



BANGALORE HOSPICE TRUST KARUNASHRAYA

BAGCHI KARUNASHRAYA PALLIATIVE CARE CENTRE

KARUNASHRAYA INSTITUTE FOR PALLIATIVE CARE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

NEWSLETTER

APRIL . MAY . JUNE 2026



Mathew George Chandy
CEO

This quarter marks the beginning of another year for Bangalore Hospice Trust (BHT) - Karunashraya, and we are proud to bring to you our most impactful events and initiatives from this period.

A notable new initiative the Patient and Volunteer Engagement Program was launched this quarter and has already demonstrated remarkable progress in enhancing patient happiness and overall quality of care. Another exciting initiative, "Spreading the Wings", positions BHT - Karunashraya as a platform for mentoring, knowledge-sharing, and guiding other organizations in establishing their own palliative care setup. Through our three decades of experience, we support them in setting up hospice care a vital step in building broader awareness of palliative care services. Last year was a landmark year for BHT - Karunashraya, marked by new partnerships, collaborations with corporates and other organizations and celebrations an achievement unlike any year before.

Thank you all for placing your longstanding trust in us. We are truly filled with gratitude.

Mathew George Chandy
CEO- Bangalore Hospice Trust - Karunashraya

ABOUT US

Karunashraya is a non-profit public charitable trust dedicated to providing comprehensive, free-of-charge palliative care to patients with advanced-stage cancer. True to its name the "Abode of Compassion" our mission is to alleviate physical, psychological, and spiritual suffering, ensuring our patients spend their final days in comfort and with absolute dignity. To date, we have supported over 32,500 individuals through our integrated home care and in-patient services.

SERVICES

Home care services
Inpatient services
OPD services
Day care services
Clinical consultation
Counselling services
Advance healthcare directive Clinic
Education and Research services

PATIENT STATISTICS

KARUNASHRAYA

Bengaluru

INPATIENT

NEW ADMISSIONS: 226

RE ADMISSIONS: 69

NO. OF IN-PATIENTS: 295

NO. OF OPD PATIENTS TREATED: 74

HOME CARE

NEW ADMISSIONS: 42

DEATH: 31

TOTAL HOME CARE VISIT: 747

BAGCHI KARUNASHRAYA

Bhubaneswar

INPATIENT

NEW ADMISSIONS: 139

RE ADMISSIONS: 43

NO. OF IN-PATIENTS: 182

NO. OF OPD PATIENTS TREATED: 10

HOME CARE

NEW ADMISSIONS: 56

DEATH: 40

TOTAL HOME CARE VISIT: 659



CAREGIVER VIDEO

Kannada Edition of *Moments That Matter* Launched

Karnataka's Health and Family Welfare Minister, Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, officially launched the Kannada edition of Moments That Matter, a caregiver animation series by the Bangalore Hospice Trust – Karunashraya. This milestone highlights the expanding recognition of palliative care in the region, offering families culturally relevant storytelling to equip them with practical, at-home caregiving skills.



MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Honouring Lives, Reaffirming Commitment



Bagchi Karunashraya palliative care centre marks 2nd Memorial Day On April 10, 2026

Bagchi Karunashraya observed its second Memorial Day, reflecting on the 2024 arrival of their very first patient and the beginning of their palliative care mission. The event opened with a welcome speech by Managing Trustee Mr. Gurmeet Randhawa, followed by an emotional panel discussion where caregivers and families shared inspiring stories of resilience and love. The evening was further uplifted by musical and dance performances, and attended by esteemed doctors, NGO representatives, and partner organizations.

BHT-Karunashraya Celebrates 27th Memorial Day

This year's BHT-Karunashraya Annual Memorial Day brought together dignitaries, families, and dedicated caregivers to honor 27 years of compassionate service. The remembrance was beautifully marked by soulful vocal performances, traditional music featuring the flute, tabla, and dholak, and expressive dances that captured deep emotions beyond words.

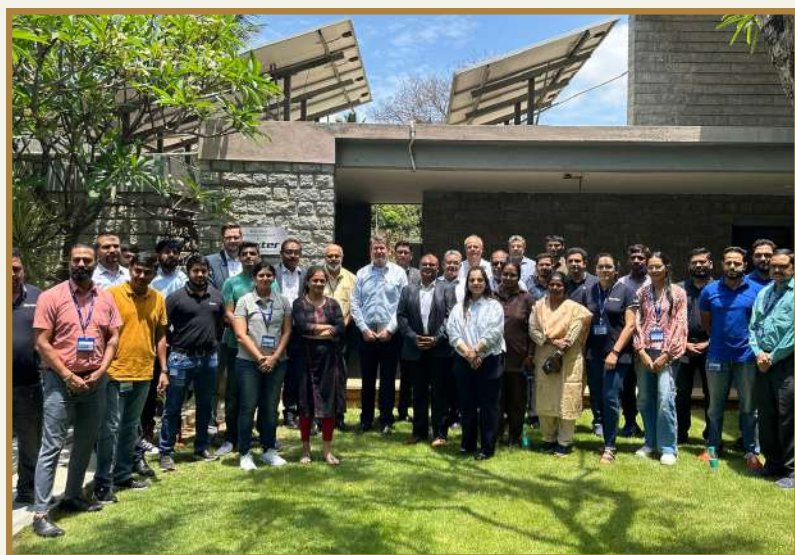
Driving Care Forward with Convergent

A massive thank you to the team at Convergent for their incredible generosity this quarter! Their donation of a new vehicle will greatly improve our reach, allowing us to bring compassionate hospice care directly to more patients and families. We are deeply grateful for your support!



Creating Spaces for Healing with Baxter

We are grateful to Baxter Innovations and Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd. for supporting the renovation of the waterbody on our campus. The beautifully restored space is a reminder that healing extends beyond medicine. The waterbody now stands as a quiet place of reflection and calmness, made possible through the kindness and thoughtful partnership of the Baxter team.



Volunteers Recognition Program

To mark Volunteers Day this quarter, Karunashraya celebrated the invaluable contributions of our dedicated volunteer community. The event opened with moving speeches from our Founder and Board of Trustees, followed by a wonderful musical performance that delighted the entire Karunashraya family. As a token of appreciation, each volunteer was gifted a thoughtful hamper and a personalized photo frame carrying a message of compassion.

Spreading the Message: BKPCC's Palliative Care Awareness Campaigns

Over the past few months, the Bagchi Karunashraya Palliative Care Centre Center (BKPCC) has been actively conducting widespread outreach programs across diverse sectors. From transport hubs and manufacturing units to defense campuses and major healthcare facilities, our mission remains clear: to integrate palliative care into mainstream awareness and clinical practice. Through these diverse engagements, BKPCC has successfully sensitized over 660 individuals in just a few months, bridging the gap between medical expertise and compassionate community care.

Community & Workforce Outreach

- Mo Bus Terminal, Pokhariput (Bhubaneswar)
- Shahi Exports Production Unit

Defense & Frontline Personnel Briefings

- CRPF Campus, Bhubaneswar
- NDRF, Cuttack

Healthcare & Hospital Integrations

- BMC Hospital, Bhubaneswar
- ESI Hospital, Choudwar (Cuttack)
- SVNIRTAR
- Railway Hospital, Bhubaneswar
- Khordha Railway Hospital, Jatni



NDRF, Cuttack



Shahi Exports



ESI Hospital, Choudwar



B.M.C HOSPITAL



Central Railway Hospital



Mo Bus



International Nurses Day

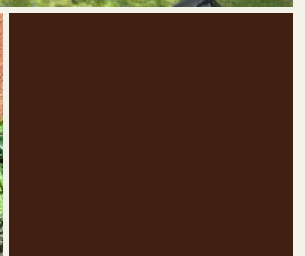
On May 12th, the Karunashraya family gathered to celebrate our incredible nursing team. Doctors, counselors, and physiotherapists from every ward took the stage to share heartfelt expressions of gratitude, underscoring the vital role our nurses play. The day was filled with warmth, laughter, and team-building activities that brought everyone closer together in a spirit of joy and camaraderie.



VOLUNTEERS

Bringing Smiles and Support

Each month, our center comes alive with the arrival of energetic interns and volunteers. They bring a beautiful mix of joy and practical support to our patients. From lifting spirits through vibrant cultural performances and art sessions to rolling up their sleeves to help with essential tasks like prepping gauze and cotton balls, their dedication shines through. We are incredibly grateful for the meaningful engagement and bright smiles they bring to our center every single month!





ZF CSR



Morgan Stanley



McAfee CSR



Intel CSR



Unisys CSR



Cisco



Borgwarner CSR



Deloitte



NPS HSR



CMRIT

CSR VOLUNTEERING SUPPORT

Concentrix
Taj Group
Collins Aerospace
Deloitte
Hitachi
Intel
IMEG engineering
Manhattan
Unisys
Convergint
Huron
ZF
Cipla
Baxter
McAfee
TCS
Careernet
Morgan Stanley
AXA XL
Blackline
Nutanix
Allegis
Cisco.

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

CMRIT College
NPS HSR
Oakridge International School
Francis College
TISB
Texas School of mental health
MS Ramaiah foundation
BMS College of Architecture.
Marham Band
Bodhi tree-Epsilon
Indian Cancer Society
Rotary club of Ullal
Rotary club of Kalyan
100 caps for a cause
Kriya Melodies

Karunashraya Engagement with Healing Hands and Willing Hearts

This quarter marked a significant milestone with the launch of our new Diversional Therapy Programme, bringing volunteers into direct and meaningful engagement with our patients. Volunteers painted pebbles, played board games, and even taught knitting and crochet. They have also made a meaningful impact by reading newspapers and storybooks to patients in multiple languages, bringing information and a sense of connection to their everyday life. Young bakers delighted patients with homemade date cookies, while skilled volunteers conducted craft sessions, some of which raised funds for Karunashraya. It has been a truly rewarding quarter, with the community stepping forward in vibrant ways to bring joy and companionship to our wards.



Celebrating Life, Cherishing Moments

Admitted for pain management, who was abandoned by her husband in the early years of marriage and was working in an ashram while supporting her daughter.

She had suffered many challenges in her life before coming to karunashraya for pain management. Though she has undergone many struggles in her life, she is a happy and cheerful person. She happily expressed her birthday and we thought of making her special day more memorable by celebrating her birthday with the staff in Karunashraya. We celebrated her birthday in the ward along with the nurses, doctors, counselors and patients by cake cutting. We had decorated her cubicle. Everyone wished her and she felt happy and grateful for celebrating her special day.

EDUCATION & RESEARCH Symposium



NEUROPALLIATIVE CARE SYMPOSIUM

On Sunday, May 24, 2026, the Neuropalliative Care Symposium gathered medical experts to explore the intersection of neurology and palliative medicine. Chaired by Dr. Sukdev Nayak and Dr. Soumyadarshan Nayak, the event featured clinical insights on managing complex conditions like dementia, catastrophic brain injuries, and progressive neuromuscular disorders. Key sessions covered collaborative care models, clinical decision-making, and the current legal frameworks for end-of-life care in India, concluding with an interactive panel discussion moderated by Dr. Roop Gursahani. The successful event equipped attending clinicians with actionable practice strategies and awarded them 3 CME credit points.

"LIVING WILLS & END-OF-LIFE CARE: WHAT EVERY INDIAN CITIZEN SHOULD KNOW"

On Saturday, May 23, 2026, the Bagchi Karunashraya Palliative Care Centre (BKPCC) hosted "Living Wills & End-of-Life Care: What every Indian citizen should know" for medical and non-medical attendees. Chaired by Dr. Sumita Mohanty and Dr. Swagata Tripathy, the seminar addressed the clinical, legal, and personal facets of end-of-life planning in India. The expert lineup featured Dr. Nagesh Simha on the history of ELICIT, Dr. Raj K Mani on the evolution of care, Dr. Roop Gursahani on advance planning, Dr. Rituparna Padhy on the current legal framework, and Dr. Krithika Rao on the clinical realities of the dying process. The event concluded with an interactive panel Q&A session that included Dr. Sukdev Nayak.





KARUNASHRAYA JOINS KARNATAKA'S PALLIATIVE CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are pleased to announce that Karunashraya has been selected as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee for Palliative Care under the Government of Karnataka. This recognition further strengthens our collaboration under our existing MoU with the state government, reinforcing our shared commitment to advancing palliative care services across Karnataka.

Academic & Community Outreach Highlights

Ms. Michelle Normen's contributing chapters in "Palliative Care in India" were unveiled during the book's launch by Dr. Athma Prasanna at Shri Shankara Hospital of Palliative Care.

The Counselling Services Team trained 40 undergraduate psychology students at Sindhi College ("Arukah Re:Mind") on trauma-informed care and managing anticipatory grief.

Ms. Sangeetha N upskilled 40 nursing staff at Meerut Military Hospital via a virtual CNE on transition of care, and trained 80 nursing students at Dayananda Sagar University on ethics, patient dignity, and hospice care.





GRADUATION OF THE 34TH BATCH OF GENERAL DUTY ASSISTANT TRAINING

Celebrating a perfect success rate! The 34th Batch of the General Duty Assistant training program has officially graduated after clearing their six-month course and the Skill India examination. Not only did the entire batch secure 100% top-tier results, but they were also fully placed within the organization. The graduation also highlighted 20 nursing aides (nine from the 2025-26 batch and eleven from the prior batch) who cleared their Hospice Care module exams. Government-recognized certificates were proudly awarded via the Healthcare Sector Skill Council under the Skill India initiative.



WORLD PSYCHO-ONCOLOGY DAY 2026

To mark the World Psycho-Oncology Day 2026, KIP CER organized an in-person lecture by Dr. Kerrie Noonan on "Death Literacy in Practice: Insights for Supporting End-of-Life Planning and Care" on Saturday, 11th April 2026. Dr. Kerrie Noonan is the Founder of Death Literacy Institute in Sydney, Australia. She is internationally recognized for her work in death literacy, compassionate communities, and public health approaches to palliative care.

Guest Lectures Conducted:

- "Academic Writing" – Delivered by Dr. Keerthy Nakray (Founder & Executive Director, Organisation for Research and Education on Social Policy).
- "Substance Use & Relapse Prevention in Palliative Care" – Co-led by Mr. Daniel Selva (Psychiatric Social Worker) and Dr. V. M. Rajamani (Senior Resident, Addiction Psychiatry) from the Centre for Addiction Medicine, NIMHANS.
- "Patient Safety and Secondary Complication Prevention: A Physiotherapy Perspective" – Presented by Dr. Santhoshini S (Physiotherapist, BHT - Karunashraya).

Continuous Nursing Education (CNE): Held three specialized CNE programs:

- Communication Skills: "Handling Difficult Questions (Patients & Families)" facilitated by the Counselling Services team at BHT - Karunashraya.
- Clinical Practice: "End-of-Life Care - Initiation, Process & Documentation" led by Dr. Babita P A Varkey (Director of Clinical Services, BHT - Karunashraya).
- Global Career Development: A special International Nurses Day session titled "Empower to Explore: Global Nursing Career Opportunities," delivered by Mrs. Malarvizhi Elango (Clinical Skills Trainer (OSCE) - National Health Service (NHS), UK).

Seeing the Unseen - A Workshop on Understanding Psychosocial and Spiritual Issues in Palliative Care

From April 16–18, 2026, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Patna hosted a Two and a half days workshop for 25 healthcare professionals, including social workers, psychologists, nurses, and doctors. The training was designed to deepen their understanding of the psychosocial and spiritual aspects of palliative care.



Visiting Trainees

HelpAge India : 5
One Billion Lives Foundation: 14
Cipla Palliative Care, Pune: 2
Christ (Deemed to be University): 10
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College
and Research Institute, Bangalore: 1
Christian Fellowship Hospital, Orissa: 1
KIDWAI Memorial Institute of Oncology: 5
PES University: 1

Internal Training

Visitors for orientation visit: 195
Doctors: 9
Nurses: 11
Mental health professionals: 12
General public: 2

External Training

Doctors: 8
Nurses: 130
Mental health professionals: 67
Other allied healthcare: 6
General Public: 30

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