



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN UZHAVOOR UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF KUDUMBASHREE



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UZHAVOOR CDS- UZHAVOOR GRAMA PANCHAYAT



Uzhavoor village is located in Meenachil Tehsil of Kottayam district in Kerala. Uzhavoor Kudumbashree Community Development Society (CDS) office is situated in panchayat building with representatives from all the 13 wards. In 2018 January 26, present CDS administrative committee took charge under the leadership of CDS chairperson Ms. Daisy Stephen. Present CDS committee is completing their 3 year tenure by successfully addressing the challenges made by the continuous flood disasters and Covid pandemic. CDS committee is confidently saying that they created a successful path by facing all the challenges with their united efforts and brought huge impact in social, economic and women empowerment sectors. Kudumbashree Community Development Society created opportunities and gave supports for all kind of beneficiaries which includes women, children, elderly people and vulnerable sections through the implementation of various projects designed by the government especially through Kudumbashree Mission.

Statistics:

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. District: Kottayam | 13. Members in Special NHGs: 54 |
| 2. Tehsil: Meenachil | 14. Total ADS: 13 |
| 3. Block: Uzhavoor | 15. Total JLGs: 36 |
| 4. Area: 26.67 sq KM | 16. JLG members: 159 |
| 5. Wards: 13 | 17. JLG bank Linkage: 15 groups |
| 6. Population: 21339 | 18. Total JLG Loan: 37,50,000/-Rs |
| 7. Women: 7295 | 19. Total Savings: 85,06,250/- Rs |
| 8. Total NHGs: 113 | 20. Total Internal Loan: 1.38 Cr |
| 9. NHG Members: 1653 | 21. Total ME Units: 29 |
| 10. Elderly NHGs: 10 | 22. Total Entrepreneurs: 91 |
| 11. Elderly NHG Members: 140 | 23. Individual ME: 11 |
| 12. Special NHG: 4 | 24. Group ME: 18 |

Achievements in General (2018-2020) :

1. Formed 10 Elderly NHGs
2. Successfully conducted Kudumbashree School programme & its assessment examinations in all NHGS with the participation of all NHG members.
3. Technology Fund & Sick ME revival funds are sanctioned for ME units with the continuous effort of CDS Committee.

Social Development Sector:

Balasabha

Varieties of innovative programmes & activities conducted for Balasabha children's to develop leadership qualities, creativity and social commitments in them. During the summer holidays of 2019, CDS arranged paper pen and paper bags making trainings for Balasabha members. For encouraging farming skills in Balasabha members, CDS committee distributed seeds and manures in association with 'Krishi Bhavan', agricultural department. In 2018, One day Seminar for Balasabha members, Jagratholsavam, In 2019 Pencil campaign, Building Resilience, In 2020, Science fest and 'Padana maala' programme's are organized for developing skills in Balasabha members.

Total Balasabha=26, Total Balasabha members= 468



Through **DDUGKY** scheme, 40+ students received skill trainings and 10 of them received job through this programme with the involvement of CDS committee.

DFK (Destitute Free Kerala) :

1. By conducting survey in CDS, 127 beneficiaries are found eligible from 13 wards and supplying Food Kits to all of them from 2019 July onwards. CDS committee is ensuring the timely supply of food kit for supporting DFK beneficiaries.
2. House Construction: Asraya beneficiaries sanctioned LIFE project house is constructed through the service of CDS registered women construction team.
3. Ensuring Supply of Medicines for Asraya beneficiaries: Supplying those medicines unavailable in government hospitals by purchasing from Neethi Medical Stores with a supporting document from Medical officer.
4. For Destitute free beneficiaries, Gramasabha and medical camps are conducting on regular basis.
5. Governing body is continuously monitoring DFK activities and taking steps for further progress.



Micro Enterprises & Livelihoods:

Stitching Units: 7

Textiles: 2

Laundry Unit: 1

Pappad Unit: 1

Pickle Unit: 2

Vegetable shop: 2

Mushroom Farm products: 1

Cold Storage & Chicken Stall: 2

Haritha Karma Sena Enterprises: 3

Construction Unit: 2

Nano Market: 1

Milk Product Unit: 1

Food Stand: 1

Stationary shop: 2

Janakeeya Hotel: 1

Farm Livelihoods:

- Farming is one of the major livelihood options for the people of Uzhavoor panchayat.
- 159 women members are finding their livelihoods from 36 JLGs

- 10 member women group engaged in 2.5 acres of fallow land farming. Tapioca, Banana, Vegetable cultivation are going here at its level best through the continuous hard work of this group.



- Kudumbashree Joint Liability Groups are engaging in their agricultural productions and thereby ensuring their livelihoods from a total of 28 acres of land under the leadership of CDS.

Micro Finance:

Under the leadership of CDS committee, Linkage loan of Rs 20175566/- is distributed to 68 registered groups and sanctioned 308054/- rupees as interest subsidy. 405000/- rupees distributed to 27 groups as revolving fund.

From the total availed CEF (Community Enterprise Fund) of 500000/- rupees, 900000/- rupees distributed to 6 group enterprises and 250000/- rupees distributed to 5 individual enterprises during this CDS tenure. Through this activity 30 Kudumbashree family received livelihood opportunity.

Evaluation committee meeting is conducting once in 3 months in the presence of officials from agricultural, health and banking sectors.

Success factor of Uzhavoor CDS is the healthy relation between CDS and grama panchayat administration. Panchayat administration and all representatives are giving enormous supports to CDS in bringing progress to panchayat through various schemes.

Gender Development:

1. Successfully Conducted Neetham Campaign
2. Successfully conducted Women self learning process in two stages
3. Found 23 Snehita calling bell beneficiaries
4. In 2019, Panchayat president inaugurated Gender Resource Centre, through GRC we are providing various trainings, capacity building programmes, counseling sessions and various mentally supporting activities to target groups.
5. We are providing various supports including legal supports to those needy people which include women, children and elderly people.
6. Trainings for vigilant groups, reading day celebrations, equality day celebrations, rural women day celebrations, energy conservation day celebrations, elderly day, family day, farming day celebrations etc conducted in CDS during our tenure.
7. Digital Literacy programme and establishing a mini library are some of the innovative thoughts came through our CDS committee.
8. PWD group formation is going on at CDS, due to Covid pandemic some delay happened in its implementation.

Special Activities:

Women Construction Group Formation:

With the involvement of ADMC, Kudumbashree, Panchayat President and VEO, we formed 15 member women construction group in 25.06.2018. This construction group successfully completed a LIFE house in 45 days time for the beneficiary living in 12th ward. In 2020 January, this group completed their second assignment and through this assignment one Asraya family member fulfilled her dream of her own home.

Best Practice of CDS:

Flood in 2018:

By considering the impact made in other CDSs, Uzhavoor was in safe zone. But we strongly made interventions in supporting other CDSs, by forming volunteer groups for undertaking cleaning and supporting activities. Our 40 member team supported affected people in our possible limit. We supported people in Pathanamthitta Maramon, Vaikom – Udhayanapuram, Kaduthuruthi regions by giving our cleaning and related services with great courage and enthusiasm. Panchayat administration also supported us in handling this situation.

- We donated 45000/-rupees in disaster relief fund
- We contributed our level best in Navakerala Lottery programme in getting maximum support from Kudumbashree network
- 200000 rupees worth clothes, food items, utensils etc donated to victims through our network.

Covid-19

We started community Kitchen for supporting people to get enough food during the pandemic situation. 200 people from 13 wards received its benefits.



Community Kitchen is converted into Janakeeya hotel in 24/05/2020. MLA Mr. Mons Joseph inaugurated our Janakeeya hotel and is now running successfully by providing food for public.

We undertook CFLTC food supply through our Janakeeya Hotel and providing food daily 4 times. For addressing the requirements and needs, we placed 4 hotel management course qualified candidates for bringing quality service through Janakeeya Hotel. Service and operation of Janakeeya Hotel entrepreneurs is outstanding and they are giving prime importance in giving quality food items at right time. After understanding their services, one retired teacher honored these women entrepreneurs by sponsoring Onam dress kit for all of them was an unforgettable feeling for us.



Most Satisfying time period in my life – Ms. Daisy Stephen, CDS chairperson

I am very happy and very much satisfied with the support received from my CDS committee members and from my beloved Kudumbashree members during the most challenging situations made by continuous flood disasters in 2018 & 2019 and Covid-19 in 2020. They gave me more energy and enthusiasm in implementing project schemes through their enormous and continuous support.

I am very glad and feeling proud in the development of women construction team and both the houses constructed through them, I got satisfaction, when I saw the happy faces of people who received free food through our community kitchen during Covid-19 season, currently we are able to manage daily free food for 20 plus needy people from the street. Being a CDS chairperson I am very much honored with all the efforts made by our team in my tenure. In 2019, in collaboration with Kitex Company, we managed to sponsor school bags for 125 students. We are also giving treatment and medical supports to needy people with the continuous involvement of our members. Social empowerment, economic empowerment, capacity building and convergences are made possible in Uzhavoor CDS through the strong interventions of my team for the last three years. I am appreciating my team and also my panchayat administration team who led from the front for me and gave me immense supports during my tenure to become a successful CDS Chairperson.

Thank You!

