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Information Update

November 2012

Psychosocial Forum



During the session



The psychosocial Forum (PSF) facilitated by the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies was conducted chaired by Ms. Chrishara Paranawithana (Clinical Psychologist) Psychosocial Consultant (CHA) and Mr. Sajeewa Samaranyake, Consultant to

Ministry of Justice.

(A briefing to the PSF can be viewed in CHA website: http://www.econsortium.info/cha/non_profit_services_for_networking_facilitation.htm). At present, the Forum concentrates on specific theme based discussions with a view to improving service delivery of psychosocial services and strengthen effective networking amongst the organizations involved in psychosocial work in the country.

The Psychosocial Forum specifically focused on collectively discussing the available services for children and looking into aspects of psychosocial service delivery geared for addressing child abuse in the country. The agenda consisted of the following sessions:

- ✦ Presentation on the Draft Judicial protection Bill for Children by Senior Assistant Secretary (Legal) to the Justice Ministry
- ✦ Members and participating organizations discussing key psychosocial interventions provided for children
- ✦ Presentation on "How can psycho social services be made uniformly available to victims of child abuse?" (Presented and facilitated by Mr. Sajeewa Samaranyake, Consultant to Ministry of Justice).

The Forum particularly facilitated discussions on a way forward to address gaps within the systems in addressing child abuse and discussed formulation of a Working Group consisting representative from Government Departments, Academia, I/NGOs and any other actors in the field. The Working Group is intended to be facilitated by the Psychosocial Forum (CHA). Similarly, matters concerning child rehabilitation and the role of particularly the Clinical Psychologists and counselors in dealing with short-term and long-term psychological rehabilitation for victims for child abuse too were discussed at length. The meeting also emphasized the importance of the role of psychologists, and setting up mechanisms to integrate this cadre into the existing service delivery systems.

A Working Group formed as a follow up to the meeting will review the Draft Judicial Children Protection Bill and particularly support to formulate a protocol for procedures and practices in case management. An effort would also be made to share information and disseminate research done in the country focusing children related issues.

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Psychosocial Forum ... (Continued from page 1)

The meeting was attended by members representing various bodies, such as the representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Services, National Child Protection Authority, and academics from Sri Lankan Universities, medical professionals representing Colleges of medical professional bodies, representatives from the UN organizations, I /NGOs and journalists from the media institutions.

(Proceedings of the meeting can be viewed at CHA Website: http://www.econsortium.info/cha/non_profit_services_for_networking_facilitation.htm in the near future).

CHA Provides Psychosocial Support and specialized psychological services for people living with HIV/AIDS

The CHA initiated a program to strengthen the psychosocial support system of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) and their caregivers. This is done in promoting a specific objective of a special project planned by the CHA i.e. the 'Lifeline' Project. The 'Lifeline' Programme aims at the provision of services to support aging, health for men over 50, health for women over 40, mentally and physically challenging afflictions, coping, mitigating, addressing issues related to abuse and use of substances, issues related children including-phobias, anxiety, stress, obsessions, separation, divorces, step parents, managing finances for teens, HIV positive persons and sex workers.

The program to support PLHIV initiated in the month of November, under the Psychosocial Unit of the CHA. Specialized services are provided by interning Clinical Psychologists at the CHA, under the guidance of the Psychosocial Consultant to the CHA's psychosocial programme. Since its commencement, the project has worked with HIV positive persons. The main problems identified were financial worries due to a loss of job opportunities and psychological issues such as depression and anxiety that have resulted from their diagnosis.

The referrals are channeled through identified number of CBOs (such as the Lanka Plus Organization) which intends forming MoUs with the CHA. At present, concentration is also placed on building collaborations with the government departments and other non-governmental organizations

dealing with PLHIVs. The CHA is open to form collaborations with any interested party to strengthen support mechanism for this marginalized community. For further information contact: **PSF Coordinator- CHA on psfcoord@cha.lk**
Tel: 4626100 ext: 119 PS Officer on psofficer@cha.lk

Workshop on "Caregivers Approach to people living with Aids"



During the session

A workshop on the theme of "A caregiver's approach to a person living with aids" was held on the 23rd of November 2012 at the CHA meeting room. The resource person for this workshop, Mr. Suresh Madusanka, a member of the Lanka plus Association, educated the participants about the great degree of stigma people living with aids are subjected to face and specifically discussed caregivers approach to people living with HIV.

The audience comprised of members representing various organizations working with those living with HIV, counselors, staff members from schools, and members representing government bodies. The audience was very much interactive, and they constantly came up with a number of suggestions which would help to alleviate the standards of people living with HIV.

Amongst these suggestions were organizing a motivational workshop for people living with HIV, and raising awareness amongst our countrymen – and through it, to gradually remove the stigma associating with HIV and AIDS.

District Highlights

Jaffna



Mobile Medical Clinic

The following benefited during the month. Kaddaikadu (296 Nos), Mamunai (262 Nos.) Uduthurai (398 Nos.) Allaipiddy (339 Nos) and Kervil (160

Nos.)

Meeting With Community Based Organization

CHA organized a meeting with CBO's at CHA, Office,. CBO's participated the meeting . Meeting chaired by District Officer and Co-ordinator Mr.G.Barthipan.



Drivers Safety Training in Jaffna



A workshop on Drivers Safety Training was held on 2nd November 2012 at Jaffna. Participants were from ASB, Care International,

Oxfam (Australia) Swish Labour Assistance (SAH), ZOA and ORHAN.

Co-Ordination Meeting

Co-Ordination Meeting held on focused on geography and environment . A guest lecture & presentation on Environment



factors effect in geography was followed by an open discussion in this forum attended by, NGOs, CBOs Consultancy firms and other individuals.

The Forum was chaired by District officer Mr. T. Sanmunaathan . Resource person Mr.T.Rajeswaran, Head of Department of Geography, University of Jaffna delivered his presentation on geography and environment

Psychosocial Programme

The Mercy Malaysia conducted a psychosocial workshop at "Shanthiham" at Jaffna for 30 Participants (Volunteers of Mercy Malaysia Team) .



The Resource Persons of the workshop was Mr.Raveendran, psychosocial specialist at RDHS, Jaffna and Mr. Armaithurai, Clinical Phychologist Trainee & Counsellor for D.S Office, Jaffna.

Free Legal services

18 persons were provided Free Legal advice and assistances

Matara



Reading circle Programme

CHA resource center is being used during the week by 25 students near Matara. Majority represent the

Muslims. As the parents of these students do not have ability to help their children for Sinhala subjects they highly appreciate this programme. 25 school children undertake home work, improve their reading skills and IT knowledge.

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Awareness programme - Health hazards affected with cooking

An awareness programme conducted for womens group on health hazards affected with cooking using firewood in a traditional kitchen and aware on economically important energy saving low cost cooking stove introduced to a community group in Mulatiyana. About 18-20 women benefited from this programme. This is a very good alternate where the people have to pay more money firewood.



Decorative Candle making programme

Decorative Candle making programme was conducted on using dehydrated fresh

flowers at Gandarawaththa. 10-15 women participated in this program.

Community protection Network Meeting

CPN meeting and committee meeting was conducted with the participation of 10 CBOs in Matara District.

Hambantota



Awareness program on Kitchen waste management for rural women

With the objective to aware & improve

about kitchen waste management for women, CHA organized half day awareness session for 15 women representing 15 homes at Ridiyagama village. Under this event, CHA selected women leaders who expect to start home gardening by using home waste things. Under this program, participants arranged one small model home garden with some plants according to above method. As an initial step, CHA donated some seeds & plants for women to start this program in collaboration with supporting organizations & individual sponsors. Technical instructions were given by senior students of Agriculture department of University of Ruhuna



Rural Youth Empowerment & Employment

With the objective to provide Career Guidance knowledge for youth community

leaders in Ambalantota Divisional secretariat division, CHA & DFCD organization jointly organized a one day carrier guidance program for 30 selected youth community leaders at Ambalantota . During the session, we discussed & reviewed how to approach for future plans & targets which youth expect such as to obtain a job, start a own business, to involve in cultivation and to live as a respectable person in the society and how to identify own skills and talents . CHA arranged to refer these youth to Job fair which is to be held at the Ambalantota DS office .

Knowledge Management English Resource center



With the objective to enhance literacy status of school students & provide knowledge, CHA implemented awareness program for school students of H / Therapuththa National School. Resource person promoted Resource centre facilities and provided English medium publications to utilize for students .

Mannar

Mannar District Forum

November Mannar District Forum was held with 20 members from government Organizations & NGOs . Mr. A. Selvaraj, the cultural officer delivered the guest speech on "The economical promotion for women headed families".

Workshop on Mitigating conflicts in Workplace.



Workshop participants



During the session



Conflicts in workplace will cost money, time, health, focus and people for any organization. CHA through a needs assessment identified the need for capacitation the human resources to mitigate conflict in workplace in order to effectively utilize the organizations resources.

Based on this need assessment a workshop on mitigating conflicts was held. Representatives from Mine Action Group (MAG), Danish Demining Group (DDG), United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and National Peace Council of Sri Lanka (NPCSL) participated at this workshop.

Participant's views

- ✎ *This was a perfect training and helped me to face day to day problems in life. Specially helps me to analysis the problem before taking decision. - Priya Ganeshan-UMCOR*
- ✎ *Very useful and successful. Help me to develop skills in problem solving and to create good working environment. It will also help in family relationship. Roshani Samaraweera-DDG*

Workshop for Diakonia partners on 'Introduction to Sphere'



During the session



CHA facilitated a 3 days workshop on Introduction to Sphere for Diakonia partners. Partners from across the participated at this workshop. This workshop enabled participants to understand their commitment as a humanitarian worker and importance of

Adhering to Sphere standard in humanitarian responses.

HEAD OFFICE EVENTS

Date	Subject
01/11/2012	PSF Workshop
02/11/2012	PSF Meeting
02/11/2012	PSF Clinic
05/11/2012	PSF Clinic
06/11/2012	Traning on Sphere
07/11/2012	Traning on Sphere
08/11/2012	PSF Clinic
08/11/2012	PSF Meeting
09/11/2012	Psf Meeting with Interns
09/11/2012	PSF Clinic
12/11/2012	Mercy Malasiya Meeting
15/11/2012	Alizimes Meeting (Mr.Chandra kumar)
19/11/2012	PSF Clinic
19/11/2012	PSF Clinic
21/11/2012	PSF Clinic
21/11/2012	PSF Clinic
22/11/2012	PSF Counseling Clinic
23/11/2012	PSF Workshop
28/11/2012	Mitigating conflicts in Workplace. Workshop
29/11/2012	Mitigating conflicts in Workplace. Workshop
30/11/2012	PSF Forum

DISTRICTS EVENTS

Date	Veneue	Subject
01/11/2012	Div.Secy's office, Nallur District, Jaffna	District Secretariat Co-ordination meeting
02.11.2012	Jaffna CHA Office	Workshop on Safety Training at CHA
11/01/12	Ambalantota Therapuththa National school, Hambantota	School engage Online program from Austarlia
14/11/12	Hambantota GA office	Hambantota distict Children homes issues
15/11/12	Hambantota Zonal Education Office	To get statistical information
16/11/12	Hambantota Children Club	Folow up & Monitoring children Club
19/11/2012	Ambalantota Threesinghe ceremony hall	Sponsors for proposed Scholerships program
21/11/2012	CHA Office ,Hambantota	Environment & Youth program
26/11/2012	Hambantota Women Development Federation (WDF)	Hambantota distict Children Issues & Advocacy
28/11/2012	Ambalantota DS Office ,Hambantota	Job fair for Hambantota district un employeed youth
05/11./2012	Div.Secy's office, Uduvil. Jaffna	The Co-ordination committee meeting
30/11/2012	Concord Grand Hotel, Colombo	Meeting & Wokshop on Children Rights Advocacy National Network & review
18 & 19/11/.2012	"Shanthiham" ,Jaffna	A psychosocial workshop programme
14/11/2012	Maruthankerny, Kervil & Allaipiddy.	Mobile Medical Centre
19/11/2012	Jaffna CHA office	meeting with Community based Organizations

New Acquisitions – November 2012

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND PUBLICATION SERVICES



The Right to Adequate Housing in the Vanni: Questions of Relevant Policy?

Published by Law & Society Trust The paper concludes with several recommendations in regard to the formulation of an appropriate housing restitution policy for the Vanni specially but also areas affected by conflict in Sri Lanka.



Sri Lanka National Human Development Report 2012 - Bridging Regional Disparities for Human Development
Published by UNDP

The Report captures the regional imbalances in Sri Lanka's development and puts forth a set of policy recommendations to help overcome these, enabling Sri Lanka's people to contribute to and participate in its overall socio-economic progress. It identifies factors driving inequalities and proposes an agenda for action to bridge disparities.



Human Development Report 2011

Published by UNDP The report focuses on the challenge of sustainable and equitable progress, and shows how environmental degradation intensifies inequality through adverse impacts on disadvantaged people and how inequalities and human development amplify environmental degradation.



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