In search of Santosham...
abhaya Mission Santosh

Diseases do not differentiate the wealthiest/poorest, when it hits the poor...life would be a closure for the entire family even if disease attacked one. This is the story of Santosh (21) who suffered a debilitating brain bleeding (hemorrhage) on 6th September 2010. Santosh has lived through this harrowing experience, just fortunate enough to be alive and breathing – but a long way to go, as every day of his rest of his life will be equally a tough fight. God's grace and a host of generous souls have helped him along the way till now...abhaya has taken up this Mission!

Who is this Santosh... (as narrated by Sirkanth from WIPRO who is a relative of family)

S/o Sri N. Prasad (50) & Smt Sailaja belong to a poor family with an annual income below Rs. 48,000/- They live in Suraram, Jeedimetla, Hyderabad. He is the elder son, and he has a younger sister settled. Santosh's brother in law Hanumanthu works as a cable TV technician in Suraram. Both Prasad and Santosh have not continued their education beyond 8th standard. Prasad worked as a contract labor in a local chemical factory making 4,000/- a month and just a month before he had to undergo a major spine surgery in Osmania hospital and left the job. Santosh was getting about Rs. 3,000/- until last month and was the sole bread winner of the family.

5th September'10 – at 11 PM...Santosh has the brain hemorrhage

6th September'10 – Santosh gets an emergency surgery by Dr.TNRao (for a massive bleeding caused by a suspected Arterio Venous Malformation (AVM)/Aneurismal bleed – a rare brain disease) at Deccan Hospital, Somajiguda. (see the picture and This is how a brain bleed looks like – green arrows are blood. 

7th and 8th Sept’10 – Roller coaster ride for Santosh and Family: Santosh entered the second day of his ICU, and there is the drain tube still affixed, hands and legs are tethered to the side of the bed with cords to prevent involuntary pulling out of tubes of the ventilator and the automatic injection machines. It is a grizzly sightseeing... Santosh with tubes all over, face swollen, head swollen due to the operation and a body bereft of any response. The ICU doctor still maintains that his chances are slim unless he comes out of ventilator within the next 24 hours.

8th September'10 - Santosh responded to small voice commands with a weak moan. He is able to say back his name in a muffled voice. He is able to move his hands and legs slightly on command. He seems to be Alive! 

Crucial 3 days : 9th – 10th September – Santosh is responded positively.

11th September'10- Santosh hits a speed breaker -- he developed a fever due to some internal infection and had to be put on a dose of antibiotics as well. He cannot be discharged for further treatment if the fever persists.

16th September'10 - he moved around for small walks inside the general ward, he has begun to eat and drink and worked up a good appetite.

As the matter went beyond our imagination, alarmed other Wipro colleagues through internal emails and almost instantly started getting the responses. Kamesh and his wife Sailaja (Franklin Templeton) are the first to move off the block with their efforts. Prasad has borrowed money from here and there to pitch in with an initial bill of more than 60,000/-. Donations are came in small amounts as there was coordinating effort. Sailaja has managed to get 36,000/- in cash from FT for someone whom they don't even know !!

12th through 21st Sept – Santosh hangs in there to dear life: Recovery and treatment phase :

16th September'10 - Santosh’s has walked out alive after a harrowing 15 days at Deccan, he is discharged on 21st. The total expenditure on the first incidence of hospitalization – Rs. 2.5 Lacs. Paid in full with the support of my family, Santosh's family and through the generous contributions of friends and well wishers.
**The Long Road Ahead – Santosh’s struggle to get normal:** Over last two weeks Santosh is at home and is improving by the day. His voice is more controlled, memory recollect better and able to eat and drink reasonably normally. He is still confused at times and not able to identify same people and has to be assisted. Motions and urine are normal but sometime he goes in sleep. He is conscious for longer times and is able to mingle with his friends who come for visit to his house.

**Follow up CT Angiogram at Medwin on 30th September:**

As per advise of Dr. TNRao Santosh was admitted in Medwin hospitals on 30th September for an interventional CT angiogram (this is a study of blood vessels) –and this is how an AVM looks in the angiogram. Look at the noodles of blood vessels, any of them can bleed. Dr. J. Venkateshwaraulu a leading interventional radiologist after thorough diagnosis of the case he said that this has to be treated with procedures like Embolization (selective blocking of blood vessels feeding the AVM coil) and Gamma Knife Surgery (a highly advanced radiation therapy). This cannot be done in Hyderabad/AP and has to be attempted at NIMHANS, Bangalore!

This can run 3-4 Lacs of Rupees! And hence the need to expand our reach to other support organizations and friends to raise that kind of funds.

Dr TNRao advised for immediate treatment at NIMHANS, Bangalore and has given a reference letter to his colleague Dr. Narasinga Rao, who is a neurosurgeon at NIMHANS. The treatment is expected to start from 13th or 14th October 2010.

**Abhaya MISSION Santosh:** The moment abhaya come to know about this story...immediately handed over the cheque for an amount of Rs.25,000/- from its corpus fund and not only that last 24 hours abhaya also did the following:

Abhaya and its team prayed for his recovery. RED FM already aired an announcement today: Nani made it possible as per his word. Bharat volunteered to attend to all the calls regarding Mission abhaya Santosh...

Nishanth from abhaya also started working on this mission now...you may visit www.abhayaheart.blogspot.com.

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**Abhaya APPEAL:**

We are all trying to help out a poor family that is desperate to save a boy and themselves from this situation, and from what that boy went through on 6th to what he is now, it is sheer miracle of God, the hard work of the hospital staff and the awesome generosity of friends and family.... Please do what best you can for this family. There are so many more in India and in the World who need this help, so always pray that God be kind to choose YOU to be part of this...

**A lesson to all of us from this incident:**

Do not take anything for granted, keep mentally and financially prepared for emergencies and especially to help others. Life takes unexpected turns, so have a good set of handy friends to help you out!! They are your true assets....Little drops make an ocean...

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abhaya FOUNDATION, abhaya, 6-3-609/140/1, Anand Nagar, Khairatabad, Hyderabad-500004 and alternatively you can transfer the amount by TT / RTGS as per following Bank details.

Account No: SB-052210011051007 (all the 15 digits must be entered while transferring the funds to the foundation, else transaction would fail) we understand that some of you are mentioning only 5 last digits, now the system will not accept the transfer.