introduction

The Mariwala Health Initiative (MHI) is a personal philanthropic initiative of Harsh Mariwala, Chairperson, Marico Limited. MHI supports innovative mental health initiatives, with a particular focus on making mental health accessible to marginalized persons and communities. MHI views mental health as a spectrum and that people with lived experiences must be situated at the core of any capacity building work, or intervention. MHI advocates for an intersectional perspective on mental health, undertakes capacity building initiatives along with funding projects that are user-centred and where the interventions are linked to the grassroots and are community-based.

overview

A snapshot of achievements from 2017 - 2018

- Sponsored iCall’s ‘Fostering Strengths Course’ for helping mental health professionals working with young people
- Funded MHI’s fourth partner Anjali, working with persons who suffer from chronic mental illnesses, living in mental hospitals
- Facilitated & sponsored iCall’s partnership with Maharashtra Police Force to build awareness around mental health.
- Launched MHI’s website: built centering accessibility & fostering equal access to information and functionality.
- Funded an arts-based therapy course for practitioners with a focus on psychosocial health, mental health and disabilities.

outreach

States where partners have operated during FY 2017-18:

Top states ranked in order of no. of calls received by iCall during the FY 2017-18:

- Maharashtra
- Tamil Nadu
- Karnataka
- Andhra Pradesh
- Gujarat

partners

During FY 2017-2018, MHI funded one additional partner, Anjali based in Kolkata.

MHI’s partner organizations have varied channels through which they function, and diverse communities in which they operate. Each organization has a shared commitment to mental health in significant ways, and vastly increased overall dialogue.

iCALL: Service delivery through telephone, email and chat counseling

ATMIYATA: Rural service delivery through community-based mental health

BAPU Trust: Inclusion and mental wellness in urban bastis in Pune

ANJALI: Deinstitutionalisation in mental hospitals and working in bastis in Kolkata.

* Mariwala Health Initiative is registered under ‘Mariwala Health Foundation’