

Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline

Narrative Report from 1st April 2022- 31st March 2023

Visit of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir to Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Shri. Pandering Kangbarao pole, visited Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education running under the Aegis of Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara. Shri. P. K pole interacted with the students and staff of the school. It is pertinent to mention that zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara has been established by Javed Ahmad Tak who was recently awarded with Padma Shri by the President of India.

Shri. P. K pole appreciated the role of Teachers and the founder of school. He gave instructions to district administration to extend every sort of help to the institution and sanctioned a plot of land for the sports and games activities for persons with Disabilities. Additional Deputy Commissioner Anantnag and tehsildar Bijbehara were also accompanying the visiting officer.

Shri. P.K pole visited the class rooms and interacted with one on one with students, staff and other non-teaching staff of zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education. Shri P.K.Pole further added that all support will be provided to persons with Disabilities and they will be given opportunity to participate in nation development processes.

Javed Ahmad Tak requested Div. Com that an order may please be issued that all revenue authorities should issue the income certificates in favour of persons with Disabilities on basis of their personal income and not on basis of their family income, so that the persons with Disabilities can be covered under various schemes. Shri. P. K pole agreed to issue a notification in this regard. Various parents of children with Disabilities also met Divisional Commissioner and requested him to provide safe transportation facilities in areas of Achabal, Qazigund, pahalgam routes, Div. Com assured of taking steps in this connection.



Arbor Day Celebrations

On eve of National Arbor Day, Humanity Welfare Organisation helpline organized a plantation drive within the school campus i.e. Zaiba Aapa institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara on 28th April 2022. The special children under the supervision of their teachers planted scores of flower and ornamental plants in the planters and later on placed them around the periphery of ramp. The main objective of arbor day celebrations was to increase the awareness among children about the vital role of plants/trees on our climate.

Amidst all the excitement, children participated actively that turned the day unique and important. Starting from preparing the soil, adding natural fertilizers to planting and watering the plants, each and every step was carried out by these special children.

The arbor day celebrations has highlighted the importance and value of greenery in the biodiversity and the same was explained to the children.

The day was marked with an oath taking ceremony and a pledge was taken by one and all to plant more trees in the surrounding thereby protecting the environment.



Visit of Ex-Vice Chancellor Islamic University of Science and Technology Awantipora

On 14th April 2022, Prof. Mushtaq Siddiqi Ex-Vice Chancellor Islamic University of Science and Technology along with his wife visited Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline. Mr. Adil Rashid Vaid Chief Functionary Officer warmly welcomed the duo and introduced them about the services offered by the organisation towards mankind and Persons with Disabilities in particular. Mr. Javed Ahmad Tak (Honorary Chairman HWOHL) briefed Mr. and Mrs. Siddiqui about the timeline and the developmental stages of the organisation.

A little tour of the organizational infrastructure was arranged for the visiting officers and they were fascinated with fully accessible infrastructure raised. Mr. and Mrs. Siddiqui highly appreciated the efforts of Mr. Javed Ahmad Tak (Honorary Chairman HWOHL) towards the welfare of Persons with Disabilities. Meanwhile, they interacted with the children and teachers and took a note of educational and rehabilitation services available for Children with Disabilities. Furthermore, a meeting was held with the organizational administration and assured them of greater help. Simultaneously, a donation cheque was handed over Mr. Javed Ahmad Tak (Honorary Chairman HWOHL) as a token of appreciation for continuing their good work for the up-liftment of Disable fraternity.



Visit by Justice (R) Husnain Masoodi

Justice (R) Husnain Masoodi Parliament Member visited Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir. He inspected all the classrooms and took overview of functioning of the institution. He interacted with various children with hearing and speech Disabilities and got to know about the sign language used for communication. Justice Masoodi interacted with staff of zaiba Aapa institute and inquired about their role in teaching and rehabilitation of children with different disabilities enrolled in the institution. The staff gave their feedback and expressed their satisfaction while working for the overall development of children with Disabilities.

Later on, talking to parents and stake holders of the institution, Justice Husnain Masoodi said that he is highly satisfied with overall functioning of the institution under leadership of Javed Ahmad Tak. He expressed his gratitude to visit the institution which is disable friendly and accessible to all types of persons with Disabilities. Justice Masoodi said, he will visit the institution again and will chalk out how more support could be extended for development of the institution in order to empower more children with Disabilities belonging to south Kashmir.



Awareness Programme on Disability Rights, Life skills & Child Rights

On 22 April 2022, Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline organized two separate awareness programmes on "Disability Rights, Life skills & Child Rights". The staff of Zaiba Aapa, Team member of Childline Anantnag and UNICEF project team Referral and Field coordinators conducted the awareness sessions. In the Inaugural session the students and staff of Government Girls Model Higher Secondary school Bijbehara attended the programme. Imtiyaz Ahmad, Childline Anantnag team member gave awareness about the functioning of Childline. He said it is easy to define a child by his / her age that is from 0 years to 18 years and stressed upon the need to protect the rights of children including right to Survival, right to Development, Right to participation and right to Protection. Imtiyaz Ahmad defined all the objectives of Childline and said any child in distress directly or indirectly can approach to toll free number 1098.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary chairman Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline gave an overview of Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016. He said every child with disability has capability and capacity that needs to be explored by parents, caregivers, teachers, physiotherapists, other rehabilitation professionals. He said that education of PWDs shall be prioritized for their independent living. He said that education is not only degree or qualification but the overall development through activities of daily living. When a child with disability can live an independent life, by performing daily living like ablution, brushing teeth, bathing, identifying his own clothes and other belongings and changing own clothes, maintaining discipline, working individually and performing in group activities means a lot for children with disabilities, Tak added.

Humaira Jan and Rifat Jan demonstrated how children with intellectual disabilities are trained to know the concept of shapes, colours, concrete ideas about things around us. In addition the staff demonstrated what techniques are adopted to make the children with disabilities independent and live a life without waiting for others to come for the help or rescue.

Shazia Akhter also demonstrated how children facing hearing and speech disabilities are given education through sign language. Two students Aliya Jan and Misbah Jan demonstrated how they read and write A to Z Alphabets in sign language and was also visualized by the students.

Rayees Ahmad Dar gave overview of life skills and involved the students in different activities. Tajamul Islam also engaged students in breathing exercise and Chinese whisper activities. He said that effective communication is highly important and ineffective messages and communication breaks down and creates huge gaps inside groups. Both the coordinators gave overview of CFS / ARC functioning and defined how youth can develop life skills; utilize them for leading prosperous life.

The vice principal of the Institution moderated the programme along with various staff members. Gifts were distributed among the children with disabilities by Faculty members of Government Girls Higher Secondary School Bijbehara. Whole staff of Girls Higher Secondary School said that follow up programmes and other activities will be conducted to boost the morale of children with disabilities.

Another programme was held at Higher Secondary school Boys Bijbehara, a session full of emotional scenes was conducted on same lines. On the occasion whole staff and students of 9th class participated in the programme in presence of Principal Nasreena Akhter.

In the inaugural session Javed Ahmad Tak gave overview on Disability Rights. He said every child has right to get quality education. When we can train the animals and parrots to speak and count why one cannot teach and train children with disability. He said all students have role to

extend helping hand towards students with upper limb disabilities, students with blindness and having very low speed in writing. He stressed on remedial classes for children with disabilities. We cannot remove any disability and hurdles from the life of persons with disabilities by changing their names. He stressed that society should focus on education and overall development of persons with disabilities so that they can live an independent life and become donors not receivers.

An ability show of students with hearing and speech disabilities and Intellectual disabilities was demonstrated by the teachers of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education.

Nazir Ahmad one of the staff members gave vote of thanks and Mrs Nasreena Principal in her closing remarks assured that Higher Secondary School Boys will always provide platform for child and disability rights programmes. She said financial support will be extended towards development of Zaiba Aapa Institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara so that students with disabilities will be benefited for attaining long term goals. She appreciated the role of founder of humanity Welfare organization Helpline for running advocacy programmes and providing educational and rehabilitation services to these children.



Exposure Visit of Children with Disabilities

On 14 May 2022, the staff of Zaiba Aapa institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir took around 80 students for outing programme. Children with different disabilities viz Intellectual Disabilities, Visual Disabilities, Orthopaedic Disabilities, Hearing and speech Disabilities, Children facing severe cerebral palsy and spinal cord injuries, wheelchair users were taken for outing. Apart from sports activities the children were engaged in music activities and play for peace activities. Whole staff participated actively and involved the children as well.

The main aim of the outing activity was to give children with Disabilities a leisure time and interact with nature. The children were jolly and looking free from agonies. The staff decided to take the children for picnics and outings every Saturday during the summer season. In future trips staff decided to introduce new activities so that children can give vent to their inner feelings.



Program on Curriculum Frame Work for Concrete Inclusive Education

NCPEDP organised a programme on Curriculum frame work in which National Disability Network partners took part and put their suggestions for concrete inclusive Education and attention towards early childhood care and education, Teacher Education, Adult Education curriculum framework. The policy document thus prepared by disability sector will be shared to NCERT in order to prepare Implementation process for National Education policy 2020. Honorary chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Kashmir who is state partner of National Disability Network in India participated in the programme.



DORAI Foundation Chennai awarded Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman HWOHL with Syayam Sidhi Award

DORAI Foundation Chennai awarded Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara with Syayam Sidhi Award. The Award was presented to Mr Javed Ahmad Tak in an extra ordinary function organised at Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Kashmir. Dr. Sumithra Prasad Founder DORAI Foundation presented Award and special flower vase painted by Sai centre students Chennai. She expressed her absolute pleasure and honour to be at HWOHL Office. She shared her experience when she was introduced to the Organisation back in 2009. She expressed the current scenario of Disability Sector that has evolved so organically, one great example is of Javed Ahmad Tak and his Team who has worked towards the development of PWDs. She further stated that Javed has proved his determination and commitment by establishing Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline which is now highly credible and popular organisation advocating for the rights of persons with Disabilities since 2000. Javed despite facing high grade challenges overcame all the hardships and became role model for lakhs of persons with disabilities across the globe. Javed Ahmad Tak is a well-known personality in India whose exemplary work in the upliftment of disability sector is known to all. Therefore, Syayam Sidha Award was presented to him in recognition of his work for empowering persons with Disabilities in Jammu and Kashmir.



Meeting with Chief Medical Officer Anantnag regarding the support of Health department to disability sector

On 27th may 2022, a high level meeting was organised with Chief Medical Officer Anantnag in his office chamber in which representatives of Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara Kashmir and ministerial staff of Chief Medical office Anantnag participated.

Following points were discussed in the meeting

- Early identification and intervention of new born babies having some physical Disabilities and after proper scanning of children with Disabilities to check the invisible disabilities if any.
- Organising awareness cum sensitization of ASHA workers, so that pregnant ladies and lactating mothers can take measures to save their babies from disabilities.
- The shifting of medical board to GMC, so that persons with Disabilities don't face issues of transport and reasonable accommodation in Kamad Where currently CMO office is located.
- The presence of all specialists in the medical boards on every Wednesday, so that persons with Disabilities get hassle free disability certificates.
- The awareness and sensitization among medical board members, so that only deserving persons with Disabilities get certificates on timely basis.
- Designation of doctors in all hospitals who can seal and sign railway concession certificates, prosthetic aid forms and other forms needed to be filled time to time.
- The steps to be taken for complete stoppage of fake disability certificates, so that rights of persons with deserving disable are safeguarded.
- Outreach programmes of health check-ups to be conducted in far-flung areas of district Anantnag in which the population of disability is high
- The visit of chief medical officer and staff to zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara where children with different types of benchmark Disabilities seek education
- The children victim of abuse and punishment should be given priority treatment and their privacy should be maintained.



Sports Activities for Persons with Disabilities

On 06 June 2022, Youth Services And Sports Pulwama organised a cricket tournament of 6 Districts possessing 8 teams of orthopaedic Disabilities. All the teams played first knockout matches

- PULWAMA A and B 2 teams
- SHOPIAN A and B 2 teams
- Kulgam A and B 2 teams
- Anantnag 1 team
- Srinagar league 1 team

First meeting was played between Shopian (A) Vs Pulwama (A) where Shopian won the toss and elected to field first. Pulwama touched the score of 81 at loss of 10 wickets in 10 overs. Shopian touched the score of 82 at loss of 2 wickets in 6 overs. Thus Shopian won the first inning match and another side among Srinagar vs Anantnag match Anantnag won easily.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara Kashmir was present as the chief guest on the occasion. He said sports and games don't have anything to do with body fitness. Anyone can play and show their talent only when opportunities are given. The rights of persons with Disabilities Act 2016 fully define the accessible and inclusive sports.

On 8 June 2022, Zaiba Aapa cricket club won the trophy after beating Srinagar in Knockout Match followed by defeating Shopian B in Semi-final and Kulgam tigers in finals. On the final day of tournament two semi-finals were played and final match was played between Anantnag and Kulgam. The trophies were distributed among winner and runner up teams. Every player was given a necklace medal.

Talking on occasion chief guest Javed Ahmad Tak, said that teams which participated in the tournament is the winner. The trophies are given only for encouraging the players who surface as best talented. Only comparisons force us to judge. Disability is ability to perform, Tak added. He thrust that government should give maximum opportunities to persons with Disabilities to perform better in sports activities.



Inclusive Sports Festival

On June 09, 2022, Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline Bijbehara Kashmir organized day long sports programme for disable and non-disable children together. Around 180 students from different schools and out of school children participated in the sports festival. Principal Government Degree College for women Anantnag along with Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara inaugurated the event. Games like Cricket, Chess, Tug of war, Carrom, Badminton and Athletic event were played

Speaking on the occasion Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline Bijbehara appreciated the role of organisers for conducting the event. He said games and sports inculcate discipline among all humans. Games are stress Busters and are needed for overall body development. Earlier stereotypes and biases are linked with children with Disabilities. Body fitness is no way eligibility for participating in games and sports, therefore children with disabilities are not given the opportunities otherwise children with disabilities possess heavy capabilities. Tak Added He referred to Rights of persons with Disabilities Act which mandates equal opportunities and inclusive sports with all facilities for children and sports persons with Disabilities

Principal Degree College for Women Anantnag Professor Dr Irfan ul Majeed appreciated the role of Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline Bijbehara and said that she is mute to describe the talent that children with disabilities possess. She applauded the role of teachers, sports persons and instructors who guided the children with disabilities to enhance their capabilities.



Exposure Visit for Students of ZAIIE

On 18-06-2022, students of Zaiba Appa Institute of Inclusive Education facing severe disabilities were taken for outing by the school administration. The staff had a lot of plans for the outing but due to heavy rains, the plans were amended. Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary chairman Humanity Welfare Organisation approached the Director of Tourism Dr Ghulam Nabi Itoo, who cordially answered the call and directed Tourist officer Mirza Sibgatullah Beigh to facilitate the students and staff to occupy the Tourism Hut and take shelter in a conducive and jolly environment. Although it was a picnic in custody but tourism staff posted at Achabal made a day for the whole team. The students enjoyed in the tourism hut. Everything was offered in a clean atmosphere.

We thanked the whole tourism staff especially Aijaz Ahmad sofi and security staff who extended all the possible support. The students feel over-joyed and left the hut with great remembrances in their hearts and minds.



Awareness Program with Asha Workers on Disability and Child Rights

On 04 July 2022, a high level awareness on Disability and Child Rights was organised by Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline in collaboration with District Programme office Anantnag and Spreading smiles Ahmadabad. Around 40 ICDS workers from Bijbehara project participated in the awareness programme. Sessions on child Rights was hold by Ms. Iqra Wani who is working as cluster Coordinator with UNICEF sponsored Child friendly spaces and Adolescent resource centres. Iqra gave awareness about basic child Rights, which include Survival, Development, Protection and Participation. She focussed on the safeguard all these rights in favour of children with Disabilities without any bias or prejudice. Mohammad Shamim rehabilitation officer gave awareness on linking adolescent girls with various schemes and run by skill development, Entrepreneurship development and women's development corporation.

In another session awareness team of CRC Mr Rouf, Ms Qurat and Mr Irshad conducted sensitization on Mental health helpline 18005990019, Accessible India campaign Application and formation of UDID unique Disability identification card. The ICDS workers were given full information about these focal points where persons with Disabilities can be connected.

In another session Childline Anantnag team Nazrul Islam and Mr Sujahat demonstrated how 1098 childline comes to rescue of children including children with Disabilities. They said 1098 is running 24 hours and anyone on behalf of child or child himself can call to register his views, grievances, threats, and weaknesses and can ask for help and cooperation. Childline team will help out with a solution or linkage.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline who himself is a person with disability a wheelchair user said that ICDS workers have been working selflessly at grass root level. They should maintain the proper record of children with disability and counsel the parents not to hide but to give proper information.



Medical Check-up Camp

Humanity welfare organization Helpline Bijbehara Kashmir in collaboration with better hope NGO Magam Baramulla organised a day long Medical check-up for children with Disabilities of Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education. Around 150 children with different disabilities were checked by four specialists and free medicines and other requirements like sanitary pads for the girls were distributed.

GMC ANANTNAG had deputed two specialist's Nero physician and psychiatrist viz Dr Sheikh Nawaz and Dr Pinky while as Better hope NGO brought gynaecologist and General physician. All the children with Disabilities were accompanied by their parents. Child line team and staff of Zaiba Aapa institute volunteered for the programme.

Talking on the occasion Better Hope NGO representative Advocate Adil from Magam appreciated role of Zaiba Aapa staff. He said children with Disabilities enrolled at Zaiba Aapa are highly developed and empowered children. They have achieved maximum goals of development and have been living a perfect life. The staff and administration has worked very hard to make the lives of children better.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline said that organisation is committed on its vision of seeing the disability sector living active and purposeful life. In every quarter organisation take efforts to check the status of health of children with Disabilities. So that apart from Disability no other difficulty or unhealthy condition creates hurdles in their lives. The parents of children with Disabilities should take efforts to keep these children disease free so that they can live a life with dignity and stress free.



Minutes of Parent Meeting

A high level parental meeting was held at zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara. The main objective of the meeting was to sensitize parents about rights of children facing disabilities.

In the inaugural speech Adil Rashid vaid Administrator of Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education said that every parent should take his child seriously and co-operate with school administration to bring up the child and minimise his disabilities. He said parental role is highly important and there is no other option at the place of parent. He advised parents to visit school occasionally in order to take the updation about his child's development and challenges. Adil Rashid told parents to give priority to maintain health and hygiene of the children.

The founder of zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir Javed Ahmad Tak suggested parents to engage children in socialization. He further dded to refrain from calling them with bad names or highlight their disability in any matter. He gave focus on personal hygiene and suggested parents to only guide their children in activities of daily living and not to make them any way dependent. He also suggest parents to give opportunities to every child at home to do routine work but keep eye on child if he or she is anyway in threat or risky situation. Trust your children and never deal them with bad attitudes.

Zahida Hamid Shah Rehabilitation psychiatrists advised parents to trust in special educators of zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir and take collective efforts with the staff to ensure IEP is implemented and better results are acquired.

On 4th October 2022 another Parental meeting was organised at Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir regarding the start-up of vocational training for adults with Disabilities. Around 15 parents participated and promised to support the project. The adults with disabilities will be given fruit and vegetable preservation training and making of paper bags. All the parents signed consent form in this connection. The vocational training will formally start from 19th foundation year of Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline.



Medical check-up for Children with Disabilities

Humanity welfare organization Helpline Bijbehara in collaboration with 90BN CRPF held a medical check-up in favour of children with Disabilities and old aged. Around two hundred patients were given free medical aid. Around 20 children dependent on medicines of epilepsy and cerebral palsy issues were given free medicines on complementary basis. Earlier 90BN CRPF second in command officer, and other officials had visited the institution and identified such children. The parents of these children were not in a position to afford such medicines due to high cost thus CRPF officials of 90BN along with doctors collected the details of medicinal needs and purchased such medicines and today delivered these medicines to the children.

Apart from this Doctors of Sub District hospital Bijbehara and team of paramedics from the CRPF 90BN assessed local old aged and persons with Disabilities along with patients from poor backgrounds. Community health officer SDH Bijbehara Block Medical Officer Bijbehara, second in command 90 BN CRPF and Chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline were signatories present on the occasion.

On behalf of Commanding officer 90BN CRPF Mohammad Rizwan wheelchairs and crutches were distributed among the needy children with Disabilities. A message from CO was delivered by second in Command Mr Hemant Pandya. The message said, CRPF 90 BN is committed for health care of children with severe disabilities. The follow up camps will be organised in future also. We are serious about independence and rehabilitation of children with Disabilities and underprivileged and all our services will be continuous till 90 BN stands posted in Bijbehara.

Dr Rubeena Salroo gynaecologist who was part of the doctor's team said treating children with disabilities give satisfaction. I faced lot of communication barriers with deaf girls and felt helpless at times, but teachers and sign language knowing staff of zaiba Aapa institute are highly trained and eased me to treat such children.



Dr Darakhshan Andrabi visits Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara

On 11th August 2022, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi visited zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara and interacted with Special Children at Bijbehara in South Kashmir. She appreciated role of Padma Shree Awardee Activist Javed Ahmad Tak.

Dr Andrabi felicitated the Padma Shri Awardee social activist and the Chairman of this Institute Padmashree Javed Ahmad Tak. Dr Andrabi interacted with special children and gave them presents too. These children with special abilities presented the National Anthem in sign language & song of Taray zameen pe along with the patriotic songs and acted on their tunes. The children unfurled the national flag along with Dr Andrabi and performed different items related to the glory of India and the glory of our education system. While speaking on the occasion Dr Andrabi said after seven decades, we have government at the centre which searches for the deserving for every felicitation. "It was Modiji himself who talked about the noble cause of Zaiba Aapa Institute & also the contribution of Shri Javed Ahmad Tak for education & sustenance of the children with special abilities in his Mann Ki Baat programme of his services. Such people are undoubtedly inspiring and we need to respect them so that their noble mission spreads around," said Dr Andrabi. While interacting with the children Dr Darakhshan Andrabi said that these children with special abilities are our treasury of talent and we all need to encourage them to fight the challenges of life and excel like Javed Ahmad Tak. SDM of Bijbehara Shri Jahangir Ahmad was also present. Javed Ahmad Tak in his address said that the children feel elevated & inspired with such events where mobilization for excellence is generated.



Independence Day celebration 2022

On 15th August 2022, Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir participated in Independence Day celebration of 2022 at SICOP Bijbehara and bagged first position in cultural activities. Sub divisional magistrate Mr Jahangeer Ahmad applauded the efforts of staff and children of Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara.

Certificate of appreciation and memento were also presented to participants. Thousands of spectators watched the event and appreciated role of staff of Zaiba Aapa institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir.



World White cane safety Day 2022

On 15th October 2022, a high level awareness programme about inclusive Election was organised at Zaiba Aapa Institute of inclusive Education Bijbehara on eve of World White Cane safety Day 2022. The programme was organised by Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline in collaboration with District Election office Anantnag. Deputy District Election Officer Nazia Hassan presided over the programme. Apart from Election officials Revenue officials of Tehsil Bijbehara, people from Public Works Department. Principals from government higher secondary schools boys and girls Bijbehara and Zonal Education officer Bijbehara were present in the programme.

Dr. Arshad Ahmad from DIET Anantnag gave the holistic view about ethical electioneering. He defined connectivity of millennium development goals with national education policy. He also gave knowledge about electoral process for persons with Disabilities under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation.

Dr Basit Naik assistant professor Women studies Department University of Kashmir gave presentation on importance of accessibility for persons with Disabilities in elections.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary chairman Humanity Welfare organisation Helpline gave awareness on World White cane safety day and said that election department should implement all facilities in favour of voters with Disabilities in district Anantnag. He gave following recommendations.

- The election I cards should be marked with disability logo
- The person with severe Disabilities should be given transportation facility to and fro from home booth.
- The election booth should be accessible in terms of built in infrastructure and accessible washroom should be available
- The helpers and wheelchairs should be available on each polling booth.
- Tags and name plates should be available for deaf voters to recognise the facilities.
- All parties should notify the election manifesto in an accessible format so that inclusion of voters happens.



Two Days District Level games for the Deaf and Mute children

Day First:

On 25th October 2022, Humanity welfare organization Helpline Bijbehara in collaboration with J&K Sports Association of the Deaf Srinagar organised two days District games for the Deaf and mute children. Around 50 children with hearing and speech Disabilities at Model Higher secondary school ground for Boys participated. The event was inaugurated by Ms Nasreena Hassan Rangrez Principal Higher secondary school for Boys Bijbehara.

Staff of Government Higher secondary school Bijbehara, Staff of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara and Staff of Childline Anantnag facilitated the programme. The children with hearing and speech disabilities from junior and Sub Junior categories participated in

- Shot put,
- Julian throw,
- Badminton
- Tug of War
- Carrom
- Chess
- Race & many other games

Talking on the occasion Ms. Nasreena principal Boys Model Higher secondary school Bijbehara said that children with Disabilities need our empathetic approach to seek high level empowerment and Boys Higher secondary school Bijbehara is committed to provide all support at all the times.

Javed Ahmad Tak Honorary Chairman and disability activist said that persons with hearing and speech disabilities have invisible disabilities. It takes time for common people to realise the disabilities of persons with hearing and speech Disabilities. Sports events are related to overall development of all. We have created five following objectives for this event. These include

- exposure of persons with Disabilities to the outer environment
- Inculcate best sports qualities in them
- Stay away from drugs, social evils and bad habits live a controlled life and
- Respect all despite body differences and
- Include all with cordial acceptance

The event will conclude on 26th October 2022 with a grand valedictory.



Day Second:

On second day of the two days District level games for the deaf at Government Higher secondary school Boys Bijbehara following games were played

- Julian throw
- Discus throw
- 200 metre race

50 participants participated in the event. In the concluding ceremony Principal Government Model Higher Secondary School Bijbehara, Ms Nasreena Hassan General secretary for all J&K sports association of the deaf, Ms Gulshan Drabu, Neelofer Habibu Rehman secretary volley ball association, Dr Riyaz Ahmad Ganie and Nazeer Ahmad Veeri Master HSSB were present on the valedictory function.

Talking on the occasion organiser and Honorary Chairman of Humanity welfare organization Helpline said that children facing speech and hearing Disabilities are fully talented and need our simple hand holding. They are full of talent and need no sympathy. If anyone wants to extend charity in their favour they should give charity through pen and moral support.

Ms Gulshan Drabu General Secretary All J&K Association for the Deaf said children with hearing and speech disabilities need greater focus on extra co-curricular activities. Sports is one of the best tool to empower children with deafness, Gulshan added

Ms Nasreena chief guest on the occasion said that Higher Secondary infrastructure is fully available at all time for the empowerment of persons with Disabilities for their academic, sports and other developmental activities

Mr Nazeer Ahmad master Higher Secondary School Bijbehara moderated the valedictory event.

All the children with hearing disabilities were given certificates and medals.

In the concluding remarks General Secretary Gulshan Drabu said that Division level games will be organised for deaf sports persons in all categories of junior, sub junior and senior levels at Srinagar followed by trials for national selection in January 2023.

Dr Reyaz Ahmad Ganaie presented vote of thanks.



Outing Programme for Children with Disabilities

Outing programme was organized by the school administration of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education for children with disabilities. On every Saturday staff of Zaiba Aapa Institute takes the children for outing. On 29 October 2022, staff of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education took the children to Apple Valley Chiniwoder and gave them opportunity to enjoy the tour to apple orchards.



Celebration of Children's Day 2022

On eve of national children's day 2022, an art /drawing completion was organised for children. Around 200 children participated in the event at indoor sports stadium Nilamdrus Bijbehra. The children with disabilities and non-disable children performed art/drawing at one platform. The children where a mix of different schools from Tral, Mishipora, Qaimoh, Tarigam, Shurat, Kulgam, Yaripora and Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehra. The program was inaugural session for Anjali international children's and youth festival organized by Swabhimaan NGO Orrisa. Anjali children's and youth festival has been organized since 2002 in Orrisa and its founder or innovator is Doctor Shruti Mohatatra who after qualifying IAS exam met a road accident and became spinal cord injured and bound to wheelchair since last 30 years. It was the 20th year of the festival which was inaugurated from Kashmir through Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline Bijbehra. In the chilling cold of Kashmir the program started at 10am and 200 children joined it that was highly enthusiastic and eager to enjoy the day. Dr Basharat Qayoom IAS Deputy Commissioner Anantnag inaugurated festival and said that district administration Anantnag is committed to carry out all activities and processes for developing children with disabilities. He appreciated role of organisers and children of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education. While distributing art kits among children with disabilities he deliberated with children with different disabilities.

All the children later on after performing art participated in various cultural activities. The day was full of joy for all the participants.

Tanveer Ahmad Tanveer Sub Divisional magistrate Bijbehara joined the function at valedictory. A number of activities of non-disable and disable children together were performed. The indoor sports stadium was like a heaven on earth where children gave vent to their thoughts through art, danced, performed cultural activities and exchanged gifts.



Harud sports festival

The sports festival was organised by 7 stars of Bijbehara and J&K sports council at Indoor sport's stadium Nilamdruss Bijbehara. Around 1000 children participated. Children of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir facing Speech and Hearing Disabilities also participated. Both boys and girls teams of badminton won the finals. Sharik Majid Ganie and Salman of class 8 of Zaiba Aapa Institute won the boys badminton and Bisma Jan and Rutba Gulzar both deaf and mute of class 10 & 8; respectively won the girls badminton and defeated almost three teams from start of the matches. Organisers felicitated the winners



World Disability Day

On 3rd December 2022, Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline (HWOHL) celebrated World Disability Day at HWOHL office. The main objective of the program was to promote the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society. Like every year, HWOHL organized the world Disability Day. In the program many Govt stakeholders, parents and children of Zaiba Appa Institute of Inclusive Education (ZAIE) participated.

The program started with an introduction and welcome speech, all the participants were welcomed, chief guests and media personalities present in the program. The anchor also highlighted some of the milestones achieved by the organization over the years and the contribution towards the development of Specially Abled children.

The program began with the recitation of Quranic verses and Naat sung by children with disability. After that another session was followed by Mr. Javed Ahmad Tak, Chairman HWOHL. In his speech, he addressed the audience that Persons with disability are facing challenges everywhere and are being neglected at every step. Persons with disabilities are being treated with sympathy and no measures are being taken for the welfare of persons with disability. Mr. Javed said that buildings and infrastructure established by Government are not accessible for persons with disability. He said that no reservation is available for persons with disability in political affairs as well. Persons with disabilities are not being treated with equity in any sphere of development; be it education, employment, social services and economic empowerment. Besides this, Javed Ahmad Tak working in field of disability gave awareness about the capacities possessed by children with different disabilities enrolled in ZAIE. He also highlighted the services providing by ZAIE to children with different disabilities. He further added that we as a society should act as keen observers to accommodate and include all PWDs.

Another session was taken up by Naib Tehsildar Bijbehera. In his session, he accepted the unequal treatment towards persons with disabilities from the side of Government. He appreciated the work and initiatives taken by Javed Ahmad Tak and his colleagues for the welfare of persons with disabilities. He said that, he will try his best towards the upliftment of persons with disabilities.

After that, deaf and mute children showcased their means of communication through sign language. Two students facing the hearing and speech disabilities demonstrated the lesson through sign language. Then special educator of Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara demonstrated the mobility training among children with blindness with the help of a low vision. In addition he demonstrated Braille and Taylor frame methods used by blind children for education and mathematical calculations. Children of ZAIE also presented many cultural performances and their message to audiences was inclusion and equality.

Mr. Aadil Rashid Vaid, Chief Functionary Officer Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline showed his utmost gratitude to the audience present at the event and hoped for the better and

supportive environment for the specially abled children. He presented the vote of Thanks and thanked all the participants for their efforts and dedication in making the program a great success! He further said that HWOHL has established two vocational units Fried apple unit and Paper machine unit for providing vocational training to children with disabilities. He said that in this year HWOHL has provided many livelihood units for the persons with disabilities in districts of Anantnag, Kulgan and Pulwama.

Towards the end of programme, a signature campaign was held in which all the participants took pledge to protect the disability rights as per RWPD act 2016 and he/she will always create inclusion and accessibility in his/her area by signing the banner.



Inauguration of Livelihood unit for Person With Disabilities

Under livelihood mission project, Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline Bijbehara handed over a livelihood unit to a person with disability. The beneficiary has right arm amputation and is the sole bread earner of his family. His father had expired few years ago and all the responsibility of family was shifted over his shoulders. Moreover, the said beneficiary couldn't fetch any employment due to his disability and lacked resources to start-up his own venture. The basic needs of the family remained un-met and it was very hard for them to manage the home affairs. Keeping the disability and scenario of family in view, a grocery shop was provided to the beneficiary.

The unit was formally inaugurated on 6th December 2022 by Mr. Aroon Raman M.D Telos Private Limited, who is the donor for the said project. While interacting with the beneficiary, Mr. Raman was pleased to see the willingness and enthusiasm of PWD to empower himself and to break down the stereotypes associated to disability. Mr Javed Ahmad Tak, Hon. Chairman HWOHL was also present there and Mr. Raman appreciated the efforts of the organisation in reaching out to such PWD and empower them towards self-reliance. Mr. Tak also returned thanks to Mr. Raman for his constant support towards the empowerment and rehabilitation of PWDs.



Setting up of Two Vocational Centres for Children with Disabilities

In continuation to our earlier efforts towards the empowerment and rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, Two separate Vocational centres were established at Humanity Welfare Organisation Helpline Bjjbehra. The main objective of establishing the vocational centres was to equip the children with disabilities with skill sets to earn a decent livelihood for their survival thus minimising the burden from the shoulders of their families and break down the stereotypes associated to disability by showcasing their latent capacities. A separate group of children with disabilities who have crossed the age of 18 and weren't good in academics are being trained under the supervision of professionals.

Both the established vocational centres were sponsored under the CSR initiatives from The J&K bank and a fully automated paper bag making machine and 10 solar dryers were procured for starting up the two vocational centres.

Under the paper bag manufacturing unit, children with disabilities are trained to collect the finished item, attach handles to the bags and count them in bundles for the packaging purposes. Few of the smart children are being taught to operate the machine as well under the supervision of instructor.





Meanwhile, under the 2nd vocational centre; children with disabilities are engaged in apple drying. Apples are procured from the open market and children with disabilities are taught to cleaning, slicing and placing the apple slices on the trays of dryers in a hygienic manner. Simultaneously, all the safety measures are being taken in order to minimise the risk of getting injured. After the apple chips are ready, children are taught to weigh the dried apple chips, pack them into small packs and organise them for supplying in the market.

All the efforts are made to build the market for the finished products so that children with disabilities can get the share of their contribution. In the coming time, children engaged under the vocational trainings will be trained in marketing as well so as to fully capacitate them for market dealing.



Eye check-up Camp

Eye check-up was organised ICICI Lombard at Zaiba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education Bijbehara Kashmir. Around 70 children along with some youth were assessed for eye related problems. The doctors team assessed the eyesight of children and those children in need of advanced treatment will be supported by the company. Light refreshment was served to one and all. Mr. Javed Ahmad Tak thanked the team and ICICI Lombard for this wonderful initiative. He further said that such initiatives must continue in the future as well so that early identification of problems will be done and the intervention will be carried on time.



Executive Summary:

The journey of CFS/ARCs (Child Friendly Spaces/Adolescent Resource Centers) over the years in the communities has proved beneficial for children and Adolescents. These recreational spaces (CFS/ARCs) acted as trauma healing for children and adolescents keeping in consideration the past tragedies (2016 unrest, abrogation of article 370, COVID -19 and ongoing encounters, CASOs) happened in Kashmir valley. The continuous volatile situation in the Kashmir region is concerning and stressful and has affected people's lives in every way possible. More recently, the restrictions-imposed post abrogation of special autonomy of J&K in August 2019 which were superseded by intermittent Covid-induced lockdown/restrictions in 2020 and 2021 has only exacerbated the stresses and vulnerabilities of children in Jammu and Kashmir, and thereby, affecting their wellbeing in multiple ways. Many young children have joined armed groups and many more faced detentions in police lockups on the allegations or suspicion of providing logistic support to armed groups. The field experiences indicate that the number of young children joining armed groups have increased in the recent few years, which remains one of the emerging concerns for child protection in Jammu and Kashmir. In such situations UNICEF supported CFS/ARC project was initiated in 2016 to create community based safe spaces for play and learning for children affected by the continuous shutdowns and restrictions. The programme has shown a way to reclaim spaces for children that were lost due to the frequent closure of schools as well as that the alternative spaces for children and adolescents can be created in the communities.

Currently, we have been running 50 CFS/ARCs in 50 communities of district Anantnag and Kulgam. In District Anantnag 29 CFS/ARCs are functional and in District Kulgam 21 CFS/ARCs are functional. In these spaces, two groups have been created CFS caters children aging 6-10 years and ARCs catering adolescents aging 11-18 years. Children in CFS are coming two days in a week after schooling hours and Adolescents another two days in a week. For Adolescents separate sessions are being conducted for boys and girls. So as to create meaningful engagements with Children and Adolescents age appropriate curriculum on life skills has been developed with the support of UNICEF technical partners (Lehar and Pravah). The curriculum focuses on improving the coping abilities and psychosocial wellbeing of children and adolescents. The program is inclusive as it covers both conflict hit and marginalized communities (Tribal communities). Given the conflict takes a heavy toll on the mental health of young children & adolescents, the CFS/ARC programme has integrated a component on MHPSS support to focus on preventive aspects and facilitate access to primary and specialized referral services.

Additionally meaningful engagements are being conducted with youths (Volunteers) by conducting series of capacity building trainings on life skills, MHPSS and child protection for youths. So far 200 youths from 50 communities are being engaged to provide additional support to the program team and later on run these spaces when the organization will exit in these communities. Also youths are involved in civic engagements in communities to address the child protection issues at community level with support of program team.

Besides, continuous thematic engagements are being conducted with parents and communities to build their capacities on positive parenting and to promote positive gender norms and have knowledge on prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV). while the engagements with

community groups, VLCPCs, PRIs and grassroots level functionaries are to enhance the capacities of community based child protection mechanisms to address child protection issues, advocacy will be initiated with District Administration to build referral linkages for children and adolescents thereby to create more demand for delivery of child protection services, and contribute to the district action plans under Mission Vatsalya.

The CFS/ARC program has four outputs and each output is elaborated in detail. The four outputs are as:-

Output 1: Children and adolescents have a safe and enabling environment

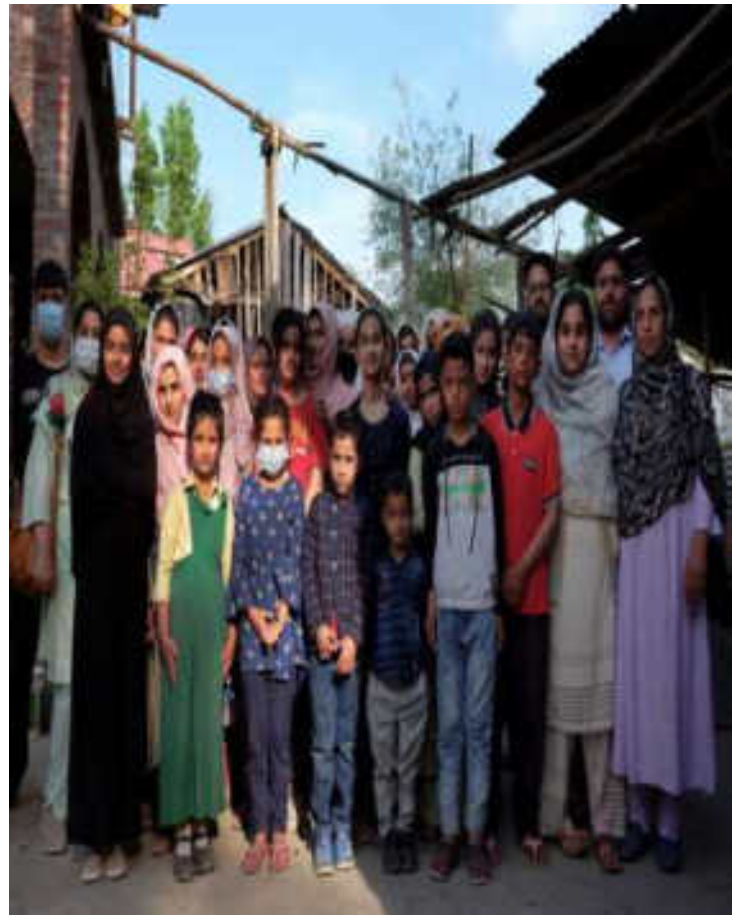
Output 2: Strengthened volunteer engagement and their participation in civic engagement at community level

Output 3: Enhanced capacities of community based child protection mechanisms to address child protection issues and advocacy initiated with District Administration

Output 4: Community based mental health/psychosocial support mechanisms strengthened and children have improved access to preventive and referral services

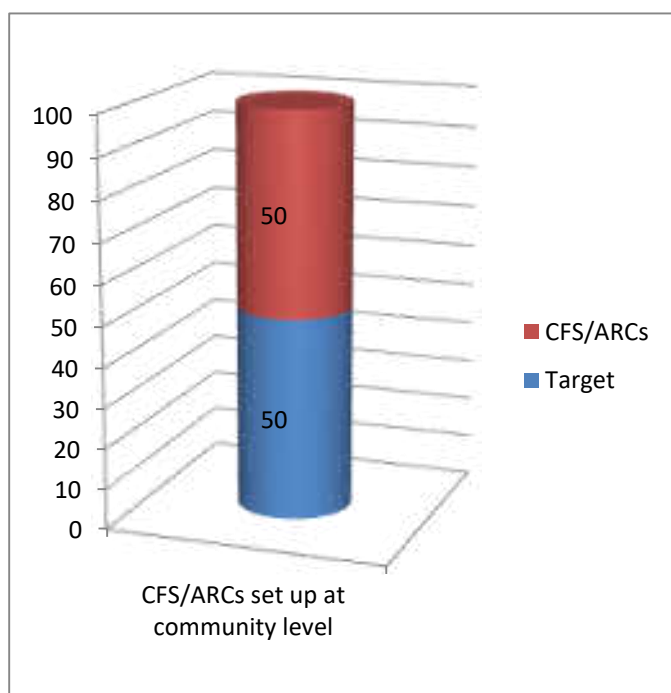
Output 1: Children and adolescents have a safe and enabling environment

The output focus on the creation of safe spaces (CFS/ARCs) at the community level for children and Adolescents where they can play and learn know their rights and develop resilience, considering the fact there is no other space in the communities where their challenges and problems will be resolved. At the same time efforts are being taken to make their surroundings and environment friendly by conducting activities with parents, families and community stakeholders. The engagement with children and Adolescents in CFS/ARCs is well designed and structured having age appropriate curriculum focuses on life skills, resilience and learning activities. Engaging parents with an objective of creating safe homes for children and adolescents by enhancing the capacities of parents through meetings is also the key area under this output. Sustainability measures have been initiated in order to make the program sustainable so as to phase out in existing communities by leveraging community resources. The out 1 has 10 result indicators and are as follows:-



1.1 Number of CFS/ ARC centers setup at community level:-

HWOHL is running 50 CFS/ARCs in the districts of Anantnag and Kulgam, 21 CFS/ARCs in Kulgam and 29 in Anantnag district. CFS catering children in the age group of 6-10 years are functional two days in a week and ARCs catering the adolescents in the age group of 11-18 years are functional two days in a week. The sessions are being conducted after schooling and activity calendars are framed as per the availability of children and adolescents.



1. The graph shows that 50 CFS/ARCs have been established against the target of 50 CFS/ARCs
2. 29 CFS/ARCs in District Anantnag and 21 in District Kulgam are functional.
3. CFS and ARC centres offer a differentiated approach to address the needs of younger and older children, run in districts whose communities that have been affected by Kashmir's conflict, with the purpose of giving children a place to relax their minds, heal, distress, learn life skills to help them build resilience, find means to thrive in circumstance where often little is within their control.

1.2 Number of children (up to 10 years) engaged through the child friendly spaces (CFS) (Gender: Boys and Girls):-

A proper module is in place to engage children in the age group of 6-10 years. The module was developed with support of UNICEF technical Partner Lehar. The module promotes sharing of different life experiences and opinions about issues of common concern; which helps to promote understanding of the aspirations of young people and their vision for the future; and allow them to engage with the substantive socio-economic-cultural priorities of their communities including issues of identity and discrimination, relationships, resource sharing, local art and culture, gender, healthcare and any issue that is of concern to them. A total of 2749 (Males:1302 and Females: 1447) children in the age group of 6-10 years have been reached and engaged in 50 CFS centers so far. Sessions are being conducted as per CFS curriculum designed by LEHAR.

HIS



Breaking the invisible barriers

Special needs are commonly defined by what a child can't do, milestones unmet, activities avoided etc. Some parents will always mourn their child's lost potential, and some conditions become more troubling with time. Very often it is seen that a child with disability is empowered/encouraged by others whether in school, family or friends.

Imad a special child was born with a hypo plastic upper limb. He was born in a family with low economic status. His mother had lots of complications when he was in her womb. He was 2 and half years old when his mother left for heavenly abode.

Usually a child with disability is seen as less confident, very weak in different activities, but in this case it is very different.

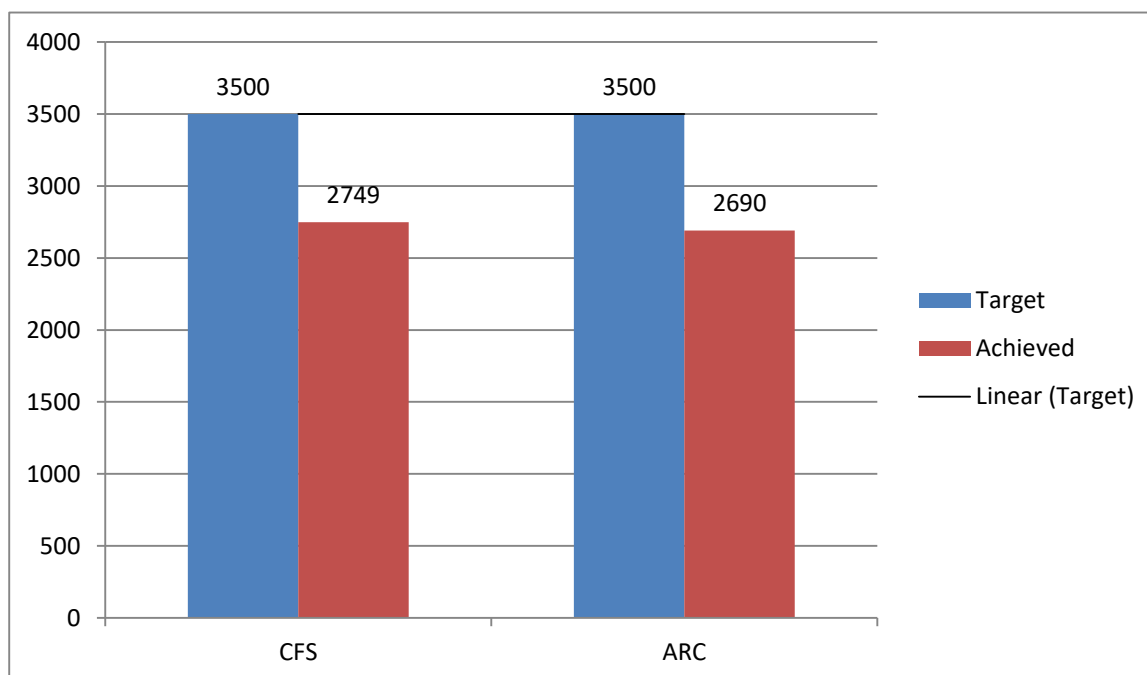
Imad is a very confident and intelligent child who is very good in studies and other socio-cultural activities. Imad is a very interactive child and an animal lover.

Before introducing Imad to the centres activities he had only few friends. He didn't want to get acquainted with new friends; he was kind of an introvert. As we know the perception of people towards disable persons, he was afraid of introducing himself. But the day he came to the centre and introduced himself to activities, he started participating happily. He enjoyed all the activities, and he himself changed his perception about being ignored. Other children found him normal and he made new friends. We also worked on him jointly to help in facing challenges that he used to face with strangers.

Now he can be seen enjoying all the activities and participating freely. He also takes lead in various activities and has grown in confidence. This centre has become such a space for him which every child like him would be dreaming of.

1.3 Number of adolescents (11 years and above) engaged through Adolescent Resource Centers (ARC) (Gender: Boys and Girls):-

A total of 2690 (Males: 1247 and Females: 1443) adolescents in the age group of 11-18 years have been reached and engaged in 50 ARC centers. Another module on life skills is in place that was developed with the support of UNICEF technical partner (Pravah).



- 1. The graph shows that HWOHL have reached 2749 children in the age group of 6-10 years against the target of 3500 children.**
- 2. Also we were able to reach 2690 Adolescents in the age group of 11-18 years against the target of 3500 Adolescents.**
- 3. Children and Adolescents are engaged as per the curriculum on CFS and ARC. Such curriculums are designed primarily to facilitate parallel spaces of learning to Children and adolescents in Kashmir where they can build their agency and equips themselves to take responsibility for their own life and for the world around them.**
- 4. Such sessions support the children and Adolescents to learn and unlearn, be able to self-express, build high self-esteem and connect their experiences with the inner self.**

1.4 Average attendance of children and adolescents engaged through CFS/ARC (Gender: Boys and Girls):-

It has been seen that children and adolescents enrolled in CFS/ARCs are regularly attending the sessions and their average attendance is above 75%.

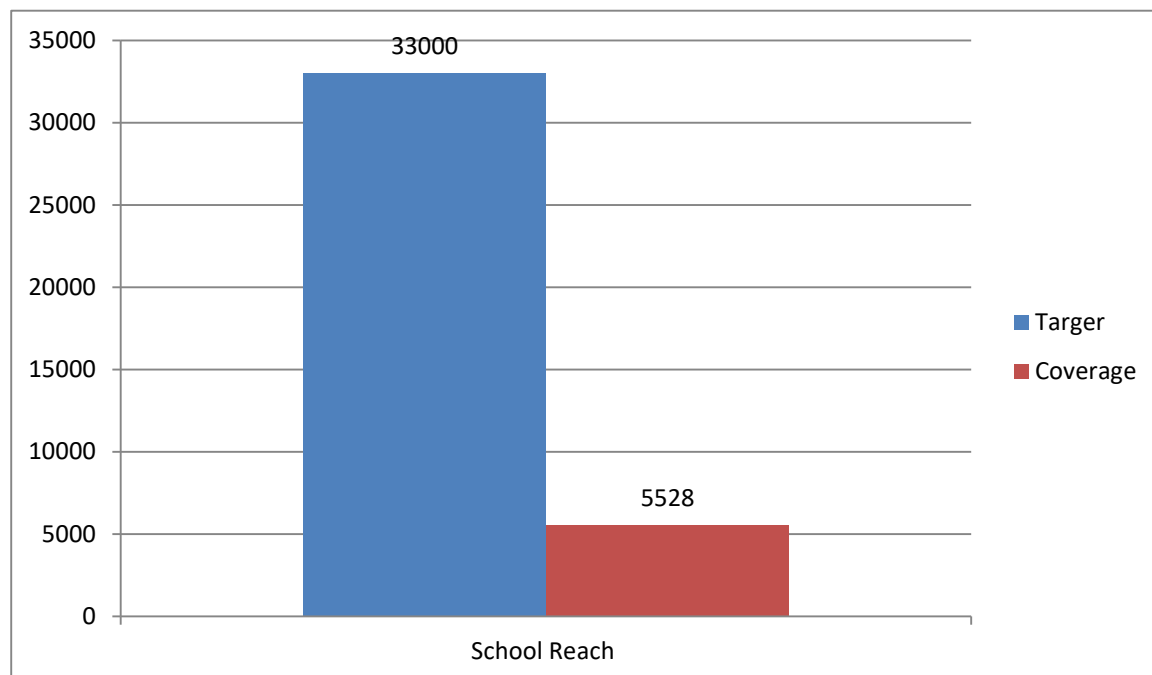
1.5 Number of schools covered where activities are conducted with children and adolescents:-

In order to have wider outreach, we are conducting sessions in schools. Same curriculum is being followed in school sessions as well as in CFS/ARCs. We had been able to reach 114 schools so far in the district of Kulgam and Anantnag against the target of 200.

1.6 Number of children and adolescents engaged through schools (Gender: Boys and Girls):-

A total of 5528 (Boys: 2632 and Girls: 2896) children and adolescents were reached through schools from 1st March 2023 to 31st October 2023. However 17809 children and adolescents have been reached through schools in previous phase.

We had been successful in 10 Govt schools, where school authorities allowed us to conduct weekly sessions in their respective schools. This will help us in future to transfer the CFS/ARC modules in these schools and our focus will be the integration of CFS and ARC curriculum into their lesson plans. CFS/ARC will not be fully implemented in schools, but will be complimentary to or part of educational programs.



- **The above graph chart shows that 5528 children and adolescents against the target of 33000 were reached so far However 17809 children and adolescents have been reached in previous phase.**
- **A total of 114 schools were covered against the target of 200 schools.**
- **Children and adolescents are engaged in the same manner as being engaged in CFS/ARCs**
- **In some schools teachers are being the part of these sessions that is an indication towards sustainability by inducing the CFS/ARC model in schools.**

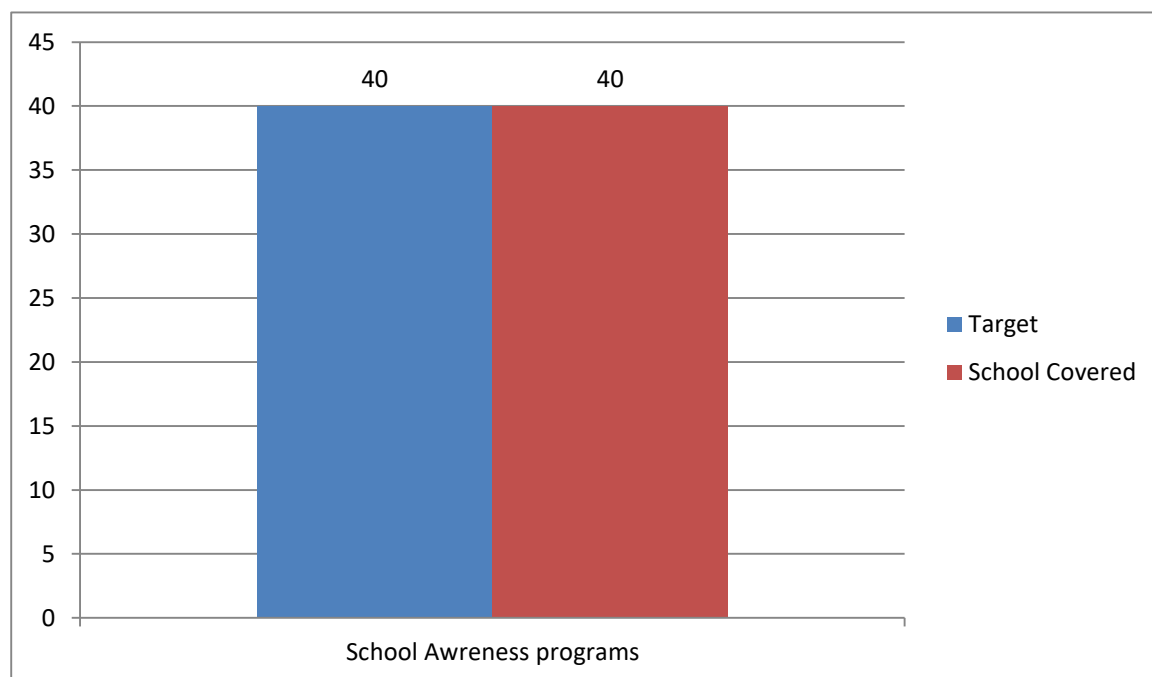
Activity:- Awareness sessions on child protection issues at community/ school level



The awareness program on child rights and child protection proved to be a valuable initiative in educating communities. By combining a captivating journey to space, focused group discussions, and interactive problem-solving activities, the program effectively raised awareness about child rights and highlighted the importance of

ensuring children's safety and well-being. Despite the challenges faced, the program's impact was evident in the increased understanding and engagement of participants. To build on this momentum, it is essential to sustain such initiatives, enhance accessibility, and collaborate with stakeholders to create a safer and more protective environment for every child. By working together, we can safeguard the rights and futures of our children and empower them to reach their full potential.

A total of 40 schools were reached where awareness program on child protection issues were conducted. The awareness program on child rights and child protection were designed to educate Adolescents about the importance of safeguarding their rights and ensuring their safety and well-being. The awareness programs were aimed to engage participants through a multi-faceted approach, which included a captivating journey to space simulation, focused group discussions, and interactive seed sorting activities, followed by problem-solving sessions.



1. The above graph chart shows that 40 schools were covered where children and adolescents were sensitized on child protection issues.
2. Such awareness programs helped us to identify core child protection issues in the communities and in schools.
3. Based on the identified issues we will engage Adolescents and volunteers to design social action projects.
4. We can advocate with the relevant stakeholders to address the child protection issues at the community level.

1.7 Numbers of adolescents participate in civic engagement to address child protection issues (Gender: Boys and Girls):

Civic engagement is a process of engaging Adolescents and volunteers to identify child protection issues at community level and design action projects on them. In this process relevant stakeholders and parents are taking part. Such engagements should have a platform for dialogue and discussion.

For this Adolescents need safe spaces to form and voice their opinions, and strong advocates who support their efforts to address their issues concerning them.

Values such as care, justice, equality, and fairness enable us to work to create healthy communities where all citizens (regardless of their backgrounds or circumstances) have what they need. The tasks that are being performed in the community should not only bring these values alive, but are also aimed at helping the adolescents understand through experience how taking initiatives is a crucial experience of being an adolescent. So far, we have started action projects in 30 communities on different issues. A total of 642 adolescents and 73 volunteers have been engaged in civic engagement.

Involving adolescents and volunteers in civic engagement will help in strengthening and capacitating the existing structures towards child protection through increased participation of parents/community stakeholders and PRIs.

1.8 Number of adolescents who have knowledge on prevention and response to gender-based violence. (Gender: Boys and Girls):

A module on life skills is in place in which one part is on understanding Gender, the roles ascribed to different genders, the expectations stemming from them and their impact on society. While doing the sessions on gender Adolescents learn about how these various factors create a particular understanding of the self and of people of other genders. The goal is to demonstrate that a large part of an individual's gender identity is constructed socially, that stereotyping fuels the construct, and that these are linked to discrimination and conflicts in society. A total of 1864 (Males: 787 Females: 1077) Adolescents were sensitized on GBV.

1.9 Percentage increase in knowledge of adolescents on prevention and response to gender-based violence (GBV):

In order to track the knowledge and understanding on gender among adolescents catered in ARCs, KAP tool has been developed by HWOHL to pre-assess the adolescents and will do another assessment after the completion of curriculum. Pre-assessment has already been conducted with adolescents and it came out that adolescents have very least knowledge about gender and not much aware about gender violence. The assessment was conducted with 1081 adolescents. The report is not completed yet, we are working on the data and report will be shared with UNICEF soon.

1.10 Number of parents and other community stakeholders trained on child protection issues (Gender: Women and men):

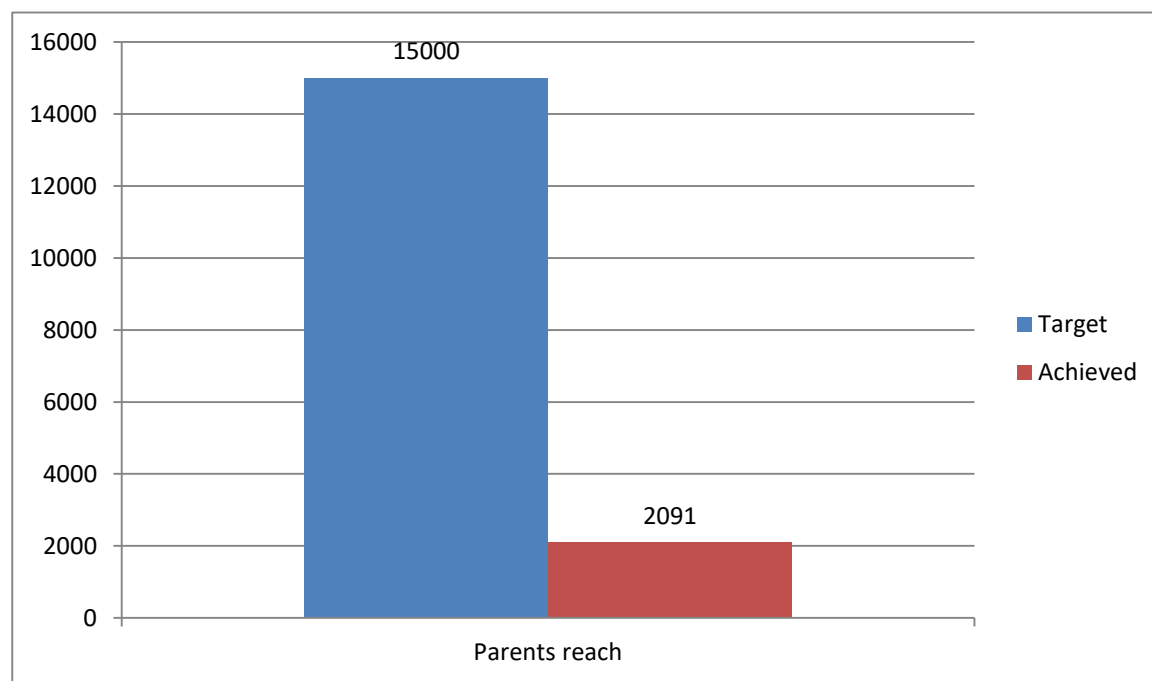
Parents are being engaged once in a quarter. In every CFS/ARC parent meetings are being conducted and the themes of these meetings were on positive parenting, gender neutral parenting, MHPSS, child rights and protection. The purpose of these meetings is to develop the positive techniques of parenting among parents.

2091 (Males: 757 and Females: 1334) parents were reached from 1st March 2023 to till date through parent meetings and one to one interaction. The parents were awakened about issues pertaining to the

protection of children and the reporting agencies to address such issues were shared with them. Additionally, group discussions were followed and the feedback of parents was received. Focus was laid on creating friendly spaces at home where children will feel free to share their feelings and concerns without being judged.

Furthermore, discussions were held on family-based care in which parents were awakened regarding the right of every child to live with caring and responsible parent. Family is irreplaceable for the growth and development of children. Children thrive when they are loved, protected and are part of a permanent family. Every child deserves a loving family to reach to their full potential.

In previous phase 7000 parents were reached and the total reach of parents so far is 9091.



1.11 Number of parents/caregivers engaged to promote positive gender norms and have knowledge on prevention and response to GBV (Gender: Women and men):

2091 (Males: 757 and Females: 1334) parents were sensitized on GBV and encouraged to promote positive gender norms in their families. Parents can play an important role in promoting gender equality and With the help of suitable examples of day to day life, the rising issues of gender based violence was covered and the redressal mechanism was also shared with the participants.

1.12Number of parents and other community stakeholders engaged in running CFS and ARCs at community level (Gender: Women and men):

Parents of enrolled children are being engaged once in a quarter. In every CFS/ARC parent meetings are being conducted and the themes of these meetings were on positive parenting, gender neutral parenting, MHPSS, Family based care, Child protection and child rights .The purpose of these meetings is to develop the positive techniques of parenting among parents. 2091 (Males: 757 and Females: 1334) parents were reached in this quarter through parent meetings and one to one interaction.

In previous phase 7000 parents were reached and the total reach of parents so far is 9091.

1.13 Number of CFS/ARC centers made partially sustainable (by Year 1) and fully sustainable (by Year 2) leveraging resources from community/government:

HWOHL will partially phase out in 8 communities out of 50 communities. The organization has already identified 4 villages and is identifying another 4 villages to complete the target. The partial phase out will start in from 1st March 2024. Also organization has made efforts to run the centres in public spaces and we were successful in 5 communities so far. The centers are running in school buildings, Panchayats and religious places.

Building Strong Community Partnerships for Child Engagement in Khayar, Anantnag



In the pursuit of our mission to create positive impacts on the lives of children and adolescents, our organization embarked on a journey to establish a community development program in Khayar, Anantnag. The initial stages of our efforts were met with scepticism and reluctance, but through unwavering determination and open communication, we managed to build positive relationships with the local community. Our journey in Khayar, Anantnag, started with our center operating from the community animator's home. At first, we were able to help only a few

children. However, our goal was to extend our reach and help as many kids as possible. To achieve this, we collaborated with community members to make a significant decision - to move our center to an empty building within the local school.

This shift marked a turning point in our journey. The school authorities in a very first rejected to gave us room for running of centre but after the multiple meetings ,when we explained the project outcome which can have on the children of their school make them realize need of this CFS / ARC center For which they were kind enough to grant us permission to use this vacant space. With this change, we suddenly had the capacity to accommodate a larger number of children, offering them access to our program, which is aimed at making their lives better.

In the following phase, we engaged in numerous discussions with community members and School authority. Their support was invaluable, and they went a step further by identifying some persons who shared our passion for helping children. These individuals were enthusiastic about contributing to our cause and helping us fulfill our mission.

Today, our centre operates seamlessly within the school premises. It provides a safe, nurturing, and educational environment for a growing number of children. The school authorities have recognized the positive impact our program has on the lives of these children. They actively participate in our meetings and offer their support, further strengthening our partnership.

Our journey in Khayar, Anantnag, is a powerful testament to the importance of building trust and working together with the community. Despite the initial challenges and doubts, we are profoundly grateful for the trust and unwavering support we have received from the Khayar community. Our commitment to empowering the community to take ownership of their development initiatives remains unwavering. With continued support and engagement, we eagerly anticipate a brighter and more promising future for the children and adolescents of Khayar, Anantnag, ensuring that their dreams and aspirations are nurtured and fulfilled, and that we continue to expand our efforts to reach even more children in need.



Output 2: Strengthened volunteer engagement and their participation in civic engagement at community level

The Strategic Framework of the HWOHL CFS/ARC Volunteers program, 2023-2024, builds on the previous experiences working with volunteers. Volunteers played pivotal role for the sustainability of CFS/ARC program especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier during pre-COVID their role in our program was limited to support in doing indoor/outdoor sessions in absence of Community Animators and sometimes in presence of them and to arrange Parent/community meetings. But Subsequent lockdown because of COVID-19 was entirely the different phenomenon as it resulted in the

closure of ARC centers in order to adhere the physical distancing and limited the possibility of direct dialogue between the target population (Children, parents and Community stakeholders). They acted as resource persons at ground level who supported us in building a more cohesive and stronger community bond. Post Covid-19, Volunteers are providing additional support to the community animators in facilitating sessions with multiple audiences, school intervention, Mobilization and enrolment drives. They have undergone serious of trainings on the CFS and ARC module developed by LEHAR and PRAVAH. They have played an important role in designing of social action projects to address the Child protection issues in the communities. Currently 200 volunteers are associated with the program.

2.1 Number of volunteers trained on life skills module, child protection issues and systems, and MHPSS (Gender: Girls, Boys, women and men)

Two days training workshop on Life Skills with Volunteers was held at Cluster level in Kulgam and Anantnag district in the month of July 2023. A total of 190 (Males 133 and females 57) volunteers received training on life skills. The aim of this Program was to build capacity of volunteers on life skills.

The objective of the training was to equip volunteers with the necessary knowledge, skills, and resources to effectively engage with and support adolescents through life skill sessions. The program sought to build a deeper understanding of adolescents' challenges, enhance communication and facilitation abilities, and create a nurturing environment for their personal and social development.

Action points:-

- 1. Facilitating sessions on life skills in ARCs**
- 2. Provide additional support to community animators while facilitating sessions on life skills with Adolescents**
- 3. Handling larger group of adolescents in schools with the help of volunteers.**
- 4. Running of satellite spaces through volunteers.**

Some glimpses of volunteer training program on life skills:



2.2 Percentage increase in knowledge of volunteers on life skills, child protection and MHPSS (Gender: Girls, Boys, women and men)

To assess the volunteers on the basis of knowledge about life skills, child protection and MHPSS, KAP tool has been developed. The assessment was conducted with 213 volunteers. We are working on the data and the report along with findings of the assessment will be shared with UNICEF soon

2.3 Number of volunteers supporting day-to-day activities at CFS/ARC centers (Gender: Girls, Boys, women and men)

A total of 157 (Males: 47 and Females 97) volunteers are supporting in day to day activities. Volunteers are providing additional support to community animators in sessions with adolescents and children especially in schools. They are mobilizing parents in meetings, helping animators in conducting satellite sessions.

2.4 Number of volunteers participated in civic engagement to address child protection issues (Gender: Girls, Boys, women and men):

Volunteers are providing help and support to adolescent in civic engagement activities. They are actively participating in designing the social action projects to address the child protection issues. A total of 73 (Males: 34 and Females: 39) volunteers have been involved in social action projects.

Case study on Civic engagements:

Establishment of CFS/ARC centers has not only helped in developing safe space for children and Adolescents but drastically impacted the social setting of rural areas. Adolescents living in rural

settings of Kashmir lack social infrastructure and recreational avenues, their overall development process take much longer time than Adolescents living in urban or semi-urban settings. In order to bridge this widening gap, CFS/ARCs centers were established.

Apart from learning life skills through various sessions, Adolescents participate in civic engagements too. Recognizing issues in their communities and taking pledge to make a difference in social and civic life of people to enhance their quality of living. Volunteers in this regard remain no aloof and worked hand in hand with adolescents for betterment of their society.

Process was started off with proper Volunteer-Adolescent discussions conducted at CFS/ARC center, 73 volunteers and 642 adolescents participated in these discussions. For this purpose an adolescent group was created at each center of which 10 were boys and 10 females. Same group of Adolescents discussed issues of their community with volunteers and listed out the significant ones

Output 3: Enhanced capacities of community based child protection mechanisms to address child protection issues and advocacy initiated with District Administration:



The engagement with community based structures like village level Child Protection Committees, panchayat representatives, gross roots level functionaries and other community based structures is to enhance their capacity on child protection issues, and facilitate their engagement in the implementation of CFS/ARC centers at the community level. Based on the previous experiences it was realized that given the issues emanating out from the conflict, it is imperative to strengthen the community based child protection systems/mechanisms that will

address the needs of children and adolescents in Kashmir.

3.1 Number of community level members of VLCPCs, PRIs and other traditional institutions trained on child protection issues and systems (Gender: Women and men):

Quarterly meetings were planned with VLCPC's, PRIs and Community Groups. Around 189 members were reached where in 138 were male and 51 were female. These meetings with VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee) and community groups were conducted across 50

CFS/ARC (Child-Friendly Space/Adolescent Resource Center) centers with the aim of building the capacity of the VLCPC Committees and emphasizing the importance of their role as key child protection stakeholders.

The meetings were entirely focused on orienting the participants about the JJAct, Mission Vatsalya its structure and functioning. Subsequently, the protection issues of children were discussed and role of established structures in addressing the issues of children were discussed in great detail. The role and responsibility of VLCPC and community groups in ensuring the safe environment for children was put forth.

3.2 Number of community members (CPC members, PRIs, parents, and other stakeholders) made aware about government's cash assistance schemes for children (Gender: Boys and Girls):

HWOHL has developed a pamphlet on cash assistance schemes provided by Government and private organizations. However due to revision of activities the activity is still pending.

3.3 Number of applications filed for CNCP children for sponsorship/ other cash assistance schemes (Gender: Boys and Girls):

A total of 49 children and adolescents (Males: 27 and Females:22) were linked with ISSS and Mission Vatsaliya scheme, they are in immediate need of sponsorship to meet up their basic and educational needs. The concerned officials assured to provide every kind of support. Additionally, we were successful in motivating two donors who are ready to help to our CNCP cases on regular basis. Also we are in touch with JKYT and JKYF to provide financial assistance to CNCP Cases.

3.4 Number of CNCP children supported through Govt and private/ community sponsorships (Gender: Boys and Girls)

Out of 49 cases, one female child is receiving support from ISSS (Integrated Social Security Scheme).

3.5 Number of meetings convened with DCPC, DCPU and other agencies on District Action Plan under Mission Vatsalya

So far we conducted 2 meetings each with DCPO Anantnag and Kulgam regarding the facilitation of meeting with DCPCs. Both the DCPOs showed positive responses to coordinate with DCPCs for the meetings. Recently we received a nod from DCPO Anantnag to conduct the meeting of JJB, CWC, DCPU and HWOHL project staff on mission vatsaliya.

3.6 Number of children and adolescents reached with humanitarian support (Gender: Boys and Girls)

A total of 29 children were identified from 50 intervention areas that were in need of humanitarian support. The list of CNCP cases were identified community stakeholders, later were verified by project team and need assessment was done as per the requirement. A total of 29 (Males: 8 and Females: 21) children were covered through humanitarian support.

Output 4: Community based mental health/psychosocial support mechanisms strengthened and children have improved access to preventive and referral services.

The focus of the output is on preventive aspects and facilitates access to primary and specialized referral services for children in need of MHPSS support. Under this component children and adolescents identified with psycho social issues are being categorized in to mild, moderate and severe cases. Children with mild symptoms are being counseled at Centre level and moderate and severe cases are being referred to tertiary institutions (DMHP, DEIC and MHPSS). Also parents, frontline workers and community stakeholders are being engaged to provide an enabling environment to children. The engagement on MPHSS with communities helped to create parental and community support for children to help them deal with stress. The engagement with parents and community leaders facilitated deeper engagement with adolescents, and thereby, leading towards an enabling environment

4.1 Number of children with improved psycho-social wellbeing (Gender: Boys and Girls)

Children in the age group of 6-10 years have shown improvement having psychosocial issues through the intervention provided at centres and referral agencies (DMHP, DEIC, ATF and IMHANS). A total of 14 children (Boys: 05 and Girls: 09) have improved psychosocial wellbeing.

4.2: Number of adolescents with improved psycho-social wellbeing (Gender: Boys and Girls)

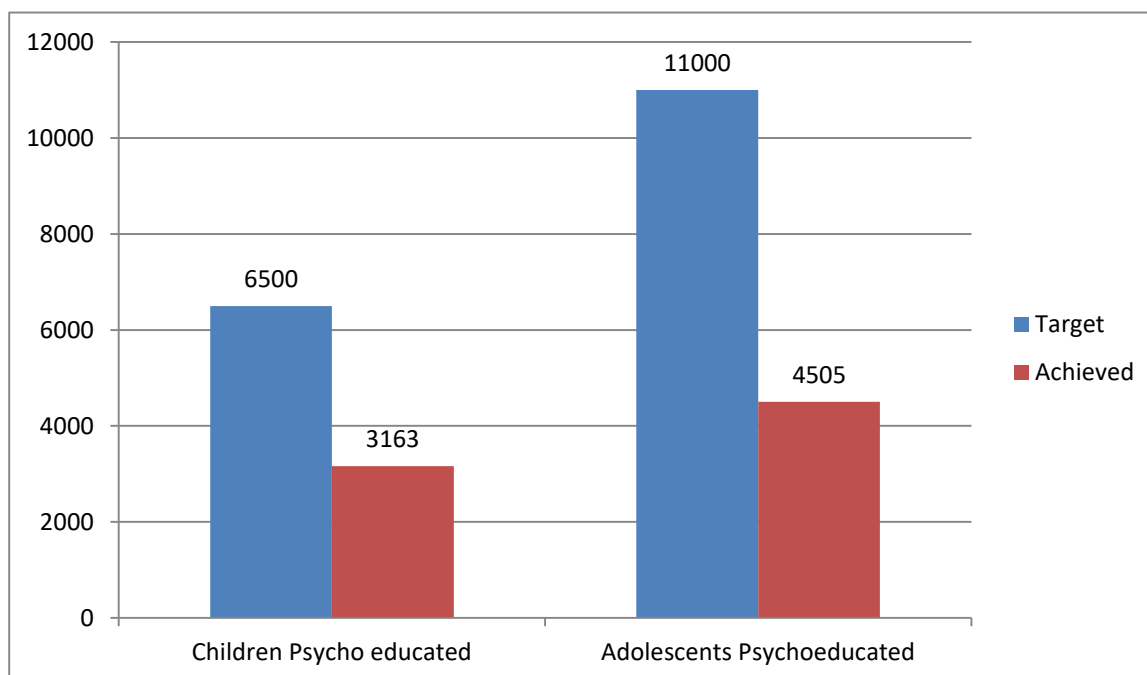
A total of 24 (Boys: 11 and Girls: 13) Adolescents have shown improvement after intervention provided through centres and referral agencies.

4.3 Number of children psycho-educated (Gender: Boys and Girls)

Sessions on MHPSS are being conducted with Children and through these sessions we are able to identify the children who are in need of psychosocial support. The main things that we cover in PS sessions are psychotic issues, stress, depression, anxiety and positive coping strategies. It is through these sessions many children and adolescents are sharing their experiences that they are facing. They are being counseled by our referral support coordinators and incase if anyone need professional consultation he/she is being referred to secondary institutions. A total of 3163 (Males: 1503 and Females: 1660) children were psycho educated so far.

4.4 Number of adolescents psycho-educated (Gender: Boys and Girls)

A total of 4505 (Males: 1984 and Females: 2521) Adolescents were psycho educated



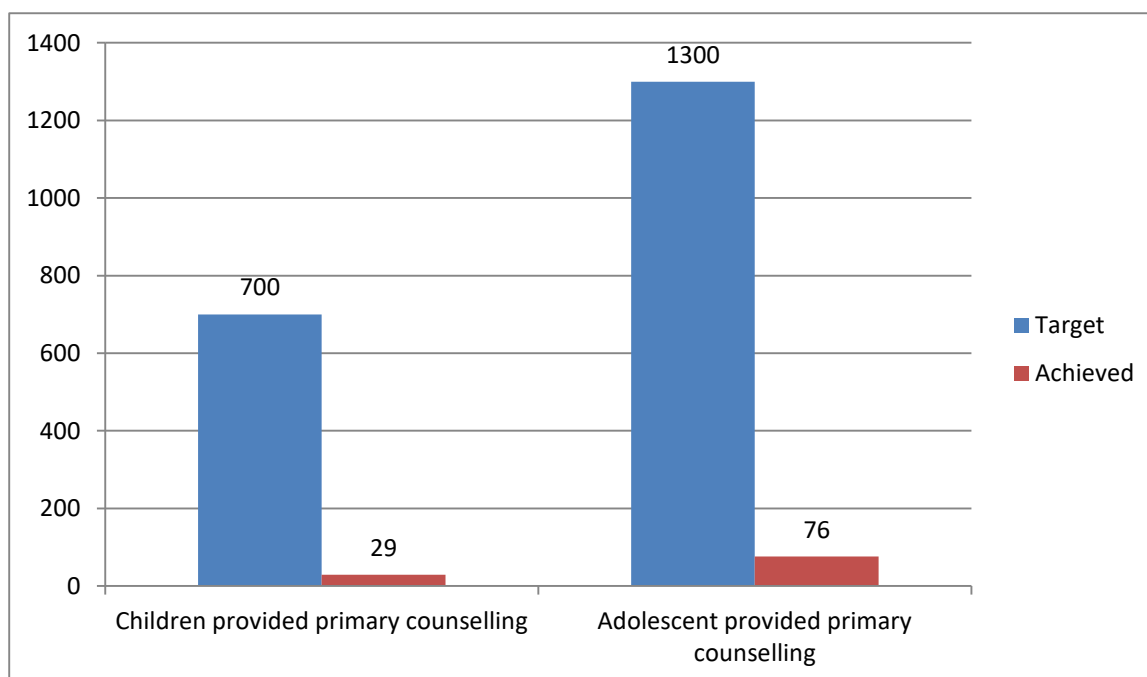
- **The above graphs shows that 3163 children against the target of 6500 were psycho educated and 4505 Adolescents against the target of 11000 were psycho educated.**

4.5 Number of children provided primary counseling (Gender: Boys and Girls)

29 (Males: 14 and Females: 15) children were provided primary counselling at community level by our Referral Coordinators who had mild psychosocial issues and concerns. A total of 176 children were provided primary counselling in previous and current phase.

4.6 Number of Adolescents provided primary counseling (Gender: Boys and Girls)

76 (Males: 37 and Females: 39) Adolescents were provided primary counselling at community level by our Referral Coordinators who had mild psychosocial issues and concerns. A total of 549 adolescents were provided primary counselling in previous and current phase.



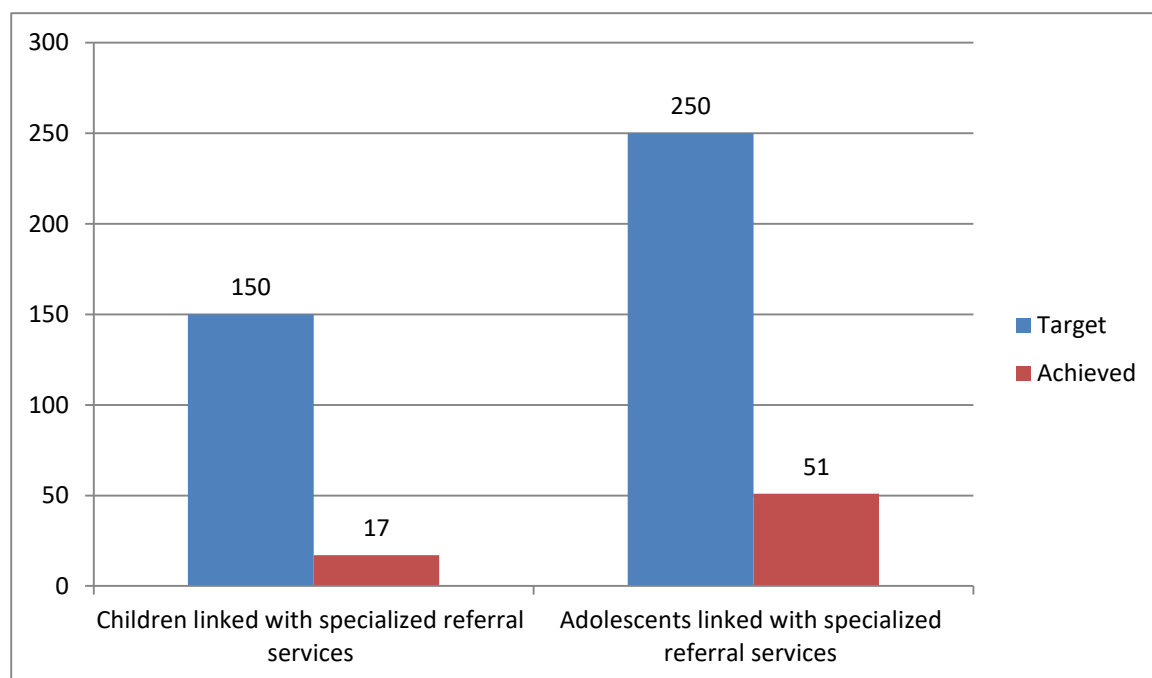
The above Graph shows that 29 Children and 76 Adolescents were provided basic counseling at the community level by Referral Coordinators. They were having minor issues and counseling sessions were held with them to develop resilience and coping. However 147 Children and 473 Adolescents were provided primary counseling in previous phase.

4.7 Number of children linked with specialized referral services (Gender: Boys and Girls)

17 (Males: 10 and Females: 7) children were referred to DMHP Kulgam and IMHANS for professional consultation who were identified with some psychosocial issues of aggression, hyperactivity, anxiety, fear, tics etc. . A total of 45 Children were linked with specialized referral services in previous and current phase.

4.8 Number of adolescents linked with specialized referral services (Gender: Boys and Girls)

51 (Males: 19 and Females: 32) children were referred to DMHP Kulgam and IMHANS for professional consultation who were identified with some psychosocial issues of aggression, hyperactivity, anxiety, fear, tics etc. A total of 170 Adolescents were linked with specialized referral services in previous and current phase.



In the above graph 17 children and 51 adolescents were linked with DMHP, DEIC and IMHANS for advanced counseling. However 28 children and 119 Adolescents were referred to referral agencies in previous phase.

4.9 Number of children with MHPSS issues for whom care plans are developed/ executed using Case Management (CM) Approach (Gender: Boys and Girls)

We have developed a tool in coordination with IMHANS for recording the case progress identified with MHPSS issues. So far we have developed 27 case files of children with MHPSS issues.

4.10 Number of adolescents with MHPSS issues for whom care plans are developed/executed using CM Approach (Gender: Boys and Girls)

27 (Males: 15 and Females: 12) case files of Adolescents have been developed to track the progress of Adolescents identified with MHPSS issues.