

Pure Little Hearts Foundation

Annual Report

2023-24



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Introduction:

Pure Little Hearts Foundation (PLHF) is a charitable trust founded in March 2022 to aid newborns and children from challenging backgrounds who require cardiac interventions. It endeavors to bridge the gap between ailing little hearts with congenital conditions and the helping hands that can lift them up.

Context and Mission:

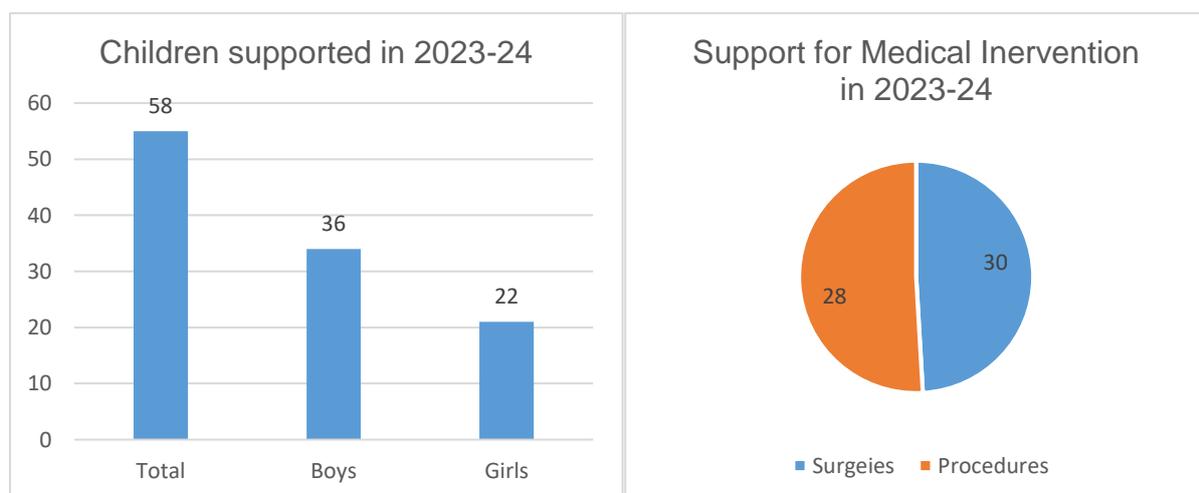
In India, more than 200,000 children are born every year with congenital heart disease, a significant proportion of whom are likely to have serious birth defects, necessitating medical intervention within the first year of their life. The successful treatment of such conditions requires the involvement of skilled clinicians, paramedics, state-of-the-art equipment, and expensive medications. However, in most instances, the parents of these children are not in a position to bear the expenses due to poor financial backgrounds. Thus, providing quality care necessitates sufficient funding. In light of this, the mission of the Pure Little Hearts Foundation is to extend quality treatment to every child in need, ensuring that even those who cannot afford life-altering medical intervention are not left behind.

The key accomplishments in FY 2023-24:

Support to Children with CHDs:

As part of achieving its vision and mission, PLHF supported 58 children during the financial year 2023-24 to provide treatment for congenital heart defects. Of the total children supported, 22 are girls and 36 are boys. Among them, 59% are below 2 years of age.

According to doctors' advice and based on the patients' needs and the criticality of their health conditions, 28 children underwent procedures, and 30 children underwent heart surgeries. Among them, 90% have recovered and are leading happy lives.



Collaborations:

PLHF strives to support more patients with limited resources. However, since the need is enormous and funds are limited, PLHF provides financial support to patients based on counseling and thorough verification of their medical, economic, and social conditions.

Some children require multiple surgeries and complex procedures, which cost substantial amounts of money. In such cases, where PLHF alone cannot support the patients, the foundation collaborates with various like-minded organizations, such as the Mahesh Babu Foundation, Child Heart Foundation (for pacemakers), Heal a Child Foundation, Ekam Foundation, Dharmapuri Foundation (for patients from the Nizamabad and Kamareddy districts of Telangana), Extra Mile Foundation, and crowdfunding agencies like Ketto, Milaap, and Impact Guru. During the reporting period, Laurus Labs has come forward and announced its support for cardiac treatment for children, which is a boon for children with CHDs from marginalized backgrounds.

Awareness Activities/Events:

Raising awareness about congenital heart diseases among children is crucial, as it enables parents to seek medical intervention to treat their little ones at early stages. On the occasion of World Heart Day on September 29, 2023, Rainbow Children's Heart Institute (RCHI) and PLHF jointly hosted a gathering of more than 30 survivors who were diagnosed with congenital heart disease during their prenatal stages, along with their families from various regions of the country. Additionally, 20 survivors joined the event virtually. The event was graced by Dr. Nageswara Rao Koneti, Director of Pediatric Cardiac Services, Mr. VV Ravi Kumar, Executive Director and CFO of Laurus Labs, and the Governing Trustees of PLHF.

Dr. Chinna Swami Reddy, Chief Cardiothoracic Surgeon at Rainbow Children's Heart Institute and Chairperson of PLHF, shared that most congenital heart anomalies can be effectively treated if detected at an early stage. He emphasized that early intervention is crucial. If the defect is diagnosed during the prenatal period, it greatly facilitates successful treatment.



Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Shweta Bakhru, Senior Consultant in Pediatric Cardiology and Secretary of PLHF, stated that congenital heart disease is a structural disorder, and identifying it during fetal life plays a crucial role in addressing the issue. In some cases of heart disease identified in fetal life, medical or surgical intervention may not be necessary, except for long-term follow-ups. In some instances, it can even be treated during the prenatal phase. Therefore, she urged parents of babies with congenital heart disease not to lose hope but to remain resilient in supporting their child's recovery from this challenge. She also shared that she has witnessed children treated for CHDs growing up well and thriving in good health.

Appreciably, on this heartwarming occasion, Laurus Labs has pledged to support PLHF in saving little hearts. Mr. VV Ravi Kumar, Executive Director and CFO of Laurus Labs, announced their support for 50 underprivileged children needing treatment for heart diseases each year. He expressed his happiness in supporting this noble cause.

Personal Stories:

Here are a few personal stories of children, whose lives are impacted with the support of PLHF

Case study-1: Charan, a tiny warrior

Master Charan, a tiny warrior who, at just two months old, faced a formidable foe—a heart condition that required a delicate PDA Stenting procedure. Charan's parents were shattered by the news and the financial inability to cope. But in the skilled hands of Dr. Chinna Swamy Reddy, supported by the benevolent Pure Little Hearts Foundation and a compassionate team of medical professionals, Charan emerged victorious. Though Charan triumphed over adversity, his once fragile state has been replaced by an active and stable demeanor.



This case story remains a classic example of treating infants with CHDs and provides an opportunity to celebrate not only Charan's resilience but also the dedicated efforts of Dr. Chinnaswamy Reddy, the Pure Little Hearts Foundation, and the supporting staff who became the pillars of strength in this remarkable journey.

Case Study-2: As the threads of love and support wove in to save a young heart

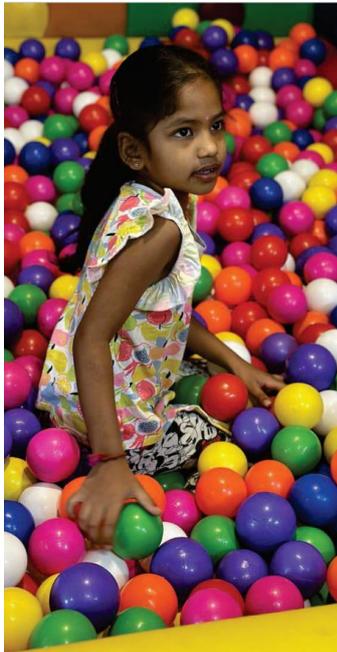


In the vibrant landscapes of Maharashtra, the echoes of a courageous heart belonging to 11-year-old Baby Pankaja Anil reverberate through the corridors of time. Born into the warm embrace of Mr. Anil, this spirited soul faced the intricate labyrinth of Congenital Heart Disease (CHD). Yet, amidst the fluttering wings of uncertainty, her heart carried the melody of hope, blessed with good biventricular function and a resilient spirit.

In this journey toward healing, Dr. Shweta Bakhru emerged as a compassionate guide and referred the family to Dr. Chinnaswamy Reddy H.M and his dedicated team, heralds of mending hearts. The diagnosis painted a vivid picture - a heart with a sizeable ASD, allowing a left-to-right shunt to persist. The recommended remedy, akin to a delicate brushstroke on a canvas, was the Pericardial Patch Closure of ASD.

The Pure Little Hearts Foundation wrapped the Anil family in a quilt of financial support, ensuring that Baby Pankaja's journey to healing was not marred by constraints. The surgery, orchestrated by Dr. Reddy and his team, unfolded like a poignant melody, each stitch a note in the serenade of healing.

Case study-3: As a tiny heart journeys from complexity to newfound health



In the heartland of Wanaparathi, a 5-year-old little heart named Janampeta Hima Vardhan embarked on a journey that would shape the very melody of her life. At such a tender age, her innocent laughter belied the complexities hidden within—a delicate orchestration of medical terms that spoke of challenges as vast as the open sky.

Diagnosed with ILI, Dextrocardia, DORV with NREGA, severe infundibular and valvular pulmonary stenosis, and biventricular function issues, young Hima Vardhan's heart carried the weight of a thousand stories. In the face of this intricate tangle of ailments, hope emerged as a guiding light.

The Mahesh Babu Foundation and the Pure Little Hearts Foundation, like benevolent guardians of the soul, stretched out their hands to weave a new chapter for Hima Vardhan. With their support, a surgical masterpiece unfolded—the intricate procedure of IVTR + Infundibular muscle resection with pulmonary valvotomy augmentation of the right pulmonary artery. Guiding these healing

hands was the maestro himself, Dr. Chinnaswamy Reddy HM.

As the surgical curtains fell, a chorus of gratitude resonated through the corridors of recovery. The air carried the fragrance of thankfulness, with Hima Vardhan extending heartfelt thanks to the Mahesh Babu Foundation and Pure Little Hearts Foundation.

Financials:

As mentioned above, providing quality care and treatment to children with congenital heart diseases requires sufficient funding. Thus, the Pure Little Hearts Foundation actively raises funds for families in need of treatment and support from diverse channels such as crowdsourcing, foundations, corporate partnerships, and individual donors.

During the financial year 2023-24, it has raised Rs. 137,91,806/- as donations from philanthropists and corporates and out of which Rs. 71,42,754/- was spent towards treatment for 58 children with CHDs. The per head average expenditure per child was Rs.1,23,151/-. The balance amount has been carry forwarded to 2024-25 and will be spent for the medical treatment of children with CHDs.

Conclusion:

The Pure Little Hearts Foundation is dedicated to providing heart surgeries for underprivileged children. With the support of various donors, it has made a significant impact on 58 children in the year 2023-24, providing them with the opportunity to lead a healthy life and alleviating financial strain for their families. PLHF thanks all the donors and supporters for their unwavering support in reaching marginalized children with CHDs