Vihaan News

Monthly Newsletter | May 2016

World TB Day Campaign Yields Results

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40,000 PLHIV were screened for TB symptoms during the campaign, of whom 4,828 were referred for testing, 2,944 (61%) of total referrals were found to be TB-positive, including 75 extra-pulmonary cases. Screening included 766 PLHIV from key populations, of whom 177 were referred for testing and 23 were found TB-positive. We applaud all Vihaan teams across the country for this significant achievement in addressing HIV-TB co-infection.

Corporate Partners Support PLHIV Wellbeing

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HIV-TB Awareness at Patiala’s Central Jail

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Hidden but Not Undetectable

Mr. Biju, a registered client of the Vihaan CSC run by KTDNP+ in Kottayam, Kerala, was diagnosed with HIV three years back and is currently on ART. He is the sole breadwinner for his wife and their two children. When screened for TB symptoms at the CSC, Biju noted blurred vision and redness in his eyes, though he did not have any of the four common TB symptoms. Concerned about Biju, KTDNP+ staff accompanied him to the ART Centre and later to the Ophthalmology Department of the Medical College Hospital. In spite of the detailed investigation conducted, his ailments could not be diagnosed.

At the CSC’s suggestion, Biju went to a private hospital in Madurai, where he was diagnosed with ocular TB. With his diagnosis in hand, the CSC staff linked Biju again with the Medical College Hospital for treatment. The CSC also ensured that Biju received monthly financial support of Rs.1,000 provided by the state government to all PLHIV as well as a one-time government payment of Rs.5,000 for TB patients. Biju successfully completed his treatment and is now cured of TB.

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Extra-pulmonary TB is common among PLHIV. Early detection and treatment is key to avoid life-threatening illness. Vihaan gives special focus on identifying all types of TB in PLHIV.

A case report from the Kottayam District Network of PLHIV (KTDNP+) in Kerala. (Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

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957,286 PLHIV reached with care & support services
346,878 PLHIV and family members linked with social protection schemes
104,917 Lost-to-Follow-Up PLHIV tracked and returned to ART services (Through March 2016)
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World TB Day Intensive Case Finding campaign in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

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