



FREEDOM FOUNDATION –PMTCT PROJECT

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We acknowledge the donations given by Global Giving to Freedom Foundation-PMTCT intervention in Bangalore. Here is a brief report of the activities that were supported by the donations through Global Giving.

Hi-protein Mix for pregnant mothers:

Most pregnant mothers serviced through our project have a poor health status. Most of them are anemic. Both pregnancy and the burden of HIV calls for better nutritional intake for these patients. Hence we have been giving Hi-protein mix made of grams, dhals and nuts to the positive pregnant women. With the support of Global Giving we have been able to train one staff and a couple of clients to help in the making of this mix. Presented below is a case history.

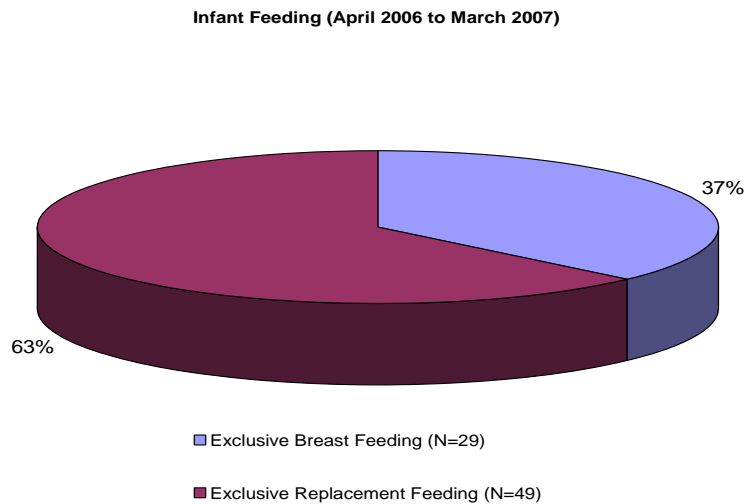
Kokila, aged 27, came to know of her HIV infection, when she attended the counseling session and gave consent for testing. She is a mother of 7 babies. She has delivered a baby, who is tested HIV negative, last year and has picked up courage and shared with her family about her status. She is getting prepared to take treatment for herself. Has decided to place her children in a hostel, when her health declines. She is a member of the support group at the hospital where she delivered and currently, she earns a small income, by making High protein nutrition mix, under the guidance of Freedom Foundation staff. This nutrition mix, is provided for all clients along side the supplementary iron and calcium tablets during antenatal and postnatal period.



Infant feeding:

Freedom Foundation believes in informed decision making by the positive pregnant mother about the type of infant feeding. Some clients have opted for Exclusive Breast Feeding solely because they could not afford the cost of replacement feeding. These are clients who could maintain safe replacement feeding. Some clients in this category have received support for replacement feeding to reduce transmission of HIV from Mother to Child.

In the last one year 63% of women have been on safe replacement feeding and 93% of babies who were tested are free of HIV.



Few Pictures of Key Activities of the Project:

Group Counseling session for Ante-natal mothers at
P G Halli Maternity Home



HIV testing by a Lab Technician of Freedom Foundation



The staff of Srirampura Referral Hospital commit to be PLHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS) friendly at the end of a training session



Session on 'Healthy Living & Nutrition' by Ms. Anjali Ramanna – Advocate in the Support Group Meeting held at Rajaji Nagar Maternity Home



Street Plays are a effective way to educate the community on HIV/ AIDS



We look forward to more support in the following areas:

- More women would like to test for HIV. We would like support for HIV test kits. Two dollars would mean a woman can get a HIV test.
- Support for nutrition and medicines for PLHAs are most welcome.

We take this opportunity to thank the donors and global giving for making a difference in the lives of few people through the donations.