

Updates January'2008

- Progress report for January'2008
- Summary of supply chain capacity building workshop
- Summary report on training of trainers for Girls Gaining Ground project

Progress for the month of January'08

The progress of the Alliance is summarized in the following paragraphs:

A. Strengthening the Government Systems

i. Day Care Centers:

Mr. Mundhe, Dy. Commissioner, ICDS along with Mr. Bhavane, CDPO, ICDS and representatives from Mumbai Mobile Creche, Nirman and BA visited the construction sites identified for piloting Day Care cum Anganwadi centres in Mumbai. These 3 sites are located in Sion, Chembur and Malad respectively. Three Anganwadi-cum Day Care centre are proposed to be operationalized for the children in construction sites in joint partnership of ICDS, Mumbai Mobile Creche and Bhavishya Alliance. A meeting between these partners and the CDPO's incharge is planned on 24th of this month to work out the operational details and discuss the way forward.

ii. Facility Based Care Centers:

39 facility based care centers which were set up in Dharni to address the nutritional and medical needs of severely malnourished children by health and ICDS departments during the monsoon period with the financial support from Tribal Welfare Department and unfortunately got closed due to insufficient funds will restart again. Now some more funds have been sanctioned by the Tribal Development Department to restart the centers.

B. Empowering the community

i. Promoting literacy

Tata Consultancy Services is working in partnership with the State Nutrition Mission and NGO's in setting up 40 computer adult literacy centres in Nasik. The idea behind promoting literacy among adults is the assumption that literacy among women will have positive impact on the nutrition status of children. These units will be provided with primers and computers, and the program will run in batches of 3 months. The centres will be linked with the adolescent girls program also. These centers could not be started yet because of absence of power back up as electric supply is irregular in these tribal villages. Proposal for providing funds for the same that was submitted to Tribal Welfare Department has now been approved and the centers will be starting soon. Out of these 40 sites, 39 were planned to be set up in Nasik and 1 in Thane. All these sites will be now located in Nasik as from operational point of view, 1 site in Thane would mean an additional Project Officer from Tribal Department as funds now will be channelised through respective project officers.

ii. Addressing the needs of the Adolescents:

The Girls Gaining Ground project has moved towards the implementation with the first phase of 10 days training of Master Trainers. The training of Master Trainers was held from 27th December 2007 to 5th January 2008 at Bhavishya Alliance office in Belapur. 27 Trainees from the 9 blocks /Urban Ward underwent this training programme. The training was imparted by a group of 3 trainers from SPARSH – Centre for Learning. Training details has been summarized in the later part of the newsletter.

ii. Supply Chain Management Strengthening

A 3 day residential workshop for the district level officials of Department of Health from Thane and Nasik was organized from 17th to 19th December at Nasik. This workshop was jointly organized by Department of Health and Hindustan Unilever Ltd. Biswaranjan Sen, General Manager, Supply Chain of HUL was the lead facilitator in the training.

The focus of the training was to improve availability of medicines at the PHC level through collective learning and strengthen the knowledge and the skills of functionaries. In addition to it, the training was also an opportunity for orientating the team of Health Officials from Thane to the initiative on strengthening the supply chain of medicines in Nasik. A summary report including recommendations from the training is mentioned in the following page:

C. Documentation

During a recent field visit to Amravati, 27 Creches were found to be operational in Dharni block. These crèches have been functioning since May'2007 and was initiated by an NGO (Sampoorna Bamboo Kendra) with support from Adim Jati Sewak Sangh. This initiative was a new discovery for the Bhavishya team.

The team feels that there are similar initiatives on the issue of child undernutrition by different organisations in the district which may not be known to all. Thus there is a need to identify these initiatives and document in the form of a district profile which will give a complete picture of the district in terms of nutritional status of children and help in identifying other areas where BA can add value.

District profile for all Bhavishya pilot blocks is being compiled and would be shared with the partners in the next issue of the 'Bhavishyavani'.

A SUMMARY REPORT ON SUPPLY CHAIN CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP HELD AT NASIK

A 3 day residential workshop for the district level officials of Department of Health from Thane and Nasik was organized from 17th to 19th December at Nasik. This workshop was jointly organized by Department of Health and Hindustan Unilever Ltd. Biswaranjan Sen, General Manager; Supply Chain of HUL was the lead facilitator in the training. 19 Mid level districts managers holding the portfolio of pharmacists, district, Taluka (block) health officers and data entry operator at the district level from Thane and Nasik participated in the training.

Mr. V. Ramani, Director General, State Nutrition Mission, Dr. Chahande, Divisional Commissioner, Nasik and Mr. Rajurkar, CEO Nasik graced the occasion by motivating the participants and highlighting the importance of reforms in the health system.

OBJECTIVE:

The focus of the training was to improve availability of medicines at the PHC level through collective learning and strengthening the knowledge and the skills of functionaries. Additionally, the training intended to identify the gaps and jointly create a way forward for effective supply chain of medicines based on the study at Nasik and recommendations. There was a visit to HUL Nasik factory for exposure to supply chain and analysis of live case studies as a part of the training.



Participants involved in business stimulation game to understand supply chain Management



Group discussion on district action plan/initiative

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DIFFERENT LEVELS SUGGESTED BY PARTICIPANTS

I. PHC LEVEL

- OPD registers to be analyzed to estimate demand every month (should be done by 4th of every month)
- By 5th of every month the demand should be placed to the district
- Expired list of medicines to be updated regularly
- The lead time (gap between demand estimation/placed and its replenishment) to be reduced to 15 days.

II. DISTRICT LEVEL

- Quarterly requirement to be send along with the annual requirement.
- Regular store inspection and FIFO to be maintained
- Buffer/ Safety stock to be maintained at all time
- Store space remains an issue
- Staggered procurement (Timing the procurement)
- To record the balance stock that need to be supplied to the PHCs
- Check unwanted supply to PHCs
- Manpower/ HR management

III. STATE LEVEL

- Requirements for the following year to reach 4 months in advance to the State.
- The fixing of the suppliers/ companies to be done in the beginning of the year
- The budget should be available at the beginning of the year.

IV. - POLICY MAKERS

- Formulate clear cut guidelines and policies
- Minimize/ control different directions coming from different offices are often confusing and often lead to delay and duplications.

At the end of the work shop participants debriefed the outcome and shared the next steps with Mr. Rajurkar, CEO, of Nasik District.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS FOR GIRLS GAINING GROUND PROJECT 27TH DEC 2007 to 5TH JAN 2008 (A SUMMARY REPORT)

The girls gaining project has moved towards the implementation with the master trainers training programme. The training of Master Trainers for GGG was held from 27th December 2007 to 5th January 2008 at Bhavishya Alliance office in Belapur.

27 Trainees, 2-3 per block from the 9 blocks /Urban Ward participated in the training. Trainers for N ward and 8 blocks viz Mokhada, Surgana, Triambak(Harsul pocket), Dhadgaon, Dharni, Chikaldhara, Dhanora and Mulchera

represented by organisations SNEHA, Arohan,NSSS, Vachan,DIRA, Ashray Sewabhavi Society, KHOJ, Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi respectively underwent this training.

The complete training module is for 20 days which would be done in 2 phases of which this was the first phase. Following this training the each team of 2-3 Master trainers per block will train facilitators for improving their knowledge and skill levels enabling them to work with the adolescent girls at the village level.

The training was imparted by Sharmila Malgunkar, Reshma Desai and Renuka Patil from the SPARSH – Centre for Learning.

Through sets of exercises and games, the training covered the follow topics over a period of 10 days –

1. Lifecycle
2. Adolescent Age – The turning point
3. Girl Child – Exploring the Gender Differences
4. Home and Family
5. Sex and Gender
6. Marriage – Is it my Destiny?
7. Care during Pregnancy, Spacing and Nutrition
8. Needs and Rights
9. Unity and Leader
10. What is Development?

On the last three days participants were divided into groups of 3 and they facilitated the sessions. After each presentation, participants shared comments around the content, delivery of the key messages, training methodology and the coordination between the trainers after each session.

At the end of the 3 days, it was felt that since there was a difference in the levels of participants, while there many participants who could move ahead with the block level trainings, a few participants might have to go through another round of training where they not merely participate as trainers but also facilitate a few sessions so that they become more confident.



RUKHMINI...A LIVE STORY OF THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS

A remarkable difference seen with the new participants some of whom were adolescent girls themselves. For example, Rukhmini came from village Mendha in Dhanora block, Gadchiroli. Rukhmini had completed class X and has been involved in some developmental activities in the village. However on the first day, she was very quiet, slightly withdrawn and unsure. On the 8th day, when she facilitated the session, her confidence had touched a new level and the way she facilitated the discussion and involved the group, answered the questions not only with great ease but also with her own experience and insights of the community life. It was a

live example of what an intervention with Adolescent could achieve.

In the end, the trainers helped the participants understand the action planning phase that they should do with the facilitators of the programme at the village level. This helped bring more clarity on how one session could be conducted at village level.

The participants also coined a new name for the Girls Gaining Ground Project in Marathi. They called it “**Gheu Bharari**” or “Let's Take Off”.

If you have any feedback, suggestions or contributions, feel free to write to Sangeeta Dasmohapatra at sangeeta@bhavishyaalliance.org.in or sangeetadm@yahoo.com Ph: +91-22-39833605