

Dear Readers,

As the world grapples with the COVID-19 threat, amongst despair we take recourse to hope. This edition is about our resilient march towards containing the pandemic along with our associate communities. It was an early start with each initiative of the Foundation tailoring its action on ground in accordance to need of the hour. We remain dedicated to continue working in this front through systematic approach by launching targeted programmes. Little has been done which we share with you in this edition, much more is to be done which we hopefully will share in our coming editions.

While you read our stories; stay healthy, stay safe!

### APPITI, ROWTA LEADING COVID-19 PREVENTION THROUGH MASK MAKING

In this difficult time of global pandemic, APPL Foundation stands in support of its partner communities in preventing COVID-19. APPL has committed to provide masks to all its employees and their family members across its 25 Tea Estates in Assam and Dooars. APPL Foundation stands in support of this commitment. APPITI Rowta has started producing masks at its Sewing Machine Operator training unit. SMO trainer Ms. Swamjhina Basumatari along with two of the trainees Ms. Himadri Sarkar and Ms. Sandhya Rani Singh are making masks being distributed in communities in APPL Tea Estates and communities beyond. Local entrepreneurs, Mr. Pankaj Kumar Roy and Ms. Bhanu Kalita of Rowta in Udalguri Assam are partnering with us in producing masks which will be soon distributed in communities not yet touched.



Masks being made at the centre and beyond which were later distributed in neighbouring communities

### INCHING TOWARDS TB FREE COMMUNITIES

In synchronization with the National Mission of eradicating TB by 2030 and APPL's commitment to build TB free Estates, APPL Foundation in partnership with HPE, has turned the eHealthcare Centres (eHC) into TB screening centres. The programme which was launched in January 2020 has successfully screened 17393 individuals covering 3314 households in the Tea Estates of Namroop, Powai, Kellyden and Hathikuli. So far 4769 individuals have been diagnosed with symptoms of TB, out of which 23 patients of TB has been confirmed through proper diagnostic tests and linked with the first line of treatment. The programme intends to resume action in order to fulfill its mission of TB free communities in and around APPL Tea Estates.

## SMART HOSPITAL TEAM LEADING COVID-19 PREVENTION EFFORTS AT THE TEA ESTATES



With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SMART Hospital Team across 6 Tea Estates has been instrumental in leading preventive initiatives in the communities. The Teams displayed excellent application of learning & innovation in optimally using available resources during this unwarranted hour of ambiguity and crisis. Symptomatic screening of individuals through Infra-red Thermometers provided by WISH, proved to be very handy, efficient and time-saving in the initial phases, with a number of people migrating back to their homes in these estates. This device is an integral component of the Smart Clinic Application, and was widely used for effective and wider screening of Influenza/Flu-like Illness among the people.

WISH further developed a Community Containment & Surveillance Plan that was shared across all tea estates. This helped in establishing a unique model under which, communities are encouraged to support the management by strict adherence to safety norms and sharing information on any symptomatic developments or abnormalities in the neighborhood.

### Community and symptomatic screening

In order to strengthen the Containment & Surveillance model, virtual sessions on COVID19 were conducted in close coordination with the Medical Officers & welfare Officers across these Tea Estates. Various aspects related to COVID were also discussed at these platforms. The first phase of training being conducted across all six estates; subsequent phases of sensitization and community action initiatives are being taken up with the Line Sardars, ASHAs, CHVs, local School Teachers, Student Union Functionaries in these locations. The effort is all set to be replicated and scaled along the remaining tea estates as well.

This initiative was well acknowledged by the local health functionaries as well. The BPM from Orang BPHC (in charge of Lamabari, in Udalguri district) attended the virtual session along with the Lamabari & other Teams; thus, reinforcing the essence of inter-sectoral coordination between APPL Foundation, APPL, WISH Foundation and the Government of Assam.

### COMMUNITY CONTAINMENT & SURVEILLANCE PLAN

Strict Surveillance by Community

Sensitization of Community Leaders / Youth Clubs

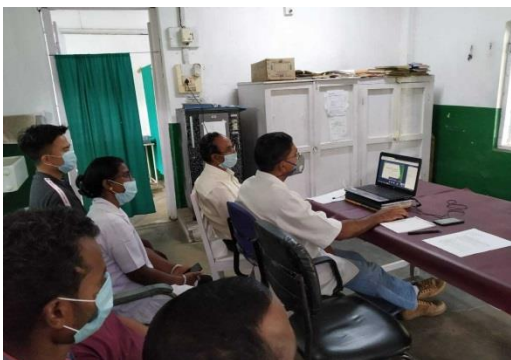
Engaging Communities, Women, Youth and Children

Virtual Training of Smart Teams

Reporting of Symptomatic Cases, Mental Health Issues, Comorbid Cases

Sharing of IEC for Behavioral Modification

A Robust Response System



## THE 3 F WELLNESS CHALLENGE – A SUCCESS STORY



Glimpse of behavioral change adopted in communities

The major initiative of the Fungal Free Frock (3 F) Project was to usher in WASH behavioral change in the communities of Chubwa, Nahartoli and Borjan. Towards the end a wellness challenge was organized to encourage the community to adopt WASH practices, we intended to access the impact on the awareness generation by the program. An overwhelming number of entries were received from the community especially the women on the 5 action themes of the challenge. We share glimpse of the entries received which stands as testimonial to the impact awareness generation has created in the communities. The winners are being selected and very shortly will be awarded for adopting WASH good practices. To know more about our campaign keep checking our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/applfoundation/](http://www.facebook.com/applfoundation/)

## OUR PURSUIT TO FIGHT COVID-19 THOROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

As we mostly stayed safe within the confines of our home, it was our constant effort to reach more number of people with information to prevent and combat COVID-19 infection. We took to social media for sharing do's and don'ts over Facebook reaching and sensitizing over 8000 followers.

Visit our Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/applfoundation/](http://www.facebook.com/applfoundation/) to know more. Don't forget to like and share. With sharing we can care for others too!

APPL Foundation has been instrumental in developing an awareness video in Assamese by the Muskan Girls Club members of Namroop Tea Estate in Assam. The video has been widely circulated and has been successful in enabling people adopt preventive measures. Join us in enabling the video sensitize more people. Watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eX90e6fh6k>



Our social media campaign on COVID-19 prevention

You can also visit our website at <https://applfoundation.in/> to watch the video. It is only through adopting preventive behavioral change we can fight the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**To know more about APPL Foundation keep connected**

**Website: <https://applfoundation.in/>**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/applfoundation/](http://www.facebook.com/applfoundation/)**