

AAG ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

AAG AT A GLANCE

AIDS Awareness Group (AAG) is a voluntary organisation (NGO), which was registered in 1994 under the Societies Registration Act (1860). Our registration Number is **S-25682 / 94**. We are registered **u/s 12 of the Income Tax Act and have exemption under Section 80 G of the Act** since May 1995 for all donations received by AAG. We are also registered under **FCRA vide Registration No. 231650972 in 1999**, to cover foreign contributions.

Our “**Mission**” is to contribute towards minimising human suffering in the fields of health, and HIV / AIDS.

Our main **thought / effort** behind our Goals is to fulfil our mission of contributing towards minimising human suffering, especially where health is concerned. To achieve this, we endeavour to pay more attention to health facilities and awareness for the more vulnerable population. We concentrate mainly on HIV/AIDS & STIs awareness programmes so that this epidemic can be controlled and the incidence of HIV infections is minimised. We pay special attention to the Syndromic treatment of STIs because it is not always possible to take the clients for laboratory tests. If a person is infected with STIs, he / she is at greater risk of getting infected with HIV.

We endeavour to:-

1. Enhance HIV / AIDS awareness in the general population with special attention on vulnerable groups like sex workers, their prospective clients, and slum dwellers, inmates of jail, migrant labourers and drug users.
2. Run a therapeutic community based rehabilitation programme for juvenile prisoners in Tihar Jail.
3. Provide free legal aid and legal literacy to the underprivileged prisoners in the jail.
4. Provide pre-test / post test and follow up and ongoing counselling for HIV+ve prisoners inside Tihar Jail.
5. Implement a programme on Health and behaviour changes, towards safer sex practices, and provide Syndromic treatment of STIs for sex workers and their clients on GB Road (a red light area).
6. Run an integrated community health and development programme in a resettlement colony at Madan Pur Khader, with special emphasis on HIV / AIDS awareness and home based care and support.
7. Provide Care and Support to HIV + persons coming for help to our Drop-In-Centre at GB Road and Madan Pur Khader,

Our Project areas are:-

1. The Jails at Tihar
2. The Red Light area on GB Road
3. In Central Delhi primarily but not exclusively with Nepali Migrants
4. In the resettlement (JJ) colony at Madan Pur Khader

1. Tihar Jail

AAG has three HIV / AIDS related programmes and two legal aid related programmes in Tihar Jails:-

- a) Enhancing AIDS awareness in all the jails in Tihar and regular ongoing counselling for HIV + prisoners in CJ III and CJ IV.
- b) Meeting and carrying out random counselling of HIV + prisoners in all the other jails,
- c) De-addiction and rehabilitation programmes for adolescent drug abusers with the aim of weaning them away from IV and other drug abuse.
- d) Free Legal Aid in two Jails CJ III and CJ IV.

- e) Legal Literacy in the Wards for new prisoners (called Mulhaiza wards) of almost all the Jails at Tihar.

1057 juvenile addicts underwent our Therapeutic Community based rehabilitation programme for adolescent (aged 18 to 21) drug addicts. Most of the time we carried on this activity with about 70 to 80 addicts distributed in two barracks in two different wards in CJ. V. Most of the drug addicts there are illiterate. Our Educator takes regular daily sessions on Literacy reading, writing and numbers in both the barracks with us, i.e. 8/2 & 5/1. By the time they leave us they write the Alphabet in Hindi & English and can write their names

Therapy Through Theatre (TTT) - In addition to this, we have started another programme – **TTT programme**. In this programme the participants are encouraged to act and express their feelings of Anger, Fear, and depression at being neglected or treated brutally by their family, the police and society. They begin experimenting with expressing their feelings gradually. When they see that there are no repercussions or punishment and that they are in a safe environment they open out and enact scenes from their own life. Our facilitator has been rewarded by statements like, “It does not feel like I am in Jail when you are there,” or, “Your coming is like a bright sunshine in our lives,” and, “You have come after a long time! Why don’t you come daily?!” Our facilitator comes back radiant from these sessions. This programme has been a great success.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF LEGAL HELP PROVIDED BY AIDS AWARENESS GROUP

The Free Legal Aid Provided to the Prisoners in CJ III, and CJ IV.

Particulars	Nos.
No. of prisoners in Jail No.3 and 4 interviewed by AAG Volunteers	9,050 (Approx.)
No. of prisoners interviewed by AAG’s Advocate	1205
Numbers of Acquittals	30
Numbers of Bailed Out	41
Numbers of Bail application filed	84
Numbers of Bail applications pending in HC	85
Numbers of bail granted	92
Numbers of Appeals filed in HC	26
Number of Appeals admitted in HC	07
Numbers released on sentence undergone	24
Convictions	18

Legal Literacy in the Mulhaiza Wards of most of the Jails at Tihar

Over a period of time we felt that it was not enough to cover just two jails. AAG did not have the resources to provide free legal aid in all the jails but we could conduct legal literacy sessions in all the jails. We collected a series of questions asked by the prisoners. Based on these and the need to provide information about the criminal law and the court procedures we decided to print booklets for the prisoners’ benefit.

2. The red Light Area on GB Road: -

- Clinic - Providing Syndromic treatment for STIs and minor ailments, and referrals for major ailments
- Holding HIV/AIDS awareness programmes inside and outside the brothels.
- Pre-test counselling followed by testing for HIV at the clinic and post-test counselling at time of giving the results of the test

- Networking with the Govt. Hospitals, Private institutions & ICT centres for confirmatory tests and other follow up routines.
- Sensitising the local agencies, police officials, NGOs, and stakeholders for creating an enabling environment for the sex workers
- Providing Care and support for PLHAs

Drop in Centre (DIC) at GB Road – We have started a Drop-In-Centre (DIC) since July 2007. At the DICs we treated migrants and sex workers, distributed condoms and carried out voluntary, informed, consensual HIV testing. The women came to the centre for minor ailments and health facilities. They came to collect condoms, medicines and wanted to know about the other facilities at the DIC.

Pre-test Counselling & referrals to VCTC: We had set up a VCTC and HIV testing centre at GB Road in 2007. We carried out 226 HIV tests at the Minto Road DIC and 50 at the GB Road DIC. Of these 8 clients tested positive. We accompanied the positive patients to LNJP hospital for confirmatory tests and for CD 4 count and other tests as prescribed by the Doctors.

PLHAs – We have accessed 43 PLHAs at our project area. Three sex workers who had got their tests done independently from Hospitals came to our DIC very late when they were at an advanced symptomatic stage and were very ill. We took one to a Care Home where she died after 10 days. When she came to us for help her CD4 count was only 5. One was taken to the TB Hospital at Kingsway Camp & one was taken to the TB hospital at Mehrauli. Both died in the Hospitals. We have 8 PLHAs on ART. These were all initially tested at our DICs. Our adherence counselling has been very effective. All 8 are very regular with their ARTs

Pulse Polio Programme – We have carried out a mop up programme with children in the brothels on a monthly basis that is we got hold of those children who were missed out in the regular Pulse Polio programme of the Government. Approximately 1000 children have benefitted from this programme.

3. At Central Delhi – Sathi Nepal Project

(C.P, Gole Market, Paharganj, Shivaji Stadium, Karol Bagh & GB Rd)

Drop in Centre at Minto Road– Initially AAG set it up a Drop in Centre at 11 Mirdard Marg, Minto Road, New Delhi. We invited a large number of prominent people including a congress MLA and key Nepalis from the project areas. We provided a place for entertainment (Nepali TV programmes and films on DVD and chatting with other Nepalis). Films focusing on the dangers of earning money through selling one’s bodies and being at higher risk of getting HIV through unprotected sex were shown i.e. “**Man Ko Awaz**”, “**Raat**”, “**Tike Ko Teen Mantra**”, “**Left Right**” etc. They enjoyed these films and asked questions on HIV, unprotected sex, and shared their experiences.

World AIDS Day & Mass Awareness Events - Various Mass Awareness programme were conducted in the project area. The World AIDS Day, Magic Show, Volleyball Match, Video Shows, street corner meetings were organised. The main focus of these programmes was to disseminate information on HIV/AIDS & STIs. Approximately 20000 people participated. It was a good learning to collect and involve the community through these events.

Cultural programme ‘Nepal Ko Shan & Nepali New Year’ - We organised two events during the project period at Rajendra Bhawan, ITO. Approximately 1500 migrants attended

the shows and participated actively. The Peer educators were very actively involved in mobilizing the community for this programme. Peer Appreciation was also done in these programmes. We held a small quiz for the peer animators to gauge their knowledge of HIV/AIDS. We awarded prizes to the best three.

This programme has helped in reducing stigma and discrimination against PLHAs. The community is now able to discuss issues related to STIs / HIV, and other health issues more openly. The community took an active part in helping to organise the events.

Poster exhibitions - AAG-Sathi-Nepal held two poster exhibitions on Health, HIV, modes of transmission, prevention methods, on GB Road. We also displayed flip charts. Our ORWs held street corner meetings on HIV/AIDS and STIs with the help of these flip charts. Approx. 1000 people participated. The rickshaw pullers, pimps, vendors, visitors, local people and floating population benefited from the programmes.

ACHIVEMENTS OF SATHI NEPAL PROJECT AT CENTRAL DELHI

• Number of Field Animators trained	18
• Number of Trainings with the Field Animators	33
• Number of Migrants accessing the drop in centres	10780
• Small Group Meetings (8-9 migrants)	3442
• Condom Outlets developed	25
• Condoms distributed	467885
• Counselling Services	1094
• Pre test Counselling & referrals to VCTC	396
• No of cases of STI treated	603
• Provision of general health care	4155
• Sensitization meeting with leaders / Stake Holders	30
• Community Events (Nepali New Year, Nepal Ko Shan etc)	4
• Mass Awareness Activities (St. Cor. meetings / St. Plays / Health Camp etc)	1446

4. Integrated Health and Development Programme at Madan Pur Khader

In Madan Pur Khader, we are running an integrated Health & Development Programme with the community. Our work has given us a few insights which have enabled us to produce the statistical data we have reproduced below:

➤ Health & Reproductive Child Health

• Total no. of Patients	3672
• Total no. of ANC patients	788
• Referral to hospitals	108
• Total no. of STIs cases	213
• Total no. of pregnancy kit used	132
• Delivery in govt. Hospitals	45
• No. of children Immunised	1505
• TT injections given	232
• F.S. Kids distributed	5,932

➤ Nutrition Program (Horlicks)

• No. of children who benefited	1683
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• No. of Anaemic/Pregnant Women	425
➤ HIV / AIDS Awareness Sessions	
• No. of Sessions Held	1261
• No. of participants accessed	16,521
• No. of IEC material distributed	7759
• No. of Condoms distributed	43,6318
• No. of condom demonstrations	700
➤ Micro Credit & Micro Finance – Self Help Group (SHG)	
• Total number of groups formed	25
• Total numbers of membership	489
• Total number of Beneficiaries	350
• Total amount collected in the SHGs	4,92,082
• Total money loaned in the groups	2,46,200

Vocational Training Programme

- **Computer Centre** – A total of 62 students enrolled in our Computer Centre this year. Out of these 28 have passed out. Most of the students got jobs. They are earning Rs.6000-8000/- per month to establish themselves. It is not only young boys who show an interest in computers, but children (girls and boys) from classes V & VI upwards who come for learning computer skills.
- **Sewing Centre** – A total of 60 girls benefited by learning stitching & sewing skills in our sewing centre. They got certificates. After the training at our centre some women have started tailoring work from their homes. Some of them are engaged in putting beads on garments given by exporters. As a result of this training in our Centre some women have empowered themselves and have started income generation.
- **Embroidery Classes** - We have recently added Hand Embroidery and Craft classes to our Sewing and Tailoring Training Programme.

Education Programme

- **Admission** – We admitted 270 children in MCD Schools. The MCD School of MPK was not admitting the boys & girls in their School. Our team talked to the Education Officer at Jal Vihar and explained to him about the Madan Pur Khader children. He gave in writing to the management of the MCD School to admit the children in their school. This was a great success for the children.
- **Tuition Centre** – We have recently opened a tuition centre (January 2007) in Madan Pur Khader. We have 42 students in the class. The tuition centre is catering to students of Class I to V. Our main focus is on children who are not being admitted into Schools (either school dropouts or unable to get admissions in any school).
- **Adult Education:** – Most of the women are illiterate in our project area. While opening SHG groups we found that most of the women cannot read & write. Hence we started an adult education class. After six months we conducted an exam to see their progress. We found all the adult women in our class could read and write fairly well.

Bal Divas: –In November 2007 we organised a cultural programme on Bal Divas (Children's Day) at Madan Pur Khader. A large number of children participated. Stalls were put up

displaying samples of the work produced from our Computer and Sewing Centres. The children performed Dances, small Skits, and Songs. They also participated in a Drawing Competition. Prizes were given to children and the participants. Approx. 500 – 600 people from the community participated. The certificates of Computer, Sewing & Adult Education were distributed.

Special Session on HIV/AIDS

Hotel Maurya Sheraton & Metro Tunnel Group - Two HIV/AIDS awareness programmes were conducted in December 2007. One at Maurya Sheraton Hotel for the Hotel front office staff, cooks, stewards and from the house keeping department. The other programme was with the Metro Tunnel Group (MTG) at their site near Laxman Public School. The participants were MTG's Officers, supervisory staff and workers. The Street play group disseminated the information on STIs / HIV/AIDS to them in a very entertaining but informative way. Our staff described the linkages between STIs & HIV. Some of the questions asked by the participants were –

- a) Can infection spread through shaving?
- b) Is a blood donor in danger of infections?
- c) Is HIV spread by mosquito bites? and
- d) About the myths on HIV, Testing, STIs & condom usages.

The artists gave a very good performance on the situation of PLHAs & how the society stigmatises them out of fear and ignorance. Through the St. Corner meeting we answered all these questions for them. We also gave a condom demonstration on the fingers 'how to use it properly'. At the end of the programme condom were distributed along with pamphlets. It was very apparent that sometimes educated people need information of this sort – not only the totally illiterate.

Publications and Reports:

- 1) Booklet on The NDPS Act, Delhi Police Act and Sections 107,149 - 151
- 2) Booklets in Hindi and English on Information on AIDS (Third Edition)
- 3) Booklets in Hindi and English on "Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- 4) Booklet titled "Basic (Legal) Information for under trials" (2nd Edition) Vols. I and II
- 5) Booklet titled "Legal Rights and Options Available to Convicts."
- 6) Is Section 376 IPC being misused? } Research Papers
- 7) Are Dowry Related Laws being Abused? } " "

Future Planning

- AAG is planning to start a Mobile AIDS Awareness Programme in slums, resettlement colonies, urban areas
- We are exploring possibilities of expanding our work outside Delhi in villages.
- We want to set up a Drug De-addiction Centre in South Delhi for juvenile addicts from Jail on their release and also for other addicts from outside.

Our Donors, Supporters and Well Wishers –

1. Individual Donors

- a) Mr. Yogesh Jain,
- b) Mr. & Dr.(Mrs.) Tony Carlier,
- c) Mr. Sorab Modi
- d) Ms Ellena Christie
- e) Mr. S. P. Loonker

- f) Ms Priya Vishwanath
- g) Mr Puneet Nath Kapil
- h) Ms Elizabeth
- i) Mr Siddhartha
- j) Ms Minoti Bahri

2. Our Funding Agencies

- a) Elton John AIDS Foundation,
- b) Standard Chartered Bank
- c) Family Health International / SARDI

3. Supporting Agencies

- a) Charities Aid Foundation,
- b) Family Planning Association of India

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- b) Mr B.K.Gupta IPS, DG (Prisons)
- c) Mr. JV Sunder Singh, Head, Credit Ops } Standard Chartered Bank
- d) Ms. Chandni Lamba } “ “
- e) Ms. Priya Viswanath, CEO CAF
- f) Mr Surya Prakash Loonker,

5. Our Special Thanks for keeping Donation Boxes to

- a) Rainbow Restaurant, opposite IIT, SDA Market
- b) M/S Abrol Sons, Sarojini Nagar Mkt