

#### **NURTURING CARE DURING THE PANDEMIC**

### Experience from a Not for Profit in Mumbai

Vibha Krishnamurthy
Founder and Executive Director,
Ummeed Child Development Center, Mumbai
Past President and Board Member, IDPA.





## **Ummeed's Vision**

All children with developmental disabilities can be included in society and reach their maximum potential.



# Ummeed's Early Childhood Champions Program



- 4 modules of 4 days each
- Module 1 Promoting ECD using CCD
- Module 2 Monitoring ECD using GMCD
- Module 3 intervention family centered, using GMCD and Vroom
- Module 4 Inclusion and advocacy for children with disabilities
- Work with 8 organisations, reach over 8000 children every year

# u m e e d

### **COVID** in India - Context matters







## COVID – the challenges

The first few months ..

- Conversations with families told us the needs were urgent - Food, medicines
- Increase in domestic violence, alcoholism
- •Family stress skyrocketed harsher discipline for children
- •Some families of children with disabilities severe behavioral concerns due to sudden changes



## Supporting ECD in 3 steps



Workshop 1
Addressing the mental health of care providers – community health workers

Workshop2
Addressing the mental health of care givers

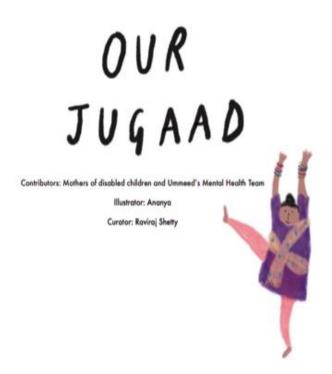
Workshop 3
Supporting your child's
development in challenging times

www.nurturing-care.org

#### ADDRESSING PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH



JUGAAD – Life Hacks and Little Things



Our Jugaad,

Our ways to take care of ourselves.

In taking care of our children and our family,

We forget to take care of ourselves

But many a times

We do many little things

That are important for us

Because, they are our Jugaads

And we are mothers of disabled children

## The little big things!

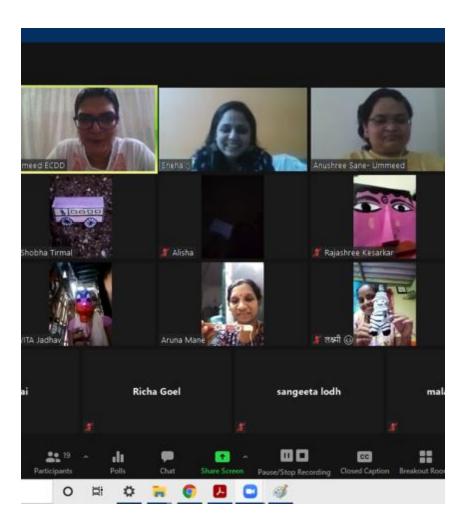
#### छोटी छोटी चीज़ें खुद के लिए - MMC supervisors

- फ़ोन पे बात करना अपने लोगों के साथ
- म्यूजिक सुन्ना काम करते वक्त
- लूडो खेलना फ़ोन पे
- जंपिंग के रस्सी
- फ्रेंड ग्रुप से वीडियो कॉल
- न्यूस्पेपर पढ़ना खुद के लिए रिलैक्स
- अलग चीज़ें बनाना खाने के
- यूट्यूब से रेसिपी सिख कर बनाना
- संभाजी शिवजी सीरियल देखना
- अंताक्षरी अलग अलग रूम से चीला चीला के
- कविता बच्चों के लिए. कोरोना पे कविता
- रिलेटिव से वीडियो <u>कॉल</u> एक <u>फिक्स्ड</u> टाइम पे
- रिश्तेदार की पूछताज करना
- खुद डांस करना गांव के बच्चों को डांस सीखाना
- मोबाइल पे किताबे पढ़ना कादंबरी पढ़ना
- अनुराधा <u>मैडम</u> की भेजी हुई कहानियाँ पढ़ना और बच्चों को सुनाना



# Adapting WHO's Care for Child Development to online format





- Introduction to zoom, earphones
- 12 sessions of 2 hours each
- Adapted sequence so it flows better
- Activities adapted e.g pics and videos for mocks
- Breakout rooms for facilitated discussions



### CCD online

#### Challenges

- Connectivity the digital divide widens
- Digital literacy Coaching on the 'how'
- Culturally alien to learn online
- Interruption by home chores,
   other demands
- Hard to establish rapport,
   check understanding esp if no camera

#### **Opportunities**

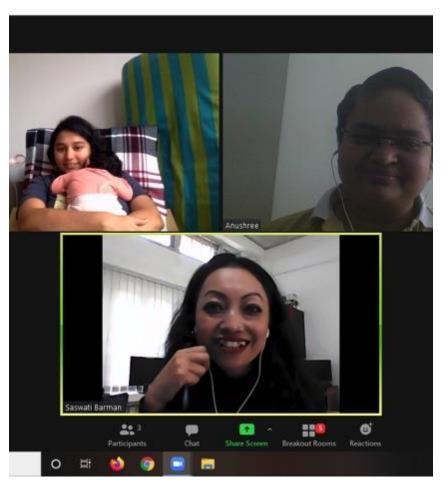
- Wider geographic reach
- •Save travel and transition time between sessions
- Were able to record and send visits on whatsapp
- •Used videos very effectively fathers, extended family, neighbours involved

## Teaching the

# Guide for Monitoring Child Development\*



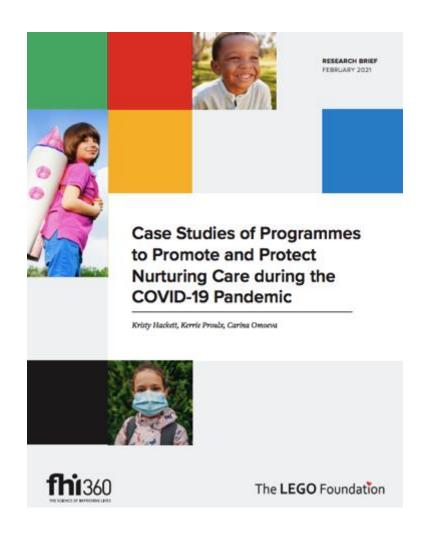
online







# Resources and Future directions



The pandemic continues...

- Need for flexibility and reevaluation of priorities and needs (e.g grief counseling)
- Sharing our learning
- •Hybrid models for future?

https://nurturing-care.org/ummeedsupporting-caregivers-during-covid-19

https://ummeed.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/07/ourjugaad.pdf





www.ummeed.org