

From
HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO



KENSINGTON PALACE
LONDON W8 4PU

Dear Lepra Staff and Volunteers

28th July 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has created many challenges for everyone. As your Vice President, I have stayed informed of what Lepra has been doing to meet and overcome those challenges. Most impressive it is too.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank you for your work and unstinting energy over this period. It is admirable how you have not only maintained your work in India, the UK and Bangladesh, but combined it with new activities assisting with the COVID-19 situation.

At this point in our 96-year history, we have happened upon difficult times and it is no secret that charity income has suffered over this period. This has inevitably had an impact on salaries, hours, employment and your personal lives. It has been a very real struggle of altruism against the odds. That it has succeeded is because everyone at Lepra has pulled together and worked harder than ever. Indeed, over the last five months, everything has been done without complaint as everyone dedicated themselves to helping others selflessly, ensuring the most vulnerable receive professional and much needed assistance. Lepra has put those with leprosy, lymphatic filariasis and COVID-19 first, and yourselves second. This adds to my appreciation of the work you have been doing.

While no letter can fully convey my admiration for the way Lepra has worked through this period, I wanted to personally convey my thanks. Lepra is making the world a better place for everyone; six hundred people are achieving so much.

I am proud to be your Vice-President.

Yours sincerely
Richard