

August 2022

Community Speaks

HCL-F SUPPORTED SOCHARA'S CWASH PROJECT

Foreword

We are happy to present you the August 2022 newsletter for the activity supported by HCL-F and SOCHARA team from Chennai and Bengaluru. The Bangalore team conducted 13 awareness sessions on a variety of subjects, including waste segregation, MHHM, and vector-borne diseases.

As a step forward, two block level meetings with secondary stakeholders were held this time, and a milk cover collection drive was also started in Anandapuram.

Fungal infection was a major health concern in the Anandapuram community, so the Bangalore team conducted 40 household surveys to analyse the issue. Awareness sessions are being planned on the same keeping in mind the community constraints.

Chennai Team has been making visits to Chintadripet and Saidapet Police clubs to inspect the toilet for follow-up.

We are thankful for the enriching support as always and in a true sense of working together, looking forward to building upon the gains achieved so far along with the community in the days ahead too.

Surya Kumar
- Field Coordinator

Activities List

- 8 Community Volunteers meetings with 78 participants were conducted altogether in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram.
- 13 Awareness sessions were conducted with 250 participants on waste management and segregation, vector-borne diseases and Menstrual health and hygiene altogether in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram.
- 6 Community Meetings with 127 participants were conducted in both communities.
- 9 street bulbs were replaced with new bulbs at Maya Bazaar
- Created awareness around waste management and segregation in collaboration with BBMP Marshals in the Anandapuram Community
- PHC, BBMP, BESCO, and Police station visits by C-WASH Team to discuss about certain issues faced by the community
- Regular monitoring of Management and Segregation of waste in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram communities.
- 19 Black spots were cleaned by Sanitation workers in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram.
- Regular monitoring of milk cover collection in the Maya Bazaar community. (2139 Milk Packets were collected this month)
- Milk Cover Collection Drive was introduced in the Anandapuram community this month. (587 Milk Packets were collected.)
- 2 Block level meetings were conducted in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram community with 23 participants altogether.
- 40 household surveys were conducted to understand the community's perspective of Fungal Infection which is prevalent in the community.
- The Chennai team made visits to Chintadripet and Saidapet Police clubs to inspect the toilet for follow-up.





Recycle it all, No matter how small

Aadira Stephen

This month, Team CWASH organised a Milk Packet Cover Collection Drive in Anandapuram like we earlier did in Maya Bazaar to raise community awareness on the importance of recycling, and waste segregation and to show residents what a difference even a small action on their part can make for the environment. The primary goal of this drive is to educate the public on the significance of eliminating the more serious negative effects on the environment and public health by adopting the practice of collecting milk packets and assisting the team in recycling them.

Most households produce waste from milk and curd packets, therefore we thought that this should be the first step toward our goal of creating a community that is aware of recycling and values the environment.

The relevance and aim of the Drive were explained to the field coordinators and volunteers who would take it up and promote it among the locals. Additionally, the importance of the right method for cutting milk packets was covered in the training session provided by the technical team. The participants were intrigued to learn that the tiny piece of the milk packet that is cut off does so much damage and that changing this habit just a little bit could have a significant impact by reducing the amount of waste that is produced by these bits. The drive is also intended to provide a financial contribution by sending the milk packets and curd packets for recycling and using the money for the community's needs.



Survey on Fungal Infection

Spoorthi (Intern)

"I first learned about the widespread fungal infection in the community when I began my internship in Anandapuram. Being a doctor, I was intrigued by this problem and wanted to learn more about it. I gained understanding of the community's present attitudes, practices, and knowledge of the infection. In the meantime, the C-WASH team had also sent the water for testing in a nearby PHC. Following the assessment, the doctors stated unequivocally that the issue wasn't with the water but rather with how poorly the community was managing its hygiene. After a discussion with the SOCHARA team we decided on conducting a survey in the community to understand what reasons lead to this behaviour. We worked on a questionnaire and conducted the survey with 40 people and learnt that reasons like using their new clothes without washing, usage of single soap and towel by all the members of the family, wearing semi-dry clothes for over 2 -3 days straight, bathing only for 3-4 days a week, might be the contributing factors to the fungal infection.

After analysing the data completely we'll conduct an awareness session for the community keeping in mind all the constraints that they face."



MHHM sessions by Field Coordinators

Sugandha Chandra

Three field coordinators were trained to conduct Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management sessions for the urban poor communities we work with.

In the second half of August, the field coordinators, for the first time, conducted MHHM sessions in the community with great success. They were well prepared, mobilized the community as per the need and delivered good quality sessions. Each session was split in two halves keeping in mind the attention span and willingness to spare time by the community ladies. The activities were led with ease and enjoyed thoroughly by the participants. The IEC materials were used optimally and helped keep the participants engaged and attentive throughout the sessions.

A telling sign of the success of their sessions was the return of all participants for the second halves.

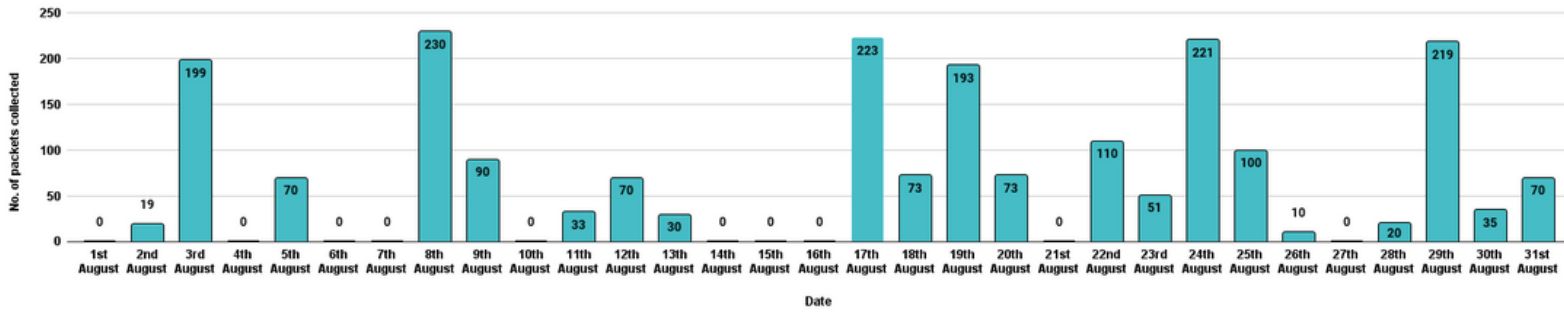
The sessions were monitored by the Training assistants at SOCHARA and feedback was given to the new facilitators. This was also followed up with a session for revision to fill in minor perceived gaps.

We are glad to share that the field coordinators have emerged as able and confident facilitators, and look forward to empowering many more menstruators!

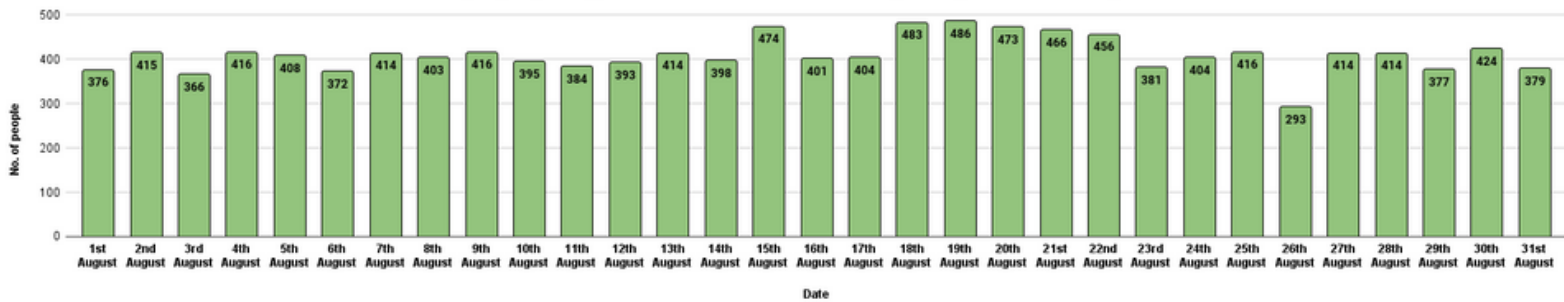


GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES - AUGUST

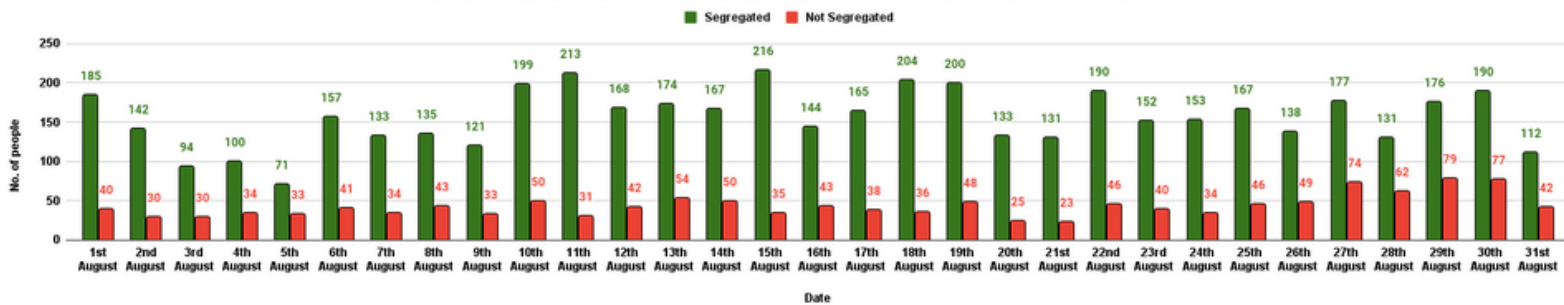
No. of milk covers collected on a day to day basis - Maya Bazaar



No. of people putting waste in BBMP vehicle on a day to day basis - Anandapuram



No. of people segregating and not segregating waste on a day to day basis - Maya Bazaar



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