

## **I. YOUTH PROGRAM:**

### **1. Adolescence Education program:**

Karnataka state has about 13,447 highschools where lacks of boys and girls are studying. These adolescent are more vulnerable to HIV due to various factors. One of the major factors is peer pressure and socio-cultural factors. Female adolescent especially rural adolescent are the easy prey to social evils like poverty, trafficking, migration, etc.

KSAPS has thoroughly trained 360 persons across Karnataka (i.e., 10 resource persons per districts) who would facilitate life skill training and HIV sensitisation programs in each schools to cover under this program. It is planned to reach about 6.0 lakh adolescent school children studying in 6510 High School. This program will be implemented in collaboration with the Department of Public Instruction and National Rural Health Mission, Government of Karnataka. Besides training adolescent, the training program will also involved atleast one teacher in each school who would take part in conducting training program for the adolescent. A total of Rs. 65.10 lak has been proposed to implmenet this training program. The financial reasource that has been planned would comprise Rs.1000/- per schools that means about 700 would be spent per school for the training program and the remaining 300 would be used for the conducting training program for teachers and disbursing reading materials that would be distributed for adolescent who attend these session at school level.

### **2. Program for Out of School youth**

HIV prevention and control program for the out of school youth was not there in AAP 2013-14. This project was initiated a year before where few event based activities conducted at few selected districts. Activities undertaken two years ago comprised of one-day youth bicycle jaath, one-hour sensitization program, poster exhibition and so on in 10 districts in the state. The learnings of the program is most rural youth are vulnerable to HIV, female rural adoloscent are mostly school drop-out are one of the highly vulnerble population in rural areas as this segment migrate with the their parents during off season, early marriages, lack of correct and complete information about lifeskills, health related issues and many more that are directly and indirectly related to living conditions. While looking at the positivity data both at the state and National level, number of youth who have become infected and affected by HIV is comparatively higher. Therefore, KSAPS is proposes to include Out-of-School program in 2014-15 AAP with the collabration of NYK, so that the focus on risk reduciton, service availability, stigma reduction among youth in specific and community in general. The program implementation strategy of this program will be implemented in 5 high priority district of Karnataka. One day a comprehensive program would be conducted at a district level which comprises set of activities which will focus HIV prevention, risk reduction, stigma and discrimiantion reduction and services would be highlighted. In terms of financial plan, KSAPS has budgetted an

amount of Rs.25lakh to conduct activities in 5 high priority districts. In each district 100 villages will be covered in the out of school youth programme.

### 3. **Red Ribbon Clubs**

Introduction:

Karnataka State has more than 12000 college that include different streams such as medical, engineering, degree, pre-university,nursing,B.Ed, D,Ed, etc. According to the national studies conducted and reports brought out by NACO as well as several other prominent reports that shows that HIV prevalence among the youth is comparatively higher than the other segment of the society. This includes both male and female; rural and urban youth and youth in educational institutions and outside these institutions. It also become all the most important to reach the youth community as Karnataka is one of the high prevalence states in India. Therefore KSAPS started to work with college students under the banner of Red Ribbon Club programme.

RRC formation began in 2009 in Karnataka where 282 RRCs formed during the first year of the program, 450, 544 where formed in the subsequent year. Thus in Karnataka state has 1276 Red Ribbon Clubs as on date.

During the proposed year i.e., 2014-15 KSAPS proposes to form another 224 new RRCs in the state. Thus KSAPS would have two category of RRCs that is existing RRCs and new RRCs. There would be two sets of approaches for the proposed year, they are; (i) strengthening existitig 1276 RRCs and (ii) conduct orientation programs and provide hand holding support to 224 new RRCs that are going to be formed during 2014-15. As far as the strategy to be deployed for the selection of new, focus will be on those district which are yet to be reached to form RRCs and secondly those districts which have more lessar number of RRCS in the existing list of RRCs. Thus at the end of 2014-15 a total of 1500 RRCs will be on board. A total of Rs. 71.20 (i.e., Rs. 51.04 lakh for existing and Rs. 20.16 lakhs for the new RRCs) has been proposed as per the guidelines provided by NACO.

Broader activities of these RRCs is, to motivate college youth in HIV prevention activities among the student community; especially college going adolescents. The reason being this segment of the society is highly vulnerability to HIV and secondly this group has limited correct knowledge about their sexual health. The youth is also known for taking challenges without knowing giving head to the consequences of getting into situation which pushes them to acquire HIV without their knowledge. The youth hardly accesses services related to HIV and STI when they need such services because of the social fear. Therefore, the program i.e., Red Ribbon Club will focus mainly to build their knowledge on healthy lifestyles, strengthening their informed decision making skills and building their capacities to say “no” to be away from in order to the avoiding has any services .

Each college was given a list of activities to be conducted at their college level. Activities that most college comprised of (i) sensitization program for the students on

HIV and youth vulnerability, (ii) Blood donations camps (iii) competitions such as essay writing, poster making, slogan writing, story writing, etc. Few colleges conducted other activities such as exhibitions, street plays, skits, etc.

Besides the above listed activities that are conducted at the district level, college students are mobilized for state level program that are conducted directly by KSAPS. They are; (i) World AIDS Day, (ii) Voluntary Blood Donation Day (iii) Voluntary Blood Donor's day (iv) Blood donation camps and (v) National Youth Day.