

COVID - 19

KHPT stands with the communities and the government in accelerating COVID - 19 response in Karnataka

COVID-19 is a global health emergency which is testing health systems and community preparedness around the world. As India gears up to tackle the pandemic through the strengthening of infrastructure, capacity building of health personnel and community awareness and behaviour change, we at KHPT have volunteered our skills and expertise to the Government of Karnataka to support their efforts. We are developing communication materials including audio jingles and short videos with key messages for the community, including handwashing, social distancing in everyday settings and avoiding false

information on the disease. These have been broadcast widely on Vividh Bharati and All India Radio. We are documenting the government's best practices to prepare the state for a pandemic situation, including surveillance efforts, infrastructure building and strong patient support systems.

Additionally, our monitoring teams have been assisting the GoK in the analysis of COVID-19 related data to support response efforts and our frontline health workers are being trained to support the government in conducting tele-counselling for quarantined families.

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA AS IT FIGHTS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE STATE. OUR FOCUS WILL ALWAYS REMAIN ON SERVING VULNERABLE GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY INFECTIOUS DISEASES.



KHPT Re-launched

KHPT, founded in 2003, has been working in the areas of maternal and child health, adolescent health, tuberculosis, HIV, and nutrition among others. While evidence-based programming and a strong community connect remained the foundation of its interventions, lack of clear decision making structures, poor vision-mission adherence internally and the shifting tides of donor priorities externally, led it to drift away from its identity and end goal.

KHPT's senior management took stock of its achievements, assessed its needs and goals and repositioned itself. This process, engaging the staff at all levels of KHPT for two years, resulted in focused vision, mission and intended impact statements, consolidation of

KHPT's planned efforts into five thematic areas (Adolescent Health, Maternal Neonatal and Child Health, Tuberculosis, HIV/ AIDS and Comprehensive Primary Health Care) and the definition of an organisational strategy through grading of these thematic areas into 'engines' of innovation, model demonstration, scale-up and knowledge translation.



KHPT organized ‘Hosa Hejje’, a retreat event to explain the organization’s new direction and rationale. KHPT’s new logo featuring a fresh blue and green colour palette, emphasizing the values of trust, confidence and stability, while highlighting health as KHPT’s area of work in a font that reflects KHPT’s reliability and approachability, was launched by Justice Shri N. Kumar, the former senior-most judge of the Karnataka High Court.

Smt. Vandita Sharma, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, launched the new KHPT website, which is intended to be more dynamic than its predecessor, and to communicate its vision, mission, role and impact effectively, while incorporating community voices and sharing resources developed under different initiatives.

voices

“It was lots of fun. We danced, we laughed, we mixed and we ate well. The retreat rejuvenated us and gave us a lot of energy to put back into our work.”

SUNITHA, ADOLESCENT HEALTH TEAM

“It was a good and refreshing experience away from the office.”

SUBHADRA, FINANCE TEAM

Tuberculosis

KHPT consortium awarded the USAID grant for TB community engagement project

A consortium of partners including TB Alert India, World Vision India and CARE India Solutions for Sustainable Development and led by KHPT in March received a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for a project entitled ‘Breaking the Barriers: Community engagement to accelerate TB elimination efforts in India through sustained behaviour change’. The four-year project will be implemented in select districts, reaching the urban poor, migrants, tribal, industrial and mining workers, and TB-HIV and drug-resistant TB patients, in Karnataka, Telangana, Bihar and Chhattisgarh.

ASHAs capacitated on counselling and Differentiated Care Model

ASHAs and Junior Health Workers are at the frontline of providing follow-up support and care for TB patients. THALI Community Coordinators (CCs) in Ballari worked with staff from the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) to improve their abilities to engage effectively with TB patients through trainings on the differentiated care model (DCM) and counselling techniques. Over a

series of seven pieces of training in February, covering 157 participants, the CCs led the ASHAs and junior health workers through the importance of providing prioritized care and developing active listening skills and the correct body language for effective communication with patients. NTEP staff, including Medical Officers, Senior

In Bengaluru, THALI CCs conducted intensive training on the DCM approach for frontline workers (FLWs), including ASHAs, ANMs, paramedical staff and health workers at Primary Health Centres (PHCs). Around 292 FLWs, including 148 ASHAS were involved in these trainings in the January-March period.



State National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) invites KHPT to World Bank meeting

KHPT was invited to a World Bank meeting with the state NTEP on February 25, which was attended by Central TB Division officials including Vikas Sheel, Joint Secretary, Dr Sachdeva, Deputy Director General (DDG), and Dr Sudarshan Mandal, Additional DDG. The meeting involved an update of NTEP policies, an overview of the program and discussions on the role of the state in the project. At the district review meeting the following day, the Koppal District TB Officer highlighted THALI's contribution to the

Rotary Club Bagalkot supports nutrition for TB-HIV patients

THALI project staff in Bagalkot in February mobilized the support of the Rotary Club of Bagalkot, which pledged to support 100 TB-HIV

KHPT hosts webinar on Specimen Collection and Transportation system

KHPT presented its award-winning case study on the use of a Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) approach to develop the Specimen Collection and Transportation (SCT) system for tuberculosis during a webinar hosted by CARE on January 24. KHPT's experience of building the system, refining it and adapting it for use of the private sector under the Joint Effort for Elimination of TB (JEET) project was shared in the webinar.

patients through the provision of nutritional supplements for three months. THALI CCs and outreach workers from Care and Support Centres will distribute the protein powder and iron tonic to the patients during house visits.



Naz Foundation organizes Netball coaching for adolescents in Koppal

82 adolescent girls and boys from five villages in Koppal participated in a five-day netball coaching organized by the Naz Foundation in March. The innovative game strategy created a platform for them to build mutual respect and work as a team to win the game, while also addressing issues of gender discrimination. Six girls and four boys will make it to One Nation Netball Cup, an all-India netball tournament to be held in the last week of April. Teams of adolescents across India will be participating in this event with the powerful message that "Sports is for all".



Sphoorthi girls set up a stall at Koppal's biggest fair "Ajjana Jatre"

120 Sphoorthi girls from 36 villages set up a stall for 10 days at the Gavi Siddeshwar "Ajjana Jatre", which is one of the most popular festivals in northern Karnataka attracting lakhs of people every year. The girls held interactions with visitors on the issues and rights of the girl child. They also sold home-made food products at the stall. Operating a stall helped them hone their communication, persuasion, and negotiation skills and learn how small businesses are run. The District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and UNICEF also put their IEC materials and shared information about POCSO, child marriages, etc.

Strengthening urban health systems for the delivery of comprehensive primary health care in Mysuru City
Health Systems Transformation Platform (HSTP) awarded a seed grant to KHPT to collaboratively develop an implementation research project in Mysuru on the financing and provision of comprehensive primary healthcare in urban settings. KHPT, in partnership with HSTP and GoK, organized a one-day district-level consultative workshop for the stakeholders on February 15 to build consensus on the proposed implementation research design and to ideate on the process of transformation of Mysuru city to a healthy city. The MD NHM, CEO Zilla Parishad, DD Urban Health also participated in the workshop along with representatives from Mysore City Corporation, academicians from Medical Colleges, representatives from Health and Family Welfare Department etc.

A community health worker project to improve patient-centric care

Medtronic Foundation (MF) has partnered with KHPT to leverage and maximize the pilot project of developing a Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) continuum of care model by supplementing its current health system-centric efforts with a patient-based approach. Under the project, a training was organized in Mysuru to enhance the knowledge and skills of Community Health Workers (CHWs) to provide patient-centric care. 21 CHWs, seven CHW Supervisors, the Project Officer, and the Lab Technician cum Counsellor participated in the seven-days' training. Through participatory techniques, the participants were oriented on the importance of communication skills, clinical aspects of NCDs, and patient centricity to deliver customized care for diabetic and hypertensive patients.



The event, named 'Nanu Nammavaru', exhorted them to express themselves. The two-day convention featured individual as well as group discussions, games, debates and experience-sharing forums, focusing on livelihood opportunities and exploring one's skills.

KHPT presents a poster on community-level drug dispensary to PLHIVs

KHPT presented a poster on best practices in Care and Support Centre (CSC) based on ART Centre Refilling in the National Review cum Reorientation Workshop at Delhi. The workshop was conducted by a consultant from WHO and representatives from Alliance India, UNAIDS, CDC, NACO, as well as senior team members from KHPT participated.

The objective of Community Drug Dispensaries was explained at the workshop, aiming at providing decentralized, quality services at the community closer to the homes of the PLHIVs. Implementing community-level drug dispensing to PLHIVs with flexible timings would also help address stigma and discrimination.

KHPT organizes Youth Convention 2020 for young PLHIVs

A youth convention was organized by KHPT with support from Sparsha, Gulbarga and Karnataka Network for People Living with HIV/AIDS (KNP+). The partners supported with the expenses of travel, accommodation and food for the convention. 42 young People Living with HIV (PLHIVs) from Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Yadgir, Bijapur and Bellary districts participated in the convention held on January 29 and 30.

The convention aimed at bringing the youth together to share experiences and learn from each other.

the staff corner

Employee engagement

KHPT organized an employee retreat February 13 and 14 at the Golden Palms Hotel, Bangalore. Around 120 staff working in different capacities across KHPT's operational geographies participated in the retreat. The event was titled 'Hosa Hejje', and the staff was oriented about the organization's new direction.



Colloquium

KHPT organized its 84th colloquium on February 26 at the KHPT office. The speaker was Mr VKLV Kumar, Director, Marketing for DHI Verifications, working for background verifications and client servicing. He is a specialist in Marketing and Advertising who spoke on the topic "Rhythms and Tunes of Market Song", concentrating on consumer behaviour for successful marketing.



New additions to KHPT Team

During the January-March 2020, quarter, KHPT welcomed 57 staff in different capacities and 11 volunteers and engaged them under various projects.

Learning and development initiatives

Mr Rajkumar Kataraki, a staff from KHPT attended an introductory course in Art Practices for Inclusion at Snehadhara Foundation, Bengaluru.

Internship

Two students from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai and one student from JSS College, Mysore joined KHPT as interns to the THALI and NCD project, as part of their academic curriculum.