



Annual Report On Link Worker Scheme

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Rajasthan

Submitted to:-

Aide et Action

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DHARA SANSTHAN Background

DHARA Sansthan, Barmer-is a registered non-governmental organization established in the year 1989. The organization initiated its work in the Barmer block of Barmer District, Rajasthan with the objective to improve the health of women & children. Constant evaluation of its work along with community's feed back, led to a shift in focus from purely *health* to *overall development of the communities*. At present DHARA sansthan, Barmer is working in Barmer district of Rajasthan state.

The DHARA Sansthan set its object as the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals, on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of the resulting benefits. We have also demonstrated how the adolescent's issues can be addressed through school and community monitoring can enhanced the girls enrolment and check the teacher absenteeism.

The organization has been working on issues like Women Health and safe motherhood improvement programme (TBA & SHG), child maternal Health, Women Health and safe motherhood, HIV/AIDS Link Worker Programme, HIV/AIDS Counseling center and Comprehensive eye care services with support from Organization, IGSSS, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, CEDPA, Aid et Action.

Vision

To create exploitation free society on the principle of social justice and gender equality.

Mission

To improve the living condition of women by strengthening there livelihood, health and education; enabling them to build accessibility and control over issues affecting their lives.

Obejctives

- Oveating awarness of various health issues (including reproductive health,female infanticide, gender discrimination, service delivery points etc.) in the community (especially women and adolescent girls).
- Capacity building and sensitizing women (including Panchayat raj institute members and traditional birth attendants) for local leadership.
- To organize rural women (Mahila Mandals) and involve them in the process of development.
- To increase accessibility of schools especially for deprived girls.
- To bring the change in health seeking behaviour of the community and utilization of health centres by the community.
- To disseminate information and experience of different projects and activities.

Board of Directors

To create exploitation free society on the principle of social justice and gender equality.

SI.No.	Name	Designation	Occupation	Address
1	Dr Kumkum Shrivastav	Chair person	Social activist	Jaipur
2	Mr. Mahesh Panpalia	Secretary	Social worker	Barmer
3	Mr. Manaram	Treasurer	Social Analyst	Barmer
4	Mr. Rambabu	Member	Executive Director, IIRD jaipur	Jaipur
5	Dr. Surendra Bhandari	Member	Medical Officer	Jodhpur
6	Mr. Yagya dutt	Member	Advocate	Barmer
7	Mr. Shankarsingh	Member	Social worker	Barmer

Link Worker Scheme (LWS)

In Desert region most of the villages are inaccessible mainly due to lack of roads and also encroachment of roads by moving dunes. Many people live scattered in Dhani. Thus it is difficult for them to access education and health services and awareness programme provided by government. In Barmer district many castes of people are living. Some caste like Nat and Satia their profession is prostitution. Satia caste is mostly commercial sex worker. They earn money through prostitution, they are illiterate. Some part of Barmer district is connected with National Highway so their customer is truck driver or other people of neighbouring district. Through the commercial sex worker and MSM people number of AIDS or HIV Positive person increases day by day. Till now there is no medicine came for curing of AIDS disease. Therefore prevention of AIDS awareness programme on AIDS at all level is necessary.

In this situation UNDP launched project on HIV/AIDS Implementation of Link Worker Scheme in 25 districts in different states. In Rajasthan this programme implemented in six district. Barmer is one of the districts where this programme is implemented. In Barmer 100 villages have taken to implement this programme in different Tehsils. This project is supported by Aide et Action.

Conduct Survey to find out HRG

To find out the ground realities of high risk behaviour and the social, economical status of the area base line survey was organized in each block of Barmer District. A team of professionals designed the layout and conducted the survey regarding high risk behaviour patterns and identify major sites so as to plan the implementation of programme. Along with house hold survey, hot spot marking, Social and resource mapping primary and secondary data was collected.

The major findings of the survey shows that there are 24 major high risk sites exists in barmer and mobilization of Sex Worker is more in the area from outside. There are 12 traditional Sex workers sites in which near about whole villages are engaged in this work.

In the Same other target groups were identified like MSM, Truckers, Sex clients and IDUs.

Awareness Programme

To generate the awareness among community at first we have to choose the stake holders in the villages. At village level the main stake holder we have interacted through are – Sarpanch, ANM, AWW ,ASHA , PRI and school head master and Teachers.

Meeting with Sarpanch

Meeting with Sarpanch and orientation on HIV/AIDS and Link Worker Scheme in Panchayat office. Supervisor met with Sarpanch and discusses on Link Worker Scheme and gave orientation to villagers on HIV/AIDS and Link Worker Scheme in Panchayat office. Under orientation following issues covered:

- What are the causes of AIDS
- How can prevent it
- Importance of condom
- ART facility center
- AIDS counseling center
- Link worker scheme

Meeting with head of PHC and ANM

Meeting with head of PHC and ANM to orientation on Link Worker Scheme .Supervisor met with head of PHC and ANM and took information about facility available on center, information about no. of HIV Positive or AIDS patients facility available for cheque up of AIDS, facility available for counselling of AIDS patients, ART center and gave orientation about Link Worker Scheme.

Advocacy and Networking with AWW and ASHA

We have also conducted meeting with AWW and ASHA in AWW centre. In the AWW centre the main beneficiaries are pregnant women who often come to the centre for vaccination purpose. They were given the information regarding pre and post natal care. The pregnant women also motivated to test their blood in near ICTC centre. Here ASHA play a strong role in the advocacy and networking with community. We have selected many ASHA as our Link workers and volunteer.

Meeting with youth

To carry this programme further we have also contacted with youth through group meeting and one to one contact. In meeting we disseminated information to them about Link worker scheme and their role. We also discussed about the epidemic of HIV/AIDS and how the most vulnerable population i.e. youth can prevent from this incurable disease. In the meeting we also formed the youth clubs and Red Ribbon club. The management of these groups was given to them. Some of the active youth also came forward to be as a volunteer.



Meeting with women

In the awareness programme we also conducted successive meeting with women at different age groups. We imparted knowledge about our Link workers scheme and the management and prevention of SRT/RTI and HIV/AIDS. We also gave them the information regarding ICTC and ART medicine. Through this group meeting we also formed Self Help groups (SHG) and Mahila Mandal and selected some active volunteers from them. These volunteers helped us with the rapport building with the Community. Some of the female we have selected from sex workers community. They usually helps us in facilitating activities in their respective areas and community. Through them we also got the information about High Risk areas. Time to time we are also conducting community meeting with NAREGA workers.



Slogan writing

To reflect our programme in a public places we conducted slogan writing in the wall. Apart from this we also developed some hand bill to paste it in the public places. We also circulated it to the people.



NUKKAD PLAYS

DHARA SANSTHAN, BARMER, organized thrilling plays for the youth, women, and the adult population in order to dispel the myths and taboos regarding AIDS and to create an accurate awareness on the control and prevention of AIDS and communicable disease such as Swine Flu. Information on RTI and STI on male and female contraceptives was also given by program supervisors, link workers and volunteers with energy and enthusiasm.



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From Dec. 19, 2009 to Dec. 21, 2009 detailed information on male and female condom was given in the villages of Sivana, Majal, Suili, karmavas, and Samdari. Thirty Six men and inhabitants 240 High risk areas benefited from the knowledge about FSW and male and female contraceptives, many more people's knowledge was strengthened by this campaign about general health and hygiene.

Advocacy and networking with Truck Drivers and labours

As part of our advocacy and networking we have also covered the most vulnerable groups that is the Truck drivers who falls in the bridge population. The realisation of this epidemic is exacerbated through these groups, so we have also contacted with them disseminated them about our Link workers scheme and the prevention of HIV/AIDS. Most of the people are motivated to test their blood in near ICTC centre. The long journey truck drivers were given also motivated for their safe sex. In most of the Dhabha which is situated in the high way falls into the high risk areas condom depots are opened. We have also demonstrated the correct and proper use of condom to them.

Linkages and Networking with Health and Railway employees

As part of our awareness programme we have established linkages with Govt. Health providers groups. We are in constantly interacting with ICTC counsellors and discuss with them regarding more no. of ICTC referrals. We have also planed to do Dist level activities as part of the awareness programme with ICTC counsellor. Apart from this we have also oriented the railway employee in Barmer as well as in Samdari railway Station.

Linkages and Network

The Linkages and networking with GO and NGO are the continuous process. To carry forward this process we are in contact touch with them and time to time we are organizing activities to sensitize them with the programme. Apart from sensitization we are also focusing to connect this with other livelihood programme and to give the information about the various ongoing government programme. In the process of networking and liasioning we have been networking and liasioning with PRIs, Local clubs like Rotary, Lion clubs, Other NGOs and govt. functionaries.

Advocacy and networking with Panchayati Raj functionaries at every level:

From the start of the programme we have interacted with various Panchayati raj functionaries to give the information about Link workers scheme. From their side we are also getting information regarding various on going government project running at the village level. We have also selected them from as volunteers for the smooth running of the programme at village level. At villages level they act as a stake holders. When ever we conduct any awareness programme at community level they help us in facilitating of the programme.

Work with other NGO

There are many NGO who are working in Barmer Dist. Some of them are working on health issues and some of them focussing on different aspects of development process. Recently we conducted Community meeting and Street play on management of STI and RTI and the prevention of HIV/AIDS in Sedwa and Bhakhasar in Chauthan Block. The overall response was good. Many female participated in the meeting.

World Aids Day

On Dec. 1, 2009, on the occasion of world Aids Day, a grand rally and workshop was organized under the joint aegis of DHARA SANSTHAN, BARMER, BNP, Department of Health and Medical, Barmer, and Mahaveer International, Barmer unit. During the rally/procession AIDS awareness was created by students of Nursing College, schools, educational institutions, citizens, and various voluntary organizations who participated in the procession demonstrating slogan placards and banners.

In a similar way on awareness against the dreaded disease was disseminated by DHARA SANSTHAN in Chauhtan, Siwana, Samdari, Sindhari, Shiv, Gadra Road and Sarla.

In these areas there were also motor-cycle rallies, group discussion, panel discussion, women conference, symposia, and workshop. The students of schools and the workers of NREGA showed their enthusiasm and energy to prevent the AIDS disease by making people aware of the disease and making them aware to fight the menace of AIDS in remote and rural areas.



From Dec.1, 2009 to Dec. 8, 2009 AIDS WEEK was organized by DHARA SANSTHAN, in which 100 villages, 40 link workers, 200 volunteers and 4 supervisors took the initiative to spread the awareness of AIDS among the masses, so that the disease can be brought under control and finally eradicated. Numerically, during AIDS week 11051 youth, 8778 women participated actively. Altogether, there were 14041 social gatherings on AIDS awareness. Moreover,

there were 2578 volunteers, 903 health Department officials, 1258 Red Ribbon volunteers and 969 members of Panchayati Raj to whom the knowledge of the disease was given so that they further create all awareness of AIDS among the masses. Once again DHARA was the lead agency in creating AIDS awareness.

LWS Barmer is organizing Programmes for a week (1st to 7th) in December 2009 on the occasion of World AIDS Day. We Covered 28 village directly ; hoping to involve around 12000 directly in many programme in directly the programme will reach out to a population of more a than 20000.

Major Activities

- Rally
- Community meeting
- Nuked natak
- Quiz Computation
- Bike Rally
- Orientation in Schools



We Support of Government and non Government agencies. Major Stake holders in the programme are.

- Additional CMHO
- NRHM
- Chairperson of Municipality of Barmer
- ICTC Counsellors and Staff
- BNP+
- ICDS
- Tehsildar
- TI Project
- Block CMHO
- RRC
- Media
- PRI
- School Staff



Red Ribbon Express Train

Red Ribbon Express a specially designed 7 coach train to spread HIV/AIDS awareness under the auspices of NACO, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and NRHM arrived at Barmer Railway Station on platform number 5 for two days halt.

The Train was parked at platform 5 for Dec 12, 2009 and Dec 13, 2009 for visitors from all walk of life, rural as well as urban. The opening ceremony of Red Ribbon Express exhibition function was organized by DHARA SHANSTHAN. The Chief guest for the exhibition function was Hon'ble Harish Chaudhary, M.P. Barmer- Jaisalmer Lok Sabha consistency, Hemaram Choudhary, Revenue Minister, Govt. of Rajasthan, presided over the function. Mevaram Jain, MLA, Barmer, Usha Jain, Chairperson of Nagarpalika, Barmer, Ganpat Singh, Chief Medical and Health Officer, Barmer, Ravi Jain, District Collector Barmer, Jointly opened the exhibition for the public.





(State Revenue Minister Hema Ram Chaudhary, MP Harish Chaudhary, District Collector Barmer and CMHO Barmer) and (Mana Ram is awarded by Liance club on base his performance).

Dhara Sansthan, Barmer through the collaborative efforts of its 40 link workers, 4 supervisors and several volunteers distributed educational material on HIV/AIDS, enacted short plays with HIV/AIDS theme, and through songs and cultural performances created accurate communication and awareness on prevention of AIDS. District Collector, Ravi Jain and CMHO Ganpat Singh made a special mention of the team of DHARA for doing outstanding work in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention in their respective speeches. Sunil Kumar of R&ACS and Roli Sinha too viewed the exhibition with the CEO of Dhara Sansthan, Mahesh Panpalia.

For unparalleled work in the area of AIDS control and prevention, awareness and information, the CEO of DHARA, Mahesh Panpalia was felicitated by the Hon'ble Harish Choudhary, and Hemaram Choudhary. Mahesh was presented a memento by the Honorable ministers for his excellent work in the area of health services and hygiene.

Red Ribbon Express Bus Rath Yatra

(21th Jan.2009 to 30th Jan. 2009)

Rajasthan State Aids Control Society Jaipur, National Aids Control Organization, Aide et Action, Dhara Sansthan Barmer & Shubham Sansthan Culture team have jointly organized the 10 days event called Red Ribbon Express Rath Yatra in various villages of Barmer district. This event comes under the Link Worker scheme.

Dhara Sansthan has decorated the bus with the IEC material which was given by RSACS and Aide et Action, Jaipur. We have also taken IEC material related to HIV/AIDS, Swine Flu, and Malaria to distribute and displayed like Pamphlets, Stickers, and Booklets & Posters. We organized a five person's team for Nukkad Natak which was sent by Shubham Sansthan Culture team and one employee of Dhara Sansthan. Link workers and Volunteers were also participating in this event and helped us to distribution and displayed IEC material and Condoms.



Rural Men and Women were eager to know about Red Ribbon Bus Rath Yatra. The team of Nuked Natak has presented a programme on HIV/AIDS and through this programme team has presented reason of being HIV positive, prevention of HIV and gave messages to people how to behave with people living with HIV or who are more prone to HIV and try to reduce the Stigma and discrimination for PLHV and HRG. The team also entertained people and sung some songs on HIV prevention.

There was also good no. of children who has participated in this event. With the help of Mike which was set up on the rooftop of Bus, staff of Dhara Sansthan and Shubham Sansthan Culture team was spreading the information about what is Red Ribbon Bus. It was a way to gather the rural people. Officer of PHC, Boran ka Talla has inspection Red Ribbon Bus.



Mass awareness campaign

This month we have started an awareness campaign at mass level with special focus on youth and children and college girls. The main objective of these is that they are really the future of our country and they are the people who can create awareness within their family very easily. We also focused on the fact that HIV is growing among the women and youth, so girl college, Barmer and schools were chosen for awareness campaign and meeting.



In this month Dhara Sansthan & ICTC Barmer have organized an awareness programmed in ITI Barmer. In this awareness programme we have informed about HIV/AIDS. Facilitator Mr. Manish Sharma, ICTC Counselor, Dr. U.B. Diwedi Progrmme Manager CEDPA, Dhara Sansthan Managing Director Mr. Mahesh Panpalia are present in this programme. In this programme 83 students are present.

Two days awareness programme organized by REDS Sansthan in this programme Mr. Mahesh Panpaliya, Chokha Ram Choudhary NRHM DPM Mr. Kamlesh & BNP TEC Mr. Devidan are say about HIV & AIDs. Devidan say our work is Mobilized a general community for HIV test from ICTC.

Counselling and Testing camps

This month we have successfully organized counseling and testing camps. First of all counselors counseled the villagers regarding HIV /aids and than our supervisors and link workers motivates them to go for testing. We organized 3 camps in total in mandalia, ibre ka tala, mithdau. In these camps we tested and counseled 90 males and 61 females. One person were found positive and referred to ART

Jodhpur.



SWASTHYA CHETNA YATRA

This scheme is organized by CMHO department will be village level. On day camp organized for free testing and provide medicine. Dhara Sansthan are currently working for Link worker scheme so Link worker & supervisor are help in this camp for mobilized People for HIV test. And say about ICTC for CHC level free HIV testing. This camp is success by help for Red Ribbon, Youths, & Social worker. This Swasthay Chetna Yatra is organized in 20 villages. In this programme Link worker & superwisor are counselled the villagers regarding HIV /aids & testing from ICTC.

Orientation in schools

Dhara Sansthan organized Rally and orientation on awareness STI/ RTI/HIV and AIDS in many Schools under LWS. These rallies or orientations have done in secondary or Senior secondary schools by Link worker & supervisor. Through orientation, we have basic know ledged on HIV/AIDS. This rallies were organized in Bhatala, Sindhari chosira , Sindhari charnan, chhotu, Rawatsar,or Dhunda. There were 172 boys or 85 girls participants in rallies. There were 355 boys & 190 girls participants in orientation.



Ahsa Sayogani 3rd phase Training

This scheme is organized by NARHM department or Dhara Sansthan on Block level. Our link workers or Supervisors participated in asha training link worker said that HIV/AIDS Is a dangerous disease its infection is speedily. They told that Asha Will help as in field areas. LWS supervisors also participated in various Block in Asha Training. Supervisor discussion with ashas that what is HIV? What is different HIV or AIDS ? How its infection In society? Which group infection it? How to save from HIV? That we will be Awareness about HIV/AIDS/STI/RTI. HIV Test is free in every ICTC In every CHC or District Govt. Hospital. There were 345 Asha Sayogani aware in Four Block.



CONFERENCE ON AIDS

A conference on Aids awareness was held in the campus of Sawaria College, Dhorimana under the joint venture of Dhara Sansthan , ICTC and CHC Dhorimana. Addressing the students of the college, the principal of Sawaria college, Dr. Jaswant Maila said the virus of AIDS after invading the body, multiplies in the white blood cells thereby damaging those precious white blood cells which protect the body from different diseases. The immune system is thus weakened by the AIDS virus and the body is no longer able to fight against different harmful infections. He said that youth need to know about AIDS so that they can further spread the knowledge of prevention and control of the AIDS virus. He said that those who are infected with the HIV positive need to be treated like human beings and not as untouchables. ICTC counselor Prakash

Chand shared information on ICTC and exhorted the youth to go for free HIV tests and free counseling. conducted by ICTC. L.W. supervisor, Chokharam elaborated on the causes the lead to HIV/AIDS. He said that contaminated needle, infected blood transfusions, and nursing of baby by an infected mother could lead to the insidious disease. Mr. Chokharam called the youth to form small units at village level and disseminate information and awareness on AIDS issue and basic health issues. The L.W. supervisor said that those who are infected with AIDS must be treated with respect and care.

Consolidated Report from February 09 to December 09

Major Statistics

Section	Topic	Female	Male	Total
1	Number of people contacted			
a.	HRIs	1980	2045	4025
b.	Young People	9102	11954	21056
Grand Total				
1. i	Through group meetings	25666	30088	55754
1. ii	Through one to one contact	11872	16049	27921
2	Condom usage			
2. i	No. of condom depot established			72
2. ii	Uptake of condoms	5369	7958	31443
2. iii	Frequency of supply of condoms			
3	Linkages and utilization of services (to be given separately for HRIs and young people)			
3. i	ICTC service used	723	915	1647
3. iA	Undergone HIV testing	446	743	1189
3. iB	Test result collected	362	632	994
3. ii A	STI Clinics Visited	211	137	352
3. ii B	No. of collected reports	181	138	323
3. iii	PPTCT service	132	2	135
3. iii.A	Undergone HIV testing	122	50	176
3. iii.B	Test result collected	74	15	89
3. iii.C	Partners counseled for testing	172	189	363
3. iv	ART center			9
3.iv.A	No. receiving ART regularly)following treatment adherence as per guidelines)			23
4	Total Volunteers	136	215	351
4. i	Drop out during the month			
4. ii	Volunteer indentified			
4. iii	Link worker trained			
5	No. of vulnerable locations identified (HRGs and bridge population) register and vulnerability map	0	0	0
5.i.A	FSW / Clients	499	155	654
5.i.B	MSM	0	112	112
5.i.C	IDUs	0	0	0
5.i.D	Youths	413	739	1152
5.i.E	Truckers	0	1126	1126
5.i.	Migrants	110	1703	1813

5. ii	Size and composition of vulnerable population	0	0	0
5. iii	Location (Where five or more than five HRI identified)	0	0	6
6	Linkage developed	0	0	0
6. i	Number of contact with	61	14	75
6.i.A	ANM	1292	49	1434
6.i.B	AWW	1874	0	2050
6.i.C	ASHA	1274	0	1415
6.i.D	PRI Functionaries	685	1403	2220
6ii	No. of contact with	0	0	0
6.ii.A	PHC	0	57	767
6.ii.B	STI clinic	33	0	403
6.ii.C	ICTC	30	42	797
6.ii.D	CHC	20	24	714
6.ii.E	PPTCT Service	28	0	336
6.ii.F	ART Centers	2	4	61
6.ii.G	DOT Centers	16	8	389
6.ii.H	Any other Pvt. Practitioners, NGOs	0	0	32
7	Number of individuals from high risk groups and / or bridge population availing services	0	0	0
7.i.A	PHC	142	187	440
7.i.B	CHC	275	331	624
7.i.C	STI Clinics	206	113	320
7.i.D	ICTC	273	346	619
7.i.E	PPTCT Service	84	3	87
7.i.F	ART Centers	13	28	49
7.i.G	DOT Centers	163	238	417
8	Addressing stigma and discrimination Describe in descriptive for all these episodes	0	2	2
8.i	No. of PALHA (male and female) contacted	98	162	260
8.ii	Number of nature of instances of stigma reported by PLHA	2	3	261
8.ii	Number of PLHA invited to community functions.	6	11	18

❖ **Major Achievements:**

- Rapport building with the community.
- Through mapping we have almost traced the high risk areas, intervention is on the process.
- We have given the 14 days Link workers training, now they are well aware about how to interact with the community and HRGs.
- We have also given one day orientation to selected volunteers.
- We have conducted several community meetings.
- We have selected the active volunteers and stake holders at village level.
- We have also oriented the small industries in Jasole and Balotra.
- Networking and lassoing with the Health providers and NGO are in the process.
- We have also established condom depot, the proper functioning and management of depot are under the supervision of Supervisors and link workers.
- Constantly interacting with ICTC counsellors and the referrals of ICTC is in the process.

Meeting with sex workers and the knowledge of prevention of HIV/AIDS is given and the importance of condom is also discussed with them.