



Population Leadership Program
University of Washington

Training Programme

on

Advocating for Reproductive Health and Rights

July 22 – July 30, 2008

A joint programme of

**Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ), India, Population Leadership Program,
University of Washington, Seattle USA, and SAHAYOG, Lucknow, India**

Introduction

Centre for Health and Social Justice announces the Training Programme on **Advocating for Reproductive Health and Rights**. This programme is being organized in collaboration with the Population Leadership Program of the University of Washington in Seattle (USA) and SAHAYOG (India).

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD Cairo 1994), marked a new beginning for policy making on reproductive health and population issues. The concept of Reproductive Rights were formally acknowledged in this conference and governments across the world agreed to respect the right of women and couples to decide on the number and spacing of their children and took upon themselves the responsibility for providing quality information and services to do so. This new policy perspective, which viewed women as autonomous individuals vested with reproductive rights, was the result of sustained advocacy efforts at the national and international levels by women's health advocates. There have been far reaching changes – in India the target driven family planning gave way to a more holistic needs based reproductive and child health approach. However even though it is nearly 15 years from Cairo, much remains to be done to secure quality reproductive health information and services and full acknowledgement of reproductive rights in policy making and programme formulation.

While the process of change has begun, the results are uneven. There are still many communities, especially those which are socially vulnerable, who are yet to access quality reproductive health information and services. Maternal health, infant health and family planning indicators continue

to be poor and services distant for millions of people across South Asia and even Millennium Development Goals related to reproductive health may not be met. It is essential to continue the process of advocacy so that the changes that have begun in policy formulation and programme implementation can be sustained and made more effective. Over the last few years the Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ) has taken a lead to strengthen the process of advocacy in the context of public health policies and programmes in India. CHSJ proposes to further strengthen this process by organizing an eight day training programme on Reproductive Health and Rights Advocacy between the 22nd and 30th of July 2008. The programme is being organized in collaboration with Population Leadership Program, University of Washington, a global center for developing capacity on population and reproductive health issues, and SAHAYOG an organization actively engaged in reproductive health and rights advocacy in India.

Structure and Objectives of the Training Programme

The eight day training programme is structured around three modules :

1. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
2. Advocacy Skills
3. Planning for Advocacy

The overall objectives of the programme are as follows:

1. Build conceptual clarity on rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health (including maternal health and safe abortion) within an overall human rights perspective
2. Develop an in-depth understanding of the present scenario in sexual and reproductive health and rights: policies, evidence and debates – globally and locally
3. Understand the role of rights based advocacy in the context of social change: what factors/actors are involved to change opinions, practices, policies
4. Develop essential advocacy skills on
 - analysis of the political, economic, social context
 - identification of problems/advocacy issues/rights violations
 - stake-holder analysis
 - mobilization, organization-building, networking, alliance building
 - communication, negotiation, conflict-resolution
 - campaign planning, influencing specific groups of opinion makers, working with media
 - using and building evidence, developing information and advocacy materials
5. Apply the above in developing strategic advocacy plans including identifying process indicators and intermediate outcomes

Methodology

The training programme will be conducted using participatory methodology including group exercises, case-studies, interactive lectures, films, discussion and reading. The language of training will be English.

Facilitators

The key facilitators for this programme have extensive advocacy experience at all levels starting from community level to the national and international level and with communities, policy makers, international bureaucracy, media and so on. The key facilitators of this programme will be:

1. Ms Renu Khanna, Society for Health Alternatives, SAHAJ, Vadodra, India
2. Ms Jashodhara Dasgupta, Coordinator, SAHAYOG, Lucknow, India
3. Mr Roberto Ador – Executive Director, Family Planning Organisation of the Phillipines and Fellow, Population Leadership Programme, University of Washington, USA.
4. Dr Abhijit Das – Director, Centre for Health and Social Justice, India and Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Community Health and Social Medicine, University of Washington, USA

Participants

This training programme is meant for middle to senior level functionaries of organizations that have an agenda of influencing policy and programme level changes ie. advocacy. We invite participation from NGOs, International NGOs, International Organisations, as well as government functionaries. The participants are expected to be familiar with ideas related to reproductive or public health programming and policy making. The programme will have participants from a range of backgrounds so that different perspectives to policy making can be appreciated during the training process.

Training Fees

The full cost of the training programme is Rs 15000 (Fifteen thousand rupees only). However in order to facilitate the participation of diverse range of participants the following scholarships are available based on certain criteria.

Full Fee Rs 15,000	Candidates sponsored by International NGOs, Donors, International Organisations or Government bodies. Candidates from Indian organizations with an annual budget of over Rs One crore.
Fifty percent scholarship – Rs 7,500	Candidates sponsored by Indian Organisations having an annual budget of over Rs Twenty Lakhs but less than Rs One Crore.
Full scholarship	Candidates sponsored by Indian Organisations having a budget of less than Rs 20 lakhs and activists associated people's organisations

All participants will have to bear their own travel expenses to and from Delhi

Training Venue

The training programme will be held at serene and scenic venue of Naukuchiatal in Uttarakhand near Nainital (approximately 300 kilometers fro Delhi). All participants will report at Delhi from where travel arrangements will be made by the organizers to the venue.

Application Process

Interested candidates are expected to fill in the accompanying application form and submit it to latest by July 10, 2008. Applicants will be informed about their registration in the training programme.

Please send in your completed application form by email to chs@chs.org or fax it to 91-11-26536041 or mail it to
Centre for Health and Social Justice
Flat 3C H Block,
Saket,
New Delhi – 110017.

**Please remember that the last date for receiving filled in Application Forms is
July 10, 2008 .**