

MOMENTUM

Routine Immunization Transformation and Equity



Youth Task Forces
Mizoram

The youth task forces in Mizoram have played an instrumental part in ensuring last-mile delivery of COVID-19 vaccination and mobilizing communities regarding the same.

The MOMENTUM Routine Immunization Transformation and Equity Project, supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), ensures equitable vaccination to vulnerable, hard-to-reach, and marginalized communities.

The State Government expended its social welfare resources, collaborated with the Project, and delegated the awareness programs and vaccine dispensation activities to local change agents such as community leaders, local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Auxilliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), and others. In Mizoram, the State Government joined hands with the Project and engaged with local NGOs like- Mission Foundation Movement(MFM) to maximize reach, build vaccine confidence, and increase vaccine uptake among under-represented groups.

The youth task forces distributed Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials and introduced Information and Technology (IT) tools to promote and facilitate vaccinations for the communities. Most volunteers walked long distances every day to reach far-flung and remote areas to mobilize the communities on COVID-19 vaccination and organise easy to access camps for such communities. They conducted regular group meetings, on-ground surveys, and collected data that helped them in effectively planning the drive.

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Organizations funded by the church such as the Northeastern Diocesan Society (NEDSS) conducted state-wide operations with community and cluster mobilizers. They leveraged large gatherings and meetings like Gram Sabhas and other similar assemblies to disseminate vaccine related information, mobilize communities and debunk myths about the vaccine amongst villagers.

The efforts of young people in Mizoram in collaboration with local partner organizations under the supervision of the State Government has maximized COVID-19 vaccinations in the state. They are our COVID-19 Vaccination Champions!