

FAT Covid19 Response: Phase 1 Report

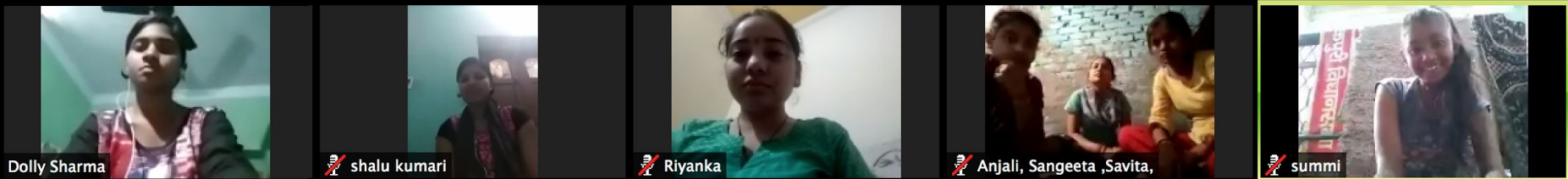
20 March to 25 April 2020

Community Status Before Covid19

- 14 out of 19 staff young women graduated from our programs. 752 girls connected to our network.
- A transition in-progress into a girl-led collective structure organization.
- 82 girls in L3 of Young Women's Leadership Program (YWLP) working in different community projects
 - 29 in Delhi (South Delhi)
 - 1 in Pune (Yerwada)
 - 19 in Jharkhand (Giridih)
 - 33 in Bihar (Patna, Muzaffarpur, Pashchim Champaran, Buxar)
- 217 Girls (10 to 19 years) participating in programs
 - 83 in Girls in STEM Program in South Delhi
 - 70 in YWLP L1 in Pattar Ki Masjid, Patna, Bihar
 - 33 in YWLP L2 in Giridih, Jharkhand
 - 31 in YWLP L2 in Yerwada, Pune
- 1 Youth providing support in a project for youth with disabilities in Delhi.

Timelines

- 6th March 2020 - Official notice to strategize operating models with Covid19
- 17th March 2020 - Official notice on cancellation of all programmatic work
- 18th March 2020 - Leave without deductions until 31st March 2020 made available for all on choice
- 20th March 2020 - Work from home system started, Covid19 awareness and action sessions started, Daily check-in meetings started with staff and participant of all locations
- 22nd March 2020 - Janta Curfew
- 23rd March 2020 - Nationwide lockdown started
- Since then - Continuing to add girls in our network in the online group, arranging phones where needed and possible.



By 25th April 2020 - 20 team members and 61 girls connected through daily online sessions.
Age: 16 to 30 years (2 exceptions)

Covid19 Crisis Challenges Faced By Our Community

Within our community of girls:

- Panic and fear about the pandemic and its effects on them
- Confusion in identifying fake news
- Inability to practice physical distancing at home and in daily lives
- Loss of livelihood of family members, concerns about meeting basic needs of family
- Deterioration of physical health, especially in case of existing illness
- Feeling of suffocation at home, increase in anxiety and mental stress
- Frustration and violence within families.

In the communities they live:

- Widespread belief in myths and fake news on Coronavirus
- Rise in superstitious and religious practices
- Loss of livelihood, return of migrant workers to their homes
- Shortage of food, medicines and other essential items
- Police action on stepping out for essentials
- Discrimination and instances of violence against muslims and migrant workers returning from cities.

Stories from the ground

Asha worker came to my house to ask about our health. I told her that I had a cough, which she noted in her report also mentioning that I had not travelled recently. Some villagers got to know. They gathered around my house and started shouting that I have coronavirus. A man took out his phone and started taking my video. I was confused and angry. - *Priya, Bihar*

My father hit my mother and injured her head. We have not been able to get proper medical care of her, and now my father is not giving us any money for food as well - *Surbhi, Bihar*

Our toilets are meant for the whole community and are located outside our homes. I injured my back hitting an electric pole because of the crowd and pushing in the community toilet queue. How can we practice physical distancing? - *Rabiya, Delhi*

People in my community are believing and following superstitions to protect themselves. People are spreading these superstitions because they are scared and want to protect their loved ones. Because they do not have the correct information to share. - *Lakshmi, Delhi*

Actions Taken In Phase 1

Corona Nahi, Karuna! Campaign initiated internally on *20th March 2020* to prepare our team and participants for the challenges posed by Covid19.

Covid19 Relief Fund started with 2 Lakh starting amount on *30th March 2020* to provide immediate financial aid to FAT participants and their families facing food and essential supplies shortage.

Corona Nahi, Karuna!

Create a human chain that spreads compassion faster than corona.

Objectives of the Campaign

The campaign was conceptualised to encourage individual action within FAT's participants to fight against the challenges brought on by Covid19 in the community level. Its objective is to create a human chain in the community to:

- spread the right information within communities, combating misinformation, fake news and superstitions
- take all precautions to protect against coronavirus, starting from own home and family to the people around us
- take care of each other during this difficult time, while helping those who need special help around us.

3 Layers of Campaign Actions

Following these key values

Compassion, not panic.

Empathy, not sympathy.

The virus does not discriminate.

Neither do we.

Integrity, honesty and transparency
in every action.

Preaching can block people and
conversations. Information (from
the right sources) can open minds.

Layer 1: Me & My Family

- Inform yourself through correct sources
- Sharing correct information with your family
- Work with your family to protect from Covid19
- Work with your family to solve challenges faced due to lockdown
- Create/Maintain a peaceful and equal space within your family for all members.

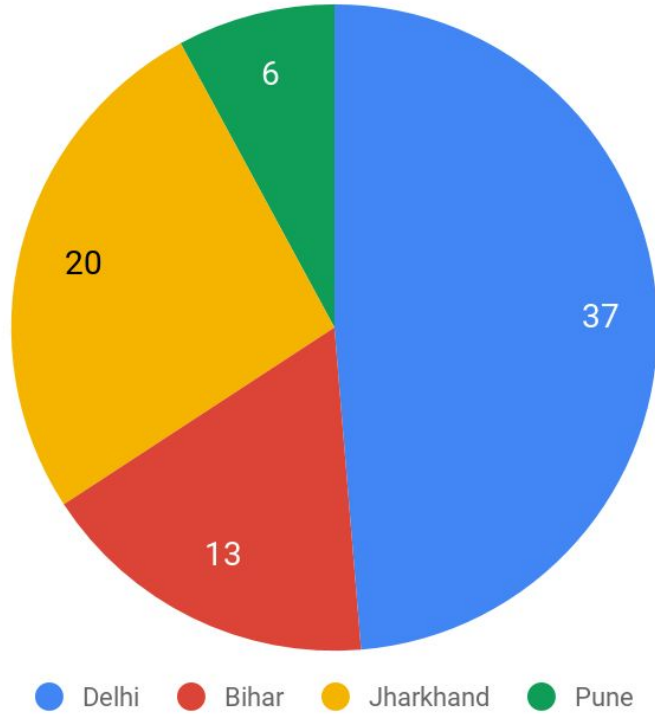
Layer 2: My Neighbours & Online Contacts

- Share correct information (with sources) with your neighbours along with your family members
- Create online groups to share information with your family's online contacts
- Encourage everyone to do Layer 1 in their families
- Support others near you to access government schemes using your tech skills.

Layer 3: My Community & Beyond

- Share correct information (with sources) widely (use tech skills and creativity)
- Contact government authorities, NGOs, local donors to facilitate government schemes and donations
- Gather support from others to maintain peace within families and community
- Recruit more campaigners. Make the human chain.

Location-wise Campaigners



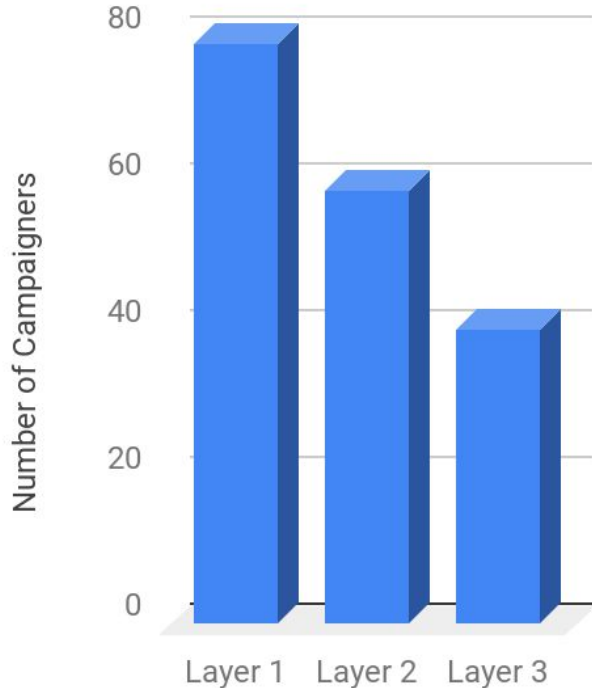
Delhi - 7 urban communities in South Delhi

Pune - 6 urban communities in Yerwada

Jharkhand - 6 semi-urban communities in Giridih

Bihar - 4 urban communities in Patna city and 11 villages in the districts of Patna, Muzaffarpur, Pashchim Champaran, Buxar

Campaigners' Actions

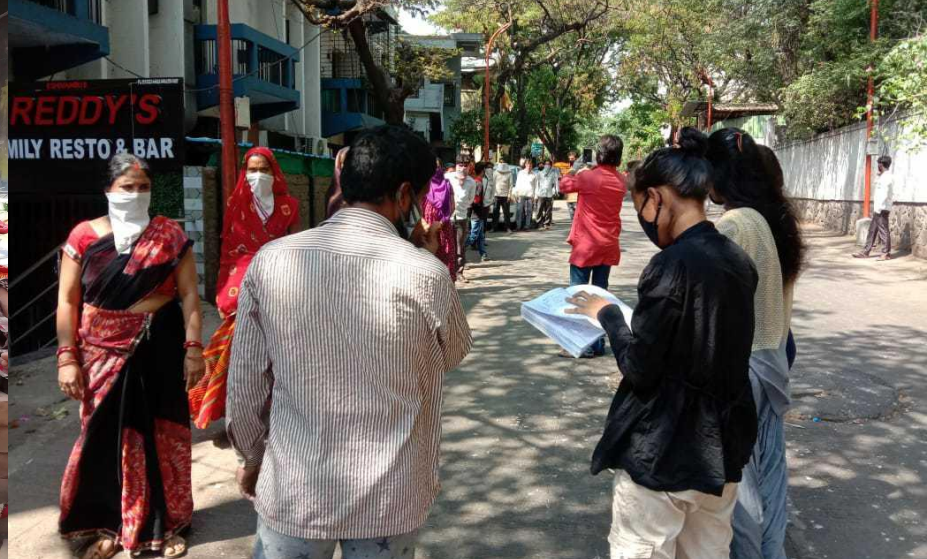


Our Campaigners Are Collectively:

- Sharing information on Covid19 and precautions from it;
- Challenging superstitions and fake news;
- Supporting FAT to reach our participants near them;
- Helping community members to apply for government schemes;
- Facilitating distribution of essential food items through government schemes and NGOs to families facing food shortage near them;
- Reaching out to girls and women facing violence;
- Spreading the message of compassion, encouraging everyone to help each other without discriminating.

Campaign Reach in Phase 1

People reached face-to-face with Covid19 related information	2063
People reached online with Covid19 related information	2452
Families supported to apply for government schemes	1292
Families that received benefits from government schemes	1038
Families reached through essential food items distribution volunteering	1117
People reached through cooked food distribution volunteering	2472



----- Girls At Work -----



4:06 14:55

Stories from the ground

I called my Mama (maternal uncle) yesterday, he said corona virus cannot come to our place! I explained to him that this virus is spreading everywhere and we must start following all precautions. I spoke to all my family members one by one. We all are now following the precautions advised. - *Manila, Jharkhand*

I had helped a community member to apply for different government schemes started right now. He thanked FAT for starting this campaign. He says he would have not been able to receive the benefits if I had not helped him fill the forms. - *Pooja, Delhi*

This is a challenging time. But even as we are volunteering to help our community members, many people accuse us and yell at us when they see that their family got lesser ration than others or did not get ration on that day. We are trying to reach those who have most urgent needs and we are receiving this ration from different donors who give different quantities and have different processes. Our families are also facing problems, we are doing this to work to spread compassion instead of getting scared of the situation. We explain to them what we are doing, but still many people blame us. - *Akansha, Pune*

FAT Covid19 Relief Fund

FAT Covid19 Relief Fund Policy

Made on 30th March 2020

For families of any FAT participants in any location in need of urgent support

To be used only for emergency food, essential home items, medicines, doctors fees, rent

All government schemes should be explored before making any financial aid from FAT

FAT team to evaluate need of the family before deciding the support amount as per provided format

Expenditure and Reach till 25th April 2020

Locations	Total Families Reached	Total Supported	Total Fund Spent in INR
South Delhi	197	20	55,720
Bihar - Patna, Muzaffarpur, Pashchim Champaran, Buxar	150	37	142,322
Giridih, Jharkhand	150	13	57,969
Yerwada, Pune	77	18	54,310
Total	574	88	3, 10,321

Stories from the ground

How do you get information or connect with people for support during lockdown if your family does not have a smartphone? Or in many cases, even a simple phone?

Health issues have been high even before Covid19 in the communities we work. Due to the lockdown, those with pre-existing conditions and ongoing treatment are now unable to buy their lifesaving medicines or consult a doctor. We have arranged for telehealth services, but technology cannot solve such big problems. People are dying, not of Covid19 alone.

Family members of our participants and team members have lost livelihood sources due to the lockdown. In most cases, everyone in the family have lost their income source and the families are now struggling for food and basic needs.

“I feel suffocated and trapped.”

“I am not able to sleep.”

“My head hurts so bad, I feel my nerves may burst.”

“My family is now pressuring me more to get married.”

“I try to be positive, but how can I?”

Plans for Phase 2 - From 26th April 2020

Get as many girls and young women in our programs as possible connected online;

Restart our programs online adapting to current situation;

Expanding the "Corona Nahi, Karuna!" campaign making Human Chain;

Collaborate with other stakeholders for support services needed related to physical & mental health, violence against women & children, sexual and reproductive health;

Restart organization transition process to become a girl-led organization. Because we must keep moving forward instead of giving up. **We must hold on to hope!**

Thank you dear donors,
partners and volunteers! For
your support and
encouragement.

– Young Women Leaders of FAT