

**ANNUAL REPORT
2006-2007**



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From Secretary's Desk

Dear All,

It is a precious time to explore the EFRAH's activities, conducted during the financial year 2006-2007. I am glad to share the activities of organisation which have been undertaken since 1997 for the destitute masses in the community.

EFRAH has been in the community with the aim "promoting socio-economic justice, social sensitivity and empowering deprived group in a manner that they become self-reliant and work for social change".

Being with the people in the community and working with them is the experience that I can treasure upon. These experiences and support of like minded people has helped the organization to move forward enthusiastically and achieve the set targets.

EFRAH has been working for the development of women and children since it started with the mission "to work for the holistic development for the people, living in dehumanized and deprived conditions in the society, without any discrimination caste, creed and religion". The main focus of EFRAH is education, micro finance, vocational training and health. Women and children are the left out group in the society.

The networking is done with the other Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in which we share our experiences and learning with like minded NGOs who work on the similar or complimentary issues. The experience sharing is of vital importance for learning from each others faults and mistakes.

EFRAH is a co-convener of Delhi forces- a network of more than 50 NGOs working for younger children. We are also an active member of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan Delhi and Dilli Bal Adhikar Manch- working for right to health and rights of children respectively. It will help to generate awareness in the community in the field of health, education, PDS and environment. . EFRAH also member of Vidyalay Kalyan Samiti formed by the directorate of education, Delhi govt. in 3 senior secondary schools and 5 Schools PTA members in primary section of municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Our achievements and development is the result of hard and dedicated work of all the staff members of EFRAH. I take this opportunity to thank all my staff members, colleagues, partners, friends, well wishers, and last but not the least all the people of the communities where we work without whom it would not have been possible for us to come this far.

I look forward for your comments, feedback and suggestions, which will enable us to strengthen our efforts and work towards better future.

Sayeed Ahmed

Secretary

EFRAH believes in the basic capacities of people to develop as useful citizens capable of managing their affairs and contributing towards the development of community, considering education as a basic tool for their capacity building. Consequently, all the initiatives of organization are undertaken with active participation of people with an exhaustive education program.

EFRAH emphasizes on childcare, through sensitization & capacity building of women. The activities are introduced after thorough community awareness and concretization exercise. People's structures are developed to shoulder responsibility of managing the program activities under careful professional support of the organization.

THE VISION

To build a society based on promoting socio-economic justice, social sensitivity and empowering deprived group in a manner that they become self-reliant and work collectively for social change.

THE MISSION

EFRAH is committed to work for the holistic development for the people, living in dehumanized and deprived conditions in the society, without any discrimination caste, creed and religion.

THE OBJECTIVES:

- To promote and provide quality education to children who are socially & economically deprived
- To eliminate social and cultural discrimination that limits the demand for girls education
- To promote human dignity and awareness of duties & right
- To undertake activities for accelerating social reform through educational & economic upliftment
- To extend and access cooperation from like minded individuals associated with different organizations, to advocate & network for social issues.
- To extend academic and organizational support for establishment of educational institutions in backward area
- To promote and support community health action through voluntary as well as governmental initiatives
- To educate people on the various aspects of self employment, encourage and assist in linking them with different financial institution to establish their own means of employment

❖ EDUCATION FOR ALL

Nations are judged by the well being of their people: the overall education status, nutrition and health, the civil and political liberties they enjoy, provision of vulnerable and disadvantage people, the protection guaranteed to women and children. It is not surprising then that nations today are opting for sustainable human development since it places people at the core of development.

➤ NON FORMAL EDUCATION

Access to education is a constitutional right of a child. But children of urban slums and underprivileged are left out and are unable to go to school due to poverty. Children are forced to work in order to support their parents financially, thereby decreasing the burden on their parents. In order that all children get opportunity to attend school, the EFRAH and its funding partners has initiated "Education for All" program to provide education at their door step.

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| <p>- Total 2247 children enrolled in 40 L.C. - 2026 children main-streamed in to Govt. school. - 85 children drop out from LC due to migration</p> |
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Taking this opportunity EFRAH is running NFE Center in the slum communities of Madanpur Khadar, Jaitpur, Okhla and rural areas of District Auraiya and Etawah of Uttar Pradesh. NFE is a preparatory education system where children are mainstreamed to formal education in nearby Government Schools. Children who are working or had dropped out from education and are in the age group of 7-14 years, got the opportunity to attend these NFE centres, where they were taught by trained teachers in our education centres. Here the teachers build relationship with students and their family members, provide them with psychosocial support and even visit the home of these children to follow up in case they do not attend the NFE centres. By making home visits, our staffs also provide an update to the parents of the children attending these classes. Due to this parents are happy to see that their children are studying and making

better use of their time. Regular meetings held with parents have motivated them to send their children to NFE centres.

➤ **BALWADI CENTER – NURTURE FOR A LITTLE CHILD**

The lack of opportunity to go to school coupled with environment settings of slum areas like madanpur khaddar, Jaitpur and rural areas of District Auraiya and Etawah of Uttar Pradesh, parents feel insecure for their child to send them to schools which are distantly located. As a result, children of these metropolitan slums and rural areas are deprived of education.

Most of the children who are dropped out of school are the older children who take care of their younger siblings in the absence of parents, as their parents have to go to work. As a result the younger children of age group 3-6 years as well as children of the age group 7-14 years are both unable to go to school.

Establishment of Balwadi centres- (play schools) by EFRAH thus helped in solving the dual purpose, whereby both the age group of children of ages 3-6 years as well as 7-14 years were able to attend the Balwadi and NFE centres and thus freeing their parents of the worries of their children's care and security.

The teachers of Balwadi are trained to teach the children to play, sit in the class and have positive interactions with other children attending these centres. Regular staff meetings ,follow up meeting with teachers are held to update them of using innovative methods to teach the younger ones- especially play way method is the way in which these children are made to learn.

These teachers' capacity is built by in-house trainings as well as by sending them to trainings organized by like minded organizations.

The methodology includes “ Khel- Khel mein shiksha” , “ Akshar- Chitra” “ Suno-kahani- kaho-Kahani , “ Rangon ki Duniya” etc. Whole programme will ensure the direct participation of the children. It will be completely different from the conventional teachers' learners system.

The Balwadi provides safe and secure environment to the younger ones thereby allowing the older siblings to attend the other education program run by the EFRAH or Govt. school. The Balwadi provides a simple education of reading, writing, counting and rhyme through play way. ***In all 300 children accessed the Balwadi Centers and were mainstreamed as per their age in class 1.***

➤ **REMEDIAL EDUCATION – Fillings the Gaps**

One of the major challenges of school going children who are living in slum or rural areas is that they have little support/time to complete their studies. They do not have anyone to look forward to in case of any doubts/difficulties.

These can be due to various reasons- lack of parents' education or attention from school teachers because of improper teacher and children ratio or lack of suitable environment. Therefore, to help them cope and complete their studies EFRAH identified these children and enrolled them in the Remedial Education Center.

Remedial Education is non formal mode of education where we pay attention to weaker subject/s of the child. The concerned teacher takes care to make the subject easier for the children to understand. A total of 242 children were enrolled in Remedial Education.

➤ **CONDENSED COURSES:**

Condensed courses are offered to children who have dropped out of schools and who had to discontinue their education due to various reasons. As a result of these girls of 14-15 years of age or more, become literate but never educated. They loose their confidence, their life –skills and finally lead a miserable life. Though they show keen interest to join the mainstream but they are restricted to be behind the walls of their jhuggies.

I dropped out from class 7th last year. I could not complete my studies as I was unable to understand Math's and Science. I was frightened to ask my teachers, as none of them had time to make things simpler for students like me.
Then I came across didi from EFRAH who motivated me to attend this remedial centre and counseled my parents and myself. I joined this centre and feel happy that I can understand these subjects as it was taught to me by teacher in remedial centre. I have now managed to pass in these subjects and happy to share with all that now I am studying in class 8 and wish to complete my studies. I would like to thank the teachers at this centre that helped me understand these subjects with ease and helped me to build my confidence to study further. – As expressed by Rekha – 14 year old girl from Madanpur Khadar J.J. colony

EFRAH organized meetings with the parents as well as with the girls and they were ready to continue their studies if they are being provided the facilities for this nearby their homes. 20 Girls were enrolled in the month of April. Their admission forms and formalities to undergo this course were completed. Classes were held and coaching provided to them. Syllabus according to National Institute of open school – NIOS) was taught in the classes. All of these 20 girls have cleared their tenth class and now look forward to clear their 12th class.

➤ **EDUCATION FOR ALL – an effort to bring Quality Education**

The disproportionate children and teacher ratio; depilated infrastructure, poor supervision and monitoring system by authority, lack of coordination between school teachers and authorities, and lack of redressal mechanism leads to decline in quality education and eventually affects children.

The education policy guarantees free education up to 14 years shows contradiction with actual service delivery. The impositions of identity proof at the time of admission and lack of clarity on criteria of admission procedure between the higher authority and schools particularly the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan many underprivileged children face difficulty to enroll in school and are thereby out of education. Moreover, lack of innovative and capacity enhancement trainings for teachers the quality education is in state of shock.

Realizing the facts of poor education system EFRAH began a pilot project on promotion of quality education by sensitizing and mobilizing the nearby Government Schools' teachers and community people. We believe that without their co-operation we cannot bring out the required changes.

EFRAH organized various activities which enabled conceptual clarity of community people, facilitated meetings between parents and teachers, helped in formation of education watch groups, dialogue and interaction with schools teacher etc.

➤ **RESIDENTIAL BRIDGE COURSE PROGRAMMES (SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN U.P.)**

This Is (State Level education Programme) Supported by Department of Alternative Education, Government of India): This program is run in Etawah and Auraiya. This course is for 6 months, for the children who were either dropped out or could not complete their education, or were the ones who had never been to schools.

This program was initiated in November 2006 in Yakubpur (Auraiya) and district Etawah.

60 children (all of whom were boys) in each of the districts were identified for this course, were divided into 2 groups and accordingly they were taught the syllabus. After the completion of the course, they were admitted to class 1 to 5th.

This being a residential course, all the necessary items like groceries and food materials for breakfast, lunch dinner, beds, bed sheets, rooms, cook for cooking the food, one person responsible for taking care and cleaning all the rooms, doctor (was available for the boys) were provided by the Department of Alternative Education, Government of India). The books and study materials along with stationeries too (pen, pencils, erasers, geometry boxes etc) -were provided.

In this program we observed that no girls were sent for the course- as they would have had to stay out of their houses for a period of 6 months. This gives us an idea of the socio-cultural setting, where people still feel that girls should not be allowed to stay out of homes during night.

Also it was observed that students in this course showed lot of improvement in health, their nutrition status also improved. Besides this their overall concentration in studies also increased.

From all these we can definitely conclude that proper nutrition, and appropriate place to study enhances the capacity of students.

➤ **NON-RESIDENTIAL BRIDGE COURSE (SSA U.P.)**

We enrolled over 200 (78 boys and 122 girls) children for non- residential bridge course. This course is for the children who are not able to attend the schools, because of various reasons.

These children are the ones who are working children – working in brick kilns, as rag pickers. This program is for the children of families who belong to extremely poor economic status, religious minorities and Scheduled castes. Most of these children have to work along with their families to support them

financially so as to make the ends meet. Therefore education is the last priority in the minds of these families in this area.

So to convince the parents to allow them to send to these learning centres in itself a challenge.

This bridge course is to allow these children to come at the level with other school going children and mainstream them in government of district Auraiya.

In Etawah, We enrolled over 186 (68 boys and 118 girls) children for non- residential bridge course. This course is for the children who are not able to attend the schools, because of various reasons. This bridge course is to allow these children to come at the level with other school going children and mainstream them in government and recognized schools.

➤ **SCHOOL DAKHILA ABHIYAN (School Admission Campaign)**

It was much awaited program for the community because this time staff of EFRAH along with community pressurized government to admit every child of school going age to school.

The drive was conducted in collaboration of Education Department of Delhi Government and MCD. The objective was to motivate and make the community aware and responsible for bringing children in government schools.

For this purpose, we organized Rallies, Nukkad Nataks, Community Meetings, and door to door visit in the area using Posters, Banners and placards.

It was a good experience where children were brought to school and admitted without any hurdles. Perhaps this was the first time in the lives of parents' to admit their children in an environment where there was no paper work, no hurdles and no pressure or enquiries from the schools. The campaign started in the month of April 2006 and ended in the month of July 2006.

This activity was a great success and we feel such campaign should be organized every year in the community so that maximum children could get opportunity of education.

The major outcome of the campaign was building of referrals and linkages with nearby schools and education department which facilitated us to discuss and bring about improvement of the infrastructure of schools and to initiate a dialogue with teachers and school authorities to provide quality education to children.

The most significant achievement of this activity was the parent – teacher relationship which got a break through when EFRAH conducted roundtable discussion on child rights issues.

➤ **BASTI EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Formation of education committees in different cluster was one of significant outcome of the organization

5 Basti Education Committees (BEC) are formed in different clusters in the communities. Each BEC consists of 5-7 key members from within the community who are known and respected and therefore can pressurize the government school teachers as well as the local leaders/councilors of the area to look into the community matters thus, moving in the direction of being self- reliant. These members were empowered to be involved in the community issues-

be it education of their children or health, hygiene and sanitation of the community. BEC took up most of the community matters and could resolve the related issues on their own.

There was an instance when the students were approaching an MCD school's headmaster for joining the mainstream school. These children were asked to pay excess fee. When we spoke to the admission in charge he refused to admit that he demanded the said increased amount. When the parents approached again they were demanded excess amount. At this juncture we organised an 'Awareness Camp' in association with Right to Education Task Force, to stream the importance of education and each child should get admission in MCD schools. And the problem they face in achieving their aim. This was well attended and the parents come out with their problems when we visited the MCD school in Madanpur Khader phase I and Jaitpur. Along with the member of Right to Education Task Force. The parents named the school official who demanded the increased fees in the presence of the member of Right to Education Task Force. This visit resulted in the proper explanation being asked by the higher authority to the concerned MCD school official for their improper demand of the school fees. The admission in charge of the concerned school has been transferred and enquiry is being held. Subsequent to this even the other MCD schools correcting themselves and maintained proper discipline in the school for regular admission. The teacher attendance also became regular.

➤ **SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAMME (ROOM TO READ)**

Room to read India trust (Room to read, U.S.) program is a collaborative effort with the government MCD School, where we have established 12 libraries in the premises of government school. This is an attempt to establish libraries and cultivate the habit of reading in children. There are facilitators who take care of the children accessing these libraries.

After the appointment of facilitators, they are trained so as to address and care for the needs of these children. The time tables for the classes include a period for the library and the students attend the libraries twice a week.

At the moment these libraries are utilized by the students of the respective schools in which they are located. Efforts are on for further utilization of these libraries by the children who are out of school. 36 more libraries are in the process of being established.

"I am in class 5 and study in MCD School in Jaitpur. I access the library room often. Initially I hesitated to ask the books. But now I take initiative on my own and read the books provided in library. Didi helped me by showing me different books, due to which I could cultivate this habit of reading and feel that books are one of my best friends". Deepak- A student of class 5.

EFRAH staff is grateful to all our donors and partners who provided financial support for different education programs to us without which we could not have moved ahead.

We are thankful to Directorate of Education, Government of Delhi, Government of Uttar Pradesh, who provided financial support for the project Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, residential and nonresidential., Oxfam India trust, Reach India Trust (U.S) for funding the Non Formal Education centres, Balwadi centres, Remedial centres, condensed courses for adolescent girls.

❖ **HEALTH PROGRAM**

➤ **AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAMME**

EFRAH has been involved in setting health camps and AIDS awareness camps with the support from community and Delhi State AIDS Control Society (DSACS). A two day awareness camp on HIV/AIDS was held in the month of July. In this camp the people in the community were made aware of the transmission and non- transmission of HIV/AIDS. Women folk were counseled for HIV testing. People were conveyed about the information on safe sex and its methods, and how they can prevent themselves and others from getting infected with HIV/AIDS.

They were distributed with IEC material which was in local language and hence easy to understand. In the camp a lady doctor was present for both days three hours each. On each of these days large number of women along with young children came forward to access and take medicines for STI and other diseases like cold, cough fever and white discharge. The lady doctor said that women were concerned about their health and hence approached the lady doctor to take advice on safe sex and prevent pregnancy.

Along with doctor a counselor also provided counseling to the women.

This camp gave us an opportunity to discuss with them about HIV/AIDS and also to motivate them for HIV testing.

Our counselor had accompanied a few of them to the Voluntary Counseling and Testing Centre (VCTC) and followed them up and one of them was referred to the concerned VCTC centre. The two of whom who tested HIV positive was linked to the NGO providing care and support after thorough counseling.

EFRAH was a part of the campaign on World Aids day on 1st December. Staff of EFRAH along with the key people in community including SHG leaders, adolescent girls group leaders, and other peers took out a rally in the community spreading the information of transmission and no-transmission of HIV/AIDS along with treatment part of HIV, so that people come out in open and take care of themselves and start their medicines and lead a quality life.

IEC materials procured from DSACS were distributed to people. It has information on transmission and non- transmission of HIV/AIDS, helpline number along with the names and address and contact numbers of VCTC centres, so that people who feel they have involved in high risk behaviour can go on their own to these VCTC. In VCTCs their names and result are kept confidential.

➤ REPRODUCTIVE AND CHILD HEALTH (RCH) Programme

Incomplete knowledge of marriage and family life skills cause women repeated pregnancies and eventually affects their health physically, mentally and even economically. RCH program provides preventive, curative and health promotion of the women and children along with special care of adolescent children. The program emphasizes on reproductive health and thereby stabilizes the population of selected geographical area through family planning without coercion.

Through this program, women and young girls are made aware of the reproductive aspects. They are imparted information on self care, hygiene, and contraception, its availability and use. Information on Care of the child, its nutrition, immunization, importance of breastfeeding, weaning, how and when to start solids, and how to give home cooked food to the children and what all can be given to them are all the information provided to the women and young girls in the community.

As women folk generally do not have much say in the decision making and family size, men too are involved in the meetings where they are also conveyed about how they can take care of limiting their family size and how, when where to take care of their wives in case they are pregnant, care during pregnancy, their nutrition are some of the other aspects which are discussed.

❖ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

➤ AWARENESS CAMPS

Awareness camps were conducted for Mahila panchayat members on various issues. These camps provide information to women /girls, which help them to be self confident and take charge of their lives and take independent decisions.

Each meeting was held on a particular topic. The awareness program helped the women to understand about their rights.

| | Date | No. of Participants | Resource person | Topic |
|---|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 06/02/2006 | 40 | Ms. Rubeena & Sulekha | Women empowerment |
| 2 | 26/04/2006 | 35 | Pankaj Gupta | Awareness Prog for women's right |
| 3 | 26/05/2006 | 26 | S .P .Rothar | Hindu Marriage Act |
| 4 | 28/06/2006 | 28 | Mohammad Mustafa | Women & Sexual harassment |
| 5 | 20/07/2006 | 40 | S .P .Rothar | Domestic Violence |
| 6 | 29/08/2006 | 36 | S .P .Rothar | Gender discrimination |

We organized several awareness camps in this period. Through these types of camps the people become more understandable about various programs which have been implemented. In the period of April 2006-March 2007 EFRAH organized Tobacco awareness camp, Right to education, School Dakhila Abhiyan and Right to information.

These camps provide a platform for the people particularly women to come forward and talk about their problems, discuss them with the staff and get information of where to go in case of lodging complaint for eve-teasing, or FIR in case of domestic violence and thus be aware of their rights.

Also the women and girls are provided the numbers of help lines- particularly the ones providing legal help to women, protection for women/girls for lodging complaint for eve-teasing etc those that are available for women.

We have observed during our interactions with girls and women of the community that they are now more confident and aware of their rights and do not hesitate to articulate their feelings even when it comes to discuss about domestic violence, or any harassment in the family. This shows that at least they will not tolerate any type of violence in their lives and know where and how to approach the authorities even if it means lodging complaints for matters like eve-teasing, domestic violence, sexual harassment or any such related abuse.

➤ RALLIES AND NUKKAD MEETINGS

We conducted rallies to sensitize and mobilize people for various issues like education, importance of health, for women's and girls issues.

Children, adolescent girls, boys, women shopkeepers and other important key stakeholders took part in the rallies enthusiastically. This showed how much the people in the community have now become aware and that they are involved in their issues and that only thing these people need is a little bit of facilitation from the staff of ERFRAH- in terms of information where and how these can be received and utilized. In the rallies we all walked with placards, banners and posters, which had information on the above issues.

Nukkad meetings are the ones which are held in small clusters where there is presence of key stakeholders like shop keepers, SHG leaders, Basti Education Committee members, and some people of community (around 10- 15 members are Present) and where topics based on the need/issues/problems of the people in community is discussed to derive some solution to the problems.

For example: whenever there is any problem by a child in education centre in school, or a woman/girl is physically, mentally tortured or abused, or if some people are facing any health problems and are not ready to access health service for any reasons, these Nukkad meetings help them to enable to come to some solution by finding out ways to face them.

Community meetings are very important which helped to mobilize the parents to send their children into school. Around 20 community meetings were arranged in our centers.

➤ **PARENTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS**

We conducted 20 parent teacher associations in government school. These meetings provide a platform for parents of the children to interact with the government school teachers otherwise who never interacted with each other.

These meetings help the parents to get an update of their children and accordingly take steps to improve them. The children have become aware of these things and now do not play truant. The attendances of children in school records show an increase. Children also feel happy to know that parents are taking interest in their day today lives and progress.

Besides these, PTA meetings have also enabled to discuss and solve things like availability of hygiene, sanitation, clean toilets and drinking water to the children. Attendance of teachers and individual attention to the ones who need them are also provided by the teachers to the students. These and many other related issues are discussed in these PTA meetings.

All these have motivated parents to send their children to schools.

Distribution of pamphlets, brochures and related IEC material in all these meetings and rallies is an important feature as this is one of the ways in which we emphasize and re-emphasize what we have to convey to these people.

➤ **GENDER SENSITIZATION PROGRAM**

EFRAH collaborated with Delhi Commission for Women (DCW), Action India, Delhi Police, and women cells. The collaboration helped to solve the problems if the case workers could not solve it in the community level.

EFRAH organized gender sensitization and training program for women/adolescent girls of community on gender, domestic violence, foeticides, their rights and how they can lodge FIR etc. with the help of resource persons from the above organizations.

These collaborations helped us to establish the faith in legal system as these are the government agencies and when people from government organizations come as resource person's women /girls of the community feel very happy. We have observed that during the question and answer sessions, these women participants have lot of questions to ask them relating to day- today life.

Particularly the women who face domestic violence have no place to go besides their husband's house have taken advantage of notifying their complaints with the Crime Women Cell (C WC) and after some interactions of husband and police at these centres, husbands have stopped harassing their wives.

In community meetings women have often shared these positive experiences with other women and motivated them to take such steps and even helped them to register such cases.

Initially women never thought that they can even think about sharing anything about their lives with anyone, but our regular interactions and trainings/meetings have facilitated them to come out and express themselves. These have had positive impact on their lives in a holistic way. Couples are leading better lives now.

Following table gives the information about the different cases tackled and its number:

| Case category | No. of cases reported | No. of hearing occurred | Total no. of cases solved | No. of notice sent |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Doubts | 15 | 34 | 22 | 28 |
| Quarrel | 07 | 10 | 08 | 10 |
| Affair with another women | 06 | 08 | 02 | 06 |
| Alcoholics | 07 | 15 | 11 | 15 |
| Teasing | 02 | 06 | 02 | 03 |
| Second marriage | 04 | 05 | 02 | 08 |
| Livelihood allowance | 17 | 35 | 16 | 29 |
| Dowry | 03 | 05 | 08 | 10 |
| Other | 14 | 19 | 12 | 20 |

➤ **WOMEN AWARENESS GENERATION PROGRAM**

3 women awareness generation program camps of eight days each were organized at Madan pur Khadar- blocks A, B and D with the support of Central Social welfare board.

BEC Chairperson Ms. Soni Kapoor inaugurated the camp. In the awareness camp, many topics were undertaken for awareness building viz. Role of women in the family & society, Need and importance of women in social development, Violence – Its impact on women, Working women – problems at work place and solution towards a healthy life, Reproductive and child health, ill effects of drug and alcohol on women, Prevention of HIV, AIDS & STD, Legal rights of women, Self Defense- Importance of Social security for women.

A collective “Lunch” was organized in the community with the purpose to promote unity in the community. Large number of people belonging to different communities and religions were a part of this lunch.

➤ **SELF HELP GROUPS (SHG)**

The nature of Self-Help Group (SHG) is like a group of poor people, preferably from the same socio-economic background. They come together for the purpose of solving their economical problems through mutual understanding. The SHG promotes small savings among poor women. The savings are kept with a bank. This common fund is used for loaning of each other members of the group. Usually, the number of members in one group is not more than twenty.

EFRAH is running nearly 10 groups in the community. Each group is bounded with certain rules and regulations which are formed by them. Each members deposit their money into the SHG groups. The group has been running for last five years and its outcomes are excellent. The minimum monthly saving of a group is not less than Rs.50.00 and more than 100.00 per month.

EFRAH provided training of the SHG leaders in which their capacity was built towards about the importance of SHG/ what is it and why are they formed and how they can be operated and sustained, maintaining the records, how these can be managed and when and how to pressurize the defaulter to repay the loan that has been taken and related issues.

EFRAH arranged amount for training of members and other purpose through its sources. This is a self-sustained program of the organization. This was the only activity where EFRAH did not put much effort except using its own rapport in the community. Apart form saving, loaning was almost 100% monthly. For example: Around 201 women joined the various groups. Out of which 148 used the loan facility for their different use. Default ratio was very low. Mutual understanding within the groups is observed.

- 31% women used loan for their own business (with husband) purpose
- 18% members used loan for construction of their houses
- 24% members took loan for marriage and education of their children
- 13% members took loan for health and medical facility purpose
- 14% members took loan for celebration of festivals and other purpose

SHG not only provide a platform to share their money but also the members find it a suitable place to discuss about their own psychological concerns /problems, about their children study and other family related problems.

➤ **ADOLESCENTS AWARENESS GROUPS (AAG)**

AAG comprises of adolescent girls from within the areas of Madanpur Khadar, J.J colony, and Kachhi colony. We have total of 10 groups in 10 blocks. Each of these blocks is divided into 5 sub-blocks. In each of these sub-block an AAG is formed which consists of 10 girls as its members. Each of the blocks has 50 girls as its members. And therefore the entire coverage of AAG is 500 adolescent girls. Each of these girls group have selected two active members as their leaders who are responsible to inform their groups about the place of meeting, issues to be discussed in the meetings and also try to solve any problem related to girls. They have capacitated enough to know the different help line numbers for women in case of any harassment- whether sexual, physical or mental and how, when and whom to try in case of any problem.

The adolescents groups are now willing to form an adolescent's forum of the groups from all over the community to press for their demands at Policy Level, in a bigger group. These groups will unite under a big banner to approach the policy makers, sensitize them towards the problems of the community and the youth in particular, press for the participation of youth and find out the solution to the problems. AAG member's participated area clean drive work as volunteer and start saving account.

In the monthly meetings organized girls were asked about their view for strengthening AAG. These adolescents groups felt that they can work for the awareness building and can raise demands for their Rights at the appropriate Forum or with the Govt. The only thing needed is to Unite and have proper guidance and awareness about "Where and How to ask for their Rights". There are laws and facilities being allocated by the Govt. for the underprivileged, but we have to raise our demand at the right time and right place to get these allocations materialized in favour of poor and marginalized.

➤ **VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME**

Communities meeting were organized by EFRAH to find out the possibility of vocational training program for women and adolescents girls living in the area. Then it was decided between EFRAH and parents to hold a community orientation meeting with adolescents and women. The basic idea behind vocational training is to provide a source of income to the women who stay at home.

30 adolescent girls – in two batches of 15 each -were trained for beauty culture and were imparted training for six months.

Some of these girls are working independently and occasional get offers to apply mehendi, facial etc. and supporting their families financially. These girls appear quite confident and now they have their lives under their control. Parents have started praising them too.

➤ **RIGHT TO INFORMATION**

Fair price shopkeepers many times failed to provide grains- cereals, sugar, and kerosene to People below poverty line. EFRAH facilitated the process of right to information to know about Public Distribution System and have asked the fair price owners and Public Distribution System to provide an explanation for the same. The explanation is awaited.

EFRAH has facilitated the process of RTI and have asked explanation for its failure to provide avail health services for the people of the community.

➤ **ADVOCACY AND NET WORKING**

The networking and advocacy is the component works in community mobilization. The aim of the networking and advocacy is to collaborate with other NGOs working for social cause so as to make collective efforts for the improvement in conditions with regards to health, education, civic amenities etc. In this we network with like minded NGOs. EFRAH is actively participating in many advocacies and networking agencies which are working in education and health issues.

➤ **Delhi Bal Adikar Manch:**

DBAM is a networking and advocacy forum of 26 organizations, individuals, activists and educationists working for establishment of education, rights of the children in Delhi. EFRAH is one of the Active members of this forum and constantly raises voice in support of the children particularly from deprived section of society. In order to meet the objectives of the forum, mobilization of community on various child development issues were organized. This was done through Rally, workshops, media advocacy, press release, and meetings with community leaders, schoolteachers etc.

Getting together on a similar platform, planning, the Chetna Sivirs- A platform where the stakeholders along with the people who face problems are brought on a common platform, where the affected people get to dialogue with the bureaucrats/ authorities directly and some conclusions are drawn.

➤ **Delhi –Forces**

EFRAH is co-convenor of Neenv- Delhi Forces, a networking and advocacy forum that act as pressure group that brings together the diverse concerns for the survival and development of young child and mother working in unorganized sector. Neev build the demand for Early Child Care Services (ECCD) & entitlement of the women in the unorganized sector for the last 10 years.

➤ **Jan Swasthaya abhiyan- Delhi(JSA-D)**

In 2000, about 50 concerned organizations, individuals, activists, doctors and volunteers came forward together to form the **Jan Swasthya Abhiyan–Delhi (JSA-D)** with the aim to focus on the health issues at policy level, grassroots level and media level. It works through its partner organizations, medical and legal professionals, academic, and individuals, in almost all the parts of Delhi. It is believed that health care services are increasingly apathetic, inadequate and expensive for a common man. The prevalence of health inequalities in Delhi due to the result of policies which is cutting down on subsidies, handing over public utility services to profit making hands etc .JSA-D carried out a campaign for “**Health for All**” by making the people realize the need of **basic health care as fundamental right** of every citizen of the country.

➤ **STAFF ORIENTATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM**

It is one of the regular programs of EFRAH. Often we are organizing capacity building programs for our staff so that their skill could be enhanced. We also send our staff out side for training program so that they can upgrade their skill. During this period following training programs were conducted:

➤ **FIVE DAY TRAINING PROGRAM ON QUALITY EDUCATION .**

The training was conducted on 24th to 29th October 2006 in Basti Vikas Kendra. The resource persons were Ms. Nirmal Bagga, Ms. Usha, Mr. Ashok Jha, N.P. Shishodia, Ms. Jagdish kaur and Ms. Sadhana and many others conduct the session from different educational institution. The training was really interested and fruitful in terms of learning and gaining. First time the teachers knew that how they can inculcate interest among children despite limited resources. Using waste material was very interested. The view of the teachers was positive and creative. They not only enjoyed the program but also prepared teaching material for their own centers for using in classes. Training programme helped the teachers to crystallize ideas about non-formal education and got on opportunity present them. Teachers got idea hoe to evaluate the children teaching methods, school environment, and curriculum and teachers children relationship.

➤ **VALUE BASED EDUCATION**

This program was organized by one of the voluntary organized namely SAKSHI working in the area of women and child development in Delhi. It was a four-day training program. Two teachers – Ms. Anupama & Ms. Sugra from EFRAH participated in this program. The training was based on values in education system. It was quite interesting and learning. These tow participants also shared their experience to the other staff during in-house training.

➤ In-house training:-One-day each, in-house training/orientation program conducted for the staff in the month of July. 2006. The objective of this program was to make clear understanding about the project Education- A Hope.

- 15 days awareness programme was organized with support of 'Shakti Shalini' from April 2006 to June 2006 for 15 community women and staff of EFRAH at Jungpura on the issues /problems faced by women at home, at work place such as domestic violence, physical, mental and sexual abuse at both the work place and home, about their rights and help lines how, when, where to contact them and others.
- Child right programme organized in Madanpur Khaddar with partnership Mobile crèche's and deasapple,
- EFRAH, Mobile creche's, Muneer, Casp plan and deasapple celebrated child right campaign and Yatra in madanpur khaddar raise demand to start ICDS centers in madanpur khaddar.
- Mrs. Sugra and Ms. Anupama participated Jan Swasthya Abhiyan training programme on T.B. at Delhi T.B. Association. .
- Mrs. Kausar Parveen and 2 community leader attended cadre building workshop on community issues at ISI organized by DBAM.
- On women day EFRAH organized women meeting and rally in the community against eve teasing and domestic violence.
- Stree- Shakti mela organized by Sahyog charitable trust and EFRAH with support of Delhi govt. For women health.

❖ **COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION**

EFRAH received contribution in terms of both financial and non-financial. Financial contribution was taken in form of fee, rent, material charges and picnic contribution and non- financial in terms of providing place in the community for meetings, joining in rallies, helping in preparing the placards, banners, doing all the running about for getting these.

❖ **STRATEGY**

The EFRAH has formulated strategy in consultation with the local people. Some of the important features of the strategy are;

- Groups are developed in all of the project communities. Regular interaction is ensured with the groups. They are given managerial inputs to improve the effectiveness of their individual and group enterprises and programs
- Planning and execution of the development programs is done through the respective local groups.
- The disadvantaged, such as, poor, aged, women, children, handicapped, minorities, scheduled castes, etc., are given priority for rendering services.
- Some considerations, such as, gender sensitivity, child development and environment conservation, are given while planning or executing any community development program.
- Local resources, men, material, money, etc., are given priority for undertaking any development initiative.
- All the programs are monitored at three levels, i.e., group at community level, implementation committee at project level and staff at organization level. Feedback is given immediately after monitoring.
- Linkages are established with the resource agencies for smooth implementation of the program.
- The programs are started with a plan of definite phase out after a stipulated period.
- The people in a gradual process starting from orientation to owning the program shoulder responsibility of managing the programs.
- Three level approval and checking system is followed for any petty expenditure. Proper records are prepared for every bit of accounts. The accounts are audited by in-house team and an outside audit firm.
- The strategy is reviewed in sight of the project objectives while undertaking any project.

❖ **FUTURE PLANNING**

We will take steps to strengthen our efforts further to make the communities move towards self- reliance by facilitating and motivating the people to send their children to NFE, Balwadi centres, remedial classes,

by making them aware the importance of these in their lives and try to build on them. We will help to build community structures which will be responsible to take their own issues further.

❖ **OUR PARTNERS**

Oxfam India Trust, Reach India, Delhi Social Welfare, Advisory Board, Indo Global social Service Society, New Delhi, Delhi Bal Adhikar Manch, New Delhi, Indian Environment Societies (ministry of Environment), Room to Read, New Delhi, Delhi State Aids Control society, UEE Mission, Department of Education, NCT Delhi, Directorate of alternative Education (SSA), Department of Education, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Members and friends, Delhi Forces (co-convener), Community and friends ,Office of Basic Shiksha Adhikar, District- Auraiya & Etawah of Uttar Pradesh

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