



Change is the only constant and unless you are prepared, it catches you stumbling, like the current lockdown which has swept the entire globe. Yes, we're stuck inside and the world seems strange, but our children, mothers and co-workers at SOS Children's Villages of India are in full swing!

Let's take you through some of the ways by which individuals have supported each other, miracles have made lives better, and people have come together to emerge out of the current challenging times.

Finding middle ground amid lockdown: Small businesses adopt an alt-livelihood



Amidst the current challenging situation, an example of alternative livelihood was seen in Ratauli village under our Family Strengthening Programme – Begusarai. One of our caregivers, Amresh, faced a complete shutdown of his motorized thella business due to a strict lockdown in his area. But with the guidance of the FSP team in Begusarai he was able to sell vegetables using his motorized thella in the village, while abiding by the government notifications.

SOS Youth Frontline COVID Warriors

Ms. Anita, a settled youth from SOS Children's Village Bhubaneswar, has been working with a hospital, for the last 5 years as a Staff Nurse. "These days, at least one of my patients is usually being treated for COVID-19. At the back of my mind, my family's safety always nags me. I always wash extra hard before entering my home. The fear grows every time I go into work.



Because every day, there are more patients with COVID-19 filling the beds." SOS India's COVID warrior Anita is giving her 100% to help people recover from this disturbing crisis and keep her family safe.

We urge you to stay home because our COVID warriors can't.

Sustainable Approach for Community Collectives Towards Self-reliance



To help mitigate the economic impact of the lockdown and help caregivers establish a consistent revenue stream, our FSP teams strategized with the communities to help come up with alternative livelihood options based on their skillsets, available funds, and equipment. Zamrooda a SHG member, in Srinagar, was supporting her family of 5 by selling electrical items along with her husband.

While the lockdown unfortunately affected their business, they managed to sustain themselves through the difficult time and have now restarted their business with limited sales. Zamrooda now plans to take up an alternative livelihood so that they are better prepared for such situations in the future. She has already started learning handicraft work, in particular, Aari art, and will soon start taking orders from vendors, thus helping increase the family income. “The SOS team prepared me to live with self-respect and has given me enough confidence and hope for the bright future of my children,” she said.

Children appeared for Board exams at SOS Children's Villages Thrissur

Keeping in mind the stringent safety regulations regarding examinations in the wake of COVID-19, our children appeared for their SSLC and Higher Secondary education exams in Thrissur from 26th May onwards. At the exam centres, utmost care was taken to admit children into the exam hall only after thermal screening and to make sure that there were no more than 20 children in a room.



The children were educated on the safety protocol and safety protection kit, equipped with masks, sanitisers, water, and tissues. They are also quarantined to ensure that there is no risk to their health or any other members of the community.

“A good book can teach forever.” - Louis L'Amour



The lockdown has definitely made it hard to acquire a lot of items, including books. But, Bal Panchayats across our villages refuse to let it deter their education. In Khandwa Village, Raipur, our ‘Dr. Abdul Kalam Bal- Panchayat’ for boys and ‘Green Bal Panchayat’ for girls took the initiative to provide books from their previous classes to the junior students in their community, as none of them were able to purchase the ones

required for their new session. Moreover, they have taken it upon themselves to give tuition classes to their juniors every week, while maintaining social distancing measures.

A little can change a lot. Do your part to help them out during these trying times.

DONATE NOW

