

MARCH 2022

Community Speaks

HCL-F SUPPORTED SOCHARA'S CWASH PROJECT



FOREWORD

- Srilakshmi Santhosh

SOCHARA HCL-F CWASH teams are marching towards building healthy and mindful communities through thoughtful interventions and context oriented awareness campaigns and celebrations. Our communities in Bangalore and Chennai indulged in conversations and activities on Women's day, Covid Vaccination Awareness and many more with active participation from everyone involved, creating spaces for reflective learning in Community Health.

The Bangalore team observed Women's day in Mayabazar and Anandapuram through street plays by the community members themselves. In the true spirit of 'working together' we teamed up with Swathi Mahila Sangha in spearheading vaccination campaigns throughout the communities. Chennai Team has geared up with the infrastructure activities and interactive sessions with the communities on queries and concerns on Vaccination for children. And once again, let's not let our masks down for the greater good. Social distance, sanitize and mask up. Let's work together for a safer future!

Activities List

Bangalore

- Women's day celebration at Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram Community on 8.03.2022 and 9.03.2022 respectively.
- 2 TB Awareness programme conducted in Anandapuram Community on 'World TB Day'. (30 Participants)
- Vaccination awareness campaign as a part of 'National Vaccination Day' in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram community in collaboration with Swasti NGO on 15.03.2022 and 17.03.2022. (Swathi Mahila Sangha). (185 Participants)
- 3 Community Volunteer meetings conducted in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram.
- HCL-F volunteers visited Maya Bazaar and interacted with the community.
- Regular Monitoring of Segregation and Management of waste in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram communities.
- 78 Black spots were cleaned by Sanitation workers in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram community.
- SOCHARA and HCL-F staff visited Haragadde GHS and Huskuru GHS for observing the newly constructed toilets.
- The HCL-F team visited a few schools in Anekal to observe the status of the toilets built and also the Maya Bazaar Community and interacted with the community volunteers.
- The construction of the Haragadde GHS toilets is complete, while work on the Huskuru GHS toilets is underway.
- Regular monitoring of milk cover collection drive in Maya Bazaar community.
- Maya Bazaar volunteers along with technical team attended women's day celebration at HCL Campus, Jigani.

Chennai

- Saidapet Police club Visit and discussions with the Scoutmaster on the recently received notification on slum clearance by TN Slum Clearance Board.
- Infrastructure related follow up visits and enquiries in MKB Nagar Police club
- Field Visit to MKB Nagar Police club regarding to analyse the concerns and queries communities have on ongoing vaccination camps for Children.



CASE STORY

- Shashikala Headmistress, GHS Haragadde

“Namasthe. I'm Shashikala, Haragadde High School's headmistress. I've been working at this school since 2021, and when I first arrived, there was no proper bathroom or hand washing station. We only had two toilets here, both of which were broken due to the lack of water and bad management. There were no properly functioning doors or taps. Girls, in particular, had a lot of trouble using these kinds of toilets, which presented a significant difficulty for me as the school's headmistress. When Prema from SOCHARA came to visit our school, she talked with me and conducted a need-based assessment; throughout the visit, I told Prema about the challenges. Prema followed up on information and went to the BEO office to obtain a construction permit. She devoted a lot of time and effort behind the building of new toilets. Her efforts are much appreciated by me. Finally, the SOCHARA C-Wash team built beautiful toilets in the school premises. It is an incredible present for our school. This excellent act benefited around 330 kids and staff. I am grateful to the entire SOCHARA team.”





GEARING UP FOR BETTER AND SAFER FUTURE - PROGRESS AND QUESTIONS

- Srilakshmi Santhosh

SOCHARA C-Wash Chennai Team is conducting regular visits to MKB Nagar Police club to oversee the progress of the toilet construction. The construction is taking its pace with imminent support from the community and the scoutmaster alike. The team also interacted with the community in our field visits to understand their concerns on the vaccination that is now being administered for children. The community raised their concerns on the absence of nearby vaccination camps. They are sceptical about getting the children of 12-18 years old vaccinated. They also said that they have not received any public awareness campaign by the government regarding the vaccination for children yet.

The team and the community have met with an unprecedented challenge on the ground which calls for a halt in the infrastructure developments in Saidapet Police club. Scoutmaster Geetha had updated the team on the recently received Slum Clearance and Demolition notice by the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board. The team made field visits to the club to discuss the issue in detail with the scoutmaster and the community. The slum clearance board notice specifies that the housing board inhabitants have 3 months to vacate their homes and plan a shift. It also mentions that any inconveniences or property loss post the three months Notice period will not be the government's responsibility.

Scoutmaster Geetha, on receipt of the notice, had consulted the Sub Inspector of Police the same day before the team's visit. Inspector notified that the Police Club building comes under the area of housing board and hence will be demolished. The team extended support to the community. A plausible solution to the issue is under discussion.





CELEBRATING OUR INCREDIBLE WOMEN - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

- Aadira Stephen

International Women's Day is a worldwide event that honours women's social, economic, cultural, and political achievements. The day also serves as a call to action for achieving gender parity sooner rather than later. The SOCHARA C-WASH, Bangalore Team celebrated this fantastic day in the Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram communities. On March 8th, we presented certificates to the street play volunteers for spending their time, energy, hard work, and devotion over the course of 19 days while being trained by our professional artist Shivanna and team.

It was almost like an unofficial launch of the 'Hosa Belaku' Kala Jatha street play team in the Maya Bazaar Community, which was followed by street play performances by the volunteers in all four locations. The day's highlights included Shramadan and Awareness Games. The identical set of activities were held at the Anandapuram community on March 9th, with the Kala Jatha team performing their play for the first time in this community. Local empowered women assembling a Street play team and performing was the highlight of the two-day programme; we notice a lot of bright women in the group who can contribute in building their own community.





The field coordinators were in charge of mobilising the community, while a Swasti NGO resource person was in charge of leading the session.

It's an issue that doesn't get nearly enough attention, so we were pleased to see so many individuals interested in learning more about it. They also asked questions to the resource person, demonstrating their genuine desire to learn more about the subject. The theme for the year 2022, "vaccines work for all" was also highlighted a number of times during the session.

"VACCINES WORK FOR ALL" - NATIONAL VACCINATION DAY

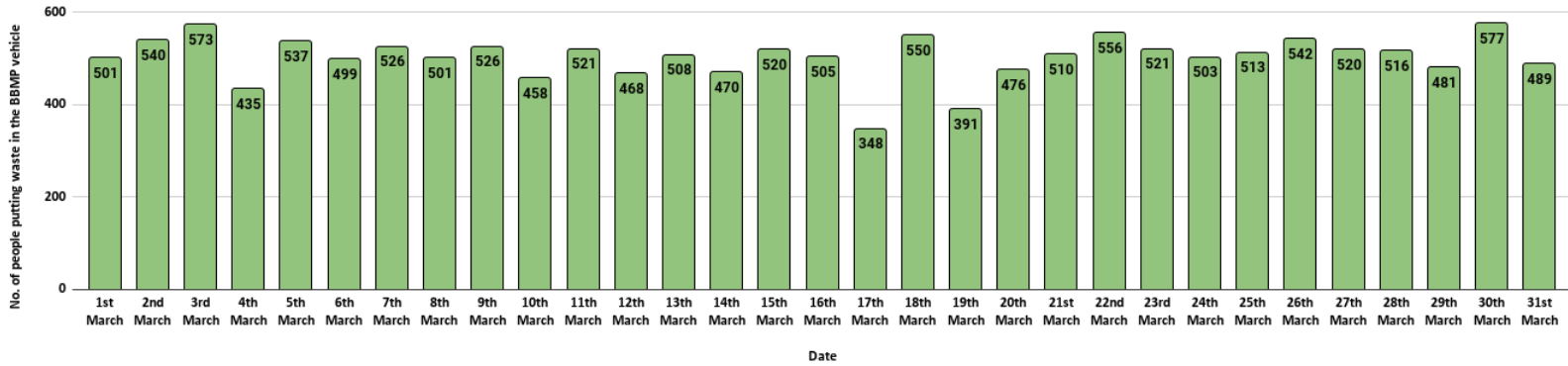
- Aadira Stephen

Every year on March 16, India commemorates National Vaccination Day to raise awareness of the relevance of vaccines in human health. COVID-19 has taught us about the importance of vaccines and how they can improve our lives. This day raises awareness on the effectiveness of vaccination in preventing deadly diseases. Mostly, this day recalls India's victory over polio, as well as an increase in individual health and life expectancy. On this occasion, the SOCHARA C-WASH, Bangalore Team collaborated with Swasti NGO (Swasti Mahila Sangam) to educate community members in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram understand the need of vaccination.

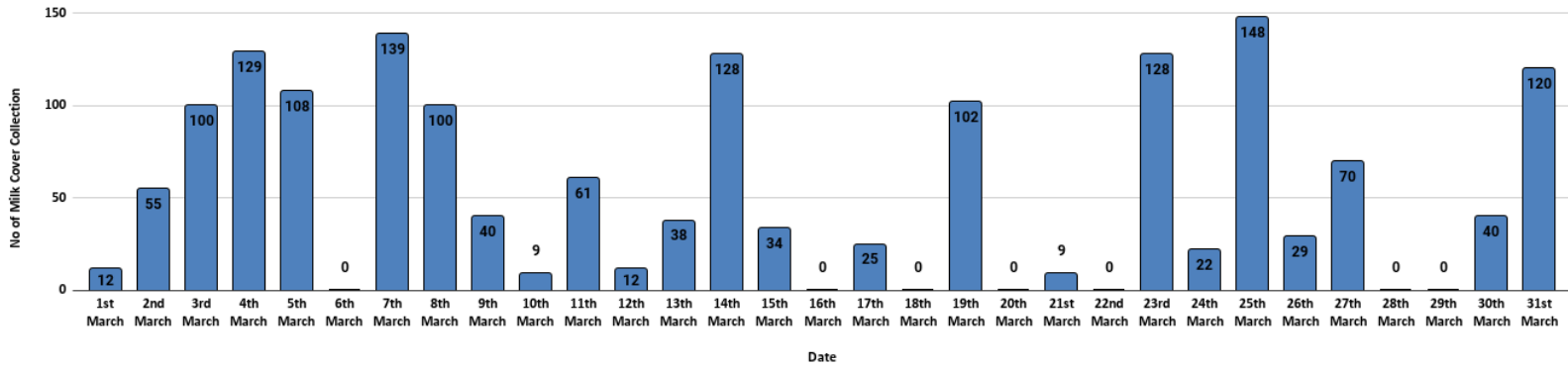


GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF REGULAR ACTIVITIES - MARCH

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



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



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

