COVID-19 RESPONSE
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AWARDS

AIF wins Gold for MANSI and Special Jury Award for COVID-19 Response

The IHW Council of New Delhi announced its 2020 CSR Health Impact Awards on August 22nd, 2020 in a virtual event attended by health experts, nonprofit organizations, influencers, legendary corporate brands, Members of Parliament, Justices of Peace, and leading individual members of society who came out to support people in distress during COVID-19. AIF received the Gold Award in the “Rural Health Initiative” category for the Maternal and Newborn Survival Initiative (MANSI) program and a Special Jury Award for the AIF COVID-19 Response. AIF Country Director, Mathew Joseph, accepted the awards:

“We are deeply grateful to our donors, partners, board members, and volunteers for their unflinching support to AIF’s timely COVID-19 response. With your support, we aim to rebuild the lives of India’s migrating communities and vulnerable populations.”
COVID 19—
A GLOBAL CRISIS UNFOLDS

In a short span of six months, from January to June, coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) had evolved from an isolated disease in a region of China to a global pandemic that has brought countries to a standstill, pushed hospital systems to the brink, and dragged the global economy into a recession.

In early March, the World Health Organization (WHO) officially classified COVID-19 as a pandemic as cases were recorded and increasing in over 100 countries. COVID-19 reached India at the end of January, and the country had its first pandemic-related death in mid-March.1 Public health personnel and hospitals did not have the resources to prevent the virus from reaching India’s large population and overcrowded urban layouts – this became a crisis of its own. Hospitals were suddenly carrying a heavier burden than they already were. Across the country, the ASHAs and community health workers were at risk of infection as they became the first-responders and distributors of aid. When the pandemic reached Dharavi, an enormous neighborhood in Mumbai and one of Asia's largest slums, the city deployed many public health workers to contain the virus. However, due to the lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), twenty of these personnel were infected.2

The Indian government implemented its first of several mandated lockdowns on March 24th, 2020, as a regulated attempt to prevent the virus from spreading. As public transportation shut down overnight, a new crisis began. India witnessed a migration that caught worldwide attention. Images and videos of crowds walking on empty highways - from the cities to their homes in rural parts of the country - eerily resembled a sense of statelessness.

There are more than 100 million migrant workers who make up a significant portion of the informal economy in India. They have always played an integral role in the development of urban India, though they are often pushed to the margins of the cityscapes they build. Now, with the pandemic crippling economies and development, this community faces a long road of recovery ahead because of their dependence on finding work in cities. The World Bank has estimated that more than 40 million migrants have been economically set back by the crisis. Other aspects of their lives, particularly their children's access to education, will be affected as well. This population has a history of high dropout rates from school, as their seasonal travel for work interrupts their children's attendance. The rates are expected to increase, especially among the girls, as in-class instruction is temporarily substituted by digital solutions.

This sudden migration not only shed light on the pandemic's impact on the informal economy, but also on the sheer number of people who rely on an insecure system for their livelihoods, one that could crumble overnight.

1 https://thewire.in/covid-19-india-timeline
AIF’S HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The American India Foundation (AIF) responded to several humanitarian disasters in India starting with the Gujarat Earthquake in 2001, with urgency and immediacy. When the first lockdown was announced, AIF rolled out the first draft of its comprehensive strategy to address the effects of the pandemic immediately and in the long term.

The immediate intervention began at the end of March. It included providing hygiene kits and food ration kits to keep vulnerable communities across the country prepared during the first lockdown. AIF also partnered with many state governments to provide ventilators to hospitals and PPE kits to health personnel. Without the generosity of donors in the United States and India, AIF’s large-scale and widespread relief efforts, would not have been possible.

After AIF launched its relief strategy, it began fundraising and raising awareness in the United States. Each week, AIF sent its supporters updates of the response work done across India, accompanied by stories of how partner organizations pivoted quickly to address their communities’ needs. As virtual events became the new norm, AIF, its chapters, and volunteer groups hosted virtual events and webinars to call their networks to action for the #AIFCOVID19Response. In June, AIF had the opportunity to partner with NDTV, India’s largest media company, and conduct a 21-day awareness campaign for its second phase of relief efforts, which focuses specifically on the migrant worker’s road to recovery.

Though these relief efforts were spread across India, COVID-19 remains a global crisis. In this time of campaigning for #AIFCOVID19Response in India, public health personnel and hospitals in the United States were also bearing a disproportionate burden. AIF partnered with the World Central Kitchen to provide over 20,000 fresh meals for frontline health workers in under-resourced hospitals using local food kitchens throughout New York City, Bay Area, Boston, and Chicago.

AIF’S NEXT STEPS

The pandemic has yet to run its course through the world. Rates of infection are still increasing in the United States and are steadily climbing in India, a country now accounting for a large percentage of the global death rates. There is still work to be done, and the severity of this pandemic lies in its lasting consequences. The road to recovery is a long one.

In its next phase of response, AIF has integrated sustainable solutions in its education, health, and livelihoods program verticals and fostered new partnerships in education technology. AIF is committed to building back a better normal in India, focusing on the migrant worker crisis and the safety of India’s frontline health workers.

This report lays out AIF’s COVID-19 efforts in detail and provides a look into the next phase of programming: #RebuildingLives.

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RESPONSE TIMELINE

2020

JANUARY 2020
WHO declares COVID-19 a global health emergency

2020

MARCH 2020
WHO Declares COVID-19 a Pandemic. AIF Outreach to Donors, Partners, and Beneficiaries. India declares lockdown. Schools and workplaces are closed. The first COVID-19 death is reported in India

2020

APRIL 2020
AIF declares a nation-wide COVID-19 Response Strategy, the initial focus is on immediate relief. Across India, a migrant crisis is unfolding.

2020

MAY 2020
AIF supports frontline health-workers in the USA. Findings from an AIF Parents Survey are published. AIF joins the first ever #GivingTuesday Now campaign.

2020

FEBRUARY 2020
AIF reviews programs on the ground and implications of the pandemic.
**JUNE 2020**
AIF & NDTV conduct a 21-day campaign for Rebuilding Lives of Migrant Communities.

**JULY 2020**
As the virus spreads widely and rapidly, AIF announces Phase 2 of COVID-19 Response Strategy, extends support to communities for rebuilding lives.

**AUGUST 2020**
AIF wins the IHW Covid Response Award. Findings from an AIF Migrants Survey are published.

**OCTOBER 2020**
AIF Launches Street Vendors Program
RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

#AIFCOVID19RESPONSE
WHERE WE ARE RESPONDING

STOP COVID-19. EVERY DAY COUNTS. SAVE LIVES.

500,000 PEOPLE REACHED
17 STATES

6,744,000 MEALS (RATIONS)
393,298 MASKS
176 VENTILATORS FOR HOSPITALS

77,515 PPE (MEDICAL STAFF)
42,510 HYGIENE KITS
309 THERMAL SCANNERS

34,875 PREVENTION KITS (FRONTLINE WORKERS)
5,000 EDUCATIONAL KITS (CHILDREN)

11,780 REMOTE TRAINING

ANDHRA PRADESH
BIHAR
CHHATTISGARH
DELHI NCR
GUJARAT
HARYANA
JHARKHAND
KARNATAKA
MADHYA PRADESH
MAHARASHTRA
ODISHA
PUNJAB
RAJASTHAN
TAMIL NADU
TELANGANA
UTTARAKHAND
UTTAR PRADESH

AIF COVID-19 RESPONSE
## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AT A GLANCE

### OBJECTIVE 1: Preventive Measures to Control the Spread of Covid-19

| **218,763** | Community members provided with preventive materials |
| **177,094** | Masks distributed to community members |
| **42,510** | Handwashing supplies distributed |
| **42,510** | Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed |
| **31,484** | People reached through promotion of preventive measures |
| **19,704** | IEC materials printed and distributed |

### OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen Health Systems and Frontline Workers

| **216,204** | Masks distributed to hospitals and health workers |
| **77,515** | PPE Kits for medical personnel |
| **42,575** | Community health workers trained and supported |
| **4,704** | Gloves distributed |
| **309** | Thermal Scanners distributed |
| **176** | Ventilators provided to hospitals and Covid centers |

### OBJECTIVE 3: Support for Communities Impacted by Covid-19

| **6,744,000** | Meals provided |
| **112,400** | People reached with dry ration kits |
| **5,000** | Education materials provided to support remote learning |
| **5,000** | Households benefited from access to drinking water |
| **2,915** | Teachers provided with Education training and support |
| **2,000** | People supported with seeds for agricultural farming |
PROVIDING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WHERE IT IS NEEDED
PROTECTING FRONTLINE WORKERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS
SUPPORTING MIGRANTS WITH RELIEF MATERIALS
TEAMS WORKING AROUND-THE-CLOCK TO MAKE SURE SUPPLIES REACH WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED MOST
MEALS FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS
HYGIENE KITS FOR LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS
LIVELIHOODS OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN
MEDIA COVERAGE

INDIA New England NEWS

American India Foundation and NDTV to Co-Host a Telethon Fundraiser for Migrant Workers Most Impacted by COVID-19

By Prashant Chopra

June 14, 2020

The American India Foundation (AIF) announced its partnership with NDTV to raise urgent relief and awareness towards a sustainable and respectful re-building of lives through a multi-disciplinary response, addressing health, education and livelihood needs in source and destination areas of migration.

The one-hour #MigrantTelethon event will air on Saturday June 13, 2020 at 1 p.m. EST / 6.30 p.m. IST on NDTV India and the AIF YouTube channel. Hosted by Dr. Pramod Sawant, the telethon features guests that include academics, doctors, thought leaders and [[]]

(The image shows a group of people, likely participants in the telethon event.)

THE HINDU

INTERNATIONAL

COVID-19: Indian-American body launches initiative for underprivileged communities in India

WASHINGOTN, April 27, 2020 (PTI) - The American India Foundation (AIF), which was founded in 2001 in the aftermath of the devastating terrorist attacks on September 11, has on Friday added 16 new initiatives to its existing portfolio to aid in the global fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

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The American India Foundation (AIF) has added 16 new initiatives to its existing portfolio to aid in the global fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

(The image shows a street scene in India.)

AIF COVID-19 RESPONSE
LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION
Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services,
Amrut Manjari Circle, Bangalore
E-mail: dmostathealthinfo@karnataka.gov.in,
Ph: 080-22967000

Date: 20.06.2020

To,
Mr. Mathew Joseph
Country Director,
American India Foundation Trust,
Gurgaon, Haryana – 12202

Sub: Receipt of 1500 PPE kits from American India Foundation on donation basis

Adverting to the above subject, I sincerely acknowledge the receipt of 1500 PPE kits on donation basis on 20.06.2020 at the office of Deputy Director (MSF) Govt. of Karnataka. The PPE Kits have been invaluable patient safety gear in curbing the transmission of COVID-19.

I whole heartedly appreciate the kind act of your organization.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

Director
Directorate of Health
and Family Welfare services
Bangalore.

---

Government of Rajasthan
Department of Medical, Health & FW and National Health Mission
Swaithe Bhawan, Jaipur

Mr. Mathew Joseph
Country Director – American India Foundation
1201-100, DLF City Court,
NC Road, Near Chandigarh Metro Station,
Gurgaon – 122000

Subject: Contribution of Prevention Kits (10,000 Boxes) by America India Foundation to Medical and Health Department, Rajasthan.

Dear,

I take this opportunity to convey my gratitude towards your esteemed organization for providing 10,000 Prevention Kits containing one packet of six masks, one pair of gloves, sanitizer (200 ml) and clip on (7). This gesture will keep the staff of Medical and Health Department safe from possible Covid-19 infections.

We hope to receive more such kits in future in coming times.

Thanking you,

(Signature)
Medical Officer, Medical Health and FW Department

---

Dr. Dilip Pawar
Consulting Physician & Covid Expert

To,
Mr. Mathew Joseph / Mr Subhr
American India Foundation
DLF City Court
Gurgaon – 122002

Sub: Donation of 1515 PPE KITS

Sir,

All are aware about the current Covid 19 pandemic situation in Mumbai and MMR Region where we have the highest number of covid cases in the country. Further there is acute shortage of PPE KITS in various Hospitals.

We would like to thank American India Foundation who has donated 1515 PPE KITS. The same will help many treating doctors and other staff in managing Covid patients.

The 1515 PPE KITS were donated to LTM Medical College, NMC Hospital, Mumbai.

Your generosity is well received by the hospital and very much appreciated.

We look forward for your continued support.

Dr. Dilip Pawar

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NADDIA MARGA MUIR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED

Date: 22/06/2020

To,
Dr. Mathew Joseph,

Commissioner (Health), Department of Public Health and Family Welfare, Jaipur (Raj)

Dear Mathew Joseph,

It gives us immense pleasure to write this letter to our esteemed support through corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the time of COVID-19 pandemic.

I, on behalf of my department, wish to extend our heartfelt and convey our gratitude for the kind support by providing 4000 PPE kits to our hospitals and decrease the fight against pandemic. I hope you will always be a kind and prompt supporter to us in future as well.

Thank you

Dr. Mathew Joseph
Commissioner (Health),
Department of Public Health and Family Welfare,
Jaipur (Raj)
DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

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<td>The Hans Foundation</td>
<td>American Express</td>
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<td>Cognizant Foundation</td>
<td>Amazon Cares</td>
<td>Tata Steel</td>
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<td>Cisco</td>
<td>Let All Be Happy</td>
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MAJOR INDIVIDUAL DONORS
- Anonymous
- Swati and Vijay Advani
- Bulbul and Vimal Bahuguna
- Ritu and Ajay Banga
- Tasneem Chippy and Aleks Franz
- Richard Friedman
- Tinnie and Shiv Grewal
- Shikha and Rohit Kapoor
- Reena and Pradeep Kashyap
- Lata Krishnan and Ajay Shah
- Namita and Santhana Krishnan
- Eric Lane
- Ash Lilani
- Vijaya and Kumar Malavalli
- Nagina Malguria
- Prakash Melwani
- Tara and Victor Menezes
- Usha and Diaz Nesamoney
- Neeru and Arun Oberoi
- Sunita and Brian Pereira
- Alexander Potter
- Harvey Schwartz
- Raj Seshadri and Richard Ostrander
- Elizabeth and Gaurav Seth
- Anjali and Deven Sharma
- Nalini and Raj Sharma
- Vandana and Vivek Sharma Foundation
- Cherra and Harmit Singh
- Natasha Sommerfeld
- Pratima and Venkat Srinivasan
- Joan and Michael Steinberg
- Suniti and Sanjay Subbedar
- Meena and Sundar Subramanyam
- Reena and Harit Talwar
- Priya and Jayant Tambe
- The Village Hope Foundation
- Kathy and Romesh Wadhwani
- AIF Circle of Hope, Chicago
- AIF Circle of Hope, New England

GRATITUDE TO INDIVIDUAL DONORS
Thanks to your generous support and donations, AIF’s Covid-19 Response reached close to 500,000 lives in India. We are deeply grateful to all the individual donors and the AIF community who have stepped up in this time of need. Your outpouring of solidarity and support has been phenomenal.
In June 2020, AIF and NDTV joined hands to launch an action-oriented campaign to rebuild the lives of migrant communities, severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown that followed soon after. Around 40 million migrant daily-waged workers were hit hard by Covid-19 induced economic distress, lockdowns, travel bans and social distancing requirements. They faced the risk of hunger, prolonged unemployment, high infection risk and their children, particularly girls, the loss of learning.

In an effort to ensure dignified lives for migrant workers everywhere, AIF announced an integrated cross-media campaign “Rebuilding Lives” in partnership with NDTV which has 300 million viewers world-wide. The 21-day campaign culminated in a 2-hour telethon hosted by Dr Prannoy Roy during Prime Time. It featured eminent guests, celebrities, donors and beneficiaries, telecast simultaneously across NDTV 24x7 and NDTV India.

The AIF-NDTV Rebuilding Lives campaign successfully convened a diverse array of representatives from the government, corporate sector, global agencies such as the UN, World Bank, and UNESCO, Academia, concerned citizens and CSOs. Drawing on their expertise, the campaign harnessed the power of awareness creation and support for vulnerable communities affected by Covid-19.

AIF-NDTV TELETHON

AIF’S CAMPAIGN GOALS AIMED AT:

**Emergency Relief:** Meet the immediate needs of migrants through food and hygiene essentials.

**Health:** Protect and train community health workers (CHW) on pandemic preparedness and using digital tools. Support vulnerable communities in protecting themselves from Covid-19.

**Education:** Ensure continuity of education and remediation in community settings especially for young girls and adolescents. Bridge the educational and digital divide through techno-pedagogy and virtual learning in government schools in a COVID-safe environment.

**Livelihoods:** Migrant households gain livelihood to increase household income. At least one member of a migrant household acquires a fresh skill/get upskilled, with a focus on source geographies.
WEBINARS

“FROM THE GRASSROOTS” WEBINAR

On April 22nd, AIF hosted “Migration and Humanitarian Protection: Perspectives from the Grassroots”, a Zoom discussion on the impact that COVID-19 has had on the migrant workers and their families in India. Panelists included Dr. Swati Jha, Director of AIF’s LAMP program, Pratyush Das, Senior Program Manager of the Digital Equalizer program, and Professor Pushpendra K. Singh, Chairperson at the Center for Development Practice and Research at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. The discussion was moderated by AIF’s CEO Nishant Pandey.

“PREGNANT IN A PANDEMIC”

On June 27th, AIF’s Boston Chapter hosted “Pregnant in a Pandemic”, a virtual fireside chat highlighting AIF’s Maternal and Newborn Survival Initiative (MANSI) program. Dr. Amit Chatterjee, Director of Public Health at AIF, Professor Dr. Neelam Kler, Neonatologist and 2014 Padma Bhushan awardee, and Dr. Sunita Pereira, Chair of the MANSI program joined the discussion. The event was accompanied by a stunning Classical dance performance by a group of renowned artists from New England.
VOLUNTEER EVENTS – YP, CFP, IG LIVES

1. THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK
In a traditional year, the fundraising efforts of AIF’s six Young Professional Chapters – DC, New York, Bay Area, Seattle, Chicago, and New England – usually consist of large, sponsored networking and informational events throughout their metropolises. This Spring they shifted to the world of virtual event platforms and directed their efforts to raising funds and awareness for #AIFCOVID19Response. For the first time in YP history, all chapters were able to co-host fundraising events, along with conducting their own chapter events. Together, they raised close to $6K for the Response.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tr>
<td>4/16/2020</td>
<td>All together</td>
<td>Cooking with AIF YPs – East Meets West</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/30/2020</td>
<td>All together</td>
<td>Virtual Comedy Night</td>
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<td>5/14/2020</td>
<td>Bay Area</td>
<td>Bollywood Workout with BollyX</td>
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<td>5/21/2020</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Mixology Night</td>
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<td>5/28/2020</td>
<td>Bay Area</td>
<td>Mixology Night</td>
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<td>6/3/2020</td>
<td>New England</td>
<td>Corona Got Your Career?</td>
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<td>7/16/2020</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Networking Night</td>
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2. THE AIF FELLOWSHIP COHORT OF 2019-2020
Days before the first lockdown was announced in India at the end of March, the AIF Clinton Fellowship (CFP) cohort had to make the difficult choice of returning to the United States to complete their Fellowship remotely.

In these three months, Fellows were involved in much more than their completing their projects. Many assisted their host organizations remotely as they shifted their programmatic work to responding to the pandemic in their communities. Along with personally and

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<tr>
<td>5/9/2020</td>
<td>“AIF Clinton Fellowship Event Series: Navigating COVID-19” - Ben Lenzner, Nikhil Mahen, and Maitreyi Nandhakumar on topics in storytelling, startups, and education</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/16/2020</td>
<td>“AIF Clinton Fellowship Event Series: Navigating COVID-19” - Esmeralda Herrara, Sriya Srikrishnan, and Rachel Varghese talk about their exciting work in supporting entrepreneurs in the Bronx and Bihar; how technology is improving contract tracing to slow down the virus; and the realities faced by migrant communities in India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/30/2020</td>
<td>AIF Clinton Fellowship Event Series: Navigating COVID-19” - Anjali Balakrishna hosts a design thinking workshop.</td>
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professionally navigating COVID-19, a group of Fellows organized to raise awareness for the #AIFCOVID19Response, through webinars with panels of Fellowship alumni and informational newsletters.

This nontraditional Fellowship year concluded with a series of virtual seminars in which Fellows showcased their research virtually, launched three publications, and presented their podcast “Let’s Chaat: Stories of Fellowship.” Despite the challenges of remote work, the cohort worked collaboratively in the virtual space to meet their objectives and conclude their year on a much-deserved note of celebration.

3. AIF INSTAGRAM LIVES

In April and May, AIF hosted a series of informational Instagram Lives with AIF Fellows from the 2019-20 cohort, Fellowship alumni, and a member of the YP New York community, to share snapshots of how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected communities in the United States and India.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Guest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/21/2020</td>
<td>Ashika Kalra – 2014-17 YP NY Alum</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/5/2020</td>
<td>Mohit Raj – 2013-14 CFP Alum</td>
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<td>5/12/2020</td>
<td>Swathi Sekar – 2013-14 CFP Alum</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/14/2020</td>
<td>Sri Ramesh – 2019-20 CFP Cohort</td>
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<td>5/19/2020</td>
<td>Jane Hammaker – 2019-20 CFP Cohort</td>
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<td>5/20/2020</td>
<td>Crysty Skevington – 2015-16 CFP Alum</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/21/2020</td>
<td>Ayushi Parashar – 2019-20 CFP Cohort</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/26/2020</td>
<td>Pallavi Deshpande – 2019-20 CFP Cohort</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. COVID-19 LOCKDOWN: IN UNCERTAIN TIMES, DATA MATTERS

With schools across India closing their doors indefinitely in March 2020, millions of children are bearing the brunt of an unprecedented pause in their education. The lives of children from migrant families are heavily altered and it will be a long time before they go back to school. AIF’s Learning, Evaluation, and Impact (LEI) team used the lockdown period to study its implications on families of students from the Digital Equalizer (DE) program.

The telephonic survey was conducted during lockdown with 4403 parents from low-income households across 12 states in India. Data has the power to fuel decision-making, especially in situations where decisions need to be taken to minimize learning loss in children. In uncertain times, data matters!

KEY FINDINGS

- 85% of the parents who had been working had not been paid during the lockdown
- 7 in 10 parents expressed willingness to join WhatsApp groups with teachers and classmates.
- Parents expressed that they could spare their devices for the child’s education for an average of 2 hours per day.

2. MIGRANT WORKERS’ WOES UPON HOMECOMING

To gain an insight into the current and future needs of the returning migrants, the AIF Monitoring, Learning, Evaluation and Impact (LEI) team conducted a survey in Odisha, which is among the poorest and most migration-prone states in India. The findings would form the basis for AIF to design evidence-based interventions in these areas. A total of 2,208 returning migrants spread across 366 villages in 38 blocks were covered from 5 districts of Odisha-Nuapada, Kalahandi, Ganjam, Bolangir and Bargarh.

KEY FINDINGS

- 96% of the migrants did not have a steady income. Majority of them were working as and when required (55%) and close to 30% were not working but looking for work.
- 7 in 10 migrants shared plans to return to their pre-Covid place of work. However, almost all of them expressed willingness to stay back if work opportunities were made available (98%).
- 9 in 10 migrants shared openness to getting trained for work.
AIF CONTINUES TO...

EDUCATION
The poorest and most marginalized children and adolescents are at risk; they have not returned to the classroom and as a result, are not able to fill the pre-existing gap in their access to quality learning. This will severely impact learning deficits and drop-out rates, which in turn, will lead to an increase in child labor and child marriages. The hardest hit would be girls.

MOBILE LEARNING – A LIBRARY THAT IS SHAPING CHILDREN’S LIVES IN COVID

The Mobile Library is a pilot project by AIF’s Learning and Migration Program (LAMP) during school closures due to Covid-19. It aims to promote reading at home in 30 villages of Kalahandi district in Odisha. Read the story and watch the video to gain insights on the importance of the Mobile Library especially in a challenging time like Covid-19, when children from remote and rural areas have very few options to keep them engaged in reading and learning.

SCRAP COLLECTOR’S DAUGHTER, THIREYA DEVI, WINS AWARD AT A ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Click here to watch the video. Click here to read the story.
HEALTH

The pandemic is deepening pre-existing inequalities in the provision of primary healthcare, bringing to light the vulnerabilities of rural populations. The health of women is adversely impacted through the reallocation of resources and priorities due to the pandemic, particularly their access to maternal and child health care. There is currently a shortage of trained human resources and ill-equipped healthcare centers.

MANSI’s frontline community health workers are responsible for community awareness on what is COVID-19. Taramuni Sankh is an award-winning Sahiya Saathi (ASHA facilitator) in Jharkhand. In a short interview, Taramuni tells us about the challenges faced by communities in remote villages, arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seema was four months pregnant when the #COVID19 pandemic struck. At the time, the community had very little knowledge and information on how to cope with the spread of the virus and rising risk of infections.
LIVELIHOODS

Migrants who had returned to their villages in the initial phases of lockdown are now heading back to urban locations in search of work. While some may find employment in the formal and informal sector, a large number of those dependent on micro-entrepreneurial activity are bereft of the skills and resources that the pandemic business environment will demand.

Paduram Bagh is a migrant from one of AIF’s Learning and Migration Program (LAMP) projects in Odisha. He found himself deprived of a livelihood, in the aftermath of lockdown. With no job and no savings, he walked over 900 kms to return home from Telangana.

Sakir Sayyed is a beneficiary of AIF’s Livelihoods program MAST. His family migrated from a small village in Begusarai, Bihar to Pune, Maharashtra in search of a livelihood. His father is a fitter mechanic and his mother is a domestic worker. Their family income, which was irregular and dependent on daily wages, was severely impacted by Covid-19. As young people continue to show their adaptability and resilience at this challenging time, Sakir spoke to AIF to share how he is coping and continuing to learn.
Rebuilding Lives Initiative is to support women, children, and youth from migrant communities and vulnerable populations as they navigate a post-COVID-19 world.

SERVE
The immediate and urgent needs of migrant communities, especially women, children and youth, with a focus on migration-affected states.

EXPAND
The impact and outreach of government programs by providing technical assistance and ensure access to social protection for migrant communities and vulnerable populations.

DRIVE
Economic opportunity through the rehabilitation of migrant workers, including those who had stayed back in the cities and those who are returning after the lockdown.

FOCUS AREAS

EDUCATION
• Covering government schools with technology and quality learning resources.
• Bridging the digital divide through the use of online and offline learning.

HEALTH
• Reaching out to tribal populations and those in hard-to-reach rural geographies.
• Empowering ASHAs and community health workers to cover the last mile.

LIVELIHOODS
• Providing resources and training to migrants, street vendors, persons with disabilities (PwDs), women, and youth.
• Implementing innovative tech-enabled solutions.

Rebuilding more equal, inclusive, and resilient communities
PARTNERING FOR SCALE

1. GOVERNMENTS
AIF is partnering with various state governments - building on existing MoUs and relationships - to amplify initiatives directed at the migrant communities and vulnerable populations.

2. DONORS
AIF is collaborating with donor agencies in India and the United States, including foundations and corporations who are interested in mitigating the effects of the human tragedy caused due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. CORPORATIONS
AIF is working with banks, financial institutions, technology companies and corporations seeking to invest in the lives and livelihoods of migrants and vulnerable populations.

4. INSTITUTIONS
AIF is working with scholars and researchers from leading social and academic institutions located in the migrant source geographies to address the deep-lying issues around migration and find remedies through research and advocacy.

5. NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS
AIF is strengthening its existing NGO partner network and widening coverage across all migration-prone districts, hard-to-reach geographies, and vulnerable populations.