A fantastic feat: Partnership for sustained care, support and treatment

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At the event, felicitation of eminent personnel was done to acknowledge the enormous contributions made by the medical fraternity and community representatives in strengthening the country’s HIV response. Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar, Scientist & Director-in-Charge, National AIDS Research Institute, Pune, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Senior Rheumatologist, Tambaran Hospital, Chennai, and Dr. B.B. Rewari, Scientist, HIV/AIDS WHO SEARO (South East Asia Regional Office), and five community members were felicitated at the event. It was a great honor to pay the felicitation of Ms. Amruta Soni, a Transgender PLHIV activist. Program Manager of the Bihar Vihaan program, NCPI+, Mr. Arvind, a member of the MSM community, an Outreach Worker (ORW) in the Assam Care and Support Center (CSC) ANP+, Ms. Rekha, ORW in the North Bengal DNP+, CSC, Ms. Ravinder, ORW in the Jammu SPYM CSC, and Ms. Hansababen Kol, ORW from Kutch DNP+. It is noteworthy that this salutation of community workers is a symbol of recognition for all of us who are working hard and fighting against all odds and bottlenecks to provide necessary services and support to the PLHIV community.

Using the opportunity of this landmark event, NCPI+ representatives also presented a pledge to the Union Health Minister as a token of the community’s commitment to support the government “to take care of treatment and we promise to take responsibility of adherence and support to our community” – as Mona put it in her speech.

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The members of the oversight committee of Global Fund’s Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) visited the CSC in Bharatpur, Rajasthan on 12th April, 2017. The committee consisted of eminent personnel from the medical fraternity and community representatives working in the field of HIV, TB and Maternal and Child Health. The members interacted with the staff at the centre and had queries about the functioning of the centre, services provided to the community, and challenges faced. They were also keen to learn about linkages of PLHIV with various social welfare schemes and bottlenecks to provide necessary services and support to the PLHIV community.

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The committee appreciated the strong and effective coordination between the CCM and ART centre, and highlighted the tremendous work done by community leaders to provide necessary care and support services for PLHIV, thus enabling treatment adherence and supporting them to live with dignity and respect. Furthermore, they requested the Government for sustained support and to strengthen the community strengthening.

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The committee appreciated the strong and effective coordination between the CSC and ART centre, and highlighted the profound importance of these efforts in strengthening the responses of PLHIV, thus enabling treatment adherence and supporting community members to lead a healthy life.

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The committee appreciated the strong and effective coordination between the CSC and ART centre, and highlighted the need for a larger coordination among all the global fund supported programme implementing partners, at the district and state levels.

Vihaan Updates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>News</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11,46,977</td>
<td>PLHIV received care &amp; support services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,07,848</td>
<td>PLHIV and family members linked with social protection schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,14,455</td>
<td>Family members and partners of registered clients linked to ICTC</td>
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<tr>
<td>3,11,142</td>
<td>Lost-to-Follow-Up PLHIV tracked and returned to ART services</td>
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<tr>
<td>9,10,633</td>
<td>PLHIV screened for TB</td>
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{Through April 2017}