

Cancer Awareness & screening of 15000 Indian women

About organization

Serve Train Educate People's Society (STEPS) established in the year 1993 as Non Governmental organization at Srikalahasti, Andhra Pradesh state, India. All programs are headed by volunteers and development facilitators with participation and involvement of peoples committees. This NGO gives emphasis on Health aspects of those particularly preventive and curative health related programs with a special focus on children, Adolescents, and Women with more specifically emphasis on strengthen integrated child health and expand awareness and advocacy services. Organization of women into groups and to promote grass root level initiation for their empowerment and Safe guards their human rights

STEPS NGO helps the neediest communities by improving their health condition by tackling problems they identify as important. Creates high impact community driven solutions for poor people in slums and rural areas. Having 25 Years of grass roots relationship with the people, organized **1630** Health camps, **20445** Awareness programs and interventions for **867,092** people.

About Project

Cervical and Breast cancers are most common type of cancer in India among women. Currently, most patients are diagnosed at advanced stages of the disease, which reduces their chances of survival. They have several misconceptions and often misinformed of cancers.

This program will be implemented in slums of Srikalahasti municipality drought pone, backward area in chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh state.

Poor slum women majority of cancer victims are particularly unable to access to awareness and screening services. There is immediate need for community screening and education to prevent and control cancers.

Cervical Cancer: 80% of the new cervical cancer cases occur in India, which reports approximately one fourth of the world's cases of cervical cancer each year. Women or men aged between 15-50 years and those with multiple sexual partners stands at the risk of developing cervical cancer. In urban areas, cervical cancer account for over 40% of cancers.

Breast cancer: The majority of breast cancer patients are diagnosed with the later stages of the disease. In these stages, patients do not usually respond well to treatments, leading to high mortality rates. So, early detection is associated with better prognosis and higher survival rates, and is therefore considered the key to cancer control. Women do not have knowledge of breast cancer often have several misconceptions. Women at greatest risk are over the age of 50.

Poverty: Poverty is an important issue that has worsened the health situation of. About 60% of the Indian people are poor and 30% are very poor.

The cancer mostly affects middle- aged women (between 40 and 55 years), especially those from the lower economic status who fail to carry out regular health check-ups due to financial inadequacy.

Among the slum population, more than 40% of them lives below poverty line where less than half of the population is literate and unemployed. Socioeconomic causes, illiteracy, sexual factors, dietary, hormonal, hereditary factors are playing very dominant role.

This project will enable us to deliver clinical services and enable all women to have a maximum access to cancer screening and awareness services. STEPS will work with the local government, community health workers and establish working systems at the grassroots level for purposes of sustainability, increasing awareness and provision of support at the community level. Limited treatment capacity: Breast cancer and Cervical cancer is largely preventable but women need to be screened to halt the deadly disease.

Limited access to information on the disease available to women in Srikalahasti slums Program for awareness and screening the disease in early stage is done. Otherwise it will continue to go undiagnosed and untreated.

Proposed strategy

Building capacities for cancer screening & referral: Trainings will be organized to Project staff, community health workers and SHG leaders by Gynaecologist. Staff will be taken through the history of cancer, signs, screening methods, prevention and control of the disease.

Cervical cancer and Breast cancer screening and awareness: Organising Community awareness activities to increase knowledge, awareness on cancers and its prevention. These activities will target all women (20-50 years).

Before screening, women will be counselled about cancers, risk factors and prevention. Screening will be done by a team of community health volunteers who will be specifically trained on issues of cancers and referral. Women will be offered adequate information on the screening test, how it will be done.

Budget requirement

Honorarium for Community Health Educators to motivate community to involve in program activities in slums.

Cost of organizing the Health awareness camps, Organizing the rallies to create awareness about health, Organizing the cultural programs in slums to create awareness about health in every implementing slum.

Travel cost to staff to organize program activities in slums.