

## **Youth Red Cross**

### **Lady Keane College**

**August 2021- June 2022**

1. In celebrating the **75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day** the youth Red Cross organised a Letter writing Competition for degree students on the topic: write a letter to your family members on your experience of Covid-19 Pandemic' 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

**Objectives:** To get to know on the impact of the Pandemic on the life of the students, its affect on their normal academic calendar and to revive and trigger the importance to hand written a letter to someone near and close to the student's life.

**Outcome:** The response from the students was good. 13 letters written by hand was received by the organisers and from there three best letters were selected by a competent Judge and were awarded cash prizes along with certificates

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Chamkim Kipgen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Goldamer Lawrinniing 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Sandeepa Chakraborty

### **2. Oath Taking Ceremony 2021**

**Objectives:** Fresh enrolment for the new academic sessions and for the purpose of recruitment into the unit.

**Out Come:** 34 students registered out of which 21 new recruits took the oath on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021 in the college Campus. Dr R. Syntem and former Principal Dr Mrs C. Massar graced the occasion in the presence of teachers and students. Another 6 students took the oath separately on another date with the PO. Total number of volunteers along with the existing members is 37.

### **3. World AIDS Day Poster Competition:**

**Objectives:** To kick start this year's celebration for the International World AIDS Day, the YRC conducted a poster competition on this year's theme: End inequalities, End AIDS, End Pandemic for all degree students on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021. This competition aims at creating an awareness for students on the importance of knowing the mode of transmission of the HIV, stopping the stigma on people living with HIV and spreading the knowledge on the prevention

and control of HIV/AIDS as inadequate knowledge about the virus brought many misconceptions. Besides the students get an opportunity to showcase their talent and creativity.

**Outcome:** A total of 24 participants register for the competition. Only original ideas were allowed to be created on the posters. An overwhelming display of creativity, visual information and talent were witnessed by all the participants. All the posters were judged and displayed in the poster boards placed outside for other students to see and also be informed about the matter of concern. The three best posters were awarded cash prizes along with certificates. The three lucky winners are 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Ms Concepta Mery Wahlang (BSc 5<sup>th</sup> Semester Zoology Department), 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Ms Christina Vaiphei, (BSc 5<sup>th</sup> Semester Zoology Department), 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Ms Sanghamitra Kashyap (B.A student)

#### **4. International World AIDS celebration**

**Objective:** To get a first hand information on the urgent need especially for young adults on the risk involved in various contracting the virus, where to get tested, get expert help while maintaining confidentiality of carrying the virus and how substance abuse affected the females drug users in our state as it is considered being one having high risk young population living with HIV.

**Outcome:** This joint collaborated awareness programme of the YRC, the Red Ribbon Club and the Anti-Drug Abused Cell, Lady Keane College on “HIV/AIDS, Substance abuse” on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at the College Seminar Room was attended by 78 participants which include teachers, staffs and students. The Resource persons were Smt. Mamata Roy Choudhury, AD ICTC MACS and Smt Iohun Dhar, Project Manager Voluntary Health Association of Meghalaya (VHAM). Target Intervention (TI) Female Injected Drug User (FIDU), Meghalaya. The resource person deliberation's during the programme stressed on the need of more vigilant knowledge, information and awareness on how this region has had an alarming increase in the numbers of female teenagers and young mothers becoming more inclined and are easy targets in drug addictions, hence, the important aim is in combating and reducing HIV and STDs transmission among female drug users and also easy availability of ICTC in the state for ample HIV testing mobile units. Majority of the students interacted with the resource persons during and after the programme.

## **5. Pre-Christmas Poster Campaign on Covid-19 Vaccine**

**Objectives:** As one of the pre-christmas awareness to the nearby localities, the programme officers of the YRC visited two Dorbar Shnong i.e Nongrim Hills and Pohkseh, Shillong with one aim in mind to help people stay informed and share important messages and information on the importance and misconceptions of the Covid-19 vaccine in this region. Awareness and information posters, pamphlets were distributed to the two Dorbar shnong on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

## **6. Out-reach programme on Covid-19 Vaccine to Lyngkien Village, Lad Um Risain, Mission Coumpound, Mawkohmon, Dongiew and Nongrum, Mawphlang on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

**Objectives:** The COVID-19 pandemic rages on and even with vaccines being rolled out for nearly a year now, there are still plenty of individuals and communities who haven't taken up the option, either due to lack of availability, skepticism or poor understanding due to misinformation. To emphasise the importance of getting vaccinated, and encourage those who have yet to be immunised to do so by helping them to clarify their doubts

**Outcome:** The Youth Red Cross in collaboration with the Medical Care Unit of the College conducted a poster campaign on the Covid-19 vaccine on nearby villages in this region

After obtaining permission from the DMO for the distribution of the information materials , 6 different places under Mawphlang areas were selected, aa these areas are in Mawphlang subdivision of East Khasi Hills district in Meghalaya which include Lyngkien Tangnew village, Dong Lad Um Risaiñ, Dong Mission Compound, Dong Mawkohmon, Dong Iew, Dong Nongrum 4 staff including the College doctor and 29 YRC students took part in the campaign on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. The campaing saw the active participation of the local headman and elders of all the localities visited. Distributions of banners, flex, posters, pamphlets, leaflets containing information on the Covid-19 vaccine, its misconceptions, well-placed misgivings about the vaccine rollout and how the vaccine will slow down the spread of COVID-19 with vaccination and other measures will help us put the COVID-19 pandemic behind.

Through the posters, pamphlets and banners distributed to the 6 visited places we were able to focus on the following 4 highlighted reasons to get the COVID-19 vaccine:

1. **Vaccination builds protection:** COVID-19 vaccines help keep you from getting COVID-19. They produce immunity and are effective at preventing the disease.
2. **Vaccination slows the spread of COVID-19:** When more people are immune to a disease, it's harder for the disease to spread.
3. **It's safer than getting the disease:** COVID-19 can have complications that are serious and life-threatening. In addition, a person with COVID-19 can spread the disease to family, friends, coworkers, and others.
4. **Vaccination will help stop the pandemic:** Slowing the spread of COVID-19 with vaccination and other measures will help us put the COVID-19 pandemic behind us.

The information banners and Posters are Perfect for hanging in break rooms, on company bulletin boards, or other high-visibility areas

## 7. Flash Mob.

### Objectives:

- i) To make students and teachers aware on their sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- ii) Protecting them from abuse and connecting them with education and health services .
- iii) Since drug and alcohol/substance abuse and teenage pregnancy are two behaviors manifested by at-risk students that are both a cause and a result of their lack of success in their education and possible subsequent dropping out.
- iv) To communicate to people to protect themselves against HIV/ AIDS. Ensuring the use of music and dance to get the attending of the crowd alongside creating an awareness.

**Outcome:** It was a novel attempt by the student volunteers of the YRC of Lady Keane College, who performed a flash mob to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS, the ill-effects of Drug addiction and Early Pregnancy on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022 during a Variety cum Food Festival in the College Sports Complex. The theme of the awareness is “Youth as Agents of Social Change”. Since the Youth has been termed the notable change agent and drivers of societal

transformation and behavioural change, it was with that thought in mind that the programme officers wanted to do something for a change. Flash Mop refers to a surprise, spontaneous-seeming performance in the middle of a crowd. 24 YRC volunteers took to the stage to sport with a messages along with placards and banners, to create visibility and awareness of the various social issues faced mostly by the youth today.