

Relief Projects India

Annual Report

The annual report of Relief Projects India reflects the social programmes and activities accomplished during the period January 2018 to December 2018. RPI conducted awareness programs, medical activities, events, celebrations and various social activities to uplift the community. These activities are the key to reach the ultimate goal of RPI which is to develop the women and children in the community by providing health and education.

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PROGRAMS	NO OF PROGRAMS	BENEFICIARIES
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS		
Mountain View Nursery and Primary School	n/a	140 students
Free evening tuition centres	6 centres	320 students x 280 days
Assistance to local government nursery schools	5 centres	105 students x 52 days p/a
Right to Education selection	n/a	8 children
AWARENESS PROGRAMS		
Adolescent girls' health awareness	4	75
Adolescent boys' awareness	1	18
Healthy baby contest	4	53
Maternal and child health program	2	30
Women's health awareness	1	30
Anganwadi (village nursery school) mothers meeting	3	46
Students' health awareness	6	220
Community health awareness	1	40
Tuberculosis awareness	5	260
HIV awareness	2	60
Environment awareness	1	25
MEDICAL PROGRAMS		
Dengue prevention program	1	94
Rally	1	130
Cleaning campaign	1	200
Regular nutritional support to underweight village children	/	4
CELEBRATIONS		
Girl Child day	1	25
Independence Day and Republic Day	1	136
Diwali and Pongal	1	25
Christmas & New year	1	45
Women's day	1	22
Children's' Day	1	94
Teacher's day	1	8
EVENTS		
Sports day for Mountain View School	1	94
Annual day for Mountain View School	1	94
Summer camp for attendees of our free tuition centres	1	160
Staff excursion	1	25
Distribution of donated stationery supplies at tuition centres	3	320
Contribution to pond deepening in local village		

MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL

In 2018, 3rd standard class was started, to accommodate the children graduating from 2nd standard. Also, a second UKG class was started, as last year, the school opened a second LKG class. The total number of students for the year was 137.

Three new classrooms were completed and inaugurated for the primary grades. Construction of the final seven classrooms required for the primary level will commence soon.

A sponsor purchased Smart Boards for the primary classes, and we obtained a special reduced price on the Smart Classes. These greatly improve the quality of teaching for the children, especially as the teachers all come from local villages and are not totally fluent in English.



AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Adolescent Girls Health Awareness

Adolescence is an important and complex stage for girls. In this stage girls will face the physical, mental and social changes. To assist adolescent girls RPI conducted 4 programs during 2018 on health, hygiene, the importance of education, skill development and early marriage issues. Seventy five girls benefited from these programs.



Adolescent Boys Meetings

The Adolescent Boys Program works directly with boys aged 12-18 and the program benefits all individuals within the family, community, and village. Topics covered are the change in social norms and practices with the primary recognition that females are equal to males; equipping boys to better handle leadership, peer pressure, and violence; life skills and effects of drugs, smoking, and alcohol consumption, basic information about HIV and tuberculosis. Eighteen boys participated in the program.

Healthy Baby Contest

Healthy baby contests address the knowledge of mothers on mother and child health. Four programs were conducted and 52 PNC mothers participated in the program. For the category of most healthy baby, a general physical health of the babies, immunization, height, weight and hygiene were addressed. The development of the baby was addressed by the child's ability to walk, throw and follow the ball. Questions about birth weight, hygiene, mother feed, nutritional supplements, immunization and contraceptive methods were posed to the mothers. Prizes were distributed to the winner and the participants.



Maternal Health

Maternal health is closely connected to infant health. MCH meetings were conducted in 2 villages and more than 30 ANC/PNC mothers participated in the meeting. Awareness on mother and child health was discussed in these meetings. ANC care, early registration in a Primary Health Care centre, regular health monitoring, preparing for delivery, spacing methods and nutrition intake were discussed and explained. Contraceptive methods and haemoglobin level monitoring were also discussed in the meeting. Immunization of the children and the importance of hygiene and nutrition was insisted.



Women's Health Awareness

A health awareness program for women was conducted in a village. More than 30 women's participated in the program. The importance of personal hygiene, environmental hygiene and responsibility of women to take care of their health and their spouse, children and family members were discussed. Education is the key

to empower women, the importance of women education was insisted. Many of the village women are not seeking medical providers for their health issues, especially for infections and menstrual problems. They were advised to seek doctors for their issues.

Mothers Meeting

Forty six mothers of the government nursery school (anganwadi) children who underwent haemoglobin test participated in meetings conducted in three villages. The haemoglobin level of each child was explained to the parents. The awareness about treatment and nutrition to improve the HB level was given. In the anganwadi centres they are providing lunch and nutritional support to the kids. But the responsibility of the parents is more important to take care of their children in the home. It was insisted to provide nutritious food instead of junk foods.



Community Awareness

A community awareness program was conducted in Chettiyapatti village. Village leaders and the general public participated in the program. The importance of clean environment, women's education, skill development training for girls were discussed. RPI staff interacted with the village leaders to avoid school drop-outs of students and early marriages.



Students Health Awareness

Health awareness program for students was conducted 6 villages. More than 180 students participated in these programs. Most of the students had awareness on health seeking behaviour, but lack in implementing it. They have knowledge about hand washing, brushing the teeth twice in a day, taking baths and wearing clean clothes. But due to the poor economic condition and lack of good water facility they were not interested to following that. The health issues due to unhygienic condition was explained and insist them to follow healthy behaviours.

Tuberculosis Awareness

Tuberculosis (TB) remains as an important public health problem in India. Awareness about the disease, its diagnosis, and treatment among public will help in controlling the killer disease. RPI and Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program jointly conducted 5 awareness programs in the villages. More than 300 villagers benefited from these programs. The cause, symptoms, and cure, as well as various misconceptions and stigmas attached to TB were explained in these meetings. Awareness among the general population, especially vulnerable population regarding TB is important and it leads to timely treatment. Knowledge about the common symptoms of TB and availability of free diagnosis and treatment facility for TB will help in improving the treatment seeking behaviour.



HIV awareness

Two HIV awareness programmes were conducted in the high risk villages. More than 30 boys participated in these programs.. Participants said there had been a few HIV related deaths. Migrated people and lack of awareness are the reason for the issue. The boys had lot of misconceptions about HIV. The programs were conducted with a Power Point presentation. They asked various questions about mode of transmission, way of prevention and treatment for HIV. After the program individual counselling was given to the boys and their questions clarified.



Environment awareness

Every year, June 5th has been observed as World Environment Day. RPI conducted awareness programs in Chettiyapatti colony and Dhottappanayakkanur. Clean environment was insisted in the programs. More than 25 women in Chettiyapatti and 40 students in Dhottappanayakkanur participated in the program. The diseases and problems due to pollution were discussed. The theme of the day is “reuse or don't use plastics” and the defects of plastics for health and the environment were explained. Proper waste disposal and importance of trees and pollution-free environment was insisted.



Medical programs

1. Dengue awareness and neem water distribution

Dengue awareness program was conducted in Mountain View School for the staff and students on 10.11.18. They were reminded to keep their environment clean. The school environment was properly cleaned to make it free from mosquitoes. Water tanks and water channels were checked and cleaned. The students were reminded to take pure drinking water. The Primary Health Centre medical officer attended the program and gave the children and staff nilavembu (neem) powder for the prevention of dengue fever.

Rally and Competitions

A students' rally was conducted in T. Krishnapuram village to make the community aware of the importance of cleaning. Primary class students and staff participated in the rally. The rally went through all the streets of that village with awareness sign boards and slogans. The importance of this program was explained in every of the street where the public gathered. Students did a hand-washing demonstration in the community. Students were also involved in a drawing competition and activities like making model rain water harvesting, natural water filter and planting trees. Prizes were distributed to the winners.

Swatchhta Pakhwada Programs (Cleaning Campaign)

The Human Resource Development department instructed all the schools to conduct various cleaning activities and awareness from September 1st to 15th. Relief Projects India and Mountain View School conducted various cleaning activities during this period. Program was kicked off on September 1st by taking oath by staff and students in school. Staff from RPI and MV school organised an awareness program in Ambasamuthiram village.

More than 30 village people and community leaders participated in it. The importance of a clean house and environment was discussed. Problems of using plastics and importance of growing trees were insisted in the program. Afterwards, 10 students wrote letters to the Prime Minister of India about their active participation in the cleaning campaign.



NUTRITION SUPPORT (ANGANWADI UNDERWEIGHT CHILDREN)

RPI has been involved in various educational and health activities in anganwadi centres. Last year it provide nutrition support to 2 underweight students in Ambasamuthiram centre and their weight and health has improved. This year we came to know 4 children are underweight in 3 anganwadi centres. Our staff interacted with the parents and care takers of these children and counselled them about treatment, hygiene and nutrition. RPI has been providing nutrition support such as ghee, peanut chikkies and bananas to these children and their weight is gradually improving.



EDUCATION SUPPORT MATERIALS

Stationery goods donated by LINCPEN company were distributed to all the tuition students. More than 350 students benefited from this. Large and small note books, scales, pencils, erasers, sharpeners and geometry boxes were distributed to them. Most of the students studying in the tuitions are economically poor. These materials encourage them and help them to continue their education. They conveyed their thanks to LINC and RPI.

CELEBRATIONS

1. Republic Day and Independence Day

Independence Day was celebrated in MV school. Teachers, students and all the staff participated in the program. The sacrifice of national leaders for freedom was explained to the students. Cultural activities like dance, songs and fancy dress performances were done by the students and sweets were distributed to the participants.

2. Children's Day

Children's day was celebrated in both Mountain View School and in the tuition centres on November 14. Teachers explained the students about Children's Day and Jawaharlal Nehru. Children's enjoyed various games and sweets were distributed to them.



3. Girl Child Day

The International Girl Child Day was celebrated in Edayapatti tuition centre on 11.10.18. 25 girls participated in this program. Education, nutrition, gender equality and legal rights were explained to the students. The girls promised to continue their education without dropping out. Quiz related to the rights of girl child was conducted and all the girls enjoyed the program.

4. Women's Day

Women's Day was celebrated in Maruthampatti on 8.3.18. 25 women participated in the meeting. The importance of women's education, gender equality, women's rights were discussed. Women's came forward and explained how they overcome the hurdles in their life. The responsibility of women in the family and society was explained. Conveyed Women's Day wishes to all.

5. Teachers Day

Teachers Day was celebrated in MV school with teachers and students. The correspondent and education advisor of MV school participated in the program and appreciated the teachers for their services and hard work. Teachers explained the students about the Teachers day and the birthday of Dr. Radhakrishnan who was the President of India has been celebrated as Teachers day every year. Appreciation gifts were given to the teachers and sweets were distributed to the students.

6. Pongal celebration

Pongal festival was celebrated in Mountain View School on 11.1.18 with the staff, students, Directors and GM of RPI. Every year RPI is celebrating Pongal festival. This is the harvest festival special to Tamil people. Pongal and sugar-cane were distributed to the participants.

7. Diwali celebration

Diwali, the festival of light, was celebrated with all the RPI and Mountain View School staff. Director of RPI, and all staff attended. Diwali wishes were conveyed by the Director. Sweets and new dresses were distributed to the staff.

8. Christmas celebration

Christmas and New year were celebrated with all the staff and volunteers. A Christmas speech was given by the Director. Songs, dances and cultural activities were done by the children. Staff enjoyed the cakes and Christmas feast. Greetings with bonus money was given to all the staff.

EVENTS

Sports day

Sports day of Mountain View School was conducted on 23.3.18. All the students participated in various games. The students participated in activities such as running, lemon and spoon race, water in the bottle, ball and balloon games. All the participants were appreciated by the Correspondent for their active participation in the sports. The winners were honoured with the crowns.

Annual day

Annual day of Mountain View School was conducted on 28.3.18. Mr.Vanjinathan, the social activist, was the chief guest of the day and Mr. Aravind the industrialist and social activist was invited as guest of honour. Correspondent and Educational Advisor presided. The annual report was presented by the Correspondent. Prizes were distributed for sports winners and academic toppers. Appreciation prizes were given to all the staff. Cultural activities like dances, skits and songs were presented by the students.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp is a very special program for the tuition students. RPI is conducting the summer education camp every year for the students to spend the summer holidays with fun activities and learn some special

things. This year the summer camp was conducted on the second week of May from 7.5.18 to 12.5.18. 160 tuition students from 6 villages voluntarily attended the camp.

Children above 5th standard participated in art classes. The art classes were conducted by Mrs. Susanna, the education advisor of RPI. The children below 5th standard were involved in colouring the drawing books. Dance classes were conducted by Neyya and team. Dance classes made the sessions more fun. Phonics and spoken English sessions were conducted by the Mountain View School teachers to improve the English knowledge of the attendees, most of whom attend Tamil-medium schools. Group activities were done to improve teamworking skills. They brought unity among the students who come from different villages and communities. Every day icebreaker games were conducted to refresh the students. Cultural performances were done by the children on the final day of the summer camp. Prizes were distributed for the best performances in all the activities.



New building Inauguration

The construction of three new class rooms for primary classes was completed and they were inaugurated by the Director. The new classrooms are furnished and equipped with digital smart classes.

Excursion

RPI arranged an excursion for the staff on 14.5.18. All the RPI staff from Mountain View School, tuitions, anganwadies, gardeners, driver and office staff went on the excursion. An excellent resort in Dindigul was the spot selected for the outing. Peace and pleasant atmosphere in a natural environment attracted every one. They enjoyed swimming in the lake and in the swimming pool and walked through the lake and the forest. Excellent hospitality was provided to the staff. They enjoyed and felt relaxed and it helped to start the new academic year with new energy.

REFERRAL, FOLLOW-UP AND OUTCOME

1. 137 children from very poor villages are receiving an excellent English-medium education.
2. 3 women referred for free tailoring course which they successfully completed and are now earning.
3. 11 members with symptoms of TB were referred to the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program and 2 of them were found to be positive and started treatment.
4. Health seeking behaviour of adolescent girls improved.
5. 5 boys individually came for HIV counselling and referred them to HIV testing and treatment centre.
6. Extended social programs to the new villages.
7. Anganwadi underweight children are improving due to the nutritional support.
8. 320 students benefit from free tuition centres.
9. 105 in anganwadies receive fun learning education by the RPI volunteers.
10. Water storage pond in Dhottappanayakkanur was deepened by the contribution of RPI.
11. Education department approved 8 free education seats (RTE) to Mountain View School.