

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

HCL-F Supported SOCHARA's CWASH Project



Foreword

We are delighted to share this month's newsletter with you which showcases the monthly activities conducted by HCL-F supported C-WASH team.

The month was embarked for the Bangalore team with a Handing over ceremony of the newly constructed toilets at Indalwadi Government High School, Anekal. The staff and the students expressed their gratitude for this initiative and came forward to share their prior experiences. We would also like to highlight the waste segregation campaign running successfully in the Maya Bazaar community. A fascinating change has been witnessed in such a short span with the people segregating the waste increasing in number every single day. Additionally, The Milk cover collection drive is also bringing a good response from the community members. The team also identified and renovated a non functional community ladies toilet which was not being used for years because of its deplorable condition.

The C-WASH Chennai team was engaged in Infrastructure development related situational analysis at two police clubs - Muthialpet and MKB nagar, Minor repair works and repair work related needs assessment in Project schools. They also conducted World Nutrition Week Awareness sessions at four police clubs - Kodambakkam, Chintadripet, Perumbakkam, and Muthialpet. Awareness sessions on waste management were also conducted by the team at two police clubs - Kodambakkam and Saidapet.

We are looking forward to learning and unlearning in our upcoming journey towards achieving the goal of 'Health for All.'

Saranya Raja
 Graphic Designer,
 SOCHARA, Bangalore.

ACTIVITIES

- 72 black spots were cleaned in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram, Bangalore.
- Created virtual cards on the occasion of Teacher's day and connected to the staff of 24 schools that we work for through WhatsApp.
- Conducted 7 Waste management Awareness in Anandapuram and 4 Awareness programmes on Waste segregation in Mayabazar
- 5 community meetings and 4 Community volunteers meetings were conducted in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram altogether.
- Handing over ceremony of newly constructed boy's toilets for Indlawadi Government High School, Anekal, Bangalore.
- Follow-up visits related to infrastructure development in Indalwadi School, Anekal,
- Monitored waste collection in Maya Bazaar and Anandapuram, Bangalore.
- The HCL-F team visited the Bangalore office to discuss volunteering opportunities and 'the power of one'.
- Field visit to the Maya Bazaar Community along with the HCL-f team.
- World nutrition week awareness sessions at four police clubs - Kodambakkam, Chintadripet, Perumbakkam and Muthialpet
- Waste management awareness sessions at two police clubs - Kodambakkam and Saidapet
- Infrastructure development related situational analysis at two police clubs - Muthialpet and MKB nagar
- Minor repair work (RO repaired) at Municipal Higher Secondary School, Lakshmpuram
- Minor repair work related needs assessment in other Project schools
- Visit with the Assistant commissioner of Police regarding upcoming toilet Infrastructure at Saidapet Police club

Taking steps towards building a healthier community

Aadira Stephen

The inaugural ceremony of the newly constructed toilets at the Indalwadi Government High School, Anekal was held on September 8, 2021. The program was attended by dignitaries, school staff, a few students and the SOCHARA team, keeping in view all the COVID-19 restrictions.

The program was enhanced with the presentation of a prayer song by a group of students. It was followed by enlightening addressals by the invited guests where everyone was expressing their delight for the completion of this project. The challenges faced by the students before the construction of the toilets were also highlighted during the addressals. The testimonies by the staff and students filled the team with a sense of contentment for being able to encourage appropriate WASH behaviors through this initiative.



Sowing Seeds of Hope: Toilet Renovation

Aadira Stephen

The community toilet for ladies in Maya Bazaar was identified and renovated with the support of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Installation of new doors, painting and cleaning of the toilets were done in this process. The toilets were not in use for years because of their miserable working conditions. And, No one was coming forward to repair it as it came under the military land. This step taken by the organization to seek help for the toilet's renovation has helped the women of the community have a safer and cleaner space for their Sanitation purposes.

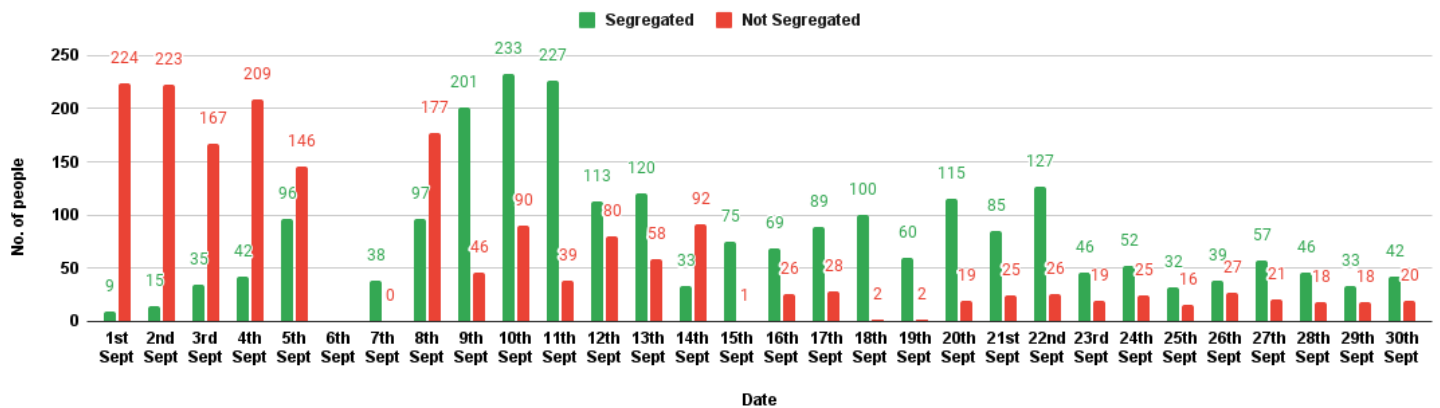


Little efforts to progress – Waste Segregation Campaign

Aadira Stephen

A waste segregation campaign was put into action in the Maya Bazaar community in the month of September. The problem was identified as lack of awareness around the subject. This was followed up by creating modules on waste segregation, spreading relevant information by conducting awareness sessions, making door to door visits and monitoring the daily waste segregation activity through a monitoring tool distinguishing wet, dry and hazardous waste designed by the team. The response by the community members has been overwhelmingly positive which we are sharing through the following graph.

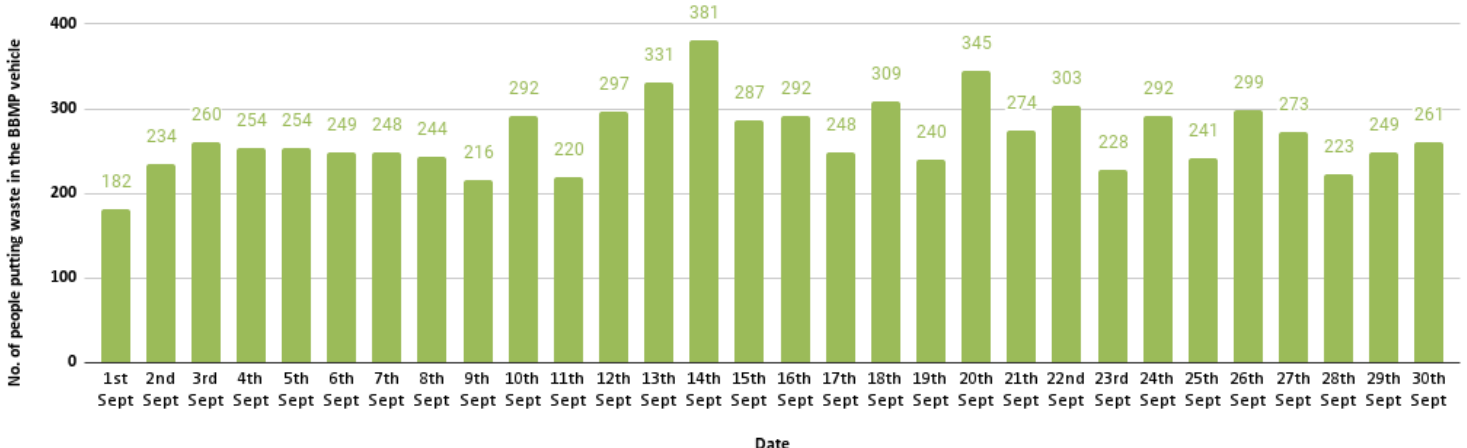
No. of people segregating and not segregating waste on a day to day basis - Maya Bazaar



Note: Blank space in the graph indicates that the vehicle did not come to the location.

Alongside, We had also started a waste disposal campaign in Anandapuram in the same month. The people in the community were not managing the waste properly and were seen dumping it outside their houses. The problem was analyzed and the team came up with a module to create awareness around waste management and the consequences of improper waste disposal. The awareness was disseminated by the team by conducting awareness sessions, door to door visits and community meetings where the community members came forward and put forth their problems. The rate with which we are witnessing a behavioral change in the community in the last one month is astounding. The graph below shows how the waste management process has been going on in Anandapuram.

No. of people putting waste in the BBMP vehicle - Anandapuram



Rethink the future: Milk cover collection drive

Aadira Stephen

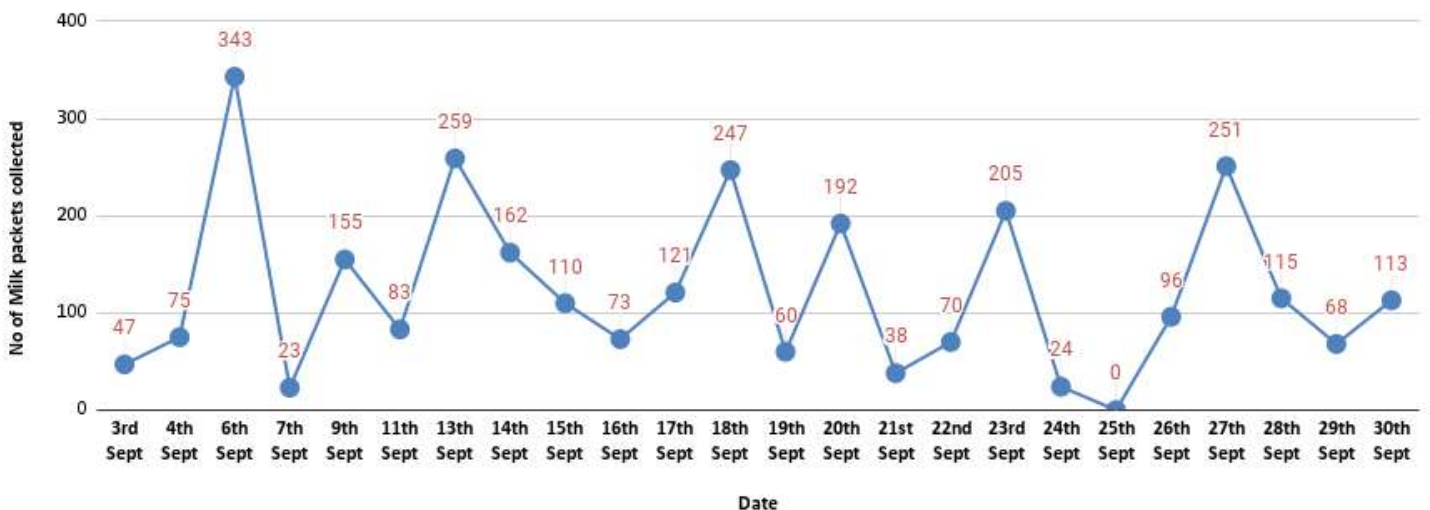
The Milk Cover Collection Drive which was started last month in the Maya Bazaar community is running successfully with the community members coming forward for the cause and becoming consciously aware of the importance of the campaign.

The main aim behind starting this drive was to make the community understand the importance of being able to eradicate the bigger environmental and health consequences of careless disposal of plastics by adopting the habit of collecting milk packets and giving it away for recycling. Our team helped the community identify a nearby dry waste center where the collected milk packets were sent for recycling and some money was also earned out of it. The money collected will be used for the welfare of the community.

The Number of milk packets collected till 29.09.2021: **2664 Milk packets.**



No. of Milk packets collected on a day to day Basis - Maya Bazaar



Discussing 'Undernutrition and WASH'

Srilakshmi Santhosh

As a part of World Nutrition Week, C-WASH Team Chennai conducted awareness sessions on WASH related practices and Undernutrition in 4 Police clubs of Muthialpet, Kodambakkam, Chintadripet and Perumbakkam. The activities and sessions were aimed at understanding the relation between undernutrition and poor WASH access and the importance of having safe access to water and hygiene components. A total of 41 children participated in the awareness sessions held at the Police clubs. The theme of this year's World Nutrition Week was 'Feeding Smart right from the Start'. The awareness session was divided into 6 segments, with every segment having an interactive activity to explore the children's understanding on different ways of improving access to safe water, promoting hygiene, preventing diseases and understanding Food Hygiene. Towards the end of each session, we also discussed what ORS is and how dehydration from diarrhoea can be prevented by giving extra fluids at home.



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