



GLOBAL GRANTS COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Use this form to report community assessment findings to The Rotary Foundation when you apply for a global grant.

Assessing the strengths, weaknesses, needs, and assets of the community you plan to help is an essential first step in designing an effective and sustainable global grant project. See [Community Assessment Tools](#) for full instructions and helpful tips.

This form will help you report the results of your community assessment, and it's required when you apply for any humanitarian or vocational training team grant. Complete a separate form for each beneficiary community (e.g., school, healthcare system, or village), using information that is both current and specific to each community. Remember, you can't use global grant funds to cover the cost of doing an assessment, but you can use district grantfunds.

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Describe the characteristics (such as geographic information, main sources of income, population size, and access to education and health services) of the specific community where this project will take place.

- Population Overview: Total Population: Approximately 2L (Thiruvalla and Paippad)
- Age Distribution: 0-14=20%, 15-64= 65%, Above 65= 15%
- Gender Distribution Male 49%, Female 51%
- Average Household Income: Approx INR 15000
- Employment rate: 38%
- Literacy rate: 95%

COLLECTING COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT DATA

When you conducted the assessment, who in the community did you speak to? At least two different community representatives and beneficiaries who are not involved in Rotary (such as teachers, doctors, or community leaders) should be included in the discussions.

Thiruvalla Member of Legislative Assembly: Mr. Mathew T Thomas on July 24th, 2023

Paippad Panchayath President: Mr. K D Mohanan: on Dec 26th, 2023

Asha worker (Panchayath) Mrs. Anie George: Aug 1, 2023

When in the last year did the discussions occur?

- July 24th, 2023
- July 24th, 2023
- Aug 1, 2023

What methods did you use to collect information from community members (such as community meetings, interviews, or focus groups)?

- Focused group: Meeting with Asha workers in Thiruvalla Municipality and Paippad Panchayath
- Focused group: Pain And Palliative volunteers (Kanivu)
- Interview: MLA and Panchayath President

TARGET POPULATION

Who will benefit directly from the project? List the groups that will benefit (such as schools, hospitals, vocational training centers, cooperatives, or villages).

1. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Patients:

- Current CKD Patients: The primary target population includes the approximately 500 individuals in Thiruvalla currently requiring regular dialysis due to CKD.
- New CKD Cases: The project also targets the anticipated increase in CKD patients, with projections indicating a 5% annual growth rate in the number of patients needing dialysis.

2. Economically Disadvantaged Patients:

- Low-Income Individuals: A significant portion of the target population includes low-income patients who struggle to afford the high costs of dialysis treatments, especially those not covered by government schemes or insurance.
- Needy Patients: The hospital's commitment to provide one free dialysis session per day per machine specifically targets the most financially vulnerable individuals, ensuring they receive the necessary treatment without incurring additional financial stress.

3. Patients Currently Turned Away:

- Overflow Patients: The project also targets the 4-5 patients who are currently turned away daily due to the hospital's lack of capacity. These patients will now have a greater chance of receiving timely and necessary dialysis treatment.

4. Elderly Population:

- Senior Citizens (65 years and above)*: Given that 15% of Thiruvalla's population is aged 65 and above, many of whom are at higher risk for CKD, this group is a key target for the increased dialysis capacity

provided by the project.

5. Residents in Surrounding Areas:

- Neighboring Communities: The project also targets CKD patients from nearby rural or semi-urban areas who travel to Thiruvalla for dialysis due to the lack of facilities in their localities. Expanding capacity in Thiruvalla will help accommodate these patients as well.

6. Under-Served and High-Risk Groups:

- Diabetic and Hypertensive Patients: The project targets those with underlying conditions like diabetes and hypertension, which are leading causes of CKD. Early intervention and improved access to dialysis can help manage their condition more effectively.

- Rural Population: Rural residents, who often have limited access to healthcare facilities, are also a crucial part of the target population. The project aims to reduce their travel burden and improve access to essential dialysis services.

Describe the process of how the beneficiaries were identified.

1. Interview with the MLA:

2. Interview with the Panchayat President:

3. Focus Group with ASHA Workers and Pain & Palliative Care Volunteers:

4. Consultation with Hospital Management: (Thiruvalla Medical Mission Hospital)

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS, NEEDS, PRIORITIES, AND PROJECT DESIGN

Describe what members of the community said matters to them during the assessment.

1. Interview with the MLA:

- The MLA provided insights into the prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in the area and the urgent need for additional dialysis services. This highlighted the broader healthcare challenges and validated the necessity for the project

2. Interview with the Panchayat President:

- The Panchayat President shared localized information, particularly focusing on economically disadvantaged groups. This helped pinpoint the specific populations most in need of dialysis services, such as low-income families and the elderly.

3. Focus Group with ASHA Workers and Pain & Palliative Care Volunteers:

- These healthcare workers provided firsthand accounts of CKD patients' struggles, especially those with limited access to healthcare. Their input was vital in identifying individuals who would benefit most from the project.

About ASHA worker: ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers are crucial to India's rural healthcare system. These women serve as the vital link between healthcare services and remote

communities. They provide maternal and child health care, promote immunizations, and educate families on health practices. Often the first point of contact in rural areas, ASHA workers are essential in preventing diseases and improving public health by ensuring that critical services reach the most underserved populations. Their dedication empowers communities and enhances overall well-being across the country.

4. Consultation with Hospital Management: (Thiruvalla Medical Mission Hospital)

- The hospital confirmed that their current dialysis capacity is insufficient, leading to patients being turned away daily. They also provided data on the financial challenges faced by many patients, reinforcing the need for the proposed additional machines.

This streamlined identification process ensures that the dialysis project targets those who are most in need, with a focus on expanding access to critical healthcare services for vulnerable populations.

Describe the community's strengths and resources.

1. Established Healthcare Infrastructure:

- Hospital Facilities: Thiruvalla is home to well-established hospitals with experience in managing chronic diseases, including CKD. The presence of a reputable hospital with a long history of patient-friendly care ensures reliable and effective implementation of the dialysis project.

- Existing Dialysis Units: The hospital already has a functional dialysis unit, providing a strong foundation for expanding capacity and integrating new machines.

2. Skilled Healthcare Workforce

- Qualified Medical Staff: The community benefits from a skilled workforce of nephrologists, nurses, and dialysis technicians who are experienced in managing CKD and providing high-quality care.

- Dedicated Volunteers: ASHA workers and pain and palliative care volunteers contribute significantly to patient care, providing essential support and outreach services to those in need.

3. Active Community Organizations:

- Rotary Club: The Rotary Club of Paippad is a key player in community health initiatives, bringing resources, organizational skills, and a commitment to improving local healthcare.

- Local NGOs and Support Groups: Various non-governmental organizations and support groups are active in Thiruvalla, offering assistance and advocacy for patients with chronic conditions.

Describe any challenges and gaps in the community's behaviors, skills, and knowledge.

1. Limited Awareness and Education:

- CKD Awareness: Many people lack knowledge about chronic kidney disease, its symptoms, and the importance of early diagnosis.
- Dialysis Understanding: Some patients may not fully understand the need for or details of dialysis treatment.

2. Behavioral Barriers:

- Health-Seeking Behavior: Cultural or financial barriers may discourage timely medical visits.
- Adherence Issues: Patients may struggle to follow treatment plans due to socioeconomic constraints or lack of support.

3. Socioeconomic Constraints:

- Financial Barriers: Patients may face difficulties affording dialysis and related services.
- Access to Resources: Limited access to transportation and support services can hinder regular treatment.

What issues will the project address, and how does the community currently address those issues?

1. Limited Dialysis Capacity

- Issue: Current capacity is insufficient, leading to patients being turned away daily.

2. Financial Barriers for Patients

- Issue: Many patients struggle to afford the costs of dialysis and related healthcare services.

3. Lack of Awareness and Education

- Issue: There is limited public awareness about chronic kidney disease and its management.

4. Healthcare System Strain

- Issue: The existing healthcare system faces strain due to insufficient resources and capacity.

Community Responses to Address These Issues

1. Healthcare Infrastructure

- Response: The community already has a well-established hospital with a history of providing patient-friendly care. The new machines will enhance this infrastructure, improving service delivery.

2. Community Organizations

- Response: Organizations like the Rotary Club of Paippad and local NGOs are actively involved in health initiatives and will support the project through resource mobilization and advocacy.

3. Public Awareness Campaigns

- Response: There are ongoing efforts to increase public awareness and education about health issues, including CKD. The project aligns with these efforts by potentially providing educational resources and outreach.

4. Local Governance

- Response: The Panchayat and local leaders are engaged in addressing community needs and can support the project by facilitating its implementation and ensuring it reaches those who need it most.

By addressing these issues, the project will strengthen the local healthcare system, provide essential support to patients, and contribute to overall community health improvement.

Provide the specific details of the project design and how it will solve these issues.

Project details:

1. Dialysis Machines

- Number of Machines: 3
- Capacity per Machine: Each machine can treat 3 patients per day.
- Free Treatments: 1 free treatment per machine per day.
- MOU Duration: 5 years

2. Financial and Resource Allocation

- Total Project Cost: INR 26 lakh
- Financial Relief Provided: Free treatments valued at INR 1,500 each, totaling INR 13.5 lakh annually.

3. Implementation and Monitoring

- Hospital Partner: TMM is A well-established hospital in Thiruvalla with a history of patient-friendly care.

- Monitoring: Regular evaluation of machine usage and patient feedback to ensure effective implementation.

How the Project Solves the Issues

1. Limited Dialysis Capacity

- Solution: The addition of 3 new machines will increase the total daily capacity by 9 patients (3 machines x 3 patients each). This enhances the hospital's ability to accommodate more patients and reduce wait times. Over 5 years, the increased capacity will allow for 40,500 additional treatments.

2. Financial Barriers for Patients

- Solution: Providing 1 free treatment per machine per day (totaling 900 free treatments annually) addresses financial barriers for economically disadvantaged patients. This reduces their out-of-pocket expenses and ensures they receive necessary care without financial strain. The total financial relief over 5 years amounts to INR 67.5 lakh.

3. Lack of Awareness and Education

- Solution: The project can serve as a platform to increase awareness about chronic kidney disease and the importance of regular treatment. Collaborating with the hospital and community organizations, educational materials and outreach programs can be integrated to improve public knowledge.

4. Healthcare System Strain

- Solution: By expanding the capacity of the dialysis unit, the project alleviates pressure on the existing healthcare system. It helps the hospital manage patient load more effectively, leading to better service delivery and reduced strain on resources.

Describe the long-term plan for the project (such as oversight, financial responsibilities, and expected behavior change) after Rotary's involvement ends.

1. Oversight and Management

- Hospital Oversight: The hospital will manage and oversee the daily operation of the donated dialysis machines. They will be responsible for scheduling treatments, maintaining the machines, and ensuring the quality of care.

- Regular Evaluations: The Rotary Club of Paippad will conduct periodic evaluations to assess the usage of the machines, patient satisfaction, and overall impact. This ensures that the project remains effective, and any issues are promptly addressed.

- Reporting: The hospital will provide regular reports on the utilization of the machines, including the number of treatments given and the number of free treatments provided, ensuring transparency and accountability.

2. Financial Responsibilities

- Operational Costs: The hospital will cover the ongoing operational costs of the dialysis units, including

maintenance, staffing, and utilities. These costs will be integrated into the hospital's budget.

- Sustainability Plan: The hospital has committed to sustaining the dialysis units beyond Rotary's involvement. This includes budgeting for the machines' upkeep and integrating the free treatments into their financial model.

- Funding and Grants: Once installed, all the expenses that may occur in future will be met by the hospital management. It will be detailed in the MOU.

3. Expected Behavior Change After Rotary's Involvement Ends

-Enhanced Capacity Utilization: The increased capacity will lead to improved management of patient loads and reduced waiting times. This behavior change is expected to be sustained as the hospital adapts to the new capacity.

- Financial Assistance Integration: The practice of providing free treatments will become a standard part of the hospital's service offerings, integrated into their financial planning to ensure continued support for economically disadvantaged patients.

- Increased Awareness and Education: With the increased focus on CKD due to the project, the hospital will likely continue educational initiatives and awareness programs. These efforts will help maintain high levels of public knowledge and engagement with healthcare services.

- Community and Healthcare System Adaptation: The hospital and community will adapt to the improved dialysis infrastructure, leading to more efficient patient care and a stronger healthcare system overall. Continued collaboration between local organizations and the hospital will help sustain these benefits.

Summary

The long-term plan ensures that the dialysis project remains effective through hospital oversight, clear financial responsibilities, and integration of free treatments into the hospital's standard offerings. These measures will help maintain and build upon the improvements achieved during Rotary's involvement, supporting continued access to critical dialysis services for the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (FOR ALL ENVIRONMENT AND WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE PROJECTS)

What are currently the greatest environmental threats to local land, air, water resources, and the ecosystem?

List any cultural practices that are relevant to the project (such as agricultural techniques or traditions).

What positive and negative environmental changes do you expect to result from the project?

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