

More than 2.27 million people in India (as of 10th August) are infected from COVID-19 with numbers increasing rapidly. India is one of the worst affected country especially the state of Maharashtra where the project is located. Field activities for Poshan have been stopped for last four months due to the nationwide lockdown. But while this is the ground situation, our team has continued interacting and training the government officials and parents at the project location through online sessions and telephonic discussions. Not limiting the interactions and sessions to malnutrition, we have also trained the both the target groups on key aspects of COVID-19.

### ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED



**Providing ration and essential kit for Poshan beneficiaries and low income families**



**Providing masks, gloves and sanitizers for frontline health workers**



**Training of frontline health workers and community members through virtual session**

## Ration kit distribution in Karjat

UWM has taken the initiative to provide the ration kits for the whole family of undernourished children so that not only the undernourished kids can get the nutrition but at the same time families can also be benefit. For this the most needy and underserved families were identified and a list was put together. The kits were provided at the event while following social distancing protocols.

484 ration kits were distributed among the families of 510 undernourished children in 11 tribal villages of Karjat. Most people in these villages are daily wage earners and work at brick kilns of nearby villages, which ceased worked during the lockdown forcing most of the people to return to their villages. This caused a worsening of the health of undernourished children during the current pandemic.



Field team distributing the ration kits to the families of undernourished children in Karjat



Above: CDPO - Karjat - 2 handing over ration kit to Rishikesh mother

*"Mohan is a daily wage earner and the sole breadwinner in his family. He earns his wages by working at the brick kilns in nearby villages. Due to the lockdown the work at the brick kilns were shut down and he had to return with his family to his village with hardly enough money in hand. The "Take Home Ration" (THR) received from the village Anganwadi centre was insufficient for the family, which consisted of 8 members. Rishikesh, his one and half year old child is Severe Acute Malnourished (SAM) and is enrolled under UWM's Project Poshan.*

*Mohan said to the team during the UWM ration kits distribution: "Our income is based on the work we do on a daily basis. We couldn't find any work during the lockdown. United Way Mumbai's ration kit will ensure that my family and I have enough to eat at this difficult time and also make sure our children receive proper nutrition."*

*\*Asha is Rishikesh's mother and has received the ration kit during the distribution.*



Health safety kits handed over to Taluka Health Officer, Karjat

## Providing health safety kits to frontline health workers

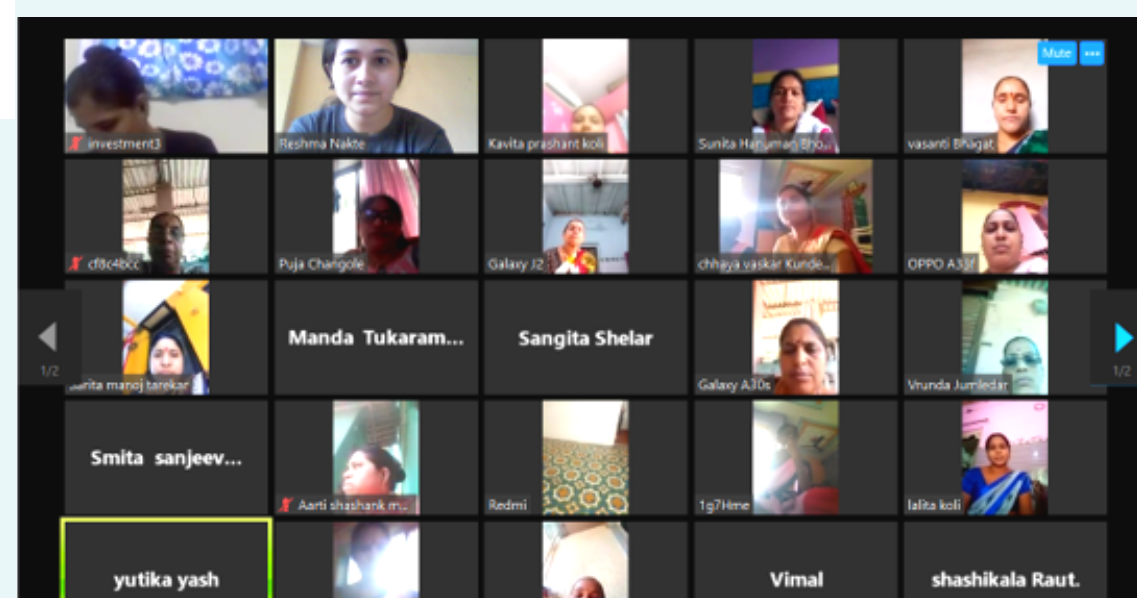
Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in Karjat were facing a shortage of health and safety kits for frontline workers. There are 6 Primary Health Centres (PHC) in Karjat catering to COVID-19 positive patients as well as regular patients, including pregnant mothers and children. This increases the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for patients who are not infected. The Taluka Health Officer requested for health and safety kits for PHCs in Karjat.

To strengthen PHCs, UWM has provided the following supplies - 200 face shields, 200 N-95 masks, 2900 pairs of hand gloves, 34 litres of hand sanitiser, 6 pulse oximeters, 33 litres of hand wash, 6 foot-operated sanitiser dispensers and 6 IR thermometers, all of which were handed over to Dr. More, Karjat Taluka health officer for 6 primary health centres.

## Video Sessions for frontline workers and community

After the nationwide lockdown, our team continued training sessions for frontline health workers and counselling for parents through video and phone calls. A webinar was conducted this month for Anganwadi workers on safety measures during COVID-19. 67 Anganwadi workers and their ICDS supervisors participated in this session. Topics discussed during the training included response for COVID-19 and its prevention, care during pregnancy and lactation. The session also focused on management of malnourished children at home.

Our field team also reached out to 1194 community members through phone calls to counsel them on personal protection during the COVID-19 pandemic



Zoom call session with Anganwadi workers and community members

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT POSHAN