

A Note on Tribhuvandas Foundation's Response to Covid-19 pandemic

Capacity Building

1. Capacity building session on 'Corona virus and its management and safety measures' for all the Medical Officers' of Tribhuvandas Foundation was on 21st March 2020.
2. Similar training session on signs & symptoms of corona infection and preventive measures for the field staff was held on 07th March 2020.
3. A sensitization training of all the Childline staff (City and Railway Childline) was also carried out on 11th March 2020.

Community Health Program

As per the directive from Government of Gujarat, routine training activities for Village Health Workers and awareness meetings in the field were withheld while continuing Field Supervision and Monitoring. Similarly scheduled training of group leaders and Trainers was also withheld.

Training using digital platform was given to field staff and feedback from the group leaders was obtained daily to understand the ground situation and functional hurdles.

Poster messages in local languages & videos on Covid – 19 were sent to Village Health Workers as much as possible.

With announcement of National lockdown on 23rd March, 2020 requirements of drugs for Community Health Program were assessed and stock for one month was procured on an urgent basis.

Sanitizers and cloth masks were given to all the staff with proper explanations on its protective value, reuse, precautions and washing procedures.

Field visits by supervisory staff had to be halted because of unavailability of local transport for field staff from 25th March 2020. Field staff is instructed to remain at home, work from home (Partial) and to remain present as per their need.

All the village Health Workers were contacted telephonically and informed regarding preventive measures of Covid 19, their role during lock down and how to react in emergency situation.

Field staff has maintained continuous touch with them to update them and to understand their need and issues even during the lockdown.

TF has obtained permission from the district authorities for use of vehicles during the lockdown. This has helped to ensure supply of medicines to the TF villages. So far Tribhuvandas Foundation has been able to deliver necessary primary care drugs to 520 villages (till 09/04/2020) and the distribution is still going on across all the TF centers.

Handicraft Unit was instructed to work from home. The handicraft staff members have been making cloth masks for the TF workers and needy people. So far 350 masks have been distributed and the work is still going on. They have also supplied Kangaroo 'Zoli's (for holding the newborn in Kangaroo Position) for the nearby PHC.

Many of our village health workers are also helping in the local surveillance activity & other grass root services of the government.

Medical Services

During the lockdown TF continues with its emergency services for mother and child.

Maternity homes at Anand and Kapadvanj continue to function so also the antenatal and paediatric OPDs at Anand and Kapadvanj centers, although the numbers have dropped significantly. The general OPDs at Anand, Kheda, Tarapur and Balasinor have been suspended as required in the current situation. All the operating procedures are being done with necessary precautions related to Covid 19.

Childline(1098)

Team members of both, Childline Anand and Childline Railway help desk, were trained on relevant aspects of Covid 19 on 11th March at TF. All the members have been given mask and hand sanitizers as a preventive measures against Covid 19.

Both the City and Railway Childline members were actively involved in online workshops and seminars conducted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

All the Childline team members have been instructed to work from home from 25th March, 2020 in response to the lockdown. All members have been instructed to manage calls and emergency while at home also.

The City Childline continues to receive calls and providing counselling on phone. In case of emergency, Childline is settling the cases by outdoor visits also. The staff members have been provided passes to attend to such calls during the lock down. Most of the calls are regarding non-availability of food to children and a few are related to child domestic violence also. Illnesses in children are dealt with at local level as far as possible using the government services (PHC).

The City Childline also co-ordinates with some other NGOs like Samvedana Charitable trust in providing food to children in various slums of Anand. The City Childline also encourages home based craft activities as a means of reducing stress levels.

The Railway Childline had to suspend the help desk at Anand Railway station after shut down of the rail services following a meeting with the Railway Board Members at Anand. The Railway Childline Members have joined hands with the city unit and are contributing voluntarily in few Covid 19 support activities at their local level.

Voluntary Work

Members of City and Railway Child line (1098) of Tribhuvandas Foundation are working for distribution of meals for children and daily wagers in association with other local volunteers. A TF Vehicle has been provided for this purpose.

Field Staff of Kapadvanj centre of TF has been propagating preventive messages through a song in Gujarati prepared by them. This song is circulated among VHWs and other whatsapp groups.

Few staff members are actively involved in making and distributing masks at local level.

The CEO has been counselling many parents regarding illnesses in their children on his personal cell phone number.

Corona Times – Glimpses of TF activities



Distribution of essential medicines for primary care to Village Health Workers at door step



Village Health Worker providing medicines



A Childline team member distributing food



Craft activity (Childline)



Training session



Treating and guiding patients



Village Health Worker providing medicines



OPD Consultation



Waiting area and reception – Social Distancing maintained



Pharmacy – Social Distancing maintained



Reception– Social Distancing maintained



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