



NEWSLETTER

Srijan's response towards children during COVID-19

COVID 19 has produced an unprecedented crisis for the whole world, irrespective of region, country, religion, class or age. We already are in the fourth phase of the lockdown with imposed conditions in Jharkhand.

Moreover, the pandemic is said to have overwhelming aftermath for the children. With school closed - children are out of school, deprived of daily routines, are forced to stay back home, are restricted to go out and play etc. Additionally with many parents losing their jobs and income and oblivious of when the situation is going to get back to normal again, is leading to increasing levels of stress and anxiety among them. These situations at home becomes more vulnerable and are at greater risk of experiencing violence and exploitation such child labour, sexual exploitation, child marriage, trafficking etc. because of the increased economic insecurity and food deficit within families. This is especially true for children without parental care and living under the supervision of their caretaker who generally are their closest kins or distant relatives.



During these follow up sessions, some of the significant effects of the lockdown were:

- Boredom. The children missed going to schools and communicating with their friends. They felt that they are missing out a larger part of their lives and also wanted the schools to resume as soon as possible.
- Out of school for prolonged time of period meant that they already lost their interest of studying. To keep themselves busy the boys have been over indulging themselves in activity such as mobile phone, excessive playing and roaming with boys older to them etc. whereas the girls have been over burdened with household activity.
- Apart from the regular follow up and communication with our team members, these children do not have many alternatives to channelize their emotions, anxiety and stress.
- Children particularly girls are at high risk of violence and abuse within and outside their houses.

RESPONSE & REACH

To counter the crisis situation the government, has come out with a number of guidelines, schemes and services to prevent and support the marginalised people but the magnitude of the problems related to the pandemic seems to be never ceasing. Many of the marginalised people are not reached by the state programme and left to fend for themselves. Therefore, Srijan Foundation through these following initiative have been able to reach the unreached and helped them to survive in this crisis situation.



Srijan Foundation in this dire situation supported services such as dry ration support to 163 CNCP children & 21 physically challenged and Safety hygiene kit to 154 Adolescent Girls directly through the Alternative Forms of Child Care Programme and Promotion of Child Rights and Protection Programme in Hazaribag & Ramgarh districts.

Some of the activities undertaken were:

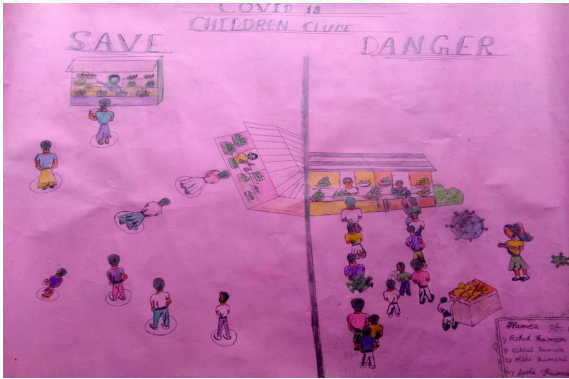


Distributing dry ration to 163 CNCP children and 21 physically challenged and their families comprising rice 10kgs, pulses 1kg, salt 1kg, mustard oil 1lit, Jaggery, Bengal gram 500gm, turmeric powder 1 pkt.

Safety and hygiene kit to 154 Adolescent girls comprising 4 pcs Dettol/Lifebuoy Soap, 1 pkt Sanitary napkin, 4 pcs masks, 1 bottle handwash/ liquid dettol.



RESPONSE & REACH



Counselling Support to 78 CNCP children on regular basis to de-stress them from anxiety. Activities such as writing a letter to self about their emotions during lockdown, drawing images on social distancing and COVID-19 were taken.

Creating awareness on COVID-19 such as 20 seconds hand washing, avoid touching face with hands including mouth, nose, and eyes, prevent hand shake and hugging, covering mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze, social distancing, washing vegetables, informing concerned personnel in case of fever, cold etc. and different running government schemes for the COVID-19 relief.

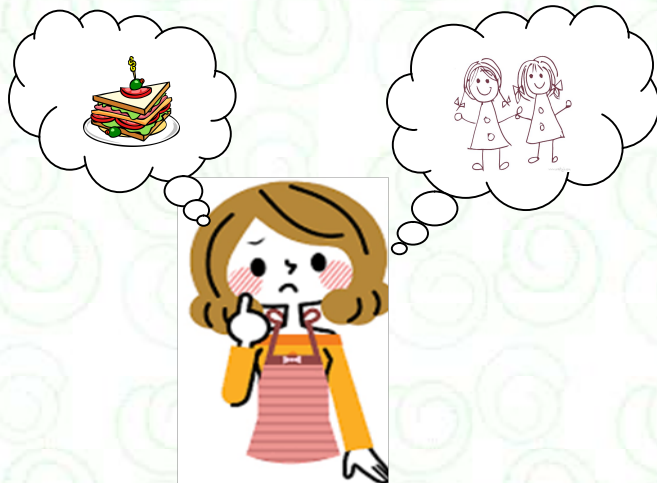


Linked 381 vulnerable families with **government schemes** for cooked food and dry ration provision such Didi kitchen, Mukhiya Rahat Kosh and PDS.

Experience during COVID-19

“Due to this Lockdown, I no more have my freedom to go out and play football.”

-Laxman Marandi, 16, Jorakaram

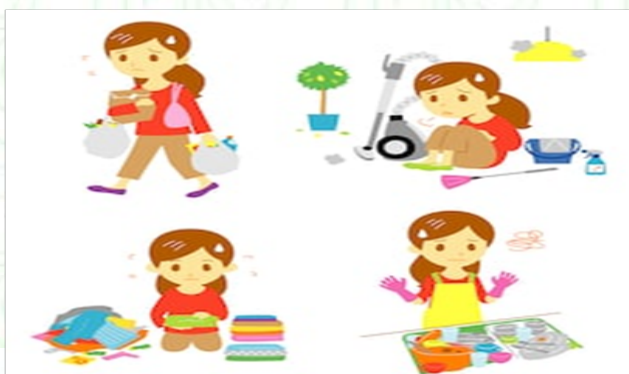


“I’m thinking when this lockdown is going to end I can go see all my friends around in school. I want to go for outing which I cannot, now, due to this lockdown. If this pandemic would not happen, I would have gone for picnic.”

-Anjali Kumari, 14, Tillaiya

“I’ve appeared class X exam this year and since, my results are not out yet due to this lockdown, I am not being able to understand what to study next... I can’t even go outside and play because people like Mukhya and Sarpanch of our villages have strictly instructed every children to maintain social distancing and not to gather and play”

-Rahul Kumar, 16, Nawadih



“Since the lockdown period have started, I feel that I’ve got more work-load at home now. If I don’t do what I’m instructed to, my grandfather often gets annoyed with that.”

- Juli Kumari, 17, Ratwe

The support provided during COVID relief has been an initiative to help families thrive and survive despite their loss of livelihood. We would like to thank SKN, Netherlands for their support and our warriors who have put in tremendous effort to help sustain vulnerable families and children during this crisis situation.

OUR WARRIORS

