Annual Report 2016

"Your persistent support to the Bhutan Kidney Foundation in many ways has enabled us to fill the gaps and confront challenges head on. As a support group for the lives affected with renal diseases, the following pages detail the work we have buoyed through the prayers and support of our partner organizations, members, well-wishers and all the contributors".

RECEIPIENT

UTAN KIDNEY FOUNDATION

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1. BKF Profile

1.1. Vision:

To support and improve health conditions and overall well-being of kidney patients in Bhutan through promotion, prevention and curative measures thereby contributing towards Gross National Happiness.

1.2. Mission:

The Foundation strives towards ensuring quality health services for all kidney patients in Bhutan through appropriate interventions to enable them to contribute equally towards socio economic development of the country.

1.3. Objective

To review, reform, initiate and support policies, plans, programs and activities for promotion of overall wellbeing of renal patients in Bhutan and prevent other vulnerable Bhutanese from acquiring renal diseases.

2. About Bhutan Kidney Foundation

2.1. Profile

The Bhutan Kidney Foundation was established in 2012 under the patronage of **Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen, Jetsun Pema Wangchuck** with the principle purpose to function as a support group for the well-being of Renal (kidney-related) patients in Bhutan and enhance awareness of the general public on renal diseases in the country.

BKF is a registered Civil Society Organization as **Public Benefit Organization** as per the requirements of the Civil Society Organization Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan and a Board of Trustees governs it. The Foundation was registered on 15th August, 2012 corresponding to the 28th day of the 6th Bhutanese month of the Water Male Dragon Year with its registration number: CSOA/PBO-23.

After successful kidney transplant on 12th April 2006 and inspired by his past experience, **Mr. Tashi Namgay**, the brainchild of the Bhutan Kidney Foundation resigned from government job and fully committed his time devoting his service to the kidney patients guiding them in basic essential care which led to the formation of an informal group called Kidney Transplant and Dialysis Support Group (KTDSG) in 2007. The group comprised of 23 kidney transplant recipients. His conviction is precise, "Save lives for the wellbeing of all sentient beings." He strongly believes that everyone deserves a second life to live and embrace the "Gift of Life."

Activities such as counseling on dialysis, pre-transplant and talk on healthy lifestyle change to prevent non-communicable diseases were arranged on voluntary basis.

As many transplant patients were either government or corporate employees, managing time for those activities lacked attention. Therefore KTDSG couldn't accelerate further. In 2009, Tashi once again gathered all his perseverance; he decided to reenergize the social group solely to benefit underprivileged kidney failures.

In 2011, with immense support and guidance from His Majesty's Secretariat, a set of project documents was submitted to the Civil Society Organization Authority (CSOA) and on 15 August, 2012, the social group was successfully registered as Civil Society Organization under the name of Bhutan Kidney Foundation.

2.2. Our Thrust/Core Areas

As a support group to the lives impeded by kidney disease, the Foundation focuses on the following 4 core areas:

2.2.1. Awareness & Advocacy (Kidney Health & its issues in Bhutan) focusing on prevention and early detection.

- i. BKF in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;
- ii. Through BKF's network groups;
- iii. Through social medias and programme on National & local medias.

2.2.2. Counseling & Guidance

- i. On Acute Renal Failure cases and dialysis treatment;
- ii. On kidney transplant and legal procedures;
- iii. On dietary, healthy lifestyle and post transplant care.
- iv. Assist in providing access to health care services.

2.2.3. Patient Care & Support Programme

- i. Supply of grocery, toiletries and basic necessities at Patient Guest House in Thimphu & Mongar,
- ii. Travel Expenses during referral for treatment within the country as well as abroad;
- ii. Academic Expenses (Scholarship) for patients' school going children;v. Seed money for Home-Based Business (Livelihood Programme)

Note: The entire support programmes are made on verifying the need and genuineness based on the proposal received.

2.3. Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, chaired by the Chairperson, comprises of individuals from diverse professions and backgrounds.

The Board meets once quarterly to review and direct the programs of the Foundation. The members of the Board of Trustees serve for a term of three years, which may be renewed.

Activity Report 2016

Awareness & Advocacy 3.

(A measure to prevent through early detection and timely intervention)

3.1. World Kidney Day

With the fund support from Helvetas Bhutan, the Bhutan Kidney Foundation observed World Kidney Day on 10th March 2016 in Kanglung Primary School under Trashigang Dzongkhag, the largest district in the country from where the largest number of people seems to be affected.

Remaining with the event's theme "*Kidney Disease and Children: Act Early to Prevent It*", the programme covered an approximate 320 audiences comprising of 250 school children representing four different schools, 15 school teachers, 50 young adults from Sherubtse College and village Tshogpas representing the local government in Trashigang Dzongkhag.

Awareness tools such as a documentary films, posters, and statistics were used to inform the participants and educate on kidney health, disease and its issues in Bhutan.

An important part of the entire program, the awareness highlighted the rights of citizens to basic health services. Personal stories of people who were not aware of their basic rights in accessing services from hospitals, government and other institutions played a powerful modality of raising awareness.



3.2. Kidney Health Talk at Changzamtog Lower Secondary School, Thimphu



The BKF drew the attention of more than 600 students of Changzamtog Lower Secondary School in Thimphu on 18th March 2016 complimenting the school's weekly theme "Say No to Junk Food: Stay Healthy".

Remaining with the theme, the talk emphasized on the ill effect of junk food and health complication on the long run embedding the messages on kidney disease and issues.



3.3. Screening of documentary film "Kidney Health in Bhutan" in Laya.

As to show the presence of Civil Society Organizations and their capacities as a sector to bring changes in the society, the BKF joined 8 other CSOs representing the sector for the Royal Highland Festival in Laya, Gasa from 16th to 18th October 2016.

The Bhutan Kidney Foundation's participation in the festival came



with the invitation to create awareness of respective CSO activities, reach out to highlanders at grassroots level and to identify target groups for possible future projects and collaborations. The BKF organized awareness programme through talk on kidney health and screening of documentary film titled "Kidney Health in Bhutan" to the highlanders. The BKF's founder trekking for the festival as a kidney transplant recipient promoted physical activity and objectified possibility of leading normal life after kidney transplantation.

3.4. Facilitation of Basic Health Checkup during CSO Fair.

Exhibiting the Foundation's primary objective, the BKF raised awareness on kidney disease and issues by facilitating basic health check-up services such as Blood Pressure (BP), Random Blood Sugar (RBS) and Body Mass Index (BMI) to the guests and visitors at the fair on 6th & 7th November.



A total of 460 people availed the services out of which 70 people were detected to be living with high BP; 22 people with abnormal blood sugar level and 35 people suffering from obesity.

Those diagnosed with abnormal results were educated on the long term consequences and referred for timely treatment.





3.5. Observation of World Diabetes Day

The high diabetes cases reported in 2015 in Samtse Dzongkhag triggered Bhutan Kidney Foundation's attention compelling to intervene immediately to draw attention on the issues of paramount importance to the diabetes world and keep diabetes firmly in the public and political spotlight. The day was observed in Samtse General Hospital on 14th November 2016.

Key Messages Delivered

Act to Change your life: (Healthy eating is an important part of managing all parts of diabetes)

Act to Change the tomorrow: (Access to affordable healthy food is essential to reducing the global burden of diabetes and ensuring global sustainable development).

From the programme conducted, 10 diabetic patients diagnosed be living with kidney disease. Out of which 1 require immediate dialysis, 5 in chronic stage and 4 on acute stage. The BKF closely monitors these cases assisting that they have the access to services rendered by the Government (Ministry of Health)



Activities:

- ✓ The BKF talked on kidney health with messages on diabetes embedded in it;
- ✓ The Dzongkhag Health Officer educated the participants on WDD and its significances;
- A doctor and a Dietician presented on Diabetes and its risk factor and healthy balanced diet respectively;
- ✓ BKF's documentary film titled "Kidney Health in Bhutan" was screened to deepen the key messages delivered on diabetes.

Right & Access to Services

An important part of the entire program, the awareness highlighted the rights of citizens to basic health services. Personal stories of people who were not aware of their basic rights in accessing services from hospitals, government and other institutions played a powerful modality of raising awareness.

4. Networking & Partnership



Although the Foundation's network "BKF-Mongar" existed since 2015, the formal signing of Memorandum of Understating (MoU) took place on 13th January 2016 in Mongar.

The Network functions as a support group in the Eastern Bhutan to address the basic need of dialysis patients of Mongar Regional Referral Hospital.

5. Patients Care & Support Programmes

5.1. Counseling & Guidance

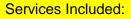
As the only Civil Society Organization in the country advocating on services and care for people with chronic kidney disease, the Bhutan Kidney Foundation (BKF) has relentlessly focused on advocacy, awareness and early detection programs for kidney patients and their families since its inception. Counseling has become the Foundation's most engaged activity on daily basis.

The BKF's involvement in facilitating access to treatment services, guiding and counseling patients and their families has been vital as 90% of the patients come from rural parts of the country with little or no knowledge on services available.

In parallel, the Foundation partners with the Ministry of Health and JDWNR Hospital to improve these access and strengthen the quality of care.

These counseling services and guidance played significant role in successful kidney transplant as we witness many families and relatives coming forward to save their loved ones living with kidney problem.

The Year 2016 recorded a total of 93 patients and their families who visited the Bhutan Kidney Foundation office to avail the services.



- Counseling on dietary, dialysis treatment and post transplant care;
- Sensitization on kidney disease, transplant and its significance and donor priority.
- Clearance letter to look for donor through medias;
- Clearance letter to raise fund for kidney transplant;
- Financial support.

5.2. Support at Patient Guest Houses

5.2.1. Support of Grocery & Day to Day Necessities:

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) patients under dialysis comprise 90% of the total occupancy at the Patient Guest House in Thimphu and Mongar. In absence of one's relative where dialysis facilities are available, undergoing long term treatment and meeting the ends need becomes very challenging and stressful for both the patients and their attendants.

The BKF actively intervenes in this area collaborating with its partners and networks established for timely supply and support of daily necessities.

BKF spent a total amount of BTN Nu. 24,600.00 for Home-Based Business to dialysis patients as a part of Livelihood programme.

> Together with the partners and volunteers, the Foundation spent a total of BTN Nu. 231,769.00 in 2016 for the support of groceries, green vegetables and toiletries at the PGH in Thimphu and Mongar. Individual patients were also supported based on the genuineness and need addressed



5.2.2. Livelihood Programme:

The past years saw great benefit out of the support on Home-Based Business for patients residing at the Guest House in Thimphu.

Interested and skilled patients/attendants are supported with seed money and materials to work on the products they are specialized at.

This project not only helps the patient generate income but immensely helps them in leading a normal life with reduced stress and burden out of the activities.

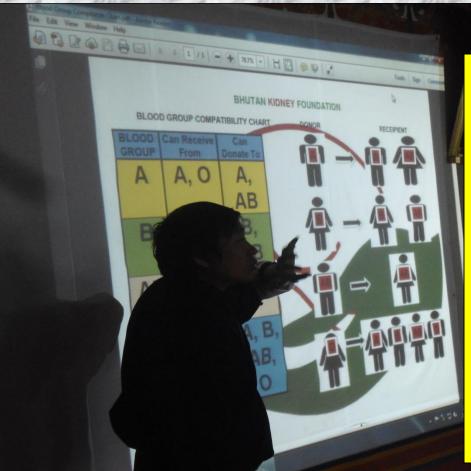
5.2.3. Children Academic Support

The BKF's support for patients' school going children highlights the Foundation's crucial intervention in the lives of families affected by the disease. Education becomes nearly impossible when the sole bread earner becomes the victim of kidney disease.

5.2.4. Synopsis of Patients Support 2016

Areas of Support	Amt. Spent with Partners (Nu.)	
1. Grocery Supply	275,409.00	The Provide P
2. Transportation Expenses	23,421.00	Transportation Expenses includ airfare during th
3. Treatment in India	70,000.00	review/treatment and loc
4. Semso	45,000.00	transportation for Mongar an Gelephu patients.
5. Children's Academic Expenses	4,000.00	
 Home-Based Business Support (Livelihood Program) 	24,600.00	Jus 42 8 Jus 4
7. Others	23,600.00	1 THE THEN THE
Total Expenses on Patient Support	466,030.00	Frend Frend





KIDNEY SWAP PROGRAMME

To address the issue of patients not being able to arrange/match kidney donor, the BKF organized "Kidney SWAP Programme" to:

- Promote and encourage more volunteer kidney donors (Blood related);
- Save lives through joint effort (Collaboration);
- Educate on Swapping procedures and significance;
- Peer support among the patients and families.

The activity enabled participants to understand clearly about the SWAPPING and its significance.

The forum witnessed HOPE in the eyes of Dialysis Patients and their families as the Foundation listed good number of cases for the swap possibility.

Celebration of BKF's 4th Anniversary

The celebration covered in all the three dialysis centers conducting common session on Renal Diet Education followed by cooking method and best practices for dialysis patients and their immediate attendants.

Practically demonstrating the procedures, the participants (Dialysis Staffs, patients and attendants and BKF) prepared food recommended for the patients on dialysis.

The importance and significance of restricting to the recommended diet is one instrumental step for dialysis patients in leading quality life. The program has been an effort to complement the past educational programs conducted for the patients and their attendants.



A total of 295 patients were consulted by the two Belgian Nephrologists in the period of 8 days.

Patients-Nephrologists Consultation Programme (12th – 21st April 2016)

Dr. Tom Cornelis and **Dr. Sven Smets** from Belgium visited Bhutan in 2013. Their short visit at the National hospital and dialysis unit in particular caught the duo's attention to revisit the country. Inspired immeasurably by the concept Gross National Happiness (GNH) and determined to augment it through their proficiency and free services, the Nephrologists' visit this time received immense support from His Majesty's Secretariat as a part of the King's Voluntary Project.

With the continuous guidance and support from the Office of Gyalpoi Zimpon, the Foundation in parallel partners with the Ministry of Health, JDWNRH, Faculty of Nursing & Public Health and other relevant



organizations to improve these access and quality of health care. Thus, the BKF played a lead role in facilitating eight days of consultation services jointly with JDWNRH.

	Тс	tal No.	of pts	. cons	ulted =	= 295		1-80
No. of pts. consulted	34	45	42	41	48	26	36	23
Date	April		April		10	April	April	April
Date	12th	13th	14 th	15th	1 gth	1 Qth	20 th	21st

	Cases Seen	Total	
1.	Transplant Recipient -	31	
2.	Dialysis Patients -	108	
3.	Acute Renal Failure -	131	
4.	Kidney Donor -	08	
5.	CKD stage II, III & IV -	17	
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6. Contribution by the BKF's Network Group

6.1	BKF – Zhenphen Jangsem Dhetshen
Date	Support Activities
07.01.2016	 Supplied Groceries worth Nu. 10,360/- at PGH, Thimphu for the celebration of Losar (Traditional Day of Offering).
08.01.2016	 Supported Nu. 13,000/- for the treatment of CKD patient Lhami Choden.
11.01.2016	Supplied 7 Room Heaters worth Nu. 8,442/- at PGH, Thimphu.
13.01.2016	 Supplied 5 Room Heaters worth Nu. 6,035/- at PGH, Mongar. Supplied 17 pairs of winter shoes and toiletries at PGH, Mongar
30.01.2016	 Supplied 28 pairs of winter shoes, toiletries, 140 balls of local cheese, 25 Kgs of red rice and 28 packets of processed milk at PGH in Thimphu.
06.02.2016	 Lit 1000 butter lamps, supplied red rice, local cheese and butter at PGH, Thimphu in celebration of His Royal Highness The Gyalsey's birth.
15.02.2016	 Sponsored the academic expenses of Yeshey Choden (daughter of CKD patient Yeshey Tshering for the year 2016.
09.02.2016	 Supplied 100 Kg of rice, 16 Kg of butter, 300 balls of cheese worth Nu. 22,400/- for the celebration of Losar.
17.03.2016	 Supported semso of Nu. 10,000/- to late CKD patient Tshering Lhamo.
22.03.2016	 Supported semso of Nu. 10,000/- to late CKD patient Thinley Wangchuk.
27.03.2016	 Supported Nu. 5,000/- to Mr. Dechen Dorji for his wife's review/treatment in India.
30.03.2016	 Distributed hand prayer wheels worth Nu. 80,000/- at PGH, Thimphu.
01.09.2016	 Supported semso of Nu. 10,000/- to Sangay Wangchuk.
09.09.2016	Supplied grocery worth Nu. 8,300/- at PGH, Thimphu.
12.09.2016	 Supported Nu. 15,000/- for the travel & accommodation expenses of Sri Jana Rai.
22.09.2016	Supplied grocery worth Nu. 10,000/- for the celebration of Blessed Rainy Day
21.10.2016	 Supplied bed sheets and jacket worth Nu, 24,369/- at PGH, Thimphu
11.11.2016	Supplied grocery worth Nu. 8,530/- at PGH, Thimphu
11.12.2016	 Financed BKF's need assessment tour in Gelephu Hospital.





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Date	Support Activities
10.03.2016	Coordinated the observation of World Kidney Day 2016 in Kanglung. good
30.09.2016	Conducted awareness on kidney disease at Zangdopelri, Kanglung.
01.10.2016	Conducted awareness on kidney disease at Barshong Dratshang in Khaling.
15.10.2016	Organized advocacy programme at Retshangdung Primary School, Kanglung.
30.10.2016 – 01.11.2016	Organized advocacy programme at Sakteng Lower Secondary School, Trashigang.

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7. Need Assessment in Gelepha

Of the three existing dialysis centers in Bhutan, Central Regional Referral Hospital (CRRH), Gelephu under Sarpang Dzongkhag is the only center with no shelter or a welfare house for the patients particularly for those undergoing dialysis.

Realizing an urgent need to intervene in this issue observed, the BKF contemplated and explored measures to address this problem through engaging various stakeholders and partners prioritizing as the Foundation's milestone for early 2017.

- A consultative meeting was organized between the BKF, BKF-ZJD and CRRH management comprising Medical Superintendent, Nursing Superintendent and dialysis staffs.
- A separate meeting with dialysis patients and their families/attendants was also organized to prioritize the need identified.

The meetings concluded a pressing issue of "Accommodation Problem" and found out that 1 out of 4 patients suffer extreme housing problem.

While some managed to depend on their relatives residing in Gelephu town, the nature of disease and its treatment leaded to live a difficult life. As a result of these issues, kidney patients who receive dialysis twice a week compromise their treatment requesting to reduce their dialysis frequency.

Measure Explored & Opportunity

- The BKF listed and registered genuine cases to be followed-up upon exploring prospective solutions;
- The BKF established a network in Gelephu comprising existing members of the Foundation's network BKF-ZJD. This network will remain as a point of contact and partner in the region to sustain the Patient Guest House proposed.
- As an immediate measure, Mrs. Chening Zangmo, a senior dialysis nurse of the GRRH offered a structure in her land as a shelter for the needy patients;
- A complete report from the need assessment was submitted to His Majesty's Secretariat as an appraisal for the genuine need of a shelter house for dialysis patients in Gelephu.

8. Recipient of National Order of Merit (Gold)

The BKF received "National Order of Merit (Gold) from His Majesty the King on 109th National Day Celebration on 17/12/2016 in Trongsa.



NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT (GOLD) BHUTAN KIDNEY FOUNDATION Granted by His Majesty The King on the National Day 2016

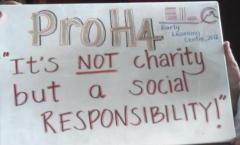
For volunteering time and effort towards promoting humanitarian values, our culture and tradition, and our national objectives; for working passionately and tirelessly for the benefit of others; for taking on the responsibility to provide support and assistance wherever the government is unable to reach, and for keeping alive the sacred values of compassion and empathy. The Early Learning Center (ELC) in Thimphu pledged to contribute a dialysis machine through their Citizenship programme "ProH4" (Project Helping Hand for Health & Happiness.



ProH4

was seeded in 2009 with the notion that "It's not charity but a social responsibility".

The BKF and ELC formally established the partnership in 2012





9. Members & Strength

2	Membership Type	Total
1.	Paid/Volunteer Member	71
2.	Welfare Fund (Monthly Contributor)	970
3.	Project "1 Ngultrum Initiative"	146
4.	Technical Volunteers/Member	40

2	Network Group	Total
1.	BKF - Zhenphen Jangsem Dhetshen	560
2.	BKF - Sherubtse	750
3.	BKF – Mongar	~ 7

10. Financial Statement

10.1. Income & Expenditure Statement

	Income	PO Box: Above Memoria Thimphu; E	al Choeten Bhutan I ture Statement		
1	Amoun	+ (NII)	Particulars	Amoun	t (Nu.)
Particulars	Amoun	1406555.88	Incomes		2300540.48
Expenses	0004 77	1400000.00	Bank Interest Income	36243.37	
Miscellaneous	9064.77		Donations	1330918.81	
Depreciation	8087.00		Grants From HELVETAS	225100.00	
Leave Encashment	30000.00		Membership Fees	14000.00	
LTC	25000.00		Welfare Fund	694278.30	
Office Rent	144000.00		Welfare Fund		
Patient Support Expenses	134421.00				
Postage and Mailing	2100.00				
Printing and Stationery	29675.00				
Professional Charges	5500.00				
Publicity and Advertisement	245041.52				
Salaries	588000.00				
Telephone, Fax and Internet	30514.59				
Travel and Mileage	130524.00				
	15000.00				
Wages	9628.00	_			
Water and Electricity Expenses	AMERICA	893984.60	0		
Excess of Income over Expenditure		2300540.48			2300540.4
Total			and the first of t		



Executive Director Bhutan Kidney Foundation Thimphu:Bhutan

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Programme Officer Photon Kidney Foundation

Assistant Acco nts

Officer Bhutan Kidney Foundation

10.2. Balance Sheet 6.00

	BH	PO E Above Mer Thimpl Balan	EY FOUNDATION Box: 448 morial Choeten hu; Bhutan ce Sheet to 31-Dec-2016		
Liabilities	Amour	nt (Nu.)	Assets	Amoun	t (Nu.)
Loans (Liability)			Fixed Assets		163521.00
Current Liabilities		2864.50	Computer and Peripherals	81166.00	
	2864.50		Furniture and Fixture	46859.00	
Duties & Taxes	2004.00		Office Equipment	35496.00	
Borrowings			Current Assets		1224475.12
Salary Payable			The second second second second		
Excess of Income over		1385131.62	Loans & Advances (Asset)		
Expenditure Opening Balance	491147.02		Cash-in-hand	5940.05	
	893984.60		Bank Accounts	1206535.07	
Current Period	00001.00		Advance Rental	12000.00	
Total		1387996.12	Total		<mark>1387996.1</mark> 2



Executive Director Bhutan Kidney Foundation Thimphu:Bhutan

Programme Officer

Assistant Accounts Officer Blutan Kidney Foundation

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11. 2016 in Review

SI.	Date	Activity/Programme/Events/Meetings
1.	10 th March	Observed World Kidney Day in Kanglung Primary School in Trashigang together with BKF's Network "BKF-Sherubtse".
2.	18 th March	Organized kidney health talk at Changzamtog Lower Secondary School in Thimphu.
3.	12 th – 21 st April	Organized Patients & Nephrologist Consultation programme with support from His Majesty's Secretariat.
4.	28 th April	Supplied groceries worth Nu. 15,000.00 on Zhabdrung Kuchoe at the PGH in Thimphu.
5.	4 th June	Celebrated BKF's patron, Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck's birth anniversary with Ability Bhutan Society and RSPN.
6.	15 th August	Celebrated BKF's 4 th Anniversary by organizing renal diet education for patients and attendants in all the three centers.
7.	16 th – 18 th October	Contributed to Royal Highlander Festival in Laya through BKF's participation and screening of documentary film titled "Kidney Health in Bhutan".
8.	20 th October	Organized Kidney SWAP Programme for patients and families to promote/encourage kidney transplant.
9.	6 th – 7 th November	Facilitated Basic Health Checkups to exhibit BKF's part of activity during the CSO Fair 2016.
10.	14 th – 16 th November	Observed World Diabetes Day in Samtse in partnership with Ministry of Health.
11.	11 th – 14 th December	Need assessment programme for dialysis patients in Central Regional Referral Hospital in Gelephu, Sarpang.
12.	17 th December	Received National Order of Merit (Gold) from His Majesty the King on 109 th National Day Celebration in Trongsa.



BILLINN KIDNEY FOUNDATION

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Website

Facebook