Site Visit Report Project:

JOSH (Joint Operation for Social Help) – Delhi

Date:
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Project Steward:
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Asha SV members:
https://wiki.ashanet.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=109501541

We conducted the virtual site visit of JOSH during our chapter meeting. JOSH currently operates in Trilok puri area of New Delhi. This is primarily the residence of the economically weaker section and rely on day to day income. JOSH is in the mission to help the families and children with following interventions.

1. Help in Governance of school SMC to improve the quality of education in Delhi MCD schools.
2. Helping EWS students and parents to get admission in local private schools.
3. Mobilizing volunteers to provide tuition to students to reduce the dropout rate during online classes.
4. Empower girls who passed out high school to join the workforce by providing them vocational training and job interview preparation.
5. Help women to cope up with domestic violence which is on the rise due to lock down and pandemic by awareness of rights and legal support to reach settlement.

We got a chance to meet the volunteers who are working in all the above mentioned aspects. JOSH volunteers were present during the site visit,

School Management Committee:

First we talked with Following members of the School Management Committee members of Delhi MCD (Municipal Corporation of Delhi).

1. Babita (Municipal Corporation school)
2. Maya (MCD school)
3. Mehrunisha (delhi govt school)
4. Kaushar (dehi govt school)

SMC members explained about components of SMC and how the
SMC is contributing to improve quality of education by increasing transparency, conducting various programs and enforcing answerability. They spoke about the work they do in schools, such as helping children with no documents coming from villages to get admission in government schools. We learned how they are helping in raising the awareness in the families in the area about the importance of education, especially the girls, who are more prone to drop out due to family pressure.

**Tuition volunteers:**

JOSH volunteers continued to hold tuition classes in Trilokpuri for children to deal with their learning loss. A total of 300 school going children were covered through home tuitions. Volunteers, especially girls and women from the community conducted these classes. They were being supported by building their capacities on teaching learning techniques, especially on science and math.

- Afiya
- Gulnaaz
- Nighat

These were the three volunteers giving tuitions to younger students. They explained how since lockdown and school closure, they have been teaching students who were struggling with school closure and online classes. Afiya, shared how they have attended training sessions on science and math from Avishkar (a group engaged by JOSH) and how that has helped them to explain math concepts using simple methods.
School Intervention:

This is JOSH School Enrollment. Volunteers help families to enroll their kids to mainstream MCD school and provide guidance from filling up the admission form to getting all the necessary documentation.

- Sapna

She explained how her daughter was admitted in government school post Covid as they couldn’t afford to pay for private school.

Admission under Economically Weaker Section (EWS):

Deepak shared how JOSH helped him to apply for admission under EWS quota and now his son is studying in ASN Private school.
Girls Employability Skills program

- Mansi
- Simran
- Tanu
- Muskan

They spoke about the English and computer classes that they get from JOSH center. Two of them have already been placed and have got jobs. They shared how they receive training on communication and etiquette, how to make CV etc that helps them at job interviews.

Drop out girls

- Sakshi
- Shivani
- Monika
- Tuba

They are girls who dropped out of school due to various reasons and are now enrolled in our bridge course that is helping them to enter and complete mainstream education and get their degrees. All these girls are assisted to complete their 10th and then 12th grade degree through NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling). Last year JOSH also paid the examination fees for 25 such girls so that they can take the NIOS examination.
Women’s Redressal Centre

- Shabnam
- Hazra

They shared their experience of approaching us with problems of domestic violence and getting counseling support. Hazra was a volunteer who has helped to get other cases of women in the community to us to help them access institutional redressal. Shabnam shared how she came to us after being harassed by her in-laws and getting counseling support. In her case, all the concerned family members were called and counseling done. She is now living happily with her family.

During the site visit several members of Asha SV teams asked questions to JOSH volunteers and people who received intervention from JOSH. We have observed the great energy and it felt like volunteers are proud of how they are contributing in helping their community.