



## **Preventing Cervical Cancer (PINCC)**

**August 21, 2014**

### **Interim Progress Report for Dining For Women Grant, 2013-2015**

- a. Organization Name: Preventing Cervical Cancer (formerly Prevention International: No Cervical Cancer, or PINCC)
- b. Program Title Education, Training, and Equipping Sustainable Sites for Cervical Cancer Prevention in India
- c. Grant Amount \$45,000
- d. Contact Person Kay Taylor, MD, Executive Director
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### **Program Goals and Achievements**

Original Grant: Provide community education, training for medical providers, and equipment to establish self-sustaining cervical cancer prevention programs in 3 sites in India.

- Provide community education by training of community health workers, and provision of tools for outreach and education (flipbooks).
- Educate, train and equip medical providers at sites in Hyderabad, Siliguri, and Bangalore to establish independent screening and treatment for cervical cancer prevention.

### **Interim Funding Changes**

At this time, no other funding sources have been added to our India Campaigns.

### **Interim Program/ Organizational Changes:**

- Due to pregnancy and birth, our Administrator Tenay Woodard has resigned effective September 2014, requiring a search and replacement.
- Our India Medical Director, Rhoda Nussbaum, MD and her husband, John Adams, our India Trip Administrator, have retired. We have established new Medical Directors and Trip Administrators to continue the programs.

### **Challenges in Implementation of Program**

- The Bangalore connection with Biocon proved to be impractical, as they were unable to bring their medical staff together for training.
- Siliguri has a challenge in its physician, who has been unwilling to accept instruction from our training physicians. Ongoing education and negotiations are underway on our third visit to this site, in October 2014.



- A third site for training is under exploration in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh, with the Hope for Women and Children of Bangladesh Foundation. We plan to begin training in their hospital and 8 clinics in 2015.

#### Revision of Original Objectives

- The original program included training a doctor residing in India to do interim training visits. We have discontinued that plan, because of the very different situations in the two sites currently under training, and the distance between them. The BIAC Hospital in Hyderabad has a gynecologist overseeing the training and outreach through their mobile clinic program, who has been certified by us in VIA, cryotherapy and LEEP. She will serve as the referral and ongoing training supervisor for their program. In Siliguri, the doctor working with the program is unwilling at this time to accept a female supervisor or trainer.
- The original objectives were to establish four sites. Bangalore's Biocon sites proved unable to meet our requirements to bring medical workers together for training. We have been asked to implement training at a much larger and well-organized program in Bangladesh, Hope Foundation for Women and Children, which would result in a large region receiving much-needed training and care. We request that Dining for Women approve this alteration in our original objectives, for the 2015 portion of the grant. We will be glad to provide details of the proposed campaign.

#### Progress towards achievement of our objectives

- BIACHI, Hyderabad: This site has great potential for fulfilling all expectations of our objectives. We have made 2 training campaigns to this site, in November 2013 and March 2014. The gynecologist supervising the project, Dr. P. Sujatha, has been certified in VIA, cryotherapy and LEEP treatments, and is independently performing them. The 8 trainee doctors and nurses have seen 580 women over the six months between our visits, and we anticipate certification of all trainees on our October 2014 campaign. This site sends its trained nurses on a mobile clinic bus to outlying villages every 2 months, doing new screenings and follow-up on past results. We expect that over 2,000 women from the urban and rural areas surrounding Hyderabad will be screened and positive cases brought in for treatment every year following certification.
- Siliguri, West Bengal: This rural area serves a large region of tea plantations where women are the primary workers. Each plantation



has a clinic, where the nurses trained in cervical cancer prevention will be screening and referring women for treatment. Although there is some resistance to our methodology by the physician involved, we think he will be able to perform treatments for the women needing cryotherapy for lesions identified by the nurses. We are leaving an avenue open for cooperation with a doctor who could bring a higher level of treatment to this very rural and needy area. Eight nurses are being trained to perform VIA, and if possible, we will train the best ones to also perform cryotherapy. They are performing interim screenings, and we anticipate certification of a core group in October, while working at several new plantation clinics. We will implement referral links for women with more serious lesions through the Sumita Cancer Society. An additional training/supervision visit will be considered, depending on developments during this campaign.

#### Completion of Project within Grant Timeframe

Preventing Cervical Cancer anticipates full certification of one site, in Hyderabad, in 2014, and we will probably certify the second site, in Siliguri, West Bengal, in VIA and cryotherapy. However, completion of cryotherapy training may require a visit in 2015. We would like to request permission to add a third site, in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh, anticipated to begin in fall 2015, and will need 2 further visits in 2016 to complete training of the hospital and 8 clinics there. While all sites will thus not be completed within the 2013-15 time frame, most of the objectives will be achieved, and establishment of 3 hub sites with extension to outlying clinics at each one implemented. The goal of 4 completed sites will have expanded to a total network of 22 sites offering screening, and at least 6 offering treatment.

Attachments: Pictures from sites

Interim Budget Report