

CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND SOIAL JUSTICE

Annual Report

2019–2020

NEW-DELHI I INDIA



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# **Overview**

I take great pleasure in putting the sixteenth Annual Report in your hands. This was a particularly important year for Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ). We completed fifteen years since CHSJ set up in 2005 by a group of experienced development professionals. This year marked the marked the culmination of a three-year preparation for the next phase of CHSJ's work which is planned through decentralised leadership and action. CHSJ was started with the overall objective 'to promote social justice with specific reference to the field of health, human development, gender equality, human rights.

In the last fifteen years CHSJ has supported community driven development processes, linking them closely with policy processes at the state and national level. CHSJ has also been strengthening, research and knowledge production by fostering linkages between practice and research and the local with the global. The work of CHSJ has now spread across ten states and over multiple themes.

Over the last three years there were many preparations to move into the next phase of decentralised leadership action. This year marked the final stage in this preparation for decentralisation and there were many meetings and workshops to develop unit levels goals as well as common collective processes.

CHSJ has always been part of global South to South learning processes and strengthening learning relations between practitioners and academics. This year saw CHSJ hosting the Global Symposium of Citizenship, Governance and Accountability on Health in New Delhi. The Symposium brought together more than 500 people from 40 countries to discuss ways in which citizens could become active agents in the way health programming is designed, implemented, and monitored across the world.

As this year closed the Covid-19 pandemic engulfed the world and a country-wide lockdown was announced in the last ten days of March 2020. The CHSJ leadership team geared up to address this emergency testing their new operational mechanism as autonomous units. The pandemic promises to change many things in the world, and we hope that the different units of CHSJ will be able to continue their work supporting people rebuild their lives.

This year also marks the completion of my tenure as Director of CHSJ and I would personally like to thank all the Trustees, Team, Advisors and Partners of CHSJ for the unstinting support that I have received from each one of them over the years. I hope to be able to share in the growth and achievements of the organisation as a member of the Board of Trustees.

#### Acknowledgement

We remain indebted as always to the many thousands of leaders in the community who have been providing hope and direction to their communities to overcome the everyday challenges in their lives. Our partners continue to be our biggest source of inspiration and support without whom much of our work could not be completed. We have sharpened our skills and our insights from the advice many advisors based in India and abroad and for which we remain indebted. We are grateful to our funders who have believed in the value of the work that we do. Without your trust and support our work would be incomplete and our goals would not have been achieved. Thank you all!

# Report of Activities

The Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ) is a non-profit organisation registered as a Charitable Trust. It was founded in 2005 and has its headquarters in New Delhi and field interventions in more than 10 states of India. CHSJ works for the health, well-being, and dignity of all, especially the marginalised and socially excluded communities.

The following is a brief report of the work of CHSJ during the year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.





# Ek Saath Campaign: Building a National Network of Male Youth Leaders for Gender Equality

Ek Saath, a national campaign on gender equality comprises of a network of 10,000 trained Samanta Saathis (SS) in communities in over 70 districts in the seven states of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Jharkhand. These Samanta Saathis are now actively taking leadership for gender equality in their family and community and through the year they undertook hundreds of actions and issuebased campaigns in their communities.

Each Samanta Saathi is part of the Ek Saath digital platform through WhatsApp groups and other social media platforms. They are also linked to the campaign's local partner organisations and these networked groups become a platform for coordinated action on gender and social justice issues in the district and state. The Samanta Saathis regularly interact with each other from their district and with their Mentors who have supported them through the year-long training process. CHSJ has been training these Mentors not only to be trainers but to be role models as well. Mentors are responsible for providing direction and support to a cohort of Samanta Saathis.

## **Collective Action by Samanta Saathis**

The outcome of these intensive, continuous interactions with Samanta Saathis can be seen in the large number of individual changes as well as community level actions being taken by them (See Box "We Can Bring About Change in Society"). In addition, networking with Samanta Saathis in other states has led to some joint campaigns by the men and boys. Hundreds of them for instance came out to protest on the streets after a spate of heinous rapes and murders took place around the country, campaigning under the banner 'Bystander No More'. Building momentum, the Ek Saath campaign allied with women's groups and other rights-based networks to carry out a massive awareness and mobilisation campaign during the 16 Days of Activism Against VAW in November-December. They held rallies, pledges, meetings, signature campaigns, wall writings, film screenings, competitions etc that prompted conversation and action towards men and boys advancing gender equality. Samanta Saathis used the occasion to call out to other men to ender gender based violence, reject stereotyped notions of masculinity and push for changes that encouraged men and boys to become more involved in promoting women and girls' health, nutrition, education, employment opportunities, mobility and decision making.

On International Women's Day on March 8 thousands of Samanta Saathis took a pledge for gender equality and joined in the activities with women's organisations.

Six two-day Samanta Saathi conventions were organised in the states of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand bringing all the Samanta Saathis and Mentors together. These conventions reinforced their commitment towards gender equality. They shared their new learning, and the actions that they had taken in their communities to change gender discriminatory social norms.

# We Can Bring About Change in Society

Samanta Saathi Pawan Goswami, a student in Uddham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, was disturbed to learn that a 13-year old girl in his neighbourhood was to be married. Along with two other Samanta Saathis from his group, he reached out to the girl's parents and counselled them against it. When the parents did not heed them, the young men informed the police and approached the deputy district magistrate, leading to the marriage being averted in the nick of time. Pawan says, "From this incident I realized I have the power to bring about change in society."

Samanta Saathi Amresh Kumar, a farmer in Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, says "Earlier I used to think household work is for women only. Now I know better and our relationship with each other in the family has completely changed ever since we started working together at home. My son now sees me and takes responsibility for household work."

I HAVE THE POWER TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN SOCIETY."

Pawan Goswami (student)
Uddham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand

# Making Swabhiman Programme in NRLM Gender Transformative

ROSHNI Centre of Women Collectives led Social Action of Lady Irwin College and UNICEF reached out to CHSJ for support in integrating 'working with men' within the Swabhiman Project being implemented under the National Rural Livelihood Mission's (NRLM) in Chhattisgarh. The programme, implemented in Bastar district, was to demonstrate how engaging men in the community could be gender transformative and improve women and girls' nutritional and health outcomes envisaged under Swabhimaan. It also included issue of early marriage of girls, early and multiple pregnancies and women's dietary norms and practices impacting their nutrition and health outcomes. CHSJ teams supported the local Swabhimaan team in developing appropriate methodologies and training curricula and built capacity among local functionaries to implement the approach.

## **Countering the Backlash**

Building on its long work of engagement with issues of men and masculinities in relation to gender and development, CHSJ entered into a partnership with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK, in a 6-country project on 'Countering The Backlash, Reclaiming Gender Justice.' This SIDA supported five-year project aims to address the erosion and co-option of gender agendas and create new opportunities for women's movements and rights defenders, to develop relevant local and national strategies. During the year, an inception workshop was organised, and the literature review and policy mapping exercise was initiated.

# Transnational Strategies for Working with Young Men as Change Agents

CHSJ participated in a transnational learning and exchange programme on engaging youth to address Violence Against Women and Girls through the Erasmus+ supported BreaklN youth network's transnational strategic partnership programme. The partner organisations of this joint initiative held learning visits to each other's country level projects to the Netherlands, Sri Lanka, and Spain. This helped to develop knowledge, skills, and tools for cross-regional capacity building of youth workers and support their interventions for the prevention of GBV. Through the network CHSJ engaged in nonformal, inter-generational dialogues to understand the links between culture, religion, and gender as well as representations of masculinities as well as drivers of change in diverse societies spanning Africa, Oceania, Europe, and Asia.

CHSJ helped to build understanding on how masculinity influences gendered social norms through a series of training programmes and workshops for a variety of stakeholders and evaluated communications content and methodologies towards the same. Thirty Community Radio Stations from around the country who are part of the Community Radio Association (CRA) came together for a 3-day workshop in New Delhi in June on 'Positive Masculinities' for a better understanding on gender justice issues in order to inform their programming related to empowerment of adolescents. Another 5-day workshop on building skills and capacity on issues of violence against women and masculinity was organized in June in New Delhi with gender trainers of the New Concept Centre for Development Communication (NCCDC) who are working in programmes across the country. Meetings and discussions were held in Assam and Rajasthan for incorporating gender transformative positive masculinities approaches into programmes with adolescents in the tea gardens in Assam and with teachers in Rajasthan.

While the above work was carried out in collaboration with UNICEF, a 2-day workshop was also organized in Mumbai with Save The Children India's trainers on how to engage with men and boys on GBV.





# **Strengthening Coalitions for Reproductive Health Advocacy**

Over the last two years CHSJ has been coordinating this five-state project with its partners Health Watch Forum- Bihar; Health Watch Forum- Uttar Pradesh; Jharkhand Women's Health Network; Maternal Health Rights Campaign- Madhya Pradesh and Dalit Human Rights Forum- Karnataka. The objective of this project is to strengthen communities to gather data about the state of reproductive health services received by women and use this data to discuss improvements with services providers at multiple levels. The focus of this project is to draw attention to the experiences of particularly marginalised communities like Dalits, minorities, and other excluded social groups like sanitation workers.

This process of Community Based Monitoring (CBM) is being done through a mobile app Swashtha Darpan which has been designed by CHSJ. The whole systematic CBM process and reports cards generated through the Swasthya Darpan has made the advocacy process very impactful. Health authorities have been taking the feedback seriously as it was based on real time data and media has also started raising questions based on CBM findings. Since women and the community have backed up the data with their testimonies so it has given authenticity to the findings and made it a community led process.



During the year data collection and data analysis workshops were organized in every state with two purposes. First, it was to help partners to interpret the data in nuanced way and second was to help build a sense of ownership and to identify the issues of advocacy at the village and district level.

Partners organised a fifteen days long village campaign in all the five states on 28th May on the "International day of action on Women's Health". Village rallies, community meetings, wall writings, street plays were some of the activities which were part of village level campaign. Through these village level campaigns communities were made aware of their entitlements and were mobilised to demand the services from concerned providers. The campaign also gave the community members to understand the gap in the service delivery and to share their experiences of dealing with health system. Public dialogues were also organised at the district level with senior health authorities and managers and the findings of the CBM were shared. Women who had faced difficulties in accessing services shared their testimonies.

Network partners kept the momentum up by sharing the CBM findings with the media highlighting issues related to health services gaps and underlying issues of discrimination and marginalization. On International Human Rights Day on the 10th December, all the state networks and their downstream partners held state level conferences and shared the experiences of marginalised communities in accessing health care services.

Another health issue that was highlighted by the state level networks related to the quality of family planning or sterilization camps that are held every year during the winter months. As a result of civil society petitions the Supreme Court has issued strict guidelines related to the organising of such sterilisation camps and the network partners shared these with the media and encouraged them to monitor compliance. Stories of how sterilisation camps were being conducted without attention to such quality standards were shared with the media. The community leaders also shared their own local experiences. Due to the pressure created through community and media, situation improved to some extent and the compliance to some guidelines improved. These related to number of cases per camp and provision for standby ambulance but treating women without ensuring their dignity is something that needs to be addressed urgently.

At the community level, community members have started raising voice against informal payments by ANMs or hospital staff and this practice has stopped in some places. Medicines list have started being displayed and updated regularly in health facilities. The entire advocacy process has given state level networks and their member organisations a new recognition in the eyes of health authorities. State network members are being invited to meetings of District Health committees in several states where they shared ground realities. In UP, based on this feedback in one district the authorities purchased new weighing machines and curtains/screens for use in all Village Health and Nutrition Day (VHNDs) in the district. This is an important step towards strengthening VHND services and ensuring privacy for women for their ANC check-up.

# 'Swasthya Darpan'

The 'Swasthya Darpan' mobile app has added value to the whole process of community-based monitoring and advocacy. It not only provides real time data but also generates instant report cards which boost the whole advocacy process. In today's tech dependent environment, it attracted the attention of health authorities and program managers and they could not deny the facts. In MP, MHRC members were specially called by the district commissioner to present the report cards in district program review meetings. It has also helped in building confidence in community that situation of health services can be changed through evidence-based dialogue with the authorities when they saw actions being taken by the concerning authorities.

The 'Swasthya Darpan' app was nominated as one of the five finalists from 216 applicants by the Digital Empowerment Foundation under the Category: Inclusion & Empowerment Diversity. The experience of using the app was shared by the partners during a Satellite session during COPASAH Global Symposium held in October 2020. State network partners gained confidence and energy as their work was appreciated by the global audience.

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INCLUSION & EMPOWERMENT DIVERSITY. "



# **Exploring New Partnerships**

We were approached by the National Single Women's Forum Ekal Nari Shakti Sangathan for helping them in identifying how work on fulfilling health rights of single women across the country could be taken forward. In-depth discussions were held with the state chapter in Himachal Pradesh and the outlines of a possible collaboration were discussed. Similarly, Action India – a Delhi based feminist organization invited us for technical assistance in exploring reproductive health and health governance in urban setting. We look forward to taking these partnerships forward in the following year.

In a sudden development the year ended with a nationwide lockdown because of the COVID 19 pandemic. From feedback received from partners we learnt that the lockdown resulted in the suspending all the routine health programs and services. As a response to this lockdown we started to discuss ways to address the new challenge and ensure women especially those in late pregnancy could access the necessary services related to childbirth.

# **Enhancing Dalit Community's Access to Health Services: South India Initiative**

CHSJ has been working with Dalit Human Rights Forum Karnataka and other grass roots organisations of the state identifying and resolving barriers that impede Dalit women's access to maternal health services in Karnataka. The focus has on women manual scavengers, women agricultural labourers and Devadasi women. During the year face to face meeting were held with 500 Dalit women across five districts, to understand their struggles in accessing ante-natal and post-natal care for childbirth and other reproductive health services. After this exercise, community meetings were held in 60 villages and an interface between communities and authorities was facilitated in 15 Primary Health Centres and the district and block officials



in these five districts. As part of this process village health and nutrition days (VHNDs) were revitalised in 30 villages. Many women got their pending dues from the National Maternity Benefit Fund and additional Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) and General Nurse Midwives (GNMs) were posted in hospitals and Primary Health Centres. The story from Tumkur districts is given below. Similar changes have also been reported from Kolar, Bangalore Rural, Bellary, Koppal and Raichur districts of Karnataka because of this campaign

# Maternal Health Campaign Outcomes in Tumkur District

THAMATE, a partner of CHSJ is a community-based organisation working for the rights of safai karmacharis (recognised sanitation workers) and manual scavengers in the Dalit communities in Tumkur District. During the maternal health campaign, THAMATE focused on the most backward Pavgadha and Madhugiri blocks of the district. The issues that were identified through the CBM included medical care for 32 malnourished children, non-functioning of VHNDs, vacant posts of ANMs and non-payment of maternity benefits. In collaboration with community leaders 'Charter of demands' were drafted drawing on the evidence from the CBM and presented to the authorities. Large public meetings were held at the two block hospitals and press conferences were held to highlight these issues through the media.

#### The outcomes:

- 153 women got cash benefits pending under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) for over one year
- 2870 women in Pavgadha block and 3263 women in Madhugiri block got their pending maternity benefit entitlements (Matruvandana Scheme) amounting to Rs.1.03 Crores and Rs. 1.26 Crores respectively. VHNDs started functioning regularly in 8 villages
- 10 general nurses were appointed in Pavagada taluk general Hospital
- 32 malnourished children got treatment and supplementary nutrition

# **Strengthening Citizenship, Governance and Health Rights**

#### **COPASAH Global Symposium**

CHSJ has been among the founding members and was the Global Secretariat of the COPASAH (Community of Practitioners on Accountability, and Social Action in Health) a global network for several years. This year, as the Secretariat of COPASAH, CHSJ anchored the first Global Symposium on Citizenship, Governance and Accountability in Health, between 15-18 October 2019 in New –Delhi, India. The primary objectives of this symposium were building a focus on bottom up approaches to monitoring and accountability of health services. This included citizen participation and community centric focus and bringing the voices of the most marginalized as active participants and agents of change within the ambit of health systems.

The Symposium was organised around five themes of Community Action, Indigenous and Vulnerable People, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, Private Health Sector and Health Care Workers. Over 500 delegates from over 40 countries representing Latin America, Africa, South Eastern/Central Europe, South and South East Asia participated in the Symposium along with researchers and activists from the Global North countries and International Organisations. The participants included practitioners in health, policy makers, academics, researchers, and other activists on common issues of concern. The 'practitioner-centred' Symposium, focused on sharing and learning of accountability praxis by



practitioners of diverse cultural, linguistic, geo-political and national contexts, primarily from the global south.

As the Secretariat CHSJ was responsible for coordinating the preparatory process as well as hosting of the Symposium. The CHSJ team was supported by the Steering group of COPASAH, the Global and India Organising Committees that included over 100 leading organisations and intellectuals spearheading the community centred accountability processes.

At the conclusion of the Symposium as a part of the process of rotation of the COPASAH Secretariat it was decided that the COPASAH Secretariat would move to Africa Health Budget Network.

Further details of the Symposium can be accessed at - <a href="https://www.copasahglobalsymposium2019.net/">https://www.copasahglobalsymposium2019.net/</a>

## **Knowledge Production**

In collaboration with COPASAH we published two case-studies on the processes of empowerment and realising citizenship of marginalised communities. The case study Reclaiming Dignity, Justice and Wellbeing encapsulates the two-decade long story of social struggle of Jagrutha Mahila Sanghatane (JMS), a Dalit Women's Collective, from Karnataka for demanding social accountability and addressing the challenges of caste-class and patriarchy while carving out their identity and empowerment. The study Paurakarmikas March Towards Dignified Life and Liberation analyses the strategies and pathways historically engaged by THAMATE, a community-based organisation, addressing the systemic issues of manual scavengers for over 15 years.





## **Women Domestic Workers' Rights**

Gender division of labour is a significant manifestation of gender discrimination. There is reluctance in society to recognize women's unpaid work. This extends to domestic workers who are paid caregivers but have little economic or social protection. With increased urbanisation and a rising middle-class the demand for domestic workers is escalating but their rights as workers are yet to be established. Parichiti works with Women Domestic Workers (WDWs) through knowledge and capacity building so that they can negotiate for better work conditions and demand their rights. Women Domestic Workers are organised into groups called Samadhan Dal (Solution Group). This year the membership of Samadhan Dal increased from 480 to 703 and 8 new Samadhan Dal were formed increasing the total number to 16. In addition to resolving workplace issues, these Samadhan Dal also discuss family matters including domestic violence and other gender-based violence and discrimination.

Parichiti and Samadhan Dal organized three camps in association with Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, with an aim to include domestic workers and other informal workers under Samajik Suraksha Yojona of the Government of West Bengal. The camps were attended by 250 people. The Samadhan Dal are also part of other women's networks like Griha Shramik Adhikar Abhijaan which is a state level platform to establish rights of women domestic workers and social movements.

Deepa Sardar (name changed) lives in slum in Bosepukur in South Kolkata. Deepa joined the Samadhan Dal and realised that her employers were not giving her fair wages. She had been employed for six years and had not received a raise. When she was offered a paltry increment of a hundred rupees, she demanded that her salary be increased by six hundred rupees, including the increment that she had not received for these six years. Deepa also told her employers that if she were not given her raise, she would stop working for them after Durga Puja. Deepa was successful not only in getting her salary raised as she had asked for but was also given a Puja bonus.

Deepa also changed the way she responded at home. Deepa's husband was an alcoholic and publicly abused and threatened violence if she did not serve him food or immediately comply with his demands. Deepa shared her problems at Samadhan Dal meetings, and she realised that she needed to take a stand and refuse to be abused. One day when she was washing clothes at a public tap her husband shouted at her and demanded that she serve him his meal immediately. She firmly told him that she was busy and would do so after finishing her work. She also told him that there was food for him at home and he could help himself to it. Since that day Deepa never gave in to such demands from her husband.

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## **Addressing Violence Against Women**

Parichiti also provides support to individual women facing violence or other injustice. This year 10 women approached Parichiti for support. Among them 4 cases were resolved amicably, and legal assistance is being facilitated for six women.

In addition to supporting women survivors of violence Parichiti is also Working with Men for Gender Equality for four years. It works with men in 20 locations across Kolkata and South 24 Parganas. In these 20 low income communities there are men's group with 10-12 members, who meet, discuss, and debate male privilege, gender discrimination and gender-based marginalization and oppression. The members of those men's groups actively take part in the different campaigns and activities to stop gender based violence, stop early and forced marriages, encourage higher education for girls, prevent sexual violence, identify and address domestic violence and others. These men's groups have close contact with the women's groups (Samadhan Dal) in the area through which joint actions are taken against discrimination and injustice.

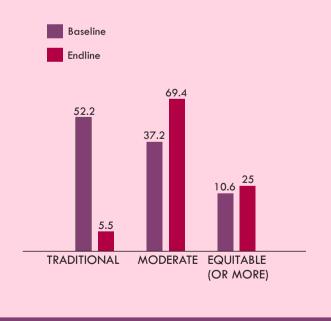
This year a three-year project engaging men on gender issues which was being implemented in partnership with SAHAYOG Lucknow and supported through the UN Women Trust Fund was evaluated. A comparison of baseline and end line findings showed several changes which are highlighted below. As a result of this initiative men's participation in housework has increased as has the reporting of incidents of domestic violence in those areas.

Raju (name changed) lives with his wife and his 3 children in Chakberia, South 24 Pgs. He drives a rickshaw van and his wife is a homemaker. Their elder son is married and lives elsewhere. Their younger son is 7 years old and they have two daughters aged 13 years and 2 years.

Raju never did any housework earlier. "I came to know about men's work and women's work in a meeting. There I found out that women never enjoy leisure and the amount of work done by them is tremendous". Raju reflected that he works only when he is outside home, which is for a limited period, but his wife must work twenty-four hours in a day, seven days a week. She never has a day off.

"I STARTED SUPPORTING MY WIFE BY CUTTING VEGETABLES AND DOING OTHER CHORES, BUT I FOUND COOKING INTERESTING." RAJU SHARED. NOW HE OFTEN COOKS THEIR MEALS AT HOME.

"I HAVE JUST STARTED CHANGING AND EACH DAY I COME TO KNOW ABOUT SOME NEW ASPECT" RAJU SAID.



Parichiti is presently holding the Secretariat of Forum to Engage Men, West Bengal (FEM, WB). FEM, WB includes 15 organizations who believe in engaging men to create a gender equal world. Nine partners of FEM, WB working in 8 different districts are part of the Ek Saath National Campaign organised through the CHSJ headquarters in Delhi. This year 500 men across West Bengal were trained as "Samatar Sathi" (Friend for Equality).

#### Research

Parichiti is also engaged in a research project on Women, Housing and Property Rights with Goldsmiths University of London, Women's Studies Centre, Rabindra Bharati University and School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University. Presentations based on this work were made at several national and International platforms during the year.

# **Kolkata Initiatives: Community Initiatives for Change**

In 2017, CHSJ started Kolkata Initiatives through Parichiti. Kolkata Initiatives (KI) encourages philanthropy to enable the privileged to support the poor. Through Kolkata Initiatives elderly women (above the age of 60) living in different slums of Kolkata and provided psychosocial and health support. The women meet regularly in the Seniors' Centres which are drop in centres (DIC) for them to interact with their peers. This year two new centres were started and a total of 178 senior women attend the six KI centres. They

spend time at the Centre and engage in different activities like Yoga, Singing, Dancing, Chatting, playing board games. They are also given a snack.

Regular health camps and clinics are organized in association with the South Asian Medical Students' Association (SAMSA). KI also links the women who required medical support with the Government health care system. Two cases of cancer were identified through the health camps this year and both of them underwent surgery in National Medical College and Hospital. Referral support for services like BPL cards are also provided to the seniors needing them.

A community level Advisory Committee oversees the work of the Seniors' Centres.

We also run a dojo in Shahid Smriti Colony where adolescent girls and others learn AIKIDO, a Japanese Martial Art. Fourteen adolescent girls are now part of this initiative and we are planning to expand this in other areas.

The entire operational expenses for KI activities are raised through donations and voluntary support from interested individuals. We were able to organise a small grant to energise the fundraising activities during the year. We also ran a fundraising campaign on a crowd funding platform.



Anita Das (name changed) is a member of the KI Centre in Shahid Smriti, a slum off the EM Bypass in South Kolkata. She is 67 years old and lives in with her 75-year-old husband who has a heart disease. They are extremely poor, and their only income is the rent of a small adjoining room. Anita had a tumour in her breast but had not been to a doctor.

During a KI health camp her tumour was detected, and the doctors asked her to get some investigations done. The reports revealed that she had cancer and she was advised surgery. Her tumour was operated upon in National Medical College Hospital, a state hospital and she also had chemotherapy. The entire treatment process was facilitated by Kolkata Initiatives.



# Strategic Communication Support to COPASAH Global Symposium

CHSJ was the host of first COPASAH Global Symposium 2019 and the communication team of CHSJ provided vital and strategic support to this global event. The communication team developed a multi-pronged communication strategy for different phases of the symposium. Outreach activities were started more than six months prior to the event. Different modes of outreach were designed and implemented through various online platforms to mobilise practitioners from the global south, as well as academia, researchers, and donors. To build momentum and to make the preparation participatory, a series of online accountability dialogue were organized on the five symposium themes. Various social media initiatives were taken place to keep the movement going and regularly update the global audience. These included online activities like accountability film and photography contest and poster competition. The communication team also produced materials like symposium brochure, competition brochures, thematic postcards were in house conceptualized and designed and disseminated through various online platforms. The emphasis in the design process was to provide a grounded but global aesthetic.

During symposium all the plenary sessions were live cast through Facebook and videography of other major sessions were handled by volunteers who are trained by CHSJ communication team.

After symposium, the Symposium Secretariat produced and disseminated various knowledge products covering five thematic areas. The communication team supported the production of various materials including session briefs, session videos and a film on the Social Accountability Charter. The knowledge products can be accessed at <a href="https://www.copasahglobalsymposium2019.net">www.copasahglobalsymposium2019.net</a>

# **Communication Support to Campaigns and Other Initiatives**

CHSJ has been building innovating and incorporating the use of ICT enabled methods for improving the effectiveness of its work. Audio dramas were used to do capacity building of youth on gender equality by partners through Ek Saath campaign. CHSJ was invited to provide 2 days technical sessions on community filmmaking to SAHAJ and its network partners in Vadodara on SRHR issues.

The Communication Team developed different communication materials like a set of ten posters and a calendar on the theme "Men are changing for gender equality" in Hindi, English, Bangla and Odiya for the 16 days of activism campaign. These posters were extensively used by Ek Saath campaign partners to mobilise youth in their states.

During the year, the communication team published and disseminated 3 issues of the COPASAH Communiqué and one Hindi newsletter for Maternal Health Rights Campaign (MHRC) network titled 'Swasthya Samvad''. The communication team also documented around 75 stories of change of Samanta Saathis who challenging gender discriminatory social norms from the states of UP, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Uttarakhand.

The Communication team also provided technical and creative communication support to the programme teams in managing various online platforms associated with their work. This included websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram accounts, WhatsApp groups, Mailchimp mailing platform and Online courses. This year the programme teams also started using webinars and online meetings regularly in their work and these were facilitated by the communication team.





# **Research and Learning**

CHSJ's work continues to be a blend of action with research. Over the years we have used research not only to inform the advocacy that we have done in the field of health and gender but to identify the best ways in which community-based interventions can influence social justice. During the year we conducted the following studies. Some of these are ongoing and the reports will be available when completed.

- 1. Reclaiming Dignity, Justice and Wellbeing encapsulates the two-decade long story of social struggle of Jagrutha Mahila Sanghatane (JMS), a Dalit Women's Collective, in demanding social accountability and addressing the challenges of caste-class and patriarchy while carving out their identity and empowerment.
- 2. Paurakarmikas March Towards Dignified Life and Liberation analyses the strategies and pathways historically engaged by THAMATE, a community based organisation, addressing the systemic issues of manual scavengers for over 15 years.
- 3.Developing and implementing Swasthya Darpan An online survey app for community-based monitoring of maternal health services
- 4. Study on beedi workers' experiences with SRH services in Pratapgarh district
- 5. Evaluation of a gender transformative intervention with men to address gender-based violence in UP and West Bengal.

This year also marked the publication of a book based on papers presented during the 2nd MenEngage Global Symposium hosted by CHSJ a few years earlier. The book was published by the prestigious publishers Routledge.

 Kulkarni M and Jain R (2019) "Global Masculinities: Interrogations and Reconstructions" published by Routledge India, 2019.ISBN 9780367200480

We also contributed a chapter on the need and results of working with men for gender equality in a Handbook on Gender Research published by IGI Global an International well-known publisher.

• Das A, Kumar SK, Jain R, Contractor S (2020) Gender Transformative. Change With Men: Lessons From Two Decades of. Field Interventions in India. In. Handbook of Research on New Dimensions of Gender Mainstreaming and Women edited by Kuruvilla, Moly, George, Irene. Publisher: IGI Global.



# **Organisational Matters**

# **Institutional Development – Decentralised Leadership and Action**

The idea of leadership transition has been under discussion in CHSJ for a few years now. Through a process of close deliberation between the Trustees, the senior management team and experts it had been decided that CHSJ would opt for an alternative model leadership transition providing a platform and opportunities for members of the Senior Management team to develop their own work further, either individually or collectively, within the overall social vision and operational framework of CHSJ.

Continuing the process started earlier a series of workshops were organised during the year helping the senior leadership team to develop their own unit teams and envision their work. A staff retreat was organised in Goa to assess the readiness of the entire team. Team wise retreats and meetings were organised by different teams to develop their joint understanding of the future.

To facilitate the overall coordination and operational cohesion the Administrative Team developed a set of Standard Operating Protocols were developed which would be applicable to Units.

Some of our Trustees who had been guiding and governing the organisation from the very inception of the organisation retired during the year. CHSJ also welcomed new Trustees to support the Governance process. The Trustees supported the entire process of decentralisation setting the framework for the future of the organisation.

In future the overall governance will vest with the Board of Trustees and centralised support for programme development, statutory compliance, financial oversight continued capacity building will be provided through a Central Programme Support Unit. The core activities of CHSJ will be implemented through a set of decentralised and autonomous units.

The different units of CHSJ starting April 1, 2020 will be as follows

- MITRA: Men's Initiatives for Transforming Relationships through Action MITRA will take work related to engaging men and boys for gender justice forward. It will be based out of Delhi.
- Seher: A Women's Collective for Better Health and Right Seher will support women's access to services around health and related rights. It will focus primarily on marginalized women, including single and Dalit women. It will be based out of Delhi.
- Parichiti: Making Women Visible Parichiti will continue its work on strengthening women's leadership for equality. Parichiti will continue working from Kolkata.
- People's Forum for Justice and Health People Forum will support social justice networks to strengthen their work on health equity and rights. It will be based out of Bangalore.
- Creative Communication: Communication for Meaningful Social Change Creative Communication will function as a Communication Support Organisation for NGOs, CBOs, Foundations as well as Government agencies in their development related work. It will be based out of Delhi.

# Measures for Gender Equality and Compliance with Sexual Harassment Related Laws

CHSJ has an Internal Committee (IC) constituted under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 to enquire into complaints on sexual harassment in the organization. New members were elected to replace the members who had completed their tenure. Information about the IC members is available on the CHSJ's website. During the year IC had organized orientation sessions for the interns who came to CHSJ. No complaints were received during the year.

During the year, CHSJ has commissioned a Gender Audit by the organisation 'Gender at Work'. This audit was conducted to understand the review the implementation of the recommendations from the 2015 gender audit and to identify challenges and opportunities for further advancing gender equality in the organization. Gender at Work known for work in the field and is part of the Government of India recommended Panel of Institutions/Organisation for imparting training programs/workshop under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013). According to the findings of their report 'Gender at Work' CHSJ as an organisation is more than 'gender aware' and has entered the arena of 'Gender transformative organisation' in many aspects of its functioning

CREATIVE COMMUNICATION

**PARICHITI** 

SEHER

PEOPLE'S FORUM...

#### **Team**

CHSJ Staff as on 31st March 2020

Abhijit Das, Director Aigy Kumar, Finance Manager Badar Uzzama, Programme Officer Deepak Balan, Manager Fund Raising Dheeraj Giri Goswami, Programme Associate Edward Pinto, Research and Advocacy Director Ishu, Office Assistant Jagdish Lal, Programme Officer Mahendra Kumar, Programme Manager Rimihim Jain, Programme Manager Rudrakshina Banerjee, Programme Officer Sambit Kumar Mohanty, Programme Manager Sandhya Gautam, Programme Manager Satish Kumar Singh, Additional Director Shreeti Shakya, Programme Officer Surekha Dhaleta, Programme Officer Tulsi Manimuthu, Admin Associate

#### Staff who left CHSJ during the year

Eashani Malhotra, Research Assistant Mohd. Alam, Driver Sana Qais Contractor, Programme Manager Sushil Kumar Maurya, Finance Associate

#### Interns

Archana Ashok, Arpit Chauhan, Purnima Engtipi, Khodinu Kennao, Lucy C.S, B. Liya Monyu, Prasenjit Ramkrushna Sakhare, Sammi Saifi

#### Consultants

Anchita Ghatak, Anil Routela, Abhishek Pandey, Aasha Ramesh, Ananya Banerjee, Ashok Mandre, Amitabh Sarkar, Athul S G, Banshi Maity, Baishakhi Karan, Chandralekha Sarkar, Debasis Mukharjee, Damodar, Karan Sejwal, K.B. Oblesha, Koyal Verma, Kakuli Deb, Lakshaman Mehta, Mallika Das, Malgi Manjula, Paromita Chowdhury, Pramodh Sarma, Rahima Khatun, Sanchali Sarkar, Sana Contractor, Sathyashree Goswami, Somnath Sarkar, Sourabh Majumdar, Shubhra Sarkar, Surajit Mondal, Usha Choudhary, Alpcord Network Events and Conferences Management Company Pvt.Ltd., Durbar Mahila Samanaway Committee, Innobridge Consulting Pvt. Ltd., Nitrak Eco Enterprises Limited, Srijan Sewa Samiti, Sathiya Welfare Society, Tarun Chetna

#### **Partners:**

Prerana Bharti, Bihar Voluntary Health Association, Sahayog Society for Participatry Rural Development, Gram Sudhar Samiti, Jatan Sansthan, Satyakam Jan Kalyan Samiti, Society for Participatory Action, Research and Knowledge (SPARK), Vimarsh, Institute for Social Development.

## **Partnerships and Collaborations**

The long-term sustainability of CHSJ's initiatives is only possible through relationships, partnerships and alliances. Some key partners of CHSJ are:

Men and Gender Equality – Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Sussex, UK; Breaking the Cycle of GBV, All members of MASVAW (Men's Action for Stopping Violence Against Women), MAE (Men's Actions for Equality) and FEM (Forum to Engage Men) across several states in India.

Women's Health and Rights - National Alliance for Maternal Health and Human Rights (NAMHHR); Health Watch Forum- Bihar; Health Watch Forum- UP; Jharkhand Women's Health Network; Maternal Health Rights Campaign- Madhya Pradesh; Dalit Human Rights Forum- Karnataka, Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, Right to Food (Maternity Entitlements); Action India- Delhi; National forum for Single Women's Rights

South India Initiaitves - Dalit Human Rights Forum (DHRF)— Karnataka; Jagrutha Mahila Sanghatane (JMS) Raichur; THAMATE, Tumkur; Shrama Shakti Construction Workers' Union — Haveri; Neralu Beedi Workers' Union, Davangere; SAKHI Youth Resource Centre, Hosapete (Bellary); Human Institution Development Forum (HIDF), Bangalore; Samatha Trust, Koppal; Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA)

COPASAH – All members of the COPASAH Global Steering Committee and our partners in organising the COPASAH Global Symposium People's Health Movement (PHM), Accountability Research Centre (ARC) – American University (Washington DC), Global Health Justice and Governance Programme of the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (New York), Institute of Development Studies (Sussex) and Azim Premji University (Bengaluru). All members of the Global and Indian Organising Committee of the COPASAH Global Symposium.

Women's Leadership and Rights - Goldsmith's, University of London, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, Women's Studies Centre, Rabindrabharati University, Sahayog, Maitree, a women's network in West Bengal.

## **Advisory Support**

We would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals for their contributions and technical inputs in enhancing CHSJ's work during the year: Abhay Shukla; Adil Ali; Amitabh

ANNEXURE: 2

Behar; Anuradha Joshi; Dhananjay Kakade; Enakshi Ganguly Thukral; Gagan Sethi; Jashodhara Dasgupta; Jonathan Fox; Lynn Freedman; Manak Matiyani; Marta Schaaf; Nasiruddin Haider Khan; Sanjay Srivastava; Sanjeev Sridharan; Santosh Giri; Tejinder Singh Bhogal; Vrinda Grover

#### **Donors**

The following were organisations provided financial support for our work:

Amplify Change, Federacion Centro Rural Joven Vid Juan, Ford Foundation, Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF), Global Fund For Women, Global Giving, Hewlett Foundation, IBP, SAHAYOG Society, Tides Foundation, UNICEF, WaterAid, WHO

**Internal Auditors:** Ravinder Kumar Sharda

**Statutory Auditors:** Subhash Mittal & Associates

#### CHSJ Board of Trustees (as on 31st March 2020)

#### **Abhijit Das**

Managing Trustee and Director, CHSJ, New Delhi and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle (USA)

#### Basavi Kiro

Founder, Torang Trust, Ex-Member, Jharkhand State Commission for Women, General Secretary, Hodopathy Ethno Medicine Doctor's Association of India (HEDAN), and Coordinator, Indigenous Women India Network (I WIN)

#### Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda

Academician, Researcher and Feminist Scholar

#### **Enakshi Ganguly**

Development Consultant and Child rights specialist.

## Ms. Leila Elizabeth Caleb Varkey

Public Health Researcher and Member of White Ribbon Alliance India

## Nasuriddin Haider Khan

Communication Consultant

We would like to thank our Trustee whose term ended during the year.

A. R. Nanda | Renu Khanna | Subhash Mendhapurkar | Suneeta Dhar Usha Rai

## **Statement of Accounts**

25	Schedule		CUBBENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR	ASSETS	Schedule		CURRENT YEAR
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# CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (CHSJ), NEW DELHI CONSOLIDATED RECEIPT AND PAYMENT OF FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION & GENERAL ACCOUNT FOR THE PURIDD 015T APRIL 2019 TO 31ST MARCH 2020

CURRENT YEAR	3,338,361	3,243,758	136,321	1.373.042	54,930		32,163,630	190,392	82,722,524
				392732		19,683,128	12,480,501	124,469 65,923	
PAYMENT	GRANTS UTHIZATION: Indian Foreign	CHSJ PROGRAMME EXP.	FIXED ASSETS: feedion	Admin, & Other Expenses: Indian Foreign	SECURITY DEPOSITS.	CLOSING BALANCE: 21,845,698 Foreign Contribution (Cash & Bank)	11,535,588 General (Cash & Bank) A/c.	360,665 General - Advances & Imprest (Net) 1,225,593 FC - Advances & Imprest (Net)	Total Rs.
PREVIOUS YEAR	3,064,311 Indien 35,254,100 Foreign	2,867,861	103,409	1,707,364	4,000	21,845,698	11,535,588	360,665	77,958,589 Total Rs.
CURRENT		34,967,544		1,626,416	5,457,671	790,732			82,722,524
	21,845,698	360,665	38,362,724	1,517,437					
RECEIPT	OPENING BALANCE: 15,545,023 Foreign Contribution (Cash & Bank) 11,242,290 General (Cash & Bank) 503,267 FC - Advances & Imprest (Net)	428,011 General - Advances & Imprest (Net)	GRANTS	1,165,412 Bank Interest FC 4,923,311 Indian	CHSI PROGRAMME RECEIPTS.	OTHER RECEIPTS.	Refund Security		Total Rs.
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CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (CHSJ), NEW DELHI JUDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION & GENERAL ACT FOR THE PERSON AFFECT FOR SUST MARKER 2023

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		242,284	567,842		AC Account			
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SC Amount		The same		19,8%				製の方
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Serk Ougs		1305			_			
Legal and Australia								
281,705 Office Maintenance								
Depreciation		38,088						
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Excess of Income over Expenditure			4,009					
At Set Line Land San			Total Control of the					1000



# CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Young Women's Hostel No 2, Near Bank of India, Avenue 21, G Block, Saket, New Delhi - 110017 91-11-26535203, 26511425 chsj@chsj.org