

Annual Report for the year 2012-13

SSSS as a Social Development Organization has been promoting developmental interventions and enabling capacities of the rural communities in five districts of North Gujarat namely Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Patan and Gandhinagar on various social issues as HIV /AIDS, migration, sanitation & hygiene, IMR& MMR, MNREGA, Livelihood, etc.

During the year 2012-13, the major engagements of SSSS have been the following:

1. “Sphoorti” Community Care Center Mehsana for HIV/AIDS (2008 – 2013)

“Sphoorti - Life Giving” - Community Care Center for people living with HIV/AIDS at Catholic Ashram, Mehsana which had begun in October 2008 with the support of Global Fund through CBCI-HC has completed its mission of selfless service in the month of March 2013. A ten bedded facility where the HIV+ persons were kept under observation for about five to six days when the ART treatment was started by the Civil Hospital of Mehsana witnessed a slow wrapping. This



center not only provided medication and nutritious food during their stay but also gave them personal touch of care & service. 12 member's staff guided the PLHIV with confidence to a longer life of dignity and respect. Fr Francis Xavier, Parish priest, played the role of delegation very diligently in administering the centre and rendering the best service to the PLHIV. The experiences of the people with us is heart throbbing who longed to visit us the following month due to our dedicated service and treatment. This in turn supported them to be on track for conscious treatment. The Trust through private donations provided them supplementary nutritious food like protein and iron tonic that gave them assurance of “we are with you”. People needed our caring service but opportunely henceforth this service will be enabled by District Local Networking people in the entire area of Mehsana District. Our intervention with PLHIV during these years has been the following:

Registered		Referrals	Counseling		Opportunistic Infections	Out Reach Visits
In Patients	Out Patients	ART/Non ART	Family	Individual		
2317	5887	1228	1005	6503	1652	8436

2. Empowering Communities on Health: (2010-13)

- ✧ Infant mortality Rate is reduced by 50% from the existing rate
- ✧ Maternal Mortality Rate is reduced to 0%
- ✧ Complete Ante Natal Care is increased by 30% from the existing rate
- ✧ 28 Village health workers are fully trained on health issues



The horizon of traditional belief in care, support and treatment of prenatal and antenatal has widened its scope through the intervention of the project supported by Episcopale Conferenza Italiana – Rome and implemented in five blocks by five partners namely Deesa, Palanpur, Vadgam, Bhiloda and Vijaynagar in twenty eight revenue villages. The engagement of SSSS in health sector has made remarkable impressions over the goal of the project i.e. to improve the Reproductive and

Child Health (RCH) indicators in five blocks of Sabarkantha and Banaskantha districts in accessing government health services. 28 village health workers (VHWs) who are continuously under our training are getting capacitated in order to empower their respective communities on health after the project period is over. Village Health Committees (VHC) that were initiated with the support of VHWs at the beginning of the project to facilitate and link the community with the Panchayat and the local health units have already began their work of benefiting through the entitlements on health from the Government. Some of the awareness & trainings conducted during the year such as acupuncture, leadership and counseling to the VHWs, a couple of exposure visits to government units for VHWs and VHCs and health camps for the communities have strengthened their progress to better avail the facilities of health sector.

3. Safe Motherhood Healthy Childhood: (2013-16). How safe is the mother and the child before, during and after the birth of a child and how much care is sufficiently good care in these various stages of life of both mother & child is decisively designed to be taken care through this project that has seen its commencement in February 2013 supported by Manos Unidas – Madrid (Spain) and implemented in five blocks by five partners namely Radhanpur, Patan, Kheralu, Mandali and Kadi in thirteen revenue villages. The goal



of the project is to improve the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) indicators in five blocks of Patan & Mehsana districts who will completely access government health services. 15 village health workers (VHWs) are selected and are under training who will be capacitated to empower the communities on health during and after the project. Each village will form a Village Health Committee (VHC) who will facilitate and links with the Panchayat and the local health units to receive their entitlements on health. Lack of awareness on government health schemes among the village communities is one of the hurdles in accessing the benefits. VHWs and communities will be given awareness on

various available govt. health schemes. There are various health awareness trainings & several health camps for the communities, workshops on health issues, leadership, acupressure, home remedies and counseling to the VHWs, a couple of exposure visits to government units for the VHWs and VHCs. At the end of the year, an oral and written test will be conducted for VHWs to examine their knowledge, skills and expertise. They will be awarded with a health kit and the certificate at the end of the project period.

4. “SANGATH”- Strengthening Capacities of Tribal Communities through Empowerment and Socio-Economic Development (2013-16).

The result of SSSS interventions among the village communities through various projects has been the formation of more than 1000 SHGs. These SHGs are mainly among women



who constitute half of humanity. They are slowly progressing to come on par with the rest of society and are being empowered to take their rightful role to resolve their problems. The strength of these groups has been their unity and active participation and collaboration among themselves and each other group. They are especially made aware of their human rights and innate capacities and capabilities as well as the opportunities that

government agencies hold out for their development. Lots of hidden hopes and aspirations of these women are waiting to be realized that will bring to reality the vision of the “new heaven and new earth” of their dreams. From our experience and interaction among these CBOs, SSSS has formulated their dreams and aspirations for implementation in one such programme: *SANGATH- Strengthening Capacities of Tribal Communities through Empowerment and Socio – Economic Development*.

With the beginning of the month of March, 2013, “Sangath” is implemented by 9 partners (3 partners being from the same areas) in 18 villages of Banaskantha & Sabarkantha districts whose sole aim is to bring these women groups under a cooperative at their respective six centres to provide them bigger and better platform of addressing social issues like gender discrimination, emphasizing on equal opportunity given to girls for education in order that that they too become part of the decision making process be it social, political economic and environmental. Various training program would be organized such as leadership, livelihood & skill enhancements, exposure to good cooperative, PRI,

etc that would help women increase their awareness on various aspects of the society where they would like to be active participants rather than a passive participants in all spheres of social life in the society.