



OASIS INDIA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

INCLUSION | APRIL 2020

We are all facing a difficult reality during the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) with over 1,920,258 affected in 210 countries around the world. Although many are quarantined in the comfort of their homes, there are many families in our communities that suffer financially as several of them are daily wagers. In order to be transparent about our response to the pandemic, here's an update on the relief work we have done in our communities.

We, at Oasis India are doing everything possible to help those in our communities during this time of crisis.



Tailoring women creating cloth masks



Change Agents distributing masks in the community



Distribution of masks for beneficiaries at Oasis



Creating awareness on COVID-19 for those in the programmes and in the community



*Awareness on COVID-19 and distribution of masks were done by staff before the Government lockdown and by change agents in the community during lockdown.

Relief Work in Mumbai

The Phase 1 of our relief work in Mumbai is already underway. Sex workers in the red-light area are daily wagers who are suffering greatly during this lockdown. The first step was to send aid to direct beneficiaries by providing groceries and personal care kits. Our staff have been in touch with the change agents in the communities who have a list of names. These change agents are supplying groceries for the over 110 families in the community on a regular basis.

In addition to this, groceries were supplied to 50 families in the Nalasopara community in collaboration with another NGO. Staff along with change agents and volunteers supplied dry ration, masks and soaps for 300 families in Nalasopara. We have also shared digital awareness on Whatsapp groups for families in the community.

Women in the tailoring course have stitched masks that have been distributed to after-school programme and computer class beneficiaries.

Women in our rehabilitation home, Nirmal Bhavan are being counselled everyday through Whatsapp calls and are being engaged with daily work

Assessment of Phase 2 is in its process. Families receiving the groceries in the red-light area will continue to receive as we gather information from police, organisations and Community Based Organisers on families in the street who have not received any aid. In the coming weeks, we will work on assisting and helping these families.

Relief Work in Chennai, Bangalore and Punganur

In the South, we have worked on disseminating information on symptoms of Coronavirus and safety precaution awareness in the Chennai and Bangalore communities. Women in the tailoring class have been stitching masks for themselves and their families.

In the coming weeks, we plan on providing dry ration and hygiene kit for over 600 families in Chennai and in outer areas of Bangalore and Bangalore-Mysore areas. These areas are inhabited by migrants from the inter and intra-state who have been really affected. We will also be helping 450 families in Punganur who are all farmers with no income now to fend for their families.

We work in Kannagi Nagar which is one of the largest slum resettlement areas in Chennai. Most of the people living here are daily wage labourers and those working in the unorganized sector like housemaids, tailors, auto drivers etc earning a weekly/daily income. Due to the lockdown, most of them have little or no income. The residents do not have any personal care kits like masks. We plan on providing immediate support to 380 families in 2 blocks at Ezhil nagar.



HELP US TO REACH OUT TO MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN NEED OF SUPPORT

GIVE TODAY

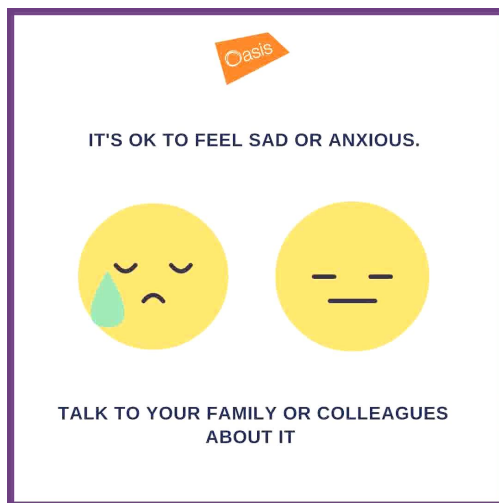


When hands are visibly dirty,
wash your hands for 20 sec
with clean water...

Otherwise, use alcohol-based
handrub or soap and water...

Source: Who

Your Mental Health Matters



It is normal for you to feel sad, stressed, confused, scared or angry during this time of crisis. Here are some tips to stay mentally health and positive.

- Try talking to people whom you trust and can help you. Contact your friends and family.
- If you stay at home, maintain a healthy lifestyle – including proper diet, sleep, exercise and social contacts with loved ones through email and phone.
- Don't use smoking, alcohol or other drugs to deal with your emotions. If you feel overwhelmed, talk to a health worker or counselor. Have a plan, where to go to and how to seek help for physical and mental health needs, if required. Get the facts. Gather information that will help you accurately determine your risk so that you can take reasonable precautions. Find a credible source you can trust as WHO website, a local or state public health agency.
- Draw on skills you have used in the past that have helped you to manage previous life's adversities and use those skills to help you manage your emotions during the challenging time of this outbreak.
- Limit worry and agitation by lessening the time you and your family spend watching or listening to media coverage that you perceive as upsetting.

Source: WHO



Here's a very important message from our after-school programme children, Blue Edge youth and women from our self-help groups.

[Watch Video](#)

