

NEWSLETTER

OCT-DEC 2020



Sukarya
USA



Sukarya's vision is to enable local communities – slums and villages believe in their abilities to bring about change by providing them access to primary healthcare, nutrition, and education to live a healthy successful life.

STRIVING FOR A BETTER SOCIETY SINCE 1998

Maternal Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition

The program aims to improve the maternal and child health (MCH) status of mothers and infants, reduce infant mortality rate (IMR) and morbidity among women to improve overall knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) of communities towards Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health and nutrition.



nutrition Intervention: Tackling malnutrition by empowering and educating communities on adequate dietary habits and nutritional practices for pregnant and lactating mothers and children was one of the

main interventions of Sukarya under the MCHN program. 1860 participants attended 62 nutrition classes and cooking demonstrations.

Under the Rural Community, Health Action program (RCHA) and Urban Slum Health Action program in Rajasthan, Delhi, and Haryana 74 health clinics were conducted, 4619 patients were treated and 5,577 people were made aware through 319 health-awareness sessions. The services included health clinics, screenings, diagnosis and treatment, counseling, medicine & supplements disbursements, nutrition supplements, antenatal and postnatal services, referrals, and home visits.

Non-Formal Education

For adolescent girls living in the slums (Gender Equality Program):

Child marriage, early and repeated motherhood, lack of education, ill-health, gender-based violence, discrimination, and even trafficking form a complex cause-and-effect web that entraps many girls. They face infant, child, and maternal mortality rates, early marriages, child marriages, discontinuation of education, and greater risk of an inter-generational cycle of poverty – all of which further marginalizes them.

Access to knowledge and information on adolescent reproductive and sexual health and gender education is largely non-existent. In urban slums and rural villages, the situation is worse since most families live in vulnerable and resource-strapped conditions.

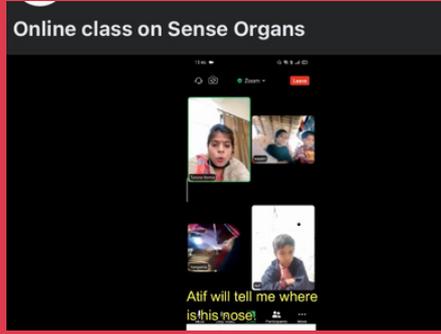


During the last quarter, the program enrolled 400 adolescent girls in 8 slum locations in Delhi and conducted 16 training sessions. Sukarya team selected two "Lead Girls" from each site to act as resource/change agents to ensure long-term sustainability. The program also conducted eight orientation sessions for the parents, one for each slum locations.

The program included systematic training, mentoring, and input sessions to enhance their knowledge, understanding, and perspectives. This program is aimed at underprivileged girls residing around slum locations with inadequate means and livelihood.

Non-Formal Education For children living in the slums:

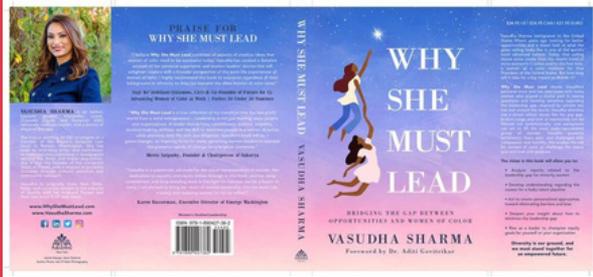
This program brings a classroom with a customized curriculum to the slums making the learning process exciting, novel and convenient. The well-equipped bus moves with trained teachers to different slum communities.



COVID-19 forced the entire education system to shift to a virtual model. Online classes were conducted for the students of the Education on Wheels program. The children celebrated the 22nd Foundation Day of Sukarya on October 12, 2020. In addition to providing non-formal education to these children, the EOW program also takes care of their food and nutrition by providing nutritious breakfast daily with the support from Herbalife Nutrition Foundation (US).

The Covid 19 lockdown and loss of livelihood amidst social distancing rules have disproportionately affected our slum communities and interrupted all our programs. Since September 2020, we have slowly picked up implementing the programs. Thanks to our amazing team of staff and volunteers.

Honor Roll



Meera Satpathy, the founder & chairperson of Sukarya, was featured as one of the women leaders in the recently published book "Why She Must Lead." "Meera's relentless leadership and collaborative approach in championing the cause of underprivileged women, children, and adolescent girls impressed me the most as it syncs with the essence of my book," says Vasudha Sharma, the U.S.-based author of the book. "Due to her persistence, today Sukarya isn't merely a developmental organization focusing on health, but an empowerment organization that raises awareness to a new height for the young children and adolescent girls living in the slums," she added. Meera and Sukarya were recognized by the US Congressman Adam Smith on its 22nd Foundation Day in the USA.