

AAG AT A GLANCE

AIDS Awareness Group (AAG) is a voluntary organisation (NGO), which was registered in 1994 under the Societies Registration Act (1860). Our registration Number is S-25682 / 94. We are registered u/s 12 of the Income Tax Act and have exemption under Section 80 G of the Act since May 1995 for all donations received by AAG. We are also registered under FCRA vide Registration No. 231650972 in 1999, to cover foreign contributions.

Our "Mission" is: To promote an equitable and healthy Society.

AAG focuses on the following: -

1. Integrated Health and Development programmes in urban slums, resettlement Colony and backward rural areas outside Delhi,
2. HIV / AIDS prevention, testing, treatment and Care & Support of PLHIVs in Delhi, and
3. **Sex / Sexuality**, HIV / AIDS and Legal Counselling Helpline from our Office.
4. Legal Aid and legal literacy programmes in Jails and free legal advice from our office,
5. Drug De-addiction of Adolescent prisoners in Tihar Jail,

We:

1. **Conduct** a community health and development programme in a resettlement colony at Madan Pur Khader
2. Promote prevention, Care & Support programmes for the inmates of the Jails at Tihar,
3. Provide follow up and ongoing counselling for PLHIV prisoners inside Tihar Jails,
4. Provide free legal aid and legal literacy to the underprivileged prisoners in the jails,
5. Run a therapeutic community based rehabilitation programme (Drug de-addiction) for juvenile prisoners in Tihar Jail.
6. Enhance HIV / AIDS awareness in the general population with special attention on vulnerable groups like sex workers, their prospective clients, and slum dwellers, inmates of jail, migrant labourers and drug abusers
7. Implement a programme on Health and behaviour change, towards safer sex practices, and provide syndromic treatment of STIs for sex workers and their clients on GB Road (a red light area).
8. Provide Care and Support to PLHIVs coming for help to our Drop-In-Centre at GB Road and our clinic at Madan Pur Khader.

Our Programme areas are:-

- 1) Madanpur Khader (a resettlement colony)
- 2) Tihar Jail, Hari Nagar
- 3) The Red Light area on GB Road
- 4) AIDS Awareness Programmes for Corporate sector in and outside Delhi on invitation

At Madanpur Khader (MPK):-

Madan Pur Khader - Population 150000 (approx.), spread over an area of about 5 square kilometres.

The facilities provided at MPK are: -

- A clinic for general ailments, immunisation of children and expectant mothers and Testing for HIV etc.
- A computer training centre,
- A sewing and tailoring centre,
- A coaching centre for children from classes I to 5 including school dropouts,
- Facilitating formation of Self-Help Groups for Micro savings and micro-credit,
- Advocacy for just demands viz availability of safe drinking water etc.

At The Clinic in MPK

AAG has set up a Clinic at MPK. On an average 350 to 375 patients access it monthly. We conduct a Reproductive and Child Health programme for the Women and Children (1 to 5 years of age) including immunisation of Children and Ante Natal and Post Natal Care for pregnant women. This includes Testing for HIV after Pre-test Counselling and consent from them. The Statistical data is given below.

<u>ACTIVITIES</u>						
Sl.No	Health & RCH Programme	ANC	PNC	STIs	Others	TOTAL
1	No. of Patients visited (New)	272	182	52		506
2	No. of Patients visited (Follow up)	890		104		994
3	No. of Referrals					80
4	Registration in Hospital					24
5	No. of Hospital Deliveries					97
6	No. of Session Held for counselling					45
7	No. of Home Deliveries					90

Vocational Training at MPK: -

AAG provides training **on Cutting & Tailoring** and on Computer Skills. This is based on their request during the Needs assessment survey carried out earlier.

- **Cutting & Tailoring** classes are conducted in two shifts and has 20 women / girls enrolled in each session.
- **Computer Training** AAG has six computers and provides training on Basics of Computer and MS Office. Advance training for the students who have completed the basic, is also provided. The training is in 5 shifts of one hour each. There are at present 30 Boys & Girls. The Basic course is of 6 months' duration.

Educational Programmes at AAG's Coaching Centre: -

- Coaching Centre** – We **have established** a coaching centre for Non Formal Education for school dropouts as well as remedial coaching for the school going children. About 45 to 55 girls and boys were enrolled in the tuition centre between classes I to V. We have three shifts/batches in a day at the tuition centre. The tutor teaches them according to their age groups and tries to admit the school-dropouts to mainstream schools.
- Adult Literacy Programme** – We also conduct an Adult Literacy Programme for the women at MPK. 10 women are attending classes regularly, they are learning how to read and write. They were very enthusiastic. In between we provide **small bits** of information on Health, RCH, Nutrition and advocacy for just demands like safe drinking water.

Self Help Groups and Micro Savings & Credit

Meeting with SH Groups On 13 May 2009 AAG (AIDS AWARENESS GROUP) organized a Meeting with the S.H.G. presidents, secretaries, Treasurers of all the S.H.Gs at M C D School J. J. Colony Madanpur Khader. Approx. 50 women attended the meeting. AAG's Director and Programme manager were introduced to the members.. **AAG's** Director encouraged them to start taking charge of their respective groups and accounts adding, **"We would** be ready to help in case of difficulties". Some of the Groups agreed to take independent charge of their Groups.

Linkages between SBI & SHG on Scheme "Grameen Shakti" on 3.9.2009

- Discussion on insurance for SHGs.
- Importance of SHG credit linkages with the bank.
- Importance of starting Micro enterprise activity.

The Name of scheme is "Grameen Shakti" and it is only for SHG member. Indu Thakur from SBI explain term and condition to the women insurance period would be 5 years and this would be Rs 30,000/- the client will give Rs 361/- per year and in the condition of death the bank will give Rs.30, 000 to the nominee or will return approx Rs 900/-to the client if she is alive at the end. Bank officials also discussed about loan to those SHGs members who want loans to develop their business, bank will help them through Loans. At the end Ms Indu wanted at least 100 forms should be filled by SHGs member. But only 31 women filled the forms. Approximately 300-350 women attended the meeting.

SHG Linkages with SBI – On 9.9.2009, a meeting between SBI & SHG office bearers for “Grameen Shakti” Insurance at Madanpur Khader.



At GB Road:

We had regular interactions with sex workers, the Madams, Pimps and people from the road. They visited our Drop-in-centre for medicines, HIV test, counselling and condoms. Some visited to just talk and have a small breather from their brothels.

World AIDS Day (1.12.2009) & Condom Day (13.2.2010) at GB Road - We had two health and **HIV/ AIDS** awareness camps at GB Road - one on the World AIDS Day and the other on World Condoms Day, 13th February 2010. In each camp more than a thousand visitors came to our stalls, for witnessing the Street Play, for leaflets on HIV, Condoms and for getting their HIV tests done. In all we conducted about 61 tests for HIV in the first awareness cum health camp; and 83 in the second camp.

World AIDS Day at GB Road 2009



IEC Distribution

Street Play

HIV Testing

World Condoms Day at GB Road on 13.02.2010;



Condom Demonstration on World Condom AIDS Day



HIV/AIDS Awareness and Testing for HIV



In Tihar Jail:

We Provided / Conducted :

- a) Free legal aid to under-trial prisoners with no local support structure or money.
- b) Legal literacy sessions for the new prisoners in the jails so that they could make appropriate choices about their legal course of action.
- c) HIV/AIDS prevention, Counselling, Care and Support programmes inside the jails.
- d) A 'therapeutic community-based rehabilitation programme' for adolescent drug addicts in CJ V.

Achievements

Free Legal Aid Provided To the Prisoners during the Year 09-10

No. of prisoners in Jail No.3, 4 interviewed by AAG's Volunteers	(Approx.) 8500
No. of prisoners interviewed by AAG's Advocate	700
No. of cases taken up by AAG's Lawyer	50
Number of Acquittals	14
Number of prisoners Bailed out	10
Number of prisoners Bailed granted	45
Number of bail application filed	75
Number of Appeals filed	47
Number released on sentence undergone	20
Convictions	14

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Trainings:

Para Medical & Jail Staff at Jail

We conducted ten sessions with Para Medics. These were conducted almost monthly in the hospital in CJ 3. The participants from Jails 2, 3, 4, & 5 attended the session. Their doubts regarding ELISA and MEIA were cleared. They asked a few questions regarding the difference between HIV, AIDS and STIs; and about Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP). We explained why confidentiality was very important for PLHIVs. Approximately 120 Para medics participated in the ten sessions.

20 training sessions with jails staff were held on STIs / HIV/AIDS in CJ 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9. The sessions were conducted by Siddhartha & Elizabeth and took the form of discussions. The participants were Head warders, Warders, Newly recruited ASJs and warders. The Superintendent, DSJs, ASJs were also present in some of the sessions. During this we disseminated information on Modes of transmission, Myths and Misconceptions, and prevention with the help of flip charts. We used special Cards to discuss issues of attitudes, Stigma and Discrimination.

Training Session on HIV/AIDS Assistant Superintendent in Prison Head Quarter at Tihar Jail on 14.7.2009



The two pictures show Dy. Suptd B.S. Bhatia, Elizabeth, Siddhartha, Deepak & trainee Assistant Superintends.

Approx. 250 warders and Head warders participated actively in the various sessions held in different Jails. In addition about 50 officers also took part in these sessions.

Mass Awareness Programme on HIV / AIDS: -

Nine Mass Awareness programmes (Street Plays / Magic Shows) were conducted in CJs 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9. The prisoners from the respective jail were assembled by the jail authorities to witness the shows. Approx. 12500 prisoners were present for these.

Magic Show & Street Play at Jail - The Magician and Street theatre artists provided information on HIV/AIDS in a very entertaining but informative way. The audience (Including Jail officers & staff) enjoyed the shows very much. The magician also performed simple magic calling members from the audience to stage for comic effect. Both the **Street Plays** and Magic Shows provided very clearly and in easy to understand manner the information on Modes of transmission, how HIV spreads and does not spread; how to prevent getting infected, linkages between HIV & STIs, proper usages of condom, and living positively as a PLHIV.



De-addiction and Rehabilitation (Therapeutic Community) based programmes for adolescent drug abusers with the aim of weaning them away from IV and other drugs abuse in Jails.

An abbreviated data about the drug addicts who were part of our rehabilitation is given below.

S.No.	Name of the Centre	Chetna Ward CJ 5
1.	Total no. of Inmates Ward no 8/2	400 (Approx.)
2.	New comers	250
3.	Repeaters	150
4.	Convicts	20
5.	Under trials	230
6.	Types of addiction	
	Smack	270
	Injection	15
	Ganja	40
	Alcohol	30
	Charas	25
	Multi Drug abusers	20

Therapeutic Community based Programme (TC) – About 400 juvenile drug/alcohol addicts underwent our TC community based rehabilitation programme for adolescent (aged 18 to 21). Most of the time we had about 70 to 80 addicts undergoing this programme. Most of the drug addicts in the Jail were illiterate.

The Counsellors covered topics on - Children of Drug Addicts / Alcoholics, Co-dependency, Grief, Anger, Lying, Loss of self-esteem, Depression, Children of Alcoholics, Responsible Child, Adjusting Child, Placating child or Acting out child.

Therapy through Theatre (TTT):

During the year 2009 -10, AAG's Facilitator conducted 36 sessions on Therapy through Theatre with the inmates in CJ V in wards No.6, 7 & 8. We presented them with different types of situations to deal with through acting so as to be able to face the problems. In these activities the inmates were encouraged to act and express their feelings about their environment at home. They acted very spontaneously. Many of them were found to be very talented.

Counselling, Care and Support for PLHIVs

Our Counsellors met 51 PLHIVs in all jails during the reporting period. Every Tuesday and Friday two counsellors visited CJs III and IV and other jails by turns and made it a point to meet all the PLHIVs present at that time, hear their problems and give a feedback to the respective jail Superintendents, Dy. Supdts and SMOs. During the visits we counselled all PLHIVs on the necessity of 100% adherence and compliance in taking ARTs and DOTS and the harmful consequences of non adherence.

Human Rights Work outside Jail

We have helped people, particularly women in distress, by providing them information about their civil and legal rights by a lawyer. We provide support and an enabling environment, where the clients specially (women) feel safe enough to experiment with the concept of autonomy in order to generate and explore their own options. Only if they want, we suggest a few options to deal with the crisis situations they are in. They are at liberty to adopt the option they like best.

AAG has also helped factory workers who were being denied their due salaries and allowances, by unscrupulous factory owners.

Corporate Sector -

On 5.2.2010 – Bharti Axa Life Insurance on HIV AIDS at Lodhi Road - See pictures



A programme on HIV / AIDS awareness at the IT Firm Checknet in Gurgaon

On 3.9.2009(– Checknet an IT firm on at Gurgaon) –delete This has been shifted to front inside cover



ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

- Lawyer's Collective an NGO,
- Human Rights Law Network,
- A network of NGOs carrying out Telephonic Counselling on HIV / AIDS
- E networking:-
AIDS-INDIA@yahoogroups.com
sea-aids@eforums.healthdev.org

Publications and Research Papers: -

- Booklet on The NDPS Act, Delhi Police Act and Sections 107, 149-151 Cr.P.C..
- Booklets in Hindi and English on Information on AIDS (Third Edition).
- Booklets in Hindi and English on "Sexually Transmitted Infections.
- Booklet titled "Basic (Legal) Information for under trials" (2nd Edition) Vols. I and II
- et titled "Legal Rights and Options Available to Convicts." Bookl

Research Papers

- Is Section 376 IPC being misused? } Research Papers
- Are Dowry Related Laws being abused? } " "

Future Plans

We are exploring the possibility of

- a. Conducting HIV / AIDS prevention, counselling, testing & Care and Support in Delhi and NCR,
- b. Expanding and replicating our work on integrated health and development outside Delhi in villages.
- c. A Government funded project "Gender Resource Centre Suvidha Kendra" targeting only marginalise and BPL women and girl children.

Our Donors, Supporters and Well Wishers –

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Mr. & Dr.(Mrs.) Tony Carlier,
Mr. Sorab Modi
Ms and Mr. Ellena & John Christie
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Ms Priya Viswanath
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M/S Abrol Sons, Sarojini Nagar Market