

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Relief Projects India runs Mountain View Nursery and Primary School for poor children in the area of Dottappanayakanur, Usilampatti Taluk. In addition, we run the SHE program, (Services, Health, Education,) designed to develop women and children in the community.

From January to December RPI was involved in various camps, awareness programs, and social activities to improve the community.

Compiled by

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List of Activities

SI No	Programs	No of programs	Beneficiaries
	CAMPS AND MEDICAL PROGRAMS		
1	Cervical cancer camp	1	59
2	Eye camp	1	147
3	Health monitoring camp (anganwadi children)	1	78
4	Adolescent haemoglobin camp	1	35
5	Rubella vaccine camp	1	40
6	Dengue awareness and neem-water distribution	1	104
7	Deworming	1	94
8	Summer camp	1	150 students x 7 days
	AWARENESS PROGRAMS		
9	Healthy baby contest	3	48
10	Adolescent health awareness	2	50
11	Drug awareness—students	1	20
12	Drug awareness—parents	4	85
13	Environment awareness	1	20
14	Gender issues	1	15
15	Cervical cancer awareness	4	110
16	TB and HIV awareness	4	600
17	Tb day rally	1	800
18	Students health awareness	6	200
19	Nutrition day awareness	1	110
20	Women health awareness	1	20
	Meetings		
21	Parents meeting -MV School	1	70
22	Staff meeting	10	
23	Anganwadi meeting	1	25
24	Stationery supplies distribution	1	350
	Events		
25	Sports day	1	59
26	Annual day	1	59
27	Competition for students	1	15
	CELEBRATIONS		
28	Independence Day and Republic day		
29	Diwali and Pongal		
30	Christmas and New year		
31	Women's day		
32	Children's Day		
33	Teachers' day		
	OTHER		
34	Tuitions	7 centres	(350 students x 290 days/year)
35	Anganwadies (Government nursery schools) Activities and supplies provided	5 centres	(110 students x 48 days/year)

Mountain View Nursery and Primary School

This school year, we started a 2nd standard class (next year we will start 3rd standard and so on.) We also started a 2nd LKG class as last year we turned away a lot of children, so we will start a 2nd class on each grade level as the children move up. The strength of the school is 90 children this year, coming from nearby impoverished rural villages. Emphasis is placed on activity-based learning which engages the children rather than rote learning. All children are making very good progress.

Vaigai Private Unaided Schools Welfare Association awarded the best school award in Usilampatti Taluk to Mountain View school.

Tuition Centres

Relief Projects India conducts free evening tuitions in seven villages, benefitting 350 students. As a result many of the students have improved their grades and are encouraged to continue their education in stead of dropping out.

We also distribute educational support materials at the centres, such as note books, geometry boxes, pen, pencils, erasers, sharpeners and scales. These are sponsored by the Linc Pen company in Calcutta. It encourages the students to come to the tuitions regularly and to improve the education.

Appreciations for Top Rank Holders



Every year RPI is encouraging the top rank holders of 10th standard in RPI tuitions. This year from the 350 students in 7 tuition centres, 10 attended the 10th std. government exam on April 2017. The top three rank holders are Aarthi 475/500, Dalmia 458/500 and Vignesh 453/500 and RPI has encouraged these students with trophies.

Anganwadis (Government-run nursery schools)

RPI has implemented the anganwadi support program in 5 anganwadi centres. Our staff visit these centres regularly and teach the children through the different methodology and fun learning activities. It helps them to learn easily. Nutrition support like dates, ghee, milk has been provided to the underweight children in those centres. Health and hygiene awareness was given to their parents.

Camps and Medical programs

Cervical cancer screening camp

Relief projects India organized a cervical cancer screening camp in conjunction with the Family Planning Association of India on 29.07.17. The sensitization programs were conducted in 4 villages to inform the women about cervical cancer and screening option. Staff of RPI organized the women from their villages and made the arrangements.

The medical team from FPAI Madurai came and conducted the camp. 10 members attended the camp including staff nurses, a counsellor, lab technician and pharmacist. 58 women from 4 villages benefited through this camp. Among 58 participants, 55 underwent VIA/VELI examination and 4 women were found positive in that test. They

were treated with the medicines and referred to the FPAI hospital for next test. Others were treated for the general complaints and reproductive tract infections.

Eye camp

Every year RPI conducts an eye camp in conjunction with the famous Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai, to save the vision of the poor people in the villages. This year the camp was conducted on 11.11.17 at Mountain View School. RPI took the responsibility of mobilizing the community to the camp. Advertising was conducted through auto, posters and door-to-door contact in 13 villages and people with vision problems were identified and referred to the camp. The venue and hospitality was provided by RPI along with a van to pick up and drop the people.



Aravind hospital team came with a doctor, nurses, lab technician, counsellor and technicians. After registration, patients underwent various check-ups and the doctor diagnosed the problem. Totally 147 people attended the camp. Among them 47 patients were diagnosed with cataract problems, 32 patients were admitted for cataract surgery, 42 persons identified with refractive error and 9 patients diagnosed with speciality problem. 32 patients went for cataract surgery.

Follow-up Eye camp

A review eye camp was conducted at Aravind eye hospital, Usilampatti on 7.12.17. All the patients who underwent cataract surgery in the RPI eye camp attended the follow up camp. There were no complaints for any of them. They were happy and conveyed their thanks to RPI and Aravind hospital.

Health monitoring camp for anganwadi children (Children from government nursery schools.)

RPI and ICDS jointly organized the haemoglobin camp for the anganwadi children on 21.12.17. 78 children from 5 anganwadi centres (Ambasamuthiram, Edayapatti, Dhottappanayakkanur, Notampatty and Kunuthupatti) underwent HB test. The Child Development Program officer, Usilampatti and the anganwadi supervisors and staff participated in the camp. The haemoglobin level, height and weight of the children were monitored. 43 female and 35 male children were investigated.

The test reports were sent to the ICDS and the Medical officer of Primary health centre, Dhottappanayakkanur to take further steps for the anaemic children. The medical team visited Kunuthupatti and treated the children. The severely anaemic children were referred to the hospital and treated. We conducted a follow-up meeting for the parents and explained the importance of nutritious diet for their children.

Adolescent Haemoglobin camp

Haemoglobin camp for adolescent girls was conducted in Maruthampatti village. It was organized by the RPI staff and conducted in the anganwadi centre. The lab technicians diagnosed the HB level of the girls. The HB level of many of the girls was not up to normal levels. They were counselled about de-worming, nutrition diet and hygiene practices. The anaemic girls were referred to the government hospital for medical support.

Measles-Rubella vaccine camp

Primary health centre, Dhottappanayakkanur has organized the vaccine camp for the students of Mountain View School on 17.02.17. It was conducted under the direct supervision of the Medical officers. The medical officers and the staff nurses explained the benefits of the vaccine to the parents. After obtaining the proper consent from the parents, 40 students were vaccinated for measles rubella in this camp.

Dengue awareness

Dengue was one of the major issues this year. RPI has created the awareness in schools, tuition centres and in the community about the way of prevention, symptoms and the treatment places. The health Inspectors from health department conducted an awareness program in Mountain View School and explained how the mosquitoes cause dengue and how to prevent. Neem water was given to all the students to prevent dengue. All the students' teachers and staff were made aware about dengue.

De-worming tablets

De worming is very important and it is necessary to distribute deworming tablets once in 6 month to the children. The village health nurses visited the Mountain View School and provide the deworming tablets to all the children. All the children took the tablets and it was informed to their parents. And also hygiene and hand washing techniques were explained to the students.

Summer camp

A summer education camp for tuition students was conducted by RPI at Mountain View School from May 8th to May 13th. More than 150 children attended the camp each day. In this camp drawing, spoken English and dance classes were conducted. Miss Zeenia a volunteer from Mumbai gave dance classes to the children. They enjoyed the dance classes very much. The drawing classes were conducted by the RPI Director, Mrs. Susanna. Little children enjoyed the colouring and storytelling. Fun activities and icebreakers were conducted to cheer up the children. They too played the games like badminton, ring ball, cricket and enjoyed playing in the children's park at the school. It helps to bring out the hidden talent of the children. Children from different villages, communities and religions participated in this camp. It brings unity among all the children. It helps to motivate learning with fun. The cultural events were conducted on the final day of the camp. Dances and skits were done by the students.



AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Healthy baby contest

Healthy baby contest is a program to analyse the knowledge of the PNC mother about the health of mother and baby. A questionnaire was used to examine the knowledge level. That questionnaire contains the details of birth weight of the child, immunization, mother feed, delivery location, hygiene, family planning methods etc. Based on the answers the marks were given to the participants. The questions were asked individually. Three programs were conducted and 48 PNC mothers participated in this program. At the end of individual interaction awareness was given about PNC care. Importance of nutrition, hygiene and adopting proper contraceptive methods were explained to them. Healthy babies were selected and prizes were distributed to the winners and the participants. Health habits and hygiene level is improving but they had misconceptions about temporary contraceptive methods. Due to that the spacing between the children is lacking. They were counselled and referred to the primary health centre.



Adolescent meeting

Two adolescent health awareness programs were conducted during the reporting period. Fifty girls participated in the program. The session was conducted with a PowerPoint presentation. The importance of health and hygiene, nutrition, education, skill development, personal and menstrual hygiene, stress management and early marriage issues were discussed in the program. They were motivated to reveal their health issues to their parents and health providers to take treatment.



Drug awareness for students

A drug awareness program for adolescent boys was conducted in Edayapatty village. We found the school boys in the villages are using locally available drugs. We had already conducted an awareness program for the parents. We conducted this program to educate the students about the cause and effects of using drugs and the way of prevention. It was conducted with a PowerPoint in Tamil. Twenty boys participated in the program. The effects of each drug and how they affect the human organs was explained by pictorial representation. The effects of drugs on physical, mental and social health were explained. The boys are commonly using tobacco, liquors and inhaling puncture solution. It was explained that any type of



drug will affect the health of the whole body. Pictures of organs infected by the drugs were shown to them. They reacted that they got a clear knowledge about the effects of drugs and how to prevent.

Addiction awareness program for parents

RPI conducted drug awareness programs for parents of school going students. Four programs were conducted and 85 parents participated in the programs. Through a PowerPoint presentation the risk of drugs usage by school students was explained to them. Students are also getting addicted through the materials available in the home itself like glue, solutions, nail polish and marker pens. The program includes the reasons for such habit, causes, symptoms and way of prevention.

World Environment day

Every year June 5th has been observing as World environment day. This is the day to aware the people to protect the environment. RPI has conducted an awareness meeting in Kunuthupatti village on 23.06.17. More than 20 women and girls attended the meeting. The importance of trees, water, clean environment and plastic avoidance are the important topics discussed in the program. Trees are the source of oxygen and rain. So the importance of saving trees was explained. Most of the village people and construction workers used to buy tea in plastic bags and have it in plastic cups. The toxics in the plastic and how it spoils the health was explained. Also plastics pollute the land and it affects the agriculture and ground water. The participants promised to minimize the usage of plastics, save trees and water.

Gender issues and Gender based violence

RPI is working to improve the quality of life of women and children in the community by providing the support in health and education. The recent news in the media indicated that harassment against women and children has increased. Two children of 3 years and one adolescent girl were sexually harassed and killed. To protect the children RPI organised a child protection meeting for local women and a talk was given by the District Child Protection department. To take this information to the grass root level of the community an awareness program was conducted for women in Dottappanayakkanur on 23.02.2017.

More than 15 women participated in the program. It was conducted in anganwadi. The anganwadi worker, RPI volunteer and general women attended the program.

WOMENS HEALTH AWARENESS

RPI conducted a health awareness meeting in a local village and 20 women participated. The importance of personal hygiene, nutrition and cleanliness was insisted. Gender issues, education drop outs and early marriage issues were discussed in this program. Due to education the early marriage issues are coming down.

Cervical cancer awareness programs

Cervical cancer awareness program was conducted in four villages Ambasamuthiram, Thideer Nagar, Edayapatti and Maruthampatti between July 24th to 27th. More than 110 women participated in these meetings. Women's health issues were discussed in the meeting. The women mostly have the problem of irregular periods and reproductive tract infections. Nowadays the women affected by cervical cancer are rapidly increasing. It was explained the importance of medical examination for cervical cancer. The symptoms and causes of cervical cancer were explained with pictures.

Nursing college- Tuberculosis and HIV awareness

Relief projects India, the Tuberculosis Department and HIV department jointly organized the TB/HIV Awareness program in Annai Theresa nursing college in Usilampatti on 20.9.17. More than 50 college students and the tutors attended the program. District coordinator of TB, counsellors from HIV/TB program and the General Manager of RPI conducted the sessions. The program was conducted through a PowerPoint projection. The prevalence and risk of TB was explained. The mode of transmission, way of prevention and treatment were discussed. The myths and misconception about TB/HIV was cleared. The universal precautions for health providers was explained to the students while treating the patients.

World AIDS day

RPI has been observing the World AIDS day every year to bring awareness to the community about HIV. This year we conducted the program in Nadar Saraswathi higher secondary school in Usilampatti. The Director of RPI, General

Manager and Program assistant conducted the program. More than 500 boys from 11th and 12th standard participated in the program. The Headmaster of that school and teachers also participated. RPI Director explained the goal and activities of RPI. The General Manager conducted the HIV awareness through a PowerPoint projection. The misconception of the students about HIV was cleared up in the program.

TB Day Rally

Every year March 24th has been observing as world TB day. In this year the Deputy Director of Tuberculosis arranged a mass rally of nursing college students, school students and voluntary organizations. RPI participated in the rally with the staff and volunteers. DDTB and Usilampatti Chief Medical officer started the rally at Usilampatti government hospital. The participants held TB awareness slogans and walked through the main roads and streets. Hand bills were distributed to the public. It created a mass awareness for the public.

Two HIV and TB awareness programs were conducted in villages. Through these programs 45 males gained knowledge about HIV and TB. The misconceptions of the participants were eradicated. The mode of transmission, ways of prevention, symptoms, treatment centres and treatment were explained in this meeting.

Students' health awareness

Health and hygiene awareness was conducted for school students in 6 villages. More than 200 students participated in these programs. These programs were conducted through a PowerPoint presentation. Personal hygiene and importance of education was insisted. In villages, most of the students were skipping their breakfast and it was reflected in the health monitoring camps we conducted for them. So they were motivated to follow the hygienic practices and a nutritious diet.

Nutrition Day Program

Every year September 1st- 7th has been observed as a national nutrition week throughout the country. Relief Projects India held a nutrition program on 9.9.2017 to inform staff and tuitions students about nutritious diet. All the staff, volunteers and more than 110 tuition students participated in this program. The tuition staff and students made the charts and various recipes. A group from each tuition centre separately displayed their charts and recipes. Totally, 30 charts and 44 recipes were done by 6 tuition centres. The best chart work and recipe has selected by the General Manager and three volunteers. The Edayapatti tuition centre has prepared 16 different nutrition recipes with simple household items, so they won that contest. The Maruthmpatti tuition centre made the chart about pulses and cereals and explained their importance of that so they won that. The winners and the participants were appreciated with the prizes and everyone was encouraged to get involved in all the future programs.



CELEBRATIONS

Independence day and Republic day

Mountain View Nursery and Primary school celebrated Independence day and Republic day. All the students, staff and parents participated in these programs. The National flag was hoisted by the Correspondent. The Flag song and pledge was given by the staff. The students participated in cultural activities like fancy dress competition, speech and dance. A speech was given by the Correspondent. Sweets were distributed to all the participants.

Diwali and Pongal celebration

Diwali and Pongal are the important festivals for Tamil people. RPI is celebrating both the festivals with the staff every year. For Diwali sweets and dresses were distributed to the staff by the Director.

Xmas and New year celebration

RPI has celebrated the Xmas and New Year with the staff and their family members on 16.12.17. All the RPI staff and school staff attended the celebration. The Xmas speech was given by the Director of RPI. Cultural events like songs and dance were conducted by teachers and children. Bonuses were distributed to all the staff; cCakes and feast provided to the participants.

Xmas program was separately conducted for school students on 22.12.17. The importance of love and respect for each other was encouraged . Cakes were distributed to all the students.

Women's Day

RPI celebrated the Women's Day with the women in Maruthampatti village on 8.3.16. More than 35 women participated in the program. It was organized by the tuition teachers of Maruthampatti and Notampatti. The program included the importance of women's education, health, rights, protection and early marriage issues. The women said that they have not studied much to teach their children. We explained them, to overcome such problems we are conducting free tuitions here, but you can teach good values and behaviour to the children which are very important. Small gifts were given to the participants and behalf of RPI the General Manager conveyed the women's day wishes to the participants.

Children's Day

Every year November 14th has been celebrated as Children's day. Children's day was celebrated by RPI in MV school and in the anganwadis that we assist.