

United Nations | Department of Global Communications | Civil Society Unit

# Stories from the Civil Society COVID-19 Response



#### **OISCA International**

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

The organization reached communities in the rural areas of India, Indonesia, Fiji, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Sri Lanka to provide them with the facemask, hand sanitizers, water, and food supplies to sustain communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Photo courtesy of: OISCA International



#### **WITNESS**

CSO in association with UN DGC

The organization focuses on the protection of human rights amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. It produced multilingual resources to help eyewitnesses to capture the excessive use of force during lockdowns and developed guidance on the social media response to combat COVID-19 misinformation.



## South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and Amphan cyclone, SAFE works to ensure basic food security for the marginal community of Sundarban and Kolkata in India. More than 2000



#### Go Laadli

Over the past few months, Go Laadli organized the COVID-19 Campaign - an awareness drive to dispel rampant myths about the novel coronavirus and to share the right ways to practice hygiene during the pandemic. In addition to leveraging young



Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP)

CSO associated with UN DGC

The organization launched a Solidarity Response Relief Humanitarian Campaign to households, families, and about 8000 people received relief activities.

Photo courtesy of: SAFE

Civil Society Spotlights on COVID-19 women's leadership and creativity to help flatten the curve during the pandemic, the campaign was designed to further the organizations' mission of amplifying, elevating, and highlighting women's voices, agency, and leadership.

combat COVID-19 in Chandigarh, India, through which volunteers provided relief services among marginalized communities and economically weaker sectors. With assistance from local residents welfare associations, religious networks, philanthropists, youth organizations, members of the

associations, and top CSR companies, APSWDP provided food and sanitary and personal hygiene kits for more than 10,000 families.

Photo courtesy of: APSWDP



## Trust for Youth Child Leadership (TYCL)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

TYCL provides several activities to overcome COVID-19, such as mental health support for youth via exclusive helpline, virtual creative space (painting, singing, dancing, craftworks, poetry, etc.), virtual panel discussions on hot topics and distribution of relief materials to needy families.



## Kaarvan Crafts Foundation

The organization initiated the #BeApartTogether platform to amplify local voices of Pakistani Rural Artisans and provide them with opportunities for remote learning, namely on topics on how to use the internet and social media and how to leverage those tool for online sales.



## Social Development International (SODEIT)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

SODEIT Global Support Centre united 800 professionals and UN online volunteers from across the world to safeguard vulnerable communities in Cameroon during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization is also fundraising money to supply PPE and face masks for communities and providing credible COVID-19 information to keep them safe.

Photo courtesy of: SODEIT



## Child Family Health International (CFHI)

CSO in Consultative Status with LIN FCOSOC



## Memory Trees Corporation

CSO in Consultative Status with UN FCOSOC



## Youth Foundation of Bangladesh

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

CFHI's global partners are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic responses by working in hospitals, participating in health campaign, and engaging in virtual programs to learn how global health leaders around the world are combatting the COVID-19 pandemic in their communities.

Photo courtesy of: CFHI

The organization came up with a digital solution to connect people in need of essential services such as food, hygiene, healthcare. For example, it created an app called ZeroHunger that connects hungry people to sources of food.

Photo courtesy of: Memory Trees Corporation

The organization initiated the "COVID-19 Emergency Response and Rehabilitation Program," which provided 600 families in need with humanitarian aid called "Box of Happiness" with daily groceries and food for 14 days.

Photo courtesy of: Youth Foundation of Bangladesh



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Photo courtesy of: SODEIT



## United Nations Association of Mauritius (UNAMauritius)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

The organization provided free vital stuff for elderly and sick people in hospitals such as basic foodstuff, babies' milk, foods & nappies, sanitary pads. It also launched a campaign on social media to inform people of COVID-19 safety rules.

Photo courtesy of: UNAMauritius



## Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

As COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on Bangladesh, YPSA provides grassroots support by distributing foods and protection materials to different beneficiaries such as Islamic scholars, Hindu priests, and ecotourism service providers.

Photo courtesy of: YPSA



**HOPE Worldwide** 

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

HOPE worldwide has provided substantial support to vulnerable communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic by

distributing food, modical https://mailchi.mp/un/civilsocietycovid-19



#### FM4 Paso Libre

FM4 Paso Libre provided critical COVID-19 support to refugees and migrants in their transit or stay in Mexico by carrying out health protocols to keep them safe. The area of shelter is



### Thanks-Giving Foundation

CSO associated with UN DGC

The Thanks-Giving Foundation launched 'Serving up Gratitude'

supplies, and emotional trauma support services around the world. Over \$2 million have been raised for COVID-19 relief efforts.

Photo courtesy of: Hope Worldwide

Civil Society Spotlights on COVID-19 regularly samuzeu, COVID lesis provided and recommended distance kept.

Photo courtesy of: FM4 Paso Libre

initiative providing 20,000 meals for frontline healthcare workers and first responders in the Dallas area and raised over \$200,000. Now the second phase is underway spreading the thanks to teachers in public schools in disadvantaged areas.

Photo courtesy of: Thanks-Giving Foundation



#### Association for Progressive Communications (APC)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

As the pandemic is revealing the extent of structural inequality all over the world, APC is committed to supporting and promoting human rights online. Through its "Closer than ever" collective response, APC is entailing actions such as guidance on tools to use for online work, infrastructure and human support through solidarity circles, subgrants for local work, and policy positions addressing rightsrelated issues requiring attention by governments, the private sector, and civil society.



#### **Black Coffee Network**

The Black Coffee Network provided information assistance for people of Kenya by translating the announcements of the Ministry of Health into local languages. The sanitizers donated by the government were spread to vulnerable groups by volunteers.

Photo courtesy of: Black Coffee Network



#### Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Nigeria

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

With the increase of genderbased and domestic violence in the country due to the Covid-19 lockdown, WILPF Nigeria has worked to support victims and families particularly vulnerable in these difficult times. To raise awareness of domestic violence during the lockdown and intervene in the rise of cases, a sensitization radio program has been run by the WILPF Section to address these issues. For more urgent support, a helpline has been created to help and support victims.







#### Fundación Mexicana para la Salud (FUNSALUD)

FUNSALUD is helping the health system prepare with medical supplies by donating 2,000 respirators and providing personal protective equipment.

The organization took the initiative in making the first agreement for sharing private hospital beds to public sector beneficiaries, increasingly promoting testing, and developing risk communication strategies. Photo courtesy of: FUNSALUD

#### Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation Inc USA (HCRFF)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

HCRFF has been distributing over 300 meals every Friday, with six pallets of nutritious kid's meal.

Fresh produce and vegetables have also been distributed. 1200 diapers ranging from newborn to toddlers, maternal supplies, and 1000 condoms for safe sex, 66 hygiene sanitation for MHD2020, groceries are delivered every weekend to vulnerable citizens. HCRFF distributed 400 hygiene kits and also conducted several educational workshops following the World Health Organization protocol.

Photo courtesy of: HCRFF

#### **World Habitat**

World Habitat co-ordinates the European End Street
Homelessness Campaign, which is a network of practitioners across Europe who are focused on ending – not managing – street homelessness. During the

COVID-19 pandemic, Campaign partners undertook action to protect street homeless people. This included building crosssector partnerships to drive swift and successful local action planning and providing temporary accommodation, medical triage, and basic amenities like food, water, and personal protection equipment. Emergency responses to the COVID-19 pandemic across the campaign cities have demonstrated remarkable actions despite the extremely challenging circumstances.

Photo courtesy of: World Habitat







#### **Accountability Lab**

The Accountability Lab launched Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC), which gathers rumors, concerns, and questions from communities across Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Nigeria, Mali, Niger, and Liberia to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of the coronavirus needs and debunks rumors before they can do more harm. The CCC's goal is to provide an open, inclusive, and

#### International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People (IFHOHYP)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

IFHOHYP has formed an Accessibility Committee to address the communication challenges faced by the Deaf and Hard of Hearing during the pandemic. The committee's goals are to collect information about accessibility and accessibility tools, manage and provide a list of experts in this field, and to provide summarized information

#### Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa (YALDA)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

To mitigate the potential behavioral health impact of the lockdowns on young people across the continent, YALDA is hosting mental health stress management cafés to provide a platform for them to have open conversations on managing the impact of COVID-19. Despite the restrictions in movement to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, YALDA's Stress

people-powered pandemic response through multi-way communication with citizens.

Photo courtesy of: Accountability Lab

Civil Society Spotlights on COVID-19 on accessibility for both nard-of-hearing people and companies/organizations wanting to improve their accessibility.

Management Cafés reached out and connected with diverse groups of youth on the African continent.

Photo courtesy of: YALDA



#### Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (APN)

APN conducted studies on "Zoonoses and the Environment," addressing key dimensions of animal-originating disease and showing their relationship to flaws in our global food system. The organization also distributed 70,000 seedlings and tens of kilograms of seeds to 900 Jerusalem families, which benefited from creating home gardens and constructed water well with 80 cubic meters for watering six dunums in the village of Beit Annan, Jerusalem. APN is implementing projects with the fewest people necessary and buying seeds and trees from the same community to reduce mobility and large gathering.

Photo courtesy of: APN



## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF DRC)

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

To focus the support where it is most needed, WILPF DRC identified an orphanage and a mother-child health care center that are in particularly vulnerable positions since the COVID-19 pandemic. To meet the needs and provide support, WILPF DRC worked with more than 100 mothers and their children on how to protect themselves against the virus best. Kits consisting of useful protective material were distributed, coupled with information on how to use it safely.

Photo courtesy of: WILPF DRC



#### **Qatar Charity**

CSO associated with UN DGC

Qatar Charity has launched an emergency response campaign in more than 34 countries worldwide to assist communities hit by the outbreak. The scheme aims to protect teams and beneficiaries through launching awareness campaigns, developing information, education, and communication materials, providing facemasks, protective kits, sanitizers, and preventing crowding and maintaining social distancing on the field.

Photo courtesy of: Qatar Charity



## Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE)

Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) has provided consultancy



#### Fundacao de Assistencia Medica Internacional

CSO associated with UN DGC and in Consultative Status with



## Singapore Children's Society

CSO in Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC

services. The Vice President of CAE advised the government to convert large public venues such as exhibition centers and indoor stadiums into temporary hospitals to isolate large number of patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 from their families and communities, in order to cut off the infection chain

and thereby to mitigate the epidemic in Wuhan. CAE has also been developing an online column named COVID-19
Prevention and Control through IKCEST, an online knowledge center for engineering, sciences, and technology operated by CAE. The knowledge center aims at collecting and sharing relevant information on Covid-19 and experience in its prevention and control from various countries.

#### **UN ECOSOC**

Fundacao de Assistencia Medica Internacional is supporting local NGOs in Guinea-Bissau, India, Senegal and Sri Lanka. In Guinea-Bissau, the organization donated personal protective equipment to a health centre and

participated in the training on Covid-19 to health technicians at the health centers in Buba. In India, in response to a request from partner organization, €4,900 were allocated from the budget of the ongoing project "Sampurna - Disaster Preparedness and Management" to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Photo courtesy of: Fundacao de Assistencia Medica Internacional

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted children and their families in myriad ways, with some vulnerable families feeling the effects more acutely.

The helpline and online chat of Singapore Children's

Society picked up concerns and worries from children. In response, resources were

published for children, their caregivers, and the public to pay attention to the emotional and safety needs of children. The nation-wide safety measures also led to disruptions in many services and programs. With school closures, resources were stepped up to not only ensure the physical health and safety of the vulnerable children in our residential home but to keep them meaningfully engaged as they stayed in 24/7.



#### Gaia Education

CSO associated with UN DGC

Gaia Education has created a campaign with youth migrants from Central Province in Zambia living in Sicily. The young migrant women crafted herbal flavored chocolates to show solidarity to the courageous NHS frontline workers fighting the Covid-19 in Edinburgh.

Photo courtesy of: Gaia Education



### University College Dublin

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

#### Across

University College Dublin (UCD) and their university hospitals, researchers are rising to the challenge of the COVID-19. UCD is expanding Ireland's testing capacity, developing new supply chains, manufacturing reagents, developing national contact tracing capability, and investigating new ways to tackle the disease. UCD academics are also addressing the social and economic impacts of the pandemic.

Photo courtesy of: UCD



#### Associação Brasileira dos Organizadores de Festivais de Folclore e Artes Populares (ABRASOFFA)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

ABRASOFFA is holding virtual meetings every Sunday with folk groups from Europe, America, and Asia. The organization is promoting International Virtual Folklore Festivals, performing virtual debates, producing video messages about mental health, planet, dance, and music. As the pandemic holds the folklore festivals, ABRASOFFA reports that the celebrations cannot stop as it affects people's mental health. "While we are in quarantine, we talk, dance and sing in our homes. We cannot let culture die. We need to innovate

and reinvent ourselves" says the organization.



#### Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)

CSO in consultative status with **UN ECOSOC** 

ASH published a webpage to highlight WHO and partners' resources on COVID-19 and smoking. It also began a webinar series to help fill the information gap that existed and continues the series to provide a platform for credible partners to share their timely research and resources on COVID and smoking.

Photo courtesy of: ASH



#### Radha Soami Sat Sang Beas (RSSB)

CSO in consultative status with **UN ECOSOC** 

Since March, RSSB, began a program providing food to those in need. Volunteers prepare food packets at RSSB centers. Local authorities collect the food and distribute it where needed. Almost 1 million food packets are being distributed per day. At over 250 RSSB centers across India, migrant workers and quarantine patients are given accommodation and provided with bedding, basic necessities such as meals, tea, and so forth. Everyone in need is welcomed.

Photo Courtesy of: RSSB



#### **Association for the Care** of Diabetes in Argentina (CUI.D.AR)

CSO associated with UN DGC

CUI.D.AR is now conducting a "Consultation for Patients" on access to medication, to find out what the real situation is regarding the lack of delivery of supplies and insulin for people living with diabetes. The information collected will be used to carry out a survey so that CUI.D.AR can help make claims before the different health coverages entities responsible for complying with the Diabetes Law. CUI.D.AR also provides assi stance in response to an emergency, in the context of quarantine for those with diabetes.



#### **Disability Association of** Tavana

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with **UN ECOSOC** 

Disability Association of Tavana is allocating half of their Workshop's capacity for the production of baby diapers changing pads to produce masks instead. As

communities face a shortage of https://mailchi.mp/un/civilsocietycovid-19



**Restless Development** 

CSO in consultative status with **UN ECOSOC** 

Restless Development, in partnership with the Ministry of Health in Zimbabwe, has launched a youth led awareness campaign on COVID-19



#### **Federal Union of European Nationalities** (FUEN)

CSO in consultative status with **UN ECOSOC** 

As the umbrella organization of European Atochthonous minorities, FUEN is preoccupied with how the pandemic affected Minority communities.

FUEN conducted research on the availability of information related

masks and an increase in the price of masks, the organization has made mask production one of their most important priorities.

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Photo Courtesy of: Disability Association of Tavana

prevention in Harare. A cohort of 20 young people have been trained in WHO recommended COVID-19 prevention methods and essential safety standards in order to reach their community members with accurate and localized health information.

to COVID-19 in general, healthcare information related to the outbreak, the existence of an emergency hotline operated in minority language, and the availability of online education in mother tongue. They also published case studies about minorities during the pandemic.

Photo Courtesy of: Restless Development



#### Öğretmen Akademisi Va kfı (ÖRAV)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

ÖRAV held 25 webinars on topics such as "Teacher well-being, adapting to the new normal, integrating technology to education," reaching 6883 teachers. They organized a program with 350 teachers and their 1000 students to create works of art with a call for "Stay Home" messages. The organization designed seven online training programs informing about Coronavirus, Hygiene, and Parenting. They facilitated 50 teachers with joining a 4-week training on Mindfulness from Search Inside Yourself Academy for free.

Photo Courtesy of: ÖRAV



#### Rwenzori Center for Research and Advocacy

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The organization is implementing integrated medical outreach clinics using the backpack locum nurse model and village health teams in the hard to reach, resourcelimited, remote communities of Uganda. The frontline health workers visit households sensitizing on the prevention and reporting of COVID-19 and providing the right information about COVID-19 in Kasese, Uganda. The organization is also supporting the frontline community health workers by providing personal protective equipment (PPE) and also locally procured hand sanitizers, surgical and examination gloves, facemasks, and soaps.

Photo Courtesy of: Rwenzori Center for Research and Advocacy



#### Prajachaitanya Yuvajana Sangam

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Despite government lock-down, many people are still coming out in the streets without any precautionary measures, reports Prajachaitanya Yuvajana Sangam. The organization is conducting a poster awareness program at police checkpoints using a robot to educate people on facts of coronavirus and the importance of handwashing, masks, using hand sanitizers, etc. These awareness posters are based on WHO information on 'Dos and Don'ts, Facts and Myths' on COVID-19.

Photo Courtesy of: Prajachaitanya Yuvajana Sangam









## Saviour USA- One World Charity

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

During the virtual lockdown due

to Covid-19, hundreds of thousands of daily earners and others lost their livelihood and had to look for help to feed their families. Saviour USA and its team on the ground in Pakistan handed out food (groceries including flour, rice, sugar, oil, lentils, milk, and other necessary items) to families who had no food to survive. Over the lockdown period of over eight weeks, Saviour helped distribute foods to thousands of families and asisted with financial help to pay for rent and or medicines.

Photo Courtesy of: Saviour USA



#### **Enable India**

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Enable India has established a community-

based, interactive voice response system, currently working in 15 states of the country in the local language. The system operates without internet connectivity, thus a solution to challenges faced by persons with disabilities in farflung rural India. The organization is reaching out to the disability community to spread information on COVID-19. The organization is getting calls every minute and is looking at the involvement of the members with disabilities, their parents, peers, friends, and others taking an active part.



#### Comp-U-Dopt

With schools turning to distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students without a computer are at risk of losing

months of educational opportunity. Since March 18th, Comp-U-Dopt has distributed nearly 2,000 computers to Houston families in need of a computer device at home through their Computer Drive-Thru which allows families to register for a computer lottery through their website then if selected, drive through the Comp-U-Dopt warehouse where a computer is placed in their car for them to keep, completely free of charge. Comp-U-Dopt is responding to this need not only in Houston but also working to replicate their model in Chicago, DC, Dallas, New Orleans, and San Antonio.

Photo Courtesy of: Comp-U-Dopt



## International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

During COVID-19, people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis are even more vulnerable.
Insecure access to treatment and uncertainty about the severity of COVID-19 for people who have psoriasis contribute to increased burdens. IFPA partnered with PsoProtect, who is researching the impact of COVID-19 on individuals with psoriasis. Finally, IFPA created opportunities for engagement in community (i.e. video chats,



## Fundación Abba Colom bia

Volunteers of Fundación Abba
Colombia are in the
frontline, helping
and providing aid to those who
have been affected during
COVID19. The
Fundación also supports refugee
s and migrants
during the COVID19 pandemic,
including deploying humanitarian
and social support teams to
provide aid in refugee camps
built by Venezuelans in Colombia.
Fundación Abba Colombia is also
working together with the

partinent authorities in Colombia



#### **Fast Forward**

Fast Forward supports techdriven nonprofits addressing challenges related to Covid-19. It also hosts virtual events to connect tech nonprofits with expert advice needed to scale their COVID-19 solutions. Their main program is Accelerator, a 12-week program for early stage social impact tech startups providing them funding, connections in the social impact and tech sectors, and sessions on everything from fundraising to measuring impact. Fifty organizations partici

webinars, etc.) to strengthen its approach to COVID-19 while mitigating the mental health impacts of isolation and perceived purposelessness.

Photo Courtesy of: IFPA

Civil Society Spotlights on COVID-19
pertinent authorities in Colombia
to develop its work together
during the emergency.

Photo Courtesy of: Fundacion Abba Colombia pated in the program: they've impacted 63M lives, and have raised \$157M+ in follow-on funding.

Photo Courtesy of: Ample Labs - Maddy Chung



### Intl. WeLoveU Foundatio

CSO associated with UN DGC

By partnering with foreign

embassies in South Korea and governments and medical institutions around the world, Chairwoman Zahng Gil-jah of the Intl. WeLoveU Foundation (WeLoveU) and its members donated face masks and test kits to countries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. WeLoveU provided 20,000 hygienic face masks (KF94) to people in South Korea, about 2,000 Korean-made test kits to Ecuador, and 30,000 face masks to Laos. Through such support, WeLoveU aims to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in communities and assist countries in strengthening its response capabilities with steps similar to the Korean COVID-19 response model, which has been lauded internationally.

Photo Courtesy of: WeLoveU



#### Buddha's Light International Association (BLIA)

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

BLIA has gone digital with much of its community education services and meetings. Its faith leaders and participants are streaming online. When events happen in person, they wear masks, keep distance, and maintain hand hygiene. BLIA donated tens of thousands of units of PPEs to essential workers and organizations. It is also organizing food drives with rigorous health measures.

Photo Courtesy of: BLIA



#### Centro UNESCO de Donostia-San Sebastian

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The center has reinforced its online training and education formats in line with the ideals of the WHO guidelines (Actions for COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Schools). Classes and assessments are taught 100% in virtual teaching.







#### Russian Children Fund

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Russian Children Fund sew mask and deliver free masks to people. They also got a cargo of medical masks from China and distributed them for free as a gift to medical hospitals in Moscow where

COVID-19 patients receive treatment. The organization also delivers food to families in need. To date, they have helped more than 40,000 families.

Photo Courtesy of: Russian Children Fund

#### Friends of Angola

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

In collaboration with local partners, Friends of Angola is using technology tools, language, and communication skills to deliver videos in the languages most commonly spoken in Angola. Their goal is to raise awareness about the need for social distance to slow the spread of COVID-19.

## Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

BCF has provided dry food baskets to fifty thousand families throughout Iraq and to Internally Displaced Person (IDP) and refugee camps in Iraq. BCF also

provided masks and protective items to health workers in the region. It is following guidelines from WHO, Iraq, and Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) Minister of Health in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Photo Courtesy of: BCF



## Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God offered palliative care, provided food packages and monetary assistance to the poor and vulnerable members in their community. Currently, they have employed services of a dispatch rider to distribute aids to those in special and urgent need. They are also preventing the spread of COVID-19 by sensitizing people on hand washing, using hand sanitizers and face masks, and practicing social distancing.

Photo Courtesy of: Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God



## International Blue Crescent (IBC)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

IBC provided Coronavirus test kits and infrared thermometers and protective materials in Syria and

Yemen. It is also implementing a project of public awareness and capacity building in these countries.



#### Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

CSO associated with UN DGC

Sigma supports nurses' efforts to improve the health of the world's people. It's strengthening the nursing profession by hosting a series of free continuing nurse education courses, webinars, and access to Sigma's journals and repository. In addition, Sigma is also highlighting the work and contributions of nurses through its online publication, reflections on Nursing Leadership with member stories about the response to the pandemic.

Photo Courtesy of: CC BY-ND







#### Medical IMPACT

Medical Impact has been

donating vast amounts of medication and medical supplies to hospitals. Realizing that poor skills regarding Donning and Doffing could lead to contagion of frontline health workers, they have redirected their efforts to educating professionals, as well as decision-makers in terms of biosecurity and bioprotection. This method has proved to have a tremendous impact, rather than just handling PPE to hospitals. They are also taking a step further into mental health approaches alongside patients by providing communication devices to establish contact with their relatives, as well as following up through the process to ease states of anxiety, irritability, and mental instability during and after hospitalization.

Photo Courtesy of: Medical Impact



## Intersections International Initiative Inc.

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Intersections International granted \$80,000 in financial support to organizations providing relief work. It also supported congregations and organizations with technology for virtual programming. Further, it hosted a virtual LGBT-affirming Easter Sunday Service that brought together faith leaders and participants from across the United States to foster community, inclusiveness, and spiritual uplift. It remains committed to creating online resources for spiritual and mental well-being now and beyond this crisis.

Photo Courtesy of: Intersections International Initiative



## Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University

CSO associated with UN DGC

and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

In response to COVID-19 pandemic, Brahma Kumaris Worl d Spiritual University is providing quarantine services for 1000 patients affected by coronavirus. The organization is giving monetary contributions, distributing food and medicines to those in need. They are also conducting online self-empowerment workshops and meditation for all ages, offered by their entire network of 8,500 centers worldwide.

Photo Courtesy of: Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University



#### **Centre for Public Health**

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Centre for Public Health assisted a Church in Abia state to establish a functional Food Bank to feed the vulnerable groups. They also established an online medical consultation platform to take care of people's non-urgent health problems in Nigeria.



#### **United Voices 4 Peace**

In responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, United Voices 4 Peace is using the arts to heal, build resilience, and raise awareness.

They recognize the arts and music as a unique catalyst to joy, comfort and social justice promoting unity and equality in trying times. United Voices 4 Peace is collecting and promoting creative



#### **IVolunteer International**

CSO associated with UN DGC

**IVolunteer** 

International has created a nation-wide (USA) platform that automatically connects volunteers with seniors. Senior citizens who need help getting their groceries shopped and delivered are matched and connected to volunteers in their local community who are willing and able to do so.

initiatives emerging from the artist community to combat misinformation and de-stigmatize groups.

Photo Courtesy of: United Voices 4 Peace



#### Soka Gakkai International (SGI)

CSO associated with UN DGC

Youth associated with SGI in Japan launched a Stay Home project on Twitter and Instagram to encourage young people to stay home to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. This project was developed according to the guidance of WHO and public health experts to release accurate and up-to-date information.

As the Japanese government emphasized that young people were vital in stopping an explosive and uncontrollable outbreak of the virus, SGI targeted young people for their project and gathered information on their behavior and information sources through their youth network. SGI decided to proactively spread accurate information via social media to prevent mis-infodemics and save lives. They hope that the project will inspire young people to relay the importance of social distancing and to refrain from nonessential, non-urgent outings with their peers.

Photo Courtesy of: SGI



#### Dhakabashi Organization

CSO associated with UN DGC

Dhakabashi Organization has tak en initiatives to serve people of old Dhaka by creating awareness for COVID-19. They are distributing hand sanitizer, face masks, and other house cleaning materials to the people living in old Dhaka. Additionally, they are providing food relief to those in

need. Dhakabashi Organization is also working on initiatives for road cleaning and mosquito eradication.

Dhakabashi Organization is following the guidelines given by Health Ministry of Bangladesh.

Photo Courtesy of: Dhakabashi Organization



# Engineering Association for Development & Environment (EADE)

The Engineering Association for **Development and Environment** (EADE) has been working to help support local capabilities as well as strengthen the role of civil society organizations in Iraq and Nineveh Governorate to face the COVID-19 crisis. EADE has donated 9 emergency stretchers to al-Salam Hospital in Mosul and put them at the disposal of the Nineveh Health Directorate for use in the quarantine hospital in Mosul. Organization volunteers have also participated in the sterilization campaigns for some religious places in Bashiqa Sub-District.

Photo Courtesy of: EADE









## Baha'i International Community

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Members of the Baha'i inspired educational program called Preparation for Social Action (PSA) have taken steps to confront the possibility of food shortages in their communities due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The PSA program, implemented in 17 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific, raises capacity in young people to apply knowledge drawn from both science and religion for the development of their communities.

Many participants in this program are expanding personal gardens and planting crops that can be harvested quickly, so as to create reliable sources of food over the coming months of uncertainty. A group of participants in Uganda is making use of local radio to promote awareness about food production.

Photo Courtesy of: Baha'i International Community



#### **Rotary International**

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Rotary was already working on supporting efforts to combat disease including: promoting prop er hand washing techniques, teaching people other ways to stay healthy, and supplying training and vital medical equipment to health care providers. Now Rotary is helping health authorities communicate lifesaving information about COVID-19 and donating protective gear and other supplies to clinics and hospitals that are under strain because of the pandemic.

Rotary International is working to maintain connections with global affiliates in order to overcome the effects of COVID-19. They are leveraging the strength of a combined network of 3.2 million members to provide comfort and hope to those feeling the effects of isolation and fear. They are focusing their collective skills, resources, and ideas to support frontline health workers and first responders as they battle the disease and save lives.

Photo Courtesy of: Rotary International



#### League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS)

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) is working to protect voting rights and democracy during the COVID-19 pandemic. They have called for adequate funding for measures including voter education (informing the public of new practices and immediately quashing disinformation as it arises), an extended early inperson voting period (allowing citizens to vote over an expanded period rather than in a cluster on Election Day), expanded voter registration options (including online voter registration and same-day voter registration), noexcuse absentee voting-by-mail, and prohibition of polling place adjustments that disproportionately impact vulnerable populations.

Photo Courtesy of: Multnomah County Communications



#### The Salvation Army

CSO associated with UN DGC



Nuestros Pequeños He rmanos (NPH USA)



**Society of Catholic Medical** 

and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The Salvation Army in Chicago has been distributing hand sanitizer, hygiene packs, blankets, masks, and 4,000 frozen meals daily. They provide masks, hand gloves and hand sanitizer for those who are

preparing the food distribution and those receiving the food basket. "People make an appointment, or if it is an emergency, they are given a time to come and pick up their food. Every person who has a need – their need is met when it comes to food."

The Salvation Army sets up a time for the people to pick up their food basket in a door that leads to the main entrance building; however, individuals must stand six feet apart as marked on the ground. It is of utmost importance to the Salvation Army that the people they serve are treated with dignity and respect. They will continue to meet the needs of people after this pandemic has passed by helping with rent, clothing, utilities payment and counseling.

Photo Courtesy of: The Salvation Army

CSO associated with UN DGC

As coronavirus starts to affect Latin America, NPH faces two immediate challenges. The first is maintaining all the services they provide to people, especially vulnerable children in their homes and surrounding communities.

The second is preventing infection and preparing for the inevitable cases, not only among the children in their care, but also affecting those who work for NPH.

NPH has 3,000 children in their care in 9 Latin American countries. They are also working to ensure medical supplies for their pediatric hospital, St. Damien, in Haiti, where 90,000 children receive care every year. Their current focuses include guaranteeing the supply of food and medicine for those in their care and focusing on children with special needs. Their Medical Services Team has set forth an Action Plan that outlines protocol for COVID-19 response. NPH has already taken steps to raise awareness about the virus and limit virus-exposure of their staff.

Photo Courtesy of: NPH USA

#### **Missionaries**

CSO associated with UN DGC and in consultative status with UN ECOSOC

The Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries has formed a COVID-19 Response Team at Techimen hospital in Ghana. Out

Patient Department (OPD) begins at 7 am so that clients are attended to on time to avoid crowding. The entrance to the hospital has been limited to the main entrance. All people coming in (including staff) are screened; their temperature is checked, and their hands sanitized with the hand sanitizer. Personal Protective Equipment depending on their area of work and what is needed, is available for all staff. The Public Health Team is active with public education and sensitization using all channels available.

Photo courtesy of: Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries

# Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)

CSO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC



BNNRC has been mobilizing sixteen community radios stations in Bangladesh for developing and broadcasting awareness building programs on COVID-19. The radios are broadcasting altogether 20 hours of programming daily on Coronavirus contamination in different formats including: news, Public Service Announcement (PSA), radio spots, radio chat, dramas, jingles, interviews and expert opinions. The contents of the programs include: methods and prevention of contamination/spread,

symptoms, service providing agencies, and service delivery points, and the role of people in the community. BNNRC says their guidelines are followed in accordance with the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), UNICEF, and the WHO COVID-19: Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan Operational Planning Guidelines to Support Country Preparedness and Response.

According to BNNRC, Community Radio stations are helping to raise awareness on COVID-19 and reinforcing Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) by CSOs, Government, health officials, and locally elected bodies (LEB). Community Radio stations are building awareness to change attitudes and activities of daily life and have been especially useful in making COVID-19 updates to rural communities. They are also providing a channel for two-way communication with people in the community as listeners are sending SMS or calling-in their questions.

Photo courtesy of: BNNRC



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Please visit the World Health Organization (WHO) <u>website</u> for the latest updates and guidance on the outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

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