

Child Protection Sector Meeting

January, 12th, 2005, 6.30 PM

Held by Mr Aftab

Data collection

No organization present reported any problems with data collection so far. Though SFI/DYFI had some problems to have the authority to enter and collect information from the orphanage (not to disturb the children), but the staff said that they will provide copies from the data that they already have. TMMK will fill the gaps in collecting data where other organizations are not working, but not in other villages.

Problems faced through visits in the field

- There have in some places been recorded that the children are not provided milk. This should be included in the family packets as infant food. The Child Protection group has to lobby for this issue. Sneha also told that they might be able to provide milk in their villages when needed.
- The ICDS system doesn't work for the moment and now needs to be supplemented, as there is a risk for lack of vaccination and care for pregnant women. It is said to start work properly after Pongal.
- The care of old people has to be paid attention and should be referred to other sector.
- Another issue that needs special attention is the children in dalit families and special vulnerable tribes.
- It is important to remember the children in need of special care, even if not directly effected by the Tsunami.
- Child labour is a bigger problem after a catastrophe and also here, it has been seen more frequent for example in hotels etc.

Other subjects discussed

- Celebration of Pongal could be arranged by the organizations working in the different villages, if appropriate.
- Childline will start activities in Nagapattinam and from the 13th there will be an open emergency line to link the children with correct institution etc. They need some help from all the other organizations to spread the information about this service. They also got 10 volunteers from TMMK to help them with the telephone service, still missing female volunteers.
- Workshop will be arranged from the coordination cell about children's rights for especially local organizations. Material for training and counseling will be provided by Action. Mr Aftab will ask UNICEF for material in Tamil about children's rights.
- AMURT introduced themselves and their activities. They will provide stressgames and similar activities for the children. Real, Sneha and AVVAI will help them to get out to schools etc.
- MALA introduced themselves. They work with all vulnerable children for long term projects. They are looking for local partners to sponsor. Contact no 04132-224606.

Next meeting will be on January 17, 2005 at 6 PM