



News from Proshanti

February 2018

Saving lives

The work of the Proshanti Clinic in Juri continues to save the lives of women and children from one of the most disadvantaged countries in the world.

Thanks to our supporters, the midwives take care of 100 families at a time, during pregnancy, delivery and postnatally. Thank you for *your* support of this vital work!

Proshanti mums and babies



Our midwives

One of our midwives, Joni, has taken leave to have her own baby! Meanwhile, Monica has joined Aporna to cover the work of the clinic.



Visit to Juri



Dr Ian Gibson with Proshanti midwives Aporna and Monica

“I got a baby boy. This is my 2nd delivery. I am very grateful to Proshanti’s staff...”

Johara Begum

In January, Proshanti Trustee Dr Ian Gibson made a clinical visit to Juri with our UK Project Director, in order to conduct some research and offer training around patients in a high risk category. Maternal mortality is high in Bangladesh, although Proshanti has never lost a mother yet. We aim to keep it that way, in spite of the challenge of poor nutrition and lack of knowledge. Dr Ian found that our midwives did have a good understanding of the risks but were grateful for further input and the opportunity to discuss difficult cases. They took Dr Ian on five home visits, one in the local Tea Gardens. On another day he met 34 previous and current Proshanti patients where he received helpful feedback about how we can reach the most needy patients and the kind of help they need.

Proshanti personnel

In Bangladesh, we now have a Project Officer, [Luthfur Rahman](#). His role is to co-ordinate the work of the clinic, manage the finances and to ensure that the midwives have the equipment they need. He also liaises regularly with Dr Momin, our UK Project Director.

[Dr Abul Momin](#) has worked for almost 23 years in Bangladesh, for various national and international organisations such as CARE-Internalisation, OXFAM-UK and CRP - Bangladesh. He has a Master's in Health Management,

Policy and Planning study from the University of Leeds. He has set up various community based organisations in Bangladesh. Proshanti is very pleased that Dr. Momin has joined the team, helping to develop the Proshanti Healthy Living Centre in Juri. Dr. Momin will be happy to hear from you and can be reached at momin@proshanti.org.

We also have a part time trainee midwife and a part time accountant, both working for us in Juri.

Food supplements

One of the challenges faced by women in Juri is malnutrition. Many of the pregnant women who are referred to Proshanti are deeply malnourished and naturally this has a huge impact on both their's and the baby's health. Our staff now provide food supplements where needed; on average, 15 to 20 women receive this food support each month. It costs us around £400 to feed 100 pregnant women for a month.

At-a-glance Service Report July to December 2017

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Clients receiving service in each month	100	100	100	100	100	100	
New clients admission	26	20	20	12	10	11	99
Antenatal care	70	52	55	48	58	59	342
EDD follow-up	190	71	28	63	38	65	455
Medical test	150	109	110	93	105	105	672
Health Education offered to	70	110	120	140	120	130	690
Delivery conducted	24	12	09	12	06	11	74
Delivery at home	17	10	07	08	05	10	57
Delivery at hospital	07	02	02	04	01	02	18
C-Sections	01	02	01	02	0	01	07
Delivery by family members	0	02	03	04	02	02	13
Delivery by midwives	17	08	04	04	04	07	44
Miscarriage	01	01	0	02	01	02	07
Still birth	02	0	0	01	0	0	03
Premature birth	03	0	0	02	1	0	06
Child mortality	02	0	0	01	0	0	03
Postnatal care visit	42	32	29	21	16	17	157
Clients discharged	22	21	20	12	09	11	95
Total clients served	22	21	20	12	09	11	95
Total boys born	14	06	06	05	03	07	41
Total girls born	09	06	02	07	03	05	32

Funding news

A major fundraising event was held in May last year where around 350 guests attended a Charity Dinner. Sir Stephen O'Brien, Proshanti's President, was the guest speaker. The audience learnt about the work of Proshanti and enthusiastic young people urged everyone to dig deep.

"We didn't know Proshanti was running such a wonderful project for vulnerable women in Bangladesh. Really admirable."

"It was an excellent event, perfect timing from start to finish."

"The volunteers were smart and welcoming."

The event raised **£13,521.60**. In addition, we received pledges for £3,100 and around £600 per month in standing orders from 25 new supporters who pledged from £2 to £100. **We rely upon our standing orders as they keep the valuable work in Bangladesh going.**

i