

Sangam News

Counseling Cell

The statistics show that domestic violence is a major cause of breakdown of marital relationships. Almost 70% of women in India between the age of 15 to 49 suffer some form of domestic violence. Only one in four abused women muster the courage to seek help, the rest remain the silent sufferers. This information was revealed during the seminar organized by Sangam on 21st January 2011, to educate the women folks to fight against domestic violence. Women from nearby villages were invited to take part in the seminar and to share their experiences. The names of our Counselors and field staff was given to them whom they could contact for any help that they may need on the subject.



Staff matters

Mr Shrikant Bhalerao, Manager Community Relations has resigned with effect from 1/02/2011. Mr Philip Kuruvilla, Asstt CEO has completed his tenure with us on 28/02/2011. Mr Makrand Chandurkar has joined Rainbow guest house as Manager Guest Relations and Liaison with effect from 1/03/2011.

Out-going volunteers: A warm farewell was accorded to the outgoing volunteers Ms Anna Fischer, Ms Amelie Frei, Ms Katharina Dietrichs, Mr Leon Fierek and Mr Sascha Wilke. The management records its appreciation for the good work done during their stay in the projects.



Wedding bells

Dr Jona Dohrmann, President DIZ, was married to Ms Jean Pompf on 9th October 2010 in Bücken, Germany. After their marriage, this was their first visit to Ecumenical Sangam Nagpur. The Management staff congratulated the young couple and extended them a warm welcome at Rainbow guest house as well as the Base Center at Bamhani.

Ecumenical Sangam

Is a community health and development organization based in Nagpur, which is located right in the heart of India in the state of Maharashtra. The aim of Sangam is to empower the poorer sections of society Through promotion of health, education, skill-building and awareness-raising activities.

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Donations

Please assist us in realizing our goals through your donations. Your contribution will be exempt under Section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

Ecumenical Sangam 316/A, Civil Lines/Rabindranath Tagore Marg, Nagpur 440001 Tel: +91-(0)712-2529762 Email: rainbow@sangamonline.org www.sangamonline.org



Sangam News

Vol-1 Issue-6

Dear Friends,

we are happy to announce the inauguration of our new building of the sub-centre at Narayanpur. It was inaugurated jointly by Mrs Rita Dohrmann and Mrs Vijaya Mele, local Sarpanch (village leader) on 4th March 2011. The other sub-centre at Sawangi is nearing completion and expected to be ready for occupation by the end of April 2011. The sub centres will have adequate space for the KG classes, sewing and computer classes, doctor's clinic, a multi-purpose community hall and residential accommodation for two persons. This has established the faith of the community which reassured of the work of Sangam.

The new batch of four volunteers from Germany has arrived and started their work in right earnest. We welcome them and wish them a fruitful stay.

Mr Rudolf Dohrmann, our Founder member and Mrs Rita Dohrmann, President, visited Sangam and held review meetings with the staff. Dr Jona Aravind Dohrmann, Chairman DIZ Germany and his wife Mrs Jean Dohrmann, Chairman DIZ south, held discussions with the staff.

Ms Sybille Franck from DIZ office in Frankfurt also visited the projects and reviewed its work. We thank our honoured guests for visiting us and for their guidance.

C.H. Khisty (Hon. CEO)
Ecumenical Sangam, Nagpur

Certification



Ecumenical Sangam is the proud recipient of ISO 9001:2008 certificate awarded by First Quality Certification, which has an accreditation from DAR Germany. The scope of the certification is the empowerment of community, particularly women, children and the youth, through education, skill building

and general awareness for their holistic development and providing guest house facility. The certification covers the activities of Bamhani Base Center as well as the Rainbow guest house. The team members of Ecumenical Sangam deserve all praise for their commitment in ensuring that the systems introduced will be continually improved and closely monitored.

We welcome our new volunteers from Germany who have joined us on 8th March 2011

Ms Sophie Zmijaneck
Education / Kindergarten
and Staff Training



Ms Sarah Kemkes
Health and Birth
Attendance



Ms Yvonne Reis
Fair Trade / Workcamp /
Communication



Mr Frederik Häfker
Watershed / Organic
Farming



Sangam News

New Sub-Centre in Narayanpur

On the 1st March 2011 there was a special ceremony to mark the completion and handing over of the first of the sub-centres in Narayanpur village. The new sub-centre has



been built on the approach road to Narayanpur to replace the small rented house. With the financial support from Germany, Narayanpur is the first of the three sub-centres in the rural villages. The second at Sawangi Burg village in the Shedeshwar group is currently under construction. The third at Gondwananagar village which has



been delayed due to administrative problems, is likely to commence soon.

Mr Barai, from Narayanpur, who has sold Sangam the plot of land for Narayanpur sub-centre was prominently present at the inaugural function. This

was witnessed by villagers, staff, volunteers and invited guests. The new sub-centre is located 20.6 kms from the Base Centre in Bamhani and has been built to serve Narayanpur and the group of surrounding villages.

Micro Finance

The micro finance scheme has been receiving an encouraging response from the villagers and slum dwellers. About 187 persons from the villages adjoining Bamhani Base Centre have availed the benefit of the scheme. The beneficiaries have been able to start small family business like making earthen pots, starting general stores, selling bangles, etc. The farmers are utilizing the amount for digging of wells and other agriculture related jobs. In the urban slums 15 persons have availed the benefit of the scheme.

There is a close follow up of cases by our field staff under the overall guidance of Ms Surekha and Ms Usha.



LEAP activity

From January to March 2011 the LEAP section organized 6 Continuing Medical Education Seminars (CME) at Ecumenical Sangam for Nursing, Ayurvedic and M.B.B.S. faculties of Nagpur colleges. Similarly our Leap staff participated in training of "The Trainers workshop" held for 4 days in the Sangam.



Sangam News

Slum welfare

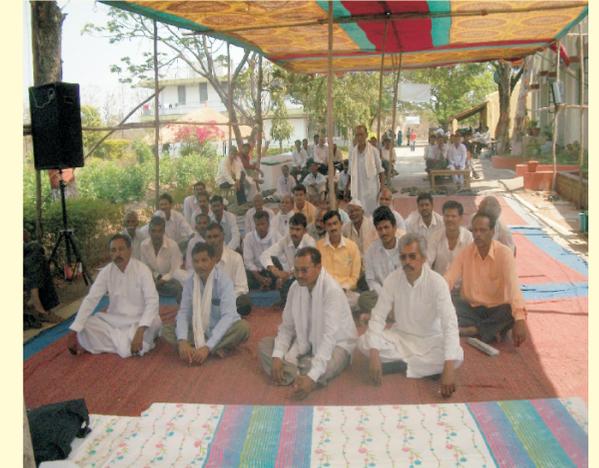
The welfare work in the three slum areas of Saraswati Nagar, Seva Nagar and Motibagh is progressing well. A total population of about 14000 people living in the slums comprising of daily wage earners, hawkers, casual workers, domestic helpers, rickshaw pullers and others are availing the benefits of our



different programmes. Our activities include awareness building on subjects like HIV and AIDS, pre-marriage and post marriage counselling, nutrition programmes, sanitation and hygiene, environment and vocational training. There are 75 girls who are undergoing sewing training. Out of the girls trained, 10 girls have joined the Fair trade programme which is helping them to partly supplement their family income. We propose to encourage more number of girls to join the fair trade work. Our Field workers, under the guidance of Vaishali (Social worker), are doing a commendable work in the slums.



Organic farming



Farmers meet

A farmers meet was organized at Bamhani on 26th Feb 2011 as part of our efforts for promoting organic farming and watershed measures in the villages. 182 farmers along with their families participated in the programme. Eminent persons in the field were invited to address the farmers and to clarify their doubts on the subject. The speakers highlighted the importance of organic farming methods and its advantages.

They also explained the growing importance of the "ambodi" plant whose fruit could be used for preparing syrup in bulk and could be sold commercially. The Government of Maharashtra was extending support to the farmers desirous of becoming a member of the scheme.

Our Farm Coordinator and the field staff are paying regular visits to the farmers families and motivating them to adopt organic farming techniques. The farmers are also shown the model farms which are fully organic. Ecumenical Sangam continues to provide them the guidance and support.