

## Social Harmony in Equality

Dear Friends!

Warm greetings from WDSS,

It's my pleasure to share the progress of WDSS projects' activities in this E-mail News for your information. We will aim to write every month. This issue covers activities and events of August, 2010. We hope you enjoy it - please keep us in your prayers.

**Message from the Chairman:** I take this opportunity of congratulating the Women Development Service Society (WDSS) formerly known as Women Development and Service Program (WDSP) for their vision and ministry amongst the women in the Diocese of Raiwind. Colleagues in the WDSS have always challenged us with innovative options for involvement and work relating to gender equity, justice and sharing of responsibilities within the life of the church. The very fact that we realize the role of women in our church and society is of absolute importance. I wish the staff of WDSS every success in their first endeavor of planning to publish a monthly newsletter relating the work and achievements of the WDSS. This effort will bring the reader of this newsletter close to the ministry of the Diocesan women's work.



**Registration of WDSS:** In accordance with Pakistan law for community organizations, we have now formally registered our programme as a society. In the process of registration; the authority suggested we use the word "Society" instead of Program. Therefore; our new title now registered is "Women Development and Service Society (WDSS)".

**Baath Health Centre:** The Baath Health Centre has been running smoothly and providing physiotherapy services, antenatal care and medical care for general patients. In this month 20 handicapped people came regularly for physiotherapy, 25 pregnant women were checked, and 60 patients were seen for general diseases. Our 10 midwifery pupils have been progressing in their training.



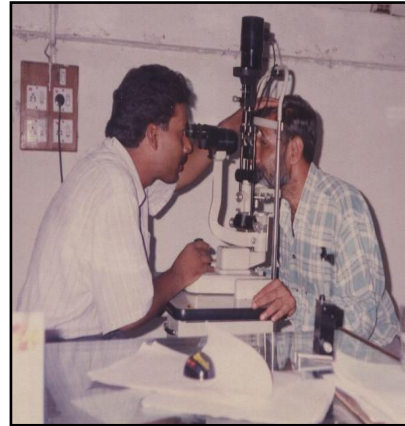
**Rehabilitation Centre-Youhanabad:** The Rehab Centre has been performing well in its regular activities of daily clinic for women & children, vocational training for women & young girls, midwifery training and educational coaching for children. 50 patients were examined in daily clinic. 23 trainees attend for regular vocational training, 17 trainees for midwifery training and 70 students for literacy class.



**Child Protection Program:** The main aim is to protect the children from any sort of abuse through different activities of this project. Under the CPP, children's literacy classes have been running in local church communities. The total number of registered students is 135 in these community centres. The teachers are working hard to encourage the illiterate parents to allow their children to continue their studies.



**Free Medical & Eye Camps:** During the month of August 2010; the WDSS organized two medical & eye camps at Baath Health Centre and at Chung parish. These camps were arranged with collaboration of United Christian Hospital, Eye Department-Lahore. Dr. Edgar Gulzar, eye specialist examined the different eye problems of patients. He referred some cases for surgery to UCH and offered 50% concession on the normal fee to such patients. The Lady Doctors examined the general patients and gave them medicines at free of cost. They also checked the pregnant women and motivated them to attend for regular antenatal check up. A total of 235 patients were seen in both camps.



**Self Help Group:** As the WDSS is committed to empower the women of marginalized communities towards socio economic uplift, so 10 self help groups were organized in different outlying areas of Lahore. Each group consists of 18 to 20 women. The coordinator of the groups facilitates training and guidance for micro-credit scheme with their own combined collection of money. In weekly meetings, the women also exchange their experiences with each other for encouragement and counseling.



**Thanks:** We are highly grateful to our co-partners for their financial support, which enables the smooth running of our projects. We also thank our advisory board members for their guidance.

**Pray for us:** We need your prayers for our projects, and for the efforts of field workers and the office staff, as well as for all the women and children who benefit from our projects.



Alice Garrick  
*Executive Director*  
WDSS