

# CHILDLINE NEWSLETTER



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

## COVID19 - CHILDLINE 1098 Emergency Response: Kerala



In Kerala, CHILDLINE is collaborating with the NHM (National Health Mission) to spread awareness about the COVID-19 as well as distribute masks, sanitizers and other personal safety resources. CHILDLINE and members of the NHM conducted COVID-19 awareness sessions for shopkeepers, passengers and migrant workers and distributed masks and sanitizers among them in the Wayanad and Kannur district. Besides, CHILDLINE also collaborated with the local district administration and other concerned authorities for relief activities across the state.

- With the support from the district police, CHILDLINE Kollam distributed food kits, sanitizers & face masks to 150 families in coastal area. CHILDLINE is currently providing 100 food packets to the migrant families, every day in the district.
- CHILDLINE Kochi provided 826 PPE kits to Sanitation workers in Cochin Corporation with support from the Indian Medical Association, District Legal Services Authority and Justice Brigade (High court lawyers). They are also providing food to nearly 500 people twice a day.
- CHILDLINE Kozhikode collaborated with the district administration, police and Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) to provide psychosocial support, spread awareness about health and hygiene during COVID-19 and distribute food kits to the migrant workers.
- Since, the Kasargod district in Kerala reported the highest number of COVID-19 cases, CHILDLINE collaborated with the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and health department to provide tele-counselling to traumatized children.



### Justice and Support for the victim of child pornography

In April 2020, during an outreach and awareness programme in Malapurram, Kerala, CHILDLINE was approached by the mother of a 13- year-old victim of child pornography. She shared the plight her daughter was facing. Her daughter Maria (*name changed to protect identity*) was studying in the 9<sup>th</sup> Std. and was in a closely associated with a boy named Rocky (*name changed to protect identity*). During this phase, Maria was sharing her nude pictures with Rocky who forwarded them to his friends. Many of his friends started calling Maria asking for more nude pictures. Rocky started to blackmail her regularly. Due to this, Maria was very depressed. The CHILDLINE intervention unit discussed the case internally w.r.t. the course of action and informed the local police accordingly. CHILDLINE met Maria and provided her with emotional support and guidance. On the charges of child pornography and blackmailing, the police filed an FIR under sections 11, IV, 12, 15(20) of POCSO Act and arrested the abuser.



Resources and information on COVID-19

<https://www.childlineindia.org/a/covid19>

Donate to support our COVID-19 relief efforts.

<https://www.childlineindia.org/a/fc/168477>