

FIELDWORK REPORT

MASTER'S OF ART'S IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

GIOA UNIVERSITY

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Fieldwork Report

My name is Ashanka A. Bagkar, studying in Women's Studies, Manohar Pawarikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy, Goa University. For our second semester in subject of Fieldwork Skills and Practice, we all were placed in different agencies for our fieldwork. I was placed in organisation called "Voluntary Health Association of Goa". VHAG was began in year 2001 and it is a non-governmental organisation working for the improvement of health of the people in state of Goa. The main office of this association is located at Government Colony, Santa Inez, Panjim-Goa. There are working some projects in different Talukas under this association, I was placed in the Pernem Taluka with project name "Arogya Express Mobile Healthcare project, Pernem-Goa. Arogya Express is a Medical Mobile healthcare unit which was started with an aim to provide an primary healthcare facilities, early detection and timely interventions/treatments for the people living in the remote/rural areas of Pernem Taluka. They are also given some other rural areas in Bardez, Bicholim and Sakhlim Talukas. The project vision is to contribute in providing early diagnosis and timely treatment to the children, adults and elderly ones and to increase cure rate. This association is running under Colovicon Asia Pvt. Ltd, which is an Pharmaceutical company located in Verna, Goa. This company is collaboration with VHAG, they provides their 10% profit for the welfare of people through this association. They have their mobile medical van with an equipments of First Aid kits, Sugar testing equipments, blood pressure check up things and other necessary medicines. The staff members in this association including of guide, doctor, nurse, driver and other members (helpers). The mobile van operates in a particular rural areas on based of pre-set monthly table/planner. Monthly planner includes date, day, village name, panchayat name, location and camp details. On every Saturday they are having office day where they have to do their office

work and on sundays there is holiday for them. From every Monday to Friday they are having general medical camps. On these days they provide free medical check ups, free distributions of medicines for the patients, looking on decisions of diabetes patients, follow ups and tracking of patients and also gives education to the community and children/school students about general health awareness.

Our fieldworks were started from 5th February 2021 and were fixed on every Fridays. But because of some reason they told me to join from next Friday. I had given a guide there named as Vishwaji Korigaonkar who were guiding me and helped me in my fieldwork. As we were told to complete our 11 fieldworks, I managed to complete 9 of my fieldworks from which 5 were office days and 4 were general medical camps. On office days there use to have work like removing of MRP rates from medicines, checking of follow ups, making data of patients from different areas, looking of their recovery, making monthly planners, monthly salary sheet, filling of attendance sheet (books), making of quarterly report from — to —, etc. On general medical camps they have to go in rural areas which are given to them. As they are working in Pernem Taluka, they have also given some other rural areas from Bicholim, Bardez and Sakhalin Talukas. The areas now they are working in like Adwalpal, Otharwada, Latam barcem, Ozarim, Kavarim, Maulinguem, Dhargalim, Ploing, Sal, Amora, Tanodiwada, Mercuem, Dumashe, Amthane, Mulgaon, Kothambi, Naikwada, Kisanpani, etc. In my fieldworks in office I was provided with activities like removing of MRP rate from newly brought medicines, arranging of those medicines in order in box, arranging of case papers in proper order in particular area's file, writing follow ups of patients on registration file and also on paper, writing closed follow ups on blank paper, writing the data of anemia cases from each village from their registration book. My fieldworks in general medical camps I got a chance to visit rural areas like Mercuem,

Dumashe, Advalpal, Amthane and Pising village, where they don't have proper resources, lack of transport facilities, lack of healthcare facilities. My first fieldwork camp was in two places (Mencuem and Dumashe). As it was my first camp I had no idea about it or how it works, I was more observing the things there. Later they gave me work of passing up of case papers to doctor from registration table. Then they send me with their other members in village to conduct an survey. We were told to ask people about their name, no. of family members, contact no., no. of children, toilet facilities, water facilities (tap or well), etc. In other camp I got chance to do registration of case paper and arranging those case papers in order. The case paper includes name of the patient, age, sex, weight, temperature, contact no., blood group, address, about their qualification, etc. I was also told to go with their other staff members in village to call people for their general checkups and to tell them about their camps. I also got a chance to attend their one of the important camp of (blood group check up), which was hired by VHAB. Here I had to take them for their blood check up in order and write their names for the same. In one of the camp I was told to conduct campaigning work, where I was told to ask them about their ward/area population, toilet facilities, water facilities, no. of houses, electricity, schools, ration shops, source of income, transport facilities, roads, and so on.

As I completed 9 of my fieldworks and after completing 9 of the fieldworks, I had decided to do remaining 3 fieldworks individually in their camps. I had decided to make posters and conduct some sessions or like talks on some or two topics. I had also made a poster on covid-19 second wave and decided to do on 9th one fieldwork. But because of some emergency they had to go early for the camp and told me to go in office and do any office works. I kept that poster in office and decided to do on

next camp, but because of sudden rise in covid - cases I had to stop my field work.

So, basically, my observations in fieldwork were more of like functioning of association, how it works, how staff members are working, what types of work they are doing in office and in camps, how their medical van is working, etc. I observed them while making of their salary sheet on computer, arranging of case papers, registration of case papers of patients, writing of their attendance on their attendance book, I also observed them while making of their quarterly report of camps, also observed them arranging of files, medicines, etc. During camps I observed how medical van is working, like after entering into any village they call people on wife to come for their checkups and starts hon of van, so that people could hear that voice and come for their checkups. I observed that after entering to the place they keep that van to a open place and set up chairs, sanitation things, registration table and VHAG board outside the van. Apart from this I observed that majority of the patients were coming above 45 years of age and most of the cases were of sugar (diabetes), joint (bone) pain, headache, anemia and some other diseases. There were no issues of patients, they were very nice and polite to us. In some areas people were coming in less numbers. The chief executive and head of other project use to visit in between four camps and use to observe the functioning of camp. In one of the camp at the time of lunch I observed some ladies covering their clothes in baskets. I went there and saw that they were washing their clothes using the water coming from hills. There I also observed that people have no proper facilities, lack of transport, roads are not well constructed, no shops, lack of water and toilet facilities, they have their fields (agriculture) of vegetables, chillies, rice etc.

It was very great experience while working in this agency. I could get a chance to learn many things through my these fieldworks in this association. I could able to know more about this association and very knowledgeable for me. They are doing great job with their aim and purpose of reaching out to the people living in remote areas and providing them free medical healthcare and free medicines. So far Pennem VHAA project has completed with total 3540 beneficiaries. After looking to this number of beneficiaries I felt very happy and grateful that I got chance to work in such association who is working for others needs. Their all the camps are always well organised and also well functions. They keeps all the patients record properly, does all their work timely. If they are visiting any place on any particular day then they use to inform panch or any other member about it, so that they can tell people about it. My guide Vishwoli ma'am did her all the possible way to help and guide me in my fieldworks. If I could not understand any work then she use to explain me very clearly, even other staff also helped me in my fieldwork. I could also got to learn about the living conditions of people from such areas, how they facing problems like lack of toilet and water facilities, people have their fields (agriculture) but they don't get enough money from it, roads are not proper (kachha roads). It was very nice and great experience to work with them.

My fieldwork in Voluntary Health Association of Goa also linkages or relates to some of the theories learned in the class. Theories which relates to my fieldwork are such as social work, social work in group, direct or indirect observations, report writing, communication, conducting of surveys, ~~sample survey~~ survey using paper and pencil (pen).

After completing my fieldwork in this association I definitely recommend to the future students to choose this association for their fieldwork. They will too feel happy and will have ~~very~~ great experience after choosing this and working with them. This association is really doing a great job of providing free medicines to the needy ones. In end I say thank you to my ma'am Prachi for choosing this association for me, I will also say thank you to my guide vishwali Kargankar for helping and guiding me in my fieldwork and also thank you to all the other staff members who also helped me.

Thank you.