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Aurat Foundation

Blue Veins Vision

Blue Veins has a vision of a world where women lives healthy educated, free and safe lives. Where equality and dignity is a right not a privilege. Where women spend their life creating and thriving, rather than surviving victimization and recovering from atrocities.

Blue Veins Mission

The mission of Blue Veins is to work together in harmony with a higher spirit to improve the quality of life of women and children and establish a people-centered framework for empowerment, sustainable health, and a social development to guide, to build up a culture of cooperation and partnership and to respond to the immediate needs of those who are vulnerable. Blue Veins empowers women to articulate demand and access their rights by enhancing women's leadership and building networks.

BLUE VEINS

June 2016

NEWSLETTER Vol. 2

UNDER GENDER EQUITY PROGRAM

Dear Readers,

Greetings!

The second quarter of Project "Strengthening District Bar Associations & Setting Up Facilitation Kiosks in Courts" under Gender Equity Program of Aurat Foundation, supported by the American people through United States Agency for International Development" (USAID) has been successfully completed with remarkable achievements and meeting the project milestones timely. We delightfully present you the second edition of the newsletter under GEP which highlights the activities observed during the second quarter. The newsletter covers a success story of the second quarter to mark the incredible efforts of Blue Veins in smooth implementation of the project and reach the ultimate goal of access to justice through Gender Equity Program. You can get more information about Blue Veins from our website <http://blueveins.org/> and via our Facebook and Twitter accounts @BlueVeinsPak for in depth information about the activities of our organization. We hope this newsletter will keep you informed about Gender Equity Program Cycle-8 during the project cycle.

Warm regards,

Tahira Kaleem

Project Manager - Gender Equity Program



Project Activities at a Glance



1st Quarter Meeting with District Bar Association and Formation of Gender, Human Rights and Jail Committees

GEP-Blue Veins organized a meeting with cabinet and members of District Bar Association on completion of 1st quarter of the project to share the progress of Blue Veins and also to plan for upcoming activities. The meeting resulted in formation of three committees of District Bar Association namely: Human Rights, Jail and Gender committee.



Situational Analysis of District Bar for Uplift and rehabilitation:

: To rehabilitate the district bar and establish a resource centre, Blue Veins developed a situational analysis survey tool and carried out five phase survey to chart out the need of district bar. The data collected was compiled and analyzed to develop a need based plan for up-gradation of district bar.



: Kiosk Facilitators Trainings on Paralegal Assistance, IT and management skills

The kiosk Facilitators were trained on the modules of Paralegal assistance, Basic court Procedures, Prowomen Laws, Basic IT and management skills. The 5-days training was conducted by certified Trainers on each module. The purpose of the training was to train the kiosk staff for better performance of their duties on desk and to enhance their skills to avoid delay in access to justice.

Project Activities at a Glance



Celebration of International Women's Day under Gender Equity Program

Blue Veins marked international Women's Day and celebrated the day with commitment to parity of women. The event was moderated by Mr. Qamar Naseem (Program Coordinator-Blue Veins) and the guests of honor included Mr. Mukhtar Bacha (Provincial President of the National Party-KP) Mr. Radesh Sing (Representative- Minorities Rights) and Mr. Shamim Shahid (Senior Journalist). The event was successful in highlighting the role of women in society and promoting positive image of women in every walk of life.



Female Lawyers Forum formed for the Support of Sexual and Gender Based Violence Survivors

A traceable success of the project was the "formation of Women lawyer forum" steadfast to provide free legal services to women Sexual and Gender Based Violence survivors. The women lawyers will be part of District Women Support Group as well.



Training of Trainer conducted by Strengthening Participatory Organization-National Coordinator GEP

Strengthening Participatory Organization-National Coordinator GEP, conducted 5days training on four modules of Gender, Prowomen Laws, International obligations, Family laws and Qisas and Diyat. Ms Tahira Kaleem-Project Manager-GEP and Ms Khushnuma-Kiosk Facilitator-GEP form Blue Veins participated in the training. The training was attended by participants of all the GEP Implementing Partners where participants will replicate the trainings in their respective districts for building the capacity of lawyers of district bar association.



District Women Support Group Formation (Success Story)

One of the challenge in implementing the milestone of support group formation was bring together the pro-bono lawyers and service provider organizations of Peshawar on a platform where they developed certain mechanism of coordination to meet the need of litigants and assist them together to help them seek justice in substantial and measurable way.

To meet the goal of providing free legal aid to women in distress along with other relief services, the 'District Women Support Group Formation' is one of the visible and remarkable achievements of Blue Veins under Gender Equity Program.

“All the civil society organizations working for the same cause seldom meet but today CSOs are brought back together by District Women Support group meeting, for a good cause to which we all are committed” Nazra Syed-Regional manager-Khwendo Kor.

The lawyers were introduced to the organizations and two-way referral mechanism was developed to work in collaboration for righteous cause.

“Linkages between the lawyers of District Women Support Group and referral organization would be very beneficial to provide free legal aid and other services at once to a litigant and GBV survivor” Amna Rafique- Advocate High Court-Peshawar.

For the first time in Peshawar most of the vigorous civil society organizations were brought together and agreed upon collaboration for supporting survivors of violence in Peshawar.

“I anticipate that District Support group will bridge the gap between various stakeholders The quality of services for female victims of gender-based violence, especially sexual and physical abuse, and the access to such services, will increase to meet the needs” Zar Ali Khan Chairman FATA Commission for Human Rights.

Blue Veins also developed a Facebook page www.facebook.com/Access2JusticeKP, where the civil society organizations working as referral /service providers and pro-bono Lawyers coordinate for the registered cases of women Sexual and gender based violence survivors for their considerable justice and relief.

“15 cases of Sexual and Gender Based violence has been registered under the program and taken up by the pro-bono lawyers”, Mr. Qamar Naseem-Program Coordinator-Blue Veins.



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