

'Supporting the Poor in India during the Pandemic' Project Report

Project Timeline: May to July 2021

Project Partner:

The Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief (EFICOR)

Project Background

With the pandemic raging worldwide, developing countries have faced life-threatening circumstances and severe economic blows. Many families in India are living in scarcity and anxiety; many have been left unemployed and hungry and face the ongoing threat of disease.

CEDAR allocated funds twice in 2021 to support our partner, EFICOR's relief work. EFICOR has been our partner since 1993; they have served and developed an extensive network in the Indian community. CEDAR's allocation of funds in 2021 focused on supporting slum dwellers in Delhi by providing them with cash, employment opportunities, and sanitary supplies.

Project Details



Staff distributing pandemic medical supplies.



Cash for Work allows residents to obtain necessities and build their communities simultaneously.

1. Cash Transfer or Coupons (approximately HK\$200 each)

Each household living near the malls and markets was given cash coupons to support families with their purchase of daily necessities. Meanwhile, households who lived in more remote areas were given cash.

2. Cash For Work

In Bihar, immigrant workers who have been unemployed could work at EFICOR project (building an 800-meter long approach road) sites for 20 days and receive 250 Indian rupees per day (equivalent to approximately HK\$25). Apart from catering to the needs of people in the region, this method also helps create resources and infrastructure for the community.

3. Promoting Hygiene Awareness

EFICOR promoted hygiene awareness in the community by teaching residents about the correct usage of masks, social distancing, personal hygiene, and the importance of vaccination. Masks and soap were also distributed to the community.



Staff are teaching the community members on pandemic prevention.

Number of Beneficiaries and Funding Amount

CEDAR's two grants amounted to around HK \$468,000. Cash transfers and coupon projects benefitted 1,000 poor families; Cash For Work and pandemic relief work benefitted 291. The two grants helped 6,455 recipients in total. The distribution of masks and soap benefitted 6,350 in total.

Beneficiary's Story



Saida and her children.

Saida is a slum dweller and a single mother from Delhi. Her husband left home a few years ago, leaving her to care for five children on her own. Her two eldest daughters are married, leaving Saida with another three children living under the same roof.

Saida earns 250-300 Indian rupees (approximately HK\$25-30) daily. She does so by scavenging and selling waste. Although her foot has problems, Saida is her family's sole support and backbone.



During the pandemic, Saida suffered from aggravated foot problems and with no treatment options due to her grave financial difficulty. Fortunately, EFICOR provided Saida with a cash transfer of 2,000 Indian rupees (approximately HK\$200) to help her get through such trying times.

Saida said, 'I used this sum of money to buy medicine and food, such as rice, oil, beans and vegetables. This money has been very important to me.' For Saida and her family, the money was extremely timely, as they were facing many challenges at the time.

Your Response

Although Saida's difficulties have been partly eased, she still relies on scavenging to bring in an income; as such, she continues to face various challenges - a typical situation faced by the poor in India. Therefore, we implore you to bear their needs in mind and consider donating to help them.

Donation

Online Donation	Click here for online donation
Cheque	Please make it payable to CEDAR FUND
Direct Deposit	HSBC: 004-600-385678-001 BEA: 015-185-68-00931-7SSA BOC: 012-581-2-020114-7 DBS: 016-478-001364162
Visa / Master Card	Online Donation or download the 'Monthly Donation Form'
PayMe	Scan the code 
Faster Payment System	FPS ID: 3354016 or scan the code in the online banking 

After donation, please send a completed Donation Form, enclosing with cheque, bank-in slip or screenshot of successful payment along with your name, contact phone number and mailing address to us via mail, email or WhatsApp.

Address: CEDAR Fund, G.P.O. Box 3212, Hong Kong

Email: sharing@cedarfund.org

WhatsApp (for donation matters only): 5160 7549