



Apne Aap Women's Collective

Newsletter

Issue 12/ May-August 2011

The right to a better life for Women and Children in red light areas.

Editorial

Dear readers,

The last quarter at AAWC has seen both highs and lows. On a joyous note, I am thrilled to announce the success of our girl beneficiaries from Udaan at the 2011 SSC exams. Seven of our girls have passed with good results. Two of them have scored above 75% and the rest above 50%. They have done us and Udaan proud and we wish them further success in their lives and careers.

A sad point for us was when Ms. Vimala, an AAWC beneficiary, could not make it to a culinary competition in Hong Kong. Unfortunately, her passport could not be ready in time due to a number of reasons. And in what is easily the worst news this quarter, Mrs. Yoshiko Haga, Chairman, CESA, Japan, who has been a long-time well wisher of AAWC and a very good friend of mine, has passed away due to ill-health. I have always admired the deep sense of integrity and wisdom, with which she guided our efforts in spreading awareness on children's issues. I dedicate this issue of our newsletter in her memory, while praying her soul rests in everlasting peace.

Till next time,

Mrs. Manju Vyas

Director, Apne Aap Women's Collective



Felicitation programme for girls who passed SSC exams

AAWC Update

Meetings and Workshops attended

- > Our Chief Coordinator and a Balwadi teacher attended a ten-day Balwadi Supervisors Training Workshop. It was on the crucial role of the supervisor in Balwadi management and was organised by Pratham at Dadar.
- > Our Field Coordinator attended an advocacy meeting of the Ration Kriti Samiti at Mantralaya, Churchgate. This was attended by four other NGOs and also present was the Honourable Food Provision and Security Minister, Mr Anil Deshmukh.
- > The Field Coordinator and an outreach worker also attended NGO Melawa, which was a networking forum for the new NGOs on the scene. This was organised by Fulfilling People's Aspirations, India at Tilak Nagar.
- > Our Chief Project Coordinator attended the Atma Pre-Mumbai Marathon Workshop. It dealt with the guidelines, new process of registration, charity structure and rules and regulations around the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon.

We have registered for the Marathon and are seeking corporate support with sponsorships for our girl participants.

- > Our outreach staff attended a meeting on drug addiction awareness organised by Population Services International.
- > Our Project Coordinator and Field Coordinator attended the

Child's Right to Protection And The Juvenile Justice Act workshop organised by Child Relief and You.

Other developments

- > We have commenced a basic computer course and English speaking programmes for the professional and personal development of our staff members.
- > Mrs. Mikkiko Okubo, our esteemed donor from Japan, paid us a visit along with two of her friends. Both friends interacted with children from Umang, from both Khetwadi and Kamathipura centres. They were delighted and impressed with the progress made by the children and also with the organisation.
- > Exhibition-cum-sale stalls were put up at Bandra and Dadar branches of PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd. It was part of a fundraising activity organised by PwC for NGOs.
- > Two interns pursuing their Masters in Social Work from SNTD at Marine Lines have started their Field Placement Programmes at AAWC.
- > A night shelter was opened on 1st August, 2011, for girls from the red light area aged between 6 and 18 years.



Our staff supported Anna Hazare by observing a one-day fast

UDAAN Update

Summer vacation classes & regular training workshops:



Summer educational camp to Yusuf Meher Ali Centre, Panvel

- > A two-day Summer Education Camp to the Yusuf Meher Ali Centre at Panvel was held for the girls.
- > An introduction to tribal culture was conducted through a Warli Painting Workshop.
- > Our volunteer Ishaan has started taking English speaking classes for our Udaan girls.
- > Art classes are being conducted by our volunteer Zara.
- > Educational and interactive games were conducted by Ashiya Mittal, one of our volunteers.
- > Computer and study classes have commenced at our Kamathipura centre for members of Udaan.
- > Interview Training Workshop is being conducted by our Director, Manju Vyas.
- > A visit to the V.P. Marg police thane was also organised to get our girls acquainted with various aspects of police administration like the responsibilities of the department, the process of lodging a complaint, disaster management, etc. They also had an opportunity to interact with police personnel.
- > A career counselling workshop was organised for girls who had passed the SSC exam. This was done by New Resolution India to provide guidance in choosing right career options.
- > Creative and skill-enhancement workshops in Calligraphy and Flower Making were also organised.



Calligraphy workshop being organised for Udaan beneficiaries

Events & Celebrations:

- > Two girl beneficiaries attended an Odissi and Bharatnatyam dance show conducted at the Mudra Dance Academy of the NCPA.
- > A get-together was organised for beneficiaries from both Khetwadi and Kamathipura centres, at Kamathipura. The aim was to let girls from both centres mingle and get to know each other, and also share their experiences.

- > A drama 'Anmol Rishtey' was performed by our Udaan girls on the occasion of the 6th Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day at the Silver Inning Foundation. The foundation works with senior citizens and their family members.
- > Our beneficiary Heena boldly shared her views at an event organised by the Silver Inning Foundation for creating awareness among children of aged parents. Her innocently expressed ideas won the hearts of the audience.

- > A felicitation programme was conducted for girls successful at the SSC exam. Gurupurnima was also celebrated, to inculcate reverence and love for teachers in the hearts of students.
- > Udaan and Umang members organised a farewell party for volunteers Allen and Sujata.
- > Both our beneficiary groups joyously celebrated Gokulashtami and played various games.
- > A rakhi-making workshop was conducted for girls. They made colourful and creative rakhis for Raksha Bandhan, which was celebrated with Marathi and Hindi film actor, Atul Kulkarni.
- > Independence Day was celebrated by Umang and Udaan beneficiaries with a lot of fun activities like flag decoration, group presentations, etc.

Others:

- > A follow up visit to SOS Boarding was conducted for mothers of children enrolled.



UMANG Update

umang

- > 15 children were tested for malaria of which three tested positive.
- > Mrs Manju Vyas' birthday party was celebrated with members from Udaan and Umang.



Manju didi's birthday party



UMEED Update

UMEED



Superstitious practices being demonstrated

- > A monthly meeting was held to discuss superstitions and the practice of quacks in the neighbourhood. The focus was dispelling myths, misconceptions and superstitions in the minds of women who end up as victims of their own ignorance.
- > The regular monthly mothers' meeting was conducted at the Kamathipura centre.
- > A monthly meeting on banking was held for the women at the Kamathipura centre, to help them imbibe the importance of savings.
- > Dr Fadnis from Sai Sanstha held a meeting on Directly Observed Therapy and Art Therapy to highlight their importance for better health.
- > Women in the red light district engaged in prostitution have been attacked on several occasions by a blade killer, who has severely injured many women in public places. The motive behind these attacks is not known yet, while the police is still investigating into these cases.

We need the following materials at our centres:

For Umang (Balwadi) - Falkland Road Centre : 25 children
and Kamathipura centre: 20 children

Sr no	Particulars	No of items
1	School uniforms	45
2	School bags	45
3	Educational toys	Any numbers
4	Footwear	6 pairs
5	Story books	Any numbers
6	Handkerchiefs	45

For Udaan - Falkland Road Centre: 35 girls and Kamathipura Centre: 20 girls

Sr no	Particulars	No of items
1	Notebooks	500
2	School bags	5
3	Footwear	10 pairs
4	Clothes (informal)	100
5	Computers	1
6	Laptops	1
7	Small folding table	1
8	Wall fans	4
9	Steel dishes (Medium size)	25
10	Mixer	1
11	Idli cooker (large size)	1
12	Ladder (8 ft long)	1
13	Shoe rack	1
14	Rack for utensils (Small size)	1
15	Blackboard dusters	5
16	Cloth dusters	12
17	Materials for painting Balwadi	for painting one room with kitchen
18	Thermos water bottle (5 litre)	1
19	Security spy cameras	4
20	We have a monthly groceries requirement of approx. 180 kg. Any contributions towards this are welcome.	



(May 2011-Aug 2011)

Statistical updates for this quarter:

Falkland Road Centre: Numbers of New Beneficiaries:	
Total new Balwadi admissions:	14
Total school admissions:	3
Birth certificates:	6
Birth Affidavits:	1
No of children immunised:	2
Home visits (Umang beneficiaries):	13
Total New Udaan admissions:	8
Boarding Placements (Udaan beneficiaries):	6
Boarding dropped out:	1
Home visits (Udaan beneficiaries):	15
Total no. of new women members:	15
Apni Bachat Women new accounts:	15
Bank of Maharashtra women new accounts:	1
Umeed beneficiaries got ATM:	1
Total medical referrals:	38
Women's death:	1
Kamathipura Centre: Numbers of New Beneficiaries:	
Total new Balwadi admissions:	7
Total school admissions:	2
Birth certificates:	7
Affidavits:	2
No of children immunised:	18
Home visits (Umang beneficiaries):	42
Total New Udaan admissions:	17
Boarding Placements (Udaan beneficiaries):	3
Udaan girls' 'Apni Bachat' Bank Account:	2
Home visits (Udaan beneficiaries):	23
Night shelter beneficiaries:	3
Total no. of new women members:	38
Apni Bachat Women new accounts:	35
Centre visits by women:	73
Total medical referrals:	51
Women's death:	1