



Volume 2, Issue 1
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SAATH

SAATH
Creating Inclusive Societies

NEWSLETTER

Dear friends and supporters of SAATH,

We are happy to publish our news letter after a long break. The past few months have been full of action at Saath. During this period Saath has also taken a big step by increasing its focus on youth and informal sector. On a note to become more responsible towards its employees various new HR policies are going to be introduced in Saath regarding sexual harassment, child abuse, gender and consultancy policy at work place. Our conscious efforts have been to increase livelihood opportunities through linkages among our various programme and organizing job fairs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors, supporters, interns, visitors, ambassadors across India and the world.

Inclusively,
Kunal Patel, RDC Coordinator



UP TO DATE

What have we been doing? Of course, a lot is going on in our various programs, but we have tried our best to give you a short overview about all recent developments and changes.

URBAN RESOURCE CENTRES

- Urban Resource Centers (URC's) offer one-stop-solutions to the urban poor.
- 4 URC's operational: 3 in Ahmedabad and 1 recently opened in Rajkot.
- 7,824 inquiries in last six months
- 2,825 Linkages provided in six months



Umeed Mobilisation team in action

LIVELIHOOD SERVICES

- 2,065 youth trained through Umeed / Udaan programme out of which 1,311 have been placed from Apr-Nov'13
- Urmila programme went through a restructuring, trained 68 women as Home Managers
- 3 job fairs was organised in the period in which 2,439 youth participated and 640 out of them got employment
- The Women Development Centre trained 54 women in courses of English Speaking, Computer Course and Beauty Parlour.

MICROFINANCE

Saath Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Ltd.

Status as of November'13:

- 7 Branches, No. of Staff: 81
- 20,284 members, 19,327 active saving members, 9,766 loan members
- Cumulative Savings amount: ₹ 6,24,96,207
- Outstanding Loan amount: ₹ 7,01,65,467
- Loan Repayment Percentage: 98.63%

Saath Mahila Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Ltd.

Status as of September'13:

- 355 saving members
- 469 loan members
- Total Loan disbursed amount: ₹ 7,315,000
- No. of Staff: 9
- No. of Villages covered in Dholka and Viramgam blocks of Ahmedabad: 99

EDUCATION

- Balghars (Pre—Schools for 3-5 yr children) : 233 children in 7 balghars
- Exposure visit to Sarkhej Roza and celebration of 15th August, Rakshabandhan and Ramazan Idd done at Balghars.
- Child Friendly Spaces: 7 centers, 3 on construction sites and 4 in slums reaching out to 190 child labourers and children of labourers
- Visits to various parks, Movie Screening and Kids city organized for CFS children

AFFORDABLE HOUSING—Griha Pravesh

Griha Pravesh is the initiative of Saath to empower people from urban low income area and facilitate them through the process of buying a house. In the last six month:

- 10,020 people were reached and made aware of housing options
- 89 new members were added for buying a house
- 46 members have booked their home with our help.



Mr. Vikash, beneficiary of Griha Pravesh

Economically Weaker Section Housing

- Working at 9 different sites of Ahmedabad in areas of Odhav, Vatva, Isanpur, Ganeshnagar, Dudeshwar and Behrampura
- 10 Service Societies formed at sites for taking care of various issues faced by the residents of the sites
- Street play organized at all the sites for creating health and hygiene awareness
- Poster event was organised for children at the sites
- 6,120 houses come under EWS project affecting around 30,600 individuals

Youth Force

- 11 groups in the cities of Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Vadodara, Surat and Mumbai
- 1,124 Youth Members
- Cleanliness Campaign to increase awareness about health and hygiene in slum areas
- Environmental Campaign to plant trees across various areas of the city
- A Malaria Awareness Campaign is currently going on in 4 cities across Gujarat.



YF visit to Cancer Hospital

RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION CELL

- 13 interns and volunteers of varied academic backgrounds from India as well as abroad worked with different programmes of Saath.
- RDC supported Research teams from TUDelft University, Netherlands and Loughborough University, UK for their research in Juhapura, Behrampura and Vasna area.
- Social Media outreach increased with 872 likes on Facebook, 300+ new followers on Wordpress Blog and 40+ new connections on LinkedIn.
- Visits hosted for various organizations and individuals such as Shaishav (Bhavnagar), Global Giving UK, Pratham etc.

Saath Annual Meet

April - 5, Gujarat Vidyapith



This year Saath completed 24 years. During the meeting around 200 members of Saath from its programmes across Gujarat and Rajasthan were present. In the meeting review of the fu-

ture work and the past year work of Saath was done. The people present were given a general presentation of Saath's programmes and their impacts in the last year, the governing structure of Saath and its finance and account information. Cultural programmes were also organized and staff members of various programmes actively participated in them.

FOCUS ON

Nirman



In the Indian economy a high amount of labor – approximately 90% of the total labor force are in the unorganized sector. In Gujarat, Ahmedabad is estimated to be providing employment to 43,186 laborers (unskilled or semi-skilled workers) and 8,275 skilled workers in the construction industry. Unskilled laborers are often subjected to low wages and unfair treatment due to a lack of proper training. Through SAATH's Nirmaan program, unskilled and semi-skilled workers in the informal sector receive training in their respective fields in order to further their capabilities and increase chances of employment. Started in 2011, In Nirman 702 people have been trained till date out of which 54 women trainees were there. 4 trades are taught currently Plumbing, Masonry, Carpentry and Electrician.

Saath is also planning to develop a mobile application, which will serve as a database for clients in needs of services such as carpenter, plumber, electrician etc. Through this application, they will be able to contact workers and give feedback following the completion of the job and the workers will be able to better their skills, be placed in a working environment with fair wages and receive constructive criticism on their work.

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