

# REPORT ON AWARENESS PROGRAM ON PALLIATIVE CARE

**District Community Development Programme (DCDP)**

**In collaboration with Palliative Care Unit, Baptist Christian Hospital, Tezpur, Assam**

**Date:** 18th February 2026

**Venue:** Bheluadanga, Karibil, Biswanath, Assam

**Time:** 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

An Awareness Program on Palliative Care was organized by the District Community Development Programme (DCDP) in collaboration with the Palliative Care Unit of Baptist Christian Hospital, Tezpur, on 18th February 2026 at Bheluadanga village, Karibil, Biswanath, Assam. The theme of the program was *"Caring Beyond Cure – Bringing Comfort, Dignity & Hope."*

Dr. Jerine and the palliative care team from Baptist Christian Hospital travelled approximately 50 kilometers from the hospital to conduct the awareness session. Bheluadanga village, with a population of 1,054 according to the 2021 census data, is a rural community where access to specialized healthcare services remains limited. Recognizing this need, the team reached out to educate and empower the local community about palliative care services.



A total of 32 participants attended the program. Most of them were village elders/ heads of the village, and helpers of community health workers, whose leadership and influence are vital in strengthening community-based healthcare initiatives. Their presence reflected the community's interest and willingness to understand and support palliative care services. The program began with registration and welcome, followed by an introduction to the concept of palliative care. Dr. Jerine explained the principles of palliative care, emphasizing the difference between palliative care and curative treatment.



The session highlighted the importance of early integration of palliative care in chronic and life-limiting illnesses to ensure comfort, dignity, and improved quality of life. Further sessions focused on addressing pain and symptom management, as well as the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of patients and their families. The team also discussed the role of family members, ASHA workers, self-help groups, and community leaders in supporting home-based care. An open discussion and question-answer session allowed participants to share their concerns, experiences, and practical challenges faced in caring for the sick and elderly.



The interaction was meaningful and participatory. Many elders expressed their appreciation for the clarity provided regarding home-based care and the availability of support from the hospital's palliative care team. The session concluded with a resolution to strengthen collaboration between the village leadership, community health workers, and the hospital team to ensure timely identification and referral of patients in need.

The awareness program successfully enhanced understanding of palliative care among community leaders and health volunteers. It also reinforced the commitment of Baptist Christian Hospital to extend compassionate care beyond hospital walls, reaching remote villages with comfort, dignity, and hope.

