

HELP & SHELTER
WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER GERMAN COMMITTEE PROJECT
MONTHLY M&E REPORT- MARCH 2010 - Submitted by Danuta Radzik

Community Educators' Monthly Reports

KANEVILLE

Community Educator: Tessa Greene

Community Mobiliser: Juliet James

Community: Kaneville, East Bank Demerara

Activities: A total of 5 visits were made to this community for the month

Persons Reached: Total: 123 Females: 47 Males: 76

Persons Newly Reached: Total: 18 Females: 2 Males: 16

H&S Leaflets Distributed: Nil

of H&S Posters Distributed: Nil

of Other Posters Distributed: Nil

Objectives of Visits:

- Attendance and participation at steering committee meeting (KDC)
- Visit to the Pool Shop to talk to patrons
- Awareness session with students from IPE
- Visit to NDC

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

Steering Committee Meeting- 4th March

- A total of 9 persons, 5 females and 4 males attended the meeting. At the meeting the documents from the former Chairman were handed over to the present Chairman this included the map with the proposed street names for Kaneville. Most of the matters discussed at these meetings focus on community development issues and activities.

Visit to Pool Shop- 6th & 7th March

- A total of 18 persons, 16 males and 2 females between the ages of 21-62 were present on the 6th of March at the pool shop. The CE and CM had one on one talks with these persons to sensitize them about DV. The proprietress of the establishment was supportive of the activity and told the CE and CM about a woman who constantly abuses her child. Leaflets were also distributed to person at the pool shop and others in the community. During the visit on the next day similar one on one talks were held with a total of 15 persons, 12 males and 3 females, between the ages of 14-53. the focus of the discussions was to let persons know about the seriousness of abuse. One woman declared that she would tell her husband to knock her so she can get him locked up. This woman said her husband verbally abuses her and was informed that verbal abuse is a form of DV.

Visit to NDC Office- 17th March

- The CM visited the NDC office in grove to discuss the naming of the streets in Kaneville. The vice-Chairman said the NDC would assist in whatever way they can and advised the CM to write to the Business Community for sponsorship of the street names. The Cm also spoke to one of the NDC counselors who promised to attend the steering committee meeting on the 18th of March.

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions

Students from IPE- Anger Management- 11th March

- A total of 72 students, 30 females and 42 males participated in a 1 ¼ hr session on anger management. H&S leaflets on Anger Management, Rape & DVA Act were also distributed to the students.

DEN AMSTEL

Community Educator: Ebeth McIntosh

Community Mobiliser: Shawndelle Luckie

Community: Den Amstel, West Coast Demerara

Activities: A total of 5 visits were made to this community for the month

Persons Reached: Total: 84 Females: 60 Males: 24

Persons Newly Reached: Total: 26 Females: 25 Males: 1

H&S leaflets Distributed: 80

MLHSS DV Posters: Nil

GHARP Booklets (Super Gang & The Player): Nil

GHARP Posters: Nil

Empowering Women Booklet: Nil

HIV Leaflets & Booklets: Nil

H&S Posters: Nil

of Condoms Distributed: Nil

Objectives of Visits:

- To conduct an awareness session on Anger Management with Den Amstel Pre Natal Clinic
- To conduct an awareness session on Alcohol Abuse with the Congregational Youth Group
- To conduct an awareness session on Anger Management with Nursery Teachers
- To conduct an awareness session on Understanding Self with Den Amstel Primary Teachers
- To conduct an awareness session on Anger Management with the Kingdom Connection Youth Group

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions

Den Amstel Pre-Natal Clinic –Anger Management – 4th March

- A total of 20 mothers and 1 father between the ages of 16-33 participated in this 1 hr session on Anger Management.

Issues discussed at the session included a definition of anger, types of anger and how these are expressed and seven ways in which anger can be managed. A personal anger log was also shared with participants to track date, time, situation, triggers and aggressive behaviours. During the session 12 of the participants, 51% said they get angry every day and the anger lasts about 6-8 hours a day. Five (5) participants or 23% said they get angry at least 5 days a week and the anger lasts for about 4 hours a day. Two (2) of the participants said they get angry about 3 days a week and the anger lasts for about half a day. The other 2 participants did not have anger issues. Participants came up with their own definition for anger, they shared the ways in which they expressed their anger such as shouting, quarrelling, crying and withdrawing. Ways in which anger affects us and the people around us were also discussed.

An evaluation of the session indicated that participation and understanding of topics discussed were assessed as good, while facilitation and the session overall were assessed as very good.

A total of 24 leaflets on anger management were distributed.

Congregational Youth Group – Alcohol Abuse – 7th March

- A total of 38 young people, 23 females and 15 males between the ages of 10-23 participated in this 3hr hour session on Suicide.

All of the participants said they consume alcohol some of them occasionally and some regularly. The youth indicated that they did not know that alcohol affects the body in so many ways, both long term and short term until this information was shared with them. Now knowing the adverse effects of alcohol the participants said they will be more moderate on the use of alcohol and will pass on this information to others they come into contact with. During the session 6 of the participants shared the following as short term and long term effects of alcohol on the brain.

“ My name is Alcohol, they call me Alco for short. I’ll damage your body including your brain. I’ll leave you dizzy and make u fall in a drain. I’m so wise I’ll let you hallucinate and do and say things that will leave you with a headache. I’ll make you silly, I’ll make you dunce and make you illiterate and even make you migrate. I can make you forget your name just because I’ve damaged your brain. When you consume a lot of me I’ll make you unconscious and make you talk nuff. While traveling in a bus, I’ll make you unhappy and hopeless and eventually lead you to death.

I, Alco damage your brain which leads to seizures, you’ll cry in vain since you’re in so much pain, you’ll feel like you’re alone in the rain, then finally I’ll leave you in shame. Consume nuff of me, I’ll create a brain tumor that will make you have more humour. I’ll bring you a present which is a stroke, you might want to put a rope around your throat, you’ll even jump off a slope. I’ll leave you in a wheelchair, paralyzed still sipping on your beer. I’ll kill your brain till it’s Dead ! Dead! Dead! You may even become a newly wed, cause I’m Alcohol, the man they call Alco for short.”

Nursery School Teachers – Anger Management – 9th March

- A total of 7 female Nursery School teachers participated in this 2 hr session on Anger Management.

In discussing anger management all of the participants admitted that they got angry. Three(3) or 43% of the teachers said they get angry every day while 4 or 57% said they get angry at least once a week. They said that they deal with their anger the best way they can by doing a lot of work in the home, quarreling, staying silent and even using indecent language. Participants said they did not know that anger was placed into 2 categories, heated and cold and that cold anger affects a person worst than heated anger. Among the teachers they were signs of both types of anger. At the end of the session the teachers said they were happy for the information and would pass this on to others.

Evaluation of the session indicated that participation, understanding of topics discussed, facilitation and the session overall were all assessed as excellent.

A total of 15 H&S Anger Management leaflets were distributed.

Den Amstel Primary School Teachers – Understanding Self – 10th March

A total of 5 female teachers participated in a 2 hr awareness session on Understanding Self. Feedback from participants showed that they were very open about talking about themselves and issues that were affecting them physically, emotionally and socially. During the session the facilitator got participants to identify who was the most important person in their lives and why. The teachers said they did not know that awareness sessions could be so much fun while at the same time educational and useful to their lives. There is a new HM for the Primary School and she said her staff and students will have to be a part of such sessions as long as she is HM at the school.

Evaluation of the session indicated that participation, understanding of topics discussed facilitation and the session overall were all assessed as excellent.

Kingdom Connection Youth – Anger Management – 14th March

- Twenty one (21) youth, 13 females and 8 males between the ages of 10-23 participated in the 3 hr session on Anger Management.

The participants talked about their problems with anger and did not know how to control this and how it is affecting them in their every day lives. The youths did 3 dramatic presentations on anger showcasing what they had learnt about anger and how to manage this. The session was very interactive and the participants and team work was very good.

It was clear that by the end of the session the participants had grasped the concepts of anger management and committed to putting what they had learnt into practice in their everyday lives. The CM was present at the session.

Evaluation of the session indicated that participation, understanding of topics discussed facilitation and the session overall were all assessed as excellent. A total of 25 H&S leaflets on Anger Management were distributed to participants.

GOOD HOPE

Community Educator: Suzanne Chung

Community Mobiliser: Olivia Simon

Community: Good Hope, East Coast Demerara

Activities: A total of 6 visits were made to this community for the month

Persons Reached: Total: 117 Females: 80 Males: 37

Persons Newly Reached: Total: 96 Females: 61 Males: 35

H&S Leaflets Distributed: 31

of H&S Posters Distributed: Nil

of Other Posters Distributed: Nil

Objectives of Visits:

- Visits to head teachers of 3 schools to discuss the holding of awareness sessions with students
- Mobilising for Steering Committee Meeting & one on one discussions with residents
- Hosting of an awareness session at the Lusignan Learning Centre
- Hosting of an awareness session at the Institute of Business Education (IBE)
- Attendance and participation at steering committee meeting
- Lay counselling session

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

Visits to Schools to discuss Holding of Awareness Sessions – 5th March

- The CE visited the head teachers of 3 schools, IBE, The Learning Centre and IPE about allowing the H&S/WWDPGC project time to organize sessions on GBV and related issues with students. Most schools seemed to welcome the ideas of the sessions and even spoke about future sessions. A total of 15 H&S leaflets, 5 for each school was left with the head teachers.

Mobilizing for Steering Committee Meeting – 6th March

- The CE and CM walked through the community inviting all persons associated with the project to a steering committee meeting to be held at the usual venue. A total of 16 persons, 14 females and 2 males were visited. The CE reported that persons reached were pleased to see the CE and CM but the problem is getting persons to come out to meetings. A total of 10 H&S leaflets were distributed

Steering Committee Meeting – 11th March

- A total of 5 females attended the meeting. The meeting was held to discuss the following:
 - Membership
 - To inform and discuss the work of the steering committee presently

It was decided that the SC needed to do more house to house visits and engage in one on one discussions with residents but in order to do this more persons were needed who would be willing to take part in such activities. The steering committee also needed to be strengthened and be able to mobilize community persons to attend workshops and awareness sessions.

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions

Students of Institute of Business Education (IBE) –DV – 10th March

- A total of 59 students and 2 teachers out of which were 39 females and 23 males participated in a 2 hr awareness session on DV. The session went very well as the students enjoyed getting into groups and doing role-plays. The dramatic presentations done by the students were excellent. A total of 5 leaflets were given to teachers with a promise of more as they become available.

Lay Counselling Session – 13th March

- The CE spoke with a woman who was badly beaten by her child father and who was in a lot of pain and had no one to turn to. Information was given to her about available services she could also approach including H&S Crisis Centre and the DVA. At the end of the session the woman was glad to receive information and wanted to know more about the DVA as she will be moving to a new place in the hope that the perpetrator does not find her again as he has been doing and assault her.

COVENT GARDEN

Community Educator(s): Ebeth McIntosh, Chabela Lord

Community Mobilizer: Carol Henry

Community: Covent Garden, East Bank Demerara

Activities: A total of 6 visits were made to this community for the month

Persons Reached: Total: 49 Females: 39 Males: 10

Persons Newly Reached: Total: 19 Females: 15 Males: 4
H&S Leaflets Distributed: 57
of H&S Posters Distributed: Nil
of Other Posters Distributed: Nil

Objectives of Visits:

- House to house visits & one on one discussions with residents
- Conduct an awareness session with Covent Garden Nursery Teachers
- Attendance & participation at Steering Committee Meeting

Community/Group & Individual Responses to Visits:

House to House Visits & One on One Discussions with Residents – 8th March

- During this visit by CE, CM and one peer educator, 10 females from 2 families were reached. At the first home 5 women were sitting on their bridge, and welcomed the project team to have discussions on domestic violence occurring in their community. The discussion was fruitful and the women were thankful for the information shared and said they would share this with their neighbours. While discussing the issue of DV the project team was informed that a neighbour next door was reportedly physically abusing her child as was other members of the household. When the team visited the home of the abused child they were invited in without any hesitation. The team has a discussion on child physical abuse and the parent admitted that she and the other members of the household were physically abusing her child. The mother explained that that the child is not learning at school and wants to take him out of the Covent Garden Primary School and send him to a special school for slow learners. She also disclosed that she is experiencing domestic abuse from her spouse. The mother promised to stop abusing her son and asked for the team to continue working with them so they can bring about changes in their lives and the lives of others. The sister in law said she would like to be a part of the Steering Committee and did attend the meeting.

House to House Visits & One on One Discussions with Residents – 9th March

- The CM and peer educator (PE) visited the home of a mother of 4 who was knowledgeable about some of the issues the project is addressing in the community. She explained that she had the opportunity to attend other awareness sessions in another community and through the brochures she received and by listening to TV she gained the knowledge she now has. The CM and peer educator also spoke to her on DV and child abuse. This mother said she believes a child needs a few lashes and gave her reasons for this. She indicated however that she does not beat her children. She also identified a home where 2 brothers abuse their wives and children. One has to be bailed a few months ago because he chopped his reputed wife in her head. A total of 4 H&S leaflets were left with this mother.
- Another visit was made to a husband and wife. The couple was asked about their views on DV and child abuse and rape. Based on what the couple said the CM and PE realized that they both had a fair knowledge of DV and child abuse. In discussing the issue of rape the couple was asked if rape can occur in a marriage. The wife was not sure but the husband was and he explained why this is so. These parents also said they do not believe in beating children and have never beaten their own children.
- During this visit the CM and PE also met with a father and informed him about the project, its objectives and work being done in the community. While discussing DV and other forms of abuse the father asked the team how these social could be reduced/eradicated. The team explained that this could be done through educating people on these issues and letting them know that DV should not be accepted by any one ; by encouraging people who are in abusive relationships to speak out and not cover up abuse,

get out of abusive relationships. In addition they also explained that help and counselling is available for persons. They also spoke about the establishment of the steering committee and its aim. The team is hopeful of having this father be a part of the steering committee.

House to House Visits & One on One Discussions with Residents – 11th March

- During this visit the CM had a session with a mother in law and her daughter in law. The mother in law was of the view that a child can be given a few lashes, but when an individual goes overboard as she calls it, then that is abuse. She disclosed that in her home there is no DV, but as a child she experienced this. The daughter in law said that she does not know what child abuse and DV is really. Information on both these issues was discussed with her and she was encouraged to be a good role model to her children. As this discussion was taking place the CM observed a heap of garbage opposite this home and enquired who put it there. She was informed that the garbage is sometimes burnt right there. It was decided to have this matter discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting. A total of 5 H&S leaflets were left with this family.
- Whilst visiting a mother she was asked about her views on abuse. She said she did not beat her children when they were small but the children had brands on their hands. When asked what she considered that to be, she was unable to explain but did not consider that to be physical abuse. The CM and PE explained the forms of abuse to her and found out that she is being verbally abused by her son in law when he comes to visit his children. When this mother was asked if she believes a husband can rape his wife, she laughed and said she did not know. Rape was explained to her. The CM and PE left H&S brochures with her and encouraged her to read them and share them with her children and grand children.
- At another home, 4 persons were reached, a husband, wife and 2 male & female visiting friends. The CM and PE had a very encouraging discussion on child abuse, GBV and DV with this group. The group expressed their concern at the increase of violence and abuse in comparison to years ago. One of the women expressed the opinion that nothing can be done about this. The CM and PE informed her that it was for this reason they were educating people and letting them know that violence is not and should not be seen as a way of life; and should not be encouraged or accepted by anyone as it affects the lives of other family members. The influence of TV and some of the reasons that lead to DV was discussed. The friends who were visiting said they hoped things will change back to how they were years ago. The CM and PE were encouraged to continue their efforts to reduce abuse.

Community & House to House Visit – 12th March

- During this visit a total of 12 persons were reached, 9 females and 3 males. Priority was given to the 2 families who were most in need of help. At the first family visited at the Sea Dam area (School Welfare Case), plans had been made to have this family visit the School Welfare Office so the children can be registered for school and the process started to have their birth certificates processed; unfortunately this visit did not happen as the mother fractured her foot and the father indicated that he was out searching for a job and refused to attend the SWO for the meeting. Once again the family was informed about their duty as parents to have their children attend school. The CE's, and CM also stressed on the importance of having the children, if not at school, at least at home, instead of having them astray in the community. The family was also informed about putting the needs of the children first at all times. The mother is a known alcoholic in the community. On the day of this visit, one week after the meeting was set with the School Welfare Division, the cast was already removed from the mother's supposedly broken

foot. Contact will be made with School Welfare to set up another meeting for this family.

- The visit was to the home of the mother in law who claims her son drinks and abuses his wife, her daughter in law. The family welcomed the project team into their house for a discussion, the son had the flu but still found time to talk. The son is a well known barber in the village and explained that he has many friends and his friends would insist he drink one beer with them which would many times lead to drinking cases of beers. Information was shared on drug and alcohol abuse. During this session the entire family was present, the mother, son, daughter in law and grandson. The son and daughter in law shared stories, issues and challenges they were facing. The son explained he was willing to work on his relationship and asked his wife to tell him when he is upsetting her. He also asked the team to continue to visit him so as to help in this process starting with his drinking problem so that he can minimize the amount he consumes.

Steering Committee Meeting – 15th March

- A total of 7 female residents attended the meeting. The session was focused on sharing information to person present about the functions of a steering committee. It was felt that the venue should be changed from the Full Gospel Church building to the Primary School. Reasons given were that some residents would feel that meetings would be Christian like if held at the Church. It was also decided that the Head Master of the Primary School would be approached for use of the school. It was decided that meetings would be held every second Monday of the month at 16:30 hrs. The meeting also agreed that they needed a plan to work towards for the year. Each member was asked to identify challenges in the community, so at the next meeting the members can plan how to bring about the changes in the community. However right there and then members started to identify challenges these included:
 - Street lights
 - Garbage disposal
 - Blockage of drains
 - Ineffective relationship between NDC and Covent Garden

Some of the members present also volunteered to accompany the CE's and CM on house to house visits and visits to schools.

Evaluation of Awareness Sessions

Nursery School Teachers – Child Sexual Abuse – 12th March

- A total of 6 female Nursery School teachers, between the ages of 28-43 participated in this 2hr session on Child Sexual Abuse.

Teachers reported that they were able to share the information on neglect from the last awareness session with some parents and as a result have seen some improvements emotionally and educationally with parents and children. Teachers talked of cases of sexual abuse which are happening in their community and they suspect that 2 students in nursery school may be sexually abused since the signs of this were being seen. The teachers also shared that they would talk to students in their class about child sexual abuse through the use of stories. However, some parents would get angry when their children speak about these stories at home. The teachers said they will use the information gained at this session to continue to raise awareness about child sexual abuse with their students and at the same time try to get parents to come out to sessions on child abuse or talk to them one on one.

Evaluation of the session indicated that participation, understanding of topics discussed, facilitation, and the session overall were all assessed as excellent.

A total of 20 H&S leaflets For Parents were distributed to teachers.