Progress Report

Developing Village Health Leaders

Budget: $25,000. $16,000 funded. $9,000 still to raise.

Update:
Our implementing partners have been training 30 to 40 community health leaders each year since 2011. These leaders live amongst the poor in remote villages and provide basic healthcare within their communities once trained. This new project aims to increase the level of support to these disadvantaged, remote populations. The Health Training Certificate course educates leaders with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to serve their community. The course takes an intentionally holistic approach to health and wellbeing by addressing social, emotional and physical aspects of health. The communities themselves choose their trainees and also have the opportunity to give feedback about the course and possible improvements to the training.

During this period a new coordinator was employed to support the growth of the program and a refresher course was held for all the previous candidates. A refresher course was held in September 2017 in response to a survey conducted a few months earlier by people who had completed the training. Our partners were asked to provide the following outcomes: to improve the skills of the graduates; clarify and strengthen linkages and referral pathways; update graduates on services available in the hospitals; receive feedback from the trainees about how they were using the course and use the opportunity to do some research.

71 graduates registered for the course and 44 actually participated. The refresher course included a mix of revision, new topics as well as interaction and feedback time. It was a very encouraging time for the people who attended and their enthusiasm was apparent. Our partners were impressed by how well the graduates all remembered the clinical skills they had been taught and the use of their 'ready reference' (clinical algorithms).

Thank you for helping to train laypeople in basic healthcare so that they can care for thousands of people in India.