DFY Bulletin—The quarterly update

**J&K Operations: A 100 days in Kashmir**

On 13th September, 2014, our organization started its operations in Kashmir and has successfully completed 100 days on 21st December 2014. During these days of response, the team DFY made positive intervention and implemented programs including static and mobile health camps, chlorination tablets/ IEC material (WASH) distribution (A total of 24,400 chlorine tablets and 4,000 IEC material reached to 6,120 beneficiaries), child health education camp with special focus on mass de-worming, adolescent health and hygiene talk, maternal health care – distribution of nutritional supplement and clean delivery kits, health facility assessment and supporting existing health facilities with emergency medicine & equipments and capacity building of health workers through State & District level Training of Trainers (ToTs) and block level ASHA training.

In September, our organization was one of the first responders to the floods and deployed an emergency medical team from Delhi for immediate health need assessment. A total of 3 medical teams to support the healthcare in the acute emergency were also deployed. The flood had caused unprecedented destruction of the existing medical facilities and health care services. In this acute phase, DFY ensured the continuation of essential health services and till now our organization has provided preventive and curative health services to 20,539 people in 68 different locations in both urban and rural areas in these 100 days. DFY has conducted 110 Medical camps and served 10,601 people in their health camps.

After the acute phase, our organization has devoted itself to long term healthcare rehabilitation and preparedness activities. Through the child health education and mass de-worming campaign, DFY reached 40 schools and 17 Anganwadi centers, reaching out to 4,500 children. Also, DFY is highly committed to the up-keeping of maternal health and has distributed delivery kits and nutritional supplements to 7 of the remote villages, where the hospitals/PHCs/SCs are partially or completely damaged. In the early intervention, DFY has a major role and involvement in capacity building with National Health Mission (NHM). The program is implemented in three phases: State level TOT, 3D district level ToT and 5D block level trainings for ASHAs.

DFY has actively served in the following 6 districts: Srinagar, Budgam, Pulwama, Bandipora, Baramulla and Kulgam through active involvement of over 40 medical volunteers, 16 paramedics and 13 administrative volunteers from local and outside J&K.

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- Dr. Fatima Bano, BMO, Kargil

“The training given by Doctors For You team to our staff members is of a quality that has never been seen before and we really believe that this training will be very useful to face any emergency situation in future.”

- Dr. Khajuria at Jammu training

**DFY started Training of Trainers (ToT) as a joint venture between DFY and National Health Mission, J&K. Our organization conducted a state level training in Srinagar for Kashmir and Ladakh Region on 27th to 29th October, 2014 and for Jammu region from 7th to 9th November, 2014. At state level, 70 trainers were trained and currently the second phase of training is being conducted in which DFY trainers along with the 70 state level trainers are training 800 more trainers at district level. All these trainers in the third phase will be training 12,000 ASHA workers in each block of all 22 districts of J&K. In line with our organization’s guidelines, these training sessions outline the role of health workers in emergencies. The topics covered are: key concepts of disaster management, diseases to look out, basic life support, MISP (Minimal Initial Service Package), WASH and hygiene promotion, Measles and routine immunization during disasters, reproductive and adolescent health issues, psychosocial support, mapping the vulnerable community, sphere guidelines and Initial Rapid Assessment.”

**J&K Activities**

- 24,400 chlorine tablets & 4,000 IEC material reached to 6,120
- Health services to 20,539 people in 68 locations
- Served 10,601 people through 110 camps
- 40 schools & 17 Anganwadi centers, reaching out to 4,500 children

**J&K Operations: Trainings conducted on PHiE**

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ToT at Srinagar saw exceptional performance and feedback from the participants

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During the response in Jammu and Kashmir flood, Doctors For You team had visited Tengan Village of Budgam district on 20th September 2014 and learnt that people were directly consuming the flood water. The water was contaminated by waste disposal, mud, carcass and other materials. Realizing the serious need for intervention, DFY team immediately responded to ensure the availability of fresh drinking water for people. The first step in this regard was distribution of 300 chlorine tablets (one tablet adequate to purify 150 liters of water) which could cater to the whole village for five days. DFY team also organized health camps in Tengan for medical check-up and medicine supply for those in need. DFY coordinated with RGF who later installed an RO system in the village.

Based on the experiences and analysis of Tengan Village, DFY published IEC material for WASH promotion, started mass deworming campaign to eliminate the risk of worm infestation among those who had directly consumed flood water and also started health awareness campaigns. In addition DFY also conducted two health camps and distributed clean delivery kits for the pregnant females in their third trimester.

"Doctors for You is deeply indebted to its partner organizations as well as all the local NGOs operating on ground which made working in such unforeseen scenario effective and possible"

"We are very thankful to the team of Doctors from Doctors For You who visited our school and treated our flood affected children. The students are from different flood affected villages and DFY has given health check-up and deworming to all. The first-aid kit will also be very useful for emergency treatment in our school."

- Principal, Hanief-Ud-Din secondary school, Mirpora.

"We are highly thankful to the team of doctors and associates from Doctors For You who have visited our institution on 23rd November 2014 and provided general medical check-up and deworming programme."

- Chairman, Rahat Manzil Yateem trust, Chhatbal, Srina-

"We the female teachers of this institution are very thankful to the female doctors from Doctors For You for giving us awareness on our daily needs and essential hygiene. This interactive session will be very useful for our adolescent students and us. We request the authorities to regularly conduct this type of sessions."

- Headmaster, Government High School, Kanhama, B.K.
**Assam Operations**

Doctors For You (DFY) collaborated with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) to conduct disaster preparedness and capacity building trainings in various districts of Assam. Each year thousands of people in Assam are affected by flood throughout the Brahmaputra valley. Also, Assam falls under the zone five earthquake of vulnerability. Moreover, poor infrastructure and malnutrition of available local resources have made the vulnerability more serious. Consequently, DFY has formulated the training modules after study of current hazard and disaster scenario of Assam. While preparing the modules, DFY also kept in mind the background of training participants, their level of perception and capabilities to cope up with disasters and emergencies. Feedback from last year’s training participants also helped to make these modules practical & tailor made to Assam. The four key modules are: Compressed Air Breathing Device (CABD), Mass Casualty Management (MCM), Hospital Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP), and Public Health In Emergency (PHIE).

Health cluster assessment Karbi-Rengma conflict, Karbi Anglong: DFY carried out a study on the consequences of this conflict from 12th to 14th February, 2014. The objective of the study was to assess the existing camps, humanitarian situation and response pertaining to the health needs of those affected by the conflict. The All Karbi Anglong Peace Forum (AKAPF) helped DFY to materialize the study. Both primary and secondary data were collected from sources like the health department and AKAPF. Primary data was collected from the relief camp dwellers through direct field observation, focus group discussions and questionnaire based on LANF assessment.

**Bihar Operations**

Doctors For You is involved in Emergency Obstetric & Neonatal care trainings of doctors and paramedics in 8 district hospitals in Bihar. BMGF/CARE is supporting Bihar Govt. in achieving goal decided by the 12th Five Year Plan and in Manav Vikas Mission i.e. Reduction in Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) & Total Fertility rate. Capacity and skills of the doctors is one of the major challenges in achieving these goals. Learning lessons from capacity building of nurses & midwives by mobile nursing training team. BMGF/CARE now plans skill building and mentoring of doctors working in the public health facilities using mobile doctors mentor team in all the 8 districts. In the first phase, CARE has identified 7 District hospitals and 1 sub divisional hospital for these trainings and handling programs. Gopalganj was the first district selected for these trainings.

**Project Mobile doctors mentoring team:** The team aims to build frontline health workers’ skills, knowledge and capacity to provide effective, low cost, evidence-based emergency obstetric surgical care and anesthesia interventions to directly reduce death and disability among women and children in Bihar. by:

- Enhancing frontline health workers’ skills, knowledge & use of new tools
- Improve health practices by providing mentoring & supportive supervision to doctors at district & block facilities
- To increase use of Lower Segment Caesarean sections as opposed to classical caesarian and overall increase in rate of caesarian sections.
- Increase in the use of Spinal anesthesia & increased capacity to handle complicated obstetric emergencies at Level 3 health facilities in the targeted districts.

**Beneficiaries:** The beneficiaries include pregnant women, lactating mothers, children and families residing in remote & rural areas and lack access to life-saving emergency obstetric surgical interventions for any pregnancy-related conditions.

**Coverage area:** Eight targeted, Priority District-Level Health Facilities in Bihar.

**Mumbai Operations**

DFY has been providing healthcare through two centres in Gvandi & Mankhurd sponsored by Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC). It provides curative and health promotive services. Services include general check-up, immunization, family planning, dental care, ophthalmic services, tuberculosis prevention & control and physiotherapy & neuro rehabilitation. Daily case load in OPDs range from 150-180 patients. In the community, DFY team has been working closely with other stake holders in order to raise the health awareness regarding immunization, tuberculosis, family planning & personal hygiene. Currently 110 patients are receiving DOTs therapy at both the centers. DFY has achieved 100% immunization coverage among children below 5 years of age in the area. DFY has touched ~150,000 lives in the area. The physiotherapy & disability rehabilitation centre in Lallubhai compound, Mankhurd is a unique service where physiotherapist & social workers provide physical & social rehabilitation.

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**Goalpara Flood Response:** Besides conducting this disaster preparedness and capacity building trainings under DFY-ASDMA project, The DFY-NERD (North East Regional Office) was also involved in Goalpara flood response. In the month of September 2014, Assam’s Goalpara district was severely affected by flash floods leaving more than 3,00,000 people affected. Doctors For You executed its mission in flood hit Goalpara district with health cluster assessment of the affected population. The primary objective of the assessment was to get a comprehensive picture of existing camps, humanitarian situation and response pertaining to health needs of those affected by the flood. As per the data collected and recommendation of the Initial Health Cluster Assessment in the flood affected areas, Doctors For You launched its medical health response for the population and organized health camps in 12 clusters covering 24 villages.
Doctors for You (DFY) is a medical humanitarian organization formed by a team of highly experienced and specialized doctors from various parts of the world. DFY’s focus is to address the most alarming and concerning problems faced by mankind today viz. healthcare, hygiene, disaster response and emergency medical aid in the most affected, developing countries, thereby touching millions of lives around the world.

**Genesis of Doctors for You**

The genesis of “Doctors for You” dates back to the time of crisis when Mumbai witnessed the one of the worst outbreak of Malaria & Dengue. Thousands of people were affected. A group of young doctors decided to take on the challenge and address this issue. The word spread, people flocked in to donate blood/platelets and many lives were saved. Owing to the success, the group organized various such drives across the city. The group decided to formalize the initiative and registered the organization, and ‘Doctors For You’ was born. In 2008, during the Bihar floods (a national disaster), it was felt that there was no dedicated medical disaster response team in India for the disaster relief work. Doctors for You decided to fill this gap and immediately responded to the call of Nation. A team of 45 doctors was immediately sent to Bihar for flood relief work. The team worked in Bihar for six months treating over 130,000 patients especially women and children. At present DFY has established itself as an organization working on disaster health and primary health care for all.

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