

2019-2020

# SAKHI

A Women's Initiative For Women



## [ANNUAL REPORT ]

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**Brief Organization Profile:**

Though formally registered as an NGO in 1999, SAKHI has had a long standing presence in North Bihar as a team involved in coordinating one of the field projects involved with another NGO ADITHI under the leadership of Late Viji Srinivasan, who was the pioneer of bringing into existence a whole new journey of social sector through her visionary approach of creating decentralised units of NGOs in different parts of Bihar which would deal with the theme/community specific issues. This approach gave way to many decentralised NGO units which later went on to become independent unit under their efficient Leaders identified by the organization. SAKHI's journey started as one in Madhubani district which took up the issue of Women empowerment through Fisheries and Non formal education of the children of these fisher community households. This project, initiated with the support of Swiss Red Cross(Switzerland) in Anhrathari Block of Madhubani District in 1990, aimed at empowerment of fisherwomen through enabling their access to government ponds on lease, equipping them with technical and managerial skills, providing start-up capital support and consequently contributing to a steady enhancement in their income levels. Towards this end, the critical intervention was that of organizing the poor fisherwomen into self-help groups and their registration as a women's cooperative society. As a support service to these women, the components of health and education were also included with the former focusing on reproductive and child health and later, on non formal education through non formal education centres for children in the age group of 6-18 through.



The quality of work carried out in the fisherwomen community brought the project under increasing demand from other communities, particularly the dalits, for extension of similar support to their hamlets; thus obliging the organization to bring these deprived communities as well under its coverage. Since then Sakhi has been undertaking various Impactful projects on various social issues in collaboration with various partners such as Water Aid, Global Sanitation Fund, NABARD, JTT, IWMI, World Education, Oxfam, Tata Trust, Save the Children, Women and Child Development, Unicef, Geneva Global, Childline 1049 project and Malala Fund amongst the others. With its good work executed in the past and ongoing projects Sakhi is continuously striving to build a healthier and empowered community.

Having worked on the various projects Sakhi now holds expertise in the topics like Fisheries, Education, Health, Sanitation, menstrual health and hygiene management, Agriculture, Trafficking, digital literacy, co-operatives, women empowerment, livelihood, menstrual health and hygiene management, child rights, child labour, domestic violence . The district level presence of Sakhi has been in darbhanga ,Saharsha, supaul, muzaffarpur, motihari, bhojpur, baxuar, nawada, patna amongst the others.

**Mission:**

To strive for Socio-economic empowerment of women and girl child of the families living under poverty line by improving their existing conditions through sustainable self help groups, leadership strategy and advocacy for their rights to equality and safety.

**Vision:**

A society free from gender based discrimination and violence on women. A society where women have control on their body and life and equal and thriving opportunities exist for all.

**Objectives:**

- To awaken women about their rights through sensitivity training Programmes and community participation.
- To eradicate social evils affecting women and girl children, through awareness and community organization.
- To mobilize the community against the atrocities against women.
- To mobilize the community against female foeticide elimination.
- To promote sustainable and viable economic enterprises of women for their economic independence
- To impart non-formal education to girl children & women to bring them into the mainstream of education.
- To impart training and mobilize women to take up business enterprises to make them self- employed and self-reliant.
- To take up immunization and family welfare programme for women and girl children.
- To improve community level preparedness and capacity to respond in flood emergencies.
- To develop livelihood and income generating opportunities for women like, fisheries, dairy, agriculture, live stock management, vegetable cultivation, vending etc.
- To sensitize Police Officials & Prosecutors on Trafficking issues in Bihar.
- To aware people about the sanitation and proper use of Water and hygiene practices.
- To spread awareness about use of renewable and safe sources of energy in their daily lives.

**Donors till Date:****International/Bilateral Agencies:-**

Swiss Red cross, Oxfam, Geneva Global, International Development USA, IWMI, CIMMYT, Global Sanitation Fund, Water Aid, World Education, Malala Foundation, Aga Khan Foundation, Sir Dorabji tata Trust, Jamshedji Tata Trust, Save The Children, World Education

**Government Agencies:-**

Women and Child Development corporation, BRLPS, RGVN, Central Institute, WASSAN PACS, NABARD, ICAR, Child Line Centre.

**Network Groups:**

CCHT, CBATN, URJA, National Fish Forum, ZilaNigrani Samiti, Bihar Inter Agency Group

**PROJECTS****1. CHILD LINE, MADHUBANI:**

Aim: Sakhi runs a sub-centre of Childline to provide assistance for the underage vulnerable children of the city with an aim to provide support for their protection and rehabilitation from human/child trafficking. The service is provided through a toll free 24 hour emergency phone service (1098). It aims to respond not only to emergency needs but also to link them to various services established for their long term care and rehabilitation. This one point contact is meant to facilitate instant access to support, advice and active intervention. The project falls under Women and Child Development Corporation , Gov. of India.



The following activities are carried out under this project:

- Developing bridge between administration, police and other line departments to ensure children's rights.
- Capacity building of the ground staff/ counsellors related to child protection, child rights etc.
- Co-ordinating rescue and other outreach services with the help of relevant local departments like police, administration, labor, health, railways and others.
- Ensuring proper documentation of all rescued children to facilitate their rehabilitation and restoration, wherever necessary.
- Producing children before the child welfare committee(CWC) for ensuring care and protection.
- Providing data related to children rescued & rehabilitated for the compilation of a national comprehensive database of child protection.
- Creating awareness and ensuring access to the 1098 Child helpline number.
- Initiation of prosecution and follow up in cases of child abuse, child trafficking, child labour and commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- Documentation, awareness and advocacy on issues related to child helpline
- Establishing linkages with other child protection services, community and local bodies for meeting the immediate needs of children rescued.

**Progress made:**

- As this year was the initiation of the project, we recorded a total of 75 cases from across 6 blocks namely Andhrathari, phoolparaas, Babubarhi, Ghoghardhia, Laukhi, Laukha of the district.
- The cases varied from Child marriage, missing children as a result of child trafficking, child labour, run away cases.
- 8 child labour cases were reported to which the team intervened and prevented from taking place. 19 missing children were reported who were made to run away with either the neighbour or some relative or some acquaintance from the village by luring into a bright future.



- 8 lost and found cases were reported, 1 Home investigation was reported, 5 physical abuse cases were reported, 6 child marriage cases were reported, 3 medical investigation cases were reported. 1 Child bullying case was reported.
- 3 child trafficking cases were reported, 2 kidnapping case was reported, 25 other interventions which included counselling, emotional support, advocacy were undertaken.
- 7 PRI meetings were conducted in order to discuss the status of the panchayat and generating sensitivity towards the issues.
- 1 child was provided with sponsorship.
- 6 gram sabha meetings were conducted with the community in order to generate awareness regarding the program and spreading information on the childline number 1098.
- 6 block level meeting was conducted with the block officers, ANM, Asha workers, BRC/CRC, Aanganwadisewikas, police officers for sensitising and generating awareness and their role in the process and how they may facilitate the process.
- All children were provided emotional support and were counselled in order to bring them back in the mainstream so they can continue to pursue their education and empower themselves so that they don't fall back in the chain again.
- The children were supported by the team to acquire their Birth certificate and disabled certificate from the concerned department/ school.
- An awareness campaign was conducted through Village Fair during the festival where mass gathering takes place, all about childline helpline number 1098 and what it does and how community can reach out under what circumstances was announced.
- Pamphlets were also distributed amongst the community in which all the information was provided.

## **2. Dry Season agriculture for Tenant and Marginal farmers in eastern gangatic areas(IWMI)**

The project aims at decreasing the barren area during dry season through improved use of irrigation technology so that marginal & tenant farmers could increase their income. For this purpose, One village each from two block were selected namely Bhagwatipur village of Andhrathari block & Mauahi village of Babubarhi block. Following activities and progress were carried out:



- Formation of 6 farmers groups having total 42 members. out of which 3 groups were doing collective farming on leased land & rest individually on their own land.
- Farmers started dry season agriculture in around 4.5 acre of land and opted for vegetable crops.
- More than 40 acre of land in Bhagwatipur village is cultivated this year by other farmers during dry season.
- There is shift in cropping pattern from paddy- wheat- moong/barren to paddy- wheat-vegetable.
- There is shift in tenant- landlord relation. Earlier shared cropping system is there now farmers started leasing of land.
- Income of the collective farmer group increases from vegetable farming.
- Modern method of vegetable farming started in village.
- Some people started activity of vegetable vending as their livelihood option.

### 3. PHIA- Digital Literacy program

Aim:- The aim of this project is to link the underprivileged Scheduled caste/scheduled tribe/ minor community to various government run schemes/programs through Digital literacy by making them 'SATHI' under the project. The work is being carried out in 15 block of Madhubani namely Ghoghardhia, Andhrathari, Babbubarhi, Rajnagar, Bennipatti, Madhepur, Madhubani, Blsfi, JaiNagar, Bassopatti, Kaluaahi, pandol, Jhanjharpur, Phoolparas and Lakhnaur under phase 4 of the program. Following activities were undertaken:

- 115 Group meetings were conducted across panchayats .
- One Saathi reached out to 700 female folks of the community and trained them on using the mobile phone and how they can access various apps from their phone.
- A total of 30 capacity building training of the saathis were conducted in different target blocks.
- A one day orientation program was conducted for the block co-ordinators in Patna.
- A one day Menstrual Health and Hygiene awareness program was conducted for all the Saathi.
- 60 Community based organizations were formed with 15-20 members each which constituted 1 secretary, 1 president, 1 treasurer and the rest members.
- 2 PRI member meetings were conducted each month.
- Total number of saathi formed is 180
- Total village reached is 720
- Total no. of beneficiary reached 126000
- The project reached out to create digital literacy amongst the community regarding use of basic Internet facility through which the community gets empowered to use different applications and schemes being run by the government.



#### Outcome:

- 126000+ community members especially women got trained into using Mobile device.
- 126000+ women learnt using the basic applications of the mobile phone.
- 126000+ women were made aware of the livelihood scheme options being run by govt.
- 126000+ women got empowered and showed a remarkable difference in their self esteem and confidence level and wished to continue the learning process.

#### 4. Malala Foundation : Girl Education & Prevention of Human Trafficking

**Aim:** The aim of the project was to raise awareness on the importance of girl education and prevention of human trafficking through leadership building, advocacy and skill development. The project was carried out in five panchayats of Andhrathari block namely Gour Andhra, Dumra, Rakhwari, Jalsen, Andhra South for the girls in the age group 6-18 year . The project also aimed at bringing the different stakeholders together to strengthen the relations with the relevant government official authorities, networks, stakeholders to successfully advocate and leverage all forms of appropriate support for enhancing the status of girl education and providing a safeguarded community free from human/child trafficking.



Following were the activities undertaken in this direction:

- Five community centres were setup in the identified panchayats in order to impart education to the girls who were either underprivileged, drop outs or couldn't attend their regular studies or were a regular absentee from school or for any other reason never could seek education. A total of 533 girls attended these centres on a regular basis.
- Five qualified female teachers were selected through intensive process who would run these centres and act as a facilitator.
- A total 30 empowerment meetings were conducted for girls in the rehabilitation centre and vulnerable trafficking prone communities. These meetings were attended by a total of 2132 girls
- A five-day orientation workshop was conducted for the selected 60 girls and the 5 female teachers from the community who would act as leaders for change and would facilitate the process on various issues around Girl education in their community.
- 10 student's group consisting of 24 girls in each group was formed in the selected middle/secondary school of the panchayats. These groups were formed in order to conduct regular meetings to sensitise and create awareness on the various issues and way forward.
- A total of 12, One day workshop was conducted in the selected 12 schools of the gram panchayats by the trained facilitators on various issues like gender equality, right to education, child rights, human trafficking, good touch/bad touch, menstrual health and hygiene. The workshop was attended by 900 girls across panchayats.
- In addition to the educational aspect, skill development opportunity was also provided through providing a Stitching and sewing machine in all the centres where the girls could learn the skill and further earn a living for themselves. A total of 100 girls took up the skill course and benefitted out of it.
- On the Occasion of International Girl's Day 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020, the girls organised a procession in their panchayat. The girls advocated for the importance of girl's education, human trafficking, child marriage and gender equality. The police department and education department also participated in the procession which further boosted the confidence of the girls.
- In total 40 street plays were conducted in 40 community places to create mass awareness in the community around the issues of human trafficking, girl education, gender equality, domestic violence, child marriage, child labour.
- 3 Health camps cum counselling camps were conducted for the girls in different panchayats. Qualified practitoners/doctors addressed these camps and provided a free medical health



checkup for the girls. Free medicines were also distributed to the girls as per the requirements. More than 508 girls and 152 mothers benefitted from these camps.

- A total of 3 Interface meetings were conducted across panchayats involving the girls, their parents/guardians and the block officials of education/ police department in order to discuss the challenges faced and way forward towards girl education.
- One Consultation cum capacity building meeting was organised and attended by 200 relevant stakeholders from various fields like education, health, police and prosecutor department. This Meeting was headed by the District Collector/Magistrate as the chief guest who appreciated the efforts of the girls and the organization and assured for his assistance whenever need be. This gave the project the desired visibility at the district level and boosted the confidence over all.
- One programme wide state networking event was organised in order to exchange best practices, lessons learned and skills amongst other similar organizations in Bihar. The event was attended by 64 participants who were various organisation heads, co ordinators, advocates of patna High court, members of anti trafficking committees like CCHT, CACL Bihar, RTE forum, UNICEF, Caritas, Bachpan Bachao Andolan, World Vision India, Adithi, JVI, NSS, IJM, Aga Khan Foundation, Centre Direct and Jan Jagran Sansthan amongst the others.
- During the project the girls were also provided with necessary educational books, stationaries, reading materials as well as Sweaters during the winter season as a support towards making the learning process easy and accessible.

**Outcome Generated:**

- The project had a total target of 2000 girls across five panchayats. The project successfully reached 2132 direct beneficiary.
- The project reached 10,000 household as an Indirect beneficiary from the panchayat
- The project successfully got 160 girls enrolled back to the school and motivated and supported in helping them continue their formal education.
- By the end of the project, the girls showed an improved knowledge, attitude and behaviour change
- 80% of girls have more knowledge about their rights.
- 60% of girls have increased self esteem
- 65% of girls indicate having more life skills.
- 70% of girls know/is able to advocate for their rights.



**300 किशोरियों की स्वास्थ्य जांच, मुफ्त में दी गई दवाएं**

अंधराठाढ़ी ( मधुबनी). संस: मलाला फण्ड एवं सखी के सौजन्य से कस्तूरबा विद्यालय में शनिवार को किशोरी परामर्श एवं स्वास्थ्य जांच कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन मधुबनी रेडक्रॉस के अध्यक्ष डॉ गिरीश पांडेय एवं सखी की सचिव सुमन सिंह ने दीप प्रज्वलित कर किया। कार्यक्रम में किशोर होती लड़कियों की शिक्षा, स्कूल, अधिकार और उनकी शारीरिक मानसिक समस्याओं पर

विस्तार से चर्चा की गई। साथ ही किशोरियों को महावारी प्रबंधन के बारे में भी जानकारी दी गई। कार्यक्रम में किशोरियों को बाल विवाह, बाल मजदूरी, दहेज एवं बाल व्यापार के बारे में विस्तृत रूप से बताया गया। मौके पर सखी की सुमन सिंह, रश्मि सिन्हा, सागरिका सिंह, कुमारी आभा, प्रकाश झा, मंजू देवी आदि उपस्थित थीं। इस मौके पर करीब 300 किशोरियों की स्वास्थ्य जांच की गई।

**स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा जागरूकता पर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला**

अंधराठाढ़ी मधुबनी संवाददाता। सखी संस्था भगवतीपुर द्वारा बालिका पोषण व स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा जागरूकता पर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम का संचालन सखी के सचिव सुमन सिंह ने किया। साथ ही महावीर कैंसर हॉस्पिटल पटना डॉक्टर अली, डॉ पूनम एवं सहयोगियों द्वारा लड़कियों का स्वास्थ्य जांच भी किया गया। कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए बीआरसी लालबाबू कामत, सीआरसीसी काली कुमार झा, बबिता कुमारी, मो इफ्तिकार आदिल, चंद्रशेखर मानव, विनय कुमार राम, कृष्ण कुमार झा ने कहा कि बालिका लिंगानुपात में सकारात्मक सुधार लाना एवं बेटियों को शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य एवं विकास के समान अवसर उपलब्ध कराना है। सखी द्वारा जन समान्य तक इसकी पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने विभिन्न जागरूकता कार्यक्रम किये जा रहे हैं। सखी की सुमन सिंह, रश्मि सिन्हा, सागरिका सिंह, कुमारी आभा, प्रकाश झा, मंजू देवी आदि ने कहा कि किशोरियों के माता-पिता को लड़कियों की शिक्षा पर सबसे ज्यादा जोर दें। नियमित रूप से बारहवीं तक लड़कियों को शिक्षा जरूर दिलाएं। बाल विवाह ना हो इसका ध्यान रखें। सखी के मलाला फंड के तहत अभी तक 1000 लड़कियां नियमित विद्यालय जाने लगी हैं और लाइफ स्किल प्रशिक्षण पा रही हैं। कार्यक्रम का समापन बच्चों के साथ केक काटकर किया गया।



**Hatchery & Fish Rearing Centre:-**

Sakhi is running fish hatchery cum fish seed rearing centre to support community with good quality seed for improved production of fish. Following activities are undertaken:

- Annual production of more than 60 million Lakh Spawn.
- Rearing of spawn to Zeera, Dhani, Fry & fingerlings.
- Supporting quality seed to the fish farmers.
- Capacity building of fish farmers on modern method of fish farming.
- Preventative and curative assistance for fish disease to the farmers.
- Awareness regarding market linkages and marketing strategies to the fisher community.
- Created awareness regarding government schemes and policies

**5. SAKHI Residential Training Centre:-**

- Sakhi has well equipped training center with residential facility for 50 participants.
- Well equipped training hall with all logistics facility for 50 participants.
- Supported different agencies in organizing training for their cadre like JEEVIKA, district administration, etc.



***SAKHI would like to extend its Heartfelt Thanks to all the donors who supported us in this financial year. We promise to continue working to serve or best with all our dedication and commitment in the future as well.***