

RECAP

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SUMI RECEIVES AUTO RICKSHAW FROM ASF

30 Sylhet

When Sumi was young, her father married and moved to a different place, leaving her and her brother behind. As an adult, Sumi started working in a parlor in her city and hoped to work in media as a model. But her hopes were short-lived.

On November 2014 Sumi was attacked with acid blinding both her eyes and damaging her face and hands. She received treatment from Dhaka Medical Colleagues & Hospital (DMCH) and then ASF. Later she was sent to Chennai, India by ASF for better eye treatment.

Sumi is blind and has a child. ASF is going to give her an auto rickshaw as per her request. Her uncle will drive the auto-rickshaw and pay part of his income to Sumi daily. This way Sumi will be able to bear her daily expenses and the cost of her child's education.

"I am thankful to ASF because my relatives did not think of me as much as ASF had", said Sumi. ASF hopes that Sumi become self-reliant and live with her head held up high in society.











Workshop

ASF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

04 February 2023

ASF organized a workshop involving Acid Survivors, ASF's Program and Support Team, Executive Director, Board of Trustees and Advisers. The stakeholders discussed critical issues and brainstormed solutions.





PRESSURE GARMENTS

Pressure garments (PG) are pieces of clothing made of elasticized fabric called Lycra worn after a burn to control scar maturation. Scars can develop within weeks to a few months post-injury & continue for 12 to 24 months. Pressure garments protect from contracture development & disability. This is achieved by applying pressure to the maturing scar. The tightness of a PG also helps stop the itching associated with a healing burn and protects fragile skin. PGs are customized to each survivor and are commonly provided by a member of the burn team per a physician's order.

ASF has three survivor-run PG manufacturing units in Dhaka namely at Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College & Hospital (ShSMCH), Dhaka Medical College (DMCH), and ASF Health Care Center. Since March 2020 due to the pandemic, the PG unit in DMCH & ShSMCH halted PG production to create a Covid health center.

In December 2021, ASF was granted permission to resume production in DMCH following safety protocols. ShSMCH unit however still remains closed due to a lack of manpower and funds.

From January 2022 to February 2023, ASF served 285 PGs. ASF's plan is to reopen the PG unit in ShSMCH and establish more PG units in other government hospitals to increase burn patients' access to PG.





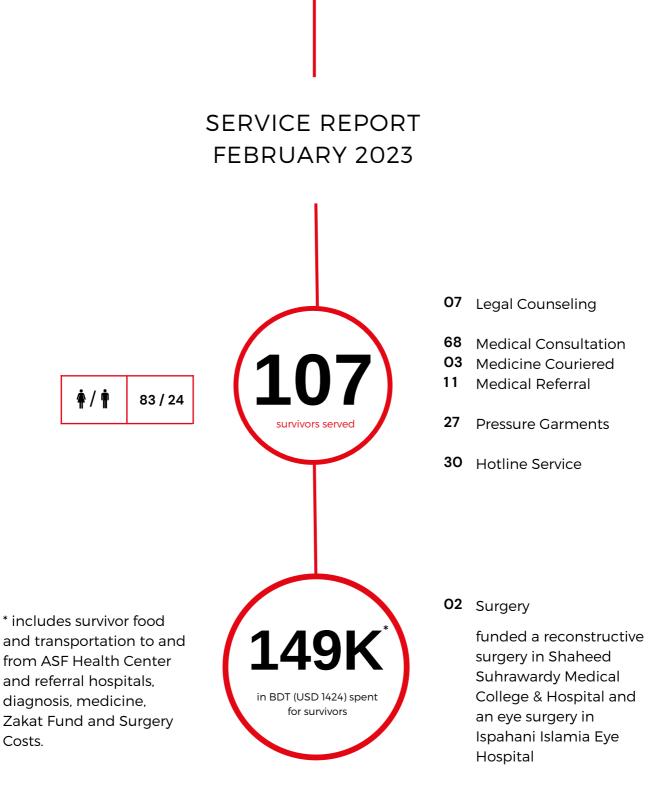




ASF VISITS SHIMA

18 Sylhet

Shima was attacked with acid when she was only 7 months old. ASF visited Shima on 21st February 2023 in her hometown Sylhet. She is preparing for her Higher Secondary Exam. She is studying science to become a Doctor. Shima said she was doing fine when ASF inquired about her physical and mental health. ASF is striving every day to create an acid-free, survivorfriendly Bangladesh where every survivor is able to say they are fine with full confidence.



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