

Annual Narrative Report 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022



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Introduction

CORD began as Chinmaya Rural Primary Health Care and Training Center in the foothills of the Himalayas in 1985 with an emphasis on maternal and child health care services and training of multipurpose health workers in the underdeveloped villages near Sidhbari, Himachal Pradesh. However, soon CORD team members realized the deeper link between health services and the realities of village life and poverty. It became clear that preventive health services in the community would not bring meaningful and relevant change. Rather, a holistic program addressing nutrition, hygiene, and sanitation and livelihood issues within the communities was necessary to effect sustainable transformation. Over the next few years, under the close supervision and guidance of Dr. Kshama Metre, CORD's National Director, a need-based comprehensive integrated rural development program was initiated and evolved over a period of three decades as model for scaling and replication on empowering development of rural India through Gram Panchayat as a unit of participatory development planning and action by Up-gramsabhas and Gramsabhas and by bringing most needy and marginalized too to the mainstream as contributors.

CORD was established by Swami Tejomayananda in 2003 as its founding Chairperson. It is the national expansion of the program earlier known as Chinmaya Rural Primary Health Care

& Training Centre, founded in 1985 by Param Pujya Gurudev Chinmayananda in Sidhbari, Himachal Pradesh. Since 2017, Swami Swaroopananda is the Chairperson of CORD. Swami Swarooponanda blessed and inspired CORD team in Sidhbari in November 2021 in an open field interactive session with everyone.



All program components briefly described in this narrative report suplement and complement national goals suchasthat of NITI Aayog and globally Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) efforts i.e out of 17 SDGs – Agenda 2030; 14 SDGs are addressed by CORD.

To know more about CORD's evolution and Panchayat based adaptable, scalable and replicable comprehensive integrated rural development model, please visit, www.cordindia.in and stay updated with work at www.facebook.com/CORD.India.

Each CORD sites and thematic programs have their detail reports of comprehensive program activities. CORD sites could be contacted through their contact details given at the end of this report. Please contact *Shri Narender Paul, Chief Operating Officer CORD* in case you need more detail reports or any specific information at +91-981-665-5592; Email: cordsidhbari@gmail.com

Outreach: Year 2005 onwards, CORD embarked on replicating its success in Himachal Pradesh to Odisha and Tamil Nadu, and begun an orphanage in Andhra Pradesh. Nationally, CORD's comprehensive work outreach is in 244 Gram Panchayats (1635 Wards) and nine municipal panchayats in six states covering 972 villages (Total 667 villages at CORD Training

Centre, Sidhbari. The remaining 305 villages are spread across, CORD's Satellite Sites Uttrakhand and Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Odisha).

Impact: 50,803 direct and 5,42,588 indirect community members empowered (80% women as direct associates with inclusive approach under comprehensive rural development program).

Chinmaya Vijaya an orphanage run by CORD, has provided continued holistic education and care to 99 girls during the reporting period.

Strategic Goals:

- 1. Expand to remote India
- A. Panchayat as a unit of expansion of demonstrated comprehensive program
- B. CORD sites expansion and deepening of program in remote rural India

2. Increase depth of program components

- **A.** Each program to be deepened which entails cross cutting themes such as Self Help Groups (SHGs) for access to credit and financial literacy, Livelihoods farm and allied sector, non-farm/off-farm and services sector, disability, health, nutrition and sanitation, social justice, gender, Panchayati Raj Institutions for local self-government, natural resource management
- **B.** Since all programs converge at the community level, concomitant capacity building of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) especially Mahila Mandal (Women Group), elected representatives of Gram Panchayat and Gram Sabha is integral to the process ensuring inclusion of the marginalized.
- C. Scale experiential trainings further
- a. Build a cadre of community development manpower for rural India
- b. Enhance the internship, fellowship, volunteer, participatory research and development in rural India.
- 3. Striving for Rural Prosperity in Rural Ways with Rural Diversity by investing and building human capital at the Panchayat level and enhancing the rural prosperity by promoting the richness of its diversity across rural

India.

4. Expanding global donor supports and reach including mapping for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding in India to achieve above strategic goals.

Key highlights of the year:

- Dr. Kshama Metre was honored with the "Health Care Humanitarian Award" by FICCI on 20th October 2021. It was a virtual ceremony presided over by Union State Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.
- The Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI)



Dr. Meera Krishna

Shri Narender Paul

- honored CORD with Mary Glowrey Liliane Brekelmans (MGLB) Commendation Award 2021 for the inclusion and empowerment of person with disabilities 15th December 2021.
- On International Women's Day, Dr. Meera Krishna, Director CORD Siruvani & CORD team members from Sidhbari Smt. Seema Thakur and Smt. Veena Choudhary were honored by Inner Wheel Club of Rotarians, respectively in their districts, Coimbatore and Kangra for their outstanding work on women empowerment.
- Dr. Meera also received another award from VGM Foundation, Coimbatore.
- Shri Narender Paul, Chief Operating Officer, CORD receiving the NABARD Annual Award for 'Exemplary Work' to CORD from Shri Virender Kanwar, Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Himachal Pradesh at Shimla on 9th February 2022.

Following are the key highlights of various program components of CORD:

 Community Based Organizations (CBOs): Mahila Mandals, Purush and Farmers club, Adolescent Girls Groups (AGGs), Youth, Children/Balvihars, Swadhayaya Group and Chinmaya Umang for PwDs.

Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are the substratum of CORD's comprehensive



integrated rural development program. CBOs serve as forums for community members to actively engage and bring forth to discuss important issues, concerns, and programs of their local needs, contexts and relevance. Hence, CORD focuses on strengthening CBOs through strategic capacity building to enable these CBOs as fulcrum to drive, leverage the change and sustainability of any programs in the community in rural development. These CBOs bring together groups of women, men, youth, adolescent girls and children. The major

CBOs facilitated by CORD are Mahila Mandals, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Men and Farmer Clubs, Adolescent Girls' Groups, Balvihars and collective thematic advocacy groups like Mini Chinmaya Umang (for inclusion of persons with disabilities). Currently, CORD has nurtured and established the following CBOs during the reporting period till 31st March 2022.

Sr. No.	Particulars of Outreach	Total
1	Number of Mahila Mandals	1271
2	Number of Self Help Groups	2295
3	Number of Adolescent Girls Groups (Yuvti Samuh)	176
4	Number of Bal Vihars	265
5	Number of Farmer Clubs/Men's Clubs	74
6	Number of PWDs (Persons with Disability) Groups	167
7	Number of Gram Sabha facilitated	265
8	Number of Up Gram Sabhas facilitated	628

2. Mahila Mandal (Women Groups) Program:

The Mahila Mandals serve as the central CBOs from which all other programs are evolved. They allow women to come together to discuss social, economic, cultural, and political issues and make appropriate decisions towards better tomorrow in rural India.

The Mahila Mandals have a monthly membership collection (known as *chanda*) of nominal amounts of Rupees 10-20 per



member which they utilize for social and development activities in the villages. Mahila Mandals have a very important role in the empowerment of rural communities, especially in the comprehensive and continued empowerment of women.

Outreach: Nationally, CORD is working with a total of 1271 Mahila Mandals with 50803 members from 244 Gram Panchayats.

Key Highlights:

In Himachal Pradesh,

- All Mahila Mandals organized their regular monthly meetings on fixed dates and agendas either through online/offline mode facilitated by CORD team depending on the ongoing pandemic situation.
- Under women group leadership, 16,000 individuals including Mahila Mandals members, Elected Panchayat Representatives, Adolescent Girls groups members and other Gram
 - Sabha members conducted signature campaign to save Holy National River Mother Ganga. They submitted their memorandums to Prime Minister of India through their local administrative officers as well as raised this matter with National Human Right Commission (NHRC) through their online campaign.
- In an intensive collaborative program with Canadian High Commission, New
- Delhi under Canadian Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI) on gender and local self-governance, CORD has conducted the following key activities during the reporting period:
- 1. Trained 226 Village Volunteer Resource Persons from Mahila Mandals on gender and Local Self Governance for gender equity and equality at the Gram Panchayat level.
- 2. 226 Mahila Mandal level gender awareness camps to prevent gender discrimination as well as make women aware about their legal rights.

3. Four block level gender awareness camps in Nagrota, Kangra, Rait and Dharamshala block. Over 600 participants in these camps included members of Mahila Mandal, Elected Panchayat Representatives and ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist). SDMs (Sub-divisional Magistrates), BMOs (Block Medical Officers), CDPO (Child Development Project Officer) and DPO (District Project Officer) of Integrated Child Development Schemes (ICDS) were invited for creating awareness on various schemes and programs of government meant for rural communities and further effective convergence



'Man of the Month' selected by Mahila Mandal

in mutually striving to achieve the objectives of gender equality and equity.

- 4. Participative selection of 120 Panchayat level "Man of the Month" for active engagement of sensitized men on gender issues as per the program objectives. These "Man of the Month" are acting as brand ambassadors and change agents to sensitize
 - other men locally on issues of gender equality and equity.
- 5. Organized painting competition for 1900 members of Mahila Mandals within 226 Mahila Mandals in 30 Gram Panchayats on the theme of "Gender and Local Self Government". Besides participation and exhibition by women in this competition, many issues were also expressed by women in these



Winners of the Gender Painting Competition

painting depicting their multiple barriers and accelerators during their journey as per the painting theme which were discussed, appreciated and resolved collectively with way further during virtual meeting on 5thFebruary 2022.

6. On 23rd March 2022, Mr. Patrick Hebert, Consul General of Canada (from Chandigarh office) and Ms. Stefanie Bergeron, First Secretary and Manager CFLI program visited CORD Training Centre Sidhbari to observe ongoing program being supported by the Canadian High Commission, New Delhi. They participated and actively interacted with program multi-stakeholders in one of the program field area.



Consul General of Canada at CORD Sidhbari

In Odisha, CORD Lathikata team facilitated six new Mahila Mandals organizing 642 new members. CORD Deuladhia team facilitated 27 new Mahila Mandals organizing 1259 new

members in five Panchayats. Multiple initiatives were taken to provide support to Mahila

Mandals during Covid-19 outbreaks. This includes Whatsapp groups, regular information exchange especially on spot registration for vaccination, government advisories etc. As a result, in program areas, 100% first dose and 93% 2nd dose of vaccination were received by the all Mahila Mandal members. CORD provided 91 Pulse Oximeters in all 91 wards of eight Gram Panchayats to



Mahila Mandal Program in a Panchavat

monitor level of oxygen of affected persons for timely referral and management accordingly.

In Tamilnadu, CORD Siruvani,

- Facilitated 20 new Mahila Mandals with 379 new members
- initiated work in two new Gram Panchayats
- 65 oximeters are provided to Mahila Mandals for their use during COVID pandemic as well as in cases of helping those with chronic lung diseases and any emergency use by for needy people.
- CORD team facilitated cleanliness drive with Mahila Mandal members in the program villages, networked with donor for cooked meals and grocery to the needy populations.
- 3200 members of Mahila Mandals, adolescent girls groups and Balvihar were provided with vitamins, iron, calcium and de-worming tablets on multiple times when they were in need.
- 15 Mahila Mandals were organized, trained, registered, audited accounts and opened bank accounts.
- Special efforts were made for inclusion of single, deserted, widowed, physically challenged and marginalized and poorest of the poor women in the Mahila Mandals.
- 14 Mahila Mandals have created assets in the form of chairs, tables and shamiana through rent of which they earned Rs. 40,000.
- 13 Mahila Mandals contributed Rs. 45,500 to Gandhi Ashram Pollachi for the renovation of their orphanage renovation.
- CORD team facilitated 782 villagers (members of Mahila Mandals and their spouses) for insurance under Life Insurance Company (LIC)'s group insurance policy, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Bima Yojna (PMJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojna (PMSBY). 34 needy villagers and CORD team members too were insured under the Naagarik Suraksha Yojana. 14 deceased persons families received Rs.30,000 eachas insurance claim from LIC.

CORD Tamraipakkam,

- Total 86 Mahila Mandals with 2784 women membership. 14 new Mahila Mandals with 549 new members.
- 250 women participated in celebration of Women's International Day.
- Conducted awareness drive on COVID protection and vaccination, agriculture insurance, livelihood development especially for COVID impacted families.

- Tiruvallur district was impacted worst due to thunderstorms in November-December 2021. After community interactions and assessment of life and livelihoods impacts, CORD team provided immediate relief of 3000 kgs of rice to 600 families, 220 blankets to 220 PwDs, 250 kgs bleaching powder to 80 Mahila Mandals, 1200 Whitfield ointments, 60 tarpaulins sheets to 60 households and 40 kgs of Nilavembu (Ayurvedic health mix).
- Eight Mahila Mandals in the program area provide Rs.12,750 flood relief to 62 devastated members from their own funds (chanda).

3. Self Help Groups (SHG) and Micro-credit program:

CORD established and nurturing Self Help Group of rural women for their financial literacy, inter-loaning and access to larger credit from the mainstream banking and other financial institutions for their economic needs and empowerment. In SHGs, 10-20 members in each group are facilitated and trained for small monthly savings, interloaning and bank linkages as per their collective multiple credit needs including livelihood development. In 1999, CORD, for



its grass root level commendable work in the area of SHGs, was selected as a resource center for NABARD to provide training, till date, to over 45,000 members of SHGs, facilitators, bankers, NGOs and government functionaries in the four northern states i.e., Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh.

Outreach: 2295 Self Help Groups comprised of 29,947 members with cumulative bank loans of Rs.79,57,39,900 till date.



Mrs. Pooja Devi receiving Best Women SHG Achiever Award in Shimla

SHG Achiever Award" from NABARD Regional office, Shimla.

Key Highlights: CORD Training Centre Sidhbari

- Facilitated loans of Rs. 14, 14,18,500 for 264 SHGs for needbased income generations activities including mushroom cultivation, dairy, stitching, knitting, soap making, petty services etc.
- On 9th March 2022, Mrs. Pooja Devi, a member of Chinmaya Ram SHG from Chari village received "Best Women
- 574 members from 292 SHGs were practically trained virtually and 565 members from 266 SHGs were trained in field by program team on SHG management i.e., book keeping, saving, inter-loaning, detail due diligence for hassle free access to services like opening bank accounts, individual accounts, joint accounts etc.

CORD Lathikata,

- Out of total 216 SHGs with 2512 members; 205 SHGs have bank accounts with total savings of Rs. 1,34,67,438 and bank loans
 - of Rs. 5,36,89,800.
- Facilitated bank loans of Rs. 1,51,50,000 by 47 SHGs for livelihood development.
- 35 SHG leaders have been appointed as Community Resources Persons (CRPs) and two SHG leaders as Master Book Keeper (MBKs) for SHG trainings under "Mission Shakti" after a thorough written test & interview conducted by Women and Child



Successful SHG Woman in CORD Lathikatta

Development (WCD) in Lathikata block, government of Odisha. As trainers (CRPs and MBKs) are receiving remunerations of Rs. 3000 and Rs. 7000 per month respectively.

CORD Deuladhia,

- Bank loans of Rs. 78,70,000 were facilitated for 2185 members of 187 SHGs for needbased income generation activities including petty shops, goat rearing, poultry farm, vegetable cultivation, mushroom, watermelon, tractor, power tiller, tent house, auto rickshaw etc.
- Four SHGs received Rs.2,00,000 loans, each SHG under a subsidy-based poultry farm (60:40) schemes from the government Veterinary Department.
- Seven SHGs received funds of Rs.2,00,000 each for large scale mushroom cultivation infrastructure development from Odisha Mineral Bearing Area Development Corporation (OMBADC).
- Five new SHGs were formed
- 385 Presidents and Secretaries of SHGs were trained on multiple need-based SHG management aspects.
- 65 field trainings on record keeping and group dynamics were provided to 295 members of 142 SHGs.

CORD Thamaraipakkam,

- Facilitated four new SHGs linkages to bank to credit for 49 members.
- Rs. 1,04,00,000 were facilitated for 19 existing SHGs through bank linkage program.



SHG Meeting in CORD Thamaraipakkam

CORD Siruvani,

- Facilitated 12 SHGs for total bank loans of Rs. 41,00,000 for livelihood development.
- Four SHGs facilitated to receive COVID relief grant of Rs.60,000.
- Internal Loan availed by SHG members are Rs.2,32,16,105. SHGs have started giving internal loans of Rs.50,000 to Rs.1,50,000 per person at a time.
- Educated and guided SHGs for getting their mandatory PANCards as well as conducted regular trainings, monitoring and evaluation of various SHGs under the program.

4. Yuvati Samuh Program (Adolescent Girls Program):

Yuvati Samuhs are Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for unmarried girls above age of

12 and are used as a platform to discuss adolescent girl's issues as well as their rights. These groups educate, counsel and guide young rural girls in the area of their knowledge, skills and attitude for enabling them confidently in terms of their informed decision making and inspiration to overcome any issues and challenges of their lives as well as emerge as a role model and contributors in the society.



Outreach:

176 Adolescent Girl Groups (AGG) with 1819 girl's members

Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,

- Conducted 567 hybrid (virtual and in field) monthly meetings & leadership and other need-based trainings sessions for its 73 Yuvati Samuh with 653 members.
- 42 VVRPs (Village Volunteer Resource Persons) have been identified and trained on adolescent girls' issues.
- 73 members of Yuvati Samuh were sensitized and oriented on the issues of cleanliness, nutrition, hygiene and motivated for in hands on work on making garbage pits, soakage pits and household level garbage segregation units in their own home/areas.
- Yuvati Samuh members celebrated Yoga Day, Environment Day, *Baishaki*, Rama Navami, Gurudev's Jayanti and learnt the importance and relevance on these occasion/festivals.

CORD Deuladhia has conducted yoga classes and awareness program on hygiene and sanitation for 20 adolescent girls group with 217 members.

CORD Lathikatta identified and trained13 un-employed marginalized, tribal girls for four months duration in tailoring skill at training centre in Rourkela under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDUGKY) scheme of the Central Government. Immediately, all of them were employed by one reputed company in Bangalore where each one of them is earning Rs. 12,000 per month with other employment benefits.

CORD Siruvani, has organized 353 girls in 35 Yuvati Samuhs. One Youth Group formed. Session with Yuvati Samuh's were taken on the menstrual hygiene, causes and prevention of Anaemia, vaccination against HPV and COVID protection. Youth (Boys) were counselled about job opportunities, dangers of addiction to alcohol and tobacco. Needy girls were provided with iron, vitamin and calcium supplements to improve their general health. Tamil Daily newspaper availability and sponsorship of Rs. 25,200 was provided to youth club. Two volleyballs and net were provided to one youth club in Kandiputhur Village in presence of the Panchayat President and Ward member.

5. Balvihar (Children's Group) program:

Balvihar program emphasizes to inspire, educate and holistically open the minds of the young aged 5-12 years. The program enable the children to discover the joy of learning and excel in their multifaceted aspects of their life through inculcation of cultural and spiritual values shared under the program.

Outreach:

265 Balvihars groups with 3613 children

Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,

- Identified and trained 54 VVRPs to organize Balvihar meetings in their concerned areas.
- CORD team members guided to Balvihar children to continue their regular education during COVID Pandemic where children education is highly impacted.
- 575 Balvihar meetings were conducted through hybrid mode
 as per the COVID guidelines. Sports activities, Yoga and physical exercises, Swadhyay
 (self-unfoldment sessions), storytelling, respect and help to people with old age and
 - disabilities and environmental protection, cleanliness and conservation activities were integral part of these meetings.
 - On 21st June 2021, National Yoga Day was celebrated in all Balvihar groups with importance of continued very basic exercises such as the Surya Namskar, *Anulom-Vilom* and *Padmaasan* in maintaining healthy and agile body and mind.
 - Chinmaya Nada Bindu, a Music Gurukul (School) at Chinmmaya Vibhooti Kolwan has started online music classes for rural children in India. 44 Children (19 children for devotional Bhajan/songs, 14 children for Tabla classes and 11 children for Flute) from program area have been selected and attending



classes since February 2022.

CORD Deuladhia, 78 Balvihar groups have enrolled 815 children. During the pandemic times, awareness program on health and hygiene was conducted in all Balvihar groups besides ongoing activities of the program.

CORD Thamaraipakkam, team has facilitated five new Balvihars with total enrolment of children reached to 606 till reporting period. Volunteer persons trained conducted various sessions of Balvihars in their areas.

Celebration of Republic Day, Independence Day, Children Day, Pongal festival, Pujya

Gurudev's jayanti and sports competitions enabled 180 Balvihar children to exhibit their abiltties and talent in their Panchayats.

 Vidya-Arambham (beginning education for young children) was organized by Mahila Mandals to celebrate initiation of 65 Balvihar children to education.

CORD Siruvani, facilitated five Balvihars for 45 new children. Its



program activities has benefited 710 children in 45 locations during the reporting period. Nutritious snacks and books on stories, games and puzzles were provided to Balvihar children.

6. Community Based livelihood – Farm and Allied Sector (CBL-FAS):

CORD's Farm and Allied Sector program works with mostly marginal and small farmers by



organizing them into their collectives, nurturing their knowledge and skills with special focus on low or no costs, natural farming and other best agro-ecological practices towards restoring sustainable agriculture and livelihoods. All program interventions focus on household

nutrition
security, reduce
the cost of farm
inputs, explore
multiple-resilient
livelihood
options for
poorest of the

poor, introduce innovative farm technology and recognize women farmers through informed decision-making process pertaining to farming operations.

Outreach

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari is working with 3848 farmers in 12 development blocks of district Kangra in Himachal Pradesh.

Key Highlights: CORD Training Centre, Sidhbari,

139 new farmers were facilitated to adopt natural





farming practices in vegetables, fruits, wheat and paddy with total farmer number increased now to 689.

- Total 3610 farmers have adopted mushroom production after constant motivation by program team. 315 farmers out of total have earned an average income of Rs. 5900 by selling surplus mushrooms besides their own consumption.
- 4137 households established their nutritional kitchen gardens after their basic trainings

and fields demonstrations including use of organic manures, mulching, and disease control measures.

- 70 Mahila Mandal members and CORD team members completed a six months online certificate course on kitchen gardening organized by Vigyan Ashram, Pune. They further shared their learning's for action in their groups.
- MILITALL MAYORIUM
- CORD team members facilitated farmers to plant 25632 fruit saplings of mango, guava, lichi, pomegranate, orange and apple through convergence with government horticulture department and provisions under MGNREGA with basic training by CORD team on digging pits, mulching, fencing, irrigation and plantation methods.
- Through regular trainings, handholding and follow-ups, 339 farmers initiated goat rearing and 77 initiated backyard poultry leading to an additional increase in average monthly income of Rs. 2500-3000.
- Gurudev Himalaya Farmer Producer Company Limited (GHFPCL) was facilitated by CORD Training Centre Sidhbari since 2020 to provide platform for small and marginal farmers in kind support with NABARD. 162 small and marginal farmers have joined this company as its
 - shareholders. Company deals in production/aggregation/proces sing and marketing of red rice and other farm inputs and products. During this period, two capacity building training programs were organized for executive members of this company. This year, the company has procured 180 quintals red variety paddy from the farmers and has processed,



branded, certified and marketed 22 quintals rice till the reporting period.

CORD Lathikata,

- has facilitated three SHG members to get training and establish small straw mushroom units in their home. These three members sold mushroom of Rs. Rs. 3,50,000 out of which their net profit was Rs. 2.50,000.
- In August 2021, one SHG in Badmeren village was facilitated by CORD team for pisciculture in village pond on lease basis for three years. SHG members took loan of Rs.15000 from their SHG. CORD team has facilitated guidance and training assistance to this SHG from

Block Fishery Officer on the process of fish-rearing. SHG members have purchased 26,000 spawns, feed and required equipment. Harvest is planned for May 2022.

• Seven vermi compost units and 14 azola units were constructed and demonstrated in 5 villages.

CORD Deuladhia,

- Facilitated 2485 kitchen garden for improving household nutrition. Five varieties of
- vegetable seeds like Cabbage, Cauliflower, Beans, Radish and Brinjal were provided to 1600 women farmers from Mahila Mandals during the Kharif season and six varieties of vegetable seeds to 885 households in Rabi season. Besides, 1800 hybrid banana and lemon plants were provided to 450 farmers through convergence and support from government Horticulture Department.
- For sustainable income generation activities, 2500 planting materials of spine gourd was provided to 100 progressive farmers. As off-seasonal vegetable farming, 100 needy farmers were provided with 20,000 saplings of cauliflower, Tomato and Sweet corn.



- 20 Azolla units in 10 Panchayats were constructed with support from Veterinary Department, Government of Odisha.
- 50 farmers were supported with supply of 60 kg fish species (fry) under pisciculture in their dug farm ponds under MGNREGA.
- 18 farmers were supported with 1180 poultry chicks of Aseel variety and 45 Schedule Tribe farmers for the first time potato cultivation in rainy season in 10 acres of land through networking with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) and horticulture department of the government of Odisha.
- 60 backyard poultry cages were constructed for 60 needy persons livelihood development in two new selected Panchayats.
- 10 farmers including four migrants were trained and supported with 5000 planting material on inter-cropping of mango and cashew and Rauwolfia Serpentine in Balab hadrapur and Purujoda Panchayats.
- 25 kg sunflower seeds provided to 81 progressive farmers in four panchayats for oilseed crop in eight acres of land.
- 1040 needy households under the program was supported with 10 kg Bitter gourd seeds, 20 kgs of Cowpea and 10 kgs Okra seeds.
- Dingri mushroom cultivation training was provided to 18 members and Namkeen mixture making training to members of two Self Help Groups.





CORD Siruvani,

 Four Farmers Clubs, 5 Farmer Interest Groups, 1 Farmer Producer Group and 4 Women Farmer Groups are facilitated by program team till date with a total of 250 men and 60 women farmer membership.

 Facilitated and partly supported construction of two cow urine collection units for women farmers to make biofertilizers.

• 258 packets of mineral mix were distributed to 129 beneficiaries having cattle or goats including support from Veterinary department.

 CORD conducted three demonstrations in three Mahila Mandals and provided 40 liters of Panchagavya (bio-manure) and nine liters of Agniastrum (bioherbicide) to 600 members of women groups in a small aliquot for their kitchen gardens use.

- 900 kitchen gardens promoted with needy people including Rs. 34,000 support to buy 15 varieties of seeds of diverse vegetables.
- 53 tenant, marginal and small women farmers provided with 280 liters capacity drums to promote organic farming.
- 535 vegetable baskets and 16 metal tubs were provided to 298 needy people for carrying vegetables, cattle feed, and fertilizers.
- 130 fruit saplings of 22 varieties were given to 125 women farmers.
- 85 farmers were supported with fruit-fly trap, yellow-sticky pheromone traps to protect pest attack on coconut crop; 171 persons supported with 57 eco-friendly Rat Cakes;
 - hand-hoes for 218 women farmer working to earn through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGA), Act.
- Facilitated loans for 50 dairy owners to strengthen their dairy business.
- 5,00,000 machinery support government was facilitated by CORD for eightyear-old Farmer Producer Group. The group has purchased a mini-tractor, rotavator and a de-weeder for their custom-hiring outlet. Group has earned a profit of Rs. 66,000 this year.
- Meetings were organized for farmers in CORD office in collaboration with ATMA. A meeting was also organized in collaboration with them marketing committee.
- Siruvani Uzhavar Farmer Producer Company Limited (SUFPCL) is registered under Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC). 609 farmers, mostly small and marginals, participated in Annual General Body meetings besides regular Directors meetings. SUFPCL is running a cold-press oil mill to process groundnut, sesame and coconut. The company purchased produce grown by the local farmers like copra, groundnut & sesame. From the sale of copra alone, the farmers got a profit of Rs. 45,000 by selling to the Company at a higher rate compared to the market. The company was given a Primary Processing Unit (PPU). The PPU is processing and packaging tender coconut

water and Neera and making Neera Jaggery. This year License was obtained by company to get Neera from various coconut plantations.

CORD Thamaraipakkam,

- Provided support to 1730 needy people for kitchen gardens with provision of at least 2 types of green leaves like bottle gourd, snake gourd, beans, ladies finger, green beans and radish towards improved household nutrition.
- Over 1600 fruit tree saplings to 745 households with follow-up on the previous provided saplings of mango, pomegranate, banana, guava, custard apple, amla (goose berry), chikku, jamun, etc.



- Demonstrated 126 units of organic fertilizers like panchagavyam, agniastram, jiva-amritam, organic pesticide, etc. benefitting about 530 women farmers.
- Distributed 480 kgs of dairy mineral mixture to 82 members and 840 kgs of Mixed Fodder to 18 members for dairy promotion. Guided 33 households to start backyard dairy, financed through SHG loans. 72 women members of SHG started backyard goat rearing and 25 started backyard poultry.
- 22 farmers were connected to government paddy procurement centre where they sold 1470 bags each for Rs. 1450/-and made a profit of Rs.7,35,000.
- Soil test for 5 farmers in Vadatur and guided them to get tractor & rotator rental services to plough13acres leading saving of Rs.27, 300.
- Identified and oriented 48 small and medium farmers to cultivate cash crops like groundnut, Raagi, sesame, green gram, melon and some vegetables in their land through crop rotation and multi-cropping for better yields as well as optimum soil health.

7. Community Based Livelihood Non-Farm & Service Sector (CBL- NFSS):

CORD is striving for rural people to be economically self-reliant by various local need and context specific skill-based initiatives as per the time and resources availability of the SHG members. In the reporting period focus was on facilitating procurement, production, marketing & other support activities to promote sustainable growth and product diversification. The ongoing COVID pandemic challenge has impacted field operations/training/follow-ups as well as sales of Gurudhara SHG Outlet which has to mostly



remained closed. The program team attempted alternate methods of networking and marketing to get out of these challenges and help needy people to level best.

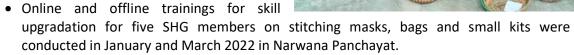
Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,

 Has directly benefited 8226 women and indirectly 4907 women beneficiaries under the program. Various supplementary income generation activities include sewing, knitting, handloom, weaving, Kangra paintings, bamboo and pine needle products, soap making,

edibles, pottery and service sector activities etc.

- 51 individuals trained to earn by making mobile bags, masks, small pouches and kits, potli bags, food product and knitting.
- Seven women were given sewing machines to pursue livelihood and online trainings via video conferencing for stitching masks, potli bags (Small bags) and gift envelops.



Team facilitated participation of Gurudhara Self Help Group (GDSHG) in five Mela (Fair) locally as well as district and State level. Various new products were introduced in these Melas like trays and stoles made from Kangra Paintings, table runners, placemat and napkin sets. Diwali gifts packs were alsosent to Chinmaya Mission, Houston, USA. The total sales of Guru Dhara SHG in the reporting year 2021-2022 was Rs. 15,04,287.

CORD Lathikata,

145 SHG members were facilitated in livelihood skills trainings in tailoring, pickle-making,

beauty parlor, etc. through different training institutes. Post training, 73 women members are at present running their businesses and earning Rs. 4000-12000 per month.

CORD Thamaraipakkam, 65 women below poverty line were identified and trained in various livelihood activities and encouraged to become entrepreneurs with help of financing through SHGs.



CORD Siruvani,

- 20 SHG members stitched and sold 700 masks.
- 14 SHG women joined four months tailoring course at CORD Centre.
- 1148 wire bundles as raw material given to 380 needy women beneficiaries with 30 training cum demonstration sessions.
- 13 needy people trained and provided with material to make incense sticks. 10 of them started some earning from selling incense sticks.

- Pain-balm making trainings and raw material provided to 25 needy individuals. 37 women are earning regularly from this activity. 23 women are given detergent making training.
- CORD team has facilitated marketing for various products by SHG members through putting stalls and enable poor members to earn around Rs. 1,40,000. Team has also facilitated marketing of products of worth Rs. 2,40,000 for SUFPCL.

8. Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) program:

The philosophy of Panchayat Raj is deeply rooted in the tradition and culture which provides a system of self-government at the village level. The 73rd Indian Constitution Amendment Act, 1992, provided a constitutional status and framework on which to build three tiers Panchayati Raj System. CORD is continuously working to strengthen this system of local self-government where people have opportunity to be at the centre stage of their planning,



mainstream development action, enabling choices, informed decision making and convergences to address diverse of social and economic development at the Gram Panchayat level. CORD is striving to achieve this through effective conducive environment building through Up Gram Sabhas (Ward level meeting) and Gram Sabhas (Gram Panchayat General body meeting).

Outreach: CORD is working in 244 Panchayats where 110 Focused Panchayats are intensified by CORD through its efforts to demonstrate specific results as per vision of this program.

Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,

- Facilitated 456 Up-Gram Sabhas in the 64 Focused Panchayats with 29500 participants having 78% women participants.
- CORD created conducive environment for 195 Gram Sabhas in the 58 Focused Panchayats where over 30000 villagers (75% women) participated.
- On the occasion of International Women Day, 8th March 2022, Himachal Pradesh Government made provision (refer to section 5B of Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994) to organize Mahila Gram Sabha (Women Gram Sabhas). Under Mahila Mandals leadership, CORD has facilitated 64 Mahila Gram Sabhas in the 64 Panchayats where over 4400 women and other related stakeholders participated and deliberated on various issues of women in governance with some concrete action plans for way forward. The Mahila Mandal Members also celebrated this day as International Women's Day.
- Celebrated 15th August, Independence Day and Republic Day on 26th January 2022 at CORD Training Center Sidhbari and in the Gram Panchayats in the program area.

- From the guidance from program team, Mahila Mandals facilitated removal of 186 undeserving families from Below Poverty line (BPL) list and same number of deserving families were added through Gramsabha.
- 153 needy households' issues were helped and supported for construction/repair of their houses under government schemes through Panchayats.
- Being a certified Master Resource Person (MRP), Mr. Sunil Kumar Mishra provided training on GPDP (Gram Panchayat Development Plan) and judicial powers of Gram Panchayat to newly Elected Representatives of Gram Panchayats on invitation of District Panchayat Office, Kangra at Dharamshala.

CORD Siruvani,

- Only one Gram Sabha meeting was held and two special Gram Sabhas were conducted in each Panchayat including one Gramsabha to audit the MNREGA work.
- Program team mobilized and motivated tribal women to participate in the Gram sabhas through their collectives of Mahila Mandals.
- Mahila Mandals got 42 Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) houses sanctioned for
 - needy people in the program areas through Gramsabha. These houses are under construction.
- On 2nd October, around 800 villagers attended the Gram Sabha in the five Focus Panchayats where 600 were women.



CORD Thamaraipakkam,

- Gram Sabhas were conducted in August and October 2021. Ward-wise Up-gramasabhas were also facilitated through Mahila Mandals by CORD team. Awareness on COVID, vaccination, dengue prevention and government programs like Poshan Abhiyan, Jal Jeevan, free health check-up at door step, free evening tuitions, adult literacy and Lok Adalat were part of these meeting agendas. Beneficiaries for housing scheme, MGNREGA card, pension, toilet & soak pit constructions, cow & goat shed schemes were identified in these meetings. Needs & issues such as drinking water problems, electricity issues, MNREGA job cards, pension, roads, etc. were discussed and petitions were filed.
- CORD facilitated Mahila Mandal members networked with Velliyur Panchayat president and MLA to open a new ration shop in Velliyur old colony.
- Team members conducted online & offline trainings for elected representatives and Village resource persons on PRI. They learnt about procedure of Gram Sabha, importance of recording the issues in minutes, availing funds & schemes from various Govt. depts.
- Team also held an awareness campaign in the Mahila Mandals on Gram Panchayat Development Plan, five-year participatory people plan, formation of village development committees and called for their active participation in these local development initiatives meant for their development and empowerment.

CORD Lathikata, conducted six camps for 145 participants on gender and local self-governance to strengthen Pallisabha through active participation of Elected Representatives

(ERs) and Gramsabha members of the Gram Panchayat.

CORD Deuladhia, team facilitated 112 Palli Sabha (Upgram Sabha) and 19 Gram Sabha in 10 focused Panchayats. 62 Mahila Mandal members were elected in different position of three tier system of Panchayati Raj like Ward member, Sarpanch and Panchayat Samiti members. CORD team arranged basic orientation training for all these newly elected representatives in the program area.

9. Participatory Natural Resource Management — A Pilot Spring Shed Program

CORD is working as District Implementing Agency (DIA) in implementing a pilot program on spring rejuvenation for future water security in Himalayan region in Gram Panchayat Narwana Khas, Tang, and Andrad in Dharamshala block in District Kangra with kind support from Wheel Global Foundation (WGF) and Government of Himachal Pradesh. People Science Institute (PSI) Dehradun is a nodal agency and Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee and Advanced Center for Water Resources Development and Management (ACWADAM) from Pune as technical supporting partners in the program. Additionally, CORD is providing field support to PSI and ACWADAM team for high altitude spring-shed research program with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in Gram Panchayat Bonderi, Block Tissa, District





Chamba, Himachal Pradesh. 253 households are directly covered under this program.

- Program team has completed profiling of 13 water springs through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises in the selected Panchayats/villages.
- 11 Water User Groups (WUG) have been formed and trained about their functions, role

and responsibilities including monitoring of spring discharge and water quality.

- CORD team conducts regular community mobilization and capacity building activities for rejuvenation of all selected springs.
- On 14th July 2021, Dr. Sandeep Bhatnagar, Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj department, Government of Himachal Pradesh visited program site with Project Officer, District Rural Development Authority (DRDA) Kangra and Block Development Officer (BDO) Dharamshala.



10. Community Based Inclusion and Development (CBID) program for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs):

Since 1986, CORD has empowered Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and their families to emerge as productive contributors and responsible citizens. CORD has developed customized aids and appliances for the persons with disabilities, and is exploring other need based, local, and indigenous solutions through community-based research in disability inclusion and development.

Outreach: 3286 PwDs and their families

Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre,

- reached 2000 PwDs through home visits and phone calls in 160 panchayats to identify and facilitate their needs and also educated them on the prevention and safety measures amidst the second and third wave of COVID-19.
- Provided 4512 virtual rehabilitation services to 453 people with loco-motor disability, multiple disabilities, speech and language impairment, intellectual disabilities and children with autism.
- Ensured PwDs access to their regular disability allowance to 1874 PwDs. 585 PwDs received benefits of SHARA yojana i.e. Rs. 3000 monthly Health Allowance.
- 90 PwDs received disability certificates and 175 PwDs enrolled for the Unique Disability Identification (UDID) card.
- 72 PwDs provided customized Cerebral Palsy chairs, artificial limbs, wheel chairs, crutches and hearing aids through networking.
- Education, Counseling and Guidance through 290 virtual sessions for women with disabilities and the parents of children with disabilities.
- Organized 10 community awareness programs on disability education and empowerment with training of ten VRPs (Village Resource Persons).
- 15 PwDs were supported for livelihood activities including backyard poultry, goat rearing petty shops and stitching.
- 40 Special athletes participated in State and National level selection and trial camps of Special Olympic for Floor ball, Volleyball, Handball, Football, Weight lifting and cycling.
- 11 athletes of the program participated in State Level Paralympics competition at Dharamsala from 25th to 27th December 2021. Athletes won four gold, one silver and three bronze medals.
- Celebrated World Yoga Day, World Disability Day, World Down Syndrome Day and National Children Day with PwDs and community members virtually and in field.



 Mr. Chaitanya Mukund, a fellow of NCPEDP Javed Abidi fellowship has been working under the mentorship of Sh. Narender Paul and CORD being a partner organization for

fellowship program with NCPEDP.

 Conducted a very comprehensive and three days virtual training program (four hours per day) from 15th to 17th March with 24 fellows of NCPEDP Javed Abidi fellowship program on cross disabilities, communication, and advocacy and leadership issues. It was the first national level virtual training conducted by CORD.



Central Chinmaya Umang Meeting (Rural advocacy forum for PwDs, their parents and friends facilitated by CORD)

Nine virtual General House meetings of Central Chinmaya Umang were held. On an average 40 PwDs, their parents and community stakeholders attended these meetings.

• 150 Mini Chinmaya Umang (MCU), a Panchayat level forum of PwDs, their parents and friends, organized their monthly meetings to discuss and resolve PwDs related issues and concerns.

CORD Lathikata, team facilitated 15 PwDs to receive disability certificates, 25 PwDs receiving monthly pension, 17 received tri–cycles, 12 wheel chairs, 2 received artificial limbs and 5 PwDs received hearing aids from Block Office and Regional Rehabilitation and Research Center, Rourkela.

CORD Deuladhia, on 3rd December 2021, team has

organized a virtual meeting with Panchayat Presidents and discussed about 21 types of disabilities and in the field team members met families having persons with disabilities.

CORD Siruvani,

- Conducted special efforts for identification, providing aids and appliances and inclusion of 120 PwDs in their field areas.
- Tailoring, basket-making, paperpacket-making skills trainings were conducted.
- 60 PwDs of their family members and 155 Women headed families were provided with lentils for their daily consumption during pandemic. Two bed-ridden people with old age were provided with diapers.



CORD Thamaraipakkam,

- Working with PwDs through nine Chinmaya Umang Groups reaching out to 230 PwDs in six Panchayats through monthly meeting.
- On 22nd November 2021, CORD team member Mr. Silambarasan conducted training for 25 NGOs and voluntary participants from 14 development blocks in the district on the Right to Person with Disability (RPD) Act, 2016 at Tiruvallur Collectorate office during District Disability Committee meeting.
- A week-long celebration took place on the occasion of World Disability Day starting from 3rd December 2021. Chinmaya Umang group meetings were held in each focus panchayat organized by Mahila Mandal leaders. Counselling for PwDs, awareness on 21 types of disabilities and provisions of RPD, Act 2016, COVID vaccination & livelihood motivation drives for PwDs were conducted by program team members to mark the occasion. 220 blankets were provided to needy PwDs.

Chinmaya Shanta – A community based mental health and well-being program

CORD's Chinmaya Shanta Program in Sidhbari Himachal Pradesh has been focusing on the prevention, early identification and management of Mental Illnesses along with the promotion of mental health and wellbeing in the rural community. Mental health concerns and treatment usually take a backseat when the limited resources are geared for pandemic containment. In this global humanitarian crisis of the COVID19 pandemic, the mental health issues have become more prevalent and reported from all over the world including field operation areas of CORD.



Outreach:

Reaching out to 30 persons with mental Illness and 550 persons with intellectual disabilities in the 160 remote and scattered Gram Panchayats through field visits and telecommunication to identify and address their needs and issues.

Key highlights:

- 30 persons with mental Illnesses, 550 persons with Intellectual disabilities, and their
- family members are continuously getting virtual and in field multi-rehabilitation services including counseling, guidance and needful support from program team.
- Organized 11 community awareness programs to sensitize the community and related stakeholders on mental health and wellbeing with special reference to ongoing pandemic.
- 20 Virtual sessions with 50 women with



disabilities (PwDs) and Mahila Mandal members were facilitated to educate them on the coping mechanism and managing their challenges with activities of daily living, proper nutritional care and personal hygiene.

• Celebrated World Mental Health Day on 10th October, 2021 with an objective to create awareness about mental health and related problems at the community level. Total 76 participants benefited virtually through an interactive session with Dr. Dinesh Dutt, Head of Department, Psychiatry, Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC), Shimla and Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Psychiatrist, Dr. Radhakrishnan Government Medical College & Hospital, Hamirpur.

11. Community Health Program:

The program enables community groups to take responsibility for preventive and promotional aspects of health, and links communities with existing government health services from sub-centre upwards. CORD also provides direct medical health services at the CORD Training Centre and CORD Siruvani and works as a referral unit for critical cases to the appropriate hospitals. CORD is also working in the slum areas as part of the Urban Reproductive and Child Health (Urban RCH) program in collaboration with the National Health

Mission (NHM). This program aims to provide health care to underserved populations in slums, including migrants, nomads and construction workers. This initiative is facilitated in District Kangra by CORD in the three slums areas of Nagrota Bagwan, Dharamshala and Nurpur area.

Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,

- A total of 501 patients have received medical services during the year in the Outpatient Department (OPD) at CORD Training Centre.
- On 19thMay 2016, 30 CORD team members were investigated for diabetes. All results were normal.
- 20 patients were referred to Zonal Hospital Dharamshala and Dr. Rajendra Prasad Govt. Medical College, Tanda for further investigations.
- CORD educated villagers on family planning and distributed 500 condoms to villagers.
- CORD facilitated Alcohol de-addiction program where three new patients were registered and followed-up through counseling.
- Virtual interactions were conducted with 44 Multi-Purpose Health Workers (Female) on 5th September 2022, 3rd October and 7th November by Dr. Kshama Metre as physical annual get-together was not possible this time due to pandemic at CORD Training Centre. This program was directed by Pujya Gurudev Swami Chinmayananda to be conducted annually for all female health workers trained by CORD to enhance and support their continued spiritual growth and involvement within and without. The

nurses support this program and have contributed generously towards CORD's work in rural development too.

- Organized Pulse Polio day on 27th February 2022 benefitted 66 children.
- Completed 52 ANC (Anti Natal Check-ups) and Pentavelent vaccine dosage were given to 43 children and Measles doses were given to 37 children for full immunization.
- Facilitated 43 institutional deliveries by the CORD nurses in slums.
- 45 Personal hygiene awareness programs have been conducted under Urban RCH program benefited more than 500 individuals. With the help of government schemes, now all the slums dwellers of Nagrota Bagwan site are using toilets instead of earlier open defecation by them.

CORD Deuladhia, two youth clubs organized a blood donation camp and collected 32 units at Oria-Birda panchayat.

CORD Lathikata, a solar-powered pump set which had been non-functional for a long time was repaired by BDO office after persistent efforts of Maa Laxmi MM. The non-functional pump set at Lohadar was forcing villagers to use stream water for drinking, leading to various health problems. 30 members of the MM submitted their written representation to the BDO and after 4 months of follow-up with the BDO, the pump set was finally repaired much to the relief of the residents for clean drinking water.

CORD Siruvani,

- 2549 villagers were screened for diabetes, hypertension, thyroid disorders, severe anemia, malignancies and gynecological problems. Medicines were given for treating these conditions.
- 400 persons were screened for high blood pressure for all ages, blood test for 500 people and 394
 - villagers underwent blood sugar tests. Detected positive were referred for appropriate management.
- 49 beneficiaries mostly below poverty line completed the course of Hepatitis Vaccination.
- 15 medical camps were conducted in 20 villages with GKNM Hospital for HPV self
 - sampling for early detection of cervical cancer. 19 general Medical Camps were conducted during this period and one blood donation camp with collection of 27 units.
- 518 women were screened and examined for HPV and cervical cancer;
- positive ones referred and followed-up further for the management in tertiary care center.



Blood Donation Camp at Siruvani

2 Eye camps were conducted for 57 villagers in collaboration with Eye Foundation; 10 cases referred for cataract surgery. Another eye camp was conducted with Shankra Eye Hospital where 431 villagers were screened. 341 were given free spectacles.

Networking with GKNM hospital, CORD helped mobilize 100 girls and boys for the 3rd phase trial of HPV vaccine made in India. This involved showing videos, counseling, documentation & follow-up.

CORD Tamraipakkam, conducted eye check-up camp with Shankra Naetralaya where 194 people were examined and glasses were given to 121 needy persons.

12. Community Based Sanitation, Nutrition and Hygiene Program:

Actively taking charge and engaging all age groups in rural communities on various issues of

community sanitation and hygiene is the major thrust of CORD's program. Program team facilitated practical interventions based on best and innovative practices to resolve issues of safe garbage and sanitary disposal through making garbage pits, soakage pits, establishing micro segregation bags practices the household level, conducting cleanliness drives in public places, constructing toilets etc., rather than merely organizing awareness campaigns.



Key Highlights:

CORD Training Centre,

- Intensive community led sanitation program being implemented in 27 Panchayats and 3 wards of Cantonment areas as a critical mass for scaling and replication with the kind support of Gartner India.
- Over 2500 virtual and in field Mahila Mandal monthly meetings were facilitated on issues on household garbage segregation practices, water and environmental cleanliness.
- 39,980 eco-friendly sanitary pads were distributed by program's VVRPs (Village Volunteer Resource Persons) through network of community with health department. This has not



only led to create mass awareness on importance of menstrual hygiene amongst rural

women and young girls but also build rural communities understanding on use and safe disposal of eco-friendly sanitary pads promoted by the government at a very affordable cost even for the poorest of the poor.

- Facilitated 28 VHSNC meetings where participants not only took collective decisions but also done practical volunteer work by cleaning their surroundings. 28 VRPs (Village Resource Persons) and three CORD team members have become members of VHSNC to ensure more proactive and informed decision making and actions on the issues of health, nutrition and sanitation in their Panchayats.
- Constructed 29 toilets, 1215 soakage pits, 1989 garbage pits, 2235 household microsegregation units. The Mahila Mandal members facilitated applications of 151 Households for toilet construction to Deputy Commissioner Kangra through Panchayats.

CORD Deuladhia, facilitated constructions of 35 toilet units through Mahila Mandals.

CORD Lathikata, created awareness on environmental sanitation among villagers especially regarding safe dumping of garbage, purification of water sources, cleaning around tube well, open well and ponds. With collective effort of villagers, 113 open wells in 55 villages of Lathikata block have been decontaminated applying bleaching powder and lime stone. Besides this, filling of soils in stagnant water near the tube wells, repairing drainage system, cleaning of surface of water bodies have been undertaken by the community with involvement of program team. 12 soakage pits, 32 compost pits and 250 toilets were constructed during the reporting period.

CORD Siruvani, motivated villagers to dig 26 garbage pits, dustbins were given to 1377 households and 250 sacks were given to 250 households to segregate the waste 66 cloth bags and 1000 paper packets were purchased and given to shopkeepers to create awareness. CORD facilitated the constructions of 10 toilets for poor people supported through Rotary club.

CORD Thamaraipakkam, created continued awareness and action to prevent stagnation of water in rainy season to avoid spread of diseases, footsore, etc. CORD team distributed bleaching powder, ayurvedic health mix for immunity and ointment for footsore to Mahila Mandal members. 52 toilets and 58 soak pits have been facilitated this year in program area.

Community Based Nutrition Program:

CORD emphasizes the importance and significance of nutrients and balance diet for rural children, pregnant, lactating and newly married women through its Nutrition program. The program has been addressing this critical and relevant issue through education, counseling, guidance and awareness along with the promotion of kitchen garden and balanced diet among them.

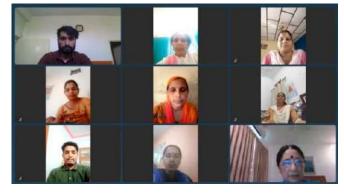
Key highlights:

- Worked with 135 pregnant, lactating and newly married women through Mahila Mandals in 27 Panchayats of Kangra district, Himachal Pradesh.
- 210 virtual and in field sessions were conducted for the pregnant, lactating women, newly married women for their anthropometric measurements of weight, height, BMI (Body Mass Index) as well as appropriate counseling and guidance accordingly. All the Women were encouraged to regularly interact and access government facilities through the Anganwadi and ASHA being frontline workers.

 From 24th January 2022, program has enrolled eight team members for the online certificate course on 'Maternal Infant Young Child Nutrition' (designed by IIT Bombay) through SWAYAM Portal initiated by Government of India. The main objective of this course is to enhance the knowledge and skill of the learners about concept of nutrition

science, techniques of breastfeeding, newborn care, complementary feedings, and anthropometric assessments.

 Dr. Sheila Vir (Nutritionist) and Dr. Kshama Metre (Pediatrician, National Director CORD) have organized four virtual sessions of Nutrition with the team members during the year. The sessions were mainly focused on balanced



diet, education of newly married, lactating and pregnant women about the importance of 1000 days. Beside this team members have also shared case studies of their field areas. Eight team members of the program attended the sessions.

13. Social Justice & Informal Legal Aid Program:

This program is not only creating legal literacy amongst rural communities in but providing

legal aid and counseling to individuals who are deprived of their legal rights and are struggling for justice. This program makes people specially women aware about their basic legal rights and educate them how to overcome obstacles that lead to women's marginalization, disempowerment and repression. The program provides free legal consultation and counseling to the needy people, conduct advocacy events, extensive research and dedicated legal counseling and guidance days. CORD is also working as a



Service Provider under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.

Outreach: Program has registered 1089 cases out of which 802 cases have been resolved till 31st March 2022. More than 50% cases are related to matrimonial problems.

Key Highlights:

- 23 new cases registered during the reporting period.
- Conducted 350 online/offline counseling sessions for needy victims in order to provide legal aid, counseling and guidance.
- Conducted online/offline 226 camps on legal literacy focusing gender and women in governance in Mahila Mandals.

- Drafted and sent 114 legal applications/complaints of needy victims to the concerned authorities through registered post/online mode for appropriate remedy.
- Facilitated 13 applications/appeals under Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005.
- Three single women receiving their pension from Social Justice and empowerment department after CORD intervention.
- Regular monthly online sessions on counseling, peer support and legal assistance were conducted for Chinmaya Ekal Nari Group members. Regular fun and outing sessions could not be organized for single women due to ongoing pandemic.



 Shri Sunil Kumar Mishra, Smt. Premo Devi and Smt. Anita Thakur successfully completed two days online training on "The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013" scheduled on 1st and 2nd September 2021. This program was organized by National Productivity Council (NPC) of India.

14. CORD Training Center - Satellite Sites



Village Uroli, Uttrakhand

CORD has started replicating its comprehensive integrated rural development programs into the backward and remote Gram Panchayats of others states of India. This includes four panchayats in District Almora Uttarakhand, one panchayat in District Pathankot, one panchayat in Punjab and three panchayats in District Chamba, Himachal Pradesh. These are known as satellite sites and cover a total of 64 villages.

Key Highlights:

• Established and strengthening 50 Mahila Mandals, 80 SHGs, 13 Farmer Clubs, 35 Yuvati Samuhs, and 41 Balvihars.



- Organized institutional capacity building and leadership training for 394 executive members of Mahila Mandals and SHGs
- 681 soakage pits, 805 garbage pits, 29 toilets and 992 nutrition kitchen gardens were constructed/revived.
- 468 beneficiaries enabled and supported to earn livelihood through multiple resilient farm and allied sector activities like backyard poultry, goat

rearing, dairy, mushroom farming, kitchen gardening and 75 beneficiaries earning through nonfarm and service sector activities like small general shops, mini flour mills, welding works, carpenter work, beauty parlors, stitching works etc.

- Year round celebrations of important local festival, national and international days by rural communities through their Community Based Organizations of women, men, youth and children.
- CORD's Mahila Mandals in Gram Panchayat Bhaisoli, District Almora, Uttarakhand revived their cultural heritage after a long gap of seven years by organising Ramleela program with community participation on 17th November 2021. This has not only paved path for future to rejuvenate local cultural heritage but strengthen values of service, community cohesiveness, harmony for co-esistence.



15. Program Support and Evaluation –all CORD sites:

Due to COVID-19 the physical visits to CORD sites in Odisha (CORD Lathikata and CORD Deuladhia) and Tamil Nadu (CORD Thamaraipakkam and CORD Siruvani) were put on hold. However, consistent support and handholding to all sites were provided through strategic virtual digital connect programs by National team on monthly and quarterly basis including monthly interactions of National Director and Chief Operating Officer along with team leads from CORD Resource Team.

16. CORD Training Centre – Experiential Residential Trainings, Networking and Events:

Swadhyaya Groups (Self Un-foldment Classes):

CORD has formed and facilitated Swadhyaya Groups for spiritual Self-enfoldment in rural communities by sharing messages of Param Pujya Gurudev on the wealth and wisdom of Vedanta philosophy to live happy and fulfilling life within and without.

- 89 Swadhaya groups formed and working in the villages.
- During the pandemic situations, 617 virtual Swadhyaya sessions benefiting 3508 people were regularly conducted by the program teams.
- Every Sunday of the month, Gayatri Hawan was performed by team members in both campuses of CORD Training Centre, Sidhbari.
- A virtual group swadhaya session daily from 7.45 AM to 8.20 AM were coordinated by Shri Narender Paul for program team members at CORD Training Centre on text: Cintan Dainandini - "Read Daily, Live Fully"—Excerpts from the writing of Swami Chinmayananda.
- Twice a year Navratri Pooja, monthly celebrations of team members birthdays puja were performed at the CORD Training Centre connected virtually all team members working from homes even during pandemic time.

Team members' Academic Up-gradation:

- 22 team members are upgrading their educational qualifications through enrolments in different courses i.e. four team members in MA (Rural Development), five in MA (Psychology), one in MSW, 11 in BSW and one in MBA. Out of these, two members passed MA (Psychology) during the reporting period.
- Many team members attended virtual and offline short courses/webinars of practical relevance from various institutions of repute on diverse themes of health, nutrition, disability, CSR, financial rules and accounting, disaster management, mental health rural development, Panchayati Raj, governance, skill development, innovative technology, disability inclusion, agriculture, COVID management, communication, fund raising and management which has enriched the individuals, teams as well their programs.

Volunteer and Interns:

Total 52 students including 36 of BBA/BA/BCOM from Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (CVV), Ernakulam, Kerala and 12 PGDM (10 in Sidhbari and two in Siruvani) students from S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR) completed their four week internship on Development of Corporate Citizenship Program in the various CORD's integrated rural development programs through online/offline mode. They were assigned with diverse thematic projects complementing and supplementing CORD's process oriented endeavor in empowering development in rural India.

17. Empowering support during COVID Period:

CORD team members tirelessly remained engaged consistently and persistently through their efforts to mitigate the challenges of COVID19 pandemic with active engagement of CBOs and related multi-stakeholders. Some of major efforts are mentioned as below:

Key highlights:

CORD Training Centre,

- a. 29,000 women and 1500 PwDs were sensitized and oriented about COVID guidelines and appropriate behaviors including proper hand washing, social distancing and personal hygiene. Besides their own doses of vaccination, CORD team members also facilitated
 - villagers for full vaccination as per the government advisories in the program area in its outreach area through coordination with Panchayat Level COVID Task Management Force and health department.
- b. Organized regular online/offline meetings in 64 Panchayats with COVID Task Management Force committee members including



EPR's (Elected Panchayat Representatives), Mahila Mandal Members, ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist), ANM (Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery), School Teachers for coordination among the related stakeholder and better management of ongoing COVID

pandemic at grass root level with active community participation. Deputy Commissioner

Kangra at Dharamshala, Dr. Nipun Jindal participated in one of such virtual meeting held on 8th February 2022. In this meeting, he ensured the members to provide all the needful administrative and operational support from the local administration.

c. 65 Mahila Mandals stitched over 16,422 masks and provided them to the needy people in their concerned panchayats.



Deputy Commissioner Kangra's interactions with 64 panchayats

- d. 27 Mahila Mandals donated Rs 40,300 to the Prime Minister's CARES (Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations) Fund.
- e. With kind financial support of Rs. 36,06,852 from CORD USA, CORD provided financial assistance for livelihood generation activities to 100 poorest families whose livelihoods were severely impacted and 600 pulse oximeters to CORD's facilitated Mahila Mandals to monitor their oxygen level in rural areas during this COVID19 pandemic nationally through all CORD sites.
- f. 16 poor people with old age were supported for their basic amenities like blanket, food, medicine etc during COVID times.
- g. Enabled 429 families of PwDs to receive five kgs of Rice and one kg. Black Gram under the COVID relief Program by government.
- h. 22 Mahila Mandals donated Rs. 18500 to 28 needy poor families for their food, livelihoods and other basic requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CORD Lathikata, facilitated COVID relief support of Rs. 5000 each were provided to 30 poor SHG members who have been adversely affected by the pandemic. CORD team identified deserving SHG members and an orientation was given in August 2021 on income generation activities so that they may revive their previous businesses adversely impacted by COVID induced lockdowns.



CORD Deuladhia supported 20 families

who were severely affected by COVID-19 pandemic. Some of them lost their head of the family members in COVID-19 and others became jobless in the pandemic. Rs. 25,000 was provided to eight households and Rs.20,000 to 12 households for various livelihood activities like goat rearing, Poultry and Petty Shops. In the month of March 2022, CORD also provided Rs.10,000 additional supports to 8 families who had previously received Rs. 25,000 for COVID-19 livelihood support. Overall, Rs. 5,20,000 support was provided by CORD.

CORD Siruvani, team intensively worked to educate villagers in 40 villages through whatsapp group with 500 villagers on preventing COVID spreads and steps that need to be taken to contain it. Face shields were provided to barbers and frontline health workers.

2000 villagers sensitized on COVID prevention during vaccination drive at primary health centre.

CORD Tamraipakkam, Ms. Priya Arunachalam, Director CORD Tamraipakkam met with Joint Director Tiruvallur district to assess the need of people during pandemic. Immediately, CORD supported 30 needy people with Rs. 5,00,000 for livelihoods impacted due to pandemic. Ration kits of Rs. 1000 per person were provided through support mobilized from Rotary club to 24 poorest of the poor. 14 people were mobilized to initiate livelihoods like goat rearing, petty shop, rice shop, vegetable vending and dairy.

18. Trainings, Seminars, and Events

National Level

- Sh. Narender Paul, Chief Operating Officer, CORD participated as moderator in the virtual National Conference on Disability Inclusive Disaster Management workshop, organized by NCPEDP (National Center for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People) on 20thApril 2021.
- Shri Narender Paul and Shri Harish participated in this 4 Months E-Certificate Course and won the prize of Rs. 1, 01,000/cash prize for a three months project



(completed on 30th April 2021) titled CREDILA (Care for Rural Elders with Dignity Despite their Lower Aspiration) sponsored by BOSCH company with Vishwa Yuva Kendra (VYK) through which 10 poor people with old age were supported by CORD.

- In April 2021 Dr. Metre participated virtually as Advisory Committee Member of Bhau Institute, Pune which runs the institute for incubating innovations by young engineers.
- Dr. Metre conducted virtual interactions organized by Mr. Ward Mailliard of Mount Madonna School, USA with senior students of the school in April 2021.
- Dr. Metre, inaugurated online program for two days duration for Training of Trainers
 - (ToT) program on "Integration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in implementation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan" organized by NIRDPR (National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj), Hyderabad on 10th and 11th August 2021 followed by delivery of talk later in August with NIRD&PR on "Goal 3: Health and Well being in Gram Panchayats."



- Dr. Metre, & Shri. Narender Paul and Sh. Balbir Guleria, Community Development Trainer attended the National Disability Network and NCRPD (National Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities) meetings on 12th and 13th August 2021.
- Sh. Balbir Guleria attended two virtual general body meetings of The National Trust held on 27th May and 28thSeptember 2021.

- Dr. Metre participated in virtual board meeting of PSI (People Science Institute, Dehradoon) being its trustee on 12thNovember 2021.
- Dr. Metre delivered virtual talk in "Community Impact Speaker Series" organized by Gartner India on 23rd November 2022.
- STARS Forum's 12th annual national conference was organized virtually from 6th December to 10th December 2022. The main theme for the conference was "COVID Retrospective: Looking Back, Looking forward". Dr. Metre and Narender Paul participated as key moderators and panelists beside being its founder and managing trustees

respectively.

- Dr. Metre was invited as a speaker and the Guest of Honour in a national level webinar on 'Unequal pay: Gender Discrimination' at Workplace on 20th December 2021. This webinar was organized by Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP) with support of National Commission for Women (NCW) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- Dr. Metre, Sh. Narender Paul and Sh. Balbir Guleria attended the national consultation Global Disability Summit organized by NCPEDP, held on 21st January 2022.

HPKV Business School, SCMS, Central University of Himachal Pradesh Is Organizing a National Webinar On UNEQUAL PAY : GENDER DISCRIMINATION AT WORKPLACE CHIEF GUEST Guest of Honour Dr. Daisy Thakur Dr. Kshama Metre Chairperson, Himachal Prades nisation for Rural Devloc Guest Speaker Guest Speaker Date :- 20 December 2021 10.30 AM to 2.30 PM Online Platform Prof. Abha Chauhar Dr. Mridul Maheshwari Prof and Head , Department of Socialogy , Jammu University Assistant Professor . IIM Kashiput

- Dr. Metre was a panelist in the National Program entitled "Youth as a Change Makers" organized by Vishwa Yuva Kendra in February 2022.
- Dr. Metre participated as a guest speaker with Dr. Kiran Bedi in the online webinar on "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow". This program was organized by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, New Delhi on 8thMarch 2022 on the occasion of International Women Day.
- Dr. Metre participated as a guest speaker in MaatHRI (Maternal and Prenatal Health Research Collaboration India) project's Community Engagement and Involvement (CEI) virtual group meeting of Oxford University in collaboration with Dr. Rajender Prasad Medical College, Tanda on 11th March 2022.

State Level and District Level

- Shri Balbir Guleria and Ms. Darshana, attended Pulse Polio task force meeting at Dharamshala on 22ndFebruary 2022.
- Dr. Kshama Metre, National Director, CORD, chaired three meetings of Institutional Ethical Committee (IEC) of Dr. Rajender Prasad Government Medical College and Hospital, Tanda.
- On 4th January 2022, Narender Paul was invited by the Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP) as the Guest of Honour in a one-day seminar organized for 140 Research scholars of various schools of the university. He shared the need and importance of relevant academic and experiential research directly addressing needs of rural communities and impacting their lives.

• Dr. Kshama Metre invited as guest of honour in the concluding day of the Lidber Mela in

Nagrota Bagwan Block in District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh on 28th March 2022. This Mela was revived and organized by the local administration with Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), Shri Arun Mehra. Its concluding day was dedicated to women. Chief Guest for this occasion was Mrs. Indu Goswami, Member of Parliament (Rajyasabha).



CORD Kaza: Chinmaya Vijaya – a orphanage home for girls, Andhra Pradesh

Chinmaya Vijaya at CORD Kaza is serving 99 orphan girls through a holistic care, education and development residential program under the direction and guidance of Dr. Sumati Mukkamala and Dr. Apprao Mukkamala.

- 42 girls of classes between U.K.G. to 9th class have been sent to their guardian homes on 24th April 2021 as the government advisories due to COVID pandemic surge on COVID cases as well as under the guidelines of CWC (Child Welfare Committee), Guntur. During this year, 6 girls left Chinmaya Vijaya Ashram on their own accord.
- For the months of June-September 2021, schools were closed and students attended their classes virtually. Dr. AppaRao and Dr.
 Sumathi provided mobile phones to those who were struggling to obtain the gadgets
 - required for online classes. With schools reopening after the pandemic in October, all girls came back to Chinmaya Vijaya and started going to schools and colleges and attended their regular offline classes. All girls above 12 years and all staff of Chinmaya Vijaya was fully vaccinated as per government guidelines.
- Students till class 9thwere promoted to the next class in NRI Indian Springs School, Gollapudi, Vijayawada. Also A.P. state government cancelled 10th class junior and senior Intermediate board exams due to lockdown enforced by the State and Centre to restrict the spread of novel Corona virus and allotted grades to the passed SSC



students based on their performance in the periodical assessment tests.6 students of

Class 10th scored 10/10 GPA, 3 students with 9.8/10 GPA and remaining 4 students got above 9/10 GPA. In the month of August, they joined in Junior Intermediate B.P.C. and M.P.C. courses in Sarada Junior College, Vijayawada.

- 7 girls of Senior Intermediate have taken B.Sc. Nursing course in NRI Nursing College and one girl joined in Medical Laboratories Technology course in the same college. Three B.B.A. students studying at Chinmaya Viswa Vidyapeeth (CVV) University, Kerala, completed their degree 2nd year final exams and promoted to 3rd year (final year).
- A second year Anesthesia student at Amalapuram passed with first class. Another student pursuing B.Tech at RVR&JC Engineering College completed her 3rd year and was promoted to 4th year. At present she is pursuing her internship at Hetero Labs Ltd., Vishakhapatnam, East Godavari. Three Chinmaya Vijaya girls got good rank in EAPCET exam and got admission in R.V.R & J.C. Engineering College, Chowdavaram, Guntur, in EEE branch. One B.D.S student at St. Joseph Dental College, Duggirala completed her 3rd year and was the college topper in her examinations.
- Swami Suveerananda organized Pujya Gurudev's 105th birthday celebrations on 8th May and the CV girls joined enthusiastically in the celebrations and blessings of Pujya Guruji.



- On 1st March, 2022 all CV girls were taken to field exposure visit to Vijaya Dairy Milk Project, Vijayawada by Dr. Sumati. The company staff took the girls on a factory tour and showed the various manufacturing and lab processes for the preparation of various milk products.
- Girls at Chinmaya Vijaya participated in variety of spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing sessions in November and December 2021, conducted by Mrs. Sheela

Rao volunteer from USA stayed at Chinmaya Vijaya. Girls from LKG to 4thgrade were taught Ram Nam and Krishna Nama Sankeertana prior to evening Aarti, to inculcate the daily habit of devotional chanting. All girls have been participating in the ongoing Sunday classes with Swami Suveerananda and also attending their regular dance classes.

Overall, CORD has not only successfully attempted implementing its diverse programs as per its vision of empowering development for rural India but observed resilient of rural communities to bounce back specially from the impact of COVID pandemic. This has reaffirmed our team's faith and conviction in the vision of CORD based on communities as active partners and CORD's strategy to strive for equality, harmony, peaceful co-existence and shared prosperity, even for the poorest of the poor or the most marginalized ones by bringing them to the centre stage of their empowering development and enabling them to become contributors in the mainstream development in rural India. This approach not only helps people to managing their lives and livelihoods but also enables them to unfold their collective potentials towards other confronting challenges such as climate change by contributing globally through local actions.

Continued bilateral dialogues, communications and support to its team members, rural communities and multi-stakeholders remained CORD's focus in facing COVIDs challenges

including relevant actions to manage related issues of mental health that emerged due to prolonged issues of the pandemic related stress, fear, inactivity, loss of livelihoods/wages specially for poor and the marginalized ones.

CORD's sincere prayers to Bhagwan and Param Pujya Gurudev to bless all beings with safe, healthy, harmonious and happy times and strength and ability to cope and manage themselves through the vagaries of the ongoing uncertain pandemic.

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- · National Health Mission.
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- Sony Pictures
- People's Science Institute (PSI)
- Canadian Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI)

Kshama Metre,

National Director

