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NEWSLETTER



Much has changed since Fight Hunger Foundation was founded in India in 2012. As a humanitarian organization dedicated to ending malnutrition in children, we are continuously evolving in response to and anticipation of a changing Indian landscape.

Our agenda includes both preventive and curative services, as these two are inseparable parts of our effort towards creating nutrition security in families where we work.

Over the last six years, we are happy to have included thematics around health, water, sanitation, hygiene, food security, livelihood and education in our programs. Our goal is to create an enabling environment in the communities where we work and make strong mechanisms for tracking the progressive outcomes of the effort. Our focus continues to be on quantitative data and analysis by conducting nutrition assessments, surveys, causal analysis and cohort tracking of the progress of every child enrolled in our programs in India.

In order to have a long term, sustainable and significant impact to bring down malnutrition levels, we require the commitment and contribution of partners who share our vision of creating a hunger-free India. I am very obliged to our multi-year strategic partners Credit Suisse, NAOS, Societe Generale and James Percy Foundation who have joined hands with us in four distinct geographies of Palghar, Amaravati and Govandi in Maharashtra and Baran in Rajasthan respectively, for an integrated nutrition program collectively in 235 villages. Without their support it would not have been possible for Fight Hunger Foundation to serve the communities in this region.

I am also happy to announce that we will be starting our nutrition programs in Gujarat and Jharkhand in 2018 with the strong backing and support of development agencies and the State Governments.

It has been a gratifying journey for us, as we have worked untiringly in some of the most remote and tribal regions of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. We are happy to have touched the lives of over 7 lakh people, to have screened 90,000 children under 5 years of age for signs of malnutrition, to have worked with 10,000 pregnant and lactating women and trained more than 13,000 Government workers, strengthening their capacity to tackle malnutrition in children.

This marks the 10th issue of our Newsletter and we thank you for all your feedback and suggestions that have helped in improving the content and quality of reporting. You will read about how young children from 3 schools in Mumbai participated in our annual event Run Against Hunger, raising vital funds for their vulnerable counterparts in the city. You will also read about the latest happenings across all our programs and a heartening story of the change we could bring about in baby Rohit in our program.

We hope you will continue to be a part of our family, enabling us to provide services to more children in the coming years.

Should you like to make a contribution or know more about our work, please write to us at contact@fighthungerfoundation.org and we will be glad to assist.

Ashwini Kakkar

Chairman, Fight Hunger Foundation

Amravati – A new frontier

Famous for its Melghat Tiger reserve, Dharni in Amravati district of Maharashtra attracts tourists round the year to its green belt. Sadly this region also has a high prevalence of malnutrition among its children.

In December 2017, NAOS and Fight Hunger Foundation joined hands to work together towards addressing the nutrition needs of children and families in Dharni. With the generous support from NAOS, Fight Hunger Foundation has launched a 3-year project in Amravati, where we aim to reach out to 900 malnourished children and touch over 45,000 lives. The project includes digging wells, providing livestock, educating women and children, addressing malnutrition and nutrition security.



Team FHF conducting a water structure survey in Dharni, Amravati.

News from the states

Rajasthan: The State Government of Rajasthan organized an event in December 2017 to showcase the impacts it achieved during the last 4 years of functioning.

“Vikas Pradashini” or “Development Exhibition”, in Jaipur, witnessed various Government departments and initiatives presenting their work in terms of administration and local Governance. The exhibition was graced by the presence of The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shrimati. Vasundhara Raje who acknowledged Fight Hunger Foundation’s contribution in the POSHAN initiative. She interacted with our team in Rajasthan and was pleased to witness evident changes in the health of children enrolled in our nutrition programme.



The Honorable Chief Minister of Rajasthan Smt. Vasundhara Raje with children and mothers from our program in Baran, Rajasthan.

Maharashtra: To further strengthen our efforts in fighting malnutrition in Maharashtra, we entered into a four party Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Women and Child Development Government of Maharashtra (DWCD), Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) and Rajmata Jijau Mother - Child Health and Nutrition Mission.

The MoU was signed during the launch of State Health



FHF representatives with Women and Child Development Minister Smt. Pankaja Munde (center) and Smt. Vinita Ved Singal Secretary, Women and Child Development Department.

Mission’s third phase in January 2018, which was graced by Women and Child Development Minister, Smt. Pankaja Munde.

Apart from implementing projects on reduction of malnutrition in areas dominated by tribal population, Fight Hunger Foundation will also provide vital support to the Government health system by training frontline workers, providing technical assistance to ICDS, DWCD and Nutrition Mission in community based management of malnutrition and assist in monitoring and evaluating community centered projects for reducing undernutrition.

Madhya Pradesh: In December 2017 we completed 5 years of combatting malnutrition in Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh. A strong focus on training Government frontline workers and educating local communities on nutrition has been instrumental in reducing the acute malnutrition prevalence by 7 percentage points in our area of work.

We immensely thank our donors, well-wishers and our dedicated field team, with whose support we touched the lives of 1,30,000 people in 149 villages.

Story of Change

On a hilly hamlet, situated on the difficult terrains of Washala village in Palghar, is where we found 2 months old baby Rohit (name changed) during one of our routine screenings. He weighed only 1.5 kg at birth and his mother Rajashree was very worried at his failing health. Rohit was immediately enrolled in our programme in June 2017.

A discussion with her revealed that Rohit was not receiving sufficient nutrition through breastfeeding. Due to her limited knowledge on ideal feeding techniques, Rohit was unable to suckle properly and often could not derive enough milk.

Rajashree was counselled on effective breastfeeding techniques. She was also made aware about the hygiene and sanitation practices that she should



Baby Rohit from Palghar

follow while expressing her milk and feeding her child. During home visits, she was continuously reminded about maintaining cleanliness during breast feeding to avoid infections.

Baby Rohit was monitored for six weeks during the home visits by our nurse, community mobilizer and field officer. Rohit’s average weight gain was 14 grams per day in the first week and went up to 35 grams per day in week 4. “After I learned about the right way to feed the baby, Rohit started to gain weight and was more

cheerful than before” - Rajashree

Rajashree is extremely happy to see such an improvement in her child. Our team is still keeping a close track of Rohit’s progress.

Children leading the charge against hunger

The students and faculty of Rustomjee Cambridge International School (Dahisar), RBK International Academy (Chembur) and RBK International School (Bhayandar) joined our family and passionately participated in Run Against Hunger. A sporting event where every lap children run is pledged for by their family and friends, to raise vital funds for treating malnourished children. More than 2,500 children, united by the spirit of making India a Hunger Free Nation, ran wholeheartedly with their comrades in tow.



The run at Rustomjee Cambridge International School

While the energy and camaraderie of young ones at Rustomjee Cambridge was palpable, RBK Chembur was not the one to be left behind either and took the event a notch higher with their desire to bring about a change. RBK International Bhayandar brought together its students, parents and teachers for an early morning minithon filled with fun and festive frenzy. We thank the faculty and teachers of the schools for supporting us and making the run a grand success.



The sensitization session at RBK Chembur



The team at RBK International Bhayandar

2 cities, tied together by 1 cause



Team LeGrand at The Tata Mumbai Marathon 2018



An FHF supporter at the Delhi Half Marathon.

It is not often that two cities wake up at the crack of dawn to run a marathon, and rarer still when the two are bound together by a passion for a cause! However, when that happens, it is a spectacular sight!

We are referring to the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon held in November 2017 and the Tata Mumbai Marathon held in January 2018, where Fight Hunger Foundation was the charity of choice for a team of passionate runners.

We were obliged to have a team of almost 90 runners in Delhi and Mumbai supporting the cause of malnutrition! The corporate teams from LeGrand India, Givaudan, and Drumsfood carried the Fight Hunger Foundation flags and spread awareness about

ending child hunger in India. We also had many individual supporters who took to the half marathon and the dream run tracks.

A special mention must be made about 13 year old Daniel Tapia, who was so moved by children suffering from malnutrition, that he launched an online campaign and raised over Rs 1 Lakh through his network of family and friends for the treatment of malnourished children. We salute his commitment and will remain ever obliged to him.

We are truly indebted to all the participants and well-wishers for having represented us at the marathon. We cannot wait to come back next year and be a part of these fantastic events!

Our Impact in 2017

Impact figures:

Fight Hunger Foundation has touched the lives of **7 lakh** people in the past **5 years** and reached out to:

 <p>508 villages</p>	 <p>10,000 pregnant and lactating women</p>	 <p>90,000 children under 5 years of age</p>
 <p>4152 acutely malnourished children</p>	 <p>Trained 13,000 Govt. frontline workers</p>	

Shaping opinions and policy outcomes

Our team in Rajasthan accompanied senior journalists from Hindustan Times, DNA (Daily News & Analysis) and The Pacer to Bundi, Rajasthan in November 2017 to provide them a first-hand experience of the involvement of gram panchayat and local bodies in combatting malnutrition. The visit was organized with support from National Health Mission (NHM), Government of Rajasthan.



The team of journalists at Bundi, Rajasthan.

Media coverage of the visit by The Pacer

They were apprised on the involvement of the local leaders and community workers in overcoming malnutrition among children. The sarpanch of Matunda village in Bundi, presented the work undertaken by the community in terms of child health and nutrition, sanitation, drainage and waste disposal. Matunda Gram Panchayat has been declared as one of the “Chief Minister’s Adarsh Gram Panchayat”, and presents a scalable model of improving community health and nutrition status.

Fight Hunger Foundation would like to profoundly thank again its Founding Members.

			
			
			

	
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