**Rehabilitation of Risk Girls in Balasore, India.**

**Tell a story about your work:**

The project has been implemented at Baliapal in Balasore District, Orissa for rehabilitation of risk girls considering the availability of limited fund effort has been given to reach maximum number of girls with the information and education on health and legal aid issues.

171 risk girls have been covered under the project. The camp wise details in given below in tabular form.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Camp No. | Date | Participants | Venue | Resource Persons |
| 1 | 10.09.2010 | 54 | ARM Assembly Hall,Parulia | Mr.Bijay Kumar Patra,Ex-Block Extension Educator,Baliapal  Mr.Prafulla Kumar Patra, Lawyer |
| 2 | 13.10.2010 | 53 | Baiganbadia Gram Panchayat office, Kalikapur | Advocate Mr.Laxmikanta Patra,  Mr.Bijay Kumar Patra,Ex-Block Extension Educator,Baliapal  Rajendra kumar Rana,Coordinating Member,ARM,Baliapal  Mr.Pramod kumar Bhuyan,Programme Officer,ARM,Baliapal |
| 3 | 29.10.2010 | 64 | Mandrada club house,Mandrada,Basta | Mr.Malay Roy,Advocate  Mr.Gautam Mohanty,Advocate  Mrs.Ritanjali Nanda,Advocate  Mr.Bijay Kumar Patra,Ex- Block Extension Educator,Baliapal  Prasanta Kumar Rout,Project Manager,ARM,Baliapal |

Discussions have been made on health issues, mainly on reproductive health care and legal aid provisions. Audio visual and information, education and communication materials has been used in these camps for better understanding. Participant girls have interacted with the resource provisions and empowered with information and knowledge on the issues.

The following discussions were made during the camps:

**Legal orientation**

Women empowerment has still been a slogan on the face of various disparities being met by the girl child in social, legal, economic securities. Therefore 3 nos. of 1 day legal awareness camps were organized in the village centres to expose these vulnerable girls to various legal provisions to protect themselves at times of emergency. 5 advocates Mr.Prafulla Patra, Mr.Laxmikanta Patra, Mr.Gautam Mohanty, Advocate, Mrs.Ritanjali Nanda, Advocate and Mr.Malay Roy, were fluent in isolating the rights of girl child and associating those with befitting protective clauses. The discussions concentrated on social security, economic self dependence, political support as well as prevalence of model code of conduct favoring girls, right to property, preference in employment and scope for participation in the domestic production process. The congregating women and girls took very much interest to learn various directions of gender violence, dowry death, divorce as well as sex abuse and trafficking problems

**Health orientation**

Health of girl child being a major concern in the rural areas due to the negligence met by them,The health contents of the camps on various aspects of girl child nourishment and care were organized in the village centres where a range of issues and topics were discussed, taught and put before the village community in favour of the wellbeing of girl children. The topics include pre and post natal care, attention on safe delivery, prevention of AIDS and STDs, safe motherhood, discouraging sex determination ,feeding and care of girls to their adolescent, role of girls for the family well being and issues raised by the village community.

Each camp was attended by the local health educator Mr.Bijay Kumar Patra, who provided vital information on the reproductive girl child health along with Block Extension Educator and project volunteers of ARM to make the camps lively, resourceful and experience sharing one which could serve as curtain raisers for the interest of neglected girls in the villages.

The target risk girls benefit immensely from these camps. After the camps many girls have gained knowledge on Reproductive Health Care, and legal provisions for protection of girls and availability of legal aid.

**Impact:**

The target girls have become health conscious and the hygienic practice in adolescent stage have been followed by them.

A self confidence has been inculcated among the target girls after empowerment with information regarding legal provision for protection of girls against violence.

The above information has been disseminated from the risk girls to other community people surrounding them

This has brought a change within the community considering the upgraded self confidence of the target girls.

**RAJENDRA KUMAR RANA**

**Coordinating Member**