March 8 is celebrated globally to mark the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also serves as a call to action for accelerating gender parity. KHPT and IHAT are founded on a strong belief in the principles of equity and equality. Women’s empowerment is a central theme across our programs and engagement with marginalised communities.

**PROJECT UPDATES**

**Theme: Adolescent Girls**

**Sphoorthi Project**

Creating reading space for girls

Libraries being set up to encourage reading among peer adolescent girls in villages of Koppal district.

Girls building their business skills

Two stalls were set up by the girls at the Gavimath Ajana jatre, an annual festival in Koppal. The first, an IEC stall with audio-visuals on adolescent issues and behaviour change messages and the second, a commercial stall with the girls selling food and other goodies to learn business skills and manage finances independently.

**Theme: Nutrition**

**Multi Sectoral Nutrition Project**

Building future women entrepreneurs

Women workers from nutrition supplement production units running in Raichur and Gulbarga districts, visited Bangalore for an exposure visit. 20 women from the SHGs visited the MTR production units to learn about maintaining standards of hygiene, health, and sanitation in food production units. The visit helped motivate the women to raise the bar for better quality standards for greater success of the entrepreneurial venture.

**Theme: Non-Communicable Diseases**

**NCD Project**

Consultation Workshop

KHPT under the leadership of Govt. of Karnataka and Landmark Group organized a consultation workshop on March 28, on developing NCD Screening and Continuum of Care Model. It provided a platform for private and public sector players to share their experiences and contribute to developing a unified approach and effective solutions for a continuum of care model for NCDs. Distinguished guests at the workshop included Dr Rekha S, Deputy Director, NPCDCS program, Govt. officials from NHM, representatives from Apollo Health Services, Maya Health, IPH and MS Ramiah Medical College.

**Theme: Orphans and Vulnerable Children**

**OVC Project**

Project learnings at the National AIDSCON 7 Conference

KHPT presented project learnings of phase-I at the conference organised by Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society with IMAI. It emphasised the success of reaching untested spouses and children through White Card updation of ON-ART clients.

North east Regional Consultation on Social Protection for Children & Adolescents Infected or Affected by HIV/AIDS

KHPT under the aegis of USAID, in collaboration with local SPCPR and Assam State AIDS Control Society organised a regional consultation in Guwahati, Assam. The workshop focused on studying the ground realities with respect to HIV infection for OVC in the NE States; opening conversations about securing the future of CABA with local, nodal agencies; and concretizing methods to implement change through collaboration between agencies working for health, rights and social protection of children.
Theme: Tuberculosis

THALI Project

Unite to end TB

KHPT marked World TB Day in Bangalore and Belgaum by taking part in events organised by the state RNTCP. In Bangalore, Dr. Srinivas, DTO, Bangalore Urban released a set of posters on the theme of leadership to end TB, along with other dignitaries. In Belgaum, RNTCP officials including the State Tuberculosis Officer Dr. Ramachandra Bayaree, released a set of IEC materials developed by KHPT including posters and radio jingles, as well as a coffee table book and documentary on the state's active case finding campaign.

Community-centred campaign activities

THALI outreach workers and community coordinators have been actively leading an awareness and screening campaign in urban slum populations across Bangalore. The campaign focused on creating a buzz in the community with autos playing jingles early in the day, followed by mid-media performances including magic shows, folk art performances and street plays, as well as meetings with individuals and small groups in the communities to spread the message of TB prevention, testing and timely treatment. The campaign activities also included the sensitization of occupational groups including Pourakarmikas and construction labourers.

Capacity building for health care providers in Telangana and Karnataka

KHPT organized a training of trainers (ToT) program for 22 healthcare providers on the management of drug-resistant tuberculosis (DRTB) in collaboration with the Karnataka State TB Cell and the State Task Force. KHPT's partner TB Alert India facilitated two such ToTs for RNTCP staff in Telangana.

Community-centred campaign activities

The Councillor of BBMP Ward No 49, Ms. Hanna Bhuvaneswari, pledged to arrange for food packages every alternate day for 30 TB patients in her area. THALI is reaching out to local government representatives in other wards to follow her example, in order to leverage nutritional support for TB-affected persons.

Theme: Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health

Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) Project

Triplets mom becomes WHO face of campaign

Renuka Hadapad, 29, who gave birth to triplets, has become the face of a campaign by the World Health Organization (WHO) to promote Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) for saving premature babies with low birthweight. The story was published by WHO and covered widely in state and national media, following which the District administration honoured Renuka and felicitated the KMC implementation team for their efforts in supporting Department to implement KMC program in Koppal. The KHPT KMC team also participated in the KMC implementation research sites review meeting organized by WHO and shared intervention progress with GoI officials.

Millet festival

KMC team set up a kiosk to disseminate information on KMC in the millet festival in Koppal, Karnataka. The kiosk had interactive audio visual communication aids on KMC which drew attention of 5000 people.

IHAT Karnataka TSU

Situation Need Assessment (SNA) program

The TSU carried out SNA in 100 villages in the district Chamarajanagara to obtain key information about district geography, service outlets, key population and PLHIV in the villages to help the TSU team implement the Link Worker Scheme (LWS) based on the needs of the population for HIV prevention.

Systematic Voters’ Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP)

TSU Karnataka in collaboration with BBMP conducted a sensitization program for vulnerable populations (FSW, MSM, TG and Migrants) on voting and its procedures. The team also helped the treaty members fill their application forms to obtain voter ID cards.

HR CORNER

A 5-day course on the Ethics in Public Health Practice organised by Azim Premji Foundation, Bangalore was attended by 3 employees of KHPT team.

A team of 5 members went for an exposure visit to GRAAM, HD Kote, Mysore.

Women's Day was celebrated at all KHPT /IHAT Offices on March 8 2018.

PUBLICATIONS

- Reaching the unreached: Coffee Table book, THALI
- Film on U.S. Consul General visit to the THALI program at Hyderabad on World TB Day

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