

COMMUNITY HEALTH LEARNING PROGRAMME

Phase II - 2008-2010

CHLP focuses primarily on young individuals, already working with, or proposing to work with Community Based Organizations and health programmes in voluntary and development sector. This is in line with CHC's commitment to capacity building of community-based organizations and to create leaders in community health. CHC will also continue the national focus on community and public health learning to facilitate intercultural involvement and leadership.

COMPONENTS OF CHLP

The Training component of the CHLP is designed as

1. Full time Programme
2. Flexible Programme
3. Alumni Support

1. Full time Programme

Objectives

- To facilitate the development of a 'community health perspective' by offering a semi-structured placement opportunity in CHC in partnership with selected community health projects and initiatives in the country,
- To facilitate community health learning and to strengthen motivation, interest and commitment of persons for community health.
- To sharpen analytical skills and to deepen the understanding of social paradigm of community health.

2. Flexible Programme

There are a number of individuals from across India and abroad who approach CHC for flexible and individual-centered learning and perspective building opportunities in community health. This component will include a short-term internship programme with a focus on their individual learning.

We have had 15 interns as part of the full time training programme and 12 flexible interns in 2008-2009. For a brief profile of each of the interns, please click [here](#).

3. Alumni Support

We continue to support the alumni by bringing them together once a year during the Alumni Workshop to share their experiences, present about their work and to facilitate their mutual interactions so as to promote collective initiatives and ongoing perspective building.

The Annual Alumni workshop -2008 was organized on December 4th and 5th 2008 on the occasion of CHC's Silver Jubilee. It was an occasion to enhance learning through collective reflections, nurturing collectivity and broadening the perspectives on how the 'social paradigm' has shaped community health action from each individual's experiences and insights. The 2 day workshop discussed community health in the current context of macro policies of globalisation, liberalisation and privatization; and the seemingly endless identity conflicts of caste, class, religion and gender. It also traced the role of the civil society and the public health system to improve communities' health.

In 2009, we had organised the International People's Health University training course on Health and Equity. The IPHU was conducted from Sept 1 to Sept 9, 2009 and focussed on training on concepts of social determinants of health, right to health and strategies towards realising health rights.

We also keep in touch with the alumni of their ongoing work in community health and public health support and mentor the alumni in their current work in their moments of frustration

DOCUMENTATION

Annual Newsletter of the interns called '**Building Blocks-2008**' was collated with inputs from the interns and printed.

Modules in Kannada were prepared and printed as reference materials for the CHLP. The following were translated from English to Kannada and printed:

- a) The rights approach to health and health care- A compiled review
- b) The political economy of the assault on health
- c) Equity and Inequity today- some contributing social factors
- d) 25 Questions on Health and Human Rights

Defending the Health of the Marginalised is a compilation of 4 papers prepared by CHC staff during the 2nd National Health Assembly, 2007. The chapters are-

1. Health for Dalit Communities
2. Health of the Urban Poor
3. Mental Health in India-An overview

4. Communicable diseases control programme

December 2008 Health Action issue is a compilation of case-studies, personal journeys, stories from grassroots and policy responses at local and national levels in areas of women's health empowerment, antitobacco activism, health as a human right, community monitoring, environmental and occupational health challenges, and challenge of governance of the CHC team and CHC Associates. This documentation is useful to understand the concept of health as a social movement.

Please visit the Publications section for more resources.

DISSEMINATION AND ADVOCACY

CHC hosted the National Workshop on 'Learning Programs in community health and Public Health' to share about the current Community Health Learning Programme, our learnings from the Fellowship Programme and the newer significant Fellowship initiative in Madhya Pradesh, with key resource persons in community health in India.

The 2 day workshop held in April 2008, deliberated over the vision, mission and objectives of the Fellowship initiative in Madhya Pradesh based on the reflection on the strengths, uniqueness and challenges of the CHFS and CHLP.

The Workshop emphasized the need to watch actively, engage critically, share experiences and learn creatively as we evolve community health learning programs, and to be involved with the mainstream public health educational processes.

WAY FORWARD

CHC is announcing the CHLP Full time and Flexible Programme for 2010. The Call for Applications is on. The programme commences in March 2010.
