

International Nurses Day 12th May 2024

***“Our Nurses. Our Future
The Economic Power of Care”***

Across the globe, “Nurses” are the backbone of healthcare systems, from hospitals and clinics to communities and disaster zones, nurses are the first point of contact for healthcare, providing essential services with skill, empathy, and dedication. Their holistic approach to patient care encompasses not just physical health but also mental and emotional well-being, making them indispensable pillars of support for individuals and families in times of need.

The theme for 2024 emphasizes the economic power of nursing and its contribution to global health. It's imperative to highlight the indispensable role nurses play in promoting One Health principles including in combating Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) like Leprosy, Lymphatic Filariasis and communicable diseases like Tuberculosis, which pose significant economic burdens.

Therefore, it is essential to invest in nursing education, training, and workforce development, equipping nurses with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to address these challenges effectively.

On International Nurses Day 2024, GLRA India appreciates and recognizes the vital contribution unwavering dedication and resilience of nurses who are working tirelessly for the well-being of the beneficiaries in our thematic priorities.

*Article by Ms. Chanda Jha – Program Coordinator,
GLRA India*

UPDATES

Transforming Lives through Vocational Skilling, Madhya Pradesh



Empowering women with disabilities is paving gender equality for lasting changes. GLRA's partner, St. Augustine Social Service Society has initiated a vocational tailoring training centre in Bhuthi, in the Barwani district. The centre was opened to the public by the civil body leaders in the presence of other stakeholders and community members.

This centre is set to offer a comprehensive one-year training program for 15 women with disabilities, focusing on enhancing their tailoring skills. This initiative promises to be a transformative force for the backward Pati administrative block, as it aims to foster skill development and generate employment opportunities.

Integrated Health Check-Up Camp at the oil Plant, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

The health checkup camp at the Indian Oil Bottle Plant provided comprehensive medical services to its employees. The camp recorded a total of 144 employees attending the outpatient services and the majority underwent general checkups such as blood pressure (BP), glucose random blood sugar (GRBS), in addition to TB screening, HIV testing and vision tests. The camp was organized by GLRA RF under the Apollo Tyre Foundation CSR initiative for promoting employee wellness and preventive healthcare. By offering a wide range of health screenings, the initiative aims to identify and address potential health issues early, ensuring a healthier workforce.

“WASH”

The Wellbeing of Women and Girls

The UN Population Fund has announced for the theme for Menstrual Hygiene Day 2024; “Together for a Period-Friendly World”. Poor menstrual health and hygiene undercut fundamental rights for women and girls, worsening social and economic inequalities. Insufficient resources to manage menstruation, as well as patterns of exclusion and shame, undermine human dignity. Gender inequality, extreme poverty, humanitarian crises and harmful traditions can amplify deprivation and stigma. Access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) is essential for the health and well-being of women and adolescent girls, particularly in rural India. Recent NFHS 5 (2019-20) data shows that access to safe drinking water is still challenging in rural areas with more than 60% of rural households lacking access to piped water. This situation significantly impacts women and girls due to inadequate WASH services. Adolescent girls often miss school during menstruation due to the absence of proper sanitary facilities, affecting their education and future opportunities.

GLRA India recognizes the critical impact of WASH on the lives of women and adolescent girls and is actively involved in enhancing access to these essential services such as the construction of sanitary facilities, provision of clean water sources, comprehensive hygiene education programs and the use of sanitary kits. By partnering with local governments and organizations, GLRA strengthens the capacity of communities to manage and maintain WASH facilities, fostering resilience and self-sufficiency.

Article by Ms Deepa Lakshmi. MEAL Officer, GLRA India

Voices of Empathy: Episode 8 -Shaping Healthier Communities: The Vitality of SBCC



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Explore the indispensable role of Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) in healthcare on Voices of Empathy. This insightful segment delves into how SBCC initiatives drive positive health outcomes and promote sustainable development practices. By influencing healthy behaviors and attitudes, SBCC plays a crucial role in shaping healthier communities. Tune in to understand the profound impact of GLRA's interventions in SBCC for transforming public health landscapes and fostering lasting improvements in community well-being

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Unveiling Project Axshya Plus: Key Insights from Madhya Pradesh's TB Battlefront

The State NTEP Cell of Madhya Pradesh convened a two-day orientation workshop on IGRA testing for District Tuberculosis Officers (DTOs) and District Program Coordinators (DPCs) at Bhopal on May 8-9, 2024. The workshop was attended by WHO consultants, STSU experts, and State TB Cell. Based on the final outcome of Project Axshya Plus, GLRA India, the implementation partner for Project Axshya Plus in 27 districts in the state has shared its field insights. As IGRA testing transitions to NTEP staff, GLRA-India's experiences underscored the importance of stakeholder collaboration and highlighted the necessity of understanding community-specific TB needs, fostering critical thinking, and solving challenges. Effective communication and partnerships were pivotal, demonstrating how collective efforts can drive positive health outcomes.

Exhibition Drives for TB Awareness, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



To curb the transmission of tuberculosis (TB) and enhance health awareness, a canopy exhibition was hosted at Transport Nagar, Lucknow, targeting the trucking community. The event was supported by local health authorities and NGOs, and information on TB transmission, common signs and symptoms such as persistent cough, night sweats, low-grade fever, and weight loss were shared, stressing the importance of early diagnosis and adherence to treatment. This grassroots initiative is integral to the national strategy on TB, aiming to foster a well-informed and health-conscious trucking community.

Work environment and Mental Health

The importance of fostering a supportive and compassionate work environment is the need of the hour. GLRA India organized a virtual session to raise mental health awareness among its employees. The session was facilitated by Mr. Rohit Kumar Tiwari, Mental Health Officer, NLR India and his technical presentation on the importance of mental health in the workplace was insightful. Emphasizing that mental health is as crucial as physical health, encouraged employees to seek help when needed, highlighting that it is a sign of strength, not weakness. Promoting mental well-being and staying informed can significantly impact employees' lives. By breaking the stigma associated with mental health issues, organizations can cultivate a culture of empathy and understanding, ultimately enhancing overall workplace well-being.

The beauty of LIFE

"Life isn't all about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain".

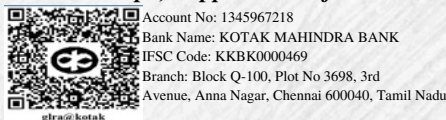
The beauty of life is just the beautiful minds, hearts and souls that make this universe beautiful. Step into it and feel the most wonderful things. Look at a caterpillar that turns into a butterfly and feel the love and happiness it conveys to this world. While thanking for this life and the things given, one should look at those who are deprived on many fronts, and care for them by stretching forth your hand. Keep away from self-pride to make your mind peaceful where you will start finding the beauty of life.

Article by Ms. Belina Murthi, Divisional Finance Manager-South

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