

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2016-17

By Dr. Salman Burney Hon. Secretary Child Aid Association

It is with humility that I present annual report 2016-17 of the association to the general body.

During the year the executive committee held twelve ordinary and two emergent meetings. The administrative sub-committee met once to discuss problems related to staff salary structure upon reference from the executive committee; and made recommendations particularly regarding doctors and nurses. All the above meetings were held as per schedule without problem of quorum, due to keen interest of the members. Annual general body meeting was held in October 2016 (minutes attached) wherein M/S A.F Ferguson was appointed as auditors for the year 2016-17. However they declined our request. The executive committee approved appointment of M/S Muniff Ziauddin & Co., chartered accountants, for the year 2016-17 at a nominal fee. This was possible through the efforts of Mr. Muhammad Aslam, member executive committee.

During 2016-17, two ramzan campaigns for zakat and donations were held. First campaign was in June 2016, in which Rs. 17942452/- were raised.

During 2016, Child Aid Association was registered as a non-profitable organization in Florida USA, by Dr. Nasir Hasan, to facilitate donations from North America.

There has been a steady increase in number of patients. This year more than 3500 patients were provided free treatment and lab tests. Patients came from all over Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan. This was made possible by the dedication of our staff under supervision of Dr. Uzma Imam, incharge oncology ward, Dr. Zill-e-Huma, pathologist, Ms. Nasreen Akhter, incharge cytogenetic lab, Dr. Farah Azhar, senior pharmacist TPN lab and the nursing staff of cancer unit.

During 2016 there were financial problems due to increase in expenditures and efforts were made to overcome the situation. A generous donation of Rs. 50,000,000/- (fifty million) was received from Chief Minister Sindh in June 2016, through the efforts of Dr. Aftab Ahmed Shah member executive committee. Rs. 3,000,000/- (three million) were received from M/S HBL Foundation for purchase of equipment, and Rs. 500,000/- in April 2017 from Mr. Yousuf Hussain, President Faysal Bank Ltd.

Our special thanks are due to Mr. Tariq Shafi, vice president, Mrs. Sayeeda Leghari, public relation secretary, and Dr. Mohsin Azhar Ali, member executive committee for their fund raising efforts.

We were honored by the visit of Dr. Sikandar Ali Mandhro minister for health, Govt. of Sindh on 14th August 2016 on the occasion of independent day celebrations at oncology ward. He met the admitted patients, and distributed national flags among them. Later he joined in singing national anthem with outdoor patients.

Other notable visitors were Dr. Muhammad Iqbal, president Association of Pakistani Physicians & Surgeons UK Foundation on 20th August, 2016 accompanied by Ms. Shakila Khalsai Ambassador APPS UK in Pakistan. Mr. Shaukat Artani C.E.O Al-Mustafa Fashion Apparel Karachi donated rupees two lacs for the treatment of patients.

World cancer day was celebrated on February 04, 2017 in the main auditorium of NICH. Two success stories of patients treated at our cancer was uploaded by SIOP (International Society of Pediatric Oncology) on their website as part of world cancer day.

Eighteenth foundation day of Children Cancer Centre was celebrated on 15th April 2017. One hundred children (fifty of them were discharged after successful treatment and fifty were under treatment) along with their parents were invited for a magic show followed by address by guest of honor Mr. Shamim Ahmed Firpo, President KCCI. He advised the parents not to lose hope. He also donated Rs. 500,000/- for the treatment of patients. Children were given gifts provided by M/S Atlas Steel. During this ceremony Khawar Butt medals for meritorious services rendered by the staff of Child Aid Association, sponsored by English Biscuits Manufacturers, were given to the following staff; Dr. Uzma Imam incharge oncology unit, Ms. Sadia Fazal staff nurse, Ms. Nasreen Akhtar incharge cytogenetic lab, Dr. Farah Azhar incharge TPN lab and Mr. Muhammad Naseer carpenter.

Two other medals were given to two media persons by the association for helping the cause of children in general and cancer in particular. First medal was given to Ms. Faiza Ilyas of Dawn Karachi for her investigative publications in Dawn Karachi about supply of polluted water, a common cause of death due to diarrhea in children that lead to taking notice of Supreme Court of Pakistan. Second medal was awarded to Mr. Ibrahim Rind of TV channel 92 for highlighting problems related to children suffering from cancer. At the end children and their parents and other guests attended lunch provided by Sukkur Beverages and Mr. Tariq Shafi vice president.

We would not have been able to perform our work without the support provided by our honorary consultants Dr. Khalid Zafar Hashmi for training of clinical staff and patient care, honorary tax advisor, Mr. Malik Rashid Iqbal and Justice (Retire) Dr. Ghous Muhammad, Mr. Hanif Bandhani and Mr. Arshad Warsi on legal issues, Mr. Yousuf Hasan for his support regarding membership of Dr. Uzma Imam of SIOP and Mr. Ateeq ur Rehman our Associate Member for his support in CSR through KCCI. We are grateful to Dr. Noor Muhammad from Baluchistan for donating dates time to time as patient's diet supplement and to Professor Jamal Raza, Director NICH and other members of staff, who were of great help.

We are grateful to Sadaa Foundation who is looking after blood bank services at NICH Karachi for providing blood and blood products free of charge.

Child Aid Association gives great importance to continuous training of doctors and nurses working at Children Cancer Centre. Dr. Uzma Imam incharge oncology unit was sponsored by Child Aid Association for attending workshop on pediatric surgical oncology at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital Lahore. She presented paper at the annual symposium of JPMC. Child Aid Association; also paid for the membership of SIOP.

Dr. Habib Ahmed senior registrar oncology NICH was also sponsored by CAA for attending annual conference of Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital Lahore by paying for travel.

Association also provides training slots to nurse aids, lab technicians, TPN and onco pharmacists and cytogenetic lab technologists for various tenures. Candidates are given stipend during training, and if vacancy exists are given first choice. A number of them who are training also work in other institutions of Karachi and abroad.

To promote community service our association encourages students of different schools and colleges for voluntary work for two weeks. Students of following schools of Karachi participated in voluntary work and were given certificates; Mama Parsi Girls Secondary School, AMI School and Karachi Grammar School.

I am grateful to the members of executive committee and staff of Child Aid Association for their whole hearted support in discharge of my duties.



Dr. Salman Burney
General Secretary