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SOCIETY FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARENESS, RESEARCH AND ACTION

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

2018-19



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INTRODUCTION – an overview of the year gone by

Two large and significant global health events were the major highlights for the SOCHARA team during the year 2018-19. Proactive involvement by the team, along with network and health movement partners, in taking responsibility from the preparatory phase to completion of these events were cause for satisfaction. The events are part of ongoing processes that promote Health for ALL within an ethical framework. The first, was the fourth global Peoples Health Assembly (PHA) in Bangladesh, which was preceded by state and national assemblies in India. The second was the fourteenth World Congress of Bioethics (WCB) held jointly with the seventh National Bioethics Conference (NBC). SOCHARA was one of the four co-hosts of the WCB, playing a significant role in many aspects, both professional and organisational. The WCB organised under the umbrella of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB) was held for the first time in India. We are happy to share that Dr. Anant Bhan was the first Indian President of the IAB during the period when this Congress was held. He was a pre-fellow with SOCHARA in 2002, during which period he became interested in Bioethics, and has not looked back.

During the reporting year the team engaged intensely with community processes in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. A community health approach was used to address significant public health problems such as young child undernutrition, sanitation, hygiene and waste management. A new community health initiative in WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) with an urban poor community in Bengaluru is supported by the HCL Foundation – UDAY. This new initiative and partnership developed and managed independently by a Co-Coordinator of SOCHARA has also been a highlight during the year. Community health interns and students on placement have contributed to the initiative, and also learnt a lot about social realities and community engagement processes.

The team has actively participated in state and national level networking and in the People's Health Movement. Support to community health interns and students on placement from Universities brought in fresh minds and energy. The Health for All Learning centre is witness to a new phenomenon of young postgraduate medical professionals exploring work in rural areas.

The 28th year in the SOCHARA journey, which began in April 1991, is also the 35th year since the group came together as the Community Health Cell in January 1984. This year saw further change and continuity in the context of an ongoing organisational and generational transition. The organisation continues its commitment towards realization of the Health for ALL goal by working within the framework of the Objectives in the Memorandum of Association, together with many like minded groups in India and elsewhere.

A generational change is taking place both within the governance mechanisms, and within the team. The Community Health Cell (CHC) is described by Ravi Narayan as an early 'start up', with many innovations, experimenting with and promoting Community Health. Being a 'catalyst' was a path less travelled, and not often understood, in an era of brand building and intellectual property claims. Several other ideas and groupings were initiated in this space. Having completed 35 years of engaging with individuals, small groups, institutions, networks,

the public health system, international bodies and agencies, health and social movements one can say that travelling towards Health for All is a long and difficult, but fulfilling journey. The overall goal is yet to be reached. The need for clear headed, analytical and critical thinking is of vital importance. More organisational and individual time, effort and space is needed to have conversations, share ideas, interpret data, trends and processes regarding the broader directions that community health and development are currently pursuing, within a very complex context.

The Society places on record its deep appreciation of Mr. Samuel V Joseph, Coordinator-Secretary who completed his two year term and handed over in mid-October 2018. The Executive Committee played an active role during the year, as always, facilitating reflections, collective decisions and action. They are an anchor for the organisation, while the team keep the ship going.

The Society records with sadness the passing on of Dr. Vatsala Nagarajan in May 2019. She supported the financial systems of SOCHARA in the 1990s. May her soul rest in peace.

This activity report is framed around the Objectives of SOCHARA.

The future beckons, and responsibility lies in each one's hands to go forward in the best possible manner.

Thelma Narayan,
Interim Coordinator – Secretary

*“Your do not need to know
Precisely what is happening,
Or exactly where it is all going.
What you need is to recognise
The possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment,
And to embrace them with courage, faith and hope.”*

Thomas Merton

1. CREATING COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARENESS

OBJECTIVE 1. *To create awareness on the principles and practice of community health among all people involved and interested in health and related sectors.*

During 2018-19 the SOCHARA – Madhya Pradesh Centre for Public Health and Equity (MP CPHE) team based in Bhopal continued to work on childhood nutrition in urban poor localities of Bhopal, and in a few districts of Madhya Pradesh state. The main activities are growth monitoring and health education of mothers, families and the community.

- Apart from the direct work by the team members in the different communities, the team also worked with various organisations in the areas of field support, training and capacity building. The team also works with the staff of the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) programme of the state Government.



- The team effectively used appropriate software (WHO Anthro) to produce evidence based impact of the intervention in the nutritional work. The team regularly carry out statistical analysis of the growth monitoring data with the help of WHO Anthro which enables cross-sectional and longitudinal assessment of nutritional status of children in individual villages and *anganwadis*. This statistical analysis shows a distinct improvement in the nutritional status of young children over a period of a year or more in the field areas. The results of the analysis of growth monitoring data is communicated back to the community through the community-level workers and collaborating NGOs.
- The growth monitoring work has been facilitated by the use of children's growth charts developed by the SOCHARA team in Bhopal, with additional context specific health educational messages on nutrition and child health for mothers in these cards.
- During the year a practical demonstration of nutritional rehabilitation of an infant of a mother who passed away during delivery (a maternal death) was done in Baghmugaliya slum of Bhopal city. This had a positive impact on the community, as well as on the government staff.

In Karnataka SOCHARA continued its activities of promoting a community health approach to water and sanitation at micro and macro levels. The following programs are successfully carried out in order to promote water and sanitation for all.

- Two full day training programs was organised on 06.06.2018 and 08.06.2018, for 150 nurses and 30 doctors with the support of Bangalore Baptist Hospital. The topics included individual waste segregation and management; bio-medical waste; types of hazardous waste.

- The AXA company as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility organized two training programs for their staff on waste management in which SOCHARA took part as a resource group. Training's were conducted on 18th and 19th June 2018 for 40 members and 32 members respectively.
- Training of self help group members at Atavra Hosahalli village, Hassan: On 17.07.2018 SOCHARA and Hassan Zilla Panchayat organized a one day training programme on toilet usage and waste management for 40 participants from village, 3 Government officials and 1 resource person from SOCHARA attended the training program.
- Training on Occupational Health and free health check up for *paurakarmikas* (Street Sweepers and Garbage Collectors under local government) at Devara Jeevana (DJ) Halli on 10th August 2018. The program was jointly organized by SOCHARA and Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Urban Health Centre. It was organized for around 45 *paurakarmikas*. Resource persons from SOCHARA, Baptist Hospital, GILGAL and BBMP attended the programme.
- Awareness program for community members at D.J.Halli on blood pressure and diabetes: The program was organized on 16th, August, 2018, jointly by SOCHARA and Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Urban Health Centre. It was attended by 20 members. Ms. Leela , community health worker of Baptist hospital initiated the talk on causes of high blood pressure. Mr. Alfred of SOCHARA spoke about prevention through eating healthy food, daily exercises, meditation etc. After the awareness programme, 20 members who participated were given free screening for hypertension and diabetes .
- On 19.11.2018, AA foundation and Malur Taluk Panchayat organized a programme on World Toilet Day at Aralere village of Aralere Gram Panchayat. SOCHARA and AA foundation are working at Aralere gram panchayat for the last five years. Six villages of Aralere gram panchayat are declared as open defecation free villages and government called for a celebration and appreciated the work of SOCHARA and AA foundation for promoting Aralere gram panchayat as an open defecation panchayat.
- On 15.11.2018 one day training programme was organized by Kolar Zilla panchayat and SOCHARA for elected representatives on toilet usage, 45 elected representatives from Mulabagellu block of Kolar district attended the orientation programme. The topics covered in the orientation programme were toilet usage and waste management.
- A training programme was organized by SOCHARA and Hassan Zilla panchayat on 10.12.2018 for 42 Panchayat Development Officers on rural waste management.
- A training programme was organized by SOCHARA and Hassan Zilla panchayat on 28.12.2018 at Sakleshpura taluk panchayat. In the training 38 panchayat development officers and 8 data entry officers took part. The topics covered in training are sustainability of toilet usage and waste management.
- One day orientation programme on waste management was organized by SOCHARA and Hassan Zilla panchayat on 29.12.2018 at M.Hosahalli village of Hassan block, Hassan district. Participants from 8 Self Help Groups (51 numbers), District coordinator from Hassan Zilla Panchayat, SOCHARA team member and Project coordinator from NRLM project attended the orientation programme.



- On 04.10.2018 a meeting was conducted with the Devara Jeevana Halli Community Action for Health team on collecting used milk covers from individual household and linking it to the dry waste collection center - 4 community members, 2 SOCHARA team members and 2 flexi interns attended the meeting.

- On 09.10.2018 a SOCHARA team member attended the meeting with BBMP, contractor on organizing one day training programme for Sanitation workers on health of

Paurakarmikas.

- On 11.10.2018 SOCHARA organized one day free health check up for Anganwadi kids with the support from Bangalore Baptist hospital Doctors. 15 children of age group 3 to 6, two team members of SOCHARA, two interns from SOCHARA and one doctor from Bangalore Baptist hospital attended the free health check up camp.
- On 02.11.2018 Awareness program on personal hygiene and self examination of breast was conducted to Ante-natal care and Post-natal care mothers in Anganwadi. Around 30 women



participated in the program. A doctor from Bangalore Baptist hospital attended as a resource person along with two team members of SOCHARA and two flexi interns of SOCHARA.

- On 09.11.2018 Awareness program for pre-natal and post –natal

women about personal hygiene, baby care, vaccination and others, 20 community members (Women) attended the programme, Sister Gloria from Bangalore Baptist hospital spoke about vaccination, Mrs. Leela spoke about women's hygiene and Ms.Jayamma and Alfred spoke about healthy food and nutrition

- On 16.11.2018 an awareness programme for male *paurakarmikas* on occupational health safety and free health camp was organized by SOCHARA and Bangalore Baptist hospital, 10 male *paurakarmikas* attended the programme where doctors from Bangalore Baptist hospital conducted free health check up and SOCHARA oriented them on occupational health & safety
- During this year SOCHARA explored the extension of its water and sanitation work into Maya bazaar slum in Vannarpet near Austin Town. The SOCHARA team along with interns made multiple visits to the area and met various leaders in the community including leaders of Dalit Sangharsh Samithi (DSS).

- On 31.12.2018 : A awareness programme on ANC and PNC was organized by SOCHARA on nutrition and personnel hygiene practices, 45 mothers from DJ Halli Community attended the orientation programme.

- **Peoples Health Assemblies**

As one of the founding member organisations of *Jan Swasthya Abhiyan* (JSA), the India chapter of the People's Health Movement (PHM) the primary purpose of which is to promote health for all. Since 1999, SOCHARA played an important role in mobilizing and organizing health assemblies at various levels including district, state, national and international health assemblies. SOCHARA being important constituent member of different chapters contributed actively towards organizing assemblies during 2018-19.

The *Makkal Nalavazhvu Iyakkam* (MNI) which is the Tamil Nadu Chapter of JSA is convened by SOCHARA Tamil Nadu team. MNI brings together various grassroots movements, activists and civil society organisations towards achieving health for all. The forum attempted to organize health assemblies at various levels.

Since 2017-18, MNI facilitated a state-wide campaign against corporate led privatisation and



commercialization of health care in Tamil Nadu. The campaign continued during the year 2018-19 also through follow up of the memorandum submitted to honourable Tamil Nadu governor to modify the Clinical Establishment Act of Tamil Nadu, partnering with the networks and patients' rights groups in other states.

- On 25th February 2019 Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA) organised a national level demonstration for raising various demands in which one of the focus point was to regulate the private sector and protect patients' rights. The SOCHARA team actively mobilised and participated in this demonstration.

- The team also undertook ground work for setting up a civil society based health system observatory which will focus on specific components of the service delivery in both public and private health care systems.



- The team hosted a State (12th June 2018), Tanjore regional (16th May 2018) and 2 districts mobilisation and awareness meetings in Chennai (5th May 2018) and Coimbatore (21st July), and supported the MNI members to host the meetings in

Dharmapuri, Ramnad and Tiruchy districts on the issue of privatization of health care in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu Health Assembly

MNI organised and facilitated a state health assembly at CEEMA, Erode, on 15th September, 2018. The assembly deliberated on women's health, child health, occupational health among women workers, health insurance schemes in Tamil Nadu, mental health and women, the process of peoples health assemblies and the themes in the past, and for the forth coming assemblies. 79 participants across Tamil Nadu from 53 organisations participated. Twelve resolutions were passed in the assembly, which are relevant to the Tamil Nadu Health situation.

National Health Assembly

The third National Health Assembly (NHA 3) of JSA was held on 22nd and 23rd September 2018 at Rabindra Bhawan, Raipur, Chhattisgarh with the theme, "***The time to make health and healthcare a fundamental right is Now!***". As a national coordination committee member of JSA, SOCHARA and its members actively contributed in various ways to the National Health Assembly. The assembly aimed to bring together activists, academics, peoples' movements and members of civil society organisations across the country to mobilise action towards setting health as an important agenda prior to the upcoming general elections. The assembly was successfully held with participation of around 1500 people from across the country.

SOCHARA in Tamil Nadu mobilised 80 Participants from Tamil Nadu and Pudhucherry, participated in the mobilisation process along with fellows in Madhya Pradesh, mobilised more than 50 SOCHARA fellows to take part in the assembly, chaired a Plenary Session, participated in the panel discussions including Community Action for Health, tribal health, women and maternal health along with chairing of the plenary were important contributions of SOCHARA apart from organising and mobilising for the whole assembly.

SOCHARA as a resource group contributed by displaying set of posters (80#) on the Theme "Health Assemblies in the World" and projected the wonderful memorable photo journey of the previous assemblies' celebrations.

A team of SOCHARA fellows contributed to the visual and written documentation of sessions and workshops. There were a number of alumni from the MP CHFP (fellowship programme) who participated.

Tamil Nadu team set up an FM live translation of the plenary sessions in Tamil.

The fourth global People's Health Assembly (PHA 4) was held in Savar, Bangladesh from 15th to 19th November 2018. The assembly accommodated nearly 2000 people and deliberated on various issues pertaining to health of all levels and across the world. Various SOCHARA team members contributed to assembly process including mobilisation at the national and state levels including Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka, assisting the organising team in logistics, management, communication and planning of the assembly, preparing necessary

technical materials in local language and coordination among Indian participants were the major contributions of SOCHARA to the assembly.

In Tamil Nadu, the team mobilised 14 delegates to took part in the assembly along with the state level meeting and a press meet.

Four SOCHARA staff and a few General Body members of SOCHARA attended the assembly.

Several team members were part of the technical sessions of the assembly including the sub-plenary session; organising workshops on the role of indigenous health knowledge in the context of the politics of knowledge; bringing together traditional healers from different continents; sharing of experiences in traditional crops and their disappearance in M.P. state, as well as work in nutrition in the state.

People's health manifesto

SOCHARA coordinated and facilitated the preparation of a people's health manifesto in Tamil Nadu. In the MNI state steering committee meeting on 22nd January 2019 in Chennai @ TN-FORCES office the draft health manifesto was discussed.

Through multiple meetings, the district and state level gatherings, the people's health manifesto was prepared. On 07th March 2019 the state committee finalized the manifesto and released it to the public and press. This was widely disseminated through social media and also submitted to political parties and policy makers. In the following districts SOCHARA team facilitated the discussion process of peoples health manifesto.

District	Date	Participants	Convening organisation	MNI
Chennai	07 Mar 2019	Total 28	Positive Women's Network (PWN +)	
Coimbatore	08 Mar 2019	Total 15	ADAYALAM & Tamil Nadu Medical Sales Representatives Association	
Cuddalore	13 Mar 2019	Total 61	NEWS, RISE	
Dharmapuri	13 Mar 2019	Total 61	DHVANI (Dharmapuri Voluntary Action Network Initiative)	
Kallakurichi	14 Mar 2019	Total 40	NEWS	
Planning meeting for Puducherry state	16 Mar 2019	Total 6	Puducherry Science Forum (PSF)	
Ramanathapuram	09 Mar 2019	Total 49	RWDS	
Tiruvannamalai	09 Feb 2019	Total 35	SINAM	
Vellore	07 Feb 2019	Total 25	Tamilnadu Science Forum (TNSF)	

- SOCHARA played a key role in preparing the national people's health manifesto. The JSA national coordination committee meeting was convened on 23rd and 24th Feb 2019 at Delhi, Three SOCHARA team members attended this meeting in which plans for disseminating the JSA's people's health manifesto and dialogue with the political parties was discussed.
- Two SOCHARA team members attended a press meet, on 25th Feb 2019 at YMCA, Delhi by JSA to release the national health manifesto.
- On 4th July 2018 one of the team members took a one day session Health for all to the civil society organisations and community leaders in Perambur, Chennai which was facilitated by Centre for Social Initiative and Management.

2. PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION

Objective 2. To promote and support community health action through voluntary as well as governmental initiatives.

In this year also SOCHARA continued to support the National Health Mission to promote community process in health at various levels including national and state level.

- On 11th and 12th March 2019 One of the team members attended a meeting on Advisory Group of Community Action (AGCA) of National Health Mission as a member of AGCA.
- In Tamil Nadu the NHM has requested the team to develop model for Community Action for Health in Tamil Nadu to cover the entire state. The request was fulfilled by the team and they also followed up continuously the progress of approval of the model through multiple meetings and interactions with the state health officials. As the result a Government order from Tamil Nadu government is being obtained and prior to that the Ministry of Health and Family welfare, Government of India approved the CAH proposal which was submitted by the Tamil Nadu NHM as part of the project Implementation Plan of 2018-19.
- In Madhya Pradesh one of the SOCHARA team member participated in a two-day workshop on development of tools for community monitoring organised by NHM Madhya Pradesh.
- One of the team members of Bhopal took part in a block and district-level meeting of Chhindwara district of the Mentoring Group for Community Action (MGCA).
- SOCHARA team members in Chennai played very supportive role to set up the forum "Chennai voice for child rights" to address child sexual abuse and other violations of rights.
- The SOCHARA Tamil Nadu team helped civil society organisations, media house and interns in understanding, addressing the issue of safety in blood banks in Tamil Nadu. The issue has come into limelight after adverse incident in one of the public health hospitals in Tamil Nadu in the month of December 2018. The involvement of the team included advising the family, activists and media house on their intervention in this issue.
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- The SOCHARA team in Tamil Nadu was involved in orienting and helping a media house on the issue of clinical trial's in Tamil Nadu. The necessity for this involvement arose due to unethical trials in one of the districts of Tamil Nadu.
- on 24th October the SOCHARA team members participated in the protest cum planning meeting in Chennai on the issues of manual scavengers organised by *safai karamchari andolan* team of Tamil Nadu
- The Tamil Nadu team has initiated exploratory field site in Gudapakkam Resettlement Area comes under Poonamallee Health Unit District of Tiruvallur District. The team made multiple visits to meet the key stake holders of the area and with the help of the intern continued to mobilise community and attempted to strengthen the community led action including issue of substance abuse.
- On 30.06.2018 RLHP (Rural Literacy and Health Programme) organization organized one day training program at MC Hundi village, Mysore for 45 ASHA workers in which, SOCHARA team member participated as resource person. The topics included Village Health and Sanitation Committee (VHSNC); Roles and Responsibilities of ASHAs at VHSNC Committee
- One of the SOCHARA team members attended and organised a community meeting at Kempapura slum to promote action on building toilet at Anganwadi. The action was promoted through initial discussion on mobilizing funds for building toilet and creating awareness on impacts of open defecation. On 23rd April another meeting was organised on the health impacts of open defecation and the necessity of toilets. A mason was trained by SOCHARA and the toilet construction process was followed up by SOCHARA for 5 weeks.
- One day training program for Panchayat Development Officers on rural waste management and toilet usage was organized by SOCHARA and Hassan Zilla Panchayat on 29.09.2018 and on 31.01.2019. 33 Panchayat development officers and 15 taluk panchayat officials attended the training on 29th September and 31 Panchayat development officers, 11 elected representatives and 10 Zilla Panchayat officers attended the training on 31st January 2019. These trainees were also oriented on sanitation programme (*Swaccha Bharath Mission – G*) guidelines on managing rural waste.
- Regular community monitoring team meeting held in DJ Halli area to discuss about various issues including progress of waste segregation, collection of milk covers, training for *Paurakarmikas* and vocational training for the youth in DJ Halli.
- On 26.09.2018 a team member from SOCHARA attended a Meeting at *Saphai Karmachari* Commission Office. 6 people from NGOs, 3 from government office attended the meeting. The discussion happened on single pit latrines and existing manual scavenging practices in Karnataka
- On 23.03.2019 SOCHARA along with MAMATA organisation, organised world water day program at Maya Bazaar slum.
- On 11.01.2019 an awareness programme was conducted by SOCHARA team along with Baptist hospital for 80 mothers and pregnant women at Indrapuram and DJ Halli slum to orient on breast cancer, personal hygiene practices and importance of hand washing practices and on 07.02.2019 similar program conducted for 90 children.



- The team supported a group of students from Christ University to prepare a short video on “Open defecation and understanding of social, economic, political, cultural and environmental determinants”.
- During this year SOCHARA team had taken numerous efforts to expand its work in Maya Bazaar slum, for which the team met various officials including

BBMP chief engineer, local municipality officials and other concerned officers.

- Two team members attended a meeting in Delhi organised by HCL Foundation on the theme of “Partnering for Change” held on 5th and 6th February 2019.
- Team members attended a workshop organised by HCL Foundation and Indian Institute of Management Bangalore on Role of Responsible Business for achieving SDGs with focus on Livelihood Enhancement on 27th March 2019.

3. COMMUNITY HEALTH POLICY ENGAGEMENT AND ACTION

Objective 3. To undertake research in community health policy issues, including strategies in community health care, health personnel training, integration of medical and health systems.

SOCHARA continued its efforts with public health institutions through mainstreaming modules / sessions in public health education. There was continued interaction with the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, the Karnataka State health university with regard to the MPH programme. The MPH faculty and students participated in the World Congress of Bioethics with the Vice-Chancellor being the Chief Guest at the Inauguration.

Fourteenth World Congress of Bioethics (WCB) and Seventh National Bioethics Congress (NBC) 3rd to 7th December 2018 at Bangalore

The International Association of Bioethics (IAB) awarded the holding of the 14th World Congress of Bioethics (WCB), 2018 to India. The Indian co-hosts, Forum for Medical Ethics Society (FMES) Mumbai and SAMA, Delhi approached St. John’s National Academy of Health Sciences and SOCHARA in January 2018 to join as co-hosts because of our track record, facilities, perspectives and networks. St. John’s with its beautiful campus and great facilities in an academic setting was the venue for the Congress. The 7th National Bioethics Conference (NBC) was held jointly with the World Congress. SOCHARA had participated in and co-hosted two previous NBCs, the last being the 5th NBC also at St. John’s in 2014.

The Theme of the 2018 World Congress of Bioethics “*Health for All in an Unequal World: Obligations of Global Bioethics*” based on principles of social justice, was closely aligned with the core values and work of SOCHARA. SAMA and SOCHARA jointly brought in linkages throughout the Congress, with the People’s Health Movement, its Indian *Jan Swasthya*

Abhiyan, NGOs and community voice in order to create a space for closer interaction and a possible emerging platform between social activists, community health practitioners, students, academics and researchers. This was particularly important as 2018 was the 40th Anniversary of the 1978 Alma Ata Declaration. This landmark conference convened by WHO and UNICEF in 1978 with ‘Health for All by 2000’ as a social goal was adopted by 134 countries including India. It also developed comprehensive primary health care as an approach to work towards the goal. The ethical value base underlying this has influenced health system development worldwide, as well as within India. It is still work in progress.



A Congress Organising Committee (COC) for the WCB was established in January 2018 and Dr. Thelma Narayan represented SOCHARA in this, after discussion with the team and Executive Committee. SOCHARA identified two senior persons Mr. Prasanna Saligrama and Mr. V.N. Nagaraja Rao who were appointed by the co-hosts, after a due selection process, to be responsible for running the Congress Secretariat. They did a very commendable job. The COC with members from the four co-hosts met face to face when needed and interacted regularly via email, skype and tele-conferencing to make key decisions. 512 abstracts were received, which were peer reviewed for selection. COC members participated actively in this process. Plenary sessions around the Conference theme were developed, and a programme schedule worked out based on abstracts received. SOCHARA took responsibility for the plenary session on day two, which was very well received. Several pre-congress workshops were organized by various organisations. SOCHARA organized a pre-congress workshop on 4th December for half a day on “*Developing a contemporary public health ethics curriculum for post graduate education and community health in India*”, details of which are given in Annexure 1.

The entire SOCHARA team and volunteers actively supported the Congress in multiple ways. This included technical support, organisational support, logistical support and fund raising for the event. The archival unit developed a set of posters on the Health for All movement which were printed by the SJRI Division of Health and Humanities. These were displayed prominently at the venue of the Congress. For communication we partnered with the Bangalore Media Centre and through social media reached out to 70,000 people. A video prepared was widely viewed. A new website was created with our support by the Secretariat and a local organization that is socially oriented viz. Unique Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd. The website www.worldcongressofbioethics was used extensively by participants and others. Two interns

from SOCHARA, Ms. Priya Shreedhar and Dr. Nishitha Aysha Ashraf, played an important role in bringing out the Abstract Book. They and others were part of the rapporteur team. Sochara volunteers helped with assisting participants with special needs and also with floor management of mikes. Coordination of accommodation and local transportation was done by team SOCHARA.

Members from NGOs and small towns, as well as students were encouraged to participate. Over 700 persons participated in the Congress from 72 countries. There were 200 volunteer medical and health administration students from St. John's who also joined sessions. Media and other local persons joined without registration. Thus, an estimated 1000 people took part in the Congress on site. The Congress was not just an event but part of a process that has been evolving in the country to promote health and healthcare ethics, as part of the larger Health for All effort.

4. COMMUNITY HEALTH LEARNING

Objective 4. To evolve educational strategies that enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes of persons involved in community health and development.

The Health for All Learning Centre (HFA LC) team with other team members hosted and facilitated the community health learning of flexi-interns and students on placement during the year. There is a selection process through which interns and students who apply get selected. A person centred approach is used keeping in mind the background and interests of the participant and the time that they spend with us. Detailed day to day programs are planned and conducted for all of them based on their own learning objectives within a broad community health approach. Participants undertake community based work where possible, and engage with critical reading and thinking, reflective writing, journal clubs and participation in SOCHARA activities. All this requires intensive day to day engagement with participants. We received 51 applications for internships and placements of students from various streams. Out of 51 applicants 19 were selected and completed their internship (list in Annexure 2).

Several other sessions were also conducted. They are as follows:

- 4th & 5th April 2018 - – Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health (RGIPH) of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences MPH (Hon) 14 students – Session on Globalisation and Health.
- 24th August, 2018 – Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health (RGIPH) of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences MPH (Hon) 4 students + 1 Faculty - Session on Introduction to SOCHARA and its work.



- 12th September, 2018 – Azim Premji University (APU) 6 students + 2 interns – sessions on Role of People's Health Movement (specifically the Karnataka chapter) in advancing the agenda of equity and rights in health.
- 27th September, 2018 – Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health (RGIPH) – MPH – C4 batch 3 students + 1 intern – session on Right to Health and Human Rights perspective in Health.
- 31st October, 2018 – Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health (RGIPH) – MPH – C3 & C4 batch 4 students + 1 Faculty – session on Socio – Cultural & Community Health Competency.
- 20th December, 2018 – St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) – BSW 39 students –



session on “To know how the organization works, how the society has benefited through the organization, what is the organization structure, how Social Workers can help the organization to grow better and reach many people”.

- Dr. Ravi Narayan took a session on Communitization; Community Participation and Action for the MPH (Honors) Course, RGIPH on 04/01/2019 from 10am to 4 pm.

- 11th to 22nd February 2019 – Jyothisadan – Eighteen Franciscan Brothers spent an intense week at SOCHARA Bangalore on “Exploring Community Health”. Most of the Brothers work in remote areas in communities after their formation. The Monsoon simulation game elicited a lot of discussion and interest.



- 18th to 22nd February, 2019 – Nine sisters (nurses, pharmacists) from the St. John's Health Care Administration Diploma Course (CHCA) spent a week at SOCHARA Bangalore with sessions on Mission Hospitals in India, and the Health Care System in India. There was a very positive feedback.

- 29th March, 2019 – M S Ramaiah Medical College – seven PG students, two faculty members and a visiting doctor spent a day with an orientation on SOCHARA and its work.

3rd January, 2019 – Research based presentations and discussions were held with Dr. Anaka Aiyar and Dr. Srinivas Venugopal from the USA. Anaka spoke on *"Food and health systems in India: Interstate Differences"*. Srinivas spoke on *"Entrepreneurship in the context of Poverty: Marketplace, Women, and Social Change"*. A report of the meeting is available

- **CPHE-SOCHARA team**

The CPHE-SOCHARA team in Bhopal provided training to CFI, a faith-based NGO



on nutrition, malnutrition, infant feeding, feeding of older children, traditional food systems, maternal and child health, antenatal care, high-risk pregnancy and safe delivery.

- Training was provided to Prasoon, a collaborating NGO

in the areas of nutrition, malnutrition, growth monitoring and tuberculosis (diagnosis, management and prevention).



- Conducted tuberculosis clinics in the Ganj Basoda block of Vidisha district in collaboration with Prasoon, through which health education on prevention and control of the disease was given.

- A two-day training of 38 Anganwadi workers (AWW) in Ganj Basoda block of Vidisha district was done in two batches covering the topics of nutrition, malnutrition in children, common child health problems and growth monitoring.

CEU Tamilnadu team

- SOCHARA members attended workshop on workers issue of Tamil Nadu from occupations health perspective organised by CIVIDEP.
- SOCHARA team members attended an multi stake holder consultation on status of implementation of SC/ST act in Tamil Nadu and contributed specific inputs to the discussions.
- One of the team members attended the Asia level five days workshop on “Understanding the migration” at Loyola college on 30th July 2018 organised by social work department of Loyola college. The theme focused detailed understanding of Refugees and Migrants status, issues, practices, legal bindings, conventions etc., along with hands-on experience of field visits.
- One of the team members attended a short course on gender and health organised by International Peoples Health University (IPHU) of peoples health movement. The course held in Savar, Bangladesh from 5th to 13th November 2018.

- The team took training on occupational health for the women working in the leather factories of Ambur, Tamil Nadu on 07th October.
- Health and rights to the NSS students of Anna university, Chennai on 15th October.
- Clinical establishment act 2018 to the members of the Catholic Health Association of Tamil Nadu member organisations on 22nd October 2018.
- The team members contributed to various meetings / initiatives including executive committee meeting of Tamil Nadu Health Development Association on 27th October 2018 to discuss issues about vector borne diseases in Chennai and contributed to build civil society front to highlight health issues in the upcoming general elections in India.
- SOCHARA addressed the gathering of women on the health demands in Tamil Nadu at Pappireddypatti block, Dharmapuri (500 women participants) organized by AWARD on 23rd Mar 2019 as part of the women's day celebration.
- On 21-22nd March 2019, the team took training sessions on "Gender and Health" for the villagers at Molaiyanur (21 participants), Bilparuthi (18 participants), Biranatham (16 participants), Kombur (18 participants) villages of Pappireddypatti, Dharmapuri District. This was jointly organised by SOCHARA and AWARD Partner NGO host the programmes to understand Gender disparities and Gender as Physically and Mentally including myths, assumptions etc.,
- On 17.04.2018 SOCHARA team member took session on Environmental sanitation was organized for RGIPH- MPH Honors students. (Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health – Master of Public Health). The team also hosted a field visit for the same participants at DJ Halli on 19th April 2018.

Community Health Learning Program (CHLP)

A new platform chfellows@googlegroups.com established in March 2017 was kept active with posts sharing by SOCHARA team members. The CH Friends Whatsapp group is very active and connects alumni across different batches. Alumni and others interact over email and phone calls with various team members. The critical mass is alive, active and growing.

Objective 5. To dialogue and participate with health planners, decision-makers and implementers to enable the formulation and implementation of community oriented health policies.

- A study of maternal mortality in Madhya Pradesh state, for the state Government was proposed by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene for which SOCHARA would be a local partner in the field work and data collection. The consultant of LSH&TM had visited Bhopal and had preliminary discussions with the CPHE-SOCHARA staff. This did not go further.
- The Tamil Nadu team had a discussion with the World Bank India officials on the importance of community processes in health in Tamil Nadu. This discussion was organised by Tamil Nadu National Health Mission director Dr. Darez Ahamed.
- Two meetings were conducted (27.04.2018 and 14.05.2018) with Hassan Zilla panchayat (ZP- Decentralized governance body at the district level) Officials for a proposed partnership on Rural Waste management project at Hassan district in Karnataka. Preliminary discussions

happened with the Nodal officer Hassan Zilla panchayat. Another set of meetings are awaited with the Chief executive officer for finalizing the plan.

- On 05.11.2018 Indian National Congress (INC), called for a meeting on preparing Election Manifesto for General elections 2019. A team member from SOCHARA along with the network partners from People's Health Movement Karnataka attended the meeting, the issues discussed included effects of privatization of health care, access to essential medicine and strengthening the public health system through civil society participation.
- A team member continues to be a member of the Advisory Group on Community Action for Health for the National Health Mission. The AGCA Secretariat and members have supported the expansion of CAH to several states.

4. Community Health Library and Information Centre (CLIC)

Objective 6. To establish a library, documentation and interactive information centre in community health

CLIC is a treasure trove of books, journals and grey literature on Community Health and Public Health; Child Health; Development; Disability; Disaster Management; Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases; Medicines; Alternative system of Medicine; Environmental Health; Health Policy; Medical Ethics and Medical Education; Nutrition; Occupational Health; Public Health; Health Rights; Sociology; Training Manuals and Women's Health. CLIC supports activities of SOCHARA and also opens for NGOs, Medical Colleges, Social Science Colleges and individual professionals in Health. It has updated its collection as follows:

Sl. No.	Particular	till 31st March 2019
1	Books	16717
2	Newsletter, Magazines and Journals	75
3	Resource Files	620
4	Documentaries	526

- Published Health Round-up, March 2018 and April 2018; May & June 2018; July – August 2018; Sep. 2019; Oct. - Nov. 2018; Dec. 2018; January 2019; February 2019 and March 2019 prepared and circulated through SOCHARA communication groups
- Published Health Digest - 55, October 2018; No. 56, January 2019 and circulated through SOCHARA communication groups
- Two CLIC Committee meeting had been conducted on 4th May 2018 and 10th Oct. 2018 separately.
- Added three files in resource files section – 1. Public Health Ethics; 2. Community Health Course and 3. Sex work; Updated SOCHARA Publications list as well as files



team members.

- Prepared and displayed History of Health For All posters for WCB/NCB Conference, Dec. 2018 at SJNAHS, Bengaluru
- Had a SOCHARA publications stall in WCB/NCB Conference, Dec. 2018 at SJNAHS, Bengaluru

- Archival work done – Jan Swasthya Abhiyan with links; Reference list on Bhopal Disaster with links; Background materials prepared and given to CHCA participants and Jyothisadan Brothers who had come for training programme ‘Community Health Course’
- 53 posters (paintings) on Tobacco taken into stock.
- Library Open Software is under review by two technical

SOCHARA promote community health knowledge to its staff and interns in various ways including Journals Club. The following discussions held in the year 2018-19

- Ms. Jayashree K, intern made a presentation at a journal club session on "Universal Health Coverage - Pilot in Tamil Nadu : Has it delivered what was expected? (Study) on 11th June 2018.
- Ms. Jayashree K, intern made a presentation at a journal club session on "The Supreme Court of India on Euthanasia: Too little, too late..." from the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics, Vol. III No. II April-June, 2018 on 27th June 2018.
- Ms. Priya Shreedhar, intern presented at a journal club session on "PHM Policy Brief: Crisis in Control of Tuberculosis" on 4th October 2018.
- Dr. Nishitha and Priya Shreedharan, interns presented at a journal club session on 27th December, 2018 at 3pm. Nishitha presented on module 5 of the ASHA modules and Priya presented on an article ‘Waste Pickers and the ‘Right to Waste’ in an Indian City’ by V Kalyan Shankar, Rohini Sahni, Economic & Political Weekly , Vol. 53, Issue No. 48, 08 Dec, 2018.
- Ms. Nidhi Shukla made a presentation at a journal club session on 15th March 2019 at 11:30 am on ‘Approach to malnutrition in children based on the experience of Mumbai slums’.

SOCHARA INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The SOCHARA Website URL's (Uniform Resource Locator / web site address) front and back-end supports were updated with latest versions and of regular information pages. An open source Online Library Information Management System (LIMS) was located. It has been initiated as a learning exercise as part of the intention to digitalize the bibliography of the books, journals, audio visual material and SOCHARA publications.

5. Networking and Solidarity with Civil Society organisations

SOCHARA team members supported various organisations and forums for promoting community health approach in different settings. Major activities are outlined below. There are many other interactions as part of our governance commitments.

- On 10th and 11th May 2018, 20th September 2018, 05th & 06th November 2018, 27th & 28th February 2019 one of the team member attended various meetings including Project Selection Committee meetings, annual general body meeting in **CBR Forum of Caritas India and Collective action for Basic Rights Foundation (CBRF)** in the capacity of CBRF's President.
- On 21st August'18, 22nd October'18 and 14th March 2019 one of the team members attended various meetings including board of directors meeting and Annual General meeting of **Public Affairs Foundation (PAF) Bangalore** in the capacity as a director.
- On 4th September, 19th September, 26th September'18, 20th February and 25th March 2019 one of the team members attended various meetings including annual general body, governing body and trustees meeting and planning and budget meeting for the year 2019-20 of **Association of Persons with Disability (APD)** in the capacity of a member of the Governing Board.
- One of the team member attended a meeting in Bangalore International Centre (BIC) on 10th October 2018 as an invited member of a panel discussion on the release of a book on Corruption in the Health Care System in India. This was widely attended with vibrant discussions.
- 20th December - meeting at the Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT) with Thelma and Mohan Rao along with interns regarding the proposed development of a film documenting violence against ASHAs based on a study of 400 ASHAs in North Karnataka undertaken through KHPT.
- Bhopal team participated in a consultation with SAHAJ (a Baroda based networking organisation active in women's and maternal health) on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, with reference to the Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs) in M.P. state, involving all stakeholders (and particularly the state Government), stressing on data and evidence-based implementation of SDGs for women and girls. This was followed up with a presentation and dialogue with the MP State Government officials.
- Meeting held of Madhya Pradesh Fellows to plan an event on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of CPHE-SOCHARA in Bhopal and its work in Madhya Pradesh state. An EC member Dr. Maya and Resource Person Mr. Prasanna Saligram attended.
- On 01st August 2018, one of the team members attended a national level program committee meeting to prepare for the international conference on social accountability which will be held in October 2019 in New Delhi. SOCHARA is one of the supportive organisations to this conference.
- SOCHARA team continued its orientation and sensitisation efforts with the media by motivating a leading vernacular Tamil language magazine to write about new vaccines and the role of government in Tamil Nadu, and wrote an article on the campaign on privatisation of public health services in periodical magazine "*magalir sinthanai*".

Solidarity through membership in committees/governance of other groups

- SOCHARA team member is a General Body member of TNFORCES, RUWSEC and Executive Committee member of Tamil Nadu Health Development Association.
- SOCHARA team member is a Director at Public Affairs Foundation (PAF) Bangalore.
- SOCHARA team member is the President of Collective Action for Basic Rights Foundation and CBR (Community Based Rehabilitation) Forum of Persons with Disability.
- SOCHARA team member was a Steering Committee member of Pesticide Action Network India.
- SOCAHRA team member is a Governing Board member of APD (Association of People with Disability), Bangalore.
- The SOCHARA team is part of the National Coordination Committee of the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA) and part of the national convening group.

Publications and Reports by SOCHARA during the year 2018-19

- Bandewar, Sunita Vs, Choudhuri Leni, Duggal Lubna, Ravindran GD, Narayan Thelma, Sarojini N, Kurpad Sunita Simon, Vaz Manjulika, Venkatachalam Deepa: On behalf of the Congress Organising Committee, joint 14th World Congress of bioethics and 7th National Bioethics Conference, India. (2018). Health for all in an Unequal World: Obligations of Global Bioethics. Indian Journal of Medical Ethics, Vol. 3, No. 4, Oct. – Dec. pp263-266
- Narayan, Ravi & Narayan, Thelma. Golden Jubilee of Priestly Ordination – Fr John Vattamattom svc. From the book “A Visionary for Social Justice and Health for All” 2018. P55-56
- Pradyumna, Adithya (one of the contributors). Occupational and Environmental Health – Towards the National Health Assembly III. 2018
- Annual Report of SOCHARA 2016-17 was finalised and uploaded on the SOCHARA website.
- Annual Report of SOCHARA 2017-18 was finalised and uploaded on the SOCHARA website.
- Annotated bibliographies prepared on i) Local health traditions and ii) Appropriate Technology in Health.
- Booklet Materials on Clinical Establishment Act, Universal Health Care and Blind Optimism were printed in Tamil language and also printed the introductory chapter of Global Health Watch 2 by Peoples Health Movement. Materials produced by SOCHARA which are aimed at knowledge translation were widely circulated through all the mediums to groups connected with SOCHARA.
- The team along with the MNI network members translated the Peoples Health Manifesto released by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA) into Tamil language.
- SOCHARA translated and produced background papers for the People Health Assembly IV in Tamil.

- SOCHARA also translated the back ground booklets of National Health Assembly 3 in Tamil, released by *Jan Swasthya Abhiyan* (JSA).

Human Resources as of March 2019

SOCHARA- SOPHEA has a committed, talented, inter-disciplinary team, presently based in three clusters in Bangalore, Chennai and Bhopal. The following team members based in SOCHARA - Bengaluru, CHC Extension Unit - Chennai and CPHE Bhopal are the human resources for this phase.

TECHNICAL TEAM

Dr. Thelma Narayan – Senior Advisor – Academics and Health Policy Action
And Interim Coordinator – Secretary SOCHARA (from mid October 2018)

Mr. Ameer Khan: Co-coordinator, SOCHARA and Coordinator CEU, Tamil Nadu.

Mr. I.M. Prahlad: Co-coordinator, SOCHARA

Dr. Ravi D’Souza: Coordinator CPHE / Consultant – Bhopal

Mr. Sayyed Ali: Training and Research Assistant –Bhopal

Ms.Nidhi Shukla: Training and Research Assistant –Bhopal

Mr. Alfred Raju: Training / Research Assistant (part time)

Mr. D. Suresh: Communication Officer and SIMS manager

Mr. H. R. Mahadeva Swamy: Assistant Librarian

Mr. Sam Joseph - Coordinator / Secretary (till October 2018 held the position till completion of his term.

Dr. Adithya Pradyumna: Training and Research Associate (Currently on a special three year Study Leave for a PhD).

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM – (Bengaluru - HQ)

Mr. V.N.Nagaraja Rao – Manager- Administration (HFALC) – joined from 11th March 2019

Mr. Mathew Alex: Accountant

Ms. Maria Dorothy Stella: Office Supervisor

SOCHARA has additional support staff in Bengaluru.

Mr. Hari Prasad Ojha- Office Assistant, SOCHARA Bangalore

Mr. M.S. Joseph – Office Assistant, SOCHARA Bangalore

Mr. Tulsi Chetri – Office Assistant, SOCHARA Bangalore

And office helpers in Bangalore, Chennai and Bhopal

In the Bhopal and Chennai offices admin, accounts and library work is managed by the technical team.

ADVISORS

Dr. Ravi Narayan - Community Health Advisor and Archivist, SJMAP

SOCHARA Members: Society members are important decision makers as per our Memorandum of Association. They are also important resource persons coming from multidisciplinary backgrounds with rich experience. They are invited as and when required to support and advice regarding technical aspects and skill development of the team. In addition some members actively support governance as members of the Executive Committee (listed below). They have provided invaluable guidance and support to the organization and to team members during the year.

Governance and Administration

During the year 2018-19 the Executive Committee meetings were held on : 13th April 2018; 23rd May 2018; 16th August 2018; 29th August 2018 and 4th March 2019.

During the year 2018-19, the Finance & Management Committee (FMC) meeting was held on the following dates: 9th May 2018; 2nd August 2018; 28th December 2018; 26th February 2019 and 25th March 2019.

SOCHARA Executive Committee Members

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1. Dr. Mohan Isaac | - | President |
| 2. Dr. Chandra.P | - | Vice President |
| 3. Dr. Thelma Narayan | - | Secretary |
| 4. Mr. As Mohammad | - | Treasurer |
| 5. Dr. Maya Mascarenhas | - | Member EC |
| 6. Dr. Mani Kalliath | - | Member EC |
| 7. Dr. Denis Xavier | - | Member EC |

SOCHARA General Body Members

1. Mr. Sam Joseph
2. Dr. Ravi Narayan
3. Dr. Sunil Kaul
4. Mr. Abhijit Sengupta,
5. Dr. Shirdi Prasad Tekur
6. Dr. M.K. Vasundhra
7. Ms.Vali Seshan
8. Dr. Kishore Murthy
9. Dr. Ravi D'Souza
10. Dr. N. Devadasan
11. Mr. K. Gopinathan
12. Dr. Madhukar Pai
13. Dr Susanta Ghosh
14. Dr. H. Sudarshan
15. Mr. Edward Premdas Pinto
16. Dr. Neela Patel
17. Dr. Anand Zachariah
18. Dr. Pruthvish
19. Prof. Shanmuga Velayudhyam
20. Rev. Sr. Aquinas Edassery
21. Dr. K. Ravi Kumar

22. Dr. Muraleedharan V.R

23. Dr. Arvind Kasturi

Honorary Members

1. Rev. Fr. John Vattamattam – Honorary Member
2. Dr. D.K. Srinivasa- Honorary Member
3. Mr. A. Arumugham – Honorary Member.

Finance & Management Committee (FMC)

1. Dr. Maya Mascarenhas – Chair
2. Mr. As Mohammad – Member
3. Dr. Thelma Narayan – Member

* * *

ANNEXURE - 1

Health for all in an Unequal World: Obligations of Global Bioethics.

14th World Congress of Bioethics of the International Association of Bioethics and 7th National Bioethics Forum

1. SOCHARA organized a Pre- Congress Workshop on 4th December 2018 on ‘Curriculum Development for Public Health Ethics teaching in post-graduate public health education in India’

Background to the workshop

Postgraduate education in Public Health/ Community Health/ Community Medicine has grown substantially since the year 2000. This reflected global and national policy decisions made in response to major health challenges such as HIV-AIDS, SARS, Avian Influenza which needed a public health approach. The need to train human resources in public health in sufficiently large numbers to support and strengthen health systems was recognized by both the public and private sector. India in 2016 had 46 MPH (Master's in Public Health) programs, increasing from only one pre-2000. The number of MPH programs rises continuously. The intake of post graduates in MD Community Health/ Community Medicine programs have increased. Shorter post graduate training programs in community health have also emerged. This includes the SOCHARA, Community Health Fellowship and Learning Program (CHLP) since 2002-3. There is a need to introduce and systematize the teaching of public health ethics in these programs, given the numerous and complex ethical challenges in practice that affect populations and people at large. Within the three broad emerging fields of medical ethics, research bioethics and public health ethics, the latter is the least developed within India. Absence of thinking and practice in public health ethics has enormous negative consequences for communities, who are largely unaware and uninformed regarding these matters.

2.

3. Preparatory Meeting for the pre-congress workshop

A preparatory meeting was held at SOCHARA on 12th November 2018 on the theme “*Developing a contemporary public health ethics curriculum for post graduates in India*”. There were twelve participants from multi-disciplinary backgrounds, several of whom were experienced in the post-graduate education of health and development professionals. Some represented institutions/ organisations that are part of an informal public health education network in Bengaluru. The discussion was structured around three questions that were posed. Participants shared their experience with teaching public health ethics, their opinions on relevant topics in the field, the structure/format of the curriculum, the teaching learning methodology used, as well as issues and challenges that could arise when teaching public health ethics. Key issues discussed were documented and circulated to participants. These were incorporated into a background approach paper for the pre-conference workshop

4. Workshop on 4th December 2018

There was a larger group than expected, with 62 participants at the half day workshop, including some from other countries such as Sri Lanka, Uganda, Zambia, China and the UK.

Participants were given a bag with several background papers. There was a display of SOCHARA publications and posters and a registration desk.

The welcome; a round of introductions of all present; and a sharing of the background and objectives of the workshop; set the tone for a very interactive workshop. This was part of the process in the evolution of a contemporary public health ethics curriculum for postgraduates of public health and community health in India. It was suggested that the session could be assessed based on the level of participation in the discussions which turned out to be high, with an informed and very engaged group.



After an overview of experiences from India in the teaching of public health ethics, there was a sharing of institutional experience and insight from India, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Zambia and the United Kingdom. In India the experience of offering teaching modules in public health ethics is relatively new varying from 4 to 8 years. Most other countries present were similar. In the UK however the London School of Hygiene and Public Health introduced an elective module 20 years ago ‘almost blindly’ building on each year’s experience, and using creative methods such as theatre.

Key points in the design and conduct of a public health ethics (PHE) curriculum are outlined below. These were raised by participants, based on the experience and reflections

- *Curriculum designers for PHE* need to keep in mind the distinction between medical/clinical ethics, health research ethics and public health ethics in the course design in order to develop a comprehensive and relevant curriculum. Public health ethics is a more complex and recent evolution in postgraduate curricula. The introductory session can layout the three inter-related components. The main focus of the curriculum in terms of content, time allocation, case studies, field work and de-briefing discussions should be on PHE.
- *Theoretical frameworks* for PHE draw from social philosophies of communitarianism, libertarianism, utilitarianism within a humanitarian framework. Making this understandable, real and relevant to public health contexts in India to student participants who are unaware of the theories and also of public health is a challenge.
- *Course content for PHE* has often been fragmented with bits and pieces of information offered by a variety of resource persons who may not be oriented to the overall course design and its flow. A basic understanding of public health itself is needed, including theory and the manner in which it operates or is practised on the ground. Developing a comprehensive and dynamic content for modules need to be undertaken.

- The *duration of the public health ethics module* offered currently varies from 5 weeks to one week. The universities, colleges and faculty members can keep in mind the level and type of ethical challenges faced by practitioners and the public in the practice of public health in India. A rational allocation of time is to be decided. In one instance in a one credit programme of 40 hours, 15 hours were for theoretical teaching and 25 hours for field work followed by discussion.
- *Positioning the module* within the overall postgraduate course curriculum is an important consideration. An introductory five day programme in an MPH/ PG programme has its benefits in introducing this important lens early on. This can be followed up subsequently with 3-4 one week sessions during which students can further reflect and interrogate their experiences gained during the programme. This will help to internalise and deepen an understanding of PHE.
- *Disciplinary diversity of students* and their experience can be a challenge, as well as an opportunity. Participants felt it was important to build on the students individual understanding and their lived experience. Faculty members will play an important role in facilitating discussions wherein all students can share their views. A cross disciplinary understanding needs to be nurtured with no sense of hierarchy. Health science and medical students have exposure and some understanding of concrete medical and health issues, the health system and perhaps of health determinants. Students from the humanities bring diverse and rich perspectives, theories, and approaches, particularly into socio-cultural dimensions. Ethical understanding from Indian and other knowledge systems and philosophical traditions also need to be included by students trained in AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Siddha, Sowa-rigpa, Homeopathy). It is hoped that more writing on this would become available.
- *Faculty members* backgrounds and their ability in self reflexivity regarding issues of privilege, power, positioning, vulnerability, discrimination, methods of socio-cultural inclusion, moral reasoning would play a role in how such a course is conducted.
- In most Indian programmes, when a PHE module was conducted in an MPH programme it was mandatory for all students to join, however in some instances elective modules are conducted. APU also conducts a one week module open to anyone in the country to attend.
- The need to pay close attention to *pedagogy or the methods of teaching learning* in the teaching of public health ethics was highlighted strongly. It was felt that there is a need to appreciate the limitations of approaches to teaching PHE globally that may not be entirely relevant or applicable to India. We need to incorporate contextual realities, and the plurality of traditions, ideas and practice that are specific to India into the curriculum and into sessions/ discussions. Teaching programmes offered a mix of theory and field work/ community based involvement followed by reflections. It was difficult to teach PHE with students facing challenges in understanding theories that seem rather removed from their life. Lecturing was not very effective. Guest lectures also did not work well from the learner perspective. Role plays also did not work well. The lack of relevant, simple, clear, resource material was expressed. Case studies were found to be effective in stimulating discussion, however more case studies from India are needed. Essays by students on topics led to students going deeper into issues.
- The teaching of PHE should be multi-layered with evaluations of prior methods used in India to refine them.
- The need for awareness about the “*hidden curriculum*” was raised.

There were small group discussions and a summary of points raised is given below.

Group 1: Goals, Objectives and Course Content

- Appreciate and practice basic principles, values that sustain public health by ensuring equity and justice.
- Stimulate moral imagination.
- Locate public health ethics within Indian philosophical traditions.
- Reduce technology dependency, and instead build public health interventions that are more eco-centric and knowledge centric.
- Embed public health ethics learning as a part of the continuous learning process.
- Inculcate reflective learning, practices, processes which can nurture and/or challenge personal morals.
- PHE teaching-learning should be informed by sustainable ecosystem and development.

Group 2: Learning Methods appropriate for public health ethics

- The mode of teaching should be less didactic and more reflective.
- The lessons to be imparted using case study methods on the issues of objects of study, real-life examples, apathy of the medical profession, underlying context (societal, legal), identify the gaze on certain campaigns, community linked studies.
- There is an urgent need to integrate the essence of ethics across the curriculum.
- Internship focusing on PHE needs to be introduced to understand the field (reflective narratives), and develop common sharing based on the reflections.
- The PHE course should also be capable to demotivate the influence of underlying ideology in learning- as processed through institutional ethics, to develop the disciplinary value.

The group also separately engaged with the crisis of the scarcity of resource materials. Response to contemporary issues (i.e. comments on Bills and Acts), mandatory interacting with the local organisations, language plurality in ethics, less medicalisation of the social sciences (i.e. Sociology instead of Medical Sociology, Anthropology instead of Medical Anthropology, Humanities instead of Medical Humanities) were some of the immediate suggestions to overcome the challenges.

Group 3: Organization of the Course and Faculty criteria

- Identify key stakeholders of the MPH course i.e. teachers, students, doctors, community representatives, front-line workers, NGOs, etc.; and to whom the course should cater.
- Need to focus on the ethical dilemmas of the students. The course builds on their experiences and values, or else it is about the application of the public health implementation process.
- Need for the review of ethical reflection of the public health courses, identification of the level of ethical issues, and especially how much knowledge and deliverance is required at the ground level.
- It is a challenge to accommodate and integrate the ethical understanding of different students coming from different disciplinary background, such as engineering, architecture, medical, or development practitioners.
- Need to set up a forum for the course where students can reflect on their experiences after field work, even on a daily basis.

- Students should be inducted into a public health course with a one week module in bioethics, using reading materials, and with reflection on ethical affairs in public health.
- Initially it should be an elective course for 5 weeks. Subsequently, if the students are interested, they can pursue the course further.
- Institutional values of faculty members are important when teaching PHE.
- Need to figure out who the teachers for PHE will be? Will they be full-time/part-time/guest/visiting faculty?
- Teachers who can define and discuss ethical issues in the real world to be identified and developed.
- The available standard modules of current MPH courses need to be critically reviewed, after which the PHE course can be designed in terms of number of credits and duration.

Group 4: Assessment – Monitoring learning and progress

The discussion was structured under three main categories.

a) When to assess students:

- It is important to assess whether the students are able to identify and understand what an ethical problem/issue is at the beginning.
- The ethical sensitivities of students and their learning curves need to be assessed throughout the curriculum.

b) Formative assessment:

- It is important to measure the attitudes and sensibilities of students.
- Peer assessment can be used. However, based on experience, it is found that students experience fear and embarrassment when scrutinised by their peers.
 - There is also fear of loss of goodwill from peers and tensions created from cultural differences that prevent students from providing their true opinions.
 - It becomes subjective when personal relationships/impressions are factored in influencing the assessment, leading to students getting either very high or low marks
- Class response can be used to assess students, such as group discussions and debates among the students.
- More than in-class activities, assessing students' performance during field activities is important; their attitudes, skills and the outcomes of situations (what went wrong or right) are required to be assessed.
 - Assessment of on-field experience is challenging since it is subjective, though can be exercised by peer-review and taking feedback from instructors.
- It is important to split students into small groups for assessment purpose; this makes it easier for instructors to ascertain students' performances and facilitate in-depth discussions.
- Integrated learning is essential – instructors' teaching is a point of case in this occasion. The instructor to be responsible for teaching the ethical component of the course.
- Self-reflection and feedback are essential for learning.

c) Summative assessment:

- Needs critical assessment of the content of curriculum on regular basis.
- Conventional exams have limited utility and can be removed.
- A term paper containing the reflections and thoughts by the students can be implemented.
 - That would help in measuring the attitudes and sensibilities of students.
 - That would also give impetus to the substance and content of the course rather than language or presentation.

In Conclusion: The workshop was interactive and participatory with a much larger number of participants joining than expected. An evaluation (in the form of pre or post workshop evaluation test) was not felt necessary in such a workshop. However, the active engagement from all sections of participants and the energy in the room was very positive and could be considered a proxy measure. From this point of view, it was a successful workshop. All participants, individually and organizationally will need to take the discussions forward into action through organising curriculum planning and in conducting sessions on public health ethics.

Annexure A
Developing a Contemporary Public Health Ethics Curriculum for
Post Graduate Education in India
Schedule

Sl. No.	Time	Activity with details	Point person/s
1	9.00 – 9.15am	Registration	SOCHARA Team
2	9.15 – 9.30am	Welcome Introduction sharing expectations	Mario Vaz
3	9.30 – 9.40am	Objectives and Overview of the workshop	Thelma Narayan
4	9.45 – 10.00am	The teaching of public health Ethics in India – a bird’s eye view highlighting issues requiring attention	Mala Ramanathan
5	10.00 – 10.45am	Issues arising from institutional experiences, including teaching learning methods used: CMC Vellore, RGUHS-RGIPH 3-year MPH course, Azim Premji University	Anuradha Rose, Pallavi/Allen/Ram Mohan/Arima Mishra
6	10.45 – 11.00am	Other experiences and comments	All
7	11.00 – 11.15am	Tea Break	
8	11.15 – 12.15pm	Small group work	
9	12.15 – 1.00 pm	Small group reports with discussion	Chair from the group
10	1.00 – 1.30 pm	Concluding Session	Neha Madhivala, Rakhi Ghosal
LUNCH			

Annexure – B

Participants List -Public Health Ethics Curriculum Development Workshop, 4.12.18

S. No	Name of the participant	Organization
1	Dr. D. K. Srinivasa	Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health/ SOCHARA
2	Dr. Allen Ugargol	Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health (RGIPH)
3	Dr. Pallavi Sarji Utkarsh	-do-
4	Dr. Jabeen Taj	-do-
5	Dr. Ipsita Battacharjee	-do-
6	Dr. Jay Kumar	-do-

7	Dr. Malingu	-do-
8	Dr. Aaliya Siddiqui	-do-
9	Dr. Pallavi B K	Dentist interested in public health
10	Dr. Rammohan Reddy	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences
11	Dr. Chandrashekar Shetty	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences
12	Dr. Hemant Shewade	The Union, New Delhi
13	Dr. Carlyon Stephens	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
14	Dr. Mario Vaz	St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences
15	Dr. Olinda Timms	St. John's Research Institute
16	Dr. John Porter	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
17	Dr. Mahesh Mathpati	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
18	Dr. Anuradha Rose	Christian Medical College, Vellore
19	Dr. Mala Ramanathan	Sree Chitra Institute of Medical Sciences
20	Dr. Mohan Rao	Jawaharlal Nehru University (Retd.)
21	Dr. Srinidhi	Public Health Foundation of India
22	Mr. Amitabha Sarkar	Jawaharlal Nehru University
23	Dr. Arima Mishra	Azim Premji University
24	Dr. Bhavna Dhingra	Department of Paediatrics, AIIMS, Bhopal
25	Dr. Mira Shiva	Initiative for Health and Equity in Society and All India Drug Action Network
26	Dr. Indira Chakraborty	Independent researcher
27	Dr. Rakhi Ghoshal	United World School of Law, Karnavati University, Gujarat
28	Dr. Saradha Suresh	Co-Chairman, Institutional Review Board, YRG Care, Chennai
29	Ms. Neha Madhiwala	Medico Friend Circle (Editorial Office), Pune
30	Dr. Chandra P	Society for Community Health Awareness Research and Action & DAS CBR
31	Dr. Anupama Nair	Christian Medical College, Vellore
32	Dr. S.Rao Seshadri	Azim Premji University
33	Ms. Bhawna Arora	Indian Association of Public Health (IAPH)
34	Mr. Mansingh	Indian Association of Public Health (IAPH)
35	Dr. Abha Saxena	Independent consultant, INCLEN International
36	Dr. Genshom Chongwe	Sr. Advisor, University of Zambia
37	Dr. Dan Naye	Uganda
38	Ms. Nidhi Jalan	AADI, Delhi
39	Dr. Prem Mony	St. John's Research Institute
40	Dr. Dilantha Dharmagunawardne	Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka
41	Dr. Shanshan Wang	Peking Union Medical College

42	Dr. Nikita Surani	Forum for Medical Ethics Society (FMES), Mumbai
43	Dr. Deepti Vadavi	DAPM RV Dental College
44	Dr. Jyotsna S	D A Pandu Memorial RV Dental College
45	Dr. Amita Pitre	Forum for Medical Ethics Society
46	Mr. As Mohammad	Society for Community Health Awareness Research and Action (SOCHARA)
47	Dr. Ravi Narayan	-do-
48	Dr. Thelma Narayan	-do-
49	Mr. Ameer Khan	-do-
50	Mr. I.M. Prahlad	-do-
51	Dr. Rajeev Basapathy	-do-
52	Ms.Priya Sreedhar	-do-
53	Ms.Nishita Aysha Ashraf	-do-
54	Mr.Anuj Kumar	-do-
55	Mr. Alfred Raju	-do-
56	Ms. Nidhi Shukla	-do-
57	Mr. Sayyed Ali	-do-
58	Mr. Suresh D	-do-
59	Mr. Mathew Alex	-do-
60	Ms. Maria D. Stella	-do-
61	Mr. Mahadeva Swamy	-do-
62	MHA student volunteer	St. John's Allied Health Professionals Unit

ANNEXURE - 2

List of Interns at SOCHARA, Bangalore from April 2018 to March 2019:

S. No.	Batch	Name	Organisation	Course	Period
1	2018 - 2019	Mr. Jithin A George	Christ University, Bangalore	B.Com	16 th May to 25 th May, 2018 (30 hours)
2	2018 - 2019	Ms. Jayashree Kalva	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal	MPH	1 st June to 29 th June, 2018 (4 weeks)
3	2018 - 2019	Mr. Jeet Nath	Christ University, Bangalore	MSW	30 th July to 30 th Aug, 2018
4	2018 - 2019	Ms. Amanda Nyasha Chivayo	Christ University, Bangalore	MSW	30 th July to 30 th Aug, 2018
5	2018 - 2019	Mr. Blessan S Thomas	Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore	MSW	1 st Aug to 10 th Oct, 2018
6	2018 - 2019	Ms. Priya Shreedhar	Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore	Bachelor (Hons) in Bioengineering	1 st October 2018 to 28 th February 2019
7	2018 - 2019	Ms. Anushka Seshadri	Christ University, Bangalore	BA (PSE)	19 th Oct to 12 th Nov, 2018
8	2018 - 2019	Dr. Nishitha Aysha Ashraf	Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal	BA (Journalism & Communication) + BDS	5 th November 2018 to 30 th April 2019
9	2018 - 2019	Mr. Anuj Kumar Awasthi	Azim Premji University, Bangalore	BE.; Masters in Development studies	15 th November to 20 th December, 2018
10	2018 - 2019	Ms. Bipasha Banikya	Azim Premji University, Bangalore	M.A Public Policy & Governance	3 rd & 4 th December, 2018 (Discontinued due to ill health)
11	2018 - 2019	Ms. Anushka Seshadri (came for a second time)	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13 th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)
12	2018 - 2019	Ms. Deepshikha Dangol	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13 th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)
13	2018 - 2019	Ms. Patcharin	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13 th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)

Sl. No.	Batch	Name	Organisation	Course	Period
14	2018 - 2019	Ms. Vidhi B Shah	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)
15	2018 - 2019	Ms. Eureka Khumujam	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)
16	2018 - 2019	Ms. Denika Joshi	Christ University, Bangalore	2nd yr BA (PSE)	13th Dec. 2018 to 19 th March, 2019 (2 hrs per week – total 30 hrs)
17	2018 - 2019	Ms. Lalfawnmeli. T	Christ University, Bangalore	MSW	1st to 31st January 2019
18	2018 - 2019	Ms.Varsha Vijayan	Christ University, Bangalore	MSW	1st to 31st January 2019
19	2018 - 2019	Mr.Saravanan. E	JIPMER, Puducherry	MPH	15 th Feb to 15 th June 2019 (at CEU, Chennai)

No. of students who have done their internship/ placement = 19

Total applications received for the period April 2018 to March 2019 = 51