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HIGHLIGHTS

Insightful Visit of Dr. Khalid Nasr to Assess HAEFA Health Post Facilities for Rohingya Population in Bangladesh

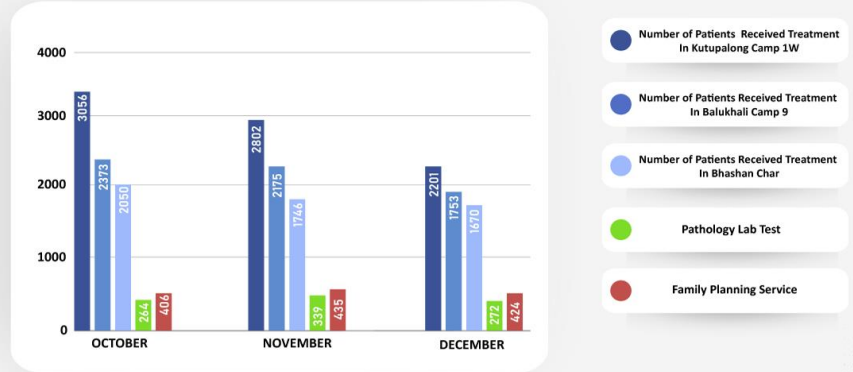
Dr. Khalid Nasr, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Health and Education for All (HAEFA), USA, embarked on a crucial expedition from April 27th to 30th, 2023, evaluating healthcare facilities for Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. He was accompanied by Country Director & CEO Engr. ATM Zafrul Hassan and Senior Director & Project Director Mohammad Monjur Iqbal. During the journey to the FDMN camp, Dr. Khalid Nasr visited Ukhiya Specialized Hospital, formerly known as the Malaysian Field Hospital. This visit was orchestrated by RRRC (Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner) Health Coordinator, Dr. Abu Toha. Engaging in a meaningful session with Dr. Toha and hospital personnel, the presence of Dr. Khalid Nasr left an indelible mark. His Friday activities wove a tapestry of spiritual engagement, from leading Jumah and Asr prayers to enriching Quranic discussions and a visit to Al-Farooque Islamia Madrasa. On April 29th, he revisited the HAEFA health posts in FDMN Camp, talked with the attending patients, inquiring about the available health post amenities and their level of satisfaction. He also observed with admiration the use of the NIROG EMR (Electronic Medical record) system in Kutupalong Camp 1W, highlighting the technological strides of HAEFA in providing optimum healthcare service. The journey concluded with his departure from Cox's Bazar, illuminating the life changing impact of health services provided among the Rohingya population and emphasizing the crucial role of technology and evaluation processes in healthcare delivery.

HAEFA's Ongoing Projects

** Click on each to learn more*

- Healthcare Services for Rohingya Refugees in Kutupalong, Balukhali and Bhashan Char
- Cervical Cancer Screening and Treatment at Cox's Bazar
- Mobile Medical Health Clinics for Host Communities in Ukhiya
- NIROG: Empowering NCD Care through Digitalization in Noakhali

Health care delivery to FDMN population from HAEFA health camps



Performing Ultrasonography By HAEFA's Health Professionals

HAEFA's New Endeavor: Pioneering Ultrasound Services in diagnosing various diseases

At Balukhali Camp 9, Health and Education for All (HAEFA) initiated Ultrasonography services on November 18, 2023. This facility offers diagnostic imaging for the whole abdomen, including Hepatobiliary System (HBS), Kidneys, Ureters, and Bladder (KUB) region along with the much valuable pregnancy profile and foetal status.

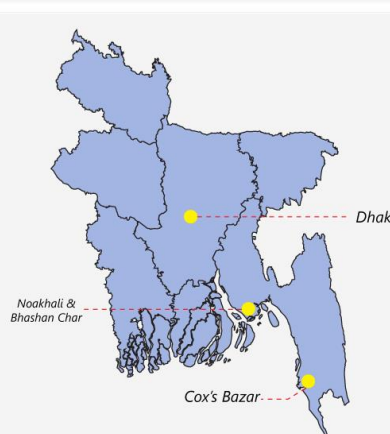
Since its inception, HAEFA has effectively evaluated 43 patients as of December 31, 2023 which ensured precise diagnosis and optimum management of those patients.

Cervical Cancer Screening Update In Cox's Bazar :



Tuberculosis Screening update under HGSP Project in Cox's Bazar

Health and Education for All (HAEFA) and Partners in Health and Development (PHD) as UNFPA Implementing Partners, have successfully screened 14,352 inhabitants from six Upazilas of Cox's Bazar for Tuberculosis under the HGSP (Health and Gender Support) project as of December 31, 2023. This initiative stands as a significant contribution to furthering Bangladesh's dedication to the global goal of eradicating Tuberculosis while ensuring the health and resilience of its communities.



ARTICLES

** Click to read full article*

- Unveiling New Horizon: Ultrasound Facility at FDMN CAMP**
- Member Spotlight: Introducing RAISA IFTIKHAR**
- A Successful Treatment Approach: A Journey of Resilience**
- Meet HAEFA's Editorial Staff!**

Unveiling New Horizons of optimum management through meticulous diagnosis by newly established Ultrasound Services

By *Sajia Haque*,

Introduction:

HAEFA is happy to announce the commencement of Ultrasound guided diagnostic services at Camp 9, Balukhali, marking a significant stride in providing finest healthcare service delivery. This development comes in response to the growing healthcare needs of the community and reflects HAEFA's commitment to providing comprehensive and timely medical interventions.

Background:

The absence of an ultrasound machine in nearby health facilities prompted the initiative to introduce this essential equipment at Camp 9 HAEFA Health post. In a positive response, HAEFA management swiftly took measures, leading to the official initiation of Ultrasonography services on November 18, 2023.

Service Offerings:

The facility is now equipped to perform Ultrasonography for whole abdomen (W/A), pregnancy profile, as well as kidneys, ureters, and bladder (KUB) examinations providing diagnostic accuracy to an array of clinical conditions. Since its initiation on November 30, the team has successfully treated nine patients, providing critical insights through one whole abdomen examination, seven pregnancy profile assessments, and one KUB evaluation.

Professional Commitment:

The dedicated team of professionals at HAEFA is committed to deliver high-quality ultrasound services. State-of-the-art equipment and adherence to stringent protocols ensure accurate and reliable diagnostic results. The focus on continuous improvement and patient-centric care drives HAEFA's commitment to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and excellence.

Patient-Centric Approach:

Understanding the importance of timely and precise medical interventions, ultrasonography services play a crucial role in diagnosing and monitoring various conditions, enabling effective treatment plans. The goal is to create a comfortable and supportive environment for patients, ensuring their well-being throughout the examination process.

Client Satisfaction:

Rahela Akter (name has been changed for patient's privacy), a 35-year-old woman seven months pregnant, recently visited the facility for her first ultrasonogram which showed excellent condition of her foetus and provided valuable information of her pregnancy. Despite typically receiving antenatal checkups from a nearby health post, she expressed great satisfaction with the services provided by HAEFA. This positive feedback portrays HAEFA's commitment to providing compassionate and excellent healthcare services to all individuals in need.

Conclusion:

With the recently developed USG services as one of its tools, HAEFA is committed to upholding the highest levels of professionalism and excellence in healthcare delivery as the organization expands. The goal is to deliver accurate diagnoses, contribute to the overall well-being of the FDMN and host community, and continue making a positive impact on the healthcare landscape in Balukhali, Cox's Bazar.

Member Spotlight: RAISA IFTIKHAR

By Somaeya Sultana Meem,



Raisa Iftikhar is a dedicated employee of Health and Education for All (HAEFA) holding the position of National Coordinator HR and Research Associate.

She grew up in Dhaka, Bangladesh but she was born in Mymensingh and spent her childhood in her maternal grandparents' house in the same city. She completed her Secondary School Certificate from Shaheed Bir Uttam Lt. Anwar Girls College in Dhaka and pursued her Higher Secondary Certificate at Adamjee Cantonment College, also in Dhaka. Later, she obtained both her undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Development Studies with a major in development economics from Bangladesh University of Professionals in 2022. Joining HAEFA as a fresh graduate,

Raisa became a member on January 1, 2023, after learning about the organization through her father's friend and visiting the HAEFA website to explore its activities and humanitarian services.

As the National Coordinator (HR) and Research Associate for HAEFA, Raisa plays a crucial role in ensuring the smooth functioning of the organization's human resources and research activities. With her varied responsibilities, she is at the forefront of driving the organization towards its goals, all while ensuring a positive and engaging work environment for the employees.

A typical day for Raisa starts with reviewing and responding to emails and inquiries related to employee relations, benefits, and HR policies. This initial task of the day showcases her ability to effectively communicate and address the concerns of the employees, thus fostering a sense of trust and transparency within the organization. Her dedication to creating a positive work environment is further demonstrated through her organization and facilitation of employee engagement activities, as well as her emphasis on promoting open communication among team members.

Miss Raisa oversees various HR functions, including recruitment, employee relations, training coordination, and records maintenance. Her attention to detail and ability to handle administrative tasks, such as salary statements, administrative orders, and project logistics, are essential in maintaining the organization's operational efficiency. Moreover, her commitment to ensuring adherence to HAEFA policies and regulations highlights her dedication to upholding the organization's standards.

Effective communication, procurement, and report generation in collaboration with the project team and Dhaka office are also part of Raisa's duties. This aspect of her role requires not only

strong organizational and coordination skills but also a high level of professionalism and adaptability. Raisa's ability to navigate these collaborative tasks with ease and proficiency further reflects her capability as a National Coordinator for HR.

Transitioning from an academic setting to a professional work environment has its challenges, yet Raisa has proven to be a quick learner and open to adapting her work style to meet the expectations of her team. This adaptability and willingness to develop professionally have made her more confident in her role, ultimately benefiting the organization as a whole. One of her most cherished experiences with HAEFA was a visit to Moheshkhali UHC with Dr. Ruhul Abid (President of HAEFA), Mohammad Monjur Iqbal (Project Director & Senior Director, HAEFA, Bangladesh, and the entire HAEFA team where they enjoyed a delightful lunch at a local restaurant and relished a remarkable 23/24 pieces of fish in no time.

Looking towards the future, Raisa is enthusiastic about the prospect of contributing to HAEFA's mission and being a part of the positive change it strives to bring to the world. Her study of Development Studies stems from her desire to create links between academic institutions in the developed and developing world. She aims to pursue advanced degrees such as a Ph.D., work on developing leadership skills, and build a strong professional network within the development community. In her free time, she enjoys listening to music, specifically Bangla classic songs, and cooking food for loved ones.

Raisa's role as the National Coordinator (HR) & Research Associate for HAEFA is multifaceted and integral to the organization's success. Her dedication to fostering a positive work environment, overseeing HR functions, handling administrative tasks, and collaborating with the project team and Dhaka office showcases her exceptional skills and commitment. As she continues to grow and adapt in her role, Raisa remains a valuable asset to the organization, driving it towards continued success and growth.

Raisa finds HAEFA Newsletter and Limelight to be very innovative and encouraging platforms for young aspirants like herself, and she wishes all the best for the upcoming newsletter.

A Journey of Resilience

Meet Salma Sultana (name has been changed for patient's privacy), a 57-year-old woman from Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar, whose life took an unexpected turn when she was diagnosed with cervical carcinoma in October of 2022. Unaware of the importance of regular screenings, Salma found herself in a state of shock upon receiving the alarming news from the Cox's Bazar District Hospital.

The diagnosis left Salma in a state of confusion and fear, uncertain about the road ahead. As always, the compassionate healthcare workers from Health and Education for All (HAEFA) stepped in to guide her through this challenging time. From the moment of diagnosis, HAEFA's commitment to the well-being of Salma became evident as they took charge of coordinating her entire pathway of care for her cancer.

With empathy and dedication, HAEFA healthcare workers provided invaluable support and educated Salma about her condition and the available treatment options. Overwhelmed by the knowledge, Salma made the brave decision to entrust HAEFA with the planning and coordinating of the management of her dreaded ailment.

One of the remarkable aspects of Salma's story is the financial burden that HAEFA lifted from her shoulders. The organization generously covered all her histopathology expenses, ensuring that Salma could focus solely on her recovery without the stress of financial strain. This gesture not only demonstrated HAEFA's commitment to holistic patient care but also eased Salma's journey through the intricate landscape of cancer treatment.

Salma's treatment comprised 5 cycles of chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and brachytherapy—a comprehensive approach that aimed to eradicate cervical carcinoma. Through each phase, HAEFA stood by her side, offering emotional support, medical guidance, and financial assistance.

Fast forward to September 23, 2023; Salma's resilience and cordial assistance from HAEFA culminated in a success story. Her treatment course had been completed with successful eradication of her cancer, and she could joyously return to her regular life. Salma's gratitude towards HAEFA is palpable, as she now embraces each day with newfound strength and appreciation for life. The strength and resilience she discovered within herself during this period are a testament to both her own spirit and the unwavering support provided by HAEFA.

HAEFA's commitment does not end with the completion of treatment, they continue to provide regular follow-up care, ensuring Salma's ongoing well-being. This comprehensive and patient-centered approach reflects not only medical excellence but also a dedication to the holistic satisfaction and recovery of each individual under their care.

The story of Salma Sultana is a testament to the importance of community-driven healthcare initiatives, early detection through screenings, and the transformative impact of humanitarian organizations like HAEFA. Her journey is not just a triumph over cervical carcinoma but also a celebration of the human spirit and the power of compassionate healthcare. As Salma continues her life's journey, she carries with her a deep sense of gratitude for the dedicated healthcare professionals at HAEFA who made her victory over cancer possible and gave her a new life.

Meet HAEFA's Editorial Staff!



Dr. Samia Tasneem, *Mentor and Advisor* to the Newsletter Editorial Board. She joined HAEFA in 2020 and serves as the Honorary Chief NCD Consultant. Dr. Tasneem is a Heart Transplant Cardiologist at St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, Australia.



Sajia Haque is the *Editor-in-Chief*, as well as the Intern Coordinator for HAEFA. She joined in 2021. She lives in Dhaka, Bangladesh and is a fifth-year medical student at Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College.



Ishan Abdullah is an *Associate Editor*. He joined HAEFA in 2019. He lives in Washington, D.C. and is a first-year medical student at the George Washington University.



Areeb Uzzaman

He is currently based in Maryland, U.S., pursuing his undergraduate degree in international business at the University of Maryland, College Park.



Somayea Sultana Meem

She is a 4th year medical student at International Medical College and Hospital, Gazipur, Dhaka, Bangladesh



Tanzina Toma

She graduated with a degree in English Language and literature in 2023 from Ananda Mohan College, Mymensingh, Bangladesh.