

Dear friends of Shoshana,

Christmas 2022

how quickly this year has passed and we can look back thankfully saying: **It was a good year!**



In our last newsletter I reported on the women in the slum area for whom we made a sewing course possible. In the meantime, with their own sewing machine, they are improving their lives enormously.

Bindu reports on **Maryamma**, one of the women who successfully completed her course and is now putting into practice what she has learned. She has two children. The daughter is already married and the son is in the 10th grade.

Her husband left her when the children were young. She was working as a building construction coolie to support her family and her children's education. Working in dust and cement for so long, she had skin and lung infections but still she continued to work. She heard about the **Shoshana Sewing Center** near her and applied in November 2021. After completing the course, she received a sewing machine with the help of Shoshana donations, has started her own shop and has stopped working as a coolie. She lives in very poor circumstances; therefore, she keeps her sewing machine for now still in our sewing center.



Every day she comes to our center to work on her orders and hopefully she will be able to afford better housing soon. She is very thankful that Shoshana provided her with an alternate source of living. If she has enough orders, she can earn 300-400 Rupees a day (about 4 Dollars), which is more than she had before.

I am particularly pleased that we were able to open **2 more medical centers** in very poor areas. This is possible due to the initiative of the nurses, who drew our attention to these needs and also actively participated. Thanks to the continued help of our loyal friends, we are able to support so many.

**I thank God and all of you
from the bottom of my heart for that!**



There are some new videos on our **Homepage**. A number of times Bindu has arranged a video visit for me, which is not always easy due to the time difference and unstable internet connections. Although we are all amateurs, you still have a good insight into the situation.



We've reached **our 22nd anniversary** and many of the donors have stayed with us since the beginning. But there are always new friends, without their help we wouldn't be where we are today. Especially the Christmas donations make it possible that we can provide the women with sewing machines, which makes them independent and self-reliant.



My special thanks also go to our members who are very loyal to Shoshana behind the scenes. I consider this an extraordinary privilege and gift from God.

Together we have **achieved the impossible** and **helped countless people** to better living conditions.

I wish everyone a very **Merry Christmas**, together with Bindu, my friend and colleague in India. May God pour out His richest blessings on all of us and grant us another **Blessed New Year!**

Your,

Martha B. Foerch

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PS: For the most recent Shoshana news, please visit **Bindu's Blog** with pictures and stories.

<http://cde-shoshana.blogspot.com/>

