



CANSUPPORT

July - September 2025 | LXXII

www.cansupport.org

Recipient of Mahatma Award for Healthcare Excellence 2025



From the Founder-President's Desk

Dear friends of CanSupport,

This year's World Hospice & Palliative Care Day focuses on the promise made 10 years ago at the World Health Assembly (WHO's Governing Body) calling on all countries to "strengthen palliative care as a component of comprehensive care throughout the life course." The goal is to achieve this promise within the next 5 years.

Given that 80% of the more than 60 million people, adults and children, who need palliative care services annually reside in low and middle-income countries, with less than 4% of the need being met, this is a tall order.

In India, it is estimated that roughly 5.4 million people need palliative care annually and less than 2% receive it. This is a dire statistic. Not only is access to palliative care in our country woefully inadequate but it is also heavily skewed in favour of urban centres and particular states. This must change as where you live should not condemn you to pain and suffering. Access to palliative care must not remain a luxury of the privileged few. It must be made available to those for whom it is the only life-line left to ensure a life of dignity.

On this World Hospice & Palliative Care Day I appeal to our policy makers to make palliative care an essential part of the health care system in our country so that every Indian with a serious life-limiting illness, young or old, woman or man, may access it when they need it and where they need it and thereby continue to live a life of quality

You, dear reader, can also play your part by committing your time and money, as a volunteer or as a donor, to CanSupport so that we can take our care, offered free of charge to those most in need, to the farthest corners of our great country in the next 5 years.

This is a mission worth pursuing and a promise worth keeping.

Best Wishes,
Harmala Gupta

New Centre at Firozpur, Punjab

The new centre in Firozpur has become operational with support from Suri Seva Foundation. The team, comprising of Dr. Amandeep Kaur, Nurse Laviza Jacob, Counsellor Sourabh Kumar, and Happy Singh as the PRO cum Administration (Programs), has started working in the community. In Faridkot, they have aligned with Guru Gobind Singh Medical College and the District Hospital. The team has received commendable support from Prof. Pardeep Garg, Head Radiation Oncology at Guru Gobind Singh Medical College and we are thankful for his assistance. Through the continued efforts, the team has been able to serve and onboard 36 patients thus far. They are striving to bring care to more patients in need by expanding the reach and help them benefit from the services we provide.



THE LANCET
Oncology



Harmala Gupta on The Lancet Oncology's Cover

The Lancet Oncology, a monthly journal covering international issues relevant to clinical cancer specialists worldwide, has featured Harmala Gupta on the cover of their Volume 26, Issue 10 for October. The recognition is a highlight as the periodical for clinical oncology provides high-quality original research, reviews, and commentary and it celebrates her significant contribution to continually advancing palliative care and services in the nation.

Scan for the
Full Issue





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

July - September 2025

Home Care

- Teams: **45**
- Home Visits: **15,986**
- New Patients Enrolled: **1,371**
- Concurrent Patients Under Care: **3,755**



Day Care

- Sessions held: **63**
- Patients attended to: **1,560**
- Caregivers attended to: **1,099**



Resource Facilitation

- New patients enrolled: **1,674**
- Patients facilitated: **1,627**
- Funds mobilised for tests and treatments from Central and State Governments: **₹ 21.30 lakh**
- Resources mobilised in-kind for patients through various networks worth: **₹ 53.89 lakh**



Outpatient Clinics

- Teams: **9**
- New patients enrolled: **1,770**
- Patient visits: **9,580**



Telephone Helpline

- Information Calls Served: **1,885**
- Service Referrals Extended: **294**



HOME CARE SERVICES

The patients, their caregivers and families continue to receive compassionate care and guidance from the Home Care teams.





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

July - September 2025



DAY CARE



Delhi North Area Centre's Day Care Started

We are extremely excited to have launched another Day Care in Delhi at our North Area Centre. Started in July, the numbers of patients and caregivers have almost doubled and the weekly Thursday sessions have been

seeing enthusiastic participation. Getting to engage in 'Laughter Therapy' and other creatively stimulating activities, the attendees have expressed thankfulness for the comfort and care they have been receiving from the volunteers and our staff.

Please connect if you, or someone you know, would like to participate in, volunteer or support the sessions.

101-103, 1st Floor, Classic Complex, Sector 5, Rohini 93159 05156



Creativity with 'Storytelling Club'

The younger patients and their caregivers came up with imaginative stories based on their own experiences and enacted them with varied props in a session conducted by members of the 'Storytelling Club' which was a liberating activity for all.



Day Out at the Movies

Tanisa Foundation organised a movie screening for 80 patients and their caregivers who are in CanSupport's care. They had arranged for a Bollywood movie's screening at a multiplex and the excursion was well managed. The attendees enjoyed the film and had an overall fun time at the cinema getting to simply relax.



Magic Show for Young Patients

A Magic Show was put on at Safdarjung Hospital for children suffering from cancer which all of them thoroughly enjoyed. Their caregivers were moved to see their young ones simply having fun forgetting about the disease in those moments.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (COR)

The Community Outreach and Awareness teams have been working in varied local communities to promote the free-of-charge services CanSupport offers and spread the word about palliative care and the essential role it can play in not just the patient's journey but the caregivers' as well.

The Pune team visited the Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Parinche Village in Purandhar district for a cancer screening camp conducted by Maharashtra State Health Unit where they interacted with the medical officer and the screening team and introduced our services to the ASHA workers.

In Haryana, a program for the Community Outreach Officers was organised at Baland village in Rohtak where our team met with the anganwadi workers and helpers. They were encouraged to spread awareness about cancer and palliative care and how the locals can benefit from taking action against use of tobacco and giving up other ill habits.

In Julani village in Jind, the Community Outreach Officer visited the health centre and met with the ASHA workers to share how they can assist their community further by referring them for our services.



Organise an Awareness Session and/or Cancer Screening Camp in your community!

Contact: navdha@cansupport.org | 9599558368

CANSUPPORT NEWS

CanSupport Honoured with Mahatma Award

We are humbled to have been recognised with the 'Mahatma Award for Healthcare Excellence 2025.' Harmala Gupta, Founder-President and Dr. Ambika Rajvanshi, CEO received the award from Guest of Honour, Mr. A. Annamalai, Director/Secretary, National Gandhi Museum and Amit Sachdeva, Gandhian and Indian Lawyer, more famously known as the 'CSR Man of India.' Radhika Shapoorjee, Honorary Secretary; Vishal Sood, Honorary Member of CanSupport's Managing Committee and NS Anand, Head of PR & Marketing also attended the event.

Such recognition keeps us motivated to continue to strive for our vision of building a more caring and supportive society where people with cancer and other serious illnesses, and their families live with dignity, hope and comfort.



'Remembrance Day' Gatherings Held

Remembrance Day was observed at the Pritpal Healing Garden, MTMH Cancer Hospital, **Jamshedpur**, in collaboration with the Suri Seva Foundation. The event brought together family members and caregivers of patients who had been under CanSupport's care. Participants expressed their emotions through heartfelt messages and shared cherished memories of their loved ones.

In **Delhi**, the East Zone congregation took place at the Centenary Methodist Church, where families of patients supported by us came together to honour and remember those who have passed on. The attendees paid tribute by lighting lamps, writing personal notes, and sharing special moments, creating a moving atmosphere of remembrance and connection.



Fundraiser by Music Factory

The talented young artists from Music Factory organised 'Youth in Concert: Fundraiser for CanSupport' in collaboration with The Piano Man, Saket, creating a memorable afternoon dedicated to music and compassion. Their spirited performances not only captivated the audience but also helped raise significant awareness and funds in support of our mission. We deeply appreciate their enthusiasm, generosity, and the meaningful partnership that made this event a success.



Testimonials from Caregivers and Friends & Families of Our Patients

Words of Appreciation for Our Teams

"I wanted to share a heartfelt update regarding my wife's health and the support we've been receiving from CanSupport.

Her life was nothing but filled with pain. The kind of pain caused by the tumor was indescribable. She had become completely bedridden and was unable to even sit up or eat by herself so we got her admitted to Apollo Hospital. Despite everything, the core issue, which was the unbearable pain, remained. We were disheartened that there was no way we could resolve the root cause. It was then when I reached out to the CanSupport team, and Dr. Sanjay spoke to me. He suggested switching to morphine along with some supportive medicines, like laxatives and analgesic for pain spikes. He also gave us a clear dosage plan. The entire team then visited our home, provided the necessary medicines, and helped us get started.

Thanks to their support, there has been reduction in her pain. Whenever the morphine supply gets low, I inform the team and they promptly come to help. It is something we can't get from regular medical stores, so their help is truly a lifeline. They provide us all the services free of charge which is definitely a blessing. Along with Dr. Sanjay, Sister Kamla and Ms. Sonia stay in touch regularly, calling to check in on my wife's condition and asking if we need anything.

I truly want to thank CanSupport for their assistance as it is making a big difference in this difficult time."

- For South Area Team, Delhi from a caregiver

"With deep sorrow, we inform you that Mrs. Savita Tandon left us for the heavenly abode in the early hours of the morning. In her last days, your support, guidance, and compassionate care gave us the strength to keep her comfortable and free from unnecessary suffering. We are deeply grateful to you and your entire team for walking with us during this difficult journey. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

- For Faridabad Team 2 from Rajnish & Seema Virmani



TRAINING, EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Panelist at Indian Cancer Society's Annual Seminar

CanSupport was invited to participate as a panelist at the seminar titled, "Aging with Cancer – The Silver Edge," organised by the Indian Cancer Society, Delhi branch, as part of Cancer Sahyog 2025, their annual seminar. Held at the India International Centre, the event explored various dimensions of cancer and the challenges faced by patients. Dr. Mohan contributed a short film for the Creative Video competition, while Anamika Pandey represented CanSupport on the panel, offering insightful perspectives on the subject.



Scientific Session at Military Hospital, Meerut

As the Military Nursing Service (MNS) marked a century of dedicated service, a special seminar was organised at the RVC Centre and College for the students and faculty of the medical college. The event was graced by Maj Gen Lisamma PV, ADGMNS, as the Chief Guest, along with Brigadier Vikram Patra and Dr. Lipika Patra. CanSupport was invited to lead a scientific session on Geriatric and Palliative Care at the Military Hospital, Meerut, where Dr. Ravinder Mohan and Anamika Pandey shared their insights and experiences, introducing the principles and practices of palliative care to an engaged audience.

Workshop Conducted with IRCH, AIIMS

The team organised a half-day Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) workshop under the Delhi IAPC Chapter at the Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital (IRCH), AIIMS. The session was graced by Dr. Daisy Thomas, Principal of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur College of Nursing, Delhi, as the Chief Guest. Centered around the theme 'Nursing Procedure Demonstrations,' the workshop brought together 50 participants who had the opportunity to learn from expert nurses, making it an engaging and enriching learning experience.



Article Published in Journal of Cancer Policy



An article titled 'Strategies to Enhance Palliative Care Access in Rural Populations and Increase Awareness of Life-Limiting Illnesses in India: A Scoping Review' by Dr. Ishita Gandhi, Director, Palliative Medicine, CanSupport, in collaboration with Hùng Phan Hũu, Researcher, Department of Medicine, University of Medicine and Pharmacy, HCMC, Vietnam, has been published in the Journal of Cancer Policy (Vol. 45, 2025).

The paper explores strategies to improve palliative care delivery and community awareness in rural India, addressing key challenges in end-of-life healthcare access.

Contribution Made to an International Study

CanSupport was invited to participate in an international research study led by Prof. Cherith Semple, examining ways to better support families living in deprivation when an adult caregiver of dependent children (under 18 years) faces end-of-life cancer. Anamika Pandey represented CanSupport in an online interview during the qualitative research phase. Her contributions aim to help shape more inclusive and responsive care frameworks for vulnerable families coping with cancer and caregiving challenges.

The study explores several key themes, including:

- Healthcare professionals' experiences in supporting families during end-of-life care
- Understanding and addressing deprivation in caregiving contexts
- Perceptions of care for adults with terminal illness managing caregiving responsibilities
- Training and capacity-building needs for healthcare professionals

To stay updated about the latest news regarding CanSupport, Please Scan





TRAINING, EDUCATION & RESEARCH



Empowering Future Healthcare Professionals Through Internships



CanSupport continues to provide enriching internship opportunities for students from international universities and colleges, offering them a deep and meaningful engagement with palliative care in India.

Rohan Puri, a pre-medical student from the United States, recently completed a month-long internship, where he gained first-hand exposure to both the Day Care and Home Care programs. Drawing from his experiences, he has proposed a focused ethnographic study titled "Understanding Palliative Care and Patient Support within CanSupport: A Focused Ethnographic Study in a Low-Income Urban Setting," under the guidance of Dr. Ishita Gandhi. His study aims to employ naturalistic observation across outpatient clinics, daycare units, and home care visits to document the lived experiences of patients, caregivers, and healthcare workers in low-resource settings. By exploring the emotional and social dimensions of care, the research aspires to contribute valuable insights that will help strengthen patient-centered palliative care models both in India and globally, particularly for underserved communities.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Staff members from **ALKEM Foundation**, the social arm of ALKEM Laboratories Limited, visited the CanSupport head office to partake in Day Care sessions wherein they interacted with attendees and the volunteers to experience how different activities facilitate the patients and the caregivers in our care.



Gaurav Agarwal, a **Tata employee**, conducted a session for program administration officers and staff as part of the **ProEngage** training series. Curated by the Tata Sustainability Group, this initiative connects skilled professionals with non-profits through weekend projects to help strengthen their capacity and sustainability.



The employees at **Adobe Noida** enjoyed a refreshing session with the Jalvayu Vihar Community Centre (JVCC) Laughter Club. The event began with an introduction to our mission and the free-of-charge services we offer, followed by gentle breathing and stretching exercises. The session concluded with mindfulness and positivity activities, leaving participants relaxed and rejuvenated.



Social Responsibility activity: Toy for Joy
Orientation and material distribution

- Fabric shapers
- Fabric Scissors
- Fabric Cotton
- Needle/thread/staplers
- Thread (multi colour box)
- Toy Eye Strips
- Fabric-Glue



Staff members at **Optum Global Solutions (India) Pvt Ltd**, Gurugram came together with great enthusiasm for the 'Toy for Joy' activity, crafting handmade soft toys for the young patients in our Day Care program. The participants poured creativity and warmth into their creations, and their efforts were rewarded with the bright, beaming smiles of the children who received these heartfelt gifts.

CANSUPPORT EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

CanSupport has been organising Employee Engagement activities with corporate entities since 2018. You can also get an activity organised for your employees/staff where they can participate in fun yet meaningful engagements with our employees or cancer patients in our care or we can hold a session for them.

For further details: Call 9818566052 or write to inst.relations@cansupport.org



DONOR FEATURE

SRF LIMITED

As a multi-business chemical conglomerate, SRF Limited supports CanSupport under its Corporate Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

SRF Limited has helped in expansion of our services, such as contributing to the establishment of a new home care team for the South Area Centre in Delhi which allows us to reach and assist even more cancer patients and their families.



Partnering with us, they have contributed towards Community Awareness campaign as well as funding the Mobile Palliative Care Clinic (MPCC) which provided free-of-charge services to patients from Lok Nayak Jai Prakash (LNJP) Hospital and Delhi State Cancer Institute - West. Additionally, they have provided in-kind support as well as funding in form of tangible contribution and for aiding procurement of goods or services. The staff members at the Gurugram premises have also participated in 'Toy for Joy' as part of their Employee Engagement wherein they created stuffed toys for the younger Day Care attendees.

We sincerely acknowledge SRF Limited's steadfast belief in our mission and look forward to continuing bringing warm and compassionate care to those who require it the most with backing such as theirs.



VOLUNTEER FEATURE

I am Kajal Aswani, a volunteer at CanSupport's south area centre. I joined them in 2019 without even realising the impact it would make in my life over the years. My dear mother got diagnosed with cancer a few years ago and that strengthened my resolve to contribute towards assisting the patients and their caregivers at CanSupport who go through a tough time fighting the disease, especially when their means are restrictive. I do my best in helping with organising Day Care activities, coordinating, and even counselling. I encourage my friends and family to support the organisation in any way they can and strongly urge everyone to do their bit as well.



VOLUNTEER WITH CANSUPPORT



Want to make a difference in the lives of those battling cancer by providing emotional support, companionship, and assistance to patients and their families? Then, the Volunteering Opportunities at CanSupport are for **you!**

Our dedicated volunteers form the backbone of our mission. Being one, you can support our day care team with the sessions or assist in organising awareness and fundraising events. You can also offer your skills in areas like content creation, administration, or creative projects.

If you have some spare time, please consider joining us. No special skill is required and everyone can contribute with a precious donation of their time for the cause.

Get in touch: Navdha Bharadwaj | navdha@cansupport.org | 9599558368

Our video series titled, **'The Quiet Heroes'** is an ongoing project aimed at featuring not just the patients and their caregivers but to shine a light on everyone who is involved in the journey of an individual and how CanSupport, as an organisation, becomes part of their lives showing the difference made with compassion. Please watch the latest as well as the previous parts.

Scan to Watch & Share





WE THANK OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

GRANTS & DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2025

₹ 1,00,000 and above

- Abhay Dan
- Akshay Garg
- Alkem Foundation
- Anil Mehta
- BASAID
- BCH Electric Ltd
- Cipla Foundation
- EIH Ltd
- Haricharan Halwasiya Charity Trust
- M/s. Purna School of Inspiration
- Maj. Jasbir Singh (Retd)
- Music Factory
- Narayanaswamy Nagaraj
- Neeti Chopra
- Net Solutions India Pvt Ltd
- Optum Global Solutions (India) Pvt Ltd
- Paramjeet Kaur
- Rajeshwar Susheela Dayal Charitable Trust
- Real Time Data Services Pvt Ltd
- Saloni Roy
- Sangeeta Narang
- Shankar Acharya
- Sunil Vachani
- UK Online Giving Foundation
- Vaha Foundation

₹ 50,000 to ₹ 99,999

- Anju Gupta Memorial Trust

₹ 50,000 to ₹ 99,999

- Anuj Mehta
- Gita Sarup Mehta
- Highbrow Education Society
- Isht Khanna
- Kamal Deep Sharma
- Lalita Sharma
- Neeleshwar Pavani
- Preeti Lobana
- Rajiv Tank
- Saroj Gupta
- Shanta Bhalla
- Sharad Malhotra
- Shruti Pandey
- Trigon T S LLP
- Upasana Sharma
- Upinder Bhalla
- Vatsala Balakrishnan

In-Kind Medicines, Equipment and Rehabilitation Materials

- Bharti Dhingra
- MCKS Food for Hungry Foundation Delhi
- Valmik Thapar
- Jyoti Nariman
- Neeti Chopra
- Global Cancer Concern India (GCCCI)
- Kamal Deep Sharma
- Madhu Bhalla

Wish List

Requirements	Frequency	Quantity
Woollen Blankets [For destitute patients who have to brave the Delhi winters on the roadside shelters or pavements]	Annually	275
Annual Diary 2026 [For CanSupport Staff]	Annually	250

For details: Rajni Bhatia 9667718209



GIFTING MADE PURPOSEFUL!

Sparkle Gift Cards (SGC) has launched an exclusive 'Collaborative Gift Card' For directly supporting us:

- Visit sparklegiftcards.com/giftcards
- Click on 'Collaborative Card' from the four options, and
- Select CanSupport!

Scan & Assist CanSupport



Do You Know?

7 in 10

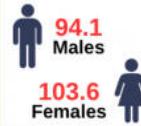
Indian patients consult doctors at the terminal stage



INDIA'S RISING CANCER BURDEN

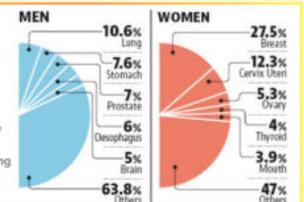
YEAR	INCIDENCE	MORTALITY
2020	13.92 lakh	7,70,230
2021	14.26 lakh	7,89,202
2022	14.61 lakh	8,08,558
2025	15.69 lakh (projected)	

Estimated Incidence PER 1 LAKH, 2020*



Common Cancers in India

A big cause of morbidity and mortality, here is a break-up of cases among Indian men and women:



Source: National Cancer Registry data presented in Parliament, ICMR National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research Study, *Estimated



Sunday 8 February 2026
8 am to 11 am
Jawaharlal Nehru (JLN) Stadium

CANSUPPORT WALK FOR LIFE STRIDE AGAINST CANCER 2026

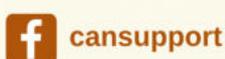
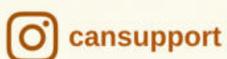
www.walkforlifeindia.org

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events@cansupport.org

REGISTRATION

OPENING SOON



www.cansupport.org

