



## Giving Today's Street and Slum Children a Better Tomorrow

May 2021

Dear Friends,

### **Reference: Help with the Covid tragedy in India**

As you will have seen in the news India is now experiencing the horrors of a new wave of Covid, we wanted to share an update on the situation at Future Hope and in the communities we work with in Kolkata.

The virus is spreading wildly through all areas and we hear from our day scholars of many cases in local slums previously less affected. With hospitals at capacity and oxygen at a shortage many people are dying.

At Future Hope, as a charity that provides opportunity for society's most vulnerable children, we have been affected too with cases in our community. We have set up our own Covid ward in our school building whilst continuing to run our school online for all our students.

In the ward we look after those who have tested positive for Covid from our homes' children, staff, day scholars and their families in the slums. A team of staff, alumni and some of the senior boys and girls ensure that everyone gets 24-hour care, good food, rest and the correct medical help which is spearheaded by our wonderful nurse, Shohani, and our doctor Muktish. Where greater medical care is required we are working hard to try and secure hospital places and the correct medicines.

Vaccinations in India are currently free but supply is short and people need to queue for hours to stand a chance of receiving these. We are trying to ensure that everyone we know gets at least the first dose of the vaccine and also offering our IT support to those families who are struggling to register online.

The full lockdown now imposed across Kolkata will add another threat to the lives of those in the slums as daily wage jobs are once again shut down or lost. We are already hearing from many alumni and day scholar's parents stories of hunger and desperation as they cannot work and see the necessity to provide emergency ration packs again as a lifeline they will need to survive this pandemic.

Please help us to keep everyone safe. You can donate online at [www.futurehope.net](http://www.futurehope.net) and we will ensure your donation will reach the children, and their families who need it, very quickly.

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Future Hope is a charitable organisation which provides opportunity through its homes, school, sports and medical programme for some of the most vulnerable children from the streets and slums of Kolkata, India.

We put society's most vulnerable children at the centre of all we do, and after 34 years we understand the problems that they face, and the solutions that dramatically and permanently change their lives for the better.

[www.futurehope.net](http://www.futurehope.net)