COVID19- CHILDLINE 1098 Emergency Response: Rajasthan

Once the lockdown was announced, the CHILDLINE teams from various districts of Rajasthan realized that the daily wage earners and migrant laborers will be the worst affected. The CHILDLINE district teams from Rajasthan organized makeshift kitchens to prepare food for them. Apart from supporting the migrant labourers and daily wage earners, CHILDLINE also conducted various relief and outreach activities for the needy.

- Approximately 20000 families have been supported with food supplies, sanitizers, masks and other precautionary materials across the state.
- Around 3000 COVID-19 warriors have been provided with hygiene kits which include masks, sanitizers, hand washing soap, detergents, etc.
- CHILDLINE team members stitched over 15000 masks and distributed them within the local communities.
- Along with food, sanitary and hygiene kits were also provided to migrants in the temporary shelter homes.
- Railway CHILDLINE assisted families with food and other relief materials in the railway notified area.

Meanwhile, the State Government issued circulars to support CHILDLINE’s work during the lockdown. The district administration in all the districts issued access passes to facilitate easy movement for the CHILDLINE team.

Seven child labourers were rescued from ceramics factory in Rajasthan

In spite of Government orders for a strict lockdown, CHILDLINE Bikaner, Rajasthan received information about some children working as bonded labourers at a ceramics factory in a nearby village. The CHILDLINE coordinator immediately informed the concerned persons including Additional Director of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (AD-ICPS), Deputy Superintendent of Police, (DSP), Bikaner, Anti-human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) and Child Welfare Committee (CWC). A joint rescue operation was conducted by the Gajner police and AHTU team members to rescue the children from the ceramics factory. Then, the children were brought to the Gajner police station for screening and sanitization. They were given masks and their medical check-up was conducted at a local community center. CHILDLINE team escorted the children to their office for counseling and later produced them before the CWC. During the counseling the children revealed that a person from their neighbouring village in Odisha had lured them to work in the ceramics factory with a monthly salary of INR 10,000. At the factory, the children were forced to work for nearly 20-22 hours and were beaten up by the factory in-charge in case they refused work. These children were not allowed to contact their family members. They are willing to go back to their family members. As per the CWC orders, children are now placed in quarantine at a shelter home for 14 days. Meanwhile, CHILDLINE is trying to trace their family.

Resources and information on COVID-19
https://www.childlineindia.org/a/covid19

Donate to CHILDLINE and support our COVID-19 relief efforts.
https://www.childlineindia.org/a/fundraiser_campaign/168477