

## WILL YOU JOIN US?



*Renuka was only 30 years old when her husband lost his battle to AIDS. A widowed mother of two, and marked by the illness which took her husband, Renuka was rejected by family and friends and she was forced to leave her village. Eventually she and her children found their way to the Good Shepherd Mission in Puttur, India where she was given food, shelter and the compassion that she had been denied for so long. Still, she must travel great distances to get the medication she needs.*

*When Mani contracted TB, his wife and children abandoned him and he became a vagabond, at times sleeping in a nearby cemetery. He had once been a successful painter and had developed a reputation with the Good Shepherd Mission for his artistry, but by the time the people at GSM found him, he was unrecognizably thin. They took him in and nursed him back to health. Mani now lives at the mission and travels to Chennai (a four hour journey) to received treatment for his disease.*



*Stories like those of Renuka and Mani are all too common in rural India. Action must be taken.*

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Good Shepherd Mission in Puttur, India, was established by Henry Bhasker and his wife, the late Viola Bhasker, in 1979. It was recognized by the Indian government as a Social Service Organization in 1983, and registered to receive foreign contributions in 1985. What began with one couple's decision to care for the orphaned children of their community has become an established organization, committed to helping the poor people of Puttur and its surrounding villages. Today, GSM includes three orphanages which serve nearly 150 children, a home for the elderly and infirm, and a hospital which includes a dentist, ophthalmologist, gynecologist and a newly-established physical therapy clinic.

Because of our commitment to serving the needs of the community, the Good Shepherd Mission is in the process of establishing a Care and Support Centre for HIV/AIDS and TB patients. The Centre will include an administrative building and eight cottages to provide comfortable living accommodations for the terminally ill. The administrative building will be broken into four major sections: a laboratory, a pharmacy, a counseling centre and a clinic. It will also include a kitchen and dining area, a recreational space and a vegetable garden. Through the Care and Support Centre, the Good Shepherd Mission will supply food, shelter and medication to the terminally ill, and will offer AIDS prevention education to the community.

Through private donations, GSM was recently able to purchase land for our new centre, but will not be able to construct the facility without further outside contributions. Each cottage will cost approximately \$8,400 US dollars and we estimate that the administrative building will be approximately \$130,000 US dollars. We are therefore requesting a one-time donation of any amount to help us launch the Care and Support Centre. Donations can be given for the construction of a

specific building—for example, if one group or individual wished to donate \$8,400, then one cottage would be raised in their name—or could be allocated to cover the expenses of a patient. We estimate that approximately \$40 US dollars a month would provide food and medication for one person, and a group or individual could choose to support the project in this manner.

If you would like to give a small donation for the Good Shepherd Mission’s new Care and Support Centre for HIV/AIDS and TB patients, you can send checks payable to “GSECCSSA - Puttur” to any of the following addresses:

Wyatt Park Christian Church  
2623 Mitchell Ave.  
St. Joseph, MO 64507  
[scott@wyattparkcc.org](mailto:scott@wyattparkcc.org)

Calvary United Methodist Church  
1 West Wyomissing Ave.  
Mohnton, PA 19540  
[administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net](mailto:administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net)

Global Network of  
Independent Missions  
10632 S. Memorial, #138  
Tulsa, OK 74133  
[globalnim@cox.net](mailto:globalnim@cox.net)

Brother Thomas Kraus  
Gutenbergallee 85/L24  
63538 Grosskrotzenburg  
Germany  
[info@tamakai-books.de](mailto:info@tamakai-books.de)

The Good Shepherd Mission  
PO Box #18  
Mission Compound – Puttur 517583  
Chittoor District – AP  
India [goodgsm79@rediffmail.com](mailto:goodgsm79@rediffmail.com)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us directly at [goodgsm79@rediffmail.com](mailto:goodgsm79@rediffmail.com).

HIV/AIDS is a global concern, and we at the Good Shepherd Mission are committed to providing care and support for our brothers and sisters affected by this epidemic. We would be honored if you choose to join us in this effort.

Sincerely,

The Good Shepherd Mission – Puttur, India.



An architect’s rendering of the proposed Care and Support Centre.