Benefits of local calendar events

HANDS initiated MARVI project in marginalized area of district Umerkot. Villages of District Umerkot, are the places without proper health facilities especially Family Planning and Reproductive Health services. HANDS through its MARVI Workers initiated to provide these services at their door step.

Moli Bai from Malhi Paro, Busstan is one of these MARVI Workers working on Family Planning and Reproductive Health services in district Umertkot. When Moli Bai initially came for 06 days training, she faced many difficulties in providing services. Almost everyone in the community was surprised to see her working as a Health Worker. She had to face many questions coming from them. When Moli came back to office, she said she could not proceed any further. People did not understand her explanations and did not want to take medicines.

HANDS/TRDP team advised her that if she starts arranging local calendar events, they all would come to her and when they join her regularly, it would be easier to convey messages. She took this advice seriously and she started gathering people for local events. The first event she managed with a gathering of 50 women at her home. HANDS team also participated in that event and gave awareness about the MARVI project, their needs and community involvements required to draw advantages out of that. They all accepted it and cooperated very much with Moli and shared their problems with her. After that Moli’s confidence increased drastically and she is now visiting homes regularly, providing them services with diligence. People in the community are so happy now that they voted Moli as best Social Worker. A substantial amount of participation is increased in the local calendar events after this practice and they are made aware on the Family Planning and Reproductive Health. Looking at this achievement, all the other MARVI Workers started to adopt the same strategy. Using this strategy also helps them engage the community in social work.

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