

Message



Bangladesh has shown remarkable improvement in health sector with the governmental initiatives and endeavors. NGOs are playing an important role in expediting the set of actions. Pathfinder International, a leader in global health technical areas and a successful partner in the

development and cost effective implementation of donor-funded programs launched the NGO Health Service Delivery Project (NHSDP) in January 2013. NHSDP is a five-year USAID and DFID co-funded largest health initiative in Bangladesh. The project expects that access to and uptake of essential health care services will improve health outcomes and contribute to decreasing fertility and maternal, infant, and child mortality and achieve respective MDG goals of the government of Bangladesh.

The project's primary focus is to provide quality services for poor and under served populations throughout Bangladesh by providing financial, technical and capacity building support to a network of 26 national non-governmental organizations (NGO). The project complements the goals of the Government's Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Program.

The project supports the delivery of primary health care through a nationwide network called Surjer Hashi, or "Smiling Sun." The network consists of 26 local NGOs, 344 static clinics, 9,018 satellite clinics, and 6,666 community service providers. NHSDP serves approximately 23 million people. The project since 2013 is providing 65 million total service contacts of all types.

Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh is involved in imparting training, research and health care service. Various programs are undertaken to create health and social awareness among the population and health care providers. I hope with the principles of working together and supporting each other this organization would be able to contribute very effectively in developing a healthy nation.

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Department of Public Health Daffodil International University (DIU)

Daffodil International University (DIU) is recognized in independent government assessments as one of top graded universities in Bangladesh. The university has been founded by Daffodil Group with the approval of the Ministry of Education under the Private University Act of 1992 and its amendment in 1998 and Daffodil International University came into being on 24th January 2002, the University today combines impressive modern facilities and a dynamic approach to teaching and research with its proud heritage of service and achievement.

Daffodil International University's mission is defined by its IT-based traditions of service and access. The University is serving the citizens of the country through its instructions, research, and outreach programs and preparing Bangladesh to respond successfully to the challenges of global economy. DIU is the first complete digital university in Bangladesh for technology-based education and operation with such facilities as computer labs, LFS, education ERP and WIFI on campus.

Master of Public Health at DIU

The Department of Public Health at DIU is a leading institution for teaching, training and providing Public Health Professionals with effective skills and useful expertise.

The mission of the Public Health Department at DIU is to promote health among individuals and communities in Bangladesh and overseas, particularly, in the developing nations through integrated multidisciplinary approaches to education and training, research and activities, appropriate for particular peoples or regions, and community engagement through empowerment of the clientele groups. Our priorities include quality education encompassing the values of academic excellence, health as a human right, equal opportunities for all, community engagement and sustainable multidisciplinary programs with partnership of government, NGOs and the clientele groups. The courses target not only the existing workers and professionals in the health sectors but also new intakes in order to build up a new generation of workforce to combat the causes, issues, problems related to public health in modern times. There is a planning to offer Bachelor of Public Health, MPH in Social Medicine and M.Phil in the near future.

There is an arrangement for flexible option as per needs of the respective learners which facilitate the completion of course within minimum time. The MPH at DIU is a credit-based curriculum incorporating national and international curriculum and needs. The master's program at DIU is accepting self-financing international students. It is an important goal that the department maintains a study environment of international standards and the courses are updated on a regular basis. It has collaborations with a number of national and international universities and organizations such as McMaster University, Canada, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Tribhuban University, Kathmandu, Nepal Kathmandu University, Nepal .USAID, UNFPA . There are highly qualified faculty members from home and abroad holding PhD degrees from America and Europe.

Activities of department of Public health of DIU

Workshops, seminars and symposia are arranged regularly on different current Public Health issues. Public Health department arranged cervical cancer awareness program, Breast cancer awareness program and blood donation programs in the campus. Hepatitis B vaccination and cervical cancer vaccination programs were also conducted.

Celebration of 1st Public Health Foundation Day, 08 December, 2013

Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh (phfbd) in collaboration with icddr,b, celebrated 1st Public Health Foundation day on December 8, 2013. On this occasion 2 days scientific conference was organized at Sasakawa Auditorium, icddr,b, Mohakhali, Dhaka on 7-8 December, 2013.



Prof. Dr. M.A. Majed, the former Adviser to the Care Taker Govt. of Bangladesh was the honourable Chief Guest in the inaugural session, while Prof. Dr. Soroj Kumar Majumder, Director, NIPSOM, Dr. Badri Raj Pande, Chairman, Nepal Public Health Foundation and Prof. Dr. T.A. Chowdhury, the eminent obstetrician & gynecologist were the Special Guests. Prof. Dr. Muzaherul Huq, Chairman of the foundation presided over the inaugural session.

The whole program was coordinated by Prof. Dr. Sharmeen Yasmeen in the capacity of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of phfbd. Dr. Aftabuddin of icddr,b worked as Local Coordinator with the full support from his team of icddr,b.

Public health awards were distributed to two eminent personalities

who have contributed in public health education and public health service. Professor Emeritus Dr. AKM Kafiluddin was awarded for promoting public health education and Prof. Dr. AK Azad Khan was awarded for promoting public health service in Bangladesh.

The main objective of the conference was to encourage the public health professionals and researchers to share a common platform with other health professionals who are also the integral part of public health achievements in Bangladesh. Through the conference participants had the scopes to explore innovative thoughts and ideas to be coordinated with their current and futuristic actions towards building a healthy nation.

In the 2 days scientific sessions public health professionals from home and abroad presented their scientific and research papers in 9 public health issues' theme based scientific sessions. All the sessions were chaired by very eminent personalities and experts in the relevant theme of the sessions.

Prof. Dr. Mahmudur Rahman, Director, IEDCR, presented the keynote paper-I on "Emerging Infectious Diseases: Potential Threat to Global Public Health" and Dr. Md. Khairul Islam, Country Director, Water- Aid, presented keynote paper-II on "Health Sector in Bangladesh: Need for More and Better Financing". Professor Dr. Rajeev Saxena, Professor and Head, Dept. of General Pathology and Microbiology, Sinhgad Dental College and Hospital, Pune, India graced the occasion by his presence and scholarly paper presentation.

Various NGOs in the field of public health were also given the opportunity to disseminate their activities and best learning experience. Besides a good number of posters were also exhibited by some young health professionals.

The program was ended with the announcement of invitation to the "2nd Public Health Foundation Day" to be observed on December 08, 2014.

Dr. Md. M. Islam Bulbul joins "The 2nd Joint Research Network Forum" on NCDs, Peeking University, Beijing, China

Dr. M. Islam Bulbul member of Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh has actively participated in the 2nd Joint Research Network Forum" on NCDs in Peeking University, Beijing, China from 12 to 15 December 2013.

Asia Alliance on Global Health (AAGH) organized this programme to finalize the research topic on NCDs which were discussed at the 1st joint research network forum held in Thailand. The vision of AAGH is "Better Collaboration for Better Health through Global Interaction". About 35 members/ delegates participated from twelve different countries of Asia-Pacific region. To ensure a success of the research proposal, the 2nd joint research network forum aimed to further enhance the members' research capability in formulating the technical grounds for the proper technical conduct and optimal approach/methodology of the proposal that accurately reflects their proposed solutions.

Dr. Bulbul presented his proposal on behalf of Bangladesh on the theme of "Health System and NCDs" and the proposal was granted by AAGH. Other three countries: India, Myanmar and

Indonesia are agreed to work on his proposal in their respective countries.

Other themes were on NCD related to Nutrition and Physical Activity, Alcohol and Tobacco. Total 25 proposals were presented in that forum and all the participants discussed on the factors to successful research proposal.



Awareness program on “Hand Washing” at a Primary School in Hazaribag, Dhaka

According to CDC hand-washing is like a "do-it-yourself" vaccine it involves five simple and effective steps (think Wet, Lather, Scrub, Rinse, Dry) that reduces the spread of diarrheal and respiratory illness so we can stay healthy. Regular hand-washing, particularly before and after certain activities, is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others.

So as “Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh” promises to build a healthy nation, it organized a Hand washing programme successfully in “Asroy School” an Urban Street Children School on 27 January 2014, Hazaribag, Dhaka with a theme “Hand Wash in Safeguarding Health” as a part of Health Education.

This Programme was conducted in three sessions. In the first session Dr. Bulbul introduced the Phfbd team before the students and stated the objective of this programme. Then Prof. Sharmeen Yasmeen, CEO, and Prof. Dr. Fatema Ashraf, EC Member, phfbd delivered friendly speech on importance of hand washing in our daily life. Ms. Halima Khatun, Member, phfbd demonstrated very innovatively the steps of hand washing. In the mean time the brochure of hand washing steps was distributed among all the students.

Second session started with video show on Health Education. The students enjoyed short video on how to wash hands properly and what are the merits of proper hand washing, common mistakes during hand washing and the adverse effects for not

washing hands properly. All the students enjoyed this session. The final session was on “Practical test” of proper hand washing of the students. Dr. Gourab and Mr. Bijoy, Member of phfbd and Ms. Anindita, Volunteer of phfbd conducted this session. Every student took part on proper hand washing practice and it was evaluated by using a checklist. It was found that all the students did very well and they touched every steps of hand washing.

The students were found very enthusiastic and they were told to teach the techniques of proper hand washing among their family members and neighbours. Subsequent monitoring of this practice would be done by the school teachers and they would report it to the concerned authority of phfbd.



First Aid Training Program of phfbd at a Garment Factory in Ashulia, Savar

Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh (phfbd) successfully conducted the whole day long training program on First Aid. A total of 30 workers of Young Socks Ltd factory at Ashulia, Savar participated in the training program on 12th February, 2014. The training program was facilitated by Dr. Md. Atiqur Rahman, member phfbd & Dr. Tabassum Tahmin Sajani, member phfbd and also the students of Anwer Khan Modern Medical College (AKMMC -03) named Rasmila Shamim Abdullah, Imran Ahmed, Imran bin Morshed, volunteers of phfbd actively put their efforts.



Dr. Md. Atiqur Rahman played a commendable role as the program co-ordinator. Specially mentionable that this was the first training program in a garments factory outside Dhaka city. So the enthusiasm was great among the organizers and it was also a good experience for the resource persons of phfbd as they believe that teaching the garments workers is also another learning session.

Participants actively took part in every session and successfully completed the training program. Many of the participants were found very interested & curious about the medical science. Their eagerness towards First Aid training made all the sessions very much interactive.

In closing ceremony Eng. Md. Salahuddin, Executive Director of Young Socks Ltd requested to organize more trainings and seminars at this premises in the coming days. In addition, Ahmedul Haque, Admin Manager, Md. Abu Zahid, Compliance Officer, Dr. Masum Parvez, Medical Officer of Young Socks Ltd graced the session with their kind presence and inspiring speech.

Professor Dr. Md. Mahfuzar Rahman in 6th International Conference on Medical Education, Lahore, Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Md. Mahfuzar Rahman, Executive Member, Public Health Foundation of Bangladesh (phfbd) attended the 6th International conference on medical education held from 6th- 8th February 2014 at Fatima Jinnah Medical College (FJMC) for women, Lahore- Pakistan. The theme of the conference was “Building the link between Theory and Practice in Medical Education: where does SAARC Stand? The conference activities included; pre-conference workshops, research paper

presentations, best young researchers award, declamation contest for medical students and poster presentation competitions.

Prof. Rahman conducted one pre-conference workshop on “Setting Educational Objectives” on 6th February 2014 for teachers of different medical colleges of Pakistan. Moreover, Next page-

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Prof. Rahman on 7th February 2014 presented a paper on “Social Accountability of Public Health Education & Accreditation”. He emphasized on institutional accreditation for better teaching-learning. The importance of usability of the products has also been addressed in this paper.

Prof. Rahman was a Judge on student Declamation contest. He also visited different parts of historical Lahore city on 9th February 2014 on this trip.



Meet the Living Legend



Professor Mohammad Shamsujjoha is a legendary personality in the field of Pharmacology in Bangladesh. He was born on 1st December 1923 in the district Nodia. He was awarded M.B.B.S. degree from Kolkata University in the 1948 and eventually did PhD on Pharmacology from Glasgow University in 1958. He also awarded FCPS from Pakistan in the year 1969.

Prof. Joha was a great creative, and dynamic leader in his discipline. He started his career as a lecturer in the department of Pharmacology in Dhaka Medical College and then transferred to Chittagong Medical College and worked as an Associate Professor for four years. Afterwards he worked in Rajshahi Medical College as the Professor of Pharmacology till 1966. He was the Principal of Chittagong Medical College from 22.05.69 to 5.08.71.

Prof. Joha thrived on challenges. In addition to teaching he was the Director of Health Service (MERT), Medical Education Training and Research, Govt. of Bangladesh, Dhaka from 29.09.75 to 31.05.76. He was the Director of Bangladesh Medical Research Council, Dhaka and also worked in Iraq as Professor of Pharmacology in University of Mosul from 30.09.79 to 31.08.81. He was a Medical Advisor of Beximco Pharmaceuticals from 1.01.82 to 31.06.86 and Professor of Pharmacology in Bangladesh Medical College. He published twelve manuscripts in different journals.

He was having three sons and one daughter. The elder one is an M.B.B.S. doctor and the second one completed M.Com & MBA. The youngest also completed M. Com and the only daughter is also an M.B.B.S. doctor. Prof. Mohammad Shamsujjoha currently resides in Kalabagan, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. He remembered by all his students for his role as an ethical educator & integrity of character.

Editorial

Health Awareness among School Children

Individual awareness is an important factor for prevention of many of our health & social problems. But in a country like ours where level of education is low, bringing health awareness be considered as an effective intervention.

Health education can prevent 80% of diseases. In fact, we can't ensure 100% motivation for healthy practices among the educated people. Awareness means acquisition of scientific knowledge. A child starts school at the age of 3 years. Family is the first school of a child and mother is the first teacher. After family, school is the 2nd social institute where phase by phase they follow a curriculum. As children are quick learner at this stage, simple personal hygiene & environmental sanitation, healthy dietary practice and life style etc can be included in their syllabus at the primary level. In the secondary school education-gender equity, teen age marriage, smoking & drug addiction, obesity etc with their impact, sex education etc may be included. Secondary school children can teach the primary school children and thereby a sense of responsibility and accountability may be nurtured into their thinking feeling and doing.

We strongly believe that it is high time for the inclusion of health education in the school curriculum. The implementation of such curriculum can bring a qualitative change in health of our children who represents majority of our population

Prof. Dr. Sharmeen Yasmeen
Chief Exicutive Officer, phfbd

Announcements

Training Programmes 2015

- ★ **Training on Basic and Applied Teaching Methodology**
Course Duration : 4 Days, Course Fee : Tk. 4000/=
- ★ **Training on Basic and Applied Epidemiology**
Course Duration : 3 Days, Course Fee : Tk. 4000/=
- ★ **Training on Basic and Applied Research Methodology**
Course Duration : 4 Days, Course Fee : Tk. 4000/=

Register Now

Celebration of **3rd**
PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION DAY on December 08, 2015

7-8 December 2015

Look for
Earlybird Registration

Contributed by: Dr. Aftab Uddin, Prof. Sharmeen Yasmeen, Mr. Nizam Khan