

Rotary Project Executive Summary – Transforming Transplants in Karnataka

Project Title: Transforming Transplants – Improving Deceased Organ Donation Program along with HLA (Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics) Lab Support in Mangalore

The Problem

- 500,000+ patients waitlisted; <4% receive transplants annually.
- Deceased donor rate in India: 0.8 per million (vs. 30+ in USA/Spain).
- Karnataka has over 6,000+ waitlisted patients, but only one HLA lab in Bengaluru.
- Patients in Coastal & Northern Karnataka travel 300+ km for tests.

The Solution

A four-part strategy to decentralize access and build a sustainable transplant ecosystem:

1. Set up a full-fledged HLA Lab at Wenlock Govt. Hospital, Mangalore.
2. Awareness programs across hospitals to encourage organ pledging.
3. Train & deploy grief counsellors in public hospitals to enable consent.
4. Enable access for government hospitals to ethical, quality testing.

Why Mangalore?

- One of 5 transplant zones in Karnataka.
- Underserved region with growing ESRD burden.
- Wenlock Hospital: Government-run, SOTTO-approved location with history of public service.

Project Impact

- Reach 6,000+ patients annually
- Accelerated transplant decisions, reduced travel & carbon footprint
- Model for replication across India
- Strengthens public health system capacity

Partners

- SOTTO Karnataka: State transplant body ensuring legal & ethical compliance
- BMST: SOTTO-designated lab partner with NABL accreditation

Budget & Sustainability

Total Project Cost: ₹2.46 Cr (USD 290,000)

- ₹96.8L Capex for Lab Setup
- ₹1.49 Cr Opex over 3 years

Sustainability Plan:

- Tiered pricing model for tests
- Free/subsidized for govt. patients
- Revenue from private institutions
- CSR & Rotary to support AMC post-grant

How You Can Help

We are seeking CSR partnerships and donations to co-fund this life-saving initiative. Every contribution helps create faster, fairer access to transplants and saves lives. Let us transform transplant care in Karnataka, together!

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