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Newsletter January 2015

**ChildLife Foundation wishes you and your family a very  
happy and fruitful new year.**



*Neonatal Intensive Care Unit NICU at MMI Hospital*

Save the Children  
declared in 2014  
that Pakistan had  
the highest  
number of first  
day deaths.

Let's work  
together to make  
2015 a happier  
and healthier year  
for our future!

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### Referral System with MMI Hospital Established

Huma and Ashfaq were ecstatic when their baby boy was born. They could not wait to hold him in their arms and show him off to the eager family members waiting at home. However, they sensed something was wrong when the nurses did not immediately hand the newborn over to them.

Their baby was in respiratory distress and needed urgent care. The delivery staff advised the parents to rush the boy to ChildLife Foundation's emergency room at National Institute of Child Health (NICH).

Upon arriving at the facility, the triage nurse recognized the baby's case as critical and immediately sent him to the resuscitation room. The team on duty cleared out his airway passage and stabilized him. They assessed that he was suffering from meconium aspiration syndrome (MAS) and would need ventilator support. However, all the ventilators at the NICH ward were occupied.

This newborn baby would not survive without ventilator support. Unfortunately, he was one of the many babies that ChildLife had saved only to not have a ventilator available for them. To put an end to such tragic occurrences, ChildLife Foundation and NICH have partnered with Memon Medical Institute Hospital (MMIH). Patients requiring ventilators when one is not available at the NICH ward will be transferred to MMIH and be treated there free of charge.

MMIH is a 332-bed no-for-profit hospital being supported by the charitable Memon community. Huma and Ashfaq's baby was the first patient to take advantage of this significant partnership.

Visit ChildLife's facilities to better understand the scope of our work



*Dr. Irfan Habib -- second from right -- sitting with the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University's emergency department team*

### Head of Clinical Affairs Visits Stanford University

ChildLife's Head of Clinical Affairs – Dr. Irfan Habib – was invited by Stanford University in October to observe the procedures being followed at their children's emergency room (ER) in Palo Alto, California. Stanford Emergency Medicine International (SEMI) is a collaborating partner of ChildLife, helping the organization by focusing on manpower training, quality control, and outcome research.

"It is one of the finest institutes in emergency medicine, with a great reputation all over the world. We are lucky to have them as a partner," said Dr. Irfan.

He believes that the five day observation session was extremely useful in learning about how

ChildLife can improve different areas of the emergency department to become more efficient. He spent time meeting the triage staff at the ER and observing how they implement the triage system to make it most effective in saving the lives of critically ill patients.

Dr. Irfan was also impressed by the equipment being used in the inpatient area of the ER. All medical supplies were sorted according to the age and weight of the patient they were designed for. Patient information was completely digitalized, making information easily available for the entire ER staff. He aims to apply such technologies at ChildLife's ERs to improve efficiency and provide better services for patients.

He was also impressed by Stanford's code on hygiene and prevention of the spread of infection at the ER. Although the ChildLife facilities are pristine and all staff follow strict protocols, after observing the ER at Stanford, Dr. Irfan wants to introduce more stringent rules on this matter.

**4 new ChildLife clinics will start operating by June 2015 thanks to our generous donors!**



*Dr. Mansoor speaking to a doctor at the fast track desk at Civil Hospital's triage unit*

### **Support from the Dow Medical Class of '89-II**

Dow Medical Class of '89-II (DMC '89) has generously sponsored the capital and operating cost of the triage unit at ChildLife's children's emergency room in Civil Hospital, Karachi (CHK). The MOU was signed in August 2013 and inaugurated in December 2013 with many members of the alumni group present. Dr. Muhammad Mansoor Mohiuddin – a member of DMC '89 – visited the triage unit last month to interact with the staff and patients at the ER.

The facility provides triage and fast track services. ChildLife had observed that after CHK's OPD closes in the afternoon, many of its patients end up in the ER. As a result, a fast track desk at the triage unit caters to these patients from the afternoon onwards, lessening the load at the ER.

80% of ChildLife's donations come from Pakistan. The remainder is contributed by Pakistani communities abroad.



*Awareness raising dinner in Austin, USA*

### **Generous American Communities Support ChildLife**

The ChildLife team was warmly welcomed in various cities across North America in October. A number of awareness raising events were held in the cities of Ft. Lauderdale, Houston, Dallas, Austin, Los Altos, Fresno, San Ramon, LA, St. Louis, Toronto, St. Catharines, and Washington D.C. The support was overwhelming and promising, with many people looking forward to visiting ChildLife's facilities on their next trip to Pakistan. The donations received were tax-exempt thanks to the diligent work of ChildLife's partner, i-Care Fund America – a tax-exempt nonprofit, donor-advised fund registered as a 501(c) in the US.

ChildLife was thrilled to see many familiar faces during this trip. The Pakistani communities in Ft. Lauderdale and Austin continue to contribute magnanimously to ChildLife's cause. Ft. Lauderdale is helping the primary care clinic in Machar Colony – one of the largest slums in Pakistan. The people of Austin have been proudly sponsoring the children who visit the clinic in Old Sabzi Mandi since 2012. Through the support of these cities, ChildLife provided over 100,000 children from destitute homes free primary care in 2013-14.