



FOCUS ON

*EHA Nursing Education*

Dear Friend,  
Nursing is a pivotal component of EHA's work. This issue of our newsletter focuses entirely on this caring group of women and men who labor on the front lines with patients and their families. It may surprise you to learn that our 850 nurses comprise the largest portion of EHA's 3,000 employees by far. Their contribution to the care of patients is invaluable, as the nurses seek to prioritize emotional well-being alongside medical needs.

EHA believes that nursing is a calling, and operates six nursing schools, several of which have been open since the 1950s. Over these seven decades, EHA has educated 4,400 nursing students, providing

them with a job that transforms their lives and the lives of their families. Most of the students who come for training at EHA's nursing schools are quite poor and have very few options for educational opportunities that will allow them to support themselves. A nursing career is considered very respectable in India, and it pulls these young women and men out of poverty.

We hope you will find the information and stories in this issue informative and impactful. May I ask that if you are moved by what you read, that you consider a donation toward a nursing student's education or the infrastructure development of a school? Any gift toward EHA nursing will change lives in a mighty way.

In Christ,

*Robb Hansen*

Robb Hansen  
Executive Director, EHA USA



NURSING SCHOOL LOCATIONS

- 20-40 students per school each year
- 3-year overlapping sessions
- about 150 graduates per year

Baptist Christian Hospital

Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital

Chhatarpur Christian Hospital

Duncan Hospital

Herbertpur Christian Hospital

Makunda Christian Hospital



# STORIES FROM THE *Students*



## MISS KUMKUM

Growing up, Miss Kumkum attended a mission school, and she longed to become a nurse. Knowing she could never afford the training on her own, she still looked into the application process for Chhatarpur Christian Hospital's nursing school. Their application committee recognized her talent and potential and decided to offer her admission, not wanting financial constraints to hinder a promising student's training. After she was admitted, they successfully arranged financial support for her training. Kumkum has now completed her education and has blossomed into a polite and dedicated nurse. She stands as a testament to the transformative power of faith, mentorship, and education.



## MISS ARCHANA

Born into the impoverished Orang tea tribe, Miss Archana overcame financial hardships and family struggles to pursue her dreams of nursing. After completing her two-year Auxillary Nurse Midwife program in 2016, she joined Baptist Christian Hospital (BCH) as a nurse. Despite her father's separation from the family and her mother's deteriorating health, Archana secured financial support from BCH to pursue the three-year General Nurse Midwife program. Tragically, she lost her mother in the first year of the program, yet she persisted with faith and determination. In 2023, Archana faced severe health challenges from tuberculosis and complications from treatment. Supported by prayers and encouragement from her community, she courageously completed her exams and successfully advanced to her third year. Today, Archana serves BCH as a staff nurse, embodying faith, resilience, and dedication.



## MISS ANAMIKA

Miss Anamika dreamed of becoming a journalist, but the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. Inspired by the dedication of healthcare workers, she decided to pursue nursing, a path she had never considered before. She attended the nursing school at Burrows Memorial Christian Hospital for three years, gaining skills, wisdom, and confidence, and discovering a deeper purpose in serving others. Though nursing school was challenging, Anamika found strength through her faith, her family, and the support of her friends and tutors. Anamika now works as a neonatal nurse at Madhipura Christian Hospital, caring for the most vulnerable. Her journey reminds us of the joy found in reaching one's goals through perseverance.





# EXCELLENCE IN *Nursing*



EHA takes the training of nurses very seriously. EHA's Nursing Director, Vinay John, actively pursues the integration of nursing services and continuing education. This approach not only enhances the skills and knowledge of the nursing staff but also ensures that patients receive comprehensive and coordinated care.

In the last year, nurse training has focused on improving patient care skills with educators from New Zealand, on neonatal survival with EHA physicians and Vinay John, and on leadership and innovative

practices with Dr. Robyn Hale, EHA's US Volunteer Nurse Consultant. This last training session was held as part of the ASHA grant designed to bring US Best Practices in Nursing to EHA's nurse leaders.

Both Vinay and Robyn have a long history of service with EHA. Vinay began as a nurse almost 30 years ago and has worked up to giving overall leadership to EHA's nursing programs as well as directing operations at all six nursing schools. He now also champions the career development of nursing leaders within EHA to strengthen operations



*Vinay John, EHA Nursing Director, and Robyn Hale, PhD, RN, EHA Volunteer Nurse Consultant*

in this vital area of hospital care. Robyn served with EHA as Nurse Facilitator from 1999 to 2003, and since returning to the US has continued to support EHA's nursing program. She has traveled to India more than 20 times to support the ongoing development of EHA's nursing program. Her expertise and willingness to serve have made an incalculable contribution.



## A DAUNTING *Process*



Along with other schools across India, EHA's six nursing schools are being required by the Indian Nursing Council to upgrade to Colleges of Nursing and offer a four-year Bachelor of Science degree. This is a significant change for EHA, as the requirements for a College of Nursing are extensive. Colleges of Nursing must:

- Partner with a 100-bed parent hospital
- Admit 40-60 new students each year
- Provide 21,100 square feet of hostel housing for students and staff, including separate accommodations for men and women, as well as a large kitchen and dining hall
- Construct a new, separate academic building of nearly 24,000 square feet
  - This facility must include four lecture halls, six different types of laboratories, a large multipurpose hall and a common room, offices for staff and a faculty room, a library with 3,000 books, and a garage with a 60-seat vehicle.
- Offer a four-year, Bachelor of Science program in nursing, often alongside a three-year General Nurse Midwifery degree
- Employ a principal, vice-principal, five professors, and 10 to 20 tutors

**As you might imagine, these requirements provide a huge challenge to EHA's small nursing schools, both practically and financially.**

# Urgent NEEDS



- There are many challenges ahead for the EHA nursing schools to meet all the requirements to become Colleges of Nursing, including gaining the needed funding and government approvals.
- EHA desires the ongoing education of current nurses in the latest techniques and skills, and for nurses to be able to go for specialized training in areas such as ICU and critical care nursing.

## Thank you FOR YOUR SUPPORT

As you have read in this newsletter, EHA is working in and through its nurses to touch the lives of many patients and nursing students. Far more than just providing medical treatment, EHA nurses provide comfort and support for each patient they care for. And EHA's nursing schools bring transformation to the lives of their students, both in training them in needed medical skills, but also in providing education in life skills, ethics, and character. We are so grateful for the financial support you provide to EHA to make these things possible.

**Go to <https://eha-usa.givingfuel.com/eha-nursing-program> to support EHA's nurses and nursing students or scan the QR code.**



215 N. Arlington Heights Road #102  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
V: 1.847.632.1170 T: 1.888.893.2654  
E: [info@ehausa.org](mailto:info@ehausa.org) W: [www.ehausa.org](http://www.ehausa.org)

