

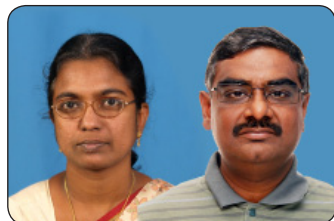
Dr. Michael Burke

The "Dignity and Right to Health Award" is an activity of the International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) Leadership in Christian Health and Development Initiative. It is an international award established to address health and development issues including HIV.

The committee this year had been challenged by the difficult task of choosing a winner for the 2012 award. All four nominations had more than adequately met the various criteria for the award. Finally, we chose to announce joint winners for the 2012 Dignity and Right to Health award of the ICMDA Leadership in Christian Health and Development Initiative.

Please join with us in celebrating the outstanding, inspiring and faithful Christian work of our joint winners, both from India - Drs Isac & Vijila David and Dr. Saira Paulose.

Drs Isac & Vijila David have clearly demonstrated visionary and innovative leadership from the time they graduated as family physicians, by stepping out in faith to take on a very difficult, yet rewarding role among a diminishing people group called Malto in a very remote and neglected area in Jharkhand, India. On their exploration within the context of their call and vocation over fifteen years ago, they found the need to step in to change the course of life for these people.



Let me also introduce you to the wonderful work of Dr. Saira Paulose of India. She leads the SHALOM Delhi HIV/AIDS unit of the Emmanuel Hospital Association of India.



Dr. Saira through her quiet leadership has knit together a team which has significantly impacted many HIV-affected individuals and families, both directly and also indirectly through training of other organizations for home based care and other HIV-related interventions (including clinical care).

The majority of Shalom's home based care program beneficiaries are of migrant origin (neighbouring states) and live in poverty stricken communities in North West Delhi, Shalom's area of focus. Stigma and discrimination are still a very live issue, as attested to by case stories that continue to emerge from its work.



Christian Medical Association Bangladesh (CMAB) Annual Conf
Further details of these inspiring lives can be shared by visiting
www.icmdahivinitative.org.au

