

Spotlight on the Many Voices of the Early Childhood Workforce

Solutions Summit



PARTNERS' FORUM 2018
NEW DELHI



14:00 - 18:00, 11 December 2018
Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

PMNCH Partners' Forum 2018 Side Event



Asha Vijay Ghavghave
Anganwadi Worker, Degma Khurd Village,
Nagpur, India

Mrs. Asha Vijay Ghavghave has been an Anganwadi Worker in the Degma Khurd village for 28 years. Degma Khurd is a remote village with a predominantly tribal population, around 33 Km away from Nagpur. Asha is Educated up to 12th standard. When Asha came to Degma Khurd village, she was among the very few females in the village with a population of around 700 people and 170 households. Asha had a keen interest in young children and their development, playing with children and creating a space for their play, learning and development. Looking at the situation of childcare and traditions among the community in the village, she took the initiative to start a *Balwadi* (playschool). After 3 years, the government proposed Asha open an Anganwadi centre and all villagers and the local village government nominated Asha to run the centre. For 28 years Asha has been taking care of children under 6 from the village. She actively participates in training on Early Childhood Development conducted by ICDS and the Stepping Stones Project.



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Report on Participation of Stepping Stones Team In

"SPOTLIGHT ON THE MANY VOICES OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE"

The side event focused on placing a spotlight on the Early Childhood Development (ECD) workforce, and as part of the event, Stepping Stones Team participated in session on Storytelling with a Workforce Member.

Stepping Stones Team received a formal invitation from the organizers of event [Bernard van Leer Foundation; American Academy of Pediatrics; Children's Investment Fund Foundation; International Confederation of Midwives; PATH; Oak Foundation; Grand Challenges (Canada)] for participation in "SPOTLIGHT ON THE MANY VOICES OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE" held at Casuarina Hall, New Delhi on 11th December 2018.

From India, we got the opportunity to represent the voices of AWW. Mrs. Asha Vijay Ghavghave the Anganwadi worker, supporting Stepping Stones represented. In this event, she was interviewed and felicitated. Also peer-mentor, Mrs. Arti Parteki shared her role and interacted with the other workforce presenter attendees from different countries. The session was about "How important is developing an ECD workforce for implementing the Nurturing Care Framework at scale. The front line ECD staffs of Stepping Stones were accompanied and were facilitated by Mrs. Shital Telrandhe, Data Manager, Stepping Stones Project.

On 12th December 2018, the Stepping Stones Team participated in Partners' Forum 2018 and interacted with representatives of ECD initiatives from 75 countries and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the forum organised in association with the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH).