewa Ashram	2.984.967	6.577.415	-3.592.448
CP-1	597.093	1.314.090	-716.997
CP-2	293.876	612'438	-318'562
LC (*) Narela	2.616.250	1.429.953	1.186.297
LC (*) Bawana	<b>448.849</b>	<b>394.846</b>	<b>54.003</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.126.963</b>	<b>10.328.742</b>	<b>798.221</b>

(\*) LC = Learning Center. Non-earmarked = Donations without allocation to a project and interest income. Expenditure unallocated to a project was allocated to the projects in proportion to the project expenses.

Delhi House Society exists to see the lives of the poor transformed: physically, socially, economically, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. We thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to care for our brothers and sisters in India. For more details on how you can partner with us please visit our website [www.delhihouse.org](http://www.delhihouse.org)

**US DONORS:** Checks payable to: 'Sunnyside Fellowship' c/o Dr. Mark Grussendorf 5505 Heritage Hills Cir Fredericksburg, VA 22407-0104. Please note your check: 'Sewa Ashram'. Please contact [markgrussendorf@hotmail.com](mailto:markgrussendorf@hotmail.com) regarding receipt for income tax deduction.

**NEW ZEALAND DONORS:** Cheques payable to: Cry for the World Foundation, 29 Kahira Crescent Papamoa, Tauranga 3118 NZ, Bank account details for direct deposits at ANZ: Account Name: Cry for the World Foundation, Account Number: 01 0819 0374190 30 Branch: 37 Rotherham St, Riccarton, Christchurch. Please contact [vickiathol@gmail.com](mailto:vickiathol@gmail.com) regarding receipt for income tax deduction.

**AUSTRALIAN DONORS:** Unfortunately we are currently unable to provide tax receipts for Australian donors. We are looking for a new partner organisation in Australia. Please contact Raymond Jourdan, [raymond.jordan@yourcorner.com.au](mailto:raymond.jordan@yourcorner.com.au)

**EUROPEAN DONORS:** Please use the following information for wire transfer: Recipient: Delhi House e.V., Waldsaum 33, D-45134 Essen, Germany IBAN: DE97 6601007506145097 50 BIC: PBNKDEFF (Postbank Karlsruhe). Please contact [office@delhihouse.de](mailto:office@delhihouse.de) regarding receipt for income tax deduction.

**SWISS DONORS:** Recipient: Verein JayaHo, 3000 Bern. Account: PC 30-515590-9. Please note the donation usage „Delhi House“. To receive a receipt in German language for income tax deduction, send an email to [office@delhihouse.de](mailto:office@delhihouse.de) with your address details.

**INDIAN DONORS:** Recipient: Delhi House Society. Bank Account No: 380902010006469. Name of the Bank: UNION BANK OF INDIA (Address : I-2/16, Ram Saraswati House, ANSARI ROAD DARYAGANJ, NEW DELHI-110 002, Phone: 011 – 23269690 / 23275391, email: [ansari@unionbankofindia.com](mailto:ansari@unionbankofindia.com)). MICR Code: 110026024. IFSC Code: UBIN0538094. SWIFT CODE: UBININBB. BRANCH CODE: 538094. Income Tax 80 G rebate -NQ.DIT (E) I/DEL-DE22513-22032011 2763 dated 22/03/2011

