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Dear Mr xxx

Project update: Research project focusing on end of life care perspectives of South Asians living in East London

Thank you for your continued support of this project. As field work has been continuing steadily since May 2008 I thought it would be helpful to update all of the organisations that have assisted me with the recruitment of participants for the project.

To date a total of 32 participants have been recruited to the study. All interviews, with each of the participants' permission, have been recorded and transcribed. Initial analysis is currently underway and will continue after the fieldwork stage is complete.

Although it is early days, the field work is producing fascinating data that will ultimately identify the individual and collective views of older South Asians on end of life care. Already there are indications that participants hold strong views about: the need for 'last days' to be 'dignified' and spent within a culturally relevant context; the need to accept uncertainty; living alone combined with ageing presents a number of challenges; and the need for greater access to information around end of life care issues.

Fieldwork will continue until December 2008, so I am likely to be in touch in the next month to organise further recruitment of potential participants and conducting interviews with those who have agreed to take part.

A full report of my study will be available after I have completed my doctorate but I hope to update participating organisations from time to time. Once again, I am grateful for the help you have provided me so far and I look forward to continued collaboration. This study would not have been possible without the assistance of organisations like yours.

Yours sincerely

Munikumar Ramasamy