

Theme: Awareness about Health and Hygiene among the School Going Children.

Village: Bishnubati Adibasipara

Date: 13-02-2025

Description of the Activity:

The community organization program was conducted by a student social worker to raise awareness about health and hygiene among school-going children at Bishnubati Adibasipara village. The main purpose of the program was to educate children on the importance of personal hygiene, healthy eating habits, and safe water practices to prevent diseases. Two community resource persons—Rani Baski (ASHA worker) and Basanti Mardi (ICDS worker)—were invited to guide and support the program. The student social worker first discussed the issue with the supervisor and found that many children in the village were wearing dirty clothes, looked unhealthy, and lacked basic hygiene practices. With permission, the worker organized the community awareness program at the village primary school. The school was cleaned and decorated, and the program started at 1 PM. During the program, the student social worker explained basic hygiene habits such as washing hands regularly—especially after using the toilet and before eating—bathing daily, brushing and flossing teeth, trimming nails, wearing clean clothes, and drinking clean water. Children were also advised to keep their surroundings clean to prevent skin and waterborne diseases. Then the ASHA worker gave a health talk, highlighting the importance of personal hygiene and daily healthy habits. The ICDS worker also joined and spoke about child health, menstrual hygiene for girls, and issues like early child marriage. The workers tried to create awareness among the children, especially the girls, since many of their parents were not fully aware of the importance of hygiene.

During observation, the social worker noticed that some children did not use soap, did not brush their teeth regularly, or avoided using toilets. This was identified as a major problem that affects children's health. One child attending the program was even found suffering from a skin disease, mainly because he was not bathing regularly. The program helped the children understand how neglecting hygiene can lead to sickness. Through this CO program, the social worker encouraged behavior change by making the children understand the importance of staying clean and healthy. The children listened actively, and the awareness message was clearly delivered with the help of

community health workers. The session ended with a group discussion and interaction between the children and the resource persons. Overall, the program helped the community, especially children and their families, become more aware of health and hygiene. The social worker played an important role in bringing together the school, children, ASHA, and ICDS workers for the betterment of child health in the village.

Outcome of the Program:

The Community organisation program in Bishnubati Adibasi Para aimed to spread awareness about health and hygiene among school-going children. Since most parents were busy with farming and daily labor, many children lacked proper hygiene due to low parental awareness. However, some parents were more conscious of their children's health. The program had a positive impact, as children actively participated and showed interest in learning about personal hygiene. With the support of ASHA and ICDS workers, the children learned about the importance of habits like hand-washing, bathing, and using toilets. The program encouraged behavior change and successfully raised awareness, leading to better hygiene practices among the children and their families in the village.

