



# EXTENSION ACTIVITY REPORT

## MAGALIRKAANA VAALVAATHAARA

### VILIPUNARVU MUGAAM

19 NOVEMBER, 2020

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## **Introduction:**

Women's empowerment is the most crucial point to be noted for the overall development of a country. Empowerment is the process that creates power in individuals over their own lives, society, and their communities. People are empowered when they can access the opportunities available to them without limitations and restrictions such as in education, profession, and lifestyle.



Empowerment includes the action of raising the status of women through education, raising awareness, literacy, and training, and also give training related to defend ourselves. Women's empowerment is all about equipping and allowing women to make life-determining decisions through different problems in society. The action program “Magalirkaana Vaalvaathaara Vilipunarvu Mugaam” focused on women empowerment by creating awareness about “One-stop Centre” and the various schemes provided to women by the government. The resource persons for this program were Mrs. Nishkala, District coordinator of Magalir Shakthi Kendra, and Ms. Gnana Selvi, Centre Admin for One-Stop Centre. A team of 6 members from the SAKHI One-stop Centre for women came for the program. The program was coordinated by Dr. P.Amuthalakshmi and the student trainees Hanu Priya, Prem Charles, and Priscilla.

## **Timeline:**

**9.45 am:** The student trainees Hanu Priya, Prem Charles, and Priscilla and the faculty coordinator Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi assembled at Pallavaram by 9.45 am and departed to Karalapakkam. They reached Karalapakkam by 11 am.

**11 am – 12.30 pm:** The student trainees visited each and every home in the village and invited the women there to attend the program. The student trainees visited the SHG's functioning over there and invited the women of those groups to attend the program. Many of the women showed interest in attending the program.

**12.30 pm – 1.00 pm:** The student trainees and the faculty coordinator had their lunch.

**1.00 pm – 1.30 pm:** The student trainees mobilized the resources and arranged the hall where the program was to happen. They arranged the chairs, tables, and tied the banners. The needed resources for the program were all collected.

**1.30 pm – 2.15 pm:** The student trainees and the faculty coordinator planned a role play about women's rights and rehearsed it.

**2.15 pm – 2.45 pm:** By 2.15 pm the resource person arrived at the community center. The community women started gathering and the social distancing norms were strictly followed. The chairs were arranged with proper space in between and everyone needed to wear a mask.

**2.45 pm – 4.00 pm:** The program on “Magalirkaana Vaalvaathaara Vilipunarvu Mugaam” began by 2.45 pm. The resource persons spoke about the One-stop center and various schemes that can be utilized by the women provided by the government. The program was followed by a feedback session.

**pm – 4.45 pm:** The community women interacted with the resource person and the project supervisor asking their doubts. Refreshments were given to the participants.

### **Magalirkaana Vaalvaathaara Vilipunarvu Mugaam Program:**

The resource persons for this program were Mrs. Nishkala, District coordinator of Magalia ShakthiKendra, and Ms. Gnana Selvi, Centre Admin for One-Stop Centre. The student trainee Priscilla was the Master of ceremonies (MC).

### **Program Agenda:**

- Tamil Thaaai Vaalthu
- Welcome address
- Panchayat thalaivar Speech
- Resource person facilitation
- Chief guest introduction
- Resource person speech
- Vote of thanks
- National anthem

### **Activities:**

The program began with the Tamil Thaaai Vaalthu. All the participants joined together along with the student trainees and the coordinators. There were around 50 – 60 women who attended the program. Then, the student trainee Prem Charles presented the Welcome address. Mr. Daniel, Karalapakkam Development Project Coordinator facilitated the Panchayat thalaivar Mr. Ramu. The Panchayat Thalaivar Mr. Ramu gave a brief talk about the program and how the village women can be benefited from such a program. Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi facilitated the resource person Mrs. Nishkala with a shawl. The student trainee Priscilla facilitated the other resource person Ms. Gnana Selvi with a shawl.





Then Dr. P. Amuthalakshmi gave a brief introduction about the resource persons and the various activities done by them. The session was completely handed over to the resource person.

### **Awareness Program:**

- ❖ The resource started speaking about the significance of One-stop Centres and the role it plays in the life of a woman. The resource person stated that Sakhi center or One Stop Centre (OSC) is a fully sponsored scheme of the Central Government. These centers are

set up through the Nirbhaya Fund under the National Mission for Empowerment of women

by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. One-stop centers will be integrated with women helplines to provide the following services:

- Emergency response and rescue services
  - Medical assistance.
  - Assistance to women in lodging the FIR.
  - Psychosocial support and counseling.
  - Legal aid and counseling.
  - Shelter
  - Video conferencing facility.
- ❖ The OSCs will be integrated with 181 and other existing helplines. Women affected by violence and in need of redressal, services could be referred to OSC through these helplines.
- ❖ The resource person also spoke about a few schemes that would benefit the community. Some of the schemes listed were,
- Widow pension scheme:
    - ✚ Destitute Widow Pension schemes assure a small sum of money (Rs. 400 to Rs. 1000 per month) to Eligible applicants. A Widow Certificate also helps applicants get a special quota for government Jobs.
    - ✚ The Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) under the National Social Assistance Programme provides a pension of Rs. 300 per month to widowed women in the BPL category and above 40 years of age. After attaining the age of 80 years, the woman is eligible to receive Rs. 500 per month.
  - Educational scholarship schemes:
    - ✚ To achieve and promote girls' education, UGC has introduced a Post Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship for Single Girl Child intending to compensate direct costs of girl education to all levels especially for such girls who happen to be the only girl child in their family.
    - ✚ Welfare Schemes of the School Education Department - Incentive to Girls Students: Scheme of School Education Department Providing scholarship to encourage education among Girls. The benefit provided III – V Rs.500- per year, VI-VII Rs.1000/- per year by Adi Dravidar / Backward Class and Most Backward Class Department.
    - ✚ Pragati scholarship: Pragati is a scheme of AICTE aimed at assisting the Advancement of Girls. participation in Technical Education. Two girls per family are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The annual family income of the applicant must not be more than INR 8 lakh during the preceding financial year. In case the applicant is married, the income of parents/in-laws is considered, whichever is higher.
- ❖ The resource person also spoke about the free supply of Sewing Machine Scheme is being implemented by the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department., to enhance the income of widows, deserted wives, women from economically weaker sections, differently-abled men and women, and socially affected women through self-employment.

- ❖ The resource person also mentioned child marriage and its impact on a girl's life.



Also, insisted on the need to stop such activities and mentioned the support provided by the government, and spoke about the helpline 1098.

- ❖ A piece of brief advice to the parents was given to prevent child abuse like keeping the child in their eyesight and the need to spend more time with the children and taking care of them well.
- ❖ Related case studies were shared with the participants.

After this, there was a feedback session. The women felt that the program was so useful. They started sharing their problems and enquired about various schemes to which they are eligible. Parents of physically challenging children and mildly retarded children were asked to visit their office at Thiruvallur for them to avail the schemes. A poster that had information about the One-stop center and the contact details were distributed among the participants. The student trainee Hanu Priya presented the vote of thanks. The session ended with the National Anthem. After this refreshments were provided to the participants.

### **Conclusion:**

The action program “Magalirkaana Vaalvaathaara Vilipunarvu Mugaam” was indeed an eye-opening and much-needed program for the community. Many women were not aware of so many schemes provided by the government to the disadvantaged and minority to empower them. This session helped them gain knowledge about the One-stop center and its significance in creating an impact in the lives of the women.