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Impact India Foundation's (IIF) Chairman, Ramesh Students from George Washington University, Sarin, visits the Community Health Initiative (CHI)





Ramesh Sarin, IIF's respected Chairman, visited Wada office on 14th August, 2012. He was received by a differently abled boy, Shanker Bhoir, born with no hands, whose vision was restored through IIF's help.

Mr. Sarin observed a Health Education programme on the reduction of Anaemia in adolescent girls and pregnant women conducted by an Anganwadi* worker, who was trained by the CHI staff, at Dhawarpada, Mandwa Sub Centre.

Whilst commending CHI staff for their hard work remote areas in difficult circumstances, Mr. Sarin urged them to ensure that they left behind an

awakened community which had benefitted from the IIF's Information, Education and Communication sessions, to improve their health. He reiterated that Objective, Preparation, Transmission and Assimilation, must be kept in mind.

At Parali Primary Health Centre (PHC), Mr. Sarin met the Government's Medical Officers who appreciated the role of the CHI in increasing the attendance at the PHC and of immunization coverage, as well as, the registration of pregnant women at Parali PHC and its eleven sub centres.

(GWU) visit the CHI



GWU students teach nutrition to Parali Ashramshala students

Fourteen graduate students accompanied by Prof Amita Vyas and Prof E. Blaine Parrish visited Wada on 6th August, 2012 and witnessed an immunisation programme of infants, an Ante Natal Care clinic, the distribution of Iron & Folic Acid tablets for Anaemia reduction in adolescent girls, the School Health Monitor programme and the Snakes & Ladders Health Game.

Samantha White with a Master's Degree in Public Health, George Washington University, USA, volunteered with Impact India and developed a short which involved travel to film "Meet Vidya" on Anaemia Reduction for tribal



school children. See:http://ww w.youtube.co m/watch?v=2 M-NT08hfRq

Zelma Lazarus, Impact's CEO, said "Sam (as we call her) is meticulous, thorough, extremely

flexible and versatile. She has contributed substantially to enhancing our Community Health Initiative through innovative communications methods".

*Day Care Centre

Remarked Prof. Amita Vyas, Assistant Professor & Director, Maternal & Child Health Program Department of Prevention and Community Health, George Washington University - *"It was an honour to visit IIF's programmes and to see first-hand their incredible achievements in improving health for underserved families. Public Health programmes often face challenges with sustainability but IIF's approach of engaging and educating young children as Health Monitors among their peers is both innovative and sustainable. IIF's health programmes are transforming rural India by training and empowering communities."*





Students learn about health and hygiene from IIF's Snakes & Ladders Health Game.



Parali PHC - with its 11 Sub Centres caters to a Tribal population of about 60,000 people. Immunisation of infants and maternal care are its prime responsibilities. Some of the challenges include poor transport

connectivity to outlying padas (hamlets), the community's blind belief in Bhagats (Traditional Medicine practitioners) poor sanitation and hygiene practices.

Remarked Prof. Amita Vyas, Assistant Professor & JSW (Jindal Steel Works) Foundation treats vision Director, Maternal & Child Health Program Department impairment



A project in partnership between JSW and IIF with a purpose to detect and treat vision impairment, free-ofcost, in the Tribal Block of Shahapur, Thane District, Maharashtra was carried out recently. 4474 persons afflicted with cataracts, squints, vitamin A deficiency, lazy eyelid syndrome, glaucoma, night blindness etc were diagnosed on IIF's Lifeline Express Mobile Clinic (diagnostic van), equipped with vision testing equipment, and treated at partner hospitals nearby.

Hyderabad Industries construct Toilet Blocks for students of Parali Ashramshala (tribal residential school) in Wada, Thane District. Toilets in rural schools will greatly help to retain girls in schools who tend to drop-out during puberty. This will lead to an improvement in Sanitation and a decline in disease in the rural areas where open defecation is a common practice. The security of girls is also ensured.



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Ravit Kedem, long-standing supporter of Impact India's CHI, and 25 of her friends, donated 73 Baby blankets on 4th June, 2013, for pregnant women in Thane District, Maharashtra, to protect their babies from hypothermia. Ravit's group of international friends from Israel, USA, Europe and other countries meet twice a month and deliberate on giving back to the community. Slum children in Mumbai have benefitted from this group's support for education and sports.



Ravit Kedem from Israel and Jacqueline Snel from Curacao donate Baby blankets for rural infants to Impact's CEO, Zelma Lazarus

Johnson & Johnson contributes to the Baby Wrap project



Impact India donates Baby Wraps to pregnant women to promote Ante and Post Natal check-ups, and births under skilled medical care. The Baby Wrap project is used as an entry point to counsel women on Ante and Post Natal Care and to register at Government health facilities for births under skilled medical care.

Pfizer helps to increase awareness at Parali PHC

Impact India, Pfizer and the District Integrated Health & Family Welfare Society, Zilla Parishad, Thane, have upgraded Parali Primary Health Centre, Wada, under a Public Private Partnership. Pfizer organised a workshop to demonstrate best practices related to Hygiene and Sanitation.



Bajaj Foundation donates two Scooters

Impact India's female staff is now empowered to reach remote areas in Impact India's Community Health Initiative, to motivate rural communities on the importance of immunisation and Mother & Child Health.



Impact India's Mamta Nipurte and Sumita Patil on their new Scooters

Rain Water Harvesting at Dolhara, Mokhada, sponsored by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation.

Flanges were being placed to seal the run-off of stored water through bundhs (sub-surface walls). Some of the structures were built by shramdan (voluntary service) for Rain Water Harvesting in Dolhara, Mokhada - a water scarcity village afflicted by malnutrition.



On 29th September, 2012 a group of **ladies from Wales, raised £1,100** at a charity event in U.K. to support the Lifeline Express. Lynette Moss, a supporter of the train project, addressed the gathering.



On 14th July, 2012, Sushma Puri raised £ 700 for Impact India's Lifeline Express by hosting a stall at a fair in Richmond, near Twickenham, England. Friends -Pratima, Chobi and Shobna helped with selling food, conducting head and foot massages, and application of henna.

Delegation from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) International visits IIF



A group of senior Business leaders, comprising GSK Vice Presidents and General Managers from Poland, Russia, Ireland, USA, UK, Spain and Singapore, met IIF on 15th May, 2013 to understand the health challenges in rural India and to learn about IIF's activities and achievements. They appreciated IIF's approach and ability to work in partnership with the Government, rather than create a parallel set up, and made detailed enquiries about the functioning of IIF's Disability Reduction projects - The Lifeline Express and the Community Health Initiative (CHI). IIF reiterated the importance of Public Private Partnerships and stated that it sought GSK's long-term support in the replication of the CHI, focused on Mother and Child Health.

World Disability Day observed



To observe 'World Disability Day' on 3rd December, 2012 Impact India Foundation's CHI staff organised rallies in Wada with school children, making them aware of the existing rural disabled population and sensitising them on preventive measures. The importance of timely immunisation and safe birth practices to stem the disability rate was highlighted.

Lifeline Express in Monisha Rajesh's Book "Around India in 80 Trains"



Released on 5th October 2012 in Delhi, Impact India's Lifeline Express is featured on pages 181 to 189 of the book.

An excerpt from the book - "Preethi Chaudhuri... was plucked from her (waiting) grandmother's arms, and carried away as the elderly lady dabbed her eyes with the corner of her sari. Eerie beeping punctuated the silence as Preethi was sedated. At 1.20 pm her chest stopped twitching, her lids closed, her (deformed) leg was

sutured and plastered and she was carried out. Thirty minutes was all it took to change her life. Her grandmother shifted across the seat, her eyes wet, as her granddaughter was placed down. I turned to leave and Preethi's grandmother gripped my wrist All I could manage was 'sab theek hai' (all is well), twinned with a thumbs up gesture. Tears rolled into her wrinkles and she fanned herself with her sari, laughing with relief."

Zelma in "DADDY'S LOGIC" - "For ZELMA LAZARUS, Chief Executive Officer of Impact India Foundation, the LIFELINE EXPRESS surely did begin with a dream.....Zelma understood well the unique social challenges that the rural and semi-urban population in India faced. She understood that for millions of Indians living outside big cities, medical care was simply not available". - Anthony Rose in his just



published book, "DADDY'S LOGIC". Zelma is featured in Chapter 3, "DREAM BIG"Pages 32-34. **Capacity building of Government health service providers** at the grassroots level is vital to the sustainability of Impact India's interventions in the Community Health Initiative in Maharashtra.



Impact India trains Anganwadi^{*} workers on monitoring the growth of infants aged 0 to 6 years, and educates them on mobilising pregnant women to consume Iron & Folic Acid Tablets, Tetanus Toxoid vaccinations and to get Ante Natal check-ups.

IIF trains Government's Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) and the staff of Primary Health Centres on verifying pregnancies through urine tests and to note the albumin content. IIF teaches ANMs that if a woman is under 18 years of age, if her weight is below 40 kgs or, if her Hb level is below 7 gram %, her pregnancy is *"atrisk"*. Treatment from the Doctor or Gynaecologist is essential. IIF also trains ANMs on monitoring the growth of the foetus and on identifying infections in Post Natal Cases for immediate medical attention.

Impact India motivates community volunteers to form **Gram Arogya Samitis** (Village Health Committees). At one such meeting held on 19th August, 2012 at Pinjal village, Wada, participants were informed of the role and activities of the Government health hierarchy systems prevailing at Sub Centre, Primary Health Centre, Rural Hospital / Civil Hospital and Apex Hospital levels.

*Day Care Centre

Zelma at Anthony's Book Launch in Mumbai.

Impact India's 141st Lifeline Express project was conducted from 10th to 28th February 2013 at Naksalbari Railway Station, West Bengal, at which there were 4,267 beneficiaries, - the eighth project sponsored by Mahindra & Mahindra.



Shankar Malakar, Hon. MLA, Matigra-Nasalbari, West Bengal, inaugurated the project. Alongside is Mr. Rajeev Dubey, President (Group HR, After Market and Corporate Services) and Member of Group Executive Board, Mahindra & Mahindra, together with Mahindra staff.

Jyotiraditya Scindia, Hon. Union Minister of State, Ministry of Power, inaugurated Impact India's 142nd Lifeline Express project conducted from 11th March to 6th April 2013 at Shivpuri Railway Station, Madhya Pradesh.



15,158 patients benefitted at this project, which is eleventh project sponsored by the Madhavrao Scindia Swasth Mission.

We are grateful to Impact Foundation, U.K., for its generous donations in support of Impact India Foundation's Lifeline Express and to Cognizant Foundation for its donation towards various equipment.



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