

**2016-2017**

# Annual **REPORT**



**SAMARA  
SOCIETY**  
YESHWANTHPUR

Sexuality | Equality | Solidarity

REG. NO: SOR/BLU/DR/1484/2010-11

# ORGANISATION INFORMATION

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<b>Name of Organization</b>	: Samara Society Yeshwanthpur
<b>Registration Date</b>	: 15th March, 2011
<b>Registration Number</b>	: SOR/BLU/DR/1484/2010-11
<b>Registration Office</b>	: Samara Society Yeshwanthpur, No.360, A/3, Building VNR Complex 1st cross, 5th Main road, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022

# SAMARA SOCIETY **PROFILE**

## Total Sites

: 108 sites it covers most of areas of Yeshwanthpur, Malleshwaram, Hebbala, are major sites of Samara Society Yeshwanthpur

Sexual Minorities and sex workers



HIV prevention workers protest: Samara Society Yeshwanthapura organized a protest of HIV prevention workers in Karnataka. For the first time in the history of Karnataka, 100 workers in HIV-AIDS prevention programs from 15 districts across Karnataka came together along with their supporters (activists, trade unionists, professionals, academics and others) to publicly demand their rights as workers. HIV prevention workers staged a massive protest on 30th Oct 2016, Tuesday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm in front of Sir Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, Bangalore.

They raised their voices and put forward their demands to the apex body National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) and its branch - Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS).

Activists demanded that NACO and KSAPS should reduce the number of reporting formats and should pay fair wages as per the minimum wages norms. They are thereby denied their rightful statutory benefits under Minimum Wages Act, Contract Labor (Regulation and Abolition) Act, Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, The Employees' State Insurance Act etc. The protest was organized to pressurize NACO to incorporate these demands in National AIDS Control Policy -V.

## District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) program on 'transgenders and the law' at Dist Level

District Legal Services Authority organised a major programmes on “Transgenders and the Law” for this programme Samara Society Yeswanthapura supported on linkage with local community members and CBOs.

During the project period of 4 years, Samara Society Yeswanthapuar established and strengthened its links with Government, Judiciary and other agencies to make sure that adequate avenues open up for meaningful dialogues. We have had success especially with influencing the judiciary. Apart from this, the Chief Justice of India, Altamas Kabir, invited a member of the transgender community working with us for his swearing in ceremony.

The ex-Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sadananda Gowda, was also very receptive when Samara Society Yeswanthapuar approached him to be part of the Gender Minorities Convention held in Bangalore. Unfortunately, this did not transpire into deeper interactions as he had to step down unexpectedly. This was a rare and brilliant opportunity for us to negotiate with a Government headed by the right wing as they are normally not sensitive to the issues of sexuality. .

## CBO Elections and AGM

In July 2016, the Samara Society Yeswanthapura Committee meeting was organized to discuss the progress of **CBO Elections and AGM:**

In July 2016, the Samara Society Yeswanthapura meeting was organized to discuss the progress of Samara Society Yeswanthapura’s work inBangalore. It was decided that Samara Society Yeswanthapura will identify volunteers in each Site (Cluster of 3 to 4 nearby Sites) to support the process of implementation of GO on transgender welfare and to strengthen the activism work. This was passed to strengthen the spirit of volunteerism and keeping the future funding situation in perspective. During this meeting it was planned to prepare the community for the Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) of Samara Society Yeswanthapura. In this regard, it was decided to conduct consultations with community members in each district for electing district representatives who will then attend the AGBM, which was tentatively fixed for September 2016 and The AGBM was successfully done

## Public Rally at Bangalore district of Karnataka



On 21st December, 2016, in Bangalore urban a rally was organised and a memorandum was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner highlighting the violence faced by sexual minorities by public, goondas and police. It was also demanded to recognise transgenders (male-to-female and female-to-male) and provide non-discriminative health services at the government health care facilities and to provide counselling services. In the rally placards were used demanding social security and social entitlements such as legal recognition, voter IDs, ration cards and housing facilities etc. This was the first public rally of sexual minorities in Bangalore Urban. The public rally resulted in increased visibility and assertion of sexual minorities in Bangalore Urban.

Samara Society Yeswanthapura members organised these two rallies without much support from its members from Bangalore and Bangalore Rural, the main strongholds of Samara Society Yeswanthapura. Samara Society Yeswanthapura along with its local members mobilised sexual minorities and its supporters and organised these rallies. This was an opportunity for the community members to come out openly and show their strength. In these rallies TG's have joined in large numbers. The highlight of these rallies was that the TGs taking part in large numbers which never happened in the past. Through these rallies many community members have come to accept the presence of Samara Society Yeswanthapura and its activities around the districts of Karnataka.

### Committee

Crises Committee, Clinical Committee, DIC Committee

# PROGRAM ACTIVITY



ACTIVITY	TOTAL NO
Clinical Meetings	8
Monthly Crises Meeting	10
Weekly Meeting (Community Meeting)	34
Weekly Staff Meetings	12
Monthly Zonal Meeting	0
Program Review Meetings and Planning	10
Intuitional Meetings (PMC)	5
Intuitional Meetings (Board Meeting)	10

# ADVOCACY



- Approaching Voter ID, Pan Card, Rental Agreement, Ration Card for MTH Community
- Approaching For Name change And Gender Certificate
- Community Meeting, community Capacity Building
- SHG Formations 2 Groups
- Protest and Rally
- Events
- Meeting with other partners and Organization

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND OUT COME

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- The no of the community membership increased
- HIV testing done with in the governments ICTC and community accessing the services
- Counseling follow up done
- Family acceptances
- Crises Intervention done and resolve within
- SHG implementing
- 345 of social entitlements services accessed by the community