

Global investment managers, Baillie Gifford, supports UK based, international charity Lepra to help beat leprosy.

Baillie Gifford has been a corporate partner of Lepra since the inception of our Mental Motivator project in Bangladesh in 2019. Their support helped to launch the project, which aims to increase mental support to those affected by leprosy.

During the COVID-19 crisis, the work in our focus countries is under threat. Our teams are dealing with countrywide lockdowns, restricted movements and supply shortages.

The continued support of Baillie Gifford will allow us to assist our teams, ensuring that those under our care receive the life changing medication they need, along with social, economic and psychological support. We are actively engaged with local governments to participate in the research of COVID-19 and we continue to fundraise and work with our corporate partners towards this goal.

Those affected by leprosy are already subject to unfair prejudice and wide scale misunderstanding across the world. They are often excluded from communities and forced apart from their families and friends.

There is a danger that the current COVID-19 crisis will put those affected by leprosy into an even more vulnerable position. Access to healthcare services, mental health services and general economic support is limited.

Lepra is an evidence led charity and we work every day with some of the world's most vulnerable people. This kind of work would not be possible without continued support from our corporate supporters.

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For more information, please contact:

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Notes for Editors

About Lepra and leprosy

Lepra is a UK-based international specialist charity that has been working to beat leprosy since 1924. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II became Patron of Lepra in 1952, shortly after the death of her father King George VI, who had been Lepra's Patron since the charity was founded in 1924.

Leprosy affects over 7 million of the most vulnerable people in the world, causing life-changing disabilities and attracting terrible prejudice and discrimination. **But there is a cure.**

Lepra works to beat leprosy in India, Bangladesh, Mozambique and Zimbabwe by finding, diagnosing and treating people affected by the disease. By raising awareness, pushing for early detection and supporting people living with disabilities caused by leprosy, Lepra works towards a day when this disease no longer destroys lives.

Last year, the charity reached 301,000 people through diagnosis, treatment and care. It reached a further 1.7 million people through health education and events to raise awareness of leprosy and other neglected diseases.

Find out more about Lepra on its website and social media channels:

Website: www.lepra.org.uk

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LepraUK>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LEPRAUK/>

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LEPRAHinA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/LepraUK/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/lepra/>



We will beat
leprosy together