

Country Focus: India – southern region

States: Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

For a map of India, see page 76



About TLM's work in Southern India

In Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh States, TLM works through three hospitals, two vocational training centres (VTCs), three community development projects and through NGO (non-governmental organisation) networks. TLM hospitals are community hospitals and are well known for their leprosy and dermatological services. These hospitals are recognised by the government for reconstructive surgeries and prevention of disabilities (POD) work.

Projects include:

TLM Hospital Vadathorasalur;
TLM Hospital, Dayapuram;
Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Vadathorasalur;
Centre for Rehabilitation Towards Artisans Fair Trade (CRAFT), Cuddalore;
Disability Rights, Thiruvannamalai;
TLM's Salur Hospital;
Vocational Training Centre, Vizianagaram;
Empowering Communities Project, Vizianagaram.

Key events in 2012

- Vadathorasalur VTC is planning to start an e-publishing business.
- Primary school children's hygiene clinics on a weekly basis.
- State-wide team building, networking and working together with other TLM centres and community development projects.

'Vocational Training Centres are very important for those who are the poorest of the poor like me. My life status has improved because of TLM's VTC; it has provided real rehabilitation and social development for me. I am very grateful to TLM.'

CLumulalai (20), former student at Vadathorasalur VTC

Prayer points

- Pray for good work placements for the physically disabled students completing their courses at Vizianagaram and Vadathorasalur Vocational Training Centres.
- Pray that local fundraising efforts to raise income for TLM India will be successful.
- Pray that the community projects will have a positive impact on the lives of people affected by leprosy, encouraging them to assert their rights and access government benefits.
- Pray that the leprosy care and health care delivered to the communities by our hospitals will continue to be of a high standard.
- Pray that the renovation of the entire inpatient facility, nursing station and kitchen-dining facility at Salur Hospital will be completed smoothly.

Senior staff

Mr M Manaksha – Principal, Vocational Training Centre, Vadathorasalur
Dr Mrs Malarvizhi Edwin – Superintendent TLM Vadathorasalur hospital
Dr Suresh Verghese – Superintendent TLM Dayapuram Hospital
Mr Jaganathan – Programme Manager, CRAFT
Mr Jeyabalan – Consultant, Disability Rights Project
Dr Jay P Palla – Superintendent, Salur Hospital

Top: Medical records services at TLM's Dayapuram Hospital

Country Focus: Northern Ireland

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.'

1 Peter 1:3



About TLM Northern Ireland

The Leprosy Mission Northern Ireland's vision is to educate, challenge and involve the people of Northern Ireland in the Christ-like and unique mission of The Leprosy Mission worldwide, and to contribute to its overall operations and development. TLM Northern Ireland has raised £1million over the last four years, despite the recession.

Key events in 2012

- Spring – Specialist Stamp fair
- Craft fair
- Christmas fair

Above left: Colin Ferguson – TLM Northern Ireland Country Leader

Above right: Mark Noble – Chairman for TLM NI

Prayer points

- TLM NI is seeking to develop the number of programmes and extend the number of countries it supports. They are hoping to support leprosy work at Ekpene Obom Leprosy Hospital in Nigeria during 2012.
- TLM NI is seeking some new members for its Council with skills in HR, finance and legal matters. Praise God for the leadership of Mark Noble who has chaired TLM NI for the last three years.
- Colin Ferguson and Sam Smith speak at about 250 churches, schools and colleges each year. They are hoping to involve more volunteers in this to reach more people.
- In 2011 TLM NI sent 11 young professionals, such as medics and physiotherapists, to TLM projects to gain first-hand experience of our ministry. In 2012 they will be looking at ways they can give this opportunity to theological students as well.
- Thank God for church secretaries and supporters – those who use TLM NI as a channel for their love, prayers and gifts to those affected by leprosy.
- Thank God for TLM NI's twice-yearly magazine *In Touch*. Pray that it will be a blessing to those who read it and will encourage them to prayerfully support our ministry.

Special prayer focus – Easter

Celebrate the fact that Jesus is alive and that through him we have a living and eternal hope.

Senior staff

Colin Ferguson – TLM Country Leader
 Sam Smith – Development Officer
 Joy Jamieson – Office Manager
 Lesley Cromie – Administrative Officer
 Peter Hilton – Youth Associate

Advocacy

Verse for the week:

'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.'

Proverbs 31:8



How is TLM involved with advocacy?

Advocacy is a process that involves the co-ordinated effort to change attitudes, practices, ideas, policies, and power and resource distribution that exclude disadvantaged groups. The Leprosy Mission is involved in advocacy in many different ways to change policies and practices that exclude leprosy-affected people and disabled people. Almost all of our projects involve some degree of advocacy.



Top: 12-year-old Riaz has been diagnosed with leprosy. TLM Bangladesh staff will ensure his family are taught the facts about the disease

Above: Slums in Dhaka

Prayer points

- Pray for TLM India's CALL project which aims to reverse discriminatory laws that exclude and oppress people affected by leprosy. Thank God for the funding TLM India has received from the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) to support this project.
- Pray for those using the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD) to bring about change in laws that currently discriminate against disabled people.
- Leprosy is currently a notifiable disease (any diagnosed case has to be reported to local authorities) in England and Wales, along with dangerous diseases like Rabies and Ebola. Pray for TLM staff member Siân Arulanantham and others as they seek to remove leprosy from this list.
- The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh has successfully lobbied the Bangladesh government to repeal 'the lepers' act' which discriminated against people affected by leprosy. Pray for Leprosy Mission staff all over the world who are challenging similar discriminatory laws.
- Pray for Yohanna Abdou and others in Niger who are working to ensure that people affected by leprosy have the same rights to land and houses as others in their community.
- Pray for the international advocacy work that The Leprosy Mission carries out in collaboration with IDDC (International Disability and Development Consortium) and ILEP (federation of anti-leprosy agencies) to ensure that disabled people and people affected by leprosy are included in international human rights provisions.

Key staff

Siân Arulanantham – TLM England and Wales
 Martin Adhikary – TLM Bangladesh
 Erna Möller – TLM South Africa
 Yohanna Abdou – TLM Niger

Country Focus: Angola



Prayer points

- Pray that in Angola, the cause of Leprosy will not be forgotten and that the leaders of the country will renew their pledge to support and further reduce the burden of the disease in Angola.
- Castelo Filipe, head nurse of the POID project in Benguela, has a heart for people affected by leprosy. May he be like Jesus as he cares for those with disabilities and teaches people how to prevent further impairments.
- Pray for a peaceful legislative electoral process in September and for continued commitment of the government towards further reducing the burden of leprosy.
- Pray for commitment of the church in favour of people with disability and those with leprosy, setting an example of loving care and solidarity following the example of Jesus.
- Natalia Marçal is a dynamic ARPAL President. But she has poor health and an 18 year old child with motor cerebral deficiency. TLM Angola wants to motivate the ARPAL members to develop an awareness programme on leprosy in districts with a high incidence of new cases of leprosy. Pray for the funding of this new project.
- Pray for Jean Pierre Bréchet, TLM country leader, and his wife Marie Claude, working in the SOLE office in Luanda, as they seek to transmit their passion for caring and empowering people affected by leprosy. Pray for them as they prepare for retirement in 2013.
- Pray for advocacy in favour of people with disabilities or leprosy, for equal rights and opportunities in schools, health care, jobs and society in general.

Senior staff

Dr Jean Pierre Bréchet – TLM Country Leader and Medical Consultant
 Mr Castelo Filipe – Nurse in charge of rehabilitation centre
 Ms Natalia Marçal – President of ARPAL

About TLM's work in Angola

In Angola there are about 1,000 new cases of leprosy detected each year. The Leprosy Mission works in Benguela and supports ARPAL, an association for leprosy-affected people, through building the capacity of staff and developing self-care groups.

TLM also supports a Prevention of Impairment and Disability (POID) project which aims to reduce leprosy-related disability. Leprosy awareness campaigns are carried out in villages.

SOLE (Solidariedade Evangélica) is an Angolan registered religious institution through which TLM- and church-related leprosy work is developed.

Key events in 2012

In September 2012 Angola will hold elections to renew the legislative body and the mandate of the President.

Top: Jean Pierre Bréchet (far left), TLM Country Leader for Angola, with other TLM staff and representatives from African countries at the 2011 International Assembly in Thailand

Country Focus: Northern India

States: Assam, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttarpradesh



'I have got feathers to fly and touch the sky. This is only because of TLM.'

Shweta had reconstructive surgery at TLM's Naini Hospital

Prayer points

- Pray for good partnerships with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for the benefit of leprosy patients.
- Pray for the large number of leprosy-affected people coming from far and wide to TLM hospitals with both leprosy and general health problems. They are not treated elsewhere due to stigma, poverty and lack of primary leprosy care.
- Pray for the hospital and community project staff, that they will remain committed to TLM's vision of 'a world without leprosy.'
- Pray that more patients will benefit from reconstructive surgery at TLM's hospitals.
- Pray for good quality care for the elderly patients at the Almora Snehalaya (care home) who are not able to walk and see properly.

About TLM's work in Northern India

TLM has many projects in the North. Leprosy is still highly prevalent in some pockets of this region. TLM India's work addresses the needs of leprosy-affected people in a co-ordinated way. In the medical area TLM provides: leprosy treatment, reconstructive surgery, training on leprosy for physiotherapists and medical staff, and prevention of disability. Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) TLM supports government medical staff.

Projects include: hospitals, a laboratory, community development, care of the elderly, vocational training centres and a media centre.



Key events and activities in 2012

- Implementation of strategic priorities of TLM India's new Country Strategy in their day-to-day work.
- To start training programmes in podiatry and optometry.

Top: Shanti Maharana, from Delhi, received a loan from TLM to open up a small shop

Above: A patient at TLM's Shadhara Hospital in Delhi

Photos by Peter Caton

Senior staff

Dr Selvasekar Abraham – Superintendent, Nandnagri Hospital
 Dr Premal Das – Superintendent, Naini Hospital
 Dr Timothy Maximus – Superintendent, TLM Hospital Faizabad
 Mrs Shyla Francis – Principal, Faizabad VTC
 Mr Pradeep Failbus – Superintendent, Barabanki Hospital
 Mr Biplob Ketan Nayak – Deputy Programme Manager, Schools Targeting Stigma
 Mr Anand Singh – Administrator, Leprosy Mission Snehalaya, Almora
 Mr Ranjan Kumar – Integrated Community Development Programme, Delhi

Country Focus: Hungary

'I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.'

Psalm 140:12



FACTFILE:

- Hungary has a population of around 10 million people
- Around 68% of the population are Roman Catholics

About TLM Hungary

TLM Hungary has been supported mainly by the Protestant church throughout its 34 year history. Local churches of each denomination receive two newsletters with an appeal for donations each year. Many ministers motivate the members of their churches to support TLM. Women's groups and Bible groups meet regularly to pray for TLM Hungary.

Two years ago TLM Hungary made the decision to move away from purely Christian support and tried to reach secular society. Many magazines and weekly publications welcomed their leaflet inserts and gave them a discount. From each insert they get a significant number of new donors and donations.

Within two years this activity changed TLM Hungary's donor profile; 70 per cent of their income now comes from individuals who are largely non-Christian.

Key events in 2012

- Retreat day for staff and supporters traditionally held in March, September and pre-Christmas. The goal is to nurture their engagement, share basic information and news and motivate them.
- Three to four concerts and poetry performances with well-known artists in Budapest and other central towns.
- Introduction of TLM's work at summer youth festivals and camps.

Prayer points

- Give thanks for the faithfulness and increasing support of long-term supporters in spite of their own financial difficulties.
- Give thanks for those secular Hungarian people and a new generation who have kindly started supporting an openly Christian charity.
- Pray that non-Christian supporters will be touched by the Christian message, as well as having sympathy for leprosy-affected people.
- Give thanks for the prayer support of church groups and individuals.
- Pray for new doors to be opened for other fundraising possibilities.

Staff

Rev Marta Risko – TLM Country Leader