

Himalayan Anti Aids & Anti Narcotic Drugs Society (HANDS)

Annual Report

2018-2019

Acknowledging the ever growing fact of chemical dependency and substance abuse, HANDS worked tirelessly this year as well. Minute details were taken into consideration to render services to the community in abundance. Even in this era, rehabilitation centers are still stigmatized in this part of the world. Intense effort, time and energy are invested in investigating every individual patient who come with their own unique set of problems. This is done to bringing about changes in an effort to make them productive and responsible members of the family and society at large. This mammoth task is conducted on a daily basis in the rehabilitation centre as well as in the Day Care Centre. The Day Care Centre also provides therapeutic family classes and individual counseling to the suffering families as this is vital in providing wholesome treatment for desirable results.

Acknowledging the coexistence of Substance abuse and child Labor, as in most cases the family/parent of the rescued child is usually a victim of substance abuse. Hence HANDS this year too joined hands with “BSA” Bal Suraksha Abhiwan to make children of various schools aware of both social evils.

12th April 2018 - Catering to this need HANDS along with BSA had organized an awareness program for the students of Chandra Maya School of Pudung busty. The school students of Chandra Maya were very attentive and interactive and as a result the outcome was a very good.

12th April 2018 - For the same reason, Boys of Bal Suraksha Abhiwan were given an awareness program on harmful curiosity of substance abuse and how the same curiosity develops into experimentation of substances.

4th May 2018 - As usual Kalimpong Regional Youth Fellowship, UCNI, had organized a very substantial and resourceful two day seminar to educate the outgoing students of classes 10 and 12. The primary focus of the seminar was to prepare and strengthen the youth to face new challenges they may come across as they venture out away from home to pursue higher studies.

26th June 2018 - With the objective of making children research and learn about substance abuse themselves, HANDS had organized an inter school power point presentation to commemorate International Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit

Trafficking. 13 Schools from Kalimpong district had participated and St Joseph Convent bagged the first prize where as St Augustines School and Saptashree Gyanpith stood second and third respectively. Before this program concluded, HANDS on behalf of the people of Kalimpong felicitated three police officers for their commitment and dedicated services in fighting substance abuse and its illicit trafficking. Inspector Sherab Lepcha, Sub Inspector D N Ghising and Asst Sub Inspector Mr Suraj Lama were awarded the token by SP Kalimpong Mr Dhurba Jyoti Dey and Kalimpong MLA Mrs Sarita Rai.

15th August 2018 - With the intention of inculcating a sense of patriotism and a sense of contributing to the nation HANDS celebrated Independence Day in its own humble capacity by starting off the day with a parade and a speech on the contribution of the freedom fighters of our country. The patients saluted the tricolor after slogans of “Vande Mataram” and singing the national anthem. The patients sang solo and group songs to arouse the feeling of patriotism. There were indoor games too for their entertainment.

2nd October 2018 – On the occasion of Gandhi Ashram, the Kalimpong District Police Department along with HANDS had organized a community devolvment program a new dimension in participatory governance by the Police. The students of Kalimpong collage were given an extensive carrier guidance program by several participants like the SP Kalimpong, representative from the Indian Army Camp, Durpin Hill and Mr Bharat Mani Pardhan on behalf of HANDS.

11th December 2018 - HANDS along with BSA, Bal Suraksha Abhiyan had organized an awareness program on substance abuse and child labor at Seed Farm school, Pudung Busty, Kalimpong. The students were very attentive and gathered a lot of knowledge from the program.

13th December 2018 - Just two days after HANDS along with BSA, Bal Suraksha Abhiyan had organized an awareness program on substance abuse and child labour at Kumidini Homes School, Kalimpong

2nd March 2019 - Bal Suraksha Abihyan a partner NGO had organized a mass awareness program in the Town Hall of Kalimpong on their foundation day. Since in most cases, two major problems, child labor as a result of substance abuse in the family of the child co exist, BSA and HANDS collaborate to end these evils.

The figures as pre the performance chart and registers are as follows:

Rehabilitation Centre

Patients treated in the rehabilitation centre: 99

Chemically dependent: 37

Alcoholics: 53

Poly (Both): 9

Total no of patients succeeded after discharge: 76

Out of which its categorized as (Alcoholics- 23, Chemically dependent – 46, Poly – 7)

The annual success rate of the rehabilitation centre in percentage is – 76.76%

Day Care / Drop in Centre

Patients treated in the Day Care Centre: 854 (out of which 750 individuals on a regular basis)

(Regular)Chemically Dependent: 512

(Regular)Alcoholics: 311

(Regular)Poly (Both): 31

Family Classes in Day Care Centre

Total No of family classes conducted on a weekly basis (every Saturday): 52

Total No of family members attending classes: 988

HANDS had a very joyful and encouraging year getting boosted by the 76.76 % success rate. We can look back with a lot of satisfaction as we were able to bring back more than three fourth of our patients back to main stream society. They have become contributing members of the nation and brought happiness to their families and to the whole community.