



Health Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission

Ahsania Mission Shastho Shurokkha Forum (AMSSF)

Address

Health Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission
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1. Background

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) is one of the most prestigious humanitarian organizations in Bangladesh. It has been contributing to multi sectorial developmental works since its establishment. Health is one such sector, and it has been recognized as one of the core sectors of the Mission. A huge number of people are receiving wide range of health care services through Mission's Health Sector. A large portion of this population falls under underprivileged people who unfortunately do not have the ability to afford proper health services when necessary, especially women and senior citizens suffer the most. According to World Health Organization, almost 5.2 million people in Bangladesh are surrendering to poverty each year due to expenditures related to health services. Each family spends more than 10% of its total expenditure for emergency medical care. 14.1% population or two crore 24 lac people of Bangladesh are facing sudden poverty for such reasons.

Universal health coverage has become a challenge. The term "Universal Health Coverage" reflects that everyone should have the access to appropriate health care services when necessary, and none will face financial crisis while seeking such services. There will be no discrimination when it comes to the matter of access to health care facilities.

Health Economics Unit of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has prepared the Healthcare Financing Strategy Paper (2012-32) in 2012, the objective of which was to achieve financial stability in universal health coverage. It mentioned that the personal cost for medical purposes should decline gradually. The personal cost for medical purposes was 60% in 2012. The target was set at 32% which is to achieve by 2032. However, the real scenario is much different. The personal expenditure on the health coverage is still very high. According to Government statistics, 67% of the total health expenditure still comes from personal funds.

No matter where the beneficiaries reside, people living under the poverty line have always been suffering from lesser access to health facilities. That is why monetary support has become essential for them. Non-Government Organizations should come

forward to work alongside Government initiatives to change the scenario. DAM can contribute in this aspect. The scopes for developmental activities funded by foreign support have been becoming decrease these days. Moreover, the health expenditure has been becoming higher.

DAM has founded several institutions along with running multiple projects for the benefit of underprivileged population in our country. These institutions offer quality health care services for people from every societal level. Often the poor cannot access the necessary health services as they cannot afford them. On the other hand, Mission institutions are facing financial challenges in order to ensuring health services at low cost. It has become necessary to accumulate money to form our own fund, CSR and individuals.

As a result, the Ahsania Mission Shastho Shurokkha Forum (AMSSF) has been formed to address the situation and accrue fund for the Health Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Supports from kind hearted individuals and institutions will enable the Mission to expand its health care services.

2. Goal

Ensuring equal health rights among underprivileged population. It will contribute to achieving the “SDG 3: Good Health and Well Being” for everyone.

3. Objectives

- **Objective 1:** Ensuring appropriate health care facilities for the underprivileged population
- **Objective 2:** Equality and equity in the perspective of health care facilities for everyone

4. Functions/Expenditure Head

Ahsania Mission Shastho Shurokkha Forum has been established to provide quality health services to people from all societal level focusing on “*SDG Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages*”.

AMSSF fund will be expensed only for the benefit of Bangladeshi underprivileged population. Health Sector will prepare the yearly budget for AMSSF activities which should be recommended by management committee of AMSSF. With the approval of DAM President, the fund will be expensed. Health Sector can approve special considerations for any underprivileged under Health Sector projects/programs or institutions. However, these special considerations should be presented at every quarterly meeting of the AMSSF. External consultants will audit the AMSSF funds annually.

Priority area of expenditure:

- Hospital setup/equipment purchase/ infrastructure development
- Maternal and child care
- Prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with Substance Use Disorder
- Tobacco control initiatives
- HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment
- Support for mental health program
- Non-Communicable Disease prevention
- IEC/BCC material development
- Disaster/emergency response
- Undertaking research initiatives
- Nutritional support
- Adolescent reproductive health awareness
- Organizing medical camps
- Observing important national, international and significant days
- Organizing seminars, workshops and trainings for capacity building initiatives for DAM Health Sector staff

5. Eligibility of Membership

Ahsania Mission Shastho Shurokkha Forum (AMSSF) has been formed to institutionalize the participation of CSRs and kind-hearted individuals to expand the health-related activities of the Mission. Anyone, regardless of race, cast, religion, and ethnicity can be a member of the AMSSF, as long as they are not involved with drug trafficking, tobacco industry and any anti-state/social activities.

a. Types of Members

- **Regular member:** Who donates at least 1,000 Taka each month
- **Life member:** Who donates at least 1,00,000 Taka at once
- **Patron:** Who donates at least 5,00,000 Taka at once

b. Donations

- Donations can be given through online banking after instructing members' respective banks for regular money transfer
- Willing person or institutions can also donate instruments, treatment equipment, medicines, and other necessary items required for health care services

Anyone willing to donate Zakaat is advised to donate it to Mission's Zakaat Fund. AMSSF will not be accepting any Zakaat donations

6. Offered Benefits for AMSSF Members

- Every member will be awarded with a certificate and a crest
- Life members and Patrons will receive special crests honoring their contributions
- Health Sector will honor the member who donates the highest amount of money each year
- Institutions established by the Dhaka Ahsania Mission, such as, Ahsania Mission Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, will provide services at 10% discounts to member referrals (depending on availability of the seat and priority)
- Mission initiative, Nogordola Boutique and Fashion House will provide 10% discount on their products for the members of the forum

- Forum members will avail 10% discount at Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital services
- Forum members will receive complimentary copy of Health Sector's quarterly publication AMIC Barta
- Forum members will be invited to the Health Sector events
- Forum members will be consulted while adopting newer initiatives or implementing new projects
- Forum members will be able to join in on many humanitarian activities of the Health Sector

7. Termination of Membership

- A member can cancel his/her membership anytime he/she wants
- If a regular member does not pay his/her membership fee for consecutive three months, he/she will be contacted regarding the willingness to remain a member of the forum. According to the instruction of the member, either his/her membership will be terminated or continued as extenuated circumstance.

8. Operational Committee

The AMSSF will be managed and directed by a seven-membered committee, which will lead the fund collection procedure. It will also be responsible for deciding when, how and where to spend the fund from AMSSF. The committee will be responsible for maintaining the transparency of fund collection and expenditure from it.

9. Secretariat

The secretariat for the AMSSF is situated at the following address –

Address:
 Health Sector, Dhaka Ahsnia Mission
 House-152/Ka, Block-Ka, Road 6,
 PC Culture Housing Society
 Shyamoli, Dhaka-1207
 Bangladesh

10. Reporting and Expected Outcome:

a. Reports

AMSSF will prepare a programmatic and financial report at bi annually and it will be disseminated to all AMSSF members to ensure worthy of the public trust.

b. Outcome of Forum

- Every year, almost four lac deprived people from different areas of the country come to Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health sector to seek health care services. AMSSF ensures scientific and modern treatment for communicable and non-communicable diseases as well as ensuring access to reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health care services at free of cost or reduced cost for 25% people.
- AMSSF ensures universal access to health coverage including protection from health economics related financial risks, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- Sometimes, the forum will support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect the national critical situation in its health care system management through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.
- AMSSF will play a pioneer role to strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, along with strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol so that population health status will improve in the country.
- The forum will play an important role to end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.