# INTEGRATED WOMEN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (IDWI)



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

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- EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CREDIT SUPPORT
- FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTER
- EARLY RECOVERY PROJECT FOR FLOOD VICTIMS
- SHELTER FOR HOMELESS
- PROMOTION OF HANDICRAFTS
- COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION FOR DISABLE
- EMPOWERMENT OF URBAN YOUTH IN CHENNAI SLUMS

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## VISION

An equitable and just society, free of the imbalances of haves and have-nots that live in peace and harmony

### MISSION

Sustainable development of the communities to achieve all the capitals of social, human, physical, natural and financial for sustainable livelihood by a self-help and self development process

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#### A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY, IWDI

#### Greetings to all our partners and various stakeholders!

At the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate INTEGRATED WOMEN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (IWDI) registered in 1989 upon the successful completion of this year 2016-17. This annual report details IWDI's interventions and achievements in the bygone year. Any accomplishment requires the efforts of many people and this presentation of annual report 2016-2017 is no different. It is an

appropriate moment of expressing gratitude and a time for nostalgia.

Every effort has been made to give credit where it is due for all the projects we carried out throughout the year. I thank all whose patience and support have been instrumental in accomplishing this task. I thank my staff whose diligent efforts made this presentation possible. IDWI is greatly indebted to the loyal partners who have been supporting to successfully implement our interventions, projects and programs by means of providing the funds and availing of technical support to carry out our service to the society.

IWDI systematically directed its efforts towards strengthening productivity and income generation among vulnerable women households, empowering communities to manage water, hygiene and sanitation interventions, strengthening organizational capacity to enhance strategic delivery in the beneficiary communities. IWDI's work around livelihoods provides the nucleus around which we build up more effective and efficient interventions for the empowerment of excluded communities.

Our major concentration in the forthcoming year will focus on empowerment of grass roots communities to engage dialogue and demand for qualitative and quantitative strategic deliverables with the support of both government and NGOs. At this juncture, we call upon our long standing supporters to further strengthen IWDI so that we can keep the organization relevant and live to the development needs of communities across Chennai and Gummidipoondi, Thiruvallur District.

In our service to our society we believe the words of St. Mother Theresa who says, "If you think that you cannot do great things in your life, just do little things, but with great love."

I hope that you will enjoy reading this report. I invite suggestions and critique for our work so as to further strengthen our organization. We will appreciate your feedback. Thanking you.

#### Mr. Celinal Paul Daniel,

#### Secretary, IWDI

The following are the projects we had concentrated during the year 2106-17:

- 1. **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT** supported by Tamilnadu Women Development Corporation, Government of Tamilnadu.
- 2. **ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CREDIT SUPPORT** with the help of NABARD Financial Services, Bangalore, India.
- 3. **FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTER** aided by the Central Social Welfare Board, Government of India.
- 4. **EARLY RECOVERY PROJECT FOR FLOOD VICTIMS** supported by Oxfam India.
- 5. **SHELTER FOR HOMELESS IN CHENNAI** supported by Greater Chennai Corporation, Government of Tamilnadu.
- 6. **HANDICRAFTS PROMOTION** supported by the Ministry of Textiles (Handicrafts), Government of India.
- COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION PROGRAM for Disabled Members financially supported by CARITAS India, through CBR Forum, Bangalore.
- 8. EMPOWERING URBAN YOUTH IN CHENNAI CITY: SOFT SKILL TRAININGS THROUGH TWIN E-Learning PROGRAMM supported by SMILE FOUNDATION, New Delhi.

The programmes and activities we had implemented on each project are as follows:

#### 1. WOMEN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Integrated Women Development Institute (IWDI) has been associated with the Government of India for Women Development initiatives. The Greater Chennai Corporation had allotted us areas both in Chennai slums and Gummidipoondi in the jurisdiction of Thiruvallur District. Our trained staff and altruistic volunteers have generously dedicated themselves in gathering the women living Below Poverty Line (BPL) into the fold of SHGs.

#### 1.1. Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Chennai city

Formation of Self-Help Groups in Chennai city is extremely a challenging task. However, our well-equipped trainers and volunteers in the field had been able to form a good of number of SHGs in the city. There are 1,543 SHGs in Chennai covering seven zones of Chennai Corporation. There are 23,145 women benefiting from SHGs. The members of SHGs hail from different walks of life. Most of them are daily wage earners, domestic laborers, artisans, Mill workers, Brick makers, shepherds and farmers.

Our staff is able to help the beneficiaries to learn the habit of saving money and encourage them to own responsibility in terms of repayment of internal and external loans availed through SHGs.

There are 29 new SHGs formed during the year and 488 have become beneficiaries in this scheme indicating a gradual but steady expansion of SHGs Groups in IWDI.

By way of forming SHGs, IWDI had economically strengthened them and women have become economically independent empowering them to be decisions makers in families and in communities. Moreover, they have been in abreast with necessary knowledge and information pertinent to education and health and thereby help family members to enhance the quality of life in terms of education and health.

Besides economic independence, SHGs have been committed to get involved in all the community development activities in slums. Their service is laudable in the field of holistic Health, sanitation, negotiation with government and other service organizations. Our SHGs have been helpful and supportive to the other Community-based organizations existing in the slums. In short, there is a gradual but graceful upward movement found in SHGs both in formation and rendering services to the community at large.

#### 1.2 Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Gummidipoondi Block, Thiruvallur District

Under the guidance and support of the Tamilnadu Women Development Corporation, IWDI formed and strengthened SHGs groups in Gummidipoondi, Thiruvallur District. TNWDP was able to provide IWDI with technical and financial support with which it could mobilize and form 1511 SHGs with women population of 21,107. SHGs women consist of widows, destitute, and Disable and economically backward, farmers, brick makers and mill labourers.

Women of this district are more vulnerable in comparison with women in Chennai slums. Their life situation is economically, educationally and socially pathetic. They are less aware of legal aids and legislative provisions provided by the Government.

The predominant cause for the formation of SHGs among women in this district is not only to economically uplift them but empower them with life skills to tackle problems they face in families, communities and society. Empowerment through Education has been the main goal in the formation of Groups.

Most of the project areas have been inaccessible and located in remote areas. Yet, our staff was able to intervene and provide them with monitoring support. With the help

of other departments and well-wishers, Groups had undergone training on skill development and enjoyed the support of follow-up linkages. Efforts yielded results wherein 121 women could courageously plunge in tailoring trade.

Tamilnadu Women Development Corporation took considerable steps to transform them from Panchayat Level Federation to Block Level Federation. It is indeed a great breakthrough.

#### **National Banks' Credit Facilities**

Both Chennai and Gummidipoondi, SHGs are proud of being accessed to the Credit facilities from the nationalized banks where they have saving accounts. The credit facilities have been availed purely based on the volume of savings of the groups along with the availability of matching credits in the banking sectors.

The staff played a key role in facilitating them and obtaining the credit facilities from the banks with ease. The staff also motivates those beneficiaries to begin viable enterprises in order to meet their family needs such as education, health and domestic expenses. The staff offers continuous support to the beneficiaries to cleverly choose a trade that would reflect in satisfactory marketing and other convergent lines related to that particular trade.

## 2. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH CREDIT SUPPORT BY NABFINS

IDWI obtained the renewal document as well as Business and Development Correspondent Certificate from NABARD Financial Services LTD, Bangalore. It enabled us to exercise power to properly link with functioning groups and attain more financial independence. IDWI could mobilize Rs. 5, 24, 10,000 to benefit 1,529 beneficiaries from 107 SHGs inclusive of Chennai and Gummidipoondi of Thiruvallur District. ORTT is very high and PAR is very low (below 1%).

#### 3. FAMILY COUSELLING CENTER (FCC)

Family Counselling Center (FCC) is located in Gummidipoondi. The Center has been well-equipped with all necessary facilities to cater to the needs of the victims of the family who approach the Center for family Counselling. IWDI has fabricated 'Family Counselling Center (FCC)' under the grant from Center Social Welfare Board (CSWB). Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board (TSWB) renders technical support to the Center. It also deals with People who approach with a wide range of conflicts related to community.

The Family Counsellor Center is administered by a Social Worker and a Counsellor. They do counsel women who approach the Center with innumerable conflicts both small and great.

The team of Counsellors gets involved regularly in educating on Family Life and its importance. During the meetings, the counsellors help the community members to know about the family, familial problems and its structures.

Cases are being identified by Counsellors during field visits. Staff referral, Police and legal Council referral also help to find Individual cases. The Center extends technical support at the district level to resolve issues by sending the counsellor to District Social Welfare Board Office on every Tuesday. The District Social Welfare Board periodically refers to FCC to find mutual settlement on the issue they bring. The center also deals with minor Family disputes.

This year, the Center gets recognized as it dealt with a total number of 262 cases out of which the Center was able to draw amicable solutions with the strong support of Legal systems and District administration.

#### **Community Level Awareness**

The Community Level Awareness Program is an important component for bringing peace and harmony in communities. The trained Counsellor and other supporting staff get involved to find out familial and social issues evolved from the specific areas.

A number of 24 Community Level Awareness meetings were organized during the year. The importance of Family and its structures and society and its structures will be the main topics covered during the year.

S. N	Туре	<b>Total Registered Cases</b>
1	Dowry Demands	26
2	Marital Maladjustment	26
3	Maladjustment arising from Personality differences	12
4	Extra Marital Relationship	15
5	Alcohol/Drug Addiction	30
6	Economic Crisis	14
7	Domestic violence	46
8	Issues related to Property	17
9	Sexual Harassment	02
10	Others	74
	Total	
		262

#### **Capacity Building Activities**

With grant given by Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, IDWI was able to carry out capacity building activities to the beneficiaries. The Counsellors were trained by Madras School Work Institute on Counselling techniques and skills. The objective of training of the Counsellors was to equip them with techniques and skills to deal with most difficult cases. The trained Counsellors in turn had trained other counsellors and the staff working in the Centre.

#### 4. EARLY RECOVERY PROJECT FOR FLOOD VICTIMS

Oxfam India - Humanitarian Hub offers financial aid and technical guidance to implement this project. The main aim of the project is to give awareness on disaster management for the slum community particularly

issues related to health and sanitation.



in four selected slums namely, Annai Sathya Nagar, Siva Sakthi Nagar, Sathya Sai Nagar New Colony. The implementation of the project lasted from April to December,

The project carried out the following three-pronged activities:

#### 1) Direct Activities

#### **A) Public Health Promotion Trainings**

Two sets of trainings were organized in which 132 beneficiaries from four slums participated. The main concern was to train the trainers (ToT). The participants were trained with a purpose of training others in Community-Based Organizations. The topics covered during the training were basically on promotion of good and healthy practices among the slum dwellers. Experts handled the full day sessions imparting the importance of hand wash practices and menstrual hygiene. Most of the participants were women.

#### B) Public Health Promotion – Campaigns and Awareness

A total number of 26 Awareness Campaigns was organized during the implementation of the project. A great number of 1588 participants directly benefited out the programs. The target group was common people. However, different methodology was adopted during the campaigns suitable to the participants such as children, women, men and public at large. A good number of activities such as Rally, Puppet show, general meeting and competitions among the children and Mass cleaning campaigns were organized to bring awareness on the importance and the need of public health.

#### C) Community Toilet Block Construction at New Colony -Koiyambedu

Defecation in open areas is the major issue among the slum dwellers. Such habit generates other health related problems to the people. Womenfolk are the direct victims of many diseases due to open defecation. The main aim was to stop or control this unwanted habit by way of constructing common toilet for the slum dwellers.

Koiyambedu new colony was identified to construct toilets followed by the formation of community group to manage the construction work like procurement and quality construction of toilet unit. The gender-balanced committee was also formulated by means of facilitation support of project officer from OXFAM – India.

The community was able to locate a place for the construction of toilets. Once identified, they were able to approach the competent authorities to obtain 'No Objection Certificate (NOC)'. Finally community was able to achieve its target and resolved to maintain the toilets even after the completion of the project.

The overall construction work was completed on 30.09.2016 and handed over to the users on 03.10.2016 in the presence of Program Officer from OXFAM-India.

#### D) Construction of Bathing Space for Women

This project had been mainly for the benefit of women particularly young adolescent girls in the families. The donor agency and IWDI field team were able to identify the most deserving beneficiaries. Having collected required information, a community meeting was convened to aptly find out the deserved beneficiaries. This project had been implemented in Sathya Sai Nagar of Koyambedu.

#### E) Solid Waste Management

Solid Waste Disposal or Management was yet another primary focus of this project. Having formed a committee and promoted to undertake the sanitation work, it came forward to organize campaigns and advocacy for proper disposal of waste in their respected slums. The Greater Chennai Corporation was helpful to successfully implement this project in all the slums. Moreover, during the implementation of the project, people were taught on precautionary measures while cleaning the waste.

#### F) WASH and DRR Activities

In collaboration with ST. John's Ambulance Services India, IWDI organized two-day training for the clients. During the workshop, topics such as water, sanitation, health and cleanliness were covered so as to enable them learn on disaster risk reduction. The importance of *First AID* was also emphasized during the sessions. The participants were given away with certificates after attending the sessions for three months. 80 people were trained under this project.

#### **G) Preparedness Drill**

With the technical support and assistance of Tamilnadu Fire and Rescue Department, IWDI organized mock sessions in all the selected slums. The experts imparted knowledge both in theory and practical exercises. The topic was on how to respond at the time of disastrous situations. A multitude of 1,000 beneficiaries were able to learn on disaster management.

#### 2) Indirect Activities



# A) Unconditional Cash Transfer(UCT)

Besides the activities mentioned above, OXFAM- India supported the poor and vulnerable community members through '*Unconditional Cash Transfer*'(UCT). The aim of UCT is to restore their abject conditions they faced because of floods. Livelihood Support was also extended to

the SHGs formed in the flood-affected areas.

#### A) Livelihood Support to SHGs

Sell-Help Groups (SHGs) were identified in the flood-affected slums and group venture was initiated to submit their proposals for livelihood programmes such as tailoring units, Tiffin centers, Xerox shops, Candle making and agarbathi making. The Oxfam-India teams had visited the slums and validated the proposals for sanction. Eventually 9 proposals were sanctioned covering 3 slums. The center sanctioned four Tailoring units, four mobile canteens and one Xerox shop. The materials handed over was worth of 50,000/. IWDI had conducted training sessions for two days on business models and book keeping method.

#### 5. SHELTER HOME FOR HOMELESS



According to the census taken in 2011, there were 1.77 million homeless people (0.15%) found in the country. There is a shortage of 18.48 million houses in the country. Total number of houses has been increased from 52.06 million to 78.48 million.

IWDI has consistently been collaborating with the Greater Chennai Cooperation in the process of rehabilitation and integration of the homeless by

providing Shelter Homes at Ambathur and Valasaravakkam for men and women respectively. The former has extended its financial support to run the centers. The qualified Social Workers directly manage the running of the Shelters as Counsellor cum Coordinator to offer comfortable stay for the homeless, supporting staff such as caretaker cum cook and security personnel have been employed in the Shelter. Our team staff is able to effectively manage in running the Shelter Homes.

#### **Process of Identification and Rehabilitation**

A two-prong identification process is being adhered to help the homeless to become inmates in the Shelters.

#### i. Counsellor:

The Counsellor pays direct night visits in the city. He tries to identify the homeless at bus terminus, Railway Stations, Pavements, Temples and places where people gather at large.

#### ii. Referral:

Referrals from external volunteers,
Department personnel, the homeless
are identified and accommodated in the
shelter. In few cases, the one who wants
to stay in the shelter becomes self-referral.

#### iii. The Counsellor cum Coordinator:

At nights, the counsellor regularly goes around the roadsides, under bridges, market places, sheds, bus terminus, and railway stations and so on to identify the homeless.

- Once identified, the counsellor approaches the Police Department to acquire memo for the inmate in the Shelter.
- While staying in the Shelter, the caretakers provide them with nutritious food, decent clothes and materials to sleep with comfort.
- The counsellor cum coordinator often engages himself in counselling with the inmates with the intention of either rehabilitating or integrating them in the near future.
- The counsellor maintains the documents in which profile of each inmate is preserved and maintained well.



Through this project, IWDI could achieve the above-mentioned changes in the lives of homeless who come to the Shelter, of course with great support of Greater Corporation of Chennai.

#### 3) Capacity Building Activities for Staff

Five personnel had been appointed to run the entire project. Oxfam India helped the staff to enhance their knowledge of different fields especially health and sanitation. The coordinator was invited several times to share his views on Workshops conducted outside the State. Wash Supervisors and PHP workers were sent for training on Health Promotion to Pondicherry during the implementation of the project.

S.No	Activity	Valasaravakkam (Women)	Ambathur (Men)
01	Inmates (Present)	30	32
02	Inmates since inception	190	190
03	Counselling Session Provided	185	164
04	Job Assistance	55	35
05	Medical Treatment - Referral	07	03
06	Special Home Referral	03	02
07	Special Entitlements (Aadhar Card)	29	07
08	Rehabilitation	77	82
09	Reintegration	34	20
10	Special Events organised	05	01

#### 6. PROMOTION OF HANDICRAFTS



While trainings were on one side, IWDI also facilitated other schemes on the other side by way of providing affordable Insurance products from the Life Insurance Corporation of India, raw materials and tools and machinery supports to the artisans that they may market their products at the global level. The artisans were helped to obtain new digitalized smart artisans Identity Card coupled with Aadhar card.

## 7. COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES FOR Disable:

This program had been implemented with the financial support of Caritas India



through CBR Forum, Bangalore since 2012-2013. IWDI had successfully implemented the project activities bringing about both qualitative and quantitative changes in the lives of Persons living with Disabilities covering Chennai and Gummidipoondi areas.

The highlights of the Project were as follows:

#### **Major achievements:**

- 47 Persons with Disabilities were availed of National Disability Identity Card through the special drives in District Disability Rehabilitation Office (DDRO) during the year.
- 19 Children with Disabilities (CwDs) had undergone therapeutic treatment given by the trained therapists.
- 67 PwDs were availed of Aids and Appliances with various funding agencies and governments.
- 53 Persons with Mental illness were identified at the beginning of the project and 43 PWDs taking medication.
- 10 PwMI were helped towards livelihood enhancement.
- International Disability Day had been observed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2016. Special invitees took part in the event organized by SANGAMAM Block Level Federation. Local Funds were also mobilized to have this delightful event.

#### DISABLED PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION

S.No	Name of Panchayat	No. of DPOs	Total no. of PwDs
01	Athupakkam	04	30
02	Edoor	03	24
03	Elavoor	06	47
04	Karani	02	22
05	Kizh Muthalambedu	03	33
06	Mangalam	01	07
07	Natham	01	13
08	New Gummudipoondi	03	24
09	Obasamuthram	01	10
10	Periya Obulapuram	06	47
11	Peruvoyal	01	09

12	Pudupalayam	01	14
13	Puduvoyal	02	14
14	Rettambedu	02	17
15	Sunnambkulam	01	06
16	Thandalacherry	02	14
17	Thervazhi	02	16
18	Vazhuthalambedu	02	22
	Total	43	369

#### **Credit Facilities to the DPOs**

IWDI is very much interested to care the Persons living with Disabilities. The Centre has reached out to them through multiple services. To make their lives more sustainable, we introduced Credit facilities with the help of nationalized banks and NABARD financial institutions to improve their economic status. Each individual has benefited out of this service. During the year, 10 beneficiaries enjoyed the access of credit facilities and thereby seen a drastic change in the lives of each individual. They have been given various awareness programmes as well.

#### 8. EMPOWERING YOUTH IN URBAN SLUMS

Both unemployment and underemployment are the major problems in the metropolitan city. Chennai faces a vast migration, expansion of geographical areas of the city increasing population in the existing slums.

The main reason for both unemployment and underemployment is due to the fact that they were not well-equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to get into the jobs. They are less fortunate in getting access to

learning about technical advancement and communication skills.

To help them get rid of such barriers, IWDI has associated with SMILE Foundation that extended their reaching hand. The centre arranged all the necessary arrangements for the youngsters from 18 to 25 years in age to learn Computer, develop their personality, and keep abreast with knowledge on retail management and training on spoken English.

The project commenced in June, 2106 and IWDI takes the pride of empowering more than 80 youth hailing from slums. With the award of Certificate from International Microsoft Company, they have been placed in various jobs in accordance with their liking and capacity.

#### 9. THE OVERALL FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT

IWDI has invested around INR 66.29 lakhs during the financial year, 2016-17. The sanctioned money was exhaustively spent for welfare measures, relief materials, livelihood and alternative livelihood means, health services and vocational trainings in Chennai slums and Thiruvallur District for the communities where women and children benefited a great deal during the year 2016-17.

#### 10. SUPPORTERS FOR 2016-2017

- 1. Caritas India, New Delhi through CBR Forum Bangalore.
- 2. Greater Chennai Corporation
- 3. NABARD Financial Services, Bangalore
- 4. Oxfam-India
- 5. Central Social Welfare Board, Government of India, New Delhi
- 6. SMILE Foundation, New Delhi

It is our great privilege to present this report to all the members present here. This gives us impetus, strength and confidence to march toward the realization of our Mission in its fullness. Once again, I express my sincere gratitude to everyone for what you have been for us and what you have done for our beneficiaries. I submit this report to your with a humble request to continuously support us in our service to the disadvantaged and marginalized in the society.

MRS. CELINAL PAUL DANIEL, SECRETARY, IWDI