Project Report Template

Report period from:	July 2016	**Report period to:**	December 2016

1. **Project Summary**

Project Title (same as in the project proposal)				
Karuna – Stepping Stone Charitable Society				
Project Location: Country	INDIA	**Region/District/Town /Village**	MUMBAI	
Project start date	July 2016	**Project end date**	Dec 2016	
Fincode				
Report written by	Franco Lonappan	**Email address:**	francosweets@gmail.com	
Date submitted				
Budget summary (Local currency)	**Annual Budget**	**Actual expenditure during the reporting period**	**Total Expenditure to date**	**Variance from annual budget (budget 'v' actual expenditure)**
	Rs. 19,06,084		16,80,390.55	

1. Project summary

Currently there are 9 Leprosy Clinics and 1 General Clinic that have proved successful over the last 16 years. We have an established Karuna van in which all the clinics are run and 6 full time permanent staff. Over the years, the Awareness Camps have proved a major success. The Dharavi Awareness Camp commenced 2015 and we have continued it this year because of its success. The Skin Awareness Program was conducted in, Malad in 2015 and the success of this Program has led us to continue it again this year in March.

Over 2300 people have directly benefited from this project since it was first established. Patients are affected by leprosy or other diseases, and live in abject poverty. They would not have been able to access effective treatment if it were not for the project.

The team continues to give basic medical care and self-care' training (self hygene, regular dressing, having regular bath) to patients. Over time, this will definitely help to reduce the number of patients with recurring ulcers.

2275 leprosy patients were treated and 846 patients were treated in General Clinics over July - Dec 2016. An awareness camp was organized in 4 places, Dahisar (twice as the number of patients were too many to handle in one session), Appapada, & Dharavi, 166 people attended & were treated during the Awareness camps. 214 New patients were registered at the General Clinics.

10 people with severe ulceration were referred to hospitals, 1 man was referred for cataract/eye surgery, 1 person was diagnosed with hydrocele & is in the process of being admitted at Somaiya Hospital, Chembur, 66 raincoats distributed, 100 protective sheets distributed.

The launch of the Microfinance Program for Ladies in early Jan has proven to be successful, leading to a 3rd group being formed in early Dec 2016. This microfinance scheme launched by the government to help those who are lesser privileged in society is a great advantage to the women. Ladies will now have access to loans and other facilities to help improve their livelihood and break the poverty cycle.

Is the project working and effectively addressing the problem(s) identified in the proposal? Yes / No / Partially – explain why.

Yes.

In addition to basic medical care, the team provided 'self-care' training (foot-soaking, wearing protective footwear, bandaging of wounds etc) to patients affected by leprosy. Over time, this will help to reduce the number of patients presenting with recurring ulcers.

The team continues to be dedicated to the holistic care of those who attend the clinic, offering food, casual counseling and friendship. Most of the leprosy affected people feel the freedom to talk to people around them and in the society or in their families because of consistent medication and ministering to them by Karuna team and volunteers from the church. Many volunteers visit the affected people and sit with them and listen to them, which helps them to come out of their self rejection.

2. Project activities

1. Self Help Group (Microfinance)

In the Appapada leprosy colony, many women have got together to form Self-help groups to save money and use it for the community when urgent need arises. Two such groups (Ten women in each group) have been formed on 23rd August 2016, named 'Ujawal' and 'Pragati'. They are now doing well and are progressing. These women are from the leprosy affected families. They collect Rs. 200/- per month individually and put it together in a bank, to be used for the community when the need arises.

2. Grass Roots Training in Social Work

Two of the Karuna Staff attended a training titled Grass Roots in Social Work which is due to be completed in Feb 2017. The courses have been particularly balanced and helpful providing staff with an understanding of social work, excellence, time management, communication skills, reporting and many more.

3. Goregaon Medical Camp

The Karuna doctor and the team spoke on Fungal skin diseases and the need for hygiene and caring for wounds and scabs. 95 men and women attended this medical camp and the feedback received was quite commendable. There have been requests to come back to this area for Medical Camps. A lot of fungal infection, eczema and scabies were treated. No cases of leprosy found. Most of this is due to poor hygiene and lack of water.

4. Dharavi Medical Camp

Karuna doctor and the Karuna Team spoke on Fungal skin diseases, the need for hygiene and caring for wounds and scabs. 75 men, women & children attended the two camps conducted in this area. At our first camp the Karuna team saw a real need to do a follow up camp. This slum is one of the largest in Mumbai and requires a lot of assistance & education on how to care for their bodies. A lot of fungal infections, eczema and scabies were treated. No cases of leprosy found.

5. **Annual Party at all the sites**

An annual party with people affected by leprosy in 7 different locations where the Karuna team visits regularly. Karuna team shared with them sweets and Gifs were then distributed to the people and the party was celebrated with much joy. Around 100 Saris & Cotton Cloths were distributed to men and women at our Leprosy Sites. Blankets were given to them as gifts. The team wished everyone wellbeing.

6. **Staff Annual Party**

Staff & Volunteers too gathered for a Annual Party with leaders. Reviewing all that was accomplished this year was done and the efforts put in by each staff and volunteer was greatly appreciated. This was also a moment for the team to reflect on all that the team had carried together through the year.

Were there any unexpected results, either positive or negative?

One of the positive responses we have seen at the Awareness Camps is people responding and being aware that their family members affected with leprosy do not need to live separate. A lady at the Appapada Awareness camp, who attended thought leprosy, was a curse. The team helped her realize that anyone can be affected by leprosy. The team also addressed the cultural stigma by role playing and demonstrating that, the leprosy affected, can live together with their families, they need not be separated. This lady was surprised and felt she gained new knowledge through the awareness camp.

1.1. **Direct clients that have been assisted by this project during the reporting year**

	People directly affected by leprosy		**Family members of people affected by leprosy**		**Persons with disabilities**		**Others**		**Total**	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Child < 18yrs	6	5	4	1	0	0	19	23	**29**	**29**
Adult 18- 59 yrs	478	546	152	174	239	273	57	67	**926**	**1060**
Adult >60yrs	48	55	15	18	27	30	18	20	**108**	**123**
Total	**532**	**606**	**171**	**193**	**266**	**303**	**94**	**110**	**1063**	**1212**

Lessons learnt during the reporting year

What lessons have been learnt that can be built upon in the remainder of the project / in future projects?
One lesson the team has learnt is that the needs are enormous for those affected by leprosy. The Karuna Team is working out a plan to teach life skills and literacy to help the needy. Advocacy rights is also a major focus for the following year. Currently the microfinance program is the first step in advocating financial support for the leprosy affected that is initiated and supported by the government.
Coordination & Partnership: How is the engagement of other organizations (e.g. Government, NGOs and other stakeholders) in the implementation, management and monitoring of the project during the year working?
Our Project coordinator has met with the DLO of Mumbai city twice in the last six months and presented a report on what we are doing and how the leprosy sufferers are being cared for through the project
Participation: How have you engaged the target population and the wider community in the implementation, management and monitoring of the project during the year?
Self-care groups have been initiated in every colony to help one another on days that the Karuna van is not present. One person at each site is given responsibility to encourage each one to look after their wounds in the community and assist with any dressing.
Capacity: Do you, or the implementing partner, have the right capacity in place to implement the remainder of the project? If not, what else is needed?
Yes currently the team, van and facilities in place are adequate to continue to achieve the goals and visions of this project.

1.2. **Case studies and Photographs**

Case studies help us to see the impact of our work with real people.

Surgery of Shantappa

Shantappa had been our regular leprosy affected patient. He was suffering from hydrocele. Karuna team got him admitted to a suitable hospital and surgery was done. Rs, 17,000/- was spent by karuna Project towards the same. Now Shantappa is very happy and really thankfull to Karuna. Furhtermore, Shantapaa required glasses as his eye sight was very weak which the Karuna team bought him this year.

Akash Kailash

Akash came to Trombay hospital. Karuna doctor checked skin patches on his body and he was then sent for Smear Test at Bombay Leprosy Hospital. Karuna team waited patiently for the report. Following day Akash came with positive for leprosy. The team Started 'MDT' treatment. Six months have passed since taking the test at Bombay Leprosy Hospital and it was confirmed that he is negative. Akash's life is saved and many more children in the care home that he lives in are saved from getting affected by leprosy.

Sindubai (Daulat Nagar)

"I had been suffering from severe knee pain in both the knees. I went to many places and doctors for treatment. I did not get relief or improvement for a long time. On a particular Friday I saw Karuna clinic and patients are given treatment and medicines. I reached out to the Karuna staff and the doctor. The doctor had my physical checkup and diagnosis done. They gave me medicines. I regularly took the medicines for a week. I found that my pain in both the knees had subsided and I felt relived from the pain. I want to thank the Karuna team and the doctor."