

INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING TRAINING IN ANDHRA PRADESH

BPNI is working in association with Department of Women Development and Child Welfare, Govt. of A.P. since 2005. Department is very much convinced with the importance of IYCF counseling training of the field personnel who in turn can well support the mother in establishing optimal IYCF practices.

In the year 2006 a two week IYCF counseling training course was conducted at Dist. Hospital, Hindupur from 7th to 20th April, with the support of Unicef, Hyderabad. 6 personnel (5 doctors + one NGO representative) got trained as National Trainers & 37 members got trained as co-trainers in the second half of the two weeks course (i.e. 14th to 20th). In the 37 members list, 5 are Child Development Project Officers, 31 are ICDS Supervisors from the Department and one participant is a staff nurse, from Dist. Hospital, Hindupur. All the Departmental personnel are from the Medak Dist. which is one of the Unicef adopted Districts.

Prof. K. P. Kushwaha, Chief of IYCF trainings - BPNI was the course director, Dr. K. Kesavulu, National Trainer was the co-course director.

In the year 2008, BPNI's IYCF counseling specialist course was conducted at Hindupur from 17th to 23rd June. 32 participants have taken the course.

25 participants are from the Department of Women Development & Child Welfare, Govt. of A.P. (7 coordinators, 9 Instructors of the Department Training Centers, 6 Child Development Project Officers, 3 ICDS Supervisors) other 7 are - 3 Pediatric Post Graduates from Bangalore Medical College, 1 Associate Prof. of pediatrics, Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad, one Practicing Obstetrician from Tumkur, Karnataka, one Practicing Pediatrician from Hyderabad & 1 Assistant Director from Food & Nutrition Board, Hyderabad Unit.

The faculty of National Trainers for the course are Dr. S. Sreenivasan, JIPMER, Pondyichery, Dr. C.R. Banapurmath, Davanagere, Dr. Asha Benakappa, Bangalore and Dr. K. Kesavulu, Hindupur.

On October 4th 2008, at a State Level Meeting of the Department of Women Development & Child Welfare, Govt. of A.P. (convened by Smt. Y.V. Anuradha IAS, Director, Smt. Chayarathan, Principal Secretary,) attended by all the State and District Heads of the Dept. and then Minister of Women Development and Child Welfare (Smt. N. Rajya Lakshmi) **Dr. K. Kesavulu**, BPNI's State representative delivered a talk on "Infant and Young Child Malnutrition: Where lie the solutions"?

The talk was well received and a big discussion happened on this. Actually this is the turning point in making the Dept. to take up the further IYCF training courses.

{As per the National Family Health Survey-III data (2005-06) in the state of Andhra Pradesh Neonatal Mortality Rate is 40.3 (National 39), Infant Mortality Rate is 53.5 ((National 57), under 5 mortality is 63 (National 74), 36 percent of under 3 are under nourished (National 46%). The IYCF practices are - 1st hour initiation of Breastfeeding is 22.4% (National 23.4%) exclusive breastfeeding is 62.7% (National 46.3%), Complementary Feeding is 63.7% (National 55.8%)}

In December 2008 (6th to 13th) 3rd IYCF counseling training course (MLT Course) was conducted at Hindupur. 3 IYCF Specialists (Dr. Himabindu Sing, Dr. B. Sailaja & Mr. P. Sundararajulu), got trained as TOT of Middle Level Trainers Course from 6th to 13th. 24 participants from the Dept. (16 Instructors and 5 coordinators of Training Centers, 1 ICDS Supervisor, 1 Asst. Director, 1 Project Director.) have taken the MLT Course from 8th to 13th.

The faculty of the course are Dr. K. Kesavulu, Dr. C.R. Banapurmath, Dr. Sreenivasan and Dr. Ganga Jyothi, Asst. Director, NIPCCD-Bangalore.

In February 2009 (13th to 18th) 4th IYCF Counseling Course (MLT Course) was conducted. 31 Participants from the Dept. (29 Instructors and 2 Coordinators of the Training Centers), have participated.

Faculty of the course are Dr. K. Kesavulu, Dr. Ganga Jyothi, Mr. P. Sundara Rajulu and Dr. B. Sailaja.

In the month of March, 2009 WD & CW Dept, Govt. of A.P. has taken a decision of training 5 supervisors from each of the 23 Districts in the State as Middle Level Trainers of IYCF Counseling as a pilot project. Accordingly 4 MLT Courses were conducted in the months of June, July, August and September, 2009. The idea of the Department is to train all the 74,000 field level frontline workers i.e. Anganwadi Workers through a 3 days IYCF course with the help of these MLT trained supervisors.

In the month of June, 2009 - TOT of MLT Course (18th to 29th) was conducted.

For easy communication, with the participants in the local language (Telugu) 7 members of the Dept. (Smt. Y. Sailaja, Kum. P. Sarala Kumari, I. Sujatha, N. Anuradha, Ch. Bhavani, T. Shyam Tabita and S. Sai Sukanya) who are already trained as Middle Level Trainers were trained as TOT's

With the help of these TOTs as co-trainers all the 4 batches of MLT courses were conducted.

In the **1st Batch** of MLT course for supervisor's (24th to 29th June, 2009) 28 supervisors of the Dept. have taken the course. The faculty are Dr. K. Kesavulu, course Director, Mr. P. Sundara Rajulu, Course Facilitator.

2nd batch of MLT course for supervisors was conducted from 16th to 21st July, 2009. 28 Supervisors have taken the course. The faculties are Dr. K. Kesavulu, Course Director, Mr. P. Sundara Rajulu, Course Facilitator; the co-trainers are N. Anuradha, S. Sai Sukanya, I. Sujatha and Ch. Bhavani.

3rd batch of MLT course for supervisors was conducted from 16th to 21st August, 2009. 30 Supervisors have taken the course. The faculties are Dr. K. Kesavulu, Course Director, Mr. P. Sundara Rajulu, Course Facilitator; the co-trainers are B. Sailaja, I. Sujatha, Ch. Bhavani, P. Sarala Kumari.

4th batch of MLT course for supervisors was conducted from 16th to 21st September, 2009. 25 Supervisors and 2 Instructors have taken the course. The faculties are Dr. K. Kesavulu, Course Director, Mr. P. Sundara Rajulu, Course Facilitator; the co-trainers are I. Sujatha, N. Syam Tabita, N. Anuradha, S. Sai Sukanya.

Till now 229 Departmental Officials have been trained as IYCF counselors by BPNI at Hindupur. The aim of Dept. is to train all the 74,000 Anganwadi workers spread all over the State. To reach this goal, the Dept. is planning many more IYCF counseling courses in the future.

In one District i.e. Medak, all the Anganwadi Workers of the Dept. have been trained with the 3days IYCF Front line workers course. Evaluation report is awaited.

All the above trainings were conducted at Dist. Hospital, Hindupur, which is a Baby Friendly Hospital and a recognized IYCF counseling courses training centre in Andhra Pradesh.

Compiled by

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1 Prof. K. P. Kushwaha, Inaugurating the 2 weeks IYCF counseling course. 7-20th April 2006



2 Smt. Lakshmi Bhavani, Project Officer, (Child Health) Unicef-Hyderabad Unit. Inaugurating the Co-trainers course. 14th April 2006



3. Mr.P Sundara Rajulu Food and Nutrition Board, Hyderabad , Dr. R. Nisarga , Prof Pediatrics , Bangalore & Others - Inauguration of IYCF Counseling Specialist course – 17th to 23rd June 2008



4. Prof. Srinivasan, National Trainer, in the training Class June 2008.



5 Dr. C Sudhakar Reddy, Medical Superintendent & others Inauguration of Middle Level Trainers course. 6th December 2008



6 Dr. K. Kesavulu, National Trainer in the Training Class June 2009



7 Group Photo of a Middle Level Trainers Course, June 2009.



8 A mother of 3 months old child (Mrs. Sangeetha , A Software Engineer from Bangalor) narrating her relactation experience in the training course , August 2009



10 Smt. Saraswathi Bulusu, Project Officer, Child Health, UNICEF, Hyderabad Unit, addressing the MLT Course, July 2009.



11 Clinical Session in the BPNI Park of the Hospital, August 2009.



12 Smt. Ch. Bhavani, Co-trainer, in the classroom session , August 2009.



13 Smt Vijayamma , Midwife , showing expression of Breast milk in Clinical Session in the children ward, July 2009



14 Release of 3 days IYCF course (for frontline workers) manuals in Telugu Language – 16th September 2009



15 Smt. Saraswathi, a participant of MLT Course receiving the certificate – 21st September 2009



16 Clinical Session in the Children Ward - 16th July 2009



17 Smt. Sujatha , Smt. Bhavani & Smt. Sai Sukanya , co trainers , in the role play of classroom session – July 2009