UNITED NATIONS International Youth Day 2020

Webinar: "Youth Engagement for Global Action"

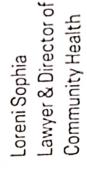
12 August 2020, 11am to 12noon

In conversation with:









Initiative

Jenpu Rhakho Rongmei Social Entrepreneur Chief Functionary Can Youth

Serendip Guardians

Frainer & Consultant

Vitono Haralu

Moderator

Peace Channel

eting ID: 725 2512 7593

SCODE: AYEYOUTH

Rini Ghose Team leader

Mental Health



https://forms.gle/GYAos Registration



Please Join 5 minutes prior Free Entry & E-Certificate









(Collaboration with:





EVENT REPORT

Name of the Webinar: Youth Engagement for Global Change (Peace retreat for the college students leaders, peace building, life skills & mediation)

Date: 12 August 2020

<u>Time</u>:11:00AM – 12:00AM IST

Program conducted by: Peace Channel & North East Institute of Social Sciences and Research

(NEISSR)

Budget Code:B6.14

Moderator: Ms. Vitono Haralu

No of Participants: 73M:37F: 36

Name of the Resource Person:

1. Ms.RiniGhose, Team Leader, Serendip Guardians, Mental Health

2. Mr.JenpuRhakhaRongmei, Chief Functionary, CAN Youth, Social Entrepreneur

3. Ms.Loreni Sophia, Lawyer & Director of Community Health Initiative

Peace training program on Peace building was conducted on 12th August 2020 commemorating the International youth day by Peace Channel with guest speakers who were young initiators based in Dimapur such as Ms.RiniGhose, team leader of Serendip Guardians on mental health, Mr.JenpuRongmei, Chief functionary of Community Avenue Network(CAN)on social Entrepreneur and Ms.Loreni Sophia an advocate and Director of Community Health Initiative.

The webinar session was moderated by Ms.VitonoHaralu, Trainer and counselor. She initiated with a silent prayer in remembrance of all the frontline workers and people who have lost their lives due to covid19 and keeping us safe throughout.

The conversation revolved around this year'stheme to have Youth Engagement for Global Change that seeks to highlight the ways in which the engagement of young people at



the local, national and global levels is enriching national and multilateral institutions and processes as well as draw lessons on how their representation and engagement in formal

institutional politics can be significantly enhanced. It seeks to put the spotlight on youth engagement through the following three interconnected streams such as engagement at the local/community level, national level (formulation of Laws, policies and their implementation) and at the global level (objective).

1. Input session by the speakers:

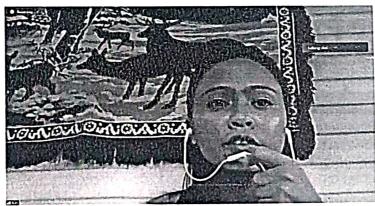
Ms.RiniGhose -

She begin the initiative of Serendip Guardians on how it has been working in the ground for 6 years now and the scenario of mental health in the state led them to engage with Children, youths, teachers and Arm forces by sensitizing on the issue and building resilience in them through various workshops and models. Taking the example of a traumatized young boy who was bullied by his classmates and following of even molestation led him to change his school yet the problem continued. This led to creating an imaginary friend in him due to lack of safe space to share his fears and find help. This led to psychological trauma and at later stage as he grew older develops violent behavior.

What really caught my attention was when he said

'I have started to tame my demon with love because of the available support system that was given to me'.

We think that mental health is very complex and relate to people roaming on the streets. Mental health is about emotional, social and psychological well being of an individual. Linking to the theme for youth on engagement for global actions, it is important to advocate for young people on mental health. She stated that it is high time that we need to start speaking about it and normalize this issue. It is as important as physical health but with



social stigma attached to it that She adds that she would rather not be quiet and suffer alone in silence which seems to be the reality.

In mental health, Peer support is so important to find support system apart from medical help such as counseling and therapy when needed. During this pandemic, there is so much mental health issue that is going around. In the last two months, we found out that people have come forward to express by saying 'I am not okay' this is a positive sign and we are encouraged by people reaching out and seeking help. But on the other hand there is a huge crisis in the mental health and this is just the beginning. Post covid 19 especially with the returnees who are majority young people are facing stress and anxiety over lost of job, quarantine centre experiences of isolations and not knowing the future.

She thus concluded her session by encouraging that we must come forward and engage in advocating on mental health and suicide prevention measures collectively and look out for one another, starting with oneself first to be of support for the other.

Mr.JenpuRongmei-

He began his session with an inspiration of how CAN Youth came into existence. It is in the memory of his late brother who died of addiction. He has experienced and witnessed to domestic violence at home with a drop out background, which led himinto an angry young man yet he decided to channelize his anger into doing something positive and productive in life.



He stated that with the theme, "Youth

Engagement for Global Action"we need to go beyond creating problems and asking questions and become problem solvers instead. We lack action oriented young people now. There is so much to be done and we need to come out of our own comfort zones. According to the theme of the International Youth Dayit is about celebrating young people's initiatives and contribution in nation building. He shared that in 10 years of work experience on social development sector, hewitnessed that there is lack of sharing and people working together. The celebration of the youth day is also about journey of reflections on our failures, ups and downs in life and human stories of resilience. Young people need to think about how to response to current crisis covid19 and climate change. He also shared about domestic violence. As a son to a mother who has faced various forms of abuse at home and its outcome as an individual. He then concluded by encouraging the young people to resolve conflict inside and to build people connection and be a movement in itself.

Ms.Loreni Sophia -

In the mid of the youth involvement in peace building, Ms. Sophia did spoke about the latest project that she is working on 'period movement in Nagaland' to create an awareness among the participants about the challenges faced by women in the rural areas. It is about managing women's period has been one of the biggest and challenging affairs and with the lack of period products with the social stigma attached could be easily relate to my own personal experience



when I was 13 years old. She has also shared about one of her encounter that she had during her one on one conversations with women vendors, girls in schools and young women while campaigning and sensitizing on menstruation, she came across information about women in rural areas especially that they would use old rags, tear their old worn outmekhelas, plastic sheets or even tissues and at the most in emergency crisis use leaves to wipe their periods. Such was the real issues.

This kind of unhygienic practice hit me really hard. This is how the journey started for me to address menstruation issues and educate women about their periods and provide sanitary pads and also show them how to dispose it off. Around the world we know how some countries have taken initiatives to provide sanitary pads for girls in schools and of my favourite politician is JacindaArdern, Prime Minister of New Zealand made schools compulsory to provide and with State of Kerala having 300 schools join the movement. This really influenced me to take this initiative and bring it our state for our girls and women and pay attention to our health.

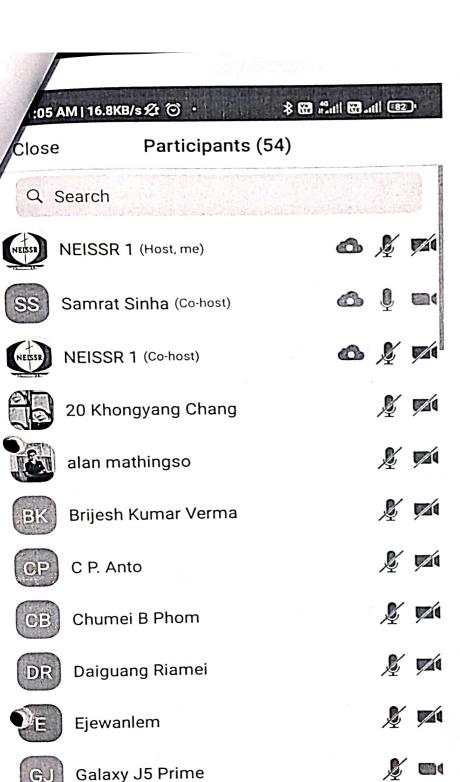
Just a month back, with the help of DC AnoopKhimchi, the organization had launched to put the vending machines for girls in Government Schools in Dimapur District for free and the product is cotton and made of bio degradable material and is environment friendly. The dream to spread all over Nagaland and make it available for our girls and improve the attendance in the schools for girls. My message is let's join hands together and talk about period and remove the stigma.

Feedback:

- 1. Give peace a chance
- 2. Good initiative
- 3. Looking forward to engage with the speakers
- 4. Glad that the organization is providing E- certificate.
- 5. Looking forward to the interaction
- 6. Would like to learn and gain from experienced leaders
- 7. Looking forward for a new learning
- 8. Happy International Youth Day would love to learn from the session today
- 9. Love to join you Naga Friends
- 10. I appreciate such kind of meetings
- 11. I am happy and proud peace channel is conducting program for the Youth Development
- 12. Looking forward for a new insightful learning
- 13. I wish to learn more from different experiences and sharing's
- 14. I'm proud of peace channel

Report by:

Julie Litsase



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