

NEW FACILITIES, MORE CAPABILITIES

Completed in April, 2005, our new clinic facility (see below) is located near the communities most severely affected by the gas disaster and the contaminated groundwater. Built primarily with non-toxic construction materials, the clinic includes rainwater harvesting, solar energy production, wastewater recycling, and solar medical waste disposal among its many eco-sensitive features. In addition to the



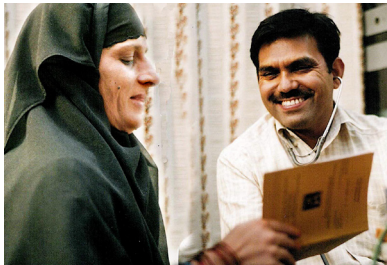
extensive medical facilities, Sambhavna provides ample work space for community health staff, researchers and volunteers, and generous accommodations for as many as 16 volunteers and guests.



With new facilities, expanding services and more community outreach, our workforce has grown steadily over the last decade to 42 full-time employees today, three times its size when the clinic first opened. Over half of our staff members are survivors of the gas disaster; several live in the water-affected communities. Most clinic decisions are made collectively by the entire staff at weekly meetings. Our operations are overseen by seven trustees—scientists, doctors, social workers and activists who have been involved with the aftermath of the disaster for more than twenty years.

IN TEN YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Sambhavna has demonstrated that it is possible to develop safe, simple, effective and inexpensive ways to treat the people exposed to Union Carbide's poisons. We have also shown that it is possible to inspire a community to take control of their situation, possible to improve their health through their own initiatives, possible to conduct



Dr. Qaiser, one of our Allopathic physicians, shares a light moment with one of his patients.

meaningful research with seemingly insufficient financial and human resources, possible to supplant the government's neglectful attitude toward the victims. In other words, it is possible to bring about meaningful change. Sambhavna, a Hindi word, means 'possibility'.

In recognition of our service, the clinic has received several prestigious awards. In 1999, Sambhavna was awarded the Japanese Tajiri Muneaki Prize for its exceptional achievements in the campaign against industrial pollution and occupational hazards. In 2001, Sambhavna's accomplishments were recognized with two major distinctions: The Governor of Madhya Pradesh honored the clinic with the annual "Inner Flame Award" for outstanding humanitarian service, and the international MEAD 2001 award distinguished Sambhavna Trust for exemplifying anthropologist Margaret Mead's famous words, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."

VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS

The clinic proudly operates without corporate money or government assistance. We rely primarily on individual donations to sustain our mission. Over 10,000 compassionate individuals have made contributions since our first fundraising efforts in 1994. We received critical support for our new building from Greenpeace Nederland, Switzerland's Foundation Pro Victimis and French author Dominique Lapierre, who also makes regular donations from the proceeds of his internationally best-selling book on the disaster, *It Was Five Past Midnight in Bhopal* (Full Circle, 2001).

The gifts of time and talent given by an array of volunteers from across the world, including many from the affected areas in Bhopal, are also a central part of what allows Sambhavna to thrive. Volunteers can apply their skills in many areas:



A Sambhavna volunteer communicates via puppets with children in one of the affected communities

medical work, social work, writing, research, gardening, photography, information systems, and more.

Join us in our efforts by contributing money, donating equipment or volunteering your time in Bhopal. You can be a part of Sambhavna's commitment to improve the health and health care situation of the people poisoned by Union Carbide. Please contact us at:

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THE SAMBHAVNA TRUST CLINIC BHOPAL, INDIA



Biju, one of our therapists, massages a patient during a Panchakarma treatment

THE BHOPAL DISASTER: CARING FOR SURVIVORS

In the midnight hour of December 3rd, 1984, an immense cloud of poisonous gas began spewing out of the Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal. Methyl isocyanate and other deadly gases moved quickly through the city, overwhelming masses of people. For fear of compounding their legal liability, Union Carbide would not identify the agent, leaving doctors to treat victims without an answer to their agony. Choking, with violent convulsions, many drowned in their own body fluids. Thousands died that night.

The gas leak triggered the world's worst industrial catastrophe. More than 20 years into the Union Carbide gas tragedy, over 20,000 people have died and 100,000 more still suffer severe, chronic and disabling illnesses. Victims are plagued by breathing difficulties, damaged eyesight, gastrointestinal problems, reproductive complications, genetic deformities, unremitting fatigue, rising cancer rates and more ailments affecting nearly every system of their assaulted bodies.

Union Carbide left Bhopal without cleaning up the site, leaving thousands of tons of highly toxic chemicals in sheds, storerooms and solar evaporation ponds. These chemicals have leached into the earth, contaminating the groundwater source for 25,000 Bhopalis who live nearby. Union Carbide and its new owner, Dow Chemical, based in Midland, Michigan, USA, refuse to clean up the factory, provide proper compensation and long-term health care to all of the victims, or reveal decades of their research on methyl isocyanate.

In the context of utter neglect by Union Carbide and the Indian government, the Sambhavna Trust Clinic opened its doors in 1996. The clinic is an independent, community-based, non-governmental medical and educational initiative. Funded principally by individual donations, Sambhavna offers modern and traditional therapies at no cost to the victims.