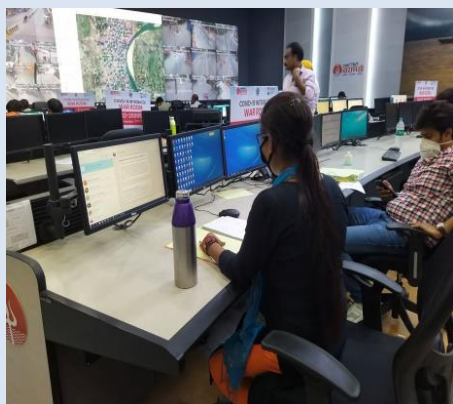


CHILDLINE NEWSLETTER



29th April 2020

Psychosocial Support During COVID-19 by CHILDLINE in Association with UNICEF and DCPU



CHILDLINE Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh has been in action ever since the COVID-19 attack. They have undertaken several initiatives to support children and their families with association from UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), DCPU (District Child Protection Unit) and local administration.

CHILDLINE Varanasi, UNICEF, DCPU, one-stop center members and Nagar Nigam teamed up with 21 psychologists, psychiatrists, expert counsellors and doctors from Banaras Hindu University (BHU) and different parts of Varanasi to create a counseling room (war room) that will provide tele-counselling to everybody who is affected by

Coronavirus or the lockdown. Varanasi administration helped set up the counseling room by 23rd March 2020.

The helpline number for this tele-counselling initiative is 1077. This initiative was proposed by the Municipal Commissioner of Varanasi. The District Magistrate (DM) also suggested that the CHILDLINE team should also be part of this counselling group. The sessions provide primary counselling to people who want to know more about the Coronavirus or are quarantined or isolated or affected by this lockdown.

They are also counselling children who are calling on CHILDLINE 1098 as well as children from 15 childcare institutions in Varanasi and other shelter homes where children are residing during this lockdown. The counsellors are continuously following up with adults and children, especially those who are quarantined to provide further psychosocial support.

On 24th April 2020, SSP (Senior Superintendent of Police) issued a letter stating that police personnel in need of counselling can avail of the services provided by the Varanasi team. As of now, 650 people have been counselled.

Besides counselling people, CHILDLINE Varanasi has provided dry ration to 1400 women and 600 children from migrant families. They have also provided cooked meals to 4800 people who are currently undergoing cancer treatment at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital in Varanasi.



Resources and information on Covid-19

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

Donate to CHILDLINE and support their COVID-19 relief efforts

https://www.childlineindia.org/a/fundraiser_campaign/168477