

**PG DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK**  
**HOLY CROSS**  
**INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**KOZHIKODE**

**BLOCK FIELD WORK SUMMARY**  
**REPORT**

**KUDUMBASHREE STATE MISSION, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

Submitted to  
Executive Director  
Kudumbashree

Submitted by  
Ms.Aswathi.S

Submitted on  
08/02/2018

## **DECLARATION**

I, Ms. Aswathi.S, the fourth semester students, who were done my fourth semester, block field work at Kudumbashree State Mission, Thiruvananthapuram from 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017. I hereby declare that all information and details mentioned in the report are true and correct in the best of my knowledge.

Place:

Date

Yours Sincerely

Ms.Aswathi.S

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

‘Gratitude can never be expressed in words, but this is only the deep perception which makes the words to flow from one’s inner heart.’

With great pleasure, I take this opportunity to acknowledge those who helped and supported me during this fieldwork. First I thank ‘God the Almighty’ for the abundant blessings showered upon me.

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to our supervisor Mrs.Soya Thomas, State Programme Manager of Gender and Balasabha, Kudumbashree whose concern guidance and valuable advice helped me to complete this work.

I express sincere thanks to Mr.JijishM, Head of the department of Social Work. I express sincere thanks to Dr.Sr.ShynyGeorge (Principal of HCIMT Calicut).

And all other staffs and workers in the Kudumbashree Office in Thiruvananthapuram, Kozhikode and Pathanamthitta for their support during the field work days.

I am thankful to those who helped me directly and indirectly to complete this fieldwork and to make it a success’.

## **INTRODUCTION**

As part of curriculum for the accomplishment of Master's degree in social work, the students have to do one month block placement in an agency. The purpose of the block placement is to use the classroom learning in to the practical world, it is helping the trainee to adjust with the practical environment. Trainee got an opportunity to do their block placement at Kudumbashree, State Poverty Eradication Mission, from 12 October 2017 to 12 December 2017. The main area of the block placement is Trivandrum, Pathanamthitta and Kozhikode.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE FIELD WORK**

- To understand the agency and its activities.
- To integrate theoretical knowledge into practical level.
- To improve the practical skill.
- To develop the skills in organization and communication.
- To study the role of social worker in the agency.
- To conduct activities with proper planning with the involvement of people

## **PROFILE OF THE AGENCY**

### **Name of the agency**

Kudumbashree, State Poverty Eradication Mission

### **Address**

Kudumbashree State Mission

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, TRIDA Rehabilitation Building,

Medical College P.O.,

Thiruvananthapuram

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## **Mission**

There are two distinguishing characteristics to Kudumbashree which set it apart from the usual SHG model of empowerment. These are,

- The universality of reach – from its very inception Kudumbashree has attempted to bring every poor woman in the state within its fold, as a consequence of which today Kudumbashree is present in every village panchayat and municipality, and in nearly every ward, colony and hamlet. The sheer spread is mind boggling, and it is only because the local community of women drive the system that it has managed to persevere.
- The scope of community interface in local governance – the functioning of Kudumbashree is tied up to the development initiatives of the local government be it for social infrastructure, welfare or right based interventions or for employment generation. From food security to health insurance, from housing to enterprise development, from the national wage employment programme to the jagratha samiti, every development experience depends on Kudumbashree to provide the community interface.

It is using these opportunities that Kudumbashree strives to convert a microfinance led financial security model into a more comprehensive model of local economic development.

## **The mission statement**

To eradicate absolute poverty in ten years through concerted community action under the leadership of local governments, by facilitating organization of the poor for combining self-help with demand-led convergence of available services and resources to tackle the multiple dimensions and manifestations of poverty, holistically.

## **Vision**

Kudumbashree strives to develop the model of a micro finance led financial security process into a more comprehensive model of local economic development under the aegis of local governments. This would hopefully sustain the transformation of the local governance agenda from welfare to entitlement. Such a transformation does not

come about easily and requires rewriting established administrative and development practices

It requires the community acquiring voice and being heard. It requires institutionalizing processes that allow for participation and meaningful contribution. And when we speak of community we speak of the people for whom government is a palpable entity influencing the quality of their lives, as well as of the people on the periphery, both social and physical, for whom manifold deprivations have snuffed out hope of change.

We speak of the women who are finding, through collective endeavours, the stepping stones leading from participation to citizenship in its truest sense. It is through the realization of citizenship that Kudumbashree would be able to significantly address issues of equity and justice.

## **Objectives**

1. Identification of poor families through risk indices-based surveys, with the active participation of the poor and the communities to which they belong.
2. Empowering the poor women to improve the productivity and managerial capabilities of the community by organizing them into community-based organizations (CBOs).
3. Encouraging thrift and investment through credit by developing CDSs to work as informal bank of the poor.
4. Improving incomes of the poor through improved skills and investment for self-employment.
5. Ensuring better health and nutrition for all.
6. Ensuring BASIC amenities like safe drinking water, sanitary latrines improved shelter and healthy environment.
7. Ensuring a minimum of 5 years of primary education for all children, belonging to risk families.

8. Enabling the poor to participate in the decentralization process through the Community Development Society (CDS), as it is a subsystem of the local government, under which it works.

### **Current running programs**

Kudumbashree, with its central objectives of poverty eradication and women empowerment, has three strategic domains in which programmes are formulated and rolled out through the community network. The three programme domains are:

- Economic Empowerment
- Social Empowerment
- Women Empowerment

### **Economic Empowerment**

Programmes on the economic Empowerment domain envisage helping the women members and group start and run enterprises. Kudumbashree believes that the spread and growth of such enterprises are critical for local economic development.

The key programmes in Economic Empowerment are:

- Micro-Finance
- Collective Farming
- Livestock Farming
- Micro Enterprises
- Market Development
- Value Chain Based Strategies
- Collectives and Consortiums

## **Social Empowerment**

Social empowerment programmes focus on inclusion. There are sections of the poor that are left out of the fold of development programmes including those of the Kudumbashree network. There are sections that are even too weak to be part of the community network. Social Empowerment programmes are steps towards ensuring the inclusion of such vulnerable sections. Major programmes are the following.

- Destitute Identification and Rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation of Mentally Challenged Persons
- Children's Programmes

## **Women Empowerment**

Women Empowerment programmes are for the women of the community network. These programmes aim at transforming the community network into an agency of women for their overall empowerment and development. Some of the important initiatives include the following.

- Gender Self Learning Programme
- Programmes for Elimination of Violence Against Women

## **Other Programmes;**

### **Urban Poverty Alleviation Schemes**

Kudumbashree Mission is the State Urban Development Agency of the Government of Kerala. The Mission plays a pivotal role in coordinating urban poverty alleviation schemes of the Central and State governments. For the Central urban schemes, Kudumbashree Mission is the Nodal Agency for implementation.

Kudumbashree is the implementing agency for urban poverty eradication programmes of the Government of India.

These programmes include:

- Swarna Jananti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), and the two employment programmes under it: Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) and Urban

Wage Employment Programme (UWEP). Subsequently, when SJSRY was re-launched as National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), Kudumbashree became its implementing agency too

- National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)
- Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY)

When the following centrally sponsored programmes were initiated, the Kudumbashree Mission became the implementing agency for them as well.

- Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and its components: Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) for Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi urban conglomerations, Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) for smaller towns, Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) aiming at slum-free cities.
- Urban Statics for Human Resources and Assistance (USHA).
- Rajiv Rinn Yojana (RRY).
- Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing Urban Poor (IHSUP).

Kudumbashree Mission's role in the urban development and poverty alleviation programmes included the following.

- Facilitation and sensitisation
- Staffing, including hiring of expert services
- Empowering urban local governments including Municipal Corporations and Municipalities
- Project design
- Training
- Community interface management and mobilisation
- Project monitoring

## **Kudumbashree's Programmes in Other States**

Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Government of India has recognised Kudumbashree as a National Resource Organisation (KS-NRO) under the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM). KS-NRO is expected to provide technical and implementation assistance to the State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs) that partner with it. KS-NRO works with partner-SRLMs on two domains.

1. PRI-CBO Convergence
2. Enterprise Development

PRI-CBO Convergence Projects, as the name indicates, address the convergence between PRIs and the community based organisations (CBO) being promoted under NRLM. KS-NRO has tied up with States to train and place Micro Enterprise Consultants (MECs) for promoting enterprises of the poor as part of enterprise development.

### **History of the organization.**

Kudumbashree, the Kerala State Poverty Eradication Mission was launched on 17th May 1998 inaugurated by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The Mission aims to eradicate absolute poverty within a definite time frame of 10 years under the leadership of Local Self Governments formed and empowered by the 73rd and 74th Amendments of the Constitution of India. The Mission launched by the State Government with the active support of Government of India and NABARD has adopted a different methodology in addressing poverty by organizing the poor in to community-based organizations. The Mission follows a process approach rather than a project approach. Kudumbashree, a community organization of Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs) of women in Kerala, has been recognized as an effective strategy for the empowerment of women in rural as well as urban areas: bringing women together from all spheres of life to fight for their rights or for empowerment. The overall empowerment of women is closely linked to economic

empowerment. Women through these NHGs work on a range of issues such as health, nutrition, agriculture, etc. besides income generation activities and seeking micro credit.

Kudumbashree differs from conventional programmes in that it perceives poverty not just as the deprivation of money, but also as the deprivation of basic rights. The poor need to find a collective voice to help claim these rights.

### **ACTIVITY PERFORMED**

#### **❖ Conducted a study in vigilante group**

Trainee has been conducted a study in Vigilante Group. The Vigilante Group spread its wings over fourteen districts of Kerala, the aim of the same is to protect the people from the crime and providing legal assistance (in need) and other facilities to them. A vigilante group contain five to ten members for dealing the issues in a ward. The community counsellors ensure all support and help from their side and it works in a systematic manner. Drugs, harassments and sexual abuses are the major cases reported by vigilante group.

So trainee decided to conduct the study in the vigilante group in two district namely Pathanamthitta and Kozhikode, to check the effectiveness and strategies of the vigilante group by comparing the same in two districts. For that trainee has visited seven panchayath in these two districts and collected the required data for the study from the vigilante group. Data including current status, strategies, limitations

## ❖ **Meetings**

### 1. Gender team meeting

The gender teams are one state programme manager, two assistant programme managers, and two project assistant. Trainee attended the gender team meeting for discussing the day to day activities and future programs for gender self - learning program. In that meeting the team has the right to decide the full programmes in Kerala.

### 2. Kudumbashree District Programme Manager's Review meeting

Trainee attended the review meeting of district programme manager of Kerala. In that meeting fourteen district program managers are participated for presenting the last month's activity reports with the presence of Executive Director.

## ❖ **Field visit**

As part of the Block Placement trainee got a chance to visit the field of the Kudumbashree.

### 1. Snehita Thiruvananthapuram

Snehita work to avail support and help to the shield less women in the society. The main aim of the centre is to provide help and support to women and children who are in distress and voice for their issues and concerns also prevent, protect and prevail over domestic violence through advocacy, empowerment and social change. Snehita facilitating the women in distress to access the service of other institutional agencies (legal services authority, police department, CWC, NGO'S) to address the issues. Trainee has been collected the last month's details of the cases from Snehita. Majority cases are reported from the Domestic Violence and Sexual abuses.

2. District Mission Office Thiruvananthapuram

Trainee has been visited the District Mission Office for enquiring the current status of gender programme activities from programme manager. Trainee understood from their response they are implementing the gender programmes very actively with the help of state mission. The programs are vulnerability mapping, vigilante group, Snehita, Community counselling, Rangasree etc

3. District Mission Office Pthanamthitta

Trainee has been visited the Pathanamtitta district mission office for collecting the details of Vigilante Group in that CDS, and also visited Ezhukulam and Kdampanad CSD. From the programme manager's trainee understand that, the vigilante group programme is in the initial stage there in pathanamthitta district.

4. District Mission Office Kozhikode

5. Perambra Panchayath Kozhikode

6. Balussry Panchayath Kozhikode

7. Koyilandi Municipality Kozhikode

## **LEARNINGS**

- ❖ The trainee have learnt more about the agency.
- ❖ The trainee improved the practical skill.
- ❖ The trainee achieved communication skills.
- ❖ Trainee learnt more details about the Kudumbashree programmes especially in the Gender section: Gender programmes are Vigilante group, Vulnerability mapping, Gender corner, Snehita, Gender self-learning programme etc.
- ❖ Trainee understood more about counselling through counsellor of Snehita.
- ❖ Trainee improved the confidence in research, through conduct the study in Vigilante Group.
- ❖ Trainee realized the strength and weakness: - strength of the trainee is that trainee able to adjust with anywhere and anybody at any situation
- ❖ Trainee learnt to apply the social work principles into the practical level: - especially principle of acceptance, trainee accepted the “people what they are as such” in the field..
- ❖ Trainee learnt how to interact with Superior officers and how to behave in a meeting.
- ❖ Trainee learned about how to conduct a session, depends on the situations.
- ❖ Trainee learnt how to conduct a study alone in an unfamiliar place with a proper planning and with the involvement of community members.

## **THE SOCIAL WORK PRINCIPLES APPLIED**

### **1. Principle of acceptance**

Trainee mingle with people from different area and also accept them how they are physically and mentally, its helped trainee to complete the study in the Vigilante Group.

### **2. Principle of individualization**

The uniqueness of the individual and their inherent values were taken in to consideration while dealt with the every individual. The trainee's behaviours were based on the recognition of individuals worth and personal differences

## **EVALUATION**

The Block Placement at Kudumbashree State Mission, Thiruvananthapuram was a new and different experience for the trainees. The trainee got number of chances to interact with Kudumbashree team especially in the state level. The bloke placement helped the trainee to understand the professional way of approach through the interaction with state mission team. State mission made a chance for trainee to learn and participate the all activities of the Kudumbashree especially in the Gender programme. So trainee conducted a study for Gender team and made a report of that study. The trainees could fulfil the most the objectives of fieldwork which was given by department and Gender state programme manager of Kudumbashree..

## **CONCLUSION**

The trainees successfully completed their Block Placement in Kudumbashree State Mission, Thiruvananthapuram. The trainees started the work in 12/10/2017 and completed on 11/12/2017. Through the field work the trainees understood more about the agency and their activities through the work. The majority days of the field work trainee involved the kudumbashree Gender programme in other district namely as Kozhikode and Pthanthitta. During the block placement trainee participated in lots of activities like conducted a research in Vigilante Group, field visit, attended in the state level Kudmbashree meetings in Trivandrum.