

‘NILAAV’
NODAL INITIATIVE FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND ASSURANCE
FOR
THE VULNERABLE

(Project for rehabilitation, repatriation and re-homing of destitutes and those recovered from mental ailments in the State of Kerala by the Kerala State Legal Services Authority, KeLSA under NALSA (Legal Services to Mentally ill and Mentally disabled persons) Scheme, 2015

MISSION.

‘NILAAV’ is an initiative of KeLSA to assist the vulnerable sect of the society who are confronting with mental health issues to reintegrate them back with grace and confidence to the society. This project also aims at effective rehabilitation for those recovered from mental ailments and also to assist those who have been separated from their families to identify them and re-join them.

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

The project targets the persons with mental illness in the public health establishments including mental health establishments in the State and also convicts/inmates of prisons who come under the purview of the provisions of the Mental Health Care Act, 2017.

HUMAN RESOURCES REQUIREMENTS:

• **STEERING COMMITTEE :**

A Steering Committee headed by a Honourable Judge, High Court of Kerala and consisting a Judicial Officer and a practicing/panel lawyer from each district, where a Mental Health Centre is functioning who

in the opinion of the Executive Chairman, KeLSA can promote the well being of the persons with mental illness, will provide guidance and strategic assistance to KeLSA for the proper implementation of the scheme. The Honourable Judge so nominated by the Executive Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Steering Committee. The Member Secretary, KeLSA will convene the meetings of the steering committee as and when directed by the Chairman, Steering committee.

- **MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE (MHTF):**

Mental Health Task Force (MHTF) will function in each district which will be chaired by the **Chairman, District Legal Services Authority**. The other members of the MHTF would be **District Collector, District Police Chief, Superintendents of Mental Health Centres in the districts where MHCs function, District Medical Officer, Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, and any other judicial officer and/or member nominated by the Chairman, District Legal Services authority if found necessary.**

- **MENTAL HEALTH VOLUNTEERS (MHV):**

Mental Health Volunteers will function in each district which will be headed by the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority. The MHV will include panel lawyers, Members of Victim Rights Centre and para legal volunteers of Legal Service Institutions in the district, nominated by the Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, NGOs, Social workers and volunteers approved by the District Legal Services Authorities

- **NODAL OFFICER**

There shall be a Nodal Officer in each district who will be the point of contact for Mental Health Task Force and Mental Health Volunteers. The Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) or such other authorized person by the Secretary, DLSA shall be the Nodal officer of each District.

ROLE OF KeLSA

- To supervise, monitor, control and manage the project.
- To provide strategic advice for the Mental Health Task Force (MHTF), Legal Service Institutions concerned and any other functions which are necessary for achieving the object under the Scheme.

ROLE OF DLSAs

1. To specifically supervise/monitor the functioning of the Mental Health Volunteers (MHV).
2. To identify and approve the NGOs, social workers and volunteers who are to work as Mental Health Volunteers.
3. To call for meeting of MHVs of a district once a month or whenever necessary.
4. To report to KeLSA regarding the regular functioning of MHVs on a quarterly basis based on the monthly reports provided by MHVs.
5. To engage MHVs for activities relating to welfare of persons who have mental health issues other than specifically focused by this project as and when found necessary.

6. To conduct and co-ordinate activities mentioned in the NALSA Scheme concerned with the assistance of Legal Services Institutions concerned.
7. To co-ordinate with other government and non-government departments or Institutions including other Legal Services Institutions within State for the rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration and re-homing of the persons falling under MHC Act, 2017.
8. To co-ordinate with other government and non-government departments or Institutions including other Legal Services Institutions outside State with the assistance and under the guidance of KeLSA for the rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration and re-homing of the persons falling under MHC Act, 2017 who have been identified as those having 'ordinary residence' and their families outside the State of Kerala .

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- MHVs shall identify the beneficiaries of this Scheme.
- On identification of the beneficiaries, MHVs shall get all their possible details including their place of ordinary residence, family back ground and such other details necessary for their rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration or rehoming .
- On receiving the possible details of the beneficiaries, MHVs shall prepare an action plan for their rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration or rehoming.
- MHVs shall get the action plan approved by the Secretary, District

Legal Services Authority concerned.

- MHVs on getting approval of the action plan, shall with the assistance of DLSAs concerned, co ordinate with other State or Central Government or non governmental departments including Railway and Police, institutions, homes or other Legal Services Institutions for the rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration or rehoming of the beneficiaries of the Scheme.
- If the beneficiaries are to be rehabilitated , repatriated, reintegrated or rehomed in other states, MHVs shall with the assistance of the DLSA concerned address the KeLSA for necessary assistance and guidance.
- KeLSA on receiving the request from the DLSA concerned shall co ordinate with the SLSA concerned and take all effective steps for the rehabilitation, repatriation, reintegration or rehoming of the beneficiaries.
- KeLSA shall whenever found necessary move the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala for achieving the objectives of the Scheme.
- Legal Services Institutions concerned has the power to take all necessary steps which are not explicitly mentioned in other provisions of this Scheme for the effective implementation of this Project.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The work and performance of MHVs shall be closely monitored by the Secretary, DLSA concerned and a monthly review meeting will be organized under the chairmanship of the Chairman, DLSA. Minutes of the meeting shall be sent to the Member Secretary, KeLSA.

- A quarterly review, assessment and evaluation of the performance of the MHVs shall be made by the Member Secretary, KeLSA with the assistance of the DLSA concerned and the minutes shall be placed before the Executive Chairman, KeLSA.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

Payment of honorarium to the empanelled legal aid lawyers, lawyers in VRC and para legal volunteers will be according to what is provided as payment to panel lawyers and para legal volunteers under the NALSA Scheme.