Kolkata Sanjog initiatives, North and South 24 Parganas, West Bengal:

Communities of North and South 24 Parganas (districts) have witnessed second wave and have faced challenges in terms of limited COVID specific resources (scarce test kits, PPE, beds, and medicines), loss of jobs due to prolonged lockdowns and immense scarcity of basic food items for the windshield. Additionally, there has been a sharp increase in anxiety levels of survivors of violence and social workers, which is currently going unaddressed due to struggles for survival. In view of the current situation around the second wave, Sanjog is seeking support for extension of relief assistance to distressed survivors in the region through:

• Support of mental health support interventions for COVID and other diseases
• Providing of mental health support interventions through medications and tele-counselling for beneficiaries and community workers
• Distribution of immediate ration kits for survivors of violence

Nishtha, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal:

Nishtha is seeking external and internal resource mobilisation to provide food, hygiene kits and medical support to over 2,500 households across 6 villages. Nishtha is seeking support to extend immediate relief by providing dry foods, hygiene kits and medical support to over 2,500 households across 6 villages in Magrahat II block of South 24 Parganas which have been rendered penniless in these distressing times. Know more about Nishtha’s work and current needs here.

CORO For Literacy, Maharashtra and Rajasthan:

CORO is seeking support to reach 10,000 socially marginalised families in urban and rural Mehsana (Gujarat) through their influence activity.

• Support our dedicated vaccination camps
• Establishing quarantine centres for Covid patients

Ibtada, Alwar, Rajasthan -

In the past few weeks, Team Ibtada has taken strenuous efforts to get as many eligible community members vaccinated as possible. Team Ibtada’s Adhikar Sakhi and Field Coordinators went door to door in these distressing times, encouraging the elderly and those above 45 to get vaccinated. While many were hesitant at first, the Ibtada team managed to persuade some. With the help of the local government officials, Ibtada has helped over 4,500 people in 122 villages to get their first shot of the vaccine. Read on to learn about Ibtada’s COVID relief work here.

Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan (KMVS), Bhuj, Gujarat

In Kutch, the communities are reeling under the complete collapse of an already weak and fragile healthcare system. Some villages have come together and launched the following emergency support services for over 1,000 families across three Wards of Bhuj town. This comes at a time when the local government has only 30% of the population in stock, 20% of the Ward’s population are suffering from a second wave, and 75,000 families, including 3000 craft artisans as well as around 200 female sex workers and transgender population.

• Tele-counselling, home-based testing, and home isolation
• Support in providing medical equipment to equip population at the village/community level
• Distribution of immediate ration kits for Survivors and Social Workers

The GROW Fund

Through all of the challenges that COVID-19 has brought our way, it has been our grassroots networks on the ground that have been the first to receive the quick, rapidly adapting their programmes to meet the needs of the communities they serve. However, these organisations face fiscal challenges in their growth and sustainability through the course of the pandemic. As funders, we have an opportunity and responsibility to rethink and re-strategize our approach.

How can we collectively enable impact for those working with the most vulnerable sections of society – our grassroots NGOs?

Your support to the influencers journey has ensured women and girls can continue to enjoy their rights and entitlements and freedom from gender-based violence and discrimination. As we bring you this issue, the country finds itself in the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Like during the first wave around this time last year, our partner NGOs are once again at the forefront of relief work. Based on our learnings from the needs highlighted by Nishtha, Sanjog, CORO we also bring you an announcement about The GROW Fund, an external resource mobilisation effort to support small and medium grassroots organisations, overcame during the pandemic, to grow stronger, build resilience to be future ready.

In this issue, we give special emphasis on Kutch, one of the most rural and remote regions of India. Resources to help people overcome fears of vaccinations and testing are scarce in these regions, as well as the need for mental health support interventions.

The needs on the ground are manifold and changing dynamically real-time. We are collating resource mobilisation efforts to get as many eligible community members vaccinated as possible. Ibtada’s Adhikar Sakhi and Field Coordinators went door to door in these distressing times, encouraging the elderly and those above 45 to get vaccinated. While many were hesitant at first, the Ibtada team managed to persuade some. With the help of the local government officials, Ibtada has helped over 4,500 people in 122 villages to get their first shot of the vaccine. Know more about Ibtada’s COVID relief work here.

COVID-19 Relief

The news on the ground are manifold and changing dynamically real-time. We are updating COVID19 response and relief initiatives needing urgent support.

Korku Mahila Vikas Sangathan (KMVS), Bhuj, Gujarat

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