

## WOMEN HYGIENE DRIVE

WHAC/23/2018-19

Village Wazidpur, Noida.

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

To the lay person, menstruation is a basic biological function for a woman, and thus her personal problem. That is mostly where the understanding begins and ends. But this deeply engraved taboo has a lot of impact, which is still not the part of the bigger discourse. Menstruation can be a monthly disaster for women who are still invisible to the larger world. Menstrual hygiene is a neglected issue in rural India.



Oxygen & Sahyog foundation strongly feels that the menstrual hygiene awareness is very important. To discuss the issues with adolescent girls we organized awareness session at Govt School, Wazidpur, District Gautam Budh nagar Noida on 17 September 2018. Three critical aspects i.e. awareness about menstrual health and hygiene, access to menstrual products, affordability of various options were discussed with 65 girls attending the session. Before we solve them, there is a fundamental aspect of making this issue normal, which is most important. That calls for a change in the larger eco-system and mindset of our society.



During the session CSR team highlighted that “Lack of menstrual hygiene in adolescent girls can make them susceptible to various morbidities, for example, reproductive tract infection and urinary tract infection and their long-term consequences, for example, cervical cancer, infertility, and ectopic pregnancy”. The Objectives of the session “To elicit the menstrual hygiene practices among the Females and find out the association of poor menstrual hygiene practices with socio demographic factors, such as age, occupation and education of the parents, housing, and presence of-sanitary toilet” were step by step discussed. Session revealed that good menstrual hygiene was more among those whose mothers were educated and who was homemaker’s. Menstrual hygiene among the girls was found to be poor. While discussing the experience of Teachers with these girls at School, we came to a conclusion that improving education level of the mothers can go a long way in improving menstrual hygiene practice.

Oxygen CSR team is on its way to explore the possibility of organizing a session for Mothers at Wazidpur.

Hope to meet them soon!!!

Seema Khurana

CSR Activist

