

JANUARY 2017-MARCH 2017

WINTER AT KMWSC IS GETTING WARM AND MEMORABLE.

We thank Sr.Noelle, The General Superior of Loreto Congregation for sharing her moments with us. We were honoured to have her amongst us. She was greeted by the staffs of KMWSC and had an interactive session with them. She met trainees of tailoring course, Beautician course and Bakery. New ideas were exchanged and we have been enriched by her in so many ways.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks and express our gratitude to Sr.Noel for visiting Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre. Her dedication, commitment and her experience will continue to inspire the KMWSC team forever



BAREFOOT TEACHERS TRAINING

Teachers who loves teaching teach children to love learning

70 participants from different places like Joynagar, Mallickpur, Gosaba, Sunderbon, Santragachi, Uttarpara, Liluah, Tona attended the Barefoot Teachers trainings. This year we have got a government pre primary school teacher of Savitri Pathshala school attending our training. Barefoot teachers training was given in all three languages. The teachers are earning and gaining confidence, as a result of which its drawing the attention of other women in the community, leading to greater demand for the training. Ms. Sushila Marandi our esteemed trainer has been training teachers for the last 15 years. Training are organized to train teachers for pre-primary and primary education. Training continues for 3 days when teachers learn to plan the curriculum and come up with creative ways to communicate concepts. Although Barefoot teachers training model mainly leads to women's empowerment, men also attends the Training session. A follow up on the training was organized at Gosaba-Sunderbon for the teachers 3 days.



SENSITIZING ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Alone we can do little together we can do much

Community awareness campaign has been conducted in Daria, Hatpukuria, Bansra, Taldi, Matla II, Itkhola and Dighirpaar Gram Panchayats on Anti-human trafficking initiatives and women and child protection issues. Approx 600 women from self help group participated in the awareness campaign. International Women's day was also celebrated on 8th March 2017 in Canning Block as well in Basanti Block in collaboration with World Vision India. 160 mothers from community have been sensitized on importance of Women's day followed by anti-human trafficking initiatives started by KMWSC



We can do something

Loreto congregation completed 175 years of their presence in India. To commemorate the occasion KMWSC the development wing of Loreto sisters will be conducting this International conference for the Anti Human Trafficking International conference to be held on 25th November and 26th November, 2017. Presently KMWSC Team has conducted 3 meetings with possible collaborators and partners of the programme. Indian Council for Cultural Relations has been fixed as the venue of this International Conference.

Change the needle change the thread and try again

24 trainees have successfully appeared for the final evaluation of Tailoring Course under Vocational Skill Development Project in Canning. In the second batch 30 candidates have enrolled in 6th month tailoring course under Vocational Skill Development Project in Canning. Director of KMWSC visited Canning and encouraged and motivated the trainees.



Stolen People Stolen dreams

A Bangladeshi minor girl has been rescued by KMWSC in collaboration with Justice & Care from red light area in Naihati.

3 accused got arrested under community pressure in Mathurapur Block for a child trafficking case. Unfortunately the child was killed by the perpetrators. The case is being followed up by regularly by KMWSC Team so that that Justice is meted out.

2 more cases of human trafficking is in process. Right now KMWSC team is advocating with Police and CID department West Bengal for rescue, rehabilitation and repatriation of the trafficked cases..



ONE BILLION RISING



Let us Strike, dance to end the violence.

14th February 2017.....oh what a footfall!!! KMWSC successfully mobilized 4000 people and beyond at Mohorkunj for ONE BILLION RISING 2017. It surpassed our expectation. We would specially like to thank our chief guest Ms. Kamala Bhasin. She needs no introduction. KMWSC team is absolutely smitten and is in awe of this amazing and powerful lady. She is indeed a trend setter and a visionary. She helped us broaden our perspective and opened new vistas for us.

We would also like to thank our guest performers, who set the ball rolling; Shane Hyrapiet, Daya Nidhi Rao, Rodney Rodrigues, Kamran Khurshid, Christopher Lobo, Peter Gomes, Greig Francis, Aaron Claudius, Riya D' Abreo; who stood by us and with the cause. We are thankful to them to have taken their precious time out.

We especially thank the principals, teachers and students of Loreto Schools, St. Thomas School, Julien Day School, Albany Hall Public School, St. Georges' School, St. Mary's School, St. Anthony School, La Martiniere School, St. Joseph's School, Rabindra Bharati University, Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Behala Keertika, our little starlets from Rainbow and our talented bunch of stars from our own project site. What brilliant and thoughtful performances Mohorkunj got to see that day. They set the stage on fire with their blazing performances. One Billion Rising 2017 has been a rewarding experience, but Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre will not rest on its laurels; the lingering essence of One Billion Rising 2017 will give us the impetus to prepare and take another step ahead in One Billion Rising 2018.

We thank each one of you who had been with us on 14.02.17, in Person or in thought



HIDDEN DOMESTIC CHILD LABOUR

An ending to mark a new beginning

HDCL Project started in 2013. On 14th February the 5 year project funded by Comic relief supported by Save the children completed its project implementation time period. Presently HDCL project is focussing on continuing the project in identifying Multipurpose Activity centers in new areas. Meeting with ward councillors, Community children is going on to assess their needs

Follow up life skill training with VT candidates

One day follow up life skill session was organised at Hotel Big Boss. Total 13 participants attended the training programme. The objective of the training was to encourage the candidates to change their outlook towards work. Some of the participants shared their challenges faced at workplace. An interactive session was organized which gave the participants a new perspective about the significance of work.



Let's Play

Annual sports programme for the project beneficiaries was conducted at Alambazar. Total 40 children took part in various events. Events that were organized were run, spoon and Mabel race, skipping race. Children were given gifts by the councillor representative and club members. Such Sports programme is helping in improving a child's self-esteem, is teaching them about teamwork and helping them to develop self-discipline and social skills. Taking part in a sport is also greatly improving a child's sense of self-worth



MELAN (Certificate distribution of VT candidates) - where Talent wins recognition

Melan was conducted at Swabhumi. There were 16 candidates from KMWSC who were felicitated with their heads of training institutes along with the candidates of other partner organizations. The member from SPCPR shared their views, ideas about the education of girl children in West Bengal. The Borough Chair man of ward no 10 graced the occasion with his presence and gave a speech which motivated the trainees a lot. Two girls shared their stories which touched everyone's heart. All of them appreciated the efforts put in by KMWSC which channelized the energy of students into vocational training.



IN THE RED LIGHT AREA

Never stop learning

10 children were part of life skill need assessment programme. A two day training programme followed by a community meeting especially with the mothers the life skill need of the children from the red light area was organized. A template module has been developed which will be followed for a year. 8 children who have never been to school or have dropped out from school previously have been admitted to School and now they are attending school regularly.



Love of beauty is the creation of Beauty

A small gathering was organized to encourage the women receiving Beautician training. 4 women who have completed the course were awarded certificates. All the other trainees were encouraged by small token beauty kits to practise their learnt skills

Awareness changing mindsets

An awareness generation drive through street theatre was held in the Sonagachi community at two venues. The mission of the campaign was to make the community aware of women's right, curse of child marriage and importance of education of women.

Quality time with Parents

Parents meeting are always helpful as they help in opening up new avenue as was in the meeting in the month of February. Suggestions to form mothers group and recreational classes for the Commercial Sex Workers have been raised in the meeting which will be actualized soon.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Beauty isn't only about makeup

- The last batch of the training for the year of 2016-2017 is going on. Placements are taking place simultaneously. We have been able to successfully train approximately 200 candidates
- Regular parents meeting and meeting with the trainees have brought some effective changes in the class. Less number of drop-outs and regular attendees are the most visible change
- Beautician Training is definitely empowering women from marginalized communities.



Bakery bringing soul to the recipe

- Bakery Trainees are about to complete their first year course. Bakery is finally taking shape.
- During one billion rising programme food for around 300 people were prepared by KMWSC Bakery on 14th March, 2017.
- We have been successful in supplying buns and other bakery items to various Rainbow Homes now.
- Food, for various teachers training programme at KMWSC, is regularly supplied from the bakery.
- Some vulnerable and young girls who are in absolute need of the training have been inducted into the one year bakery training.
- Corporate Houses is often placing orders with us and we are receiving positive reviews from them



Beautiful things come together one stitch at a time

New batch has started from March. Approximately 25 candidates have passed out in the last batch which came to an end in February. In-house and stray orders are also coming in. More than 43 candidates have been admitted in the new batch. Auto campaign and leaflet distribution has been done for the mobilisation of candidates for all the three skill development training. KMWSC is making an attempt in that direction to make women self sufficient through sewing training centres. The main aim of this program is to enhance the quality of life of women through increased knowledge and skills. Women are also able to stand on their feet and be an earning member of the family

SOLAR

Solar Lamps bringing change

Solar assembling in the month of January continued. 150 solar lamps has been assembled and prepared in solar growth centre. This in future will be distributed to the families of children attending the centre who do not have electricity in their houses.



LODHA

Health and Hygiene is the greatest gift

Awareness on Health and hygiene was conducted for lodha community people. Demo was given as in how to keep toilets neat and clean how to use harpic, brush and phenyl. 20 people were given a bucket each along with harpic and phenyl.



Medical health camps is the answer to good health

Free medical check up camp was organized for Lodha community people. 40 people attended the camp

One Lodha child who has reached till class 8 was felicitated with school bag and some school stationery after the awareness programme.

People at Gosaba under Solar Enlightenment project: Always find a reason to smile

Parents meeting were organized under Solar Enlighten project especially on how to use solar lamps. 55 parents attended the meeting. 65 solar lamps, were distributed amongst old women of our project area. Clothes were also distributed amongst children. They were happy to receive clothes. With distribution of solar lamps KMWSC is excited to bring improvements in people's life by offering a low cost, fuel efficient, health friendly and environmentally friendly lighting source. The project highlights an initiative that is scalable and is changing the quality of education in those areas by giving students an opportunity to study after sunset with the help of solar lamps



BRICK FIELD SCHOOL



Looking through a different spectrum

External Evaluation of Brickfield Project has been conducted to determine the completeness, transparency and objectivity of the project. Dr. Ashis Kumar conducted the evaluation which will provide the organisation with quality feedback and the possibilities for further improvement of the Brickfield school project. Evaluations of the Brickfield project will help improve on-going project operations and will be a learning experience for KMWSC..

Creativity involves always purposeful play

KMWSC conducted and organized street plays across Brickfields about Child rights, ill effects of child marriage, importance of education. This has helped to take the issue to the children who most often is kept outside the purview of sensitization and knowledge creation. Creative and performing arts has always been one of the KMWSC mainstays of work which is successfully instilling a sense of self-confidence and dignity, in the lives of these migrant children.

Being healthy is a way of living

KMWSC has organized 28 health camps in the first phase of the project in the Brickfields till date. 3000 people have been reached out through this camp. The aim of the camps is not just to provide health services but to create an environment where the whole community gets sensitized about health issues. The camps typically included information for the youth and children on health issues, counselling for adolescents, screening facilities and awareness programmes with health messages. The well attended health awareness and camps proved how health issues can be communicated to the community in an interesting and interactive fashion.



Sports do not build personalities they reveal it

KMWSC believes that games and sports are a great way to stay healthy and fit both physically and mentally. Brickfield children mostly spend their life in miserable conditions. KMWSC organized sports engages with such children and build an atmosphere of fun and frolic to boost their spirits and create cherished memories. KMWSC is using sports in empowering underprivileged children and improving their life prospects



BRICK FIELD SCHOOL

Radio Documentary of Brickfield Project

Mr. Fragel McCarthy from Misesan Cara visited KMWSC. He visited India with the objective of conducting radio documentation of Brickfield project. He visited Akra, Tona, Pujali, Barasat Brickfields to interview parents, families, children, teachers of the Brickfield school project. The radio documentary on Brickfield school project will be aired at a popular radio show at Ireland. It is indeed a unique experiment in using media technologies, especially radio, for development and empowerment of marginalised, rural communities. KMWSC felt honoured for getting such an opportunity he visited all the way from Chiaco to India. KMWSC team is looking forward to the radio documentation work.



LOTUS CHILD PROJECT

Celebrating the elegance of women hood

Women's Day is celebrated globally on 8 March every year in honour of their remarkable contribution to our society. On the eve of International Women's Day two puppet shows were organised at Sonapota in remembrance of the inspiring women around the world and to build more equitable societies. As this kind of event was organised for the first time the entire group enjoyed a lot. The participants gathered a lot of knowledge about the contribution of women towards society



Fun time along with visitors

Our 12 year long association with Allanah Smith, our funder for Lotus Child project and her mother Ms. AnneMarie visited the project site and met the beneficiaries of Sonapota and Chaulgola project, and interacted with them. We are grateful to her for her extensive support towards the community and the project.



WE THANK ALL OUR WELL WISHERS



Birthday celebration –A day to remember

First Battlelion OC Mr.Pinaki Dey along with Mr. Sunil Lucas visited KMWSC office to celebrate the birthday of one year old kid rayan.80 children from HDCL project and 20 children from Sonagachi Red light Area project attended the celebration. Games were organized for children to mark the occasion. Food packets along with gifts were distributed amongst the children.

Visitors bringing smiles

We would like to thank Val Johnston for constant support with her contribution which gives us inspiration always to continue with our work.However big or small, contribution it will always go a long way to help our communities and make a difference in their lives.

A visit with a difference.

Every year thousands of well wishers and friends **come to KMWSC to volunteer**.Our very special guests from John Scotus spent a few days with us at KMWSC. KMWSC always finds happiness while working with volunteers who always bring positive changes in the project work.John Scottus students were passionate about discussing creative ideas that would help the projects run smoothly. Such visits will always be memorable for all of us at KMWSC.

We rise by lifting others

Our very special guests from Toronto spent a few days with us at KMWSC. We felt privileged to have hosted a bunch of jaunty and enthusiastic students led by two teachers who were briefed about our various projects. They spent some time with our little learners in one of our project sites in the brick field school. We are also happy to say that they have assured us to extend their hands to help us with the Anti Human Trafficking project to be held in the month of November, 2017.



OUR SUPPORTERS

Beautiful minds inspire others

4 visitors from **Stichting Actie Calcutta (SAC)** named Jessica and her group were taken to a brick field visit at Akra Brickfield by BFS team. The team of visitors also met with the Director of KMWSC. They have interacted with the teachers and migrant children during the classroom. They shared their happiness during the visit and appreciated the kind of work Brickfield project is doing. They assured us of giving school bags to children.

Building a healthy camp that Worked

Thomas and Karin from Calcutta Rescue visited Kaikala Brickfield to oversee the Health camp organized. Around people attended the camp. 4 Visitors from Calcutta Rescue also visited the Brick Fields at Barasat.

Happiness is visit by friends

Every year volunteer work has become regular part of for visitors to KMWSC. KMWSC Team gave a brief orientation about KMWSC. Team shared KMWSC contribution to the society. The students, volunteers interacted with all the staff. There was a smile on everyone's face and the orientation may be remembered as a memorable one.

13 visitors from St Stephen's Green were taken to MAC visit and Sonagachi Red Light Project.

We are proud to say the St Stephen's Green participated with us at the One Billion Rising event on 14th February at Mohorkunj and supported the movement with their presence. They visited multipurpose activity centres as well as Brickfield schools during their visit. They interacted with children, played games and had lots of fun during their visit. The kids enjoyed their presence and spend quality time with the group. They said goodbyes to each other with the hope that they will visit again next year.

Thank you for all the special things you do

We want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Loreto Bowbazaar school Principal, Staff, Students who donated clothes for our kids. Your generosity will make an immediate difference in the lives of so many children. Your contribution means so much to KMWSC but even more to the children. Thank you from all of us.



NETWORKING

Networking is the sum of small efforts

Water for People India Trust in collaboration with ITC “Mission Sunehra Kal” Project organised a **Multi-Stakeholders’ Consultation** on “Challenges and way forward towards enabling sustainable sanitation and healthy community” at Hotel Novotel. Ms. Poulomi Patra along with Mr. Tapas Paul attended the programme.

Meets strengthening collaboration

KMWSC team was also invited for a meeting organized by ITC Beautician project partner CINI at Stadel.

KMWSC Staff also attended save the children organized cultural programme to observe World Water day at IITC Kolkata

Supporting each other

KMWSC staff gave a brief orientation of KMWSC project at Seva Kendra. To commemorate World Social Work Day the Environment and Social Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of Calcutta, invited all Catholic NGOs working in the Archdiocese to a gathering to grow greater awareness of all the good that is being done by religious congregations and other NGOs in the field of social work which eventually would lead to better networking and greater collaboration among us.

Women’Mela-Empowering Women

KMWSC Team attended the **Women’s Mela organized by Seva Kendra at Loreto Convent Entally on 18th March, 2017** to recognize the contribution of poor women in social development in Tangra Slums. About 20 NGO’s and 1000 women took part in this event.

It was an exciting event as everyone got together to encourage and empower the women of our city.

You and me. Lets help them set free

On 31st March 2017, Project staffs of sensitization on Anti-Human Trafficking programme took part in the campaign 'Be Alert Raise Alarm stop Human Trafficking' organized by Banglanatokdotcom NGO in collaboration with US Consulate, Kolkata. They different street theaters, poster campaign etc was organized on human trafficking. The campaigns highlights was an awareness caravan, that will cover 60 locations across West Bengal, Jharkhand and Bihar in March and April 2017



NETWORKING



Networking leading to successful collaboration

Salaam Baalak Trust, a non-governmental organization which provides a sensitive and caring environment to street and working children in Delhi, visited KMWSC for an exposure visit. They attended an orientation session on the various projects of KMWSC, with the special emphasis on skill development unit run by KMWSC. Both the organisations share a common interest; to serve humanity at various levels. With our goals so much in sync; collaboration and great networking is the obvious outcome of this meet. We are looking forward to support from them in the Anti Human Trafficking Project.

A visit to Lolay

KMWSC team visited Loreto Sisters at Lolay from 26th March to 31st March for project work. The objective of the visit was to access the developmental needs of Lolay and adjoining areas, plan and start-up with the health programme. KMWSC staff carried out visits to Primary school, ICDS centres, conducted meeting with Self Help Group visited dispensary run by Sisters, conducted awareness session with Loreto School children on health and hygiene. The one year planning for the Lolay Health Project was compiled. The visit to Lolay was very enriching and a learning experience for the KMWSC staff. Experiencing the work gave a one-of-a-kind access to their projects, the opportunity to meet local teams, and interact with the children, parents, and teachers in the programmes.



A visit to Ranchi

KMWSC team visited Loreto Convent Ranchi on 17th and 18th February, 2017 to conduct need assessment study. The objective of the study was to assess the needs of backward community at Ranchi and to conduct a focus discussion with different communities about their different needs and support. Developing a plan for identifying local needs and resources will help in understanding how to improve communities in the most logical and efficient ways possible. It has been a memorable and cherishing visit.

