

PROFILE



DR. BILL MCKELVIE AND SHEILA MCKELVIE PAKISTAN

(ASSOCIATE MISSION STAFF)

Presbyterians Sharing supports Dr. Bill McKelvie, a physician working in various medical ministries with the Diocese of Hyderabad, Church of Pakistan, since 1988.

In 1995, he started a tuberculosis control program which now operates six centres. Bill writes, “There has been a cure for TB for more than 50 years. Yet, every year, 1.5 million people die of this disease. Millions more are disabled and impoverished. The cure is there, but it requires more than just handing out drugs. It requires getting close to people and finding out what their needs are.” Since the program began, cure rates have risen to almost 90%.

In 2008, the program changed its name to Sahara Community Health Association (SaCHA) and expanded its ministry to include other projects: HIV/AIDS education to high risk groups, a traditional birth attendant training program and a childhood nutrition program. The program also went under national staff leadership which Bill developed during his tenure. He will continue to encourage national leadership in SaCHA and develop new medical ministries for SaCHA and other Christian groups.

Bill continued as a member of the Management Committee of the Audio-Visual Centre which runs the Village Outreach Program (VOP). The VOP leaders were open to advice on their health programs, but it was a challenge actually implementing recommendations. In 2015, an assessment of health needs in the villages identified six possible focus areas: addictions, diarrhea, maternal health, hepatitis, skin diseases, and eye diseases. Bill has since coordinated two workshops on participatory methods of promoting hygiene and sanitation in villages.

In 2016, Sheila became the Country Team Leader for Interserve where she serves as the contact person for churches who would like to partner with Interserve to send out mission workers. When at home in Pakistan, Sheila is involved with women’s and children’s ministries in the church. She continued as a facilitator for Sharpening your Interpersonal Skills (SYIS) workshops. SYIS is a certified program designed to help full-time Christian workers to live and work together.

Bill is now the International Medical Advisor for Interserve.

Bill and Sheila have three children and are proud grandparents of five beautiful grandchildren.

