

Internews Trains Indian Journalists on HIV/AIDS Reporting

Training Course in Chennai, India Targets Reporting on HIV/AIDS and at Risk Youth

Participants in the 5-day training said that they now have a deeper understanding of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in India and the role they can play as journalists in communicating accurate information.

Mr. Jaisingh, features writer from the Press Information Bureau, said that the training helped him to discover, "New angles for presenting HIV/AIDS-related stories."

The training coincided with World AIDS Day (December 1), which allowed the journalists to apply the skills they were learning to their coverage of World AIDS Day events in Chennai, including a rally held by the Indian Community Welfare Organization. Trainees filed stories throughout the week and continue to work on stories researched during the training. Several of their articles focused on positive living and were based on their interactions with representatives from the Positive Women's Network.

(December 16, 2004)
Internews conducted a training program in Chennai, India focused on reporting on HIV/AIDS and young people at risk for a dozen journalists from the local Tamil-language press. The participants said that they now have a deeper understanding of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in India and the role they can play as journalists in communicating accurate information.

The program, held November 29-December 3, was made possible by a partnership with UNICEF and was Internews' first ever journalism training in India.

Internews Technical Health Advisor, Dr. Jaya Shreedhar, along with an international trainer, conducted the 5-day program, which included sessions led by representatives from India's Positive Women's Network as well as prominent local experts on topics such as stigma and discrimination, young people and risky behavior, and parent-to-child transmission.

The training also included a site visit to the Community Health



Internews Technical Health Advisor Dr. Jaya Shreedhar is interviewed for a local TV news program at the launch of the Indian Community Welfare Organization World AIDS Day rally
Sarah Breul/Internews

Education Society, CHES, a home for orphans and vulnerable children in Chennai. The journalists visiting



Journalists visit with children at CHES home in Chennai, India
Sarah Breul, Internews

CHES had the chance to speak with the director, Dr. Manorama Pinagapany, to interview the nurses and caretakers and to meet and play with the children. Journalists also visited a hospital for women and children.



Dr. Manorama Pinagapany, director of the Community Health Education Society with some of the children at the CHES home in Chennai, India

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