

DREAMCATCHERS VOL III

JANUARY-MARCH 2019

JAN SEVA

A unit of SICW, Jan Seva (Service to the Community) is a non-profit organization. Services include an Early Childhood Care and Education Programme for underprivileged children between 2-6 years that provides free education, nutrition and health checkups. The 'Udaan' (Soaring High) Project offers similar services for children with disabilities and their families. Jan Seva also runs programmes like Adult Literacy, Computer Literacy and Vocational Training for the mothers and students who have dropped out of school. The aim is to empower young women and girls through self-employment. A Community Health Programme (CHP) is offered, the main aim of which is to protect and improve the health of the families in the community.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Hello Friends,

As we emerge from our festival of colours (Holi) and step towards Easter, it gives me great pleasure in sending out greetings to each and every one of you who have always stood by us. I am happy to announce that our Jan Seva community service involving home visits, counselling and medical aid has had a rewarding impact and has shown good results. Regular intervention provided by us has brought remarkable changes in the children in the Early Childhood Care and Education programme and with those with special needs using the 'Udaan' (Soaring High) programme.

The success of Jan Seva is due to the combined efforts, dedication and teamwork of my colleagues and staff and continued support from our sponsors. My heartfelt thanks go out to them, and to you.

Zarin Dadina

JAN SEVA NEWS

CELEBRATING KNOWLEDGE



On 9th Feb 2019, Jan Seva celebrated the worship (puja) of Saraswati, the Goddess of knowledge, music, art, wisdom and learning. The children and the teachers decorated the Saraswati Idol with their paintings and craft work. Everyone in the organisation was involved in the 'puja'. The staff and the children invoked the Goddess' blessings and enjoyed a special lunch of rice and lentils cooked with vegetables (khichudi).

HOLI



A celebration of the colours of spring and the power of Good over Evil, Holi was celebrated on 20th March 2019. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they played with powdered colours, supervised by their teachers. Sweets and toffees were distributed to the children.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMME (CHP)

Home Visit- Students of the University Of Minnesota School Of Public Health visited a family in the community, accompanied by the members of the CHP Team. There they discussed the socio-economic status and occupational pattern of the households, and hygiene condition of the area.



Training on Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012- West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBSCPCR) organised a one-day Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop on Protection of Child Rights and POCSO in schools and institutions. The session provided a comprehensive review of the roles and responsibilities of Steering Committee members to undertake campaigns and awareness programmes on the POCSO Act 2012 in schools.



Case Study: During a home visit, the CHP Team found a 16 year old girl who had been forcefully married off to a man nine years senior. The girl was class 8 dropout. Her family monthly income is 156 U.S Dollars. Her father works as a labourer and mother as a maid. The girl was mentally abused and was not satisfied with her marriage. The team counselled her regarding child rights and laws related to child marriage, and on problems due to early childhood pregnancy, family planning methods and measures for health safety. The girl was motivated to continue her education so she can be more self-reliant in future. Follow up of the case was done, where the girl has got admittance into class 9 and is also participating in a tailoring course.



Follow up (Family Planning): In March 2019, the CHP team conducted a follow up session on Family planning in Rajdanga with 15 women participants. The team observed 10 participants had attended the previous session and 5 participants were new. 13 respondents improved their knowledge about family planning 13 of respondents improved their knowledge about Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD). 14 use condoms for family planning and to prevent Sexually Transmitted Diseases. 13 of the women were satisfied with the session.

Parenting: In March 2019, the CHP team conducted an awareness programme on nurturing infants in Ruby (Canal side) with **18** women participants and **10** children. The team discussed different topics such as problems concerning infants like; Failure to thrive, Constipation, Food refusal, Vitamin and Mineral deficiency, and Food allergy. A short term evaluation was done, the team observed **16** respondents had correct responses and **15** of respondents found the session helpful and appreciated the team to share valuable information because there were **3** infants present.



GLIMPSES OF CHP



Udaan (Soaring High)- A COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



Parent-Teacher Meeting on 1st March, 2019
 13 parents attended the meeting. S's mother appreciated the cognitive development of her child, who can now communicate his class activities at home. P has limited functional speech but can now read, write and comprehend single words.

'Udaan' Achiever: SG, 9 years
 SG was admitted to 'Udaan' in 2014 with Down's syndrome, lacking verbal communication skills. After 5 years of continuous intervention leading to an overall development of the child in academics, activities of daily living (ADL), cognitive, social and communication skills, SG has joined a new school, 'Morning Glory'. He is happy and attends his school regularly.



Physiotherapy
 'A' could initially walk with hand support. After Physiotherapy for the last six months in 'Udaan', his balance has improved and he can now take a few steps without any support. He is enjoying his mobility thoroughly and has no desire to sit!

Speech Therapy
 Six months of speech and language stimulation has made 'A' develop her eye contact. The Speech Therapist conducts Oro-motor exercises and encourages vocalizations of vowel sounds. Now she can identify some of her body parts.





Twice a week Community 'Mother and Child' Clinics
310 patients were treated with free medicines and were provided medical consultations between January to March 2019. The clinic has become popular and is attracting new patients.

GLIMPSES OF 'UDAAN'



ECCE (EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION)



63 new children were admitted in Jan Seva in this quarter. Their attendance is very regular and they happily attend their classes.

113 children were included in the Polio Immunization Programme conducted by the Kolkata Municipality Corporation.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING



More than 20 women were enrolled in the Vocational Training Unit from the beginning of 2019. These women expressed their interest in learning knitting and stitching. In spite of their household work they regularly attended the knitting/stitching sessions. The items made are dress materials, coasters, cushion covers, bags, school uniforms, door mat, towel embroidery etc.



Glimpses of ECCE



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