

a project share story



PROJECT
SHARE

It's time to give back

Kathryn Ondek

Nothing's Impossible at Hemophilia Camp

Rajkot Hemophilia Chapter in India held a National Youth Group Camp, "Bye Bye 2010," December 23–27, with 46 hemophilia patients and 24 volunteers from several areas of India. Project SHARE donated factor for all the patients.

Camp started with a traditional lighting of an oil lamp by Mr. Balvantbhai Desai, executive secretary of Ashok Gondhia Memorial Trust. Mr. Taksh Mishra held meditation with music, allowing campers to enjoy peace of mind and relax. Then Dr. Asha Satasiya gave guidance on yoga and physiotherapy by demonstrating different types of exercises; these sessions were held every day during camp. And Mr. Kiran Avasia, secretary of the Rajkot Hemophilia Chapter, screened the motivational film "Nothing Impossible with Hemophilia."

The campers took a quiz to test and improve their understanding and awareness of hemophilia. Then came the laughter and fun, as campers played games such as balloon-blowing, cricket, chess, and charades. At night, everyone gathered by the campfire to talk and sing songs.

On December 24, several doctors

spoke about self-infusion, an essential aspect of camp. With the help of Usha Parthasarathy, liaison to Project SHARE, the campers were supplied with donated factor VIII and factor IX for any current bleeds. Later that night, an exciting Christmas celebration featured singing, dancing, and cake-cutting, helping campers forget about the pain and suffering they feel most days.

The next morning, campers took a picnic trip to historic Somnath Temple. They also visited the Asiatic lion sanctuary Gir-Sasan, and viewed lions, deer, leopards, blackbucks, and monkeys.

On December 26, popular writer and columnist Mr. Jay Vasavada, of Gujarat, India, gave a motivational speech on the topic "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

On December 27, camp ended with awards and gifts to all campers. As they said goodbye to 2010, these wonderful young men with hemophilia shared special time relaxing, having fun, and learning about their disorders. Project SHARE was proud to support such an enriching camp experience for so many young adults with hemophilia. ☺

**"Since our childhood, Mr. Kiran Avasia
has guided us to be independent."**

—Pradip Thoriya

Project SHARE

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Campers attend a physiotherapy demonstration.



An early morning physiotherapy session begins the day.



Camp Bye Bye 2010



Older peers with hemophilia train and mentor younger campers: Kiran Avasia (left) supervises Pradip Thoriya (right) as he explains self-infusion to Anil Dabhi (center).