

Sexual and Reproductive Health for Migrants

Disha Foundation piloted a project designed to improve the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) of migrants in Nashik, Maharashtra. The project covered about 15,000 migrants in Nashik, of which approximately 40-45 per cent were women in the age group of 12 - 55 years. The project adopted a participatory approach for improving the quality of life of migrants. Migrant workers were directly involved in articulating their needs and identifying approaches for getting access to public services. The project also initiated needs-based advocacy with authorities to address the SRH needs of migrants.

Disha Foundation introduced a formal referral process for migrants to government health services, to provide better access to health care in Nashik. A triplicate referral form was developed for migrants, health providers and Disha Foundation itself. Disha Foundation refers migrants to health services through its trained community leaders from various migrant halt points and labour markets. The form is helpful for migrants in getting direct treatment from doctors without much delay and discussion. The medical history and related details of migrants are provided in the form, while the reverse side of the form provides contact information of all available government health services in Nashik.

Source: Disha Foundation (www.dishafoundation.wordpress.com)
Social Inclusion of Internal Migrants in India, UNESCO, 2013

