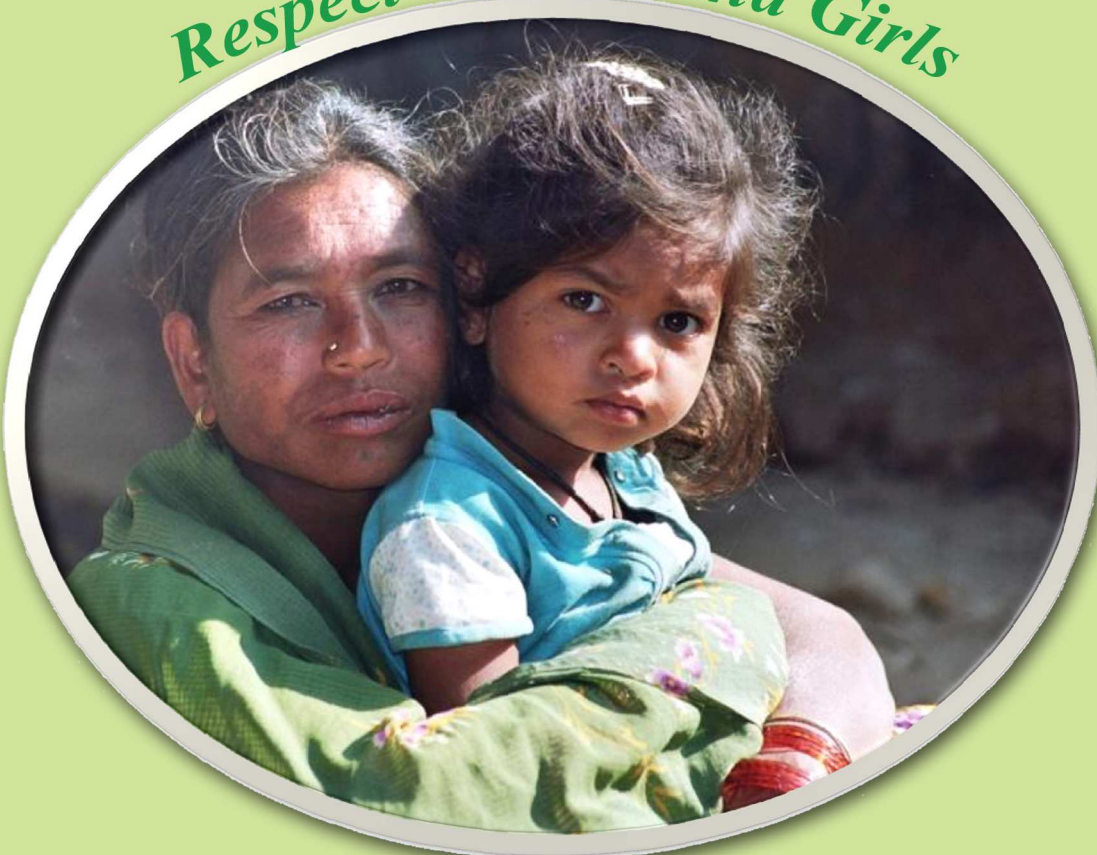


Association of Positive People for Living Excellence



VASAVYA MAHILA MANDALI

Respect Women and Girls





VASAVYA is an acronym-
VA-VASTAVIKATA - Reality
SA-SANGHADRUSTI - Socialoutlook
VYA-VYAKTITVAM - IndividualPersonality

MAHILA - Woman
MANDALI - Organization



Photo on cover page by Mr. Sameer Sah, TB Alert and above photos by Mr. Sameer Sah and Vijay Kumar, VMM

From President's Desk

The year 2013-2014 was very challenging to work as there was paralysis of administration at state level with agitations across state for and against division of Andhra Pradesh. Transportation became irregular and state level meetings were difficult to organize. In spite of many challenges, the staff of Vasavya Mahila Mandali and its partner NGOs worked hard to keep up with the action plans and goals. So let me congratulate all of them for a wonderful work they have done.

The communities too reached out and had shown restraint during the trying times. The communities had exhibited the excellence through support groups, self-help groups and volunteers. VMM recognizes the strength of the communities.

The donors supported VMM through these hard times and we appreciate them for being professional. With great humility I present the annual report 2013-2014 titled 'Respect women and girls'.

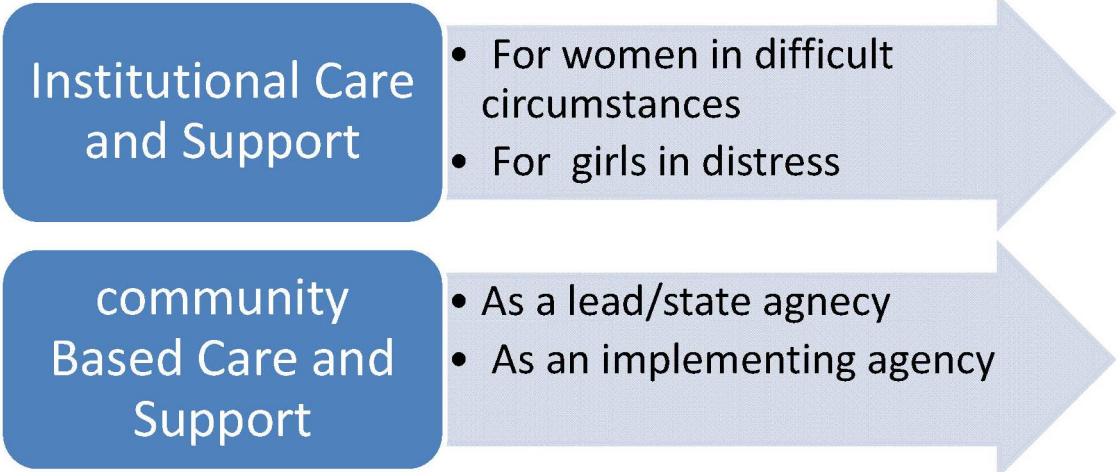


Yours humanly

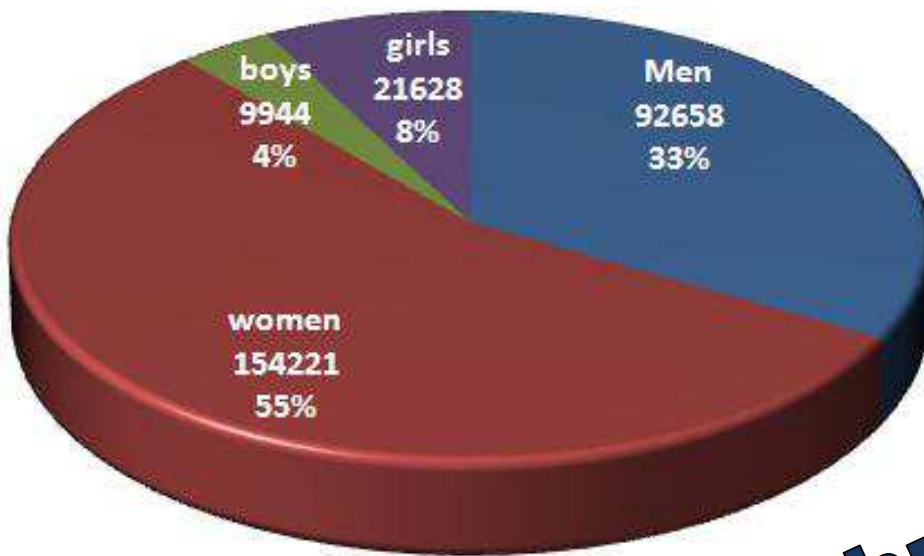
Mrs. Chennupati Vidya
Founder President, Vasavya Mahila Mandali

Ch. Vidya

Former Member of Parliament



Reach: 278451



Health: 208484

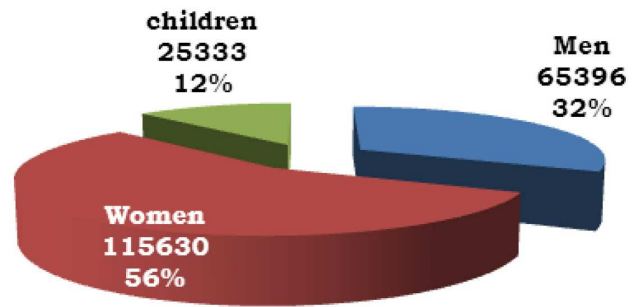
Human Rights 64400

Education: 575

Economic: 1820

VMM Outcome in Health

- ✓ **Tuberculosis initiatives in Andhra Pradesh** (TAP) with the support of DFID and TB Alert /TB Alert India is implementing in six districts; Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Prakasam and Nellore, with tribal, fisher folk and rural and urban slum population. Reached 56650, tested 9524 for TB and HIV and found 669 TB positive and 213HIV positive and 882 persons put on treatment.
- ✓ **Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission** supported by Infrastructure Leasing and Finance systems and APSACS for implementation of PPTCT project in two revenue divisions of Krishna district. Reached 2507 pregnant women, tested 2279 for HIV, found 107 positive and put on ART for regular follow. 96 infants were tested for HIV and were negative.
- ✓ **Targeted intervention for Migrants** supported by APSACS implementing HIV/STI prevention project in Vijayawada urban area. Reached 13650 migrants, referred 3032 for HIV and found 20 positive.
- ✓ **Mobile Integrated Counseling and Testing centers** in Krishna and West Godavari districts with the support of APSACS, implementing testing for HIV at remote areas and target population. Tested 70125, 120 HIV positive and referred to ART centers.



- ✓ **Apollo Tyres Health Care Centre** for truckers and allied population in Autonagar areawith the support of Apollo tyres foundation has reached 9845, tested 581 for HIV, among them 7 were found positive and on treatment.
- ✓ **Urban health centres** for quality medical services in six urban slum population with a focus on maternal and child health in Vijayawada with the support of National Health Mission and Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. Reached 53008 population.
- ✓ **Swetcha Gora Eye Bank** for reduction of blindness with a focus on corneal blindness and gave sight through keratoplasty surgery to 64 persons.
- ✓ **Medical camps** to reach the tribal population in A. Kondur mandal in Krishna district and provided treatment to 700 tribal population.



TAP project beneficiaries get together at Rampachodavaram Tribal Village

Saraswathi children support group formed in 2012 at Bundavanipeta, fisher folk village of GaraMandal, Srikakulam district with 15 children in the age group 13 to 15 years in TAP programme. The focus of the group is to build awareness among the people in their community on transmission, testing, and prevention and treatment services available at public health facility for HIV and TB. The children are trained on child rights and helpline for children in crisis. Youth Club of Bejjipuram (YCB) is TAP partner in Srikakulam district and is also managing Childline, a unit for protection of children in the district. The children stopped one child marriage with the help of child line. The group started supporting each other in education. Once there was a fire accident in their village and their friends' houses were gutted. The group gathered and collected rice and provisions and books and distributed to their friends. This created an attitude in the village and adults appreciated the children for their togetherness. Now the village sanitation and hygiene are their target and are disseminating information to adults on sanitation and hygiene. The impact of the support groups is visible across all programmes with increased community owning.

'I thought my life as a migrant is very difficult but the knowledge gained on HIV and STI was useful for my life'

'I am happy to have a healthy baby without HIV'

'I never thought I can see the beautiful world again' a blind person after getting corneal transplantation

'I am able to work now and earn. I am using condoms and also promoting to my peer in Autonagar for prevention of HIV. As a peer volunteer I referred 15 automobile workers to Apollo Tyres Health Care Center' says Krishna, HIV positive beneficiary of Apollo Health Care Clinic.

'I should not have tested for HIV if not for Mobile testing at our remote village'



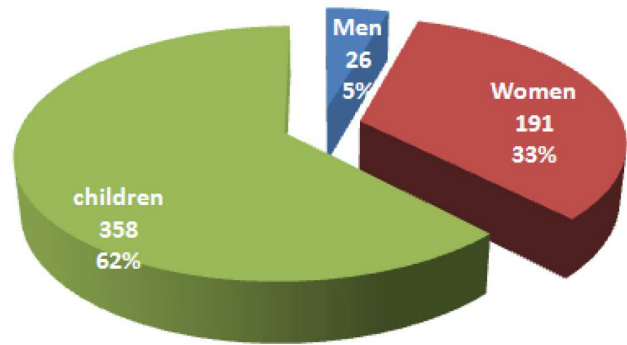
Mr. Amit - Country Lead Apollo Tyre Foundation observing the field level activities at JawaharAutonagar

Linkage with Lorry Owners association gave visibility to Apollo Tyres Health Care by introducing the registration of trucking personnel with Health cards that are valid for one month throughout India in 23 Apollo Tyres Health Care centers. As each month they have to pay only fifteen rupees, the long distance truckers showed interest and registered in VMM facilitated Apollo Tyres Health Care center. Through this initiative nearly 400 registered and availed services. Encouraged with the outcome, VMM contacted Autonagar Automobile Technical Association that includes all the allied population like mechanics, welders, electricians, plumbers, tyre rebuttending persons and many more professionals. Nearly 250 allied populations availed the services and continued the registration every month. They were tested for HIV in VMM Mobile Integrated Counseling and Testing facility.

- ✓ **Education sponsorship to needy youth** to continue higher education supported by Duestche Bank Asia foundation and supported 190 youth for 11th and 12th, technical education like Engineering, Polytechnic and Multi-Purpose Health Workers training.
- ✓ **Nurse attendant training** to 12 young girls in private hospital was provided.
- ✓ **Urban Residential Hostel for girls** supported by Rajiv Vidya Mission of Government of Andhra Pradesh for orphans, semi orphans, deserted and girls from insecure families were provided care and support with formal education. 89 girls availed the services.
- ✓ **Vocational training** to women and adolescent girls in tailoring, hand and loom embroidery and candle making with the support of HAMU, Norway in Krishna District. 170 rural women became skilled.
- ✓ **Skills upgradation with job placement for orphans** in summer for three months in computers, English speaking and management of work for 68 youth in collaboration with Yashoda Charitable foundation.
- ✓ **Vasavya Nruthya Vihar, a dance school** trained 30 young girls in Kuchipudi and BharataNatyam, classical dance styles and gave many presentations.



VMM Outcome in Education



'I am going to school with other children and want to become a doctor' says Sai, 13 years child living with HIV and an orphan.

'I am earning well and on my feet because of training as a nurse. I learned to take my own decisions now' says Durga, working in a private hospital.

Vijaya, 16 from an urban slum in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh India is living with a HIV positive father and mother and a sister. Her father is an ice cream vendor earning INR 100 - 150 per day. She being eldest child, more responsibility is on her. Her parents are afraid for her safety in the slum and arranged an alliance at the age of fifteen and the decision about her marriage is influenced by her father's sickness due to TB co infection.

Then Vijaya's 10th results showed her excellence with 80% score. She is confused about her future and shares her agony with VMM volunteer. VMM facilitated community based organisation with reformed youth in vulnerability Children Leadership Development Association (CLDA) and postponed her marriage till she completes 18 years.

Then she was provided education sponsorship for Multi Purpose Health Worker training at VMM. She completed her training and is awaiting her exams. She is also learning computer skills organized by VMM in collaboration with Yashoda Foundation. Her life is changing after stopping the child marriage and she is a confident young girl.

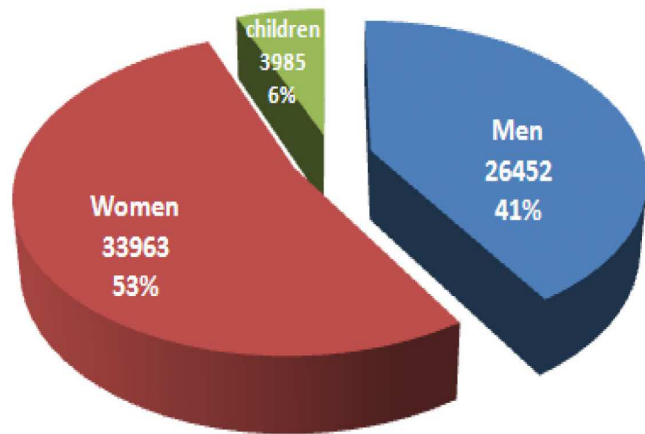
✓ **KOSHISH project** worked with the support of India HIV/AIDS Alliance and European Union was an advocacy project for issues related to Women living with HIV, MSM and Trans Gender community and Female Sex workers for promoting sexual reproductive health rights. Community Based Organisations in five districts; East Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Ananthapur and Rangareddy districts with 5 Key population CBOs and HIV positive networks. Reached 44222 and advocated on identification and treatment of Cervical Cancer with APSACS and also on the rights of the key populations.

✓ **Increasing the Dignity of Women and Girls in Andhra Pradesh** supported by HAMU, Norway reached 5454 by community awareness on child marriages, skills promotion and institutional care and support through Gora Abhay Nivas, a home for women in distress.

✓ **State agency to Women Power Connect** raised awareness in the communities on 33% women reservation bill to be placed in both the houses of parliament. 14472 participated in the movement.

'I do not know that I can complain about harassment at home and protect myself'

VMM Outcome in Human Rights



'I am Asha from remote tribal village of ArukuMandal in Visakhapatnam. I passed my tenth standard from government school and got married at the age of fifteen years to my cousin. My unwillingness did not matter to my parents even though I wanted to study further. My husband took decision to abort my pregnancies repeatedly. It pained me to go through abortion four times and my health deteriorated. Then I was given an opportunity to do nursing course at VMM and I completed it with great difficulty. I learned about human rights at VMM and it surprised me that I have a right to object to the decisions of my family. But being in remote tribal areas with lots of myths and misconceptions about women and their health, it is very difficult to change them. Now I want to create awareness in my tribal village too. Hope I will be allowed to take decisions now' said Asha, after completing her Multipurpose Health workers training at VMM.

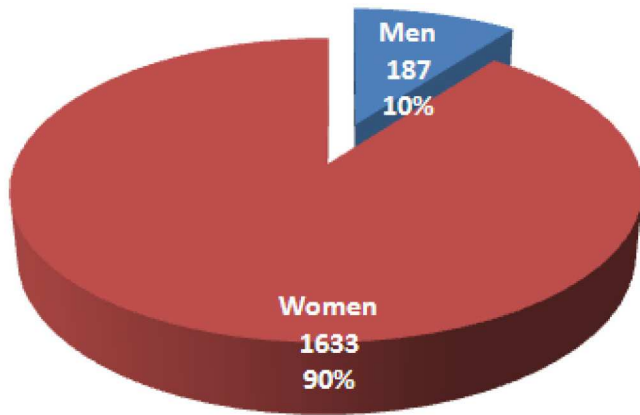


'I protected my teenage daughter from abuse by my husband and kept her in VMM hostel'

'I got screened for cancer at government hospital and felt happy as I was declared clear of cancer'

VMM Outcome in Economic Growth

- V** 'MAA TOTA' programme, A Tribal Development Fund project supported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Government of India, created livelihood to 50 families with basket weaving and 50 families with goat and sheep rearing reaching out to 500 people. Another 200 families were supported with land development and orchards and vegetable inter cropping that reached 1000 persons. 70 women learned loom embroidery and increased their economic status by 2000 rupees per month.
- V** Livelihood generation with skill development in 'Increased Dignity for Women and Girls' programme supported by HAMU, Norway, increased the economic status of 250 women and girls through nursing, tailoring, hand/loom embroidery, handicrafts and other livelihoods.



'I work as agriculture labor and the work is not available on all days, then it is becoming difficult to take care of my family. I am illiterate and so tailoring was easy to learn along with embroidery. Now I am supplementing the income with tailoring also. I am yet to buy a sewing machine. Now I am using the machine at center of VMM. It is very useful for illiterate people like me' says Jyosna, a mother of two.

KappalaVenkataRatnam, 42, from scheduled tribes family lives in A. Konduru Village, Krishna District with his wife and is earning as basket weaver. MaaThota mandal committee members identified him for livelihood support for bettering his basket weaving prospects. Before support, he is making baskets with palm tree leaves and stems procured locally and getting 100 rupees per day. Now with support from MAA TOTA project, he improved his skills and is utilizing the same material and bamboos for making different designs; baskets, partitions and many more. Now he is earning nearly 6000 rupees per month and getting orders. His family standard of living improved and is living happily.



A housewife Suneeta is earning 100-200 rupees a day and is indirectly benefited by stitching their own clothes and all the women felt that tailoring was very useful and said 'we stopped gossiping about others and so unnecessary fighting is reduced and we are more peaceful. We are thinking of improving our lives rather than focusing on others. We as a group became more helpful and gather frequently to discuss our own issues' said all the women in the vocational training center.

VMM Outcome in Environment

VMM developed strategies across all programmes for protection of our environment under the movement; "OUR EARTH" since twenty years. The strategies include disseminating knowledge in the communities on plastic usage, organic manure, small gestures making an impact on their immediate surroundings. Protecting the water bodies and air is being done with knowledge building workshops and also youth forums.

To give visibility to the issues of the environment protection all important days like earth day, ozone day, environment day were observed and also competitions were conducted for children and youth who need to develop an attitude to protect earth.



Studies, Surveys and Films



1. A study on 'Causes and consequences of Child Marriages in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, India' <http://vasavya.org/images/Child-Marriage-Book.pdf>
2. Chittithalli, a short film on child marriages http://www.4shared.com/video/X-XW3orOba/Chittithalli_3mins_film_with_S.html
3. Chittithalli, a film on gender bias http://www.4shared.com/video/qWNMTH-vce/Chittithalli_6mins_film_with_S.html?
4. A song on women issues http://www.4shared.com/video/W1Za38uiba/Chittithalli_Song.html?

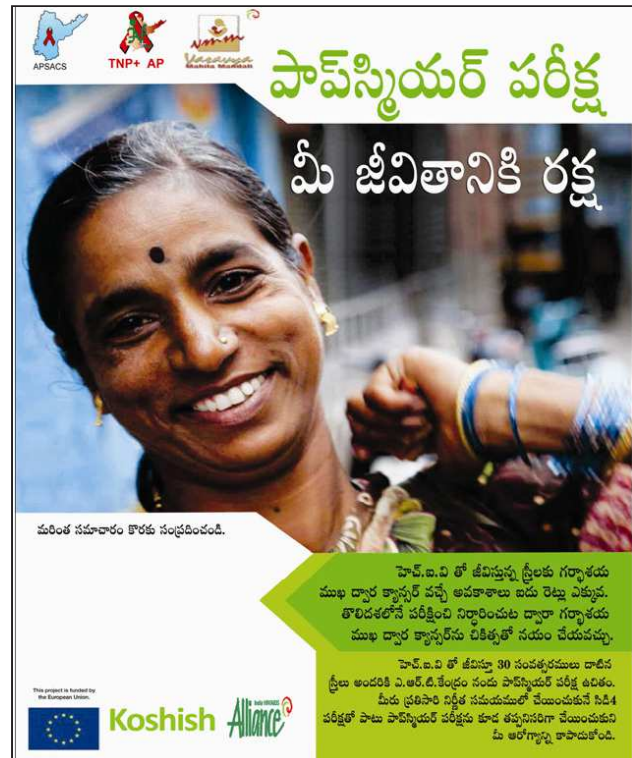


Releasing the Film "Chitti Talli"

Cancer Cervix Screening at ART centers for Women Living with HIV: There are 198,504 (0.73%) women living with HIV and 136,482 female sex workers in Andhra Pradesh, a HIV high prevalence state in India. National AIDS Control Organization circulated an order on 18th January, 2012 that Pap smear test to be taken up at ART centers. The civil society organizations are not aware of the sexual reproductive health rights of women living with HIV and female sex workers and the risk of cervical cancer among them.

As A part of National advocacy, Koshish project conducted community consultations with people living with HIV, Men having sex with men (MSM) and female sex workers; and motivated the community to increase the demand for screening of cancer cervix with PAP smear test at ART centers. Display boards with a message on Pap smear were kept at ART centers for information to reach WLHIV for early detection of cervical cancer. The advocacy initiative with APSACS reinstated the need for PAP smear testing for screening of cervical cancer through a letter sent to all ART centers for screening the women for Cervical cancer.

The result was improved knowledge on cervical cancer screening among the civil society and key population groups. At five ART centres in Andhra Pradesh, a pilot screening of cervical cancer with PAP smear testing was under taken in May, 2013 for 336 women from target groups.



Advocacy for Sexual harassment committees at work place :

Round table meetings with women and child welfare department and management of corporates, banks, educational institutes and industries for initiating the sexual harassment committees gave visibility to the sexual harassment prevention law. The state and district departments

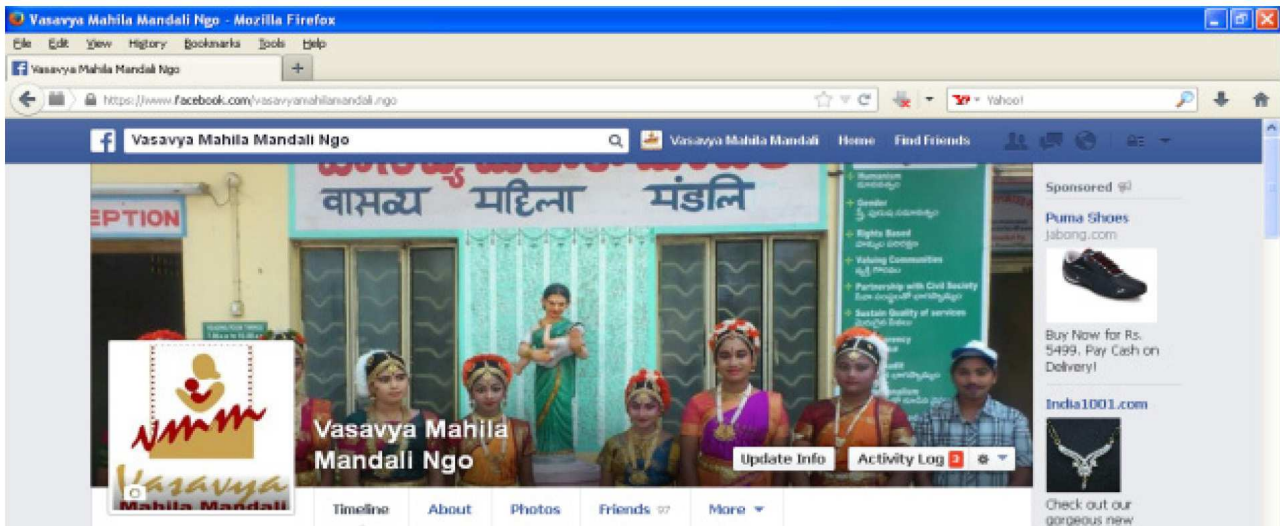
agreed to take up the initiative for implementation of the law and also monitor the committees. Action plan was developed and guidelines for the committee formation was planned to be in 2014-2015 by VMM. Follow up meetings were also planned for reviewing the implementation of the law.



Round table meet for implementation of sexual harassment law

VMM Visibility

VMM presence through updated Webpage was effective and globally people are visiting the web page. And the contacts with face book was also initiated on August 2, 2013, 58 postings were on different events at VMM and information about the diseases and conferences were posted, 113 likes by the visitors, 38 comments and 8 posting were shared to others, for VMM website 6041 visited.



This is possible because of you

Donors

AndhraPradesh State AIDS Control Society
Apollo Tyres Foundation
Center for Social Research
Deutsche Bank Asia Foundation
Family Planning Association of India
Government of AndhraPradesh - Health and Family Welfare
HAMU
International HIV/AIDS Alliance
Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS)
Krishna District Blindness Control Society
Mamata Health Institute for Mother and Child
National Bank for agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
Pradham Organization
Rajiv Vidya Mission
TB Alert UK & India
UNNITI Foundation
Vijayawada Municipal Corporation
Yashoda Foundation

Individuals

Mrs. Sobha
Ms. Harini
Dr.P.Deeksha
Dr. P. Meher N Prasad
Mr. Surya Narayana Murthy and Mrs. Parvathy
Mr. K. Venkateswararao
Mr. G. Venkateswararao
Dr. Satyanarayana
Team from Bangladesh

Organizations

Rotary club of Vijayawada
Chennupati Seshagirirao Memorial Charitable Trust





Vasavya Family with VMM partners

VISION

Impacting lives of Women and Children through Sustainable Community Driven Lifecycle Initiatives.

MISSION

1. To ensure the rights of women and children in life cycle through community-driven initiatives of care, protection, development and welfare
2. To facilitate knowledge building of communities on issues of orphan and vulnerable children with gender inclusivity and improving value of education through environmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive approaches.
3. To promote the physical and psychosocial health of communities by building knowledge on prevention/ care/ treatment and thereby increasing demand for government services; building capacity of government services; and delivering quality outreach services through community support structures.
4. To promote entrepreneurship and financial sustainability of vulnerable families by educating them on their economic rights, building vocational skills, employment opportunities and access to credit.
5. To increase capacity of the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and civil society organisations
6. To facilitate meaningful participation of women and youth in multi-level democratic decision making bodies and to advocate changes for progressive policies.

VMM Presence



Gopi was left on the streets of Vijayawada as an infant and a social activist fostered the boy 20 years back. He grew up strong, but the activist could not afford his education in Engineering college. In linkage with Chennupati Seshagirirao Memorial Charitable Trust, he was supported for four years by providing his basic needs and academic needs. Now he completed his electronics and electrical engineering and is getting good placement offers. He looks at his life with hope and future.



VMM receiving accreditation certificate from International HIV/AIDS Alliance

VMM is a non-government, nonprofit, secular voluntary organization with Gandhian ideology and following the ideology of Humanism with Professionalism of Gora and Saraswathi Gora. VMM focus is on,

1. Health and Nutrition for productive communities
2. Education for better future
3. Respecting the Human rights
4. Improving the socioeconomic conditions
5. Protecting the environment

VMM works in the state Andhra Pradesh in all 23 districts for effective programming to reach all the people.

VASAVYA MAHILA MANDALI

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