



(In **Special Consultative Status** with **ECOSOC** at **United Nations** since 2011)  
Associated NGO Status with **UN-DPI**

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2013 - 2014



[www.agewellfoundation.org](http://www.agewellfoundation.org)

### AGEWELL FOUNDATION

**Agewell Foundation** is a not-for-profit NGO which has been working for the welfare and empowerment of older persons of India **since 1999**. Agewell has set up a two-tier network of over **7500 primary** and **80000 secondary volunteers** spread across **640 districts of India** and interacts with over **25000 older persons** on daily basis through its volunteers' network.

In recognition of the significant contribution being made by the Foundation the **ECOSOC** has granted **Special Consultative Status** to Agewell Foundation at the **United Nations**. It is associated with Department of Public Information, United Nations (**UN-DPI**). The Foundation has also been member of Working Groups and Steering Committees on Social Sector for Xth, XIth and now the XIIth Five-Year-Plan of **Planning Commission of India** since 2002.

### Agewell Foundation

M-8A, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi-110024, India. Phone Nos.: +9111-29836486, 29840484  
e-mail: [agewellfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:agewellfoundation@gmail.com) Website: [www.agewellfoundation.org](http://www.agewellfoundation.org)

## VISION

**Growing old is inevitable and it is a part of life.....we must accept it gracefully and continue to live our dreams.**

Agewell Foundation's vision for the older persons is to empower them to lead a life of dignity and respect. We believe, sustained efforts would not only create older persons friendly environment, it would also awaken a sense of responsibility amongst us all, to make this possible.

Older persons do not need charity or sympathy. They need respect, companionship and opportunities to live with their beliefs.

Agewell Foundation is committed to make a coordinated effort with compassion and understanding to transform social attitudes towards senior citizens. The effort is to create the infrastructure to empower every older person.

## MISSION

Agewell endeavors to bring about a change in the perception of old age and assist older persons to move surely but steadily from helplessness and self pity towards - Confidence, Respect & Mutual Caring.

Agewell has been set up to initiate better interaction between the generations. It endeavors to:

- Bring about a change in perceptions about Old Age
- Initiate steps towards senior citizens friendly environment
- Evolve a sense of moral and social responsibility towards senior citizens
- Advocate for the needs and rights of senior citizens
- Extend a helping hand to senior citizens wherever required

## AGEWELL'S HIGHLIGHTS

- *Special Consultative Status with Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) at United Nations*
- *Associated with UN-DPI ( United Nations-Department of Public Information)*
- *Consortium of over 1500 NGOs spread across 630 districts of India*
- *Two-tier national voluntary network - 7500 primary & 80000 secondary volunteers*

### Agewell Foundation

- *Interaction with approx. 25000 older persons on daily basis*
- *5 million+ older persons helped, 35000 assisted with jobs & 3500 Self -help groups*
- *18 National Surveys on old age issues by Agewell Research & Advocacy Centre*
- *Member – Working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged, for X<sup>th</sup> and XI<sup>th</sup> Five-year-plan and & Steering Committee of XII<sup>th</sup> Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India*
- *Member - Consultative group on Social Justice & Empowerment, Planning Commission*
- *Member – Council of National Literacy Mission Authority, Ministry of HRD*
- *International association & alliance with Association of American Retired People (AARP), USA & Global Action on Ageing*
- *Represented Indian delegation to Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, Spain in 2002 & represented Indian delegation to intl. Workshop on Ageing, Tokyo, 2000*

## PEOPLE BEHIND AGEWELL

### **Mr. Himanshu Rath, FOUNDER Chairman**

- Communications strategist & Social activist
- Member – Steering Committee & Working Group, XIIth Five-Year-Plan, Planning Commission, Government of India.
- Member – Working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged, for XI<sup>th</sup> Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India
- Member – Working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged, for X<sup>th</sup> Five-year-plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India
- Member - Consultative group and Review Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment, Planning Commission, Govt. of India
- Member – Council of National Literacy Mission Authority, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India.
- Also associated with Ministry of Power, various Government & Non-Government bodies as consultant, advisor, member, etc.
- Member – State Level Committee for Senior Citizens, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi,
- Member – Draft Committee for State Policy on Older Persons, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi

### **Agewell Foundation**

**ADVISORY BOARD**

**Shri P. Murari, I.A.S.**  
Ex. Secretary to the President of India

**Shri Murad Ali Baig**  
Social Commentator

**Shri A. N. Ram**  
Ex Secretary External Affairs, Govt. of India

**PROGRAMS**

**AGEWELL - HELPLINE FOR OLDER PERSONS**

**Agewell** aims to disabuse the popular mindset that regards old age with a sense of pity for their helplessness. Replacing it with an attitude of confidence, fostering respect for them and encouraging fortitude in them. And bringing a little certainty, even fun into their lives.

With this purpose in mind, Agewell-Helpline was set up for Older Persons. A network of thousands of volunteers is already at work in given areas. They are constantly alert to attend, to matters of medical or emotional nature, affairs to do with security as well as legal and financial advice. They are spread across 630 districts of India so that no cry for help goes unanswered.

**Agewell Helpline for Older Persons** endeavours to bring about a change in the perceptions about old age. It has been set up with the sole objective of providing assistance to older persons and helping them find solutions for their problems.

**Objective and methodology of the Agewell Helpline:**

- Helpline counters to identify and assist the needy. Understand their specific requirements, immediate as well as in long term.
- Assist them in identifying and availing best possible offerings as per their needs from all other voluntary organizations, NGOs, Govt. bodies and international organizations.

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- Counsel them. Help them re-build themselves. Rekindle the self-confidence.
- Assess impact of disaster on individual life and families.
- Organise counselling and community participation activities
- Organise help, orthopaedic assistance and treatment.

**Helpline also works as a bridge between the assistance seekers and the assistance providers.**

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 over 23000 older persons from Delhi & NCR have contacted the Helpline for Older Persons for their respective problems. Older persons were adequately counselled and assisted by the trained and experienced counsellors.

*Details of responses received at the Helpline for Older Persons from older persons of Delhi & NCR for their various problems:*

Sl	Nature of problems of older persons	Nos. of Older persons visited/contacted Helpline
1.	Social problems / Family related Problems	6848
2.	Financial (Pension, Investment, etc.)	3215
3.	Medical/Health related problems	3110
4.	Legal / Property related Problems	1745
5.	Residential, Old Age Homes	1890
6.	General Information, etc.	6259
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23067</b>

**AGEWELL - RESEARCH & ADVOCACY CENTRE  
FOR NEEDS & RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS**

The Agewell Centre for Ageing is committed to bringing in a dynamic change for the Older Persons in terms of social participation & integration, economic security, macro societal change and development, healthy ageing, enhancing the physical and mental quality of life and ushering in care systems in diverse cultural, socio-economic and environmental situations.

The research agenda includes - studies in policy related areas of ageing where the findings may have practical and realistic application. Agewell undertakes advocacy on issues of concern for welfare of elderly with the government, national and international agencies, elected representatives e.g. parliamentarians, bureaucrats, political parties, business, industry and other structures of power & media at all levels.

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The Centre has organised many meetings, conferences, symposia, etc. various Old Age related issues. It has also made representations to various concerned authorities including Election Commission on behalf of older persons.

## **SERIES OF SYMPOSIUMS ON NEEDS & RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS**

Agewell's series of Symposia has been designed to provide an open forum where discussions and debates will be initiated addressing special & peculiar problems and difficulties covering Social, Medical, Legal, Financial & Emotional hurdles which the elders of our society have to face. The symposia will also inform and apprise the senior citizens of their rights & privileges in these fields.

### **Agewell's Symposium on "Needs & Rights of Old People" (15<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at India Habitat Center, New Delhi)**

**Agewell Foundation** organised a Symposium-cum-Interactive Session titled "Needs & Rights of Old People" under the Series of Symposia on Needs & Rights of Older Persons on **15<sup>th</sup> June 2013** at **Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Center, Lodi Road, New Delhi**.



Dedicated to the older persons of the country, the interaction in the symposium covered various aspects of the old age and issues concerning old age. **Ms. Razia Sultan Ismail**, Convenor & Trustee, Women's Coalition Trust for Peace and Development (India) & National Co-Convenor, India Alliance for Child Rights (India) & **Gen Rajender Singh**, CEO, **DLF Foundation** were among the key speakers. Many eminent representatives and experts from every walk of society also shared their views during the symposium.

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This symposium is an attempt by Agewell to sensitize the leaders, policy makers in particular and the society & other opinion makers in general to come together and raise their voice to empower the older persons of our country. The problems faced by the old people can neither be understated nor ignored; they need to be looked after well. However, in different walks of life they are sometime not given the due attention.

### **Agewell's Symposium on Needs & Rights of Older Persons** (20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at India Habitat Center, New Delhi)

**Agewell Foundation** organised a Symposium-cum-Interactive Session titled "**Needs & Rights of Old People**" under the Series of Symposiums on Needs & Rights of Older Persons on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at **Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Center, Lodi Road, New Delhi** in collaboration with Amplifon India.

Dedicated to the health related issues of older persons of the country, the interaction in the symposium covered various aspects of the old age and issues concerning old age, particularly hearing problems and hearing loss in old age. **Ms. Olga Kerczynska, Clinical Development – HOD, Amplifon (India) Pvt. Ltd and Dr (Major) R K Bhardwaj, renowned doctor** were among the key speakers. Many eminent representatives and experts from every walk of society also shared their views during the symposium.

Agewell has created this platform for the welfare of the aged in particular and society in general to correct this state of affair and educate the society and various institutions serving them to be more compassionate and also in the process inform the young generation of impending problems which they may have to face when they reach the dusk of their life.



## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES FOR STUDY ON NEEDS & RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

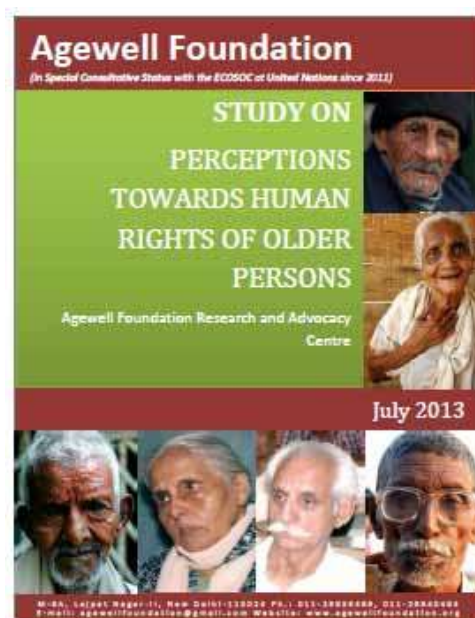
### PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS July-August 2013

**Research & Advocacy Centre** at Agewell Foundation has carried out a survey to study the general **perceptions towards human rights of older persons**. Under the survey, it was attempted to assess the situations of older persons and to identify factors governing their life in old age and violation of their human rights.

#### Introduction

With an ever changing socio-economic and demographic scenario across the country, living conditions of older persons have also changed remarkably. Today, with advancement of medical science, a better standard of life and overall development in the country, not only is the number of old people growing rapidly, their life expectancy is also gaining new heights every year. As per analysis of census 2011 data, population of older persons in India has already crossed the unique mark of 100 million old people in Indian population.

Old people need family support and care but with increasing popularity of nuclear family system and continuous migration they are constantly being marginalized and isolated, particularly in urban areas. Emotional, social, financial, medical and legal security structure is getting diluted and it leads to continuous denial of their human rights.



#### Methodology and Sample Design

For the survey a **representative sample of 32100 respondents from all age groups** were interviewed. Respondents were interacted through internet, phone and personal interaction Agewell volunteers' network spread across the country worked as interviewers for the survey. **Google India** has also provided their staff members as volunteers for the survey. The interviews were conducted during the month of **July and August 2013**.

### SURVEY FINDINGS

**Profile of Respondents** - 87.2% of the respondents were from the age groups below 35 years. Only 12.8% respondents were above the age of 35 years. 52% of the total 32100 respondents i.e. 16748 were female while remaining 47.8% respondents were male.

#### FINDINGS ON INTERACTION WITH THE ELDERLY

- 8.5% of the respondents (2720 out of 32100 respondents) did not interact with older persons on daily basis. Every 6<sup>th</sup> respondent i.e. 17% respondents interact with older persons through phone.



- Every second respondent i.e. 50.8 % respondents reportedly visit/meet older persons almost every day.
- 11.6% respondents admitted that they interact with older persons every alternate day.

**PERCEPTIONS ON POST RETIREMENT LIFE IN OLD AGE**

- 84.9% respondents accept the fact that older persons are productive even after their retirement. Among these respondents 43.8% were found to strongly disagree with the perception that old people are not productive post retirement.
- Only 7.3% respondents were of the view that older persons are not productive post retirement or they could not earn money in old age.

**PERCEPTIONS ON STEREOTYPING ELDERLY**

- When respondents were asked whether older persons were bracketed in the same category as disabled persons or drug addicts, more than a half (56.6%) respondents were found to strongly disagree while another 19.2% respondents were found to simply disagree with the statement.
- Only 13.3% respondents reportedly said that there is no problem with treating older persons as disabled or drug addicts from the social welfare point of view.

**PERCEPTIONS ON SENSE OF INSECURITY FELT BY ELDERLY**

- 38.9% respondents expressed their inability to understand sense of insecurity in old age. While 26.8% people admit that older persons don't have a misplaced sense of insecurity.
- 26.1% respondents reportedly said that there is a sense of insecurity in old age due to various reasons, while 3.3% respondents strongly agree with the fact that older persons have misplaced sense of insecurity.

**FINANCIAL STATUS OF OLDER PERSONS**

- More than half the respondents i.e. 54.4% (17448 respondents out of 32100) reportedly said that our government or society does not support older person's right to earn income to a large extent.
- Approx. 59.4% respondents admitted that older persons are prone to financial fraud by their family members and/or others (22.9% strongly agree & 36.5% agree).
- 58.3% respondents were found to disagree with the fact that in India, people have financial security in old age.

**LEGAL RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS**

- Only 5.5% respondents i.e. 1756 out of 32100 respondents interacted during the survey, said that they are aware of legal provisions for older persons in India to a great extent, while 2316 respondents i.e. 7.2% respondents have some knowledge of legal provisions for older persons.



- Only 5% respondents admitted strongly that in India the law is strong and ensures a secure old age for all.

#### **MEDICAL RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS**

- According to 92.6 % respondents, insurance is important beyond the age of 60 and there should be provisions for health insurance of older persons in the country
- Only 1/5<sup>th</sup> respondents reportedly admitted that it is easy and convenient for older people to undergo treatment and checkups at various hospitals and clinics in our country.

#### **SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF OLDER PERSONS**

- According to 73.5% respondents (48.4% agree, 25.1% strongly agree) older women are entirely dependent on family support for sustenance as they have no/minimal income.
- 1/4<sup>th</sup> respondents said that older men are considered a burden on the family post retirement while 39% respondents reportedly admitted that older men are not burden.
- 80.4% respondents (40.4% agree and 40% strongly agree) see older persons as rich source of experience, knowledge and skills.

#### **ELDER ABUSE**

- 57.3% respondents admitted that they have seen older persons being abused either emotionally or physically. 16.3% respondents agreed strongly while 41% were simply agreed.

### **CONCLUSION**

Older persons are considered as most revered members of the society in our country but treated otherwise when it comes to practical behavior with older people. Younger generations seem to be more sensitive towards old age issues, but they don't interact with them accordingly due to various factors. Awareness about specific needs & rights of older persons is quite higher in the society, but they find it practically impossible to translate their awareness into actual help/assistance to older persons. Due to increased life span in old age, there is an urgent need for post-retirement income generational opportunities. Human rights of older persons are being respected in the country, but situation is changing very fast and incidences of violation of human rights and elder abuse are increasing now.

**Interaction with Older Persons:** People interact with older persons quite often but interaction between the old and younger generations is not intimate because they don't have strong family bonding. Ever increasing generation gap can be bridged through motivating close interaction between the generations. Younger generations seem to be more sensitive towards old age issues, but they don't interact with them accordingly due to various factors.

**Post Retirement Life in Old Age:** Older persons are productive even after their retirement, but due to lack of post retirement job opportunities they remain unproductive throughout their remaining life. People consider older persons rich source of experience, knowledge and wisdom but always doubt their performance. Due to increased life span in old age, there is an urgent need for post-retirement income generational opportunities.

**Classification of Older Persons:** Older persons are treated as disadvantaged, marginalized section of society same as disabled persons, beggars and drug addicts, which is very disgraceful to older persons. Since old age is a natural phenomenon they should be categorized in some respectful category separately.

**Sense of Insecurity In Old Age:** Due to various reasons, majority of older persons have a sense of insecurity in old age. Breaking up of joint family system is the main cause of misplaced sense of insecurity in old age.

**Discrimination in Old Age:** Age discrimination is common in the country, but older persons themselves hardly complain about age discrimination and treat it as common social practice. People have limited awareness about protection against age discrimination.

**Older Persons as Custodian of Traditional Values:** Older persons are custodian of traditional values but due to limited intergenerational interactions they hardly transfer these values to younger generations.

**Social Security in Old Age:** Government policies and our social norms are not at par so far as social security in old age is concerned. In India situation of social security schemes is very depressing. Government should focus on social security schemes keeping in view of fast increasing population of older persons. At the same time, there should be some arrangements in the society so that older persons can lead an untroubled life in old age.

**Legal Provisions for Older Persons:** In India, our judicial system is going through see change. Awareness among society about legal provisions for older persons is increasing but people are still doubtful about functioning of judicial system. Awareness about specific needs & rights of older persons is quite higher in the society, but they find it practically impossible to translate their awareness into actual help/assistance to older persons.

**Healthcare in Old Age:** Older persons face many health related problems, but it is not easy and convenient for older people to undergo treatment and checkups at various hospitals and clinics in our country. Healthcare in old age is most urgent area in which government and other stakeholders should work intensively.

**Elder Abuse:** Cases of elder abuse in India on rise but people hardly complain about them. Family members take their elderly family members for granted and older persons don't want to cross their four walls. There is a contradiction in the way people perceive older persons socially and at family level. Human rights of older persons are being respected in the country, but situation is changing very fast and incidences of violation of human rights and elder abuse are increasing now.

*More details on Research Activities undertaken by Agewell Foundation can be obtained from our blog <http://agewell-initiatives.blogspot.com>*

**SHARE THE WARMTH CAMPAIGN**  
**A Winter Initiative**

**Agewell Foundation** conducted “**Share the Warmth**” campaign to ensure no needy & destitute old person is deprived of warmth in Delhi-NCR during the year. Agewell has been conducting this campaign since 2010. Earlier it was known as “**Spread the Warmth**” Campaign.

During the year 2013-14 the campaign was started in the month of November. Agewell conducted the process of mobilizing donation & collection of old/used woollens from across Delhi & NCR & distribution of woollens amongst poor & needy older persons.

Agewell Foundation set up Collection Points at prominent locations, posh localities, Clubs, Residents Welfare Associations, Corporate offices as well as select schools (while sensitizing the younger generation towards their responsibilities towards senior citizens) across Delhi NCR. Hundreds of Agewell volunteers spread across Delhi & NCR dedicated their time & efforts to make this initiative a great success.

Under the campaign over 3 lacs pieces of woollens, etc collected and distributed amongst over 2 lacs destitute and older people through distributions camps set up by volunteers across Delhi-NCR.

Major supporters to the campaign were HT Media Ltd., Creatigies, Google India, Cola Cola, Galaxy Toyota, Max India Foundation, Banner Icon, Citi Bank, India Habitat centre, British Telecom India, Prefetti Van Melle, etc.



### **“I AM RESPONSIBLE” INITIATIVE A School Outreach Program**

Agewell Foundation in collaboration with Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC), a central government public sector undertaking initiated school children sensitization program **“I Am Responsible”** to sensitize School Children towards old people and conservation of Energy & Water in Delhi & NCR during the year 2012-13. The campaign was continued during the year under consideration.



Under the campaign over **50000 school children** in the age group of 8-15 years (from class III to class X) from **across Delhi-NCR** were interacted. For sensitizing school children towards Conservation of Energy & Water and Older Persons and ensuring their active participation in the campaign Booklet-cum-Notebooks, stickers, etc. were distributed among school children. Posters with thought provoking slogans, useful tips on energy & water conservation, interesting and eye-opening facts, etc. along with participation form were included in the campaign Booklet-cum-Note Book. At the same time school teachers were trained through teachers' workshops and training camps about the campaign so that they can property motivate school children.

To make the campaign more effective an interactive campaign Website: [www.rec-agewell-iamresponsible.org](http://www.rec-agewell-iamresponsible.org) was also designed.

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## HOLISTIC HEALTHCARE OF DESTITUTE ELDERLY

**Agewell Foundation** initiated a healthcare campaign in slums of Delhi to ensure no destitute and old person is deprived of holistic healthcare during the past year with financial support from Irish Aid, Embassy of Ireland. This campaign concluded on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013.

Under the campaign, Agewell Foundation identified needy & helpless older persons in selected slum clusters of Delhi and provide them with required relief material ie. Walkers, Walking sticks, Adult Diapers, Spectacle frames, medicines, Bed Pans, etc. For identifying beneficiaries from across selected slum clusters Delhi, Agewell Foundation deputed a team of 20 dedicated volunteers to visit slums of the project area. Simultaneously, Agewell volunteers' network also activated for this purpose.



Slums covered under the project are as under;

- Kusumpur Pahari Block-B Vasant Vihar, South-West Delhi
- Indira Kalyan Vihar Okhla Industrial Area Phase-I, Site-II, South Delhi
- Sanjay Colony Okhla Phase-II, South Delhi
- Janta Jeewan Tigri Part-I, South Delhi

### HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION TO DESTITUTE ELDERLY (Slums of Delhi & NCR)

Agewell Foundation has also conducted a dedicated healthcare equipment distribution to destitute elderly in Slums of Delhi & NCR during the year and identified over 15000 destitute & elderly as prospective beneficiary under the project. Agewell volunteers organize camps in various localities as per the convenience of the beneficiaries in coordination with local volunteers and distributed free healthcare equipment to destitute elderly. Following healthcare equipment were distributed among the needy persons;

- Wheel Chairs,
- Walkers,
- Walking sticks,
- Adult Diapers,
- Medicines,
- Bed Pans
- Woolens



Agewell Foundation has benefitted over 12000 needy & destitute elderly during the financial year 2013-14.

### **AGEWELL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE FOR OLDER PERSONS**

- An Intergenerational Initiative, as a gainful engagement for retired old persons
- To provide community involvement and to pursue opportunities for complete development of their potential
- Implemented Home Tutors & Easy Accounts scheme (Eklavya) in Delhi

Agewell Employment Exchange for Older Persons had received 3300 calls/visits from older persons during the year 2013-2014. Responses received from older persons were further categorised as per the following;

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Administration/Secretarial jobs | • Teaching/Tuition jobs   |
| • Consultancy/Counseling jobs     | • Research/ training jobs |
| • Accounts jobs                   | • Others jobs             |

### **AGEWELL FAMILY MEMBERSHIP SCHEME FOR OLDER PERSONS**

Agewell Family Membership Scheme aims at providing family support to those Older Persons, who are living alone in Delhi. The Foundation has a team of trained counsellors.

Trained counsellors of Agewell Foundation provide following services as and when required by Agewell Family Members;

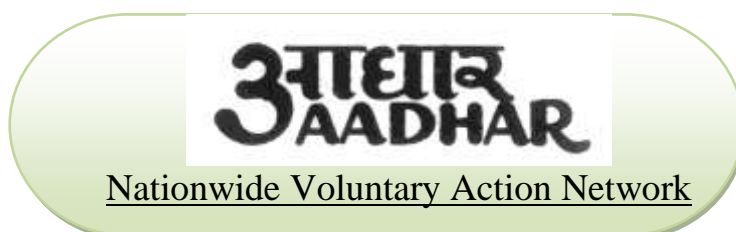
- A companion who will spend time with them, heal the loneliness as they grow even older
- Medical support in the form of consultations, medicines and people on whom they can depend in case of an emergency
- Someone who will look after their security concerns and protect their property
- Expert guidance in legal and financial matters
- General assistance such as paying their bills on time, being their escort & taking care of their chores

**AGEWELL - VOLUNTEERS/SOCIAL WORKERS**  
LOCAL NETWORK

Agewell Foundation has a local network of volunteers / social workers from all walks of the life. The network provides its services to older persons in and around Delhi.

Agewell volunteers are available for counselling services for general, medical, legal and financial problems; for interaction with Older Persons; for companionship for Older Persons, living alone.

Volunteers registered with Agewell include well-educated people, retired persons, working people, social workers, college students etc.



Presently Aadhar has been conducting successfully the following activities in the country;

**ACTIVITY –I Looking after the Grievances of Older Persons**

**Representations received by Nationwide network of Volunteers/Associates**  
(During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014)

<i>Sl</i>	<i>Category of representations received from older persons and others</i>	<i>Nos. of Visits/ Letters/ Calls</i>
1.	Social problems / Family related Problems	215536
2.	Financial (Pension, Investment, etc.)	105220
3.	Medical/Health related problems	141594
4.	Legal / Property related Problems	115006
5.	Residential, Old Age Homes	90508
6.	General Information, etc.	185984
	<b>Total</b>	<b>853848</b>

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**Older persons benefited through Self-help Group Activities guided by Agewell Volunteers/Associates (During the period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014)**

1.	Reported Self-help Groups/Assignment running	3502
2.	Older persons placed/benefited	4155

**ACTIVITY –II Nationwide District-level Voluntary Action Network**

In the process of setting up nationwide network of Voluntary Action Groups in the country to provide for the older persons, Aadhar had contacted Non-governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations and individuals including social activists, chartered accountants, district collectors, chief medical superintendents, superintendent of police, chairman of bar associations, head post masters etc. for identification of socially committed individuals & organisations.

As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, over 7500 Primary Agewell Volunteers & over 80000 Secondary volunteers spread across 640 districts of the country were successfully working voluntarily for the welfare of older persons locally.

**AGEWELL - SHARE A SMILE WITH YOUR ELDERS**  
A SCHOOL CONTACT PROGRAMME

**Agewell Foundation** has embarked upon an ambitious social contact programme of reaching out to over half a million school children in Delhi in a bid to set off a feeling of acceptance and affection for the elders. Children without grandparents will be encouraged to meet up with and share a little cheer with the elderly persons in their neighbourhood. The programme will involve the school authorities, teachers and parents as well via the children.

Children could set an example to their parents by their behaviour and eventually bring them closer not just to the elders of their family but to the elders of society in general.



## Important International Developments during the year

### United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs

#### Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWGA)

IV<sup>th</sup> working Session held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA  
during August 2013

Agewell Foundation was invited by the NGO branch of United Nations Department of



Economic & Social Affairs to participate in the IV<sup>th</sup> working Session during August 2013. Agewell foundation submitted a study report for this conference which was approved as background document for the conference.

[Study on Perceptions towards Human Rights of Older Persons](#)

### Regional Expert Meeting on Long-Term Care for Older Persons

18-19 December, 2013 Shanghai, China



Agewell Foundation presented a paper on “**Status of Healthcare & Long-Term Care Services For Older Persons In India**” during the event.

### Agewell Foundation

(Associated with UN-DPI)

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## **RECOGNITION**

### INTERNATIONAL

- Recommended **Special Consultative Status** with **ECOSOC** at **United Nations**
- **Association with United Nations DPI-NGO (Department of Public Information – Non-Government Organizations)**
- International association & alliance with **Ford Foundation, Global Action on Ageing, Association of American Retired People (AARP), USA, etc.**

### NATIONAL

#### **By Planning Commission, Govt. of India**

- Member of Steering Committee & Working Group of XIIth Five-Year-Plan, Planning Commission, Govt. of India
- Member of the working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged for XIth Five-year-plan
- Member of the working group on Reforming the Social Deviants and Caring the Other Disadvantaged for Xth Five-year-plan

#### **By Government of India**

- To represent Indian delegation to Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, Spain in 2002
- To represent Indian delegation to international Workshop on Ageing, Tokyo in 2000

#### **By Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

- Commissioned as the Secretariat of National Council for Older Persons in 1999
- Member of the Consultative group on Social Justice & Empowerment

#### **By Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India.**

- Member of Council of National Literacy Mission Authority

### STATE LEVEL

#### **Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi**

- Member of State Level Committee for Senior Citizens

#### **By Department of Social Welfare**

- Member of Draft Committee for State Policy on senior citizens

### NON-GOVERNMENT SECTOR

- Finalist of Marico Innovation Awards, 2014

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- Finalist of Times of India Social Impact Awards, 2012
- Awarded with Shri Chunnilal Jindal Memorial Trust Award for Social Service in 2012
- Represented NGOs working for the welfare of older persons at Aamir Khan's TV Serial on Social issues "Satyamev Jayate"
- Awarded with Vijaya Gujaral Award in 2001 for outstanding contribution for extending a helping hand to the senior citizens and their families

### PROPOSED PROJECTS

- ▲ Agewell interaction centre for older persons
- ▲ Suraksha - older persons and threat of HIV/AIDS
- ▲ SAHYOG -Psychological Trauma Centre for Aged
- ▲ Destination pilgrimage for older persons
- ▲ Medical tourism for older persons from abroad
- ▲ Agewell monitoring & evaluation centre
- ▲ Old age and disability – an outreach initiative
- ▲ Older persons as social communicators
- ▲ Comfortable old age - training modules for older persons
- ▲ Older persons in prison and asylums – an assessment study
- ▲ Linkage between adolescents and older persons

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