



Annual Report 2012-13 Community Development Foundation



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GLOSSORAY

ABBREVIATION	
AWs	Angawadi workers
BVS	Bala Vikasa Samithi
BEO	Block Education Office
BRC	Block Resource Co ordinator
CDF	Community Development Foundation
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CDPO	Child Development Project Officer
CLR	Centre for Learning Resources
CRC	Child Rights Clubs
CACL-K	Campaign Against Child Labour -Karnataka
DD	Deputy Director
EMC	Escape from Marriage to Child Hood
GP	Gram Panchayat
HPS	Higher Primary School
HS	High School
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)
IGP	Income Generation Program
KPN	Karnataka Parenting Network
PO	Project Officer
PDOs	Project Development Officer
RTE	Right To Education
RTEA	Right To Education Act
SDMCs	School Development and Monitoring Committees
SIRD	The State Institute for Rural Development
SRTT	Sir Ratan Tata Trust
SHG	Self Help Group
TP	Talluk Panchayat
TdH	Terre des Homes
THO	Talluk Health Officer
WCD	women and child development

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PART - I

Project	:	Integrated Education Movement (IEM)
District	:	Gulbarga District
Block	:	Sedam
Education Cluster	:	Kodla, Dugnur, Adaki, Sedam ,Mudhol,Jakanpalli, Neelahalli, Telkur, Udagi, Kurukunta, Madhkal
No. of Gram Panchayaths	:	11 GPs and urban area
No. of Villages	:	56 villages

Activities implemented during the Year 2012-13 and its outcome/ impact

Activities as per the approved plan	Program, process and participants	Outcome /Impact
Awareness Materials	Child rights, RTE and child labour related handbills, posters, stickers were printed and distributed in various meetings, workshops, rallies, camps and network meetings at village, block and district level. Overall a population of 28,000 members has been covered through the various meetings and programs. 36 enrollment and RTE campaigns were conducted in the working area by organizing children's rally, meetings of parents and teachers in order to sensitize the community on Right to education and eradication of child labour. 919 parents, 6516 children and 53 teachers	- Awareness on the above issues has motivated the public to raise the prevalent shortfalls in the schools and ICDS centers across the block and bring in the notice of the concerned departments. - This awareness also helped in preventing the child labour and mainstreaming the children in some villages. - CBOs too are involved in spreading the child rights information in their respective villages. - In most of the campaigns, active

	participated in the campaigns. Preschool syllabus ‘Atadinda Pata’ (learn from play) training manual was printed and distributed to 75 ICDS workers in the working area to make use of them during their preschool activities in the centers.	participation of teachers, parents and CBOS was visible.
Enforce ment and rescue program	3 rounds of child labour eradication campaign were held in the Block. The program was mainly held at Hobli and GP headquarters in the Block like Kodla, Handriki, Adaki, Mudhol, Malkhed, Kolkunda, Habal T, Neelahalli and Urban area of Sedam. Labour officer, CDPO, BRC and revenue officials were part of the campaign team. Notices were issued to the farmers and cotton growers warning them not to employ the children below the age of 14 years. GP members’ meetings were conducted in the Panchayaths and they were sensitized on their role in preventing the children from labour and mainstreaming them into schools. Shops and hotels in the market area were raided and owners were warned of employing children. 3 children of Budgajangama community were rescued and enrolled to 1st standard and educational materials like bags and uniforms were provided them to go to	- As a result of frequent campaign in the Block, the child labour practice has come down from 40% to 20%. - Awareness and sensitization among the community leaders, ICDS workers, teachers and GP members has resulted in regular interaction and motivation with parents in the area to motivate their children to school. - Andhra Pradesh Farmers who are involved in cotton farming in the belt has reduced employment of children and some of them have stopped cotton farming in the area. - Strengthened CRC and Women SHGs in the area have resulted in immediate reporting of any child employed in the area to the Grama Panchayath officials or CDF staff.

	school. In some villages, girls were motivated to undergo tailoring training with a view to equip them with livelihood skills and keep them away from becoming child workers. 24 meetings of adolescent girls' groups (out school children) were conducted wherein 397 girls attended. Out of them, 85 girls were motivated to attend tailoring/embroidery training in Adaki. Nachwar, Hulugol, kalkamba and Sedam Urban.	• Rescue and rehabilitation process has suffered a setback due to non availability shelter in the Block and poor condition of the District Government Homes for the children.
• Workshop for government Officials and civil societies on RTE and Preschool Education	3 workshops were held during the reporting period for Govt. officials and GP members. • A workshop in collaboration with CDPO office, Sedam was organized for Model ICDS workers, Helpers, Supervisors along with CDF personnel at Nadepalli village. 65 people participated. In the workshop, a practical demo was conducted on children showing weight and identifying the nutritional level of children and adolescent girls. Sharing on Model centre and preschool activities by the workers and Helpers also was held. • Second workshop cum exposure was held for 70 personnel of Dept of WCD from 7 Blocks of Gulbarga District. They were oriented on preschool education in model	• Workshop on preschool education has helped the ICDS staff of the Block as well as others from 7 Tallukas of Gulbarga District in understanding the basic principles of preschool education and impact of the same by visiting the Resource Centers in the Project. • Further, Sedam CDPO has extended the model ICDS centre concept to non project area to strengthen preschool education. • The dept., of WCD of the district has made a documentary of the project and sent it to various departments to highlight the progress in Sedam Block and

	centers and the progress. After the orientation, they were sent to field study in batches to seven places. After the field study, they came back and shared their findings and suggestions. • Third workshop for Grama Panchayath members and PDOs was conducted in which 120 members participated. The workshop was organized in collaboration with legal aid services authority and Talluk Panchayath, Sedam. RTEA, Child Rights and child labour aspects were the topic dealt with by the senior Magistrate, advocates, Labour Officer and CDF team. Methods of input sessions, group discussion and presentation were adopted in the workshop.	motivated them to work on the preschool education in their respective Tallukas. • GP members have become active and responsive (after the workshops on RTE and child related laws). They began visiting ICDS centers and schools, listening to the children's views on school functioning etc.
• BVS trainings	13 trainings were conducted for BVS wherein 301 members participated. These trainings were organized with an exposure program to the nearby model ICDS centre. The participants observed the preschool sessions up to noon. In the afternoon, they discussed with Workers and Helpers on the centre setup, preparation for the preschool activities, children's progress and basic support from BVS members. By this workshop, the BVS members are able to	BVS members were able to realize and understand what preschool education is. They are capable now of measuring the child development by seeing their activities in the centre. The participants have also realized that basic infrastructure for preschool education and environment in the centre are required to ensure qualitative Preschool education.

	know the importance and method of conducting the preschool sessions. 103 follow up meetings were held during the reporting period in the model centers and 1311 (cumulative figure) members participated. In the meetings, they discussed nutritional food, attendance of children and workers, preschool sessions, children's progress etc.	
SDMC Training	During the reporting period, 9 trainings were conducted wherein 175 members participated. In the trainings, topics like RTEA, child rights and quality education were discussed. Resource Persons and Project Coordinator conducted the sessions. Due to local politics and lack of proper guidelines from the department till December 2012, the SDMCs remained inactive in many villages of the working area. However from January 2013, the department restructured SDMCs based on RTEA compliance.	After the trainings, in majority villages, members started questioning the GP and the Education Department about the delay in formation of new SDMCs based on RTEA. As a result, in all villages the SDMCs have been restructured based on the RTE guidelines. We expect their active role in the days to come.
SHG leaders capacity building and Meetings	2-day training programs were conducted twice for 45 SHG leaders with the support of resource persons from Sanghamitra, Gulbarga. These leaders were trained in SHG management, book keeping, bank loan and IGP activities. Further the eligible Sanghas were linked with Sangha	With these trainings, the members have become more responsive and able to lead their Sanghas independently. Linkage with Sangamitra and bank in lending and IGP activities has been in place.

	Mitra bank for loan and IGP activities. So far 20 SHGs have been linked with local banks and Sangamitra for loan and follow up. 57 women leaders took part in rally cum legal awareness workshop held for women in Sedam in March 2013. The members participated along with other 900 women. The program began with a grand rally and later a public function organized with the support of Legal Cell, WCD and CDF. Topic like domestic violence, property rights of women and women's health issue were dealt with by senior advocates and a lady doctor.	- Now the Sanghas are capable of managing their Sanghas. These groups have further got involved in mainstreaming the children, taking part in school activities and motivating the young mothers to send their children to ICDS centers. - SHG members of the BVS and SDMC play active role in meetings.
Youth group activities .	With the leadership of Nava Yuvak Sangha Kodla, CDF had organized a Youth Mela program in Kodla on the day of Swami Vivekananda Jayanthi. 135 youth from various youth groups participated in the Mela. Cultural and sports competitions were held for them and 2-hours session was conducted on 'role of youth in development of villages'. Mr. Bhasker, Sub Registrar of Sedam, Mr. C.V. Raman, CDPO were invited as resource persons for the program.	Thanks to this gathering, youth from various villages have realized their own strengths and potentialities in terms of their intervention in villages for self study and education of children. In a few villages, youth were quite supportive to education of children. They have taken active part in enrollment, school activities and motivated the parents to send their children to school regularly. Their contribution at a larger level is expected in days to come.
ICDS		
Enrollment	During the reporting period, 3093 children	As a result of strengthening the preschool

Retention and follow up of children in ICDS centers	have attended in the preschool education out of 4085 children who are on roll in 124 ICDS centers. Community Workers have helped the AWs in conducting the preschool sessions, monitored distribution of supplementary food, children's nutritional aspects and attendance of the children. Home visits were conducted for irregular children to strengthen the attendance in the centers. Mothers' meetings were organized and input sessions were conducted on parenting care, malnutrition aspects, immunization and quality preschool education in the centers.	education in the resource centers, the attendance has increased and children have attended the preschool education without force of parents or workers. However, in the non resource centers, steps are to be taken to change the environment to attract the children to preschool education.
• Play and learning materials distributed to the Model ICDS centers	To strengthen the ICDS centre and preschool education, 47 sets of CLR Activity Bags (containing 50 activity materials) supplied to 47 ICDS centers. 50 sets (9 items of play and learning sets) were purchased and distributed among the 75 Model centers. These materials were distributed to the Workers after 3-5 days' trainings on preschool education and usage of the play and learning kit materials. Other materials like hardware, plastic and stationary items were purchased and supplied to these 75 centers to set up the environment for preschool session.	• All these materials in the centers are being used during preschool education session. • As a result, the centers have become live, model and resourceful to other centers. • Children are quite excited to come to centre daily and actively take part in the preschool education. • Some teachers have further innovated the idea in decorating the centers through paintings, re arrange the display of play and learning materials and its usage.

• Model ICDS Workers' Training and exposure	To promote and strengthen the quality preschool education in centers, 5 days' intensive trainings were organized followed by an exposure program to nearby resource centre. 25 workers each in 3 batches participated in the above trainings. All together 75 Workers had undergone the CLR and Chilipili based preschool activities. Apart from the training, parenting care, materials development and their usage were discussed. Setting the doll house, free play activities, creativity session, storytelling exercise, activity bag making, preparing the time table, centre set up for preschool activities, collection of local materials, display, cutting and usage of CLR and Chilipili based activities etc. DD, PO and CDPO of Dept of WCD visited the training programs and addressed the participants.	• With these trainings, ICDS workers' ability in conducting the preschool education has improved. • They have setup their centers quite attractive, pro child friendly and equipped with new environment. • They have become experts in collecting local materials and their usage in preschool activities. • Overall improvement in attendance of the workers as well as children in the centers. • Preschool education has found improvement in terms of quality, child friendly and live environment. • Parents and BVS have appreciated the way these model centers are functioning and ICDS workers from other centers have got interested to learn the skills and introduce the same in their centers.
• Model ICDS Helpers' Training and exposure	3-day trainings were conducted for 75 members in 3 batches on parental care, health and hygiene aspects, centre set up, maintenance, preschool education- play activities, singing and storytelling in the	• As a result of this training, the Helpers have become quite active and talented, able to make use of various games, songs in both indoor and outdoor activities

	absence of ICDS workers. Local materials collection, its usage, etc are dealt in the training program. The training was totally activity based which was liked by all participants. During the trainings, CDPO and Supervisors also participated and shared their learning and experiences.	when the Worker is not in the centre. • They also assist the Workers while conducting the preschool education. Up keeping of the centers, food serving and care of children have improved. • Department and BVS members are quite surprised to see the improvement in the work of the Helpers in a few centers. • Attitude of Helpers has changed rapidly while working with children in ICDS centers.
SCHOOL		
• Enrollment and Retention	• 36 enrollment campaigns were conducted with the support of school, SDMC, children and CBOs. • During the year, 1585 children were enrolled to first standard through parents, CBOs, teachers and CDF team. • 11 summer camps were organized in which 379 children participated. • 13,892 children in school were followed up during the academic period with the support of teachers, SDMC, CRC and CBOs. • 203 irregular and dropout children closely followed up and 85 children were	• 340 children got admitted to school after these campaigns. • Total 1585 children were enrolled during the academic period. These children were closely followed up and ensured that no child dropped out of school. • However, exclusion of irregular and seasonal dropout children has still remained a big challenge to the stakeholders. • Lack of teachers in school is one of the main reasons for higher number of absentees in schools.

	brought back to school.	
Child Rights Club Activities	- During the reporting period, 63 CRC groups were promoted/ strengthened in HPS and high schools. Total 1345 members are in the groups and 122 meetings were conducted for them. - Orientation to CRC members was conducted for New GP areas like Jakanpalli, Mudhol, Neelahalli and Habal T GP during the year. 658 CRC members participated in Children's Special Grama Sabha held in 8 Grama Panchayaths. - Child related issues like enrollment, retention of the children in schools, child labour and marriage issues, dropout, corporal punishment, school fee and mid day meal emerged in the their meetings. Some of the major issues were brought to the notice of the respective head masters and BRC for their immediate actions.	- These groups have played active role in enrollment and retention of children in schools. - CRC groups in a few villages had complained to the higher officials, GP, SDMC regarding mid day meal, lack of water in school, shortage of teachers, lack of infrastructure in school, child marriage and child labour issues. Some of these issues were tackled by the GP as well as the Education Department. - Children tried to convince those children who are not regular to school or dropout. They were brought back to school in few villages.
Reading room activities	- To promote and develop the reading ability of the children, CDF has set up 20 reading room facilities in HPS. 1405 children (658 boys and 747 girls) have made use of the facility. - In the old working area, CRC groups encouraged to monitor the reading	- Thanks to this facility in schools, teachers motivate their children to improve their reading ability. - Children's clubs play active role in maintaining the reading room facility in schools. Children quite actively got involved in reading,

	rooms with the support of school teacher. Whereas in new working area, Community Organizer and the school teachers together take care of the centre. • Books, racks and Jamkanas were purchased and distributed to the centers. • Children were encouraged to write stories, drawing, poems and articles which are being displayed in the notice board of the reading room. • According to the school teachers, the interest among children in reading books and writing stories is improving.	writing small stories, display their talents through storytelling, writing poems and other drawings displayed in the reading rooms.
• Special camp and life skill education to High School children.	• During the reporting period, 2 high schools were covered with 260 children in life skill sessions by a resource person. • English coaching classes also were conducted by the same resource person in the high schools. • Basic life skills like time management, discipline, reading and memorizing, control of emotions and personality development activities, interpersonal relationship, communication skills etc were dealt with. • Two-day workshops were held in 6 high schools and 516 children were addressed, under Special Camp on Right to Life (dignity and self respect aspects of girls).	By this support, children of both schools were benefitted about life coping skills, improving interpersonal relationship, especially gender sensitivity and respect to girls. The sessions also helped the children ventilate their feelings, overcome mental blocks like high temper, exam fear, phobia, inferiority complex and isolation. Camps on right to life have greatly helped girls understand self and develop positive feelings to overcome deep-rooted negative attitudes.

	Resource persons from Breakthrough Organization, Mangalore were invited to conduct the training for field staff. • Girl children were encouraged to ventilate their feelings, understanding life goals and difficulties that they face to reach their goals. • Understanding about self, body, mind etc that helped the girls to express their ill feelings through pictures and various kinds of communication activities. • Career guidance and SSLC exam coaching was organized in 3 high schools and 120 children were covered. Resource Persons from Azim Premji Foundation (APF) were invited to conduct the program.	Several girls expressed their feelings through drawing and charts about sexual harassment, abuse that have taken place on them. SSLC exam coaching / guidance helped the students prepare their exams in right direction, brought down the exam fear among children.
• Teachers Training	One-day orientation on RTEA and child-related laws was organized for Head Masters in collaboration with Legal Cell and Block Education Office, Sedam. 160 Head Masters of HP Schools were present in the training. RTE related aspects were dealt with by Mr. Dattanna, BRC, Sedam. CDF Team addressed the challenges of RTEA and field reality. Senior Judge Mr. Turmuri addressed about the sensitization of teachers on child related laws. Dr. Rupa	• Important issues like school, exam fee, corporal punishment, enrollment, education related issues were discussed in detail and clarified. As a result the disagreement about RTEA in the field between teachers and CDF workers were cleared in the workshop by the higher officials. • BEO instructed the HMs to adhere to the rules of the RTEA strictly. The effect of the training

	addressed about the child's mental health and school environment. This training was a special and an eye opener to the teaching community.	will be observed in the next academic period. • Several Headmasters did not know much about the provisions in the Child Labour Act and Juvenile Justice Act 2000. This workshop made them understand about the provisions in depth.
• Advocacy	• Project coordinator took part in Block level meetings of ICDS workers and Supervisors and briefed about the field realities. He made a presentation on the developments and challenges faced in Model resource centers and requested for speedy action by the CDPO. • TP, BRC Revenue, labour Dept. meetings attended, issues like out of school children, child labour, child marriage and other atrocities on children discussed in detail in the meetings and stressed upon the actions on schools and ICDS centers. • Net work meetings of CACL-K, District level meetings attended by the Project Director and briefed the developments in the field, sought their attention on malnutrition aspects, distribution of food and rescue and rehabilitation of	• Due to constant interaction with these departments, CDF is able to raise a number of issues of children like enrollment, retention, shortage of teachers, child labor and child marriage aspects, misappropriation of facilities and succeeded in putting pressure on the officials to take quick action. • Constant interaction with the higher officials helped in the field to organize programs in school and communities. • Cooperation of teachers and workers has very much helped in reaching the children and improving services in villages. • Preschool concept and its development information has reached other Taluks and they too

	children working in the hazardous sector. Preschool developments in Sedam ICDS centers had briefed to CEO of Gulbarga and in the meeting organized by WCD, Gulbarga.	are interested to take up the trainings.
Staff Training	- CLR, Pune conducted 5 day training programs in Yadgir and Pune on Pre school activities, mathematics and language. 7 field staff participated. - Puppet show program was conducted by Mr. Garud at Yadgir for 5 days. 3 staff from the project participated. - School Reading and monitoring Program was conducted by Kalike team at CDF office, Sedam in which 9 field staff participated. - Right to Life-(Hakkina Baduku) Camp for high school girls- was conducted to the staff at Sedam by the Resource Team from Breakthrough, Mangalore.	- Field team becomes the professional trainers in Preschool Education. - The team having the Puppetry skills and script being prepared to conduct awareness program for the public. - Since the training program was conducted recently, the result can be seen in the next academic period. The team is capable in conducting 2 days' participatory training camp for adolescent girls in schools and dealing/handling with the abuse cases.
Project partners' meet, Project Review and	Mr. Rangarajan had visited the project in August 2012 and visited few school and ICDS centers and highlighted some grass root changes as well as area of concern in the field for improvements.	

Mid Term Evaluation.	• He had meeting with team members and reviewed the data and documentation and suggested a few areas for improvement. • Mrs. Suchitra and Mr. Madhaiah had visited the project in February 2013 and conducted a mid tem evaluation to assess the development and area for future intervention by visiting villages, meeting with children, CBOs and other officials and field staff of the working area.	
FOLLOWING PROGRAM COULD NOT BE DONE AS PER THE PLAN		
(1) Children's assessment test in school.	Due to non cooperation of BEO and lack of teachers in school resulted in the initiative was backtracked.	
(2) Workshops for Civil society people.	Due to much of the time went into organizing a number of trainings for ICDS Workers and Helpers and follow up meetings, the team was not able to organize the workshops for civil society groups within the reporting period.	

PART II

Project Title	:	Escape from Marriage to Child Hood (EMC)
Support Agency	:	AEI-Luxemburg/TdH
Target villages	:	21 in Sedam Block, Gulbarga District

CRC Orientation Program:

During the reporting period, GP level orientation program for CRC representatives was held in 4 places. CRC Members from each target village had participated in the program. In the day long program, children were oriented on CRC and its practicality in the village and GP area. Children then visited the GP office, local health centre, ICDS centre, post office and Bank. In each department CRC members discussed with the officials about the functioning, their role in protection of children, overall development, etc. School teachers, Panchayat members and respective office personnel were present during the visit. During the visits, children posed a number of questions to the concerned officials about protection of their rights through the departmental programs.

The program has helped the children know/understand their rights in depth and practical. It enhanced their knowledge as well. With this exposure cum training, they further shared their experiences and knowledge with other children in the villages which contributed further in strengthening their own Sanghas.

Overall, Children's Sanghas are capable of approaching and seeking information from various government departments regarding children's status in villages and presenting problems before the officials.

Exposure for Children

CRC block level office bearers participated in three workshops held at Mysore and Bangalore during 2012-13. In the youth workshop held at Mysore, 3 children participated and gained knowledge on environment rights. 3 more children had participated in youth workshop held at Bangalore and enhanced their knowledge thanks to input sessions and sharing of experiences in the group. They also learnt the group living skills. The children could pick up the tips from the workshop on how child rights being violated in the modern phase of development. In the third program, 5 representatives participated in an interaction meeting with the Legislative Members at Vidhana Soudha. This is a rare experience for children to interact with the people's representatives. They presented their local problems and urged legislative members to look into children's issues at various places

like lack of teachers, poor mid day meal, lack of potable water, Sanitation and Toilets for girls, access to quality education, etc.

In all the three programs, the experiences and knowledge of the children got enhanced and their leadership qualities too improved. Presently, the members are engaged in helping other children to get involved actively in CRC activities.

CRC Groups and meeting

25 children's groups have been functioning in 21 villages with a total of 551 members. 150 meetings were held during the reporting period in which 3259 (cumulative figure) children attended i.e an average of 22 children per group participated in the monthly meetings.

They meet once in two months to discuss issues related to children and school (in a few schools the meeting is conducted every month). Members report any incident that is adversary to children in village or school like poor quality mid day meal, lack of water and other basic infrastructure in school and villages to the SDMC, CPC and GPS.

Enrollment (2012-13)

During the Enrollment campaign with the help of CPC, CRC, CBO and GPs, 138 children were enrolled to school in the target villages. These children were further followed up by the community organizations and Cos.

Community Organizers visit each school in their working area and keep in touch with the Heads of Schools about the regular attendance of children and their overall attendance. This visit helped the teachers track the absentee children in the community and conduct home visits to bring them back to school.

Camp For Out of School Children

During the reporting period, 5 Adolescent out of school children's camp were conducted on life skills and national child protection laws. During the camp, resource persons from outside as well as EMC team conducted sessions and motivated the girls to become active members of Adolescent groups and encouraged them to raise issues that affect their overall growth.

Legal aspects, nutrition, rights of the children, health and hygiene aspects were dealt with, both in sessions and group discussions. These camps further helped the children strengthen their group's solidarity, motivate others to join the group, and pass on the knowledge to other girls in the villages.

Camp for HS Girls

In 4 rounds, a total of 16 camps were organized for High School girls during the reporting period. 620 children participated. A specialized team from Mangalore (Breakthrough Organization) was invited to conduct a camp for the High School children. The specialized team conducted various activities in one of the camps for girls and on another day, ToT input to our EMC team. This training further helped the EMC Team conduct three more camps in high schools in an effective and creative way. In each camp, the participants learnt about Self, Self Respect, ways and means to defend themselves and rights of girl children.

In the camp, sessions were more practical and activity based like group discussions, sharing, brainstorming and expressing their views on gender stereotypes. At the end, every participant expressed satisfaction about the camp and vowed to make other girls know about this and make every girl in village live with meaningful life and self respect.

The final round camp was an exposure cum personality development program. Children were taken to park, river side and forest areas to spend whole day with a number of fun and games activities, sharing about self and presentation of their co curricular activities. The participants were honored with the camp certificates.

Overall the children have benefitted a number of ways to understand about self, self respect, understand enjoy a respectful life and right based thinking. Committed to simultaneously continue their studies and oppose the child marriage and child labour practices in villages and become leaders to help other girls continue their education.

SHG Concept and CRC Training

19 trainings were held for SHG Representatives during the reporting period. 369 members participated in all these trainings. Resource team from Sangha Mitra Unit of Gulbarga and CMRC Mudhol were invited for conducting the trainings. They conducted sessions on how to manage the group by making every member to know the basic principles of the Sangha as well as provide basic information of their savings, banking, book keeping etc. Besides the topic, SHG books were verified and basic guidelines were provided to maintain the records up-to-date.

Mrs Bannamma from CMRC Mudhol has conducted village level trainings in 17 places to cover all SHGs members in concept training. She used a number of activities to motivate the members to become active in Sanghas and guided them to adhere to basic rules in their SHGs.

These trainings helped the participants know the basic principles of SHG, manage the group, take into confidence each and every member in order to strengthen the group functioning. As a result of these trainings, the overall functioning of SHGs has improved in terms of the quality in conducting meetings, book keeping and functioning.

Book Keeping

Book keeping trainings were held both at block level and cluster level to strengthen the capacity of SHGs in maintaining accounts and book keeping. Ms. Bannamma from CMRC, Mudhol had conducted practical trainings for SHG representatives in villages by writing books and maintaining basic records in Sanghas.

This training in each SHG has helped the representatives to know the accounting practice and book keeping in proper way and now they are capable of handling the book keeping effective and confident manner. Majority groups are able to handle their accounts on their own and these trainings have also been helping the members to improve their discipline in attending the meetings and participating in Sanghas activities.

Leadership Training

3 leadership training programs were conducted for the SHG representatives during the reporting period in which 184 members had participated. In the training, the role of leaders in strengthening the Sanghas, SHG management and mobilization of resources (like bank finance) were dealt with. The participants were then asked to visit some of the Government departments for gaining knowledge and skills that are equally essential for all round development of SHGs.

In March 2013, a women's conference was held at Sedam in which representatives from 54 Sanghas had participated. Topics on law, health and domestic violence were dealt with by the resource team. This conference has boosted the image of women and the participants too shared their experiences with other women who had come for the conference.

Exposure Program

41 SHG leaders had visited a few SHGs nearby which are involved in IGP activities, functioning well in both book keeping and conducting meetings. They also visited food processing unit run by a group of women, a bakery product packing and selling unit run by a SHG member's family and a book binding unit run by a SHG at Sedam.

In January 2013, 76 women leaders in 2 batches had visited NGOs and SHG federations with IGP activities in Bijapur. Further they visited a few SHGs in villages and discussed with the members regarding the IGP activities and changes among the members of SHG.

After the interaction they visited some important historical places and temples around Bijapur.

The sharing of federation and IGP activity experiences has strengthened the confidence of visiting team. They shared their experiences among the members of their Sanghas. Thanks to this experience, members have come forward to start some IGP activities and showed an interest in forming the Federation.

In March 2013, a women's conference was organized at Balaji kalyana Mantapa at Sedam in collaboration with Legal Cell, CDPO, and Shade Organization. 900 women from across the Taluk attended the conference. 98 representatives of SHGs belong to the EMC project were present in the conference. They got benefited from the various input sessions and interactions with other women from the block.

SHG groups and their Meetings

54 SHGs have been functioning with 938 members in 21 villages. 308 meetings were held in the presence of the Community Organizers. 3552 members (cumulative figure) were present in the meetings. In the meetings, they discussed topics like savings, lending, recovery and banking activities. Apart from these, they also discussed child related issues, ICDS food, pre-school education, education for girls, domestic violence, etc.

So far 80% SHGs have been linked with public banks/ NGO banks for financial assistance and involved in village based IGP activities like dairy, sheep rearing, petty shop, vegetable vending, grocery business, hotel, tailoring, horticulture, agriculture, etc.

Capacity building for CBOs

4 capacity building programs were held for CBO representatives at Cluster level during the reporting period. 283 representatives from various groups belong to the target villages had participated in the program. CBO representatives, SHG members, village leaders and a few GP members took part in the orientation program. Mr. Bhimarao, coordinator of the Project conducted the training on child rights, role of CBO in safeguarding and providing opportunity for children to get education and protection in the society. Advocates from Sedam conducted sessions on Child Marriage Prohibition Act and other child related laws, and briefed the members about using the legal provisions to stop child marriage and provide opportunity for the child's schooling.

Thanks to the orientation, the CBOs have become more pro-active and supported children's schooling in villages and tackled if any problems reported to them. Villagers are

being sensitized. However, to some extent, the politics and casteism are the hurdles in the process.

CPC members and Meetings

There are 21 CPCs functioning in 21 villages with 407 members. During the reporting period, 42 trainings/meetings were held in which 651 members attended. In the trainings, the members were oriented and motivated on their role in safeguarding the interest of children. They were also trained to provide proper access to school and ICDS centers in villages, track the non school going and irregular children in villages by convincing their parents to send them to school, orient and guide the parents not to marry their children before the legally permitted age, etc.

4 types of stickers were printed on child marriage, child labour and legal consequences for CPC members and for the public distribution.

The CPC members in the above mentioned villages took part in child-related programs like enrollment, retention in school and ICDS visits, and conducted home visits to those children who were not attending the schools. They have also reported the Panchayath and Block Offices about the poor infrastructure and lack of teachers in schools, and other irregularities. In a few villages, CPCs have stopped child marriages and rescued children from labour.

CPC Cluster Trainings

14 cluster level trainings were held during the reporting period wherein 440 members participated. Mr. Mohan Kumar from SIRD, Mysore, Mr. Bharathesh from Child Protection Unit, Gulbarga had come as Resource persons. During the training sessions, they sensitized the members about the functioning of the Panchayath, their role and programs in ensuring the rights of the children, role of CPC in reaching the benefits to the children etc. They highlighted the role of CPC in tackling child issues in villages.

- A hand book on Govt. schemes for poverty alleviation and crisis support was printed in local language for CPC members in collaboration with Spandana, Belgaum.
- A hand book on Creative Pre-school education was purchased and distributed to ICDS centers through CPC committees to strengthen the pre-school education in the working area.

In the third round, Mr. Arun Kumar conducted cluster wise training on understanding the life situation of children, sensitivity about vulnerable children, role of Panchayath and

Government in providing safety and security for children in institutions, citizen's role in raising local funds in Panchayath to meet the basic infrastructural development in schools and ICDS centers.

The knowledge on Panchayat functioning and its role has helped motivate the CPC members in putting pressure on GP members to take appropriate actions in schools and ICDS centers in improving the infrastructure. They were also oriented to motivate the parents to send their children to school rather than for child labour. They also encourage non-school going girls to attend the vocational training program to get some skills for their future life. Members also gained knowledge on child related institutions in Gulbarga and various Govt. programs to ensure education and protection of children.

CPC members with enough knowledge play an effective role at the block level by informing the irregularities to CDPO office, BEO, and THO with regard to functioning of ICDS, schools and visit of ANMs to villages.

CRISIS Intervention Support

During the First half reporting period, 10 members were selected and financially supported under Crisis Intervention to take up sheep rearing activity. In the second-half period, another 8 members were supported for sheep rearing, petty shop business and tailoring activities. All these beneficiaries are either landless or with a little land or agricultural wage labourers.

Presently, 12 beneficiaries who have bought sheep are hoping for a better life. Others are doing vending in the village itself. EMC team follows them up and motivates them to carry on the IGP activity for their sustainability.

Parents' Orientation Program

During the reporting period, 5 orientation programs were held for the parents, apart from 81 parents' meetings in ICDS centers. In all these meetings and programs, EMC team stressed upon the rights of the children, particularly, education for girls. They were sensitized on child marriage and child labour issues. The team members explained about the government facilities for education and punishment for breaking the laws; the role of ICDS program in strengthening the pre-school education and protecting health and nutrition of adolescent girls.

As fallout of frequent meetings and trainings, parents are aware and sensitive about the evils such as child marriage and child labour practice. Initially they had a strong feeling that the child labour would bring them some income and stability, and child marriage would reduce the problem of dowry and heavy spending. However, the frequent meetings

have helped them understand the repercussions of the practices. As a result, about 50% of the parents are opposing these evils.

Children and Women Jatha Program

In June and July, children's jatha was organized on two key issues such as child rights and enrollment as a campaign in 4 villages in which 339 children and 900 women participated, apart from teachers, parents, local CPC and GP members. Children holding placards on child rights and banner on school enrollment went in procession on the main roads and pavements in the villages and requested the parents to enroll their children to school and raised slogans against the practice of child marriage and child labor. This campaign has succeeded in enrolling more than 100 children to school.

In March 2013, women's Jatha program was organized in collaboration with WCD, Legal Cell and NGOs in Sedam. The procession was flagged off from Govt. Employees' Bhavan to reach Bajaji Kalyana Mantapa. 900 women took part in the procession and covered around two km distance by holding banners and placards. They raised slogans and sang the empowerment songs. Slogans against violence, child marriage and child labour, trafficking, protection of children, respect to women, right to education etc..

The Jatha drew the attention of a large crowd in Sedam which showed the strength of women and their voices against injustice. People read the messages written on banners and placards and got sensitized by the slogans and empowerment songs.

Child Rights Convention

During the reporting period, 4 Panchayath level Child Rights Convention programs were held in which 375 CRC members and 133 various representatives participated. In the convention, Panchayath Presidents and members, Teachers, AWWs, PDOs and the public attended. Children raised questions related to school, angawadi functioning, street lights, road and bus facilities, water and toilet facilities to school etc. The respective PDOs and GP members responded to the questions and PDO noted down the issues to discuss in forthcoming Panchayath meetings.

Drawing Competition for High school and College students

- 1) Govt. PU College at Sedam in October 2012. 61 participants
 - 2) Govt. High School Batagera on 11th January 2013. 97 participants
- Drawing, essay and elocution competitions on child rights, child marriage and girl child were conducted in the above college and schools. Students took part in the

competitions. College and School faculty members took active role and helped the EMC team in finally choosing the best three performers in each competition. After the competitions, a brief function was organized to explain the EMC project and CDF's role in sensitizing the public and children on child rights and child marriage. Finally the winners of the competition were honored by prizes with certificates.

The program certainly helped the college and high school students understand the issue of child marriage. Talented students expressed their ideas and suggestions to overcome the threat of child marriage through their speeches, essays and paintings.

IEC Materials Printing

- During the reporting period, 2 hand bills (awareness materials) on child marriage, child labour, legal provisions and punishment were reprinted (additional copies) for distribution to the general public.
- Detailed information on ill effects of child marriage – another handbill was printed for public circulation during the workshops, conferences, meetings and Department visits.

The IEC materials have definitely attracted the attention of the participants and the general public. Children, youth, target community and various stakeholders are making use of them by reading and distributing to others.

Kishori Groups (Adolescent Groups)

26 groups have been functioning in 21 villages with 491 members. 159 meetings were held with the presence of the Community Organizers during the period in which 2416 members participated. In the meeting apart from the routine meeting formalities, the Community Organizers oriented them about child rights, vocational trainings aspects, health and leadership qualities. They also motivated them to continue their studies if possible or at least to develop the reading ability.

These groups are of help to the non school going children in organizing them and creating a platform to discuss their routine problems/issues. The groups provide them opportunities to share their life experiences and identify opportunities for learning/trainings for development and self reliance. The members have become sensitive towards self respect and committed to protest all sorts of violence and injustice to them.

Vocational Training

18 training programs on Agarbathi making, Bag making, embroidery and paintings were conducted during the reporting period. 326 members participated and gained the skills. Specialized persons were invited to impart training in villages. The trainings were arranged

for the adolescent groups. At the end of the training program, trainees were distributed with completion certificates. Those trained girls are now confident and willing to start their own IGP activities in their respective villages.

60% of the adolescent girls have started their activities like tailoring, bag stitching, embroidery work in their respective villages and selling the products to their neighbors and relatives. Vocational instructor regularly helps the girls to get the materials for bags and embroidery work and trains them to improve the quality in their work.

For more than 40% trained girls who are in remote villages, supply of raw materials and marketing have become a challenge.

Capacity building of Staff and Exposure

During the reporting period, a total of 8 trainings were organized for the EMC team. Three of them were in-house at the project level and other two were held outside the project. Project related capacity enhancement was the main objective of these trainings. In 4 trainings, the entire project field team had participated.

The capacity of the EMC team has increased as a result of these training programs. They are able to conduct programs in the villages more confidently. Their planning and implementation skills have improved. They are capable of handling the issues and convincing the community. The Puppet show training and school follow up trainings certainly have helped the staff to take up school and community work effectively during the II phase of the project period.

Books on development and general knowledge were bought for the field team to read and enhance their knowledge and improve the quality in order to bring result oriented work in the field.

Internal Review, Documentation

Four rounds of review meeting cum capacity building programs were conducted during the reporting period.

In the first round review program, an external person was invited. In the 3-days review program, staff capacity, documentation skills and field realities were assessed on the initial two days and on the final day, all of them were oriented on better performance.

The second quarterly review was held in July 2012. Mr. Bhimarao, Project Coordinator made a presentation on the quarterly project activities, development and next quarter plan. Mr. Reji of Tdh, SRO who was present gave his suggestions to improve the reporting by highlighting the outcome of the activities.

In the third review meeting, partners discussed the activities conducted by the project so far and its impact. The partners also discussed on the II phase project activities and finalized LFA draft.

In the fourth review meeting held at Sedam on 26/2/2013, Mr. Reji and all project partners with

Coordinators were present. Mr. Reji briefed about the present project development and the II phase proposal. Baseline data requirements and reallocation of budget were discussed in the meeting.

Workshop for Religious Leaders

2 religious leaders' workshops were held in May 2012 and February 2013 in which 83 members including religious leaders and CBO representatives participated. In charge Thasildhar of Sedam Block inaugurated the workshop. Mr. CV. Raman, CDPO, Sedam and Mr. Arun Serrao were the resource persons. Each religious group members presented their views on child marriage and child labour and stressed that their religion is against the evil practices on children. At the end, the organizers called all religious leaders and representatives of CBOs to join hands in preventing the child marriage and evil practices against children.

The second workshop was organized in Gulbarga for Muslim religious leaders. Mr. Mastan Biradhar, NGO head from Gulbarga addressed the gathering in Urdu and highlighted the issues related with child rights and child marriage. Mr. Bhimarao explained the role of religious leaders in preventing child marriage and creating awareness during religious meetings and prayer gatherings. Later, the religious leaders discussed the strategies to address child marriage issue and education of girls.

These workshops helped in building the rapport with various religious groups and provided proper information and materials to sensitize their own community members. It also helped other religious groups get to know and understand each other and it has set a compulsion on them to protect the rights of children.

Advocacy workshop/meeting at District level

23 workshops were organized during the reporting period. In Aland Block of Gulbarga District, a workshop was organized for ICDS workers with the help of CDPO, Aland. The workshop helped the ICDS workers discuss the issue of child marriage and their role in preventing the problem.

In Mysore, the workshop was organized by RLHP with a partial financial support from CDF/EMC project. Three members from community participated in the workshop.

A workshop for PUC girls was conducted to sensitize them against the practice of child marriage. During the workshop, ill effects of child marriage and how the students /youth can raise their voice against the issue and spread the awareness in villages were discussed in detail. Group discussion also was conducted on how they are able to tackle such incidents in the society.

A special exhibition cum stall was set up by EMC team during the APF District program launching function at Yadgir. Around 10,000 children, college students, elders, teachers and Government officials had visited the various stalls put up in the College ground. EMC team had displayed various awareness materials on child marriage, child rights, training manuals, materials and charts in the stall. More than 1500 children and 299 elders visited our stall and gained knowledge on child rights and child marriage issue.

A workshop for NCC students was held on child marriage wherein 49 cadets participated. Group discussion, input session and screening of documentary film were part of the workshop. NCC cadet's role was highlighted to spread the information to other group of children and youth in their villages.

During the last quarter, 18 workshops/meetings were organized for 11 stakeholders' groups like 5 workshops for ICDS workers, 3 for Asha workers, 4 workshops for youth and students groups, 4 workshops for CBOs and 2 workshops for PDOs and Head Masters. 2 posters on child rights (protection and education of children) were printed and circulated for the participants in district level workshops.

The workshops were organized in all blocks of the district including Yadgir and Shahapur blocks. Through these workshops, the message of child marriage prevention took across the districts of Gulbarga and Yadgir. Officials, CBOs and the youth are sensitive towards the issues and they work in their locality by spreading the messages and sharing the information with authorities.

Mass Marriage venues and Mass Marriage Committee Meetings

During the reporting period, 8 Mass Marriage Committees were visited in 6 blocks and meeting were conducted with the committee members on prevention of child marriages in mass marriages. In two places, registered documents of the couples were verified with the help of block administration much before the mass marriage function. A few documents were found doubtful which were brought to the notice of the organizers.

One poster and a handbill on the consequences of child marriage with legal information was printed and circulated among mass marriage committees to sensitize them and create awareness to the general public. 29 individual child marriage /proposal had been stopped with the support of CBOS and children during the year 2013-14

PART III

Project Title	:	Balabhivruddi Yojana (BAY)
Supported by	:	Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai
Target Area	:	5 GPS in Yadgir Block, Yadgir, Karnataka

Activities held during the reporting period

Street play/Puppetry show training for Volunteers

In January 2013, 4 days' training was held for volunteers and project staff at Kalike office in collaboration with Kalike team Yadgir. 25 members participated in the program. The training was conducted in the place of Street theater program. Gombe mane team from Dharwad was invited to conduct the training. The workshop prepared the participants on how to prepare Shadow puppets, facial mask, puppets for show program, writing script, songs and presentation etc. The resource team trained the participants and enough puppetry materials developed for the future show.

Due to this training, volunteers and project staff have developed skills in writing the script and arranging show to the community people. They have developed 5 scripts and their practice is under progress. The participants were divided into two teams to carry out the awareness program on preschool and parenting care in the working area during April and May.

BVS Training:

15 trainings for BVS were conducted during the reporting period. 359 members took part in the training. Inputs on scope and functions of the BVS, role and duties of the members were imparted in the program. BVS Members also were taken to the nearest model ICDS centers for exposure to make them understand about the basics of preschool education and thereby support the ICDS teachers in their locality to strengthen the preschool education.

24 BVS meetings were held during the reporting period wherein the ICDS centre issues like nutrition aspects, parenting care and preschool education were discussed in detail. Irregularity of ICDS workers, learning improvements and children's attendance in the centre were also discussed in the meetings.

Due to these trainings/meetings in the field, the basic understanding about the role and responsibility of the BVS members has improved among 40% of the total members. Nearly 50% of the members do attend the meetings. Earlier there was no response and no meeting was taking place. However a challenge has still been remained in the field in order to sensitize the rest of the members (60%) and make them interested and committed in taking part in the meetings and working towards overall improvement of ICDS centers. Many a time during the trainings, they raise problems to be solved by the department rather than understand their own role and a purposeful intervention to solve the issues. However, CDF has realized that over a period of time the constant trainings and exposure would help them understand about their role and they are sensitive about their responsibilities.

Parenting Care:

Field workers had conducted 2 rounds of trainings for AWs and Helpers separately to improve their level of understanding about children and modify their attitude while dealing with the children. Further they conducted 8 sessions for Mothers, BVS members and other community leaders. 134 people participated in the program. Master trainers make use of pictures and stories and live example through which make the mothers to understand the positive parenting care.

In December 2012, two field organizers attended a one-day orientation program held at KPN office Bangalore. In the program, field workers were briefed about the progress and obstacles that they come across. Data collected on children's nutritional aspects and food pattern in the community was submitted to KPN for further training for field workers.

As a result of the parenting care trainings and discussion with the various groups, an overall awareness and sensitivity about the children has increased among the elders, especially mothers and ICDS workers. Workers handle the children affectionately and instruct the Helpers and mothers regarding the nurturing aspects of children. Earlier the Workers and Helpers had very rude and adamant attitudes while dealing with the children. They were scolding, beating and making negative comments on them and their mothers. The training has resulted in changing the environment and reflected positively in the relationship between the workers and parents.

CLR Training

CLR team from Pune had conducted 5 days' training at KSU office during September 2012 in which field difficulties were discussed. Based on the preschool topics, sessions were conducted on practical way besides visit to few model centers. During the visit, CLR Team had observed the Master Trainer and Workers' skills while conducting the training on preschool education and the way they used the materials and gave their feedback on how to improve.

The second training was held in February 2013 at Pune. The training on language and mathematics was conducted for 5 days. The field workers were trained in both the subjects in depth and took them

for a field exposure for proper learning and understanding.

The above trainings have certainly helped the Master Trainers to become knowledgeable and skill oriented personnel. Their understanding, training ability, communication skill, understanding the problem and dealing with preschool issues have improved. As a result, the ICDS centers in the field have visibly improved their performance, overall look, functioning and quality preschool education.

Coordination Meeting

Coordinator and master trainers are in touch with CLR and KPN team members with regard to the progress in the field, problems encountered modifications of change in the plan and work that suit the field reality, collection of materials and their usage etc. In addition, advice on improving the project team's skills and knowledge in parenting care and Preschool education are obtained from time to time. The set instructions by the resource team and its follow up process also are informed to the resource team so that the program moves in the right perspective.

Materials for ICDS

During the reporting period, basic materials were purchased for preschool setting work in the ICDS. Doll house, bags for children, ID Cards, notice board and other display arrangements were done by the Workers and Helpers with the guidance of Master Trainers. For this work, one day separate training was held on how to design the display board, setting the doll house, bag making, ID card preparation and other designing work in the centre.

Materials like hardware, plastic items, cotton cloth, crayons, colors, pads, mirror, thermocol, paint, pins, drawing sheets were purchased for setting up of the preschool centers and preschool education activities.

Due to these efforts, the centers look quite attractive, 50% children are now regular to the centers. Parents and BVS members are happy about the progress. Workers and Helpers regular to centre in more than 75% of ICDS centers. However, there should have been more efforts from their end to make use of the materials and conduct the preschool activities regularly in the absence of the Master Trainers. In 50% of the centers, the parents have started making positive comments in the community about the preschool education and appealed to other parents to send their children to the centre daily.

ICDS Center set up for Preschool education

Total 30 centers have been covered under preschool education program. During the reporting period, these centers were frequently visited by Master Trainers and the Coordinator. They actively got involved with the workers in mobilizing local waste materials and made them available in the centers as play and learning materials. All collected materials have been displayed in the centers in an

attractive manner and set the environment of the centre for preschool education.

In the initial stage, each Community Organizer had commenced the work in one centre. Later this work was extended to other centers. The work includes setting a doll house, bags for children's activities, name tags, notice board, time table, collection of local materials and storage.

The above work has changed the look and functioning of majority of the centers. These efforts have been appreciated by the Department of WCD, Grama Panchayath, mothers, school teachers and local CBOs. Children too are attending the Preschool education without force of Helpers or their parents. Children's overall performance in the Pre school activities have also got improved like taking part in various activities, listening and following certain behaviors in the centre, etc.

ICDS Workers Training

To build the capacity and skill of ICDS workers, 7 trainings were organized during the reporting period. These trainings were conducted between 2 and 4 days' duration. The main topics in the training were Doll House setting, collection of local materials and usage, parenting care, free play for children, setting the centre for preschool education based on CLR and Chilipili modules, dealing with children, rapport with BVS and parents, preparation work for each preschool session, time table and creative activities, storytelling and action songs.

In each training program, the workers were given enough time to share their difficulties, problems and limitations and based on the ground realities, training on preschool was imparted. Group discussion, role play, demonstration, practical activity session, singing and acting were the methods used in the training. All participants expressed their positive feeling at the end of each training program and lot of positive changes in attitude and behavior were observed.

Besides the above trainings, seven monthly meetings of the workers were attended by the Master Trainers and Coordinator. These meetings updated the development that taking place in the model centers, motivated the Model centre workers to share the development of their centers. It followed a few sessions on creativity, free play, doll house aspects and local materials usage for other workers in the meeting. These meetings also helped the Supervisors of ICDS.

The above trainings and meetings have totally changed the attitude of the majority workers in the field. According to them, so far many training programs had been conducted by the department, but no such training really addressed as what way the preschool education to be imparted and how relevant materials were to be developed and used for the purpose. With these training programs, the confidence level of the workers has enormously improved. Most of the Workers show affectionate and patient attitude while working with the children. The busy schedule of preschool activity has resulted in retaining the children in the centre till noon without any other distractions.

ICDS Helpers' Training

Three 2-day training programs were conducted for Helpers on parenting care, preschool education activities, and health and Hygiene during the reporting period. 25 helpers participated. Input session, group discussion, role play, singing and action songs were the methodology whereby the participants were activated and sensitized about their role in Anganawadies. Their role in preparing food, serving and up keeping aspects were highlighted. They were motivated to give utmost care and affection to the children during the working hours. Emphasis was given on the subjects like collection of local materials and their usage, helping the Worker in organizing the creative activity, free play and singing and playing activities in the centers.

As a result of the training, the Helpers have become quite active in majority of the centers. Their role in imparting preschool education in the absence of the workers is a notable change in the centre. During our visit to the centers, it has been noticed that the helpers are quite actively teaching rhymes, conducting action songs and group activities for the children.

Preschool Education in Model Centers

The Master trainers initiated the preschool education sessions based on the Chilipili and CLR methodology in selected centers. The session was found quite attractive for the children as well as the workers. In the beginning it was conducted in 3 centers and later extended to other centers. During the reporting period, 90% of the model centers have been covered under this activity.

The Preschool activity commences from 9.30 am and closes at 1.00 pm. During the period, sessions were conducted like free play, prayer, attendance, collecting the ID cards by children, singing, dancing, storytelling, drawing, clay work, designing work, etc. The Community Organizers in the initial stage had conducted these activities continuously for a week with AW teachers and later their classes were observed and followed up.

As a result of these activities in the centers, the AW teachers are quite interested and enthusiastic to learn more and more activities on preschool education. In majority centers, the workers are keeping their half day work exclusively for preschool education and afternoon they visit community or do their documentary work. However this process of change is yet to take place in another 50% centers due to non cooperation of workers or some basic infrastructural problems. Hence, a constant follow up and support from the DWCD are required.

ICDS Environment development

During the reporting period, white washing the wall was carried in 4 centers for which a partial amount has been spent. Painting in the remaining centers is in good condition, which is maintained by the Local Panchayath and the Concerned department. Since CLR team advised the Master Trainers not to paint the wall with picture that may disturb the attention of the children while

conducting the sessions. Hence the idea of painting the wall with pictures was dropped. Instead some basic support under the head will be provided to keep the environment of the centre neat and attractive. Like up-keeping the surrounding of the centre, repair of the old building, materials storage facility etc.

Healthy Baby Show

18 healthy baby show programs were held during the reporting period and covered 432 mothers along with their children. The objective of the program is to make the parents understand and motivate about maintaining the health and hygiene of children, nutritional aspects, tracking immunization process and attendance in centre.

Local doctor/ANM/Health worker was invited to address the mothers' gathering on the above aspects and highlighted the overall health and nutritional level of the children. At the end of the program, a set of steel tumblers were given to the centre to serve drinking water for children.

The program has improved the understanding of the parents about hygiene aspects of the child, importance of immunization and maintenance of nutritional aspects. Majority of parents give bath to the children and send them to centre with clean dress. Children too have learnt to comb their hair and maintain their basic hygiene practice in the centers.

Health Checkup

During the reporting period, health checkup could be conducted only in 10 centers in Hattikuni and Bandalli GPs. In other centers, the program will be held in April and May 2013. Local doctor was invited to conduct the health checkup. The doctor covered 211 children from the above mentioned centers. Mothers were advised to meet the doctors from time to time about maintaining the health of children and follow up of immunization. They distribute some basic medicines like cough syrup, allergy, fever and cold related medicines.

The service in the centre greatly helped the children and mothers to know the health status. This prevents the mother to take the child to distant place for checkup and most of the time mothers neglect their sickness in the beginning stage. Later the parents should spend much of their time and money to provide treatment for the child.

However organizing such camps is a tough task in the working area since non availability of the Doctors nearby. Private doctors expect more remuneration and they have to come from a long distance to the villages.

Nutritional Mela

To create awareness on nutritional aspects and make the mothers understand the importance of health of children, 32 Nutritional Melas were organized during the reporting period and 878 mothers and children took part in the programs. Resource Person from the local PHC was invited to give inputs on nutrition and hygiene practices. Locally available fruits, vegetables, pulses and cereals were brought to prepare nutritional food and were shared later among the mothers and children. Locally available vegetables and fruits, and their nutritional values were explained to the mothers, as how they should keep children healthy and safe. ICDS workers and helpers have actively got involved in the program and they too shared the materials that were available in the ICDS centers to prepare the nutritious food for mothers and children.

This kind of program no doubt attracts a large number of women/mothers to the program. The inputs on parenting care and protection, demonstration on nutritional food through which awareness on health and nutrition has increased among the communities. Community leaders also slowly have started understanding that the ICDS work is so broad and they need to educate the community on proper care and protection of the children. Due to this program mothers also understood the importance of supplementary food for their children and the lactate mothers. Earlier they use to complaint about the supplementary food without knowing the nutrition content in the food. They refused to serve the sprouted green pulses to the children because it was row. Because of the program and awareness, the parents are allowed their children to consume the sprouted pulses.

Staff Meeting and Review

Every month, staff meeting is conducted to assess the progress of the project activities and plan for next month. Each field team member's work is reviewed and required feedback is given. During the reporting period, 12 monthly meetings were held, 3 joint meetings at Kalike and one review meeting with Mr. Shivkumar.

These meetings helped the workers share their experiences and benefit from other experiences. Further it contributed to the morale of the team. Sharing with Kalike team also helped CDF team know the developments and challenges of other parts of the block in Yadgir.

Mr. Shivkumar's time to time guidance also helped the team take forward the program in an effective manner.

Advocacy and lobbying Work

Coordinator had visited ICDS department both in Block and District Office, and had discussion on the progress of the activities, strengthening the preschool education in the working area and stressed upon the cooperation of Supervisors in introducing and strengthening the initiative. Time to time visit to the department was to get the permission for training and meetings of the ICDS workers and helpers.

Other activities:

In July 2012, consultant of SRTT Mr. Manoj Kitta had a visit to a few centers in the working area and gave his feedback to strengthen the work in the field. Based on his suggestions, necessary actions have been taken.

CDF Project team and a few ICDS workers from Sedam had a visit to the NRTT supported Project Model centers of CDF in Yadgir in July 2012 to understand and strengthen their capacity in Preschool education.

BAY Project team had conducted preschool education methodology and usage of the materials to the CDF Sedam team and a group of ICDS workers during April and July 2012. The process helped both teams to exchange their experiences and learnings.

Other project workers of CDF had participated in the CLR follow up trainings in Yadgir and Pune thereby helped them to work in other 75 ICDS centers in Sedam.

With the above activities, CDF has completed 2 years of time. Since the working area is new and interior in nature, some of the tasks scheduled are yet to be completed. Therefore we made a request to the trust in October-November 2012 regarding an extension of the project for another 6 months.

Arun Serrao
Director
Community Development Foundation