

Marathwada Garmin Vikas Sanstha (MGVS) Aurangabad
Link worker Scheme
Impact Report b of LWS project April 2022 to March 2023

Project information:

- In Aurangabad District in 2009 link worker scheme HIV/AIDS prevention and Control Project started for targeted high risk population HRGs , Truckers, Migrants , Vulnerable population , Orphan vulnerable children's .
- Link worker scheme implemented in 100 high risk villages and within these 14 years MGVS project dropout old 80 villages and conducted new 80 villages.
- At the beginning of the LWS project Aurangabad is one of the districts in Maharashtra with a high prevalence of HIV and the numbers of HIV Positive individuals detected are increasing day by day from the general community, Clients and partners of FSWs and amongst youth. Yet a large population is undetected as they may be in the window period or may not have undergone HIV testing because lack of information and awareness of HIV /AIDS in village area.
- In 2009 HIV positivity rate of Aurangabad District is 2.29% and ANC prevalence rate is 0.15 % . (As per DAPCU Data)

Key Activities conducted through this LWS project in the year:

- Created awareness in the villages through the Street play, Poster exhibition, and awareness campaigning, hording display and IEC distribution, Wall paintings
- Conducted HIV camps(multi health checkup camps) in the villages with the coordination of ICTC ,PHC and Mobile van and also did the testing of Sexually transmitted disease (Regular medical checkup)
- Provide nutritional food support & Travel support to the HIV affected children's.
- Identify volunteers and established Red ribbon Centers in the village and also with the support of gram Panchayat established sanyukta IEC room in the village
- Established condom depot in the village and established 3 depot for condom distribution in the village.

Before implementation of project:

- HRGs/PLHIV didn't know how to use the condom and benefits of the condom use.
- HRG didn't know about the safe sex practices because lack of education, knowledge.
- Migrants those who are coming from outside of village and district didn't know the use of condom, and free availability in villages.
- HRGs and migrants and youths of village didn't know about the HIV /AIDS & STI . & Also How to spread HIV and STI
- Village stakeholders also didn't know any information regarding HIV/AIDS/STI .
- Villagers feeling bad and women's also feeling shameful when any one discuss about the sexual relationship or safe sex openly

- HRGs not taking freely about the STI symptoms' and their safe sex practices and they didn't demanding condom stock at the beginning of the project.
- PLHIV didn't know about the ART treatment and they are lost from follow up from ART also they didn't know about the nutritious food
- PLHIV didn't know about spread of HIV to their wife/husband or partner
- Family members of PLHIV did the stigma discrimination with them.

After the starting implementation of project following impacts / changes have been made:

- HRGs, Migrants, vulnerable population, PLHIV know the information regarding HIV/AIDS, STI, condom use, and free availability through the LWS project at condom depot in village.
- All target population know their HIV status through the HIV testing by the LWS project
- HRGs doing safe sex practices also they demanding the condom in each month to the LW and from Vihamandwa and Bhavan village HRGs not found HIV positive within last 4 to 5 years.
- Link worker project after every two year completion of project changed those villages, conducted 20 to 30 % new villages and dropout those 20% to 30 % villages in that villages full fledged awareness has been created and no one has been found to be infected with HIV and the target of HIV testing has been completed.
- PLHIVs know their status of viral load and viral suppression regularly because of the continuous follow-up and support of LWS project
- Also PLHIV and CLHIV took regular ART medicine every month.
- Through the LWS project provide nutritional support to 75 CLHIVs and support of travel allowance for going to the ART from this support PLHIVs and CLHIVs took regular medicine and nutrition because their financial condition is not good.
- Lws staff did the counseling to the families of PLHIV regarding stigma and discrimination and after this continuous counseling reduces stigma and discrimination.
- LWS project build up a rapport with the village, block and district level all stakeholders.
- HRGs and PLHIVs call to LWS staff regarding STI screening & HIV screening for HRG.
- Now In 2022-2023 HIV positivity rate of Aurangabad District for general client is 0.37% and ANC prevalence rate is 0.03 %. (As per DAPCU Data) as compared to beginning of the project positivity rate is decreased as shown.

Innovations: 70 PLHIV Linked to Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana Government Scheme. (Social Benefit Scheme) and 40 PLHIVs file are in progress