What is leprosy?

Leprosy is a disease of our time - a disease of poverty caused by a bacillus called Mycobacterium Leprae (a distant relative of the TB bacterium). Most people are naturally immune but the majority of people affected by leprosy live in developing countries where resources are scarce and poverty is widespread, which leads to reduced life expectancy.

A devastating condition

Lepromy has damage nerves in the face. The eyes will not blink automatically because leprosy damages the eye nerves so that the blinking mechanism which is essential leads to blindness. Leprosy can also damage the bones of the nose, which means the nose will collapse and flatten. Leprosy can also damage nerves in the face and hands, this usually leads to problems with sweat glands, loss of sensation in the hands and feet and many people affected by leprosy are not protected by the nose to collapse and flatten.

Treatmen

Medical and lifestyle interventions are essential to prevent disability. Medical interventions are complex with_multiplying therapy but millions of people need to be treated and many people affected by leprosy are irreversible disabilities. In 2010 there were 15.000 new cases of leprosy diagnosed where irreversible disabilities were detected.

New cases

In 2010 there were 128,000 new cases of leprosy diagnosed - around 60% of the new cases were found in India.

2010 statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>South East Asia</th>
<th>South Asia</th>
<th>East Asia</th>
<th>South Pacific</th>
<th>Western Pacific</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1,207</td>
<td>2,041</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>1,875</td>
<td>2,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>1,881</td>
<td>3,740</td>
<td>7,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>4,430</td>
<td>7,041</td>
<td>12,070</td>
<td>6,035</td>
<td>6,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>4,417</td>
<td>7,030</td>
<td>12,070</td>
<td>6,025</td>
<td>6,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>3,360</td>
<td>6,850</td>
<td>3,565</td>
<td>3,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>1,191</td>
<td>1,795</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>1,875</td>
<td>1,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>1,774</td>
<td>2,745</td>
<td>5,490</td>
<td>2,734</td>
<td>2,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2,027</td>
<td>3,070</td>
<td>6,430</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>5,260</td>
<td>8,390</td>
<td>16,810</td>
<td>9,861</td>
<td>9,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>25,345</td>
<td>40,540</td>
<td>76,890</td>
<td>9,861</td>
<td>9,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>156,254</td>
<td>252,045</td>
<td>408,300</td>
<td>9,861</td>
<td>9,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>228,474</td>
<td>377,400</td>
<td>655,794</td>
<td>9,861</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above statistics are based on records for 2010 released by the World Health Organisation on 2 September 2011.
Change

The Leprosy Mission works in 26 leprosy-endemic countries globally. In 2011 it was decided that The Leprosy Mission England & Wales would focus its efforts on 12 countries chosen because of our existing partnerships there, high levels of poverty and the number of new cases of leprosy being diagnosed every year. This tighter focus enables clearer monitoring of projects, and a better overall impact.

Saving sight
The Leprosy Mission is committed to using its expertise to help general patients experiencing poverty as well as those affected by leprosy. Our hospitals frequently hold eye camps, where large numbers of people from rural communities come to receive surgery for conditions like cataracts and glaucoma. In rural areas where there are few public services and farming and manual labour are the main livelihoods, loss of vision is particularly devastating. Without The Leprosy Mission’s work, marginalised people would have no access to the treatment they need and many would be left, at best, with limited sight or could lose their sight forever.

A disability-focused approach
Mainstreaming leprosy as a disability issue helps to break down stigma. In the past some countries have not allowed people with leprosy-related disabilities to become members of disabled people’s organisations. With a broader disability-focused approach, The Leprosy Mission in Myanmar is breaking down exclusion while providing a far more accessible and available service for people affected by leprosy.

One new focus of our work in Myanmar is training other Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) on the issue of disability. This is helping to raise awareness of leprosy and promotes social inclusion.

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- 1,449 people with disabilities and affected by leprosy were served by Disability Resource Centres in Myanmar
- 4,343 patients affected by leprosy and 8,025 general patients were admitted to The Leprosy Mission supported hospitals in India for treatment
- 2,075 patients in India received eye surgery

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Connections

Through school sponsorship programmes, The Leprosy Mission is enabling 779 children to go to school.

Choice, dignity and integration

Our Choice, Dignity and Integration project covering 178 villages is part-funded by the European Commission and works with 5,780 of the most marginalised people in Indian society. The Leprosy Mission is working with several women’s rights groups to help those who wish to come out of the devadasi (temple prostitution) system and change their lives. In the process, it also addresses the needs of people affected by leprosy in these communities.

The Leprosy Mission is supporting members of the project’s 428 self-help groups into independence through literacy training and connecting them to banks to support income generation. Part of the project also involves working to foster acceptance and tolerance, which one day will lead to full community integration.

As part of its commitment to ensure its work is driven by the needs of people affected by leprosy, The Leprosy Mission has increased its support for the Association for Leprosy Affected People in Mozambique (ALEMO). Moving from being ‘implementers’ to becoming ‘influencers’, we are also working to support governments to develop their leprosy control programmes and partnering with like-minded organisations such as the Salvation Army in Bangladesh.

Equipping the next generation

Through school sponsorship programmes, The Leprosy Mission is enabling children to go to school, paying for essentials such as uniforms, books and stationery. In countries where poverty forces families to stop sending their children to school, this has a long-term impact. The Leprosy Mission also supports vocational training centres which are connected to local businesses for work placements. As a result of finishing their education, the young people are better placed to find work, earn money and achieve their dreams. In addition, education was improved for 234 children in a leprosy colony in Nigeria when The Leprosy Mission built new classrooms.

2011 also saw The Leprosy Mission partner with the media in new ways, raising awareness about leprosy through Twitter, Facebook and the leprosyvoice blog. In March 2011 the award-winning Channel 4 current affairs series ‘Unreported World’ focused on leprosy, featuring Nani hospital in India. This was an excellent opportunity for the public to learn more about leprosy and why our work matters.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 708 students received vocational training at five centres in India
- 234 children from a leprosy colony in Nigeria are now accommodated in new classrooms
- 582 children in India received school sponsorship through The Leprosy Mission
- 2,854 self help group members in the Choice Dignity and Integration project received training in rights and entitlements, book keeping and literacy

Learn how your donation of £40 will fund a month’s worth of vocational training helping someone to find a job. Visit www.leprosymission.org.uk/donate/gft

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Communities

Social integration is a key issue for The Leprosy Mission. One of the main challenges faced by people affected by leprosy is stigma. Often manifested in rejection by family or the local community, it has a huge impact on people’s lives. This is why we take a community-based approach to tackling stigma - promoting friendship, support and integration through self-care and self-help groups.

Leprosy-affected communities also tend to struggle with extreme poverty and related problems such as poor housing and sanitation, as well as other health issues such as HIV/AIDS. Many of our projects work to address these issues, ensuring an impact that really changes lives.

Transformation through self-care

Ranking a very low 184 out of 187 on the United Nations’ International Human Development Index, Mozambique is a challenging place to live, particularly for more vulnerable members of society such as women, disabled or older people.

Members of self-care groups are in no doubt about the value of learning how to take care of wounds and prevent further injury. The friendship, support and chance to work together to improve lives makes these groups invaluable. They are also actively educating their community on leprosy, to promote early diagnosis and treatment.

New livelihoods

In Bangladesh, the Food Security for the Ultra Poor project is helping people to earn a living and feed their families. Through funding to start their own businesses, 466 people now have a regular source of income. The Leprosy Mission’s intervention in a leprosy colony in Nigeria has meant a savings co-operative has been established. Members can now save money and take out loans to start income generation activities.

Why not give a community gift that lasts a lifetime? £800 will buy a new house. Visit www.leprosymission.org.uk/donate/gift

HIGHLIGHTS

- 466 people affected by leprosy or disability in the Gabanda district of Bangladesh started their own businesses
- 248 people accessed savings and credit in Nigeria
- 715 people received self-care training in Mozambique

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Where we work

Our 12 countries of focus

1. NIGER
   Communities in Danja are receiving vocational training, literacy classes and education in farming techniques to improve their livelihoods.

2. NIGERIA
   Made in a group co-operative and has purchased a motorcycle which he uses to provide a taxi service. He can now support his family and send his daughter to school.

3. NORTH SUDAN
   Our work in Northern State sees communities benefitting from better medical care and increased awareness of disability issues.

4. SOUTH SUDAN
   We are hoping to develop new projects in South Sudan during the course of the next 12 months.

5. ETHIOPIA
   Communities are benefiting from increased access to sanitation and safe drinking water, as well as receiving help in developing sustainable livelihoods.

6. DR CONGO
   Children in West Kasai province are now supported enabling them to go to school.

7. MOZAMBIQUE
   Atenta was diagnosed with leprosy three years ago. After undergoing treatment she is now a member of a group that teaches self-care and owns a plot of land for farming vegetables.

8. INDIA
   These women have been supported in setting up a milk collection enterprise where they sell milk produced by their buffaloes to a local dairy. They have been delighted with the increase in income.

9. NEPAL
   Lechin has had successful reconstructive surgery on his hand. It was clawed and paralysed but now he can use it again and return to school.

10. BANGLADESH
   Parvin attended a tailoring course and was provided with a sewing machine. The clothes she now makes are in high demand and Parvin earns enough to provide for her family.

11. BURUNDI
   Marie, taking medication to cure her leprosy and is also having physiotherapy. In the future she hopes to find work, use her new hands and be independent.

12. SRI LANKA
   Families affected by leprosy, disability and poverty are benefitting from healthcare, education and training. Awareness-raising helps to reduce discrimination against them.
The Leprosy Mission is the facilitator but it is people affected by leprosy who have to stand in front and raise the flag.

One piece of legislation in the UK which discriminates against people affected by leprosy is included in UK immigration guidelines. The guidelines recommend that people affected by leprosy are refused entry to the country. The Leprosy Mission has met with MPs to discuss this and is also part of the All-Party Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Don’t Call Me A Leper

Our ‘Don’t Call Me a Leper’ campaign is encouraging people to be careful with their language. The word ‘leper’ is offensive to people affected by leprosy, with connotations of being untouchable and dirty. When its use has been noted in the media, we have contacted the parties responsible to explain our position, asking them to refrain from using it in future.

Challenging discrimination

The Challenging Anti-Leprosy Legislation project in India is working to advocate against discriminatory laws and empower leprosy-affected people to speak out against them. In India, leprosy is grounds for divorce and having leprosy can mean people are denied a driving licence or prevented from travelling on trains.

Mr Inglay, one community leader who is working with us to mobilise communities to challenge discrimination, says, “If you want your rights you have to speak out. The Leprosy Mission is the facilitator but it is people affected by leprosy who have to stand in front and raise the flag.”

Victory in Bangladesh

One example of advocacy having a positive impact in 2011 was the repeal of the 1898 Lepers Act in Bangladesh. This law had confined people affected by leprosy to state-run institutions. Now, they will be able to integrate better into society and access their rights and entitlements.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Challenging Anti-Leprosy Legislation project in India has made 1,532 people aware of their rights and entitlements. 565 of these are now accessing benefits such as pensions and ration cards.
- Increased engagement from UK MPs on leprosy issues through the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Malaria and Neglected Tropical Disease.
- Discriminatory legislation (1898 Lepers Act) repealed in Bangladesh.

Sign up online to the charter and support our cause at www.leprosyoutloud.org.uk. You can also ‘like’ us on Facebook by searching for Leprosy Out Loud! or follow us on Twitter @H_R_Defender.
Natalie’s walk of hope

On 30 June 2011, The Leprosy Mission’s Area Co-ordinator for the South West, Natalie Husk and her dog Toby completed an epic two-month sponsored walk covering 630 miles along the length of the South West Coast Path.

Natalie challenged herself to change the world for 1,000 people affected by leprosy by raising money for specially adapted shoes and prostheses. She was inspired to do this after meeting people affected by leprosy at The Leprosy Mission’s hospitals in India in 2009.

Her target was £10,000 – to date she has raised more than £20,000. She has also raised awareness about leprosy as her story was covered in numerous articles and broadcasts including a mention on Radio 2. Natalie kept a diary of her experiences on the walk, and her writings have been published as a book, Blisters and Blessings.
Challenges

In keeping with the rest of the world and the situation for other charities in 2011, The Leprosy Mission England & Wales has had to deal with a drop in income due to the economic downturn. In order to prioritise funds some field programmes had to close, although we are confident that our new focus on 12 countries will enable us to have a better impact through our current projects.

Another challenge is the fact that despite our faithful and dedicated donor base, we must find new ways to reach out to younger generations to ensure the continuation of our work in transforming lives. Work has already been done in 2011 – for example through the Leprosy Out Loud! Campaign – and new ways of giving online and by text. We are harnessing social media tools and will, in the year ahead, engage further with new audiences to seek donations, prayer support, advocacy partners and new initiatives.

Overseas aid

At present, the issue of providing aid to India is a controversial one and there is concern that India has the resources to tackle many of its issues itself. The Leprosy Mission recognises that withdrawing aid to India would mean the poorest people would suffer. There is more leprosy in India than in any other country in the world and, combined with other problems such as malnutrition and discrimination, means there is still much work to be done.

Our work in India is increasingly focusing on advocacy and empowerment. This includes supporting people in accessing entitlements and benefits from the Government, helping them navigate through bureaucracy, enabling local authorities to improve communities, and advocating for greater investment in leprosy services from the government. This is a different approach to our work in the past and is proving to be effective.

We invite you to transform a life today – donate by texting JUMA11 and £amount to 70070.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Increase in the number of online donations
- E-newsletter coverage to 5,900 people
- Government of India has carried out improvements to the drainage systems in a leprosy colony in Chhattisgarh after advocacy efforts

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Statement of financial activities

### incoming resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>voluntary income</td>
<td>£5,023,704</td>
<td>£5,762,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>government grants</td>
<td>£381,090</td>
<td>£281,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>investment income</td>
<td>£1,915</td>
<td>£9,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gains on revaluation/</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>disposal of fixed assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for charity’s own use)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other income</td>
<td>£4,000</td>
<td>£4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total incoming resources</strong></td>
<td><strong>£5,430,709</strong></td>
<td><strong>£6,073,488</strong></td>
</tr>
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### resources expended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2011</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>charitable activities</td>
<td>£4,137,248</td>
<td>£5,178,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>governance costs</td>
<td>£67,682</td>
<td>£82,340</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>total resources expended</strong></td>
<td><strong>£4,204,930</strong></td>
<td><strong>£5,960,015</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### reconciliation of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>total funds brought forward</td>
<td>£1,057,920</td>
<td>£1,092,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>net incoming/offgoing resources</td>
<td>£156,446</td>
<td>(£281,577)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gains/losses on investment assets</td>
<td>£148</td>
<td>(£54,922)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>net movements in funds</td>
<td>£156,594</td>
<td>(£336,499)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total funds carried forward</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,749,285</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,380,422</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### balance sheet at 31 December 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tangible assets</td>
<td>£791,155</td>
<td>£610,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>investment assets</td>
<td>£1,071,155</td>
<td>£1,092,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,862,305</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,703,297</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creditors: amounts falling due</td>
<td>£1,749,285</td>
<td>£1,380,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>£280,000</td>
<td>£322,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>£2,029,285</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,703,297</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>total funds carried forward</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,749,285</strong></td>
<td><strong>£1,380,422</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This summary financial information is not the statutory accounts but has been derived from the audited financial statements which were approved by the Trustees on Thursday 17 May 2012 and other financial information. The full statements have been audited and given an unqualified report. Copies of the full statements have been submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies. This summary may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The full accounts, including the audit report, may be obtained from The Leprosy Mission England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Thank you for helping us provide essential services and support in 2011 for people affected by leprosy.