

GRACE COVID-19 RELIEF INITIATIVE

BRIEF REPORT MARCH - JUNE 2020



BACKGROUND

The Novel Coronavirus resulted in massive catastrophe in USA, Iran, UK, Italy, China and many other countries including Pakistan. The World Health Organization WHO declared Emergency throughout the world and followed up by emergency declaration in Pakistan. In the same context a National Plan is enforced immediately to cater this pandemic disease. Along with the Government Humanitarian Organizations started their support to help people in need as per their capacity throughout the country.

CHALLENGES

Due to the lockdown situation, the daily wages labours / workers and those depended on charity and shrines for free foods were unable to earn and feed their families so GRACE Association started a self help Emergency Food Distribution Initiative for economically the most vulnerable families in Bari Imam Islamabad where poorest of poor people are settled in shelters as they were used to get free foods from the Barim Imam Sherine.

In addition, many families living in vulnerable conditions in different villages of Barim Imam such as Noorpur Shahan, Muslim Colony contacted GRACE to help them to feed their children as the organization is supporting families to get enrolled their out of school /street children in schools since 2017. Being aware the severe poor economic situation of those families, GRACE considered their current problem and decided to support the most COVID 19 affected families on self help basis. Also GRACE requested its partner supporting organization, the Global Funds for Children (GFC) to help the vulnerable families in Bari Imam and Skardu, Gilgit-Baltistan where the private school teachers are in no salary crises due to school closures.

Pakistan: COVID - 19

Situation Report

As of 18 June 2020

These data taken from OCHA Pakistan's Situation Report, collected in collaboration with humanitarian partners and Government of Pakistan

973,717

Test Conducted

160,118

Confirmed Cases

59,215

Recovered Cases

3,093

Deaths



KEY INTERVENTIONS

- Distribution of ration packs among 25 families in different villages of Bari Imam Area, Islamabad.
- Distribution of 200 Face Masks in those families in Bari Imam.
- Print and social media campaign around COVID-19 awareness for its prevention and control.
- IEC Interventions including dissemination of flyers among villagers having no TV and internet facilities;
- Supported a campaign for purchase of ventilators for DHQ Hospital Skardu by donating Rs.50,000/- in cash;
- Engaged over 20 GRACE Alumni Volunteers in community services. They mobilized local support for the poor and vulnerable families have foods during lockdowns;
- Distribution of PPEs including Soaps, Hand Sanitizers, Gloves and Masks in Barim Imam and Skardu to front line workers and communities.
- Announcement of prevention measures through Mosques and Streets for community awareness on COVID-19 in Baltistan.





INITIATIVE IMAGES



AWARENESS ON ONLINE LEARNING FOR STUDENTS

CHILDREN NEED ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCES AT HOME

Amidst COVID-19 Lockdowns

No doubt, it is also important to be aware and be up to date with information about this invisible enemy. For this purpose, apart from government efforts, the electronic and print media and everyone contributing a lot. As a result, everywhere people are almost well informed about the coronavirus pandemic symptoms: hot fever, soar throat, dry cough, and trouble in breathing. People also have learned about the precautions: washing hands with soap for 20 seconds, using sanitizers, use of face masks and social distancing. There is a lockdown throughout the country and people are staying at home to save lives. Schools are closed and children are bored in the confinement of homes 24/7 currently. Also, many people and children are under stress and depression.

Therefore, along with the fight against the coronavirus and in this social distancing and schools closure period we need do something more for distance learning for our children. Particularly youth and those related to teaching, learning and psychological fields need to get out virtually and extend their help to people. This help can take people out of stress and anxiety. Youth can help parents deal with their children and engage them in productive activities so that they may continue their learning at home.

Everyone especially youth may again better contribute and help our children using the same smartphones and internet (during SCOM 4G working hours) to find out and share different kinds of media that can be used by teachers and psychologists to reach out to parents and adolescent kids especially at a time when schools are closed for another two months in Pakistan. Either it can be internet or television or radio. Whatever media is used the education departments and private school administrations need to play their role so that a well-organized system is developed and implemented in all urban and rural areas.

GRACE Public School & College (GPSC) Skardu has started doing so using WhatsApp. Parents and children are happy with our efforts. However, there is the internet issue. The SCOM internet is slow and often time there is internet down problems. If 4G internet is provided regularly with speed by SCOM, the only internet service provider in Gilgit-Baltistan, our children may learn using online resources during these schools closed days at home.

This is an important campaign to be carried out urgently and collectively. We all need create a learning environment on social media especially Facebook. This can be done easily by posting something on importance of online learning and or sharing free learning resources via WhatsApp, Facebook, SMS and or Instagram. These social media apps are most commonly used in our area. When there is an online learning environment, the secondary and higher-grade students may easily use online learning facility as well as they may help their siblings to learn and complete school assignments at home. Few learning resource website are given here.

I would request all youth especially GRACE Access, EW and GPSC Graduates/Alumni to contribute in this endeavor by sharing some learning resources on their social media pages to set a trend of online learning for our children at home. These efforts will also help reduce stress, anxiety and other psychological affects in the community.

I wish you all a safe and long healthy life. I also wish soon recovery of all coronavirus infected patients. I salute to the warriors: doctors, paramedical staff and everyone engaged in the fight against coronavirus pandemic around the globe. So sad for the lost lives fighting the covid-19. However, together with solidarity we can fight and defeat coronavirus Inshallah!

Khadim Hussain
GRACE Association Pakistan



MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE TO FRONTLINE HEROES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

GRACE Association chief executive Mr. Khadim Hussain wrote an appreciation column expressing thanking the front line heroes in the fight against coronavirus. This colum

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FLYER FOR COMMUNITY AWARENESS ON COVID-19 FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL

کورونا وائرس سے بچنے کے لئے گھر پر رہئے اور دوسروں کو بھی بچائیے



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COVID - 19

کورونا وائرس 2019

STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.



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علامات



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کھانسنے یا چھینکے وقت
نشت کا استعمال کریں



20 سیکنڈ تک صابن اور
پانی سے اپنے ہاتھ دھوئیں



متاثرہ لوگوں سے
تین فٹ فاصلہ رکھیں



بیماری کی صورت میں
گھر پر رہی رہیں



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