



INTRODUCTION: STARTING UP A CHC

ACTIVITY:	Planning
TIME:	One hour
OBJECTIVE:	To introduce the concept of the CHC
KEY MESSAGE:	'Common-unity in Community'

METHOD: Community Planning

What is a Community Hygiene Club?

- A Community Hygiene Club is a group of people who are responsible for improving public health standards and living conditions in the village.
- A CHC is a voluntary, non discriminatory club to which everyone can belong: men, women and children, old, middle-aged or young, rich or poor, educated or not.
- It is a free non-political and non-religious forum for improving living conditions and family health through hygiene behavior change with a view to controlling all preventable diseases without relying on external support.
- All the households in every village should have at least one person as a CHC Member.
- CHCs should be as large as possible within a convenient catchment area (1-2 kms)
- If the CHC gets more members than 100 members, the club should be split into two clubs.
- Members meet once a week for a few hours to learn about health and hygiene with a view to monitoring all public health issues of the community.
- Members are bound together by recognition of standards of hygiene and rights of men, women and children to a healthy, productive and dignified life.
- The Community Health Worker should be the facilitator for the CHC, but not the chairperson who should be an elected volunteer.
- The CHC is the responsibility of the village, but backed by the Ministry of Health (Environmental Health Department)