

## EDITORIAL

Dear Friends,

*Growth is painful. Change is painful.  
But nothing is as painful as staying stuck somewhere you don't belong.  
- N.R. Narayana Murthy*

As we manoeuvre to return to pre-Covid times, let us not forget the learnings, emotional and physical hardships that thousands in our communities have been through. During this time, we have held our friends and families close, sharing and relearning the importance and value of social and community interactions.

In the same way, as an organization, PASSAGES has held our network of partnerships closely, helping us reach out to those in need of medical and food supplies during those unprecedented times, proactively keeping the purpose and efforts of our organization ongoing.

In the meanwhile, as we regain normalcy, we would like to reaffirm that the Passages' Medicine Bank and financial assistance to our beneficiaries have been ongoing.

We would love for you all to participate in any way in our ongoing efforts to serve the less privileged in our society.

We appreciate the support and sacrifice of our donors and well-wishers.

Keep strong and safe!

Keep smiling,

**Kaya Shewakramani**

## CANCER HEALTH PROGRAMME

### a) Medicine Bank

We, at Passages, are still working in accordance with the Pandemic protocol and have been maintaining our regularity in distributing the chemotherapy tablets, Tamoxifen and Letroze to our Cama Hospital patients at our office. The number of patients to whom we distributed the chemotherapy tablets during the period of 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, was 279.

### b) Patient Appeals

From Sept. 2021 to March 2022, we had extended financial aid to 5 patients as per our Cancer Health Programme's 'from illness to wellness' initiative to help them with their on-going cancer treatment. Two of them received more than a one-time assistance from us. This monetary assistance is offered after scrutiny of their medical treatment records and bills submitted; it varies and is scaled accordingly

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### c) Donations (Cheque / Kind)

8th Oct., 2021	Ensure Protein Powder was distributed to Cancer patients at the Asian Cancer Hospital, as per their request.
14th Oct.	Distribution of food essentials to Shanti Avedna Sadan, Bandra, as per their request.
20th & 22nd Oct.	Diwali gifts were distributed to all our regular patients and related Hospital Staff at the Cama Hospital.
18th Jan., 2022	Cheque Donation to the Helping Hands Foundation to help them with their meal distribution and accommodation for the outstation families of cancer patients who come for treatment at the Tata Memorial Hospital.
9th March	Distribution of Fruit and Milk to patients at the Tata Memorial Hospital.

### Our deepest sympathies...

Rita Advani can be best described as the most cheerful and thoughtful volunteer at our Cama Hospital Medicine Bank. An integral member of our PASSAGES family and a proponent of our Medicine Bank, Rita has remained deeply committed to and compassionate about her patients over 10 years. Though she moved her residence to Poona she remains in touch with all of them and is a source of emotional support too. Recently Rita played the role of caregiver to her ailing husband Kumar who sadly lost the battle and moved on a few days back. All who knew Kumar always remember him as a humorous, soft-spoken gentleman and a gentle soul.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to Rita and her family with the prayer that God grant them the strength to cope with this irreparable loss.