

Theme of the newsletter:

Breastfeeding Week

World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated globally from 1st to 7th August, in more than 120 countries to re-establish global breastfeeding culture and provide support for the same everywhere. KHPT observed the week by continuing to spread the message on the benefits of breastfeeding in its programs. It ran an online campaign with the tagline- "Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding" during the week.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/B1GGIG3FLYu/>

PROJECT UPDATES



Theme: Tuberculosis

Project: Tuberculosis Health Action Learning Initiative (THALI)

Launch of e-module on TB management for healthcare providers

An e-module on technical and operational guidelines for TB developed by the THALI technical team and a team at St John's Medical College, Bengaluru, was launched on August 29th. On successful completion of the same, healthcare providers (public and private) will be awarded a certificate.



The event was attended by Dr. Manjula M, Additional Project Director, Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS) and former State TB Officer, Karnataka, and Dr. Anil, Deputy Director-TB, Karnataka State RNTCP.

KHPT supports the roll-out of counseling training in Karnataka

The technical team at KHPT provided handholding support to the master trainers they had capacitated in July, to roll out counselling training for RNTCP facility staff. After their training, Block Health Education Officers and District Health Education Officers in the Bengaluru, Mysore, Gulbarga and Belgaum region were shortlisted based on their skills to capacitate TB Health Visitors, Senior Treatment Supervisors and PPM Coordinators on counselling skills using a module developed by KHPT. The technical team supported these master trainers in conducting sessions featuring interactive sessions and role play exercises on communication skills in counselling, the Differentiated Care Model (DCM), treatment adherence and handling stigma. The trainings covered 185 staff across the four regions over the month of August.



KHPT wins USAID competition with TB innovation case study

KHPT was announced a winner of USAID's Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) Case Competition 2019 for its case study on the Specimen Collection and Transportation (SCT) System developed under THALI. The case study documents the development of the SCT system using a CLA approach to streamline sample collection for testing and prevent delays in diagnosis and treatment initiation. KHPT is one of ten winners, out of 97 entries globally, which will be featured on the USAID Learning Lab database to serve as a resource for USAID staff and partners.

The case study, titled "Using CLA towards an innovative approach preventing diagnostic delay for TB patients," can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2kQi0RV>

THALI findings presented at Global Healthcare Summit 2019

Dr. Prakash Kudur, Project Director of THALI presented learnings of the project implemented in three states at a workshop in Hyderabad on recent updates in TB organized by the Zonal Task Force (South Zone 1) and the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI). The workshop, themed 'Ending TB in India by 2025- Challenges and Solutions', was attended by 150 participants from AAPI, including teaching faculty, postgraduate students from medical colleges from a number of states, and state TB officials from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh



Theme: Nutrition

Project: Promoting and Strengthening Edible Oil and Milk Fortification in India

Food Fortification Conclave

Food Fortification Conclave- Telangana state was conducted in the presence of Shri. B. Vinod Kumar, Vice Chairperson, Telangana State Planning Board in Hyderabad on September 16th. Jointly organized by the Office of Commissioner of Food Safety- Govt. of Telangana, KHPT and GAIN (Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition), the conclave was organised to plan the implementation of the food fortification strategy for addressing the prevalent micronutrient deficiencies in Telangana.



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Chief guest Shri. Vinod Kumar, inaugurated the conclave, accompanied by Dr. K. Shankar, Director Food Safety, Telangana, Mr. Mohan, Managing Trustee, KHPT and Ms. Usha Rani, Director, JSS. The program was attended by more than 90 participants including food safety officials, KHPT and GAIN officials, edible oil, milk and wheat flour industries. Shri. Kumar launched the Fortification poster with "+F" logo and also felicitated 10 industries who have initiated fortification in their edible oil and milk brands.

Expanding reach

The edible oil and milk projects that were earlier mandated to work in 8 states of the country, have been expanded to the 9th state, Meghalaya due to high burden of micro-nutrient deficiencies in the state. As per NFHS-4, one in two women and one in three men in Meghalaya are anaemic, which is higher than the national average. After having interactions with departments of Health (food safety office), Social Welfare, and



Education, interventions were planned to ensure availability of fortified foods in open market, not just for general public but also for MDM and ICDS programs.

KHPT has sensitized 11 food safety officials, 16 edible oil distributors who distribute oil all across Meghalaya, 2 milk dairies and 6 out of 7 roller flour mills on food fortification.

Round table meeting

A round table meeting was convened with the ICDS, Tamil Nadu and GAIN with the line departments for adoption of fortified staples in safety net programs on September 17th in Chennai. The meeting was chaired by Selvi Kavitha Ramu,



Director cum Mission Director, ICDS, Tamil Nadu. About 10 different departments and NGOs participated in the discussion. The deliberations and decisions during the meeting will be shared and submitted to the Secretary, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department for introduction of staple fortified foods in the safety net programs of the state.



Theme: Adolescent Health and Education

Project: Sphoorthi

Collection drive initiated by adolescent girls to contribute to flood relief

Suma, a cluster level representative from Bahadurbandi who studies in 10th class initiated a collection drive in her village to help flood victims in Karnataka. Together they collected a total of, they collected Rs.2200/-, with which she bought stationery, 50 new sarees and 70 kilos of rice and donated them to TV 9 channel for distribution.



Likewise, Irkalgeda cluster representative initiated a collective drive for flood relief, collected Rs.6000/- and gave the proceeds to their college.

Kitchen gardening by 1000 girls at Koppal

As many as 1000 girls have started kitchen gardens in their homes in the 51 villages of Koppal block. They grow spinach, coriander, fenugreek, lady's finger, tomato, radish, ridge gourd, mint etc. The girls advocate having kitchen gardens in the unused space in and around their homes as it ensures continuous supply of fresh leafy and green vegetables to the families. Girls have also used plastic bottles and big plastic bags to grow these vegetables sending out the message, "reuse and recycle" to all.

Advocacy through letters to government departments

During the 3rd district representative meeting of the Sphoorthi adolescent collective in July, girls wrote 10 letters expressing their problems to the concerned authorities.

The subject of the letters ranged from construction of toilets, supply of IFA tablets, regularizing Child Protection Cell meetings, ensuring water in the school toilets and need for buses between villages. A copy of these letters are available at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/154616304@N02/albums/72157710821723522>



After submitting the letters, the supply of IFA tablets was resumed in Hiresindhogi School, a bus was arranged for girls in Budugumpa for commuting to college, and other such positive results were seen.

Theme: Non-Communicable Diseases

Project: Strengthening Continuum of Care of NCDs through an integrated urban health systems model in Mysore, Karnataka

KHPT's experience sharing on NCD project

A state level Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized by National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) on NCD for the Medical Officers, staff nurses, Junior Health Assistants-Female (JHA) & ASHAs of all the urban areas of Karnataka. KHPT was invited to share the experience of implementing NCD project in Mysuru and to take technical sessions like microplanning & outreach, health promotion and behaviour change communication (BCC).



Following this, Mysuru Urban Health Department approached KHPT for sharing experiences from the NCD and conducting technical sessions in the Mysuru district roll-out training for the urban Medical Officers (MOs), Staff nurses, JHAs & ASHAs.

Training of counsellors, pharmacist & lab technicians:

KHPT conducted a training for pharmacists, lab technicians & counsellors in the NCD project area, Mysore. The pharmacists were sensitized about the NCD project, inventory management, indenting supplies and dispensing of drugs for diabetes and hypertension. Lab technicians were sensitized about the NCD project and also about using and providing advanced diagnostics services. This resulted in the commencement of advanced diagnostic services (HbA1c, DR, Lipid profile, Serum Urea, Serum creatinine tests) at the Jayanagar Urban Community Health Centre (UHC).



Theme: HIV/AIDS

Project: Vihaan

Meeting with Care Support and Treatment division KSAPS

A joint review and training session was conducted for 3 days in two batches of 36 CSC (Care and Support Center) Project Coordinators and ARTC Data Managers from 64 ART Centres on July 24th to 26th. The Project Coordinators and ART centre data managers were present to build coordination between ARTC and CSC (Care and Support Center) teams and improve the implementation of differentiated care and follow ups. A total of 97 members participated in this event and CSC-wise performance was reviewed.



Project: MAC AIDS

Youth Leadership workshop in Bangalore

Youth leadership training was implemented in the state reached out to nearly 60 youths to play the role of peer leaders who will work with other youths in the district and provide them information, services and guide them regarding different government schemes. The first of these meetings was implemented in Bangalore, where in-youth representatives from Bangalore, Kolar, Mandya, Chikaballapur and Tumkur were present. During the two-day workshop there were discussions regarding concerns of adolescents, specifically those faced by HIV positive youth. They talked about health related concerns like adherence to Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART), psychosocial issues, education related problems, and about sustainable livelihoods. In addition to ensuring support of the networks and project teams to address the needs of the youth, the workshop helped the participants consider their responsibility towards the other young members in the community.



HR AND EMPLOYEE CORNER

New additions into the KHPT team

During this quarter, we welcomed around 37 new staff in different capacities and 13 volunteers to the KHPT family, and engaged them under various projects. Walk-in-interviews were conducted at different locations of KHPT to attract the best resources for our programs.

Employee engagement

'Independence Day' was celebrated in the month of August during the Independence Week across all KHPT offices. The theme of the celebration was 'Proud to be an Indian' and here are a few glimpses of the celebration.

As is the general practice in KHPT, the HR unit adopted retention measures to retain good talent from project closures. Selected staff were successfully signed up under various other projects. A competitive selection process was adopted to retain them.



Learning and development initiatives

Six staff from KHPT were nominated to attend various learning and development training programs within India. The domains of expertise for the capacity building trainings were chosen from finance, data management and communication.

Internship

In this quarter we had two students pursuing their Masters in Public Health (M.PH.) interning with KHPT as part of their academic curriculum. They were closely involved in conducting the needs assessment study of the NCD project.



Publications

Journal of global Health

- "The Samata intervention to increase secondary school completion and reduce child marriage among adolescent girls: results from a cluster randomized control trial in India".

Global Public Health (an International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice)

- "Media, nationalism, and the body: Exploring masculinities, male partner violence, and HIV vulnerability among female sex workers in northern Karnataka, India".