

ISSUE 01



**HAMARA
FOUNDATION**



NEWSLETTER

A JOURNEY TOWARDS ENDEVOURANCE

APRIL-JUNE, 2020

Founder Trustee's Desk :

I am glad to bring out the first Newsletter of Hamara Foundation (HF). There is quarterly Newsletter for two innovative Cooperative projects of the organization i.e. Children's Development Khazana (CDK) & Child Health and Sports Cooperative (CHSC) since 2012. Now I felt the need to introduce a separate Newsletter for the organization as a whole.

From March end onwards we all are in critical situation due to COVID 19 pandemic and LOCKDOWN. Our children and the underprivileged communities are the worst sufferers. We are compelled to work from home in the prevailing situation. The HF team have been trying their best to fulfill the basic needs of our beneficiaries during this calamity. This Newsletter reports various activities carried out for them during April to June,2020.

I am aware the first Newsletter is delayed for some reasons; however, further Newsletters will be ready on time.



Prof. Asha Rane.

Hamara Foundation initially started as “Hamara Club” in July 1989 as a field action project of Tata Institute of Social Sciences by Prof. Asha Rane, in response to the emerging problem of Street children, in the city of Mumbai. Hamara Foundation has witnessed a lot of ups and downs but continued to persist and strive towards its goal of empowering Street connected children. Several projects launched for development and enablement of the most vulnerable and marginalized group of children and underprivileged communities to help them attain a sustainable lifestyle.

Visi^on:

To ensure that no child should live on the street and that every child has an inherent right to dignity and respect. The organization believes in working towards creating the environment in which every child enjoys right to survival, development, protection, participation and a happy childhood.

Missi^on:

To work towards facilitating all-round growth, development and empowerment also to catalyze an overall improvement in their lives. Situation with the larger purpose to create of creating public awareness and sensitivity among the masses regarding the growing phenomenon of Street children.

The key Intervention made by Hamara Foundation during the pandemic in this quarter:

Initial Striving Phase :

Before the lockdown, the life of those children and their families living on the street was balanced initially, but after the lockdown was announced on 24th March, the children had to face a lot of difficulties. The lifestyle of those street connected children had to face problems like unemployment, unavailability of food, and accommodation. They were shattered with no place to stay. During that time, the children who stayed near temples , dargah and under the bridges were finding place to stay since the local government had taken an action to vacate the places due to lockdown. It was also difficult to stay at the street and by the roadside. Some children shared money, rented a small room to stay and few went back to their relatives. Here, meanwhile the food grains were running out of stock, due to which they faced great difficulties to feed their children and families.

Awareness on Covid-19 :

Hamara Foundation initially was involved in providing the awareness when the virus was spreading and people were panic & fearful. Hamara Foundation team felt the need to help them to be aware of issues such as corona virus, myths and misconceptions. That were spreading which includes some being more fearful, some being careless and moving freely while some taking more precautions by being panicked. Before the Lockdown started met the parents and children in the communities and informed them about the covid-19 and after the Lockdown started, we raised awareness through phone, WhatsApp and audio-video. We also reminded them of the importance of using masks and sanitizers as a precaution. Hamara Team observed that the families and their children were not having money to buy masks or sanitizers, here distribution of masks and sanitizers was done by Hamara team during covid-19.



Moral Support and Counseling:

Children and their parents were provided with individual counseling and group counseling over phone calls and video calls with the help of Hamara staff. Children were helped by counselling for not to lose hope and get disappointed. They were assured that the organization workers are always with them in any situation. The leaders among children and community played an important role in letting the organization know of what they were going through during the lockdown.

Relief Work:

During the time of lockdown, food grain (Dry ration) was distributed in many communities of Mumbai affiliated with Hamara Foundation.

- In Dadar community, almost 70 Families were supported thrice providing the food grains during the three months from March till June during lockdown.
- In Haji Ali and K.K. Marg, Foras road (Mumbai Central), 35 and 91 families were supported with the ration thrice.
- In Mumbai Central and Tardeo, 50 families were supported twice with the ration.
- Special school children: Hamara Foundation supported children of five families with one time ration.
- Pardiwada, Rey Road , almost 32 families were supported with cooked food once on an immediate basis.
- Railway stakeholders: Here, Hamara team extended help to many stakeholders of railway including Head loaders and coolies living in the premises of Mumbai Central Railway station. 12 families were supported who were working under the premises along with providing 100 masks.
- 100 sanitary napkin packets were distributed to teenage girls from Haji Ali, Dadar and KK Marg communities.
- Here, during the time of lockdown various sessions, workshops/ webinars, group conference were conducted of building psycho-social support & safety for children's in Covid-19.
- Where organization staff was learning the way of how to work with the community with the available resources during Covid-19 pandemic.

The key Intervention made by Hamara Foundation during the pandemic in this quarter:

Financial Assistance:

- During the time of lockdown, five children from CDK were running short of money. During that time, withdrawing money from their own accounts formed, was difficult since everything was under lockdown. But, with the due need of children, staff of Hamara team came forward to help children withdraw money of up to total Rs. 4500-5000 from their own CDK accounts.
- Here, when Hamara Foundation got to know about the two beneficiaries from Kalyan , were going through financial crises, organization provided financial support of Rs. 2000/- with the help of Kalyan Railway CHILDLINE.
- During the time of lockdown, it was difficult for children and their parents to manage money and prioritize the needs, Hamara Foundation staff taught financial management and the different ways to implement it to the children.
- In this dire situation, the organization helped five children who were looking for a job, to get a job in Reliance Mall.

Covid-19 :Financial Literacy Program:

- During the time of lockdown, financial literacy program was conducted which focused on teaching children how to manage the financial costs.
- Initially action plan was prepared to identify the children or their parents having access to smart phone. Here, almost total 76 children had access to the smart phones. Through which awareness session/Financial skills development through videos/sessions and apps were taught in order to help them understand it practically.

Prioritizing Child's Physical and Mental Health:

- Medical support was provided to the two beneficiaries in the Haji Ali community by CHE. The children were given information on how to maintain good mental and physical health through sports. Through sports and posters children able to learn skills and get aware about the corona virus through various sessions. Along with that session on self-care ,motivation and yoga was also conducted.

Stakeholders Contribution:

The stakeholders such as Child Volunteer Managers, Child Health Educators, Frontline workers and other staff played a vital role in creating awareness through posters circulating videos on taking preventive care for coronavirus was done for children's and their families.

Initiative by Change Makers:

The change makers played a vital role helping their own community and facilitating Hamara team with continuous update on the problems or difficulties they were facing. The change makers use to help to make people aware about the virus and wearing masks, maintain social distancing, convincing families to stay at home and informing Hamara foundation on daily basis in regards to the well-being of children and any such problems faced during these trying times. All distribution process they helped a lot. Hamara team appreciates the efforts made by the change makers to help Hamara foundation be in a continuous loop of connection.



Children with leadership qualities are trained to work with the community to bring about suitable changes. These children are changemakers who play an important role in identifying community needs and provide timely help under the guidance of HF team.

Experiences Shared By Children :

“When the lockdown started, I stopped going to school or playing with my Friends. It was also difficult for my parents to manage everything in the family and even other families were running out of ration. Hamara Foundation helped us and other families with ration. I was struggling to understand this and hoping everything will be okay. When one of the staff of Hamara Foundation, working with us helped us to indulge in various activities and other creative work, which helped us to focus on positive things and learn new stuff online. I hope everything settles soon and we will be able to go to school again.”

- Kartik Pardeshi

“It was very difficult for many girls and mothers in families to manage health and hygiene in our Community. Many girls were not having sanitary napkins, during this time I informed Hamara Foundation to help us in this. Here, I listed down everybody's name who are in need, and gave those names to Hamara Foundation. They provided us with sanitary napkins and various other things such as masks and ration. It was difficult to maintain social distance, but I used to make sure from home to home, that all are maintaining distance. I am happy that Hamara Foundation trusted me and helped me to make this happen with guidance. Further in future, whenever I will get a call from the organization, I will always be there.”

- Latifa Shaikh

Other Extracurricular Activities:

- The Hamara team helped children in the community, to overcome stress and disappointment. Through conducting online session on self-care and motivation in collaboration with the NGO “Apnishala”, where focus on given on making children optimistic and hopeful through sharing, writings and drawing.
- In collaboration with NGO “Team spreading smiles”, drawing competition was conducted on “World day against Child Labour” focusing on making them aware about this day along with helpline number (1098).
- Likewise sessions on yoga was given in a creative way to the children.
- Offline video tutorials were also made available for the children who were not attain the online zoom sessions.
- Distributed books and textbooks to three children studying in class X.

HAMARA FOUNDATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

INTERVENTION	PROGRAMME	ACTMITIES
Protecting Childhood	City Childline & Railway Childline	Care & Protection of children (Helpline, home visits etc.)
Financial Management Education	Children's Development Khazana	Run Financial Literacy Program through online/offline videos, stories and PPTs etc.
Life Skill Education & Moral Support	Child Health & Sport Cooperative	Counselling, Sports, Yoga & Life skills training
Access to school education	Education Sponsorship	Help for online schooling
Disaster Relief (Covid-19)	Food relief, Helpline, Medical support	Food grain(Dry Ration)distribution, Sanitary napkins distribution, Sanitizer & Mask distribution etc.

A visual gallery of our journey during this pandemic:





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Special Support

We share our gratitude to the support given by the contributors. We could not accomplish our goals & cause, without the support, to reach out many children and affected families during the time of pandemic.

- Khazana Foundation, Netherlands
- Arshiya Foundation, Worli, Mumbai
- Ms. Darshana Kapadia, Trustee of Hamara Foundation
- Banquet group, Mumbai
- Roti Bank Organization, Mumbai
- Kalyan Railway Childline, Kalyan
- Railway Childline & City Childline (Hamara Foundation)
- Spreading Smile Foundation, Mumbai
- Sindhura, Netherlands
- Being Healthy Her Foundation, Mumbai
- Save the children organization, Mumbai

Vote of Thanks

We thank you a million times for taking out time to read this e-newsletter as well as for your generous contribution. Your trust and support have really provided us the strength to accomplish our goal to reach out to communities. We, sincerely request you to grace us with, your valuable feedback and inputs.

Join us

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You can also reach out to us : <http://www.hamarafoundation.org> Email: hamarafoundation89@gmail.com

We look forward to your continued support.

HAMARA FOUNDATION

Room no. 27, 1st Floor, Gilder Lane Municipal School, Opposite Mumbai Central Railway Station, Off Bellasis bridge, Mumbai Central (East), Mumbai-400 008, INDIA
Project Manager : Shraddha Chonkar, Contact Number- 9773094333