



CHILDLINE NEWSLETTER

23rd May 2020

COVID19 - CHILDLINE 1098 Emergency Response: Maharashtra



The CHILDLINE teams across Maharashtra are organizing online art and craft activities, keeping children engaged during this lockdown. In Sangli, CHILDLINE conducted online drawing and essay competition. Nearly 236 children participated in the drawing competition and 227 children participated in the essay competition. Railway CHILDLINE Ballarsha held a drawing competition with approximately 35 children from slum areas.

In Ratnagiri, CHILDLINE collaborated with teachers and parents to organize arts and craft competition via WhatsApp where nearly 50 children participated. Besides, emergency relief activities in Maharashtra include:

- CHILDLINE Nashik coordinated with the Municipal Corporation and arranged nearly 100kgs of vegetables for 35 individuals and 40 families of pavement dwellers, beggar's home and shelter homes. Safety kits were provided to 23 children, 2 caretakers and a superintendent at a shelter home for boys. Around 34 girls and 2 caretakers received safety kits at a shelter home for girls.
- CHILDLINE Gadchiroli distributed ration kits to 10 migrant families who were rag pickers from the Telangana state and Chandrapur and Nagpur district of Maharashtra.
- In Nanded, CHILDLINE provided hygiene and personal safety items to 16 children from migrant families in a Government Relief Camp. The district collector, Women and Child Development (WCD) Officer and Child Welfare Committee (CWC) were part of the relief activities in Nanded.
- CHILDLINE Nagpur provided ration kits to 600 families from migrant communities, street children, pavement dwellers and rag pickers. They conducted awareness sessions on COVID-19 and the importance of social distancing for five communities. The CHILDLINE coordinator is a special counselor appointed by the District Collector for quarantined people in Nivaragruha.
- In Amravati, the CHILDLINE coordinator is part of the committee that established an online helpline centre, an initiative by the WCD. Nearly 100 beds were arranged for treatment of suspected patients, along with provisions for food and sanitation. The counselor is also a part of the team that is providing tele counseling to cope up with the COVID-19 outbreak, initiated by the Dept. of Psychology, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Mahavidyalaya, Amravati. CHILDLINE has provided ration to over 50 Families during this lockdown.



CHILDLINE helps a mother rescue her child from pornography

A mother from Mumbai, Maharashtra informed CHILDLINE about her 15 year old daughter's suspicious activity on her mobile phone. On visiting their house and talking to the mother, CHILDLINE learnt about the girl's close association with a boy staying in Dharavi. The boy was not a minor. When the mother checked her daughter's mobile phone she found nude photos of the girl which she had shared with the boy. CHILDLINE immediately took them to the police station to register a complaint. However, the police refused to file a complaint stating that it was the girl's fault. Then, CHILDLINE informed the CWC about the situation who then called up the police station. After receiving instructions from the CWC, police filed an FIR. After the girl's medical checkup, police called the family and the girl to register the statement. Due to the lockdown the family was not able to go to the police station. On April 30, 2020, the girl went with her family to register the statement. They were informed that there were charges of rape against the boy in other police stations. The case is in process.



Resources and information on COVID-19
<https://www.childlineindia.org/a/covid19>

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