

Sangam News

Vol-1
Issue-3

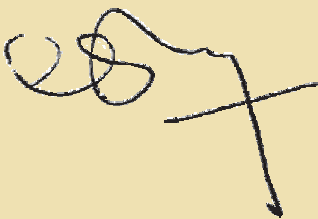
Dear friends,

Ecumenical Sangam, since its inception, has been pursuing its developmental activities with primary focus on the empowerment of women. It is our vision to see the women we are working with, duly empowered and standing on their own legs. We are very happy to inform that one lone girl student has taken admission in the electrical wiring course run by our Technical Institute at Bamhani. Ms. Ankita Tembhrune, daughter of Vijay Tembhrune, a manual worker, has studied up to 9th standard and wants to pursue her education. Ankita wants to support her family after acquiring the necessary skill. Ecumenical Sangam is proud of Ankita and wishes her the very best.

Towards empowerment of women, we have taken up the Fair Trade activity by involving the ladies from the slum. Mr. Thorsten, our volunteer from Germany is providing necessary guidance to the persons.

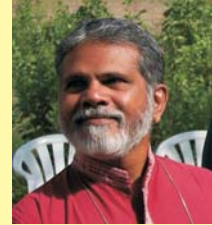
We welcome our new volunteers Mr. Thorsten, Ms. Nina and Ms. Rabea who have joined us from 3rd March 2010, and have got engaged in different activities.

We also welcome Mr. Philip Kuruvilla, who has joined us as an Assistant CEO. from 10.03.2010. Mr. Kuruvilla brings with him rich experience of community service and will be of valuable assistance to Ecumenical Sangam in furthering its activities.



C.H. Khisty (Hon. CEO)
Ecumenical Sangam, Nagpur

Our new Assistant CEO:



Philip Kuruvilla

New Weltwaerts volunteers:

“Weltwaerts” is an initiative by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. It enables young people to spend several months doing voluntary work in a developing country.



Rabea Foerstmann (23 years)
Stay: 04.03. - 03.09.2010
Occupation: Microfinance
Education: BA Economics

Thorsten Walther (24 years)
Stay: 04.03. - 03.09.2010
Occupation: Fair Trade & Workcamp
Education: BA Social Science



Nina Werner (24 years)
Stay: 04.03. - 03.09.2010
Occupation: English Teacher & Staff Advanced Training
Education: BA Education

Interim Seminar of Volunteers

Our Weltwaerts volunteers participated in a five days interim seminar at the end of May as required under the Weltwaerts programme. In all seven volunteers including our three from Ecumenical Sangam participated. Mr. Daniel Osberghaus - former volunteer - coordinated the activities.

Visit to Germany

On an invitation from Dr. Jona Dohrmann President, DIZ Germany, Mr. Cyril Khisty Hon. CEO visited Germany from 7th May to 6th June to take part in different meetings organized by DIZ and its branch societies.



He acquainted the different groups with the developmental work being done in Ecumenical Sangam and its future plans. Useful suggestions were given by the members for strengthening the activities of Ecumenical Sangam. At the end of his visit Mr. Khisty participated in a two day Seminar at Frankfurt organized by the former Weltwaerts volunteers.



Mrs. Rita Dohrmann, President Ecumenical Sangam, actively participated in the fund raising programme at Munich organized by DIZ and assisted by Ex- volunteers.

Sharing of Experiences

On his return, Mr. Khisty shared the experiences of his visit with the staff members. He informed them of the hard work being done by the DIZ main office the branch societies, the Ex-volunteers, and all the donors for supporting the cause of Ecumenical Sangam. He appealed to the staff to continue their work with equal zeal and enthusiasm to serve the community. The members of staff expressed their gratitude for the support being extended and assured that they will continue to put in their best for the welfare of the community.



Micro Finance

The micro finance project under the overall supervision of Mrs. Surekha continues to grow. So far, financial assistance has been given to **102** persons. They are also being guided and supported by our project staff.

Counseling Cell

During the period from March to May 2010 **38** cases were referred to the counseling cell. They were provided with necessary guidance and help by our counseling staff.

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Organic Farming and Watershed

As a result of continuous follow up and awareness building amongst the farmers, as many as 54 farmers have expressed their desire to switch over to organic farming and water shed measures. This will go a long way in improving the yield of their crop as well as improving the soil quality.

A farmers meet was organized on 26.05.2010, in which 25 farmers participated. The farmers were taken on a visit to a model organic farm in Yavatmal. also visited the Bamhani project.

A lot of interest has been shown about the utility of the "ambadi" fruit. The farmers from seven districts contacted our Farm Coordinator Pankaj Bhagat to get more information about the utility of this fruit plant.

The organic farm and watershed measures have been receiving very good response from the villagers. Shri Manohar Parchure Consultant, has been providing able guidance to all concerned.

Health Camps

More than 60 persons from the villages participated in a camp organized to check their hemoglobin count on 25th May 2010.



An eye camp was organized at Bamhani on 28th May 2010 under the able guidance of Dr Mahatme, a renowned eye specialist. More than 41 people availed the benefit of this camp.

Ms. Ankita Tembhurne



She aspires to pursue her education and continue working as an electrician after obtaining the certificate. It is her ambition to be able to start her own independent workshop.

Bamhani and Sub-centers

The VHSW training commenced from 15th April 2010 with twelve girls. The Technical School has 22 students including one girl, undergoing the House wiring training, while seven students are undergoing training in two wheeler repairs.

Lectures

Advocate Borkute gave a talk on law and rights to the students of Technical School as well as the VHSW trainees. Ms. Veena Khanolkar gave a talk on "superstition". This was attended by people from the village as well as the students of technical school and the VHSW trainees.

Our health team, under the supervision of Dr. Awchat continued to provide medical assistance to the different villages.



Joint meeting of Trained Birth Atendants (TBA's)

The ex-students and the present batch undergoing TBA course had a joint meeting on 5th March 2010 at Rainbow guest house. In all about 44 girls participated in the programme. Dr. SN Mukerjee, Founder member of the Governing Body and Dr. Manjula Rohatgi, renowned gynecologist and member of the Governing Body of Ecumenical Sangam, were the Guests of honour. They congratulated the girls for organizing the meet, and gave useful advice for successful careers.

Mrs. Rita Dohrmann, Mr. Rudolf Dohrmann, Mr. Bruce Williams, Dr. Jona Dohrmann, Ms. Jean Pompl, Mr. & Mrs. Gophane were present on the occasion.

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LEAP

Five one day CME seminars were organized to sensitize medical and paramedical students. Likewise eight service NGO partner organizations continued the Selective Special Drives for spreading awareness about Leprosy in their respective villages.

Project coordinator LEAP, participated as a faculty member in primary health staff training programme conducted in five PHC centers under Gadchandur block of Chandrapur District.



Nursing students participating in CME.

Women's day celebrated

11th March was celebrated as Women's day in the Slum at Saraswati Nagar in which more than 70 ladies participated. A team of doctors from Nagpur including gynecologists examined the ladies and also gave them very useful advise in maintaining good health. Ms. Vanshri our Social Worker with the assistance of Mrs. Mamta Walde, Slum Nurse coordinated the activities.

Vocational training

Four women from Seva Nagar slum have been trained by Ecumenical Sangam in detergent, phenyl, and candle making. They have registered their venture as "Ekta Sangam" and have started selling the products making reasonable profits. A mehendi class has also been started in Seva Nagar which has evoked a good response from the ladies.



Ecumenical Sangam

is a community health and development organization based in Nagpur, which is located right in the heart of India in the state of Maharashtra. The aim of Sangam is to empower the poorer sections of society through promotion of health, education, skill-building and awareness-raising activities.



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Donations

Please assist us in realising our goals through your donations. Your contribution will be exempt under Section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

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