



Apne Aap Women's Collective

Newsletter

May - August 2010

Issue 9

Balwadi / Day Care center Update

Statistics for this quarter:

Number of new beneficiaries	
Women	15
Sparrows	05
Balwadi	10
New 'Apni Bachat' Accounts opened (Savings accounts started at AAWC for the women in the area)	15
New 'Bank of Maharashtra' Accounts opened (for the women in the area)	11
Medical Referrals	49
Pan Cards Issued	7
Sparrow's 'Apni Bachat' Bank Account	10
LIC policies issued members	25
Total Boarding Placement	13
School Admission	06

Needs

- A Good camera
- 6 Office chairs
- 2 Folding shoe racks
- 6 Computer mice
- 1 Telephone instrument

If you would like to donate any of the above, please contact at the following address.



Medical Check up Camp by Dr. Khyati Mehta



Eye specialist Lecture



AAWC children placed at SOS Village, Alibagh

Editorial

The two highlights of this quarter at AAWC were my visit to Japan and our association with an organization called INNOVAID. I was invited by an organization called CESA-Kitakyushyu to give a lecture on "Children's physical and mental health in Mumbai's red light areas". The response was overwhelming. Several people attended the lecture. I also got the opportunity to visit children in Japanese elementary schools, who made cards and lanterns for the children at AAWC. This visit was great for building awareness about the social problems we face in Mumbai.

INNOVAID, is an organization that helps various ngo's to access their functioning and helps them achieve their maximum potential. All summer long we have worked with them to see how we can improve and expand AAWC's services. It has been an exciting process that has challenged the AAWC team to think in new and creative ways.

On a celebratory note, Raksha - Bandhan was celebrated with lots of fun with Film Director Amol Gupte, who was the chief guest, our trustees, the teachers and all the beneficiaries of AAWC. The children also went on several outings during the summer, which included visits to the Nehru Planetarium, Bhau Daji Lad Museum and Mani Bhavan.

Finally, we would like to mention that Mrs. Shaila, Mrs. Sunita Dhumale and Dr. Arundhati Vinod of the Maharashtra Foundation of New York visited AAWC earlier this year, as we missed this update in the last newsletter. The Maharashtra Foundation has been one of AAWC's most consistent supporters.

Mrs. Manju Vyas



Director AAWC Mrs. Manju Vyas with Chairman Mrs. Yoshiko Haga and other members

AAWC Update



Director AAWC Mrs. Manju Vyas with Elementary school children and staff

- Our Field coordinator attended a workshop conducted by the Rationing Kruti Samiti in Nashik on Training of trainers for Rationing Schemes Implementation in Urban and Rural Maharashtra.
- 6 of our staff members attended a meeting and workshop organized by Mumbai District AIDS Control Society on "Introduction of STI's, HIV / AIDS" and related topics.
- Our staff attended a Convention on "Political Women Actors" jointly organized by Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Mahila Rajsatta Andolan.



Kindergarten children of Elementary School at Amakusa (Kumamoto)



- ❑ AAWC registered for the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon on 16th Jan 2011.
- ❑ One of the oldest buildings which houses several of our beneficiaries in Falkland Road partially collapsed due to heavy rains. Fortunately none of our beneficiaries was severely injured.
- ❑ One of our sparrows who recently scored distinction in Math in her 10th Board exams has been employed part time as a Math Teacher to the younger girls at AAWC.
- ❑ 3 New staff and 1 tuition teacher have been appointed.

Women's Update

- ❑ Field coordinator attended Rationing Kruti Samiti monthly meetings regularly. Core issues discussed in it were minimum quantity of essential groceries, liquor making from grains, zonal evaluations and food grains disbursement to each home.
- ❑ We held a meeting at our centre with the women to make them understand the rules and regulations of Boarding Homes where their children are placed. Especially reasoning why only mothers are allowed to visit the children and how negligence on their part could affect the children's lives.
- ❑ Most of the women have Bank Account since "Apni Bachat" and "Bank of Maharashtra". To further orient them with the importance of ATM cards and children's accounts, we called Mr. A. Kinage and



PAN Card distribution

- Mr. M. Joshi, Managers of Bank of Maharashtra, S. P. Road branch. They also talked about the banking problems our women could face and their solutions. 42 women attended the meeting.
- ❑ The first batch of 25 women were distributed the Life Insurance Policy "Janashree Bima Yojana". Some more women have registered for the second batch of Policy applications.
- ❑ Organized a women's meeting for distribution of Pan - Cards and children's birth certificates.



Rakhi celebration with Film Director Amol Gupte



Bank of Maharashtra officers - Orientation on ATM Card & Different Schemes

Sparrows Update



City walk - Educational tour - Trail at National Park - organized by Mumbai University

- ❑ 7 sparrows passed 10th standard with 78%, 72%, 70%, 68% and 66% respectively and have taken admission in Commerce and Arts.
- ❑ Dr. Deepak Garg, Eye specialist conducted a session on eye care for the girls. This was followed by a question and answer session. 22 sparrows attended.
- ❑ One of our volunteers, Mr. Sudeep Tondon arranged a visit for the older girls to his BPO, Tandon Communications at Andheri to create awareness about job opportunities in BPO field and the skills required for these jobs.
- ❑ Rakhi Making workshop conducted for girls. They made different creative Rakhis to tie during AAWC's Raksha - Bandhan program and to their brothers.
- ❑ General health checkup camp was organized at the centre. Dr. Khyati Mehta Practitioner at Breach Candy Hospital examined all the girls and found that most of the girls' health has improved. A few of them have ENT and skin infections, which was treated.
- ❑ Girls participated in an educational outing to City Walk, Organized by Mumbai University and Loksatta Newspaper at Sanjay Gandhi National Park.
- ❑ After a herculean effort, AAWC has successfully placed a vulnerable young girl in to a boarding home. It was quiet



Rakhi making workshop

- challenging as her mother is HIV+ on ART and girl herself has a Learning Disorder. Both were initially reluctant to understand the consequences.
- ❑ Sparrow celebrated Guru - Poonima by wishing all teacher and staff and performing for them.
- ❑ Our sparrows and young ones celebrated 15th August Independence- Day. Along with an educational competition some fun activities were organized.
- ❑ AAWC distributed Uniforms, cloths and note books to all the sparrows and balwadi children.
- ❑ One of the balwadi beneficiaries, Ms. Rupa had to undergo a chest operation. Now she is recovering.
- ❑ Our young toddlers of day care center also celebrated Raksha - Bandhan.