### **Poster Sessions**

Results Economic factor is inherent in the sex work initiation and FSW migration. Families (mainly mother in the family) are playing a prominent role in the decision regarding the initiation, migration, selection of destinations, brothel madams, financial dealings and the contract agreement with brothel madams. Peer influence, economic status of a family and established contacts with destinations are supportive factors for FSW migration. Migrant sex workers are made to believe that they have the responsibility of fulfilling families' economic needs including the repayment of loans.

Conclusions Information on role of a decision maker in the lives of migrant sex workers can be used to decide regarding resource allocation and programmatic prioritisation. Building strong rapport with families and linking the place of origin and destination may increase the ability to reach FSWs at an early stage of sex work profession.

P2-S2.03

#### **REACHING THE NEW AND YOUNG MIGRANT SEX WORKERS: STRATEGIES FOR INTERVENTION**

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<sup>1</sup>S Ramanaik, <sup>1</sup>M Doddamane, <sup>1</sup>S Srikantamurthy, <sup>1</sup>I Ravindra, <sup>1</sup>R Meti, <sup>1</sup>T Hiremath, <sup>1</sup>A Mirji, <sup>1</sup>G Holidasar, <sup>1</sup>M Pudur, <sup>1</sup>T Ragavendra, <sup>1</sup>P Bhattacharjee. <sup>1</sup>Karnataka Health Promotion Trust, Bangalore, India

Background Large numbers of young girls enter sex work are migrating from source villages in North Karnataka to the brothels in destination cities in Maharashtra facilitated by families, brothel madams and network operators in a very confidential way. Though there is strong evidence that girls from the North Karnataka region start sex work at the age of 15 and are not reached adequately by traditional targeted intervention programmes in either source or destinations. New and young sex worker (FSW) are particularly vulnerable to HIV as they have higher clients, work under power structures where condom negotiation or access to services is poor and do not possess skills to negotiate condoms with clients. Evidence from Integrated Behaviour and Biological Survey in Karnataka show the HIV infection among young FSWs is 28.3% and 16.7% in 2009 and 09 respectively and even it is very high (38.5% & 35.6%) with the women enter through traditional devadasi system.

Methods The project is providing workable strategies to work with new and young migrant FSWs who are one of the crucial links in HIV prevention. A team of migration counsellors (MCs) tracking and connecting them to the organizations working at source and destination to ensure, they have access to condoms and services. Providing pre-departure and post-arrival counselling, connecting family at source and the free helpline services is also made available. Intervention with brothel madams and family member is an advantage to reach early. The project also working with adolescent girls in traditional devadasi community by developing their life skills to ensure that they are aware of HIV prevention methods and have skills to negotiate their use if and before they enter sex work.

Results In 1-year period, 1200 young and new migrant FSWs are registered and availing services at both the places. MCs are regularly visiting destinations and able to track 90% of migrant FSWs on every month. 7500 pre departure and post arrival counselling sessions were conducted and all the families at source are contacting regularly. 223 brothel madams are identified and all are actively involved in the program. 1464 adolescent girls are enrolled for life skill education program at source villages.

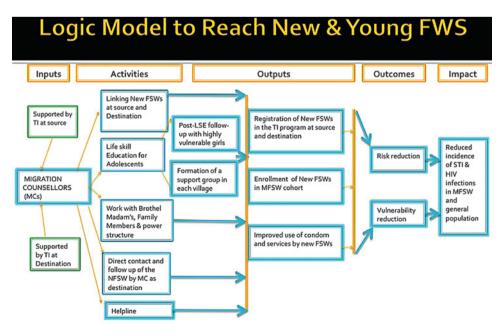
**Conclusions** Young and adolescents' preference for brothel-based sex work suggests the need for programmatic focus on brothel madams, family members and adolescents program at source as an effective way to reach these young FSWs

#### P2-S2.04 SEX WORKERS, MOBILITY AND MIGRANT LATING MEN IN THE US SOUTH: FINDINGS FROM AN EXPLORATORY RAPID ETHNOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA

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<sup>1</sup>K Kroeger, <sup>1</sup>T Sangaramoorthy, <sup>1</sup>P Vallila-Buchman, <sup>1</sup>R Robitz, <sup>2</sup>P Moore, <sup>2</sup>J Clymore. <sup>1</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA; <sup>2</sup>North Carolina Department of Public Health, USA

**Background** A growing number of studies indicate frequent use of female sex workers among migrant Latino men in the US South, yet little is known about the context in which sex workers and clients



Abstract P2-S2.03 Figure 1 Logic Model to Reach New & Young FWS.

Abstract P2-S2.04 Table 1 Parental acceptability of contraceptive methods

Contraceptive method	Overall parental acceptability (N = 261)	Parental acceptability if teen is very unlikely to have sex in next year (n=195)	Parental acceptability if teen has any likelihood of having sex in next year (n=62)	Differences in acceptability by likelihood of teen having sex
Condom	51%	43%	76%	p<0.001
Oral contraceptive pill (OCP)	59%	53%	75%	p<0.01
Depot medroxyprogesterone Acetate (DMPA)	46%	42%	58%	p<0.05
Patch	42%	39%	51%	NS
Implant	32%	30%	37%	NS
Intrauterine Device (IUD)	18%	17%	20%	NS
Emergency contraception (EC)	45%	39%	63%	p<0.001

NS=not statistically significant (p>0.05).

interact, or the women who provide these services. The Latino population in North Carolina has increased 400% since 1990; most of these are young, unaccompanied migrant men. HIV rates are four times higher for Latinos than for whites, yet very little is known about the risk factors that affect HIV/STD transmission within this population. To better understand the typology of sex work services available to Latino men in North Carolina, and the potential for HIV/STD transmission among sex workers and their clients, we conducted a rapid ethnographic assessment.

**Methods** We conducted 28 key informant interviews and field observations in four counties in May 2010. We asked key informants from state and local HIV/STD and rural/migrant health programs, community based organizations and law enforcement/legal aid agencies to describe the typology of sex work, mobility patterns of women involved in sex work, HIV/STD risk behaviours of sex workers and their Latino male clients, and the availability of sexual health services. Qualitative data were analysed using NVivo7.

**Results** Female sex workers target Latino migrant men in a wide variety of venues in urban and rural settings, directly soliciting clients where they live and work. Sex workers differ by ethnicity, venue, client occupation, and degree of mobility, with some sex workers appearing to be highly mobile throughout the region. Sex workers are predominantly Mexican, Dominican, and Central American women, but also include African-American and Caucasian women. Condom use appears to be relatively frequent among some sex workers and clients see Abstract P2-S2.04 Table 1; however, knowledge of HIV/STDs appears to be low among clients. There is a dearth of sexual health services available to sex workers and Latino migrant men.

**Conclusions** Latino migrant men and the female sex workers who serve them may be at increased risk for STD/HIV due to frequent mobility and lack of access to healthcare, including sexual health services. More research is needed to better understand how sex workers and clients interact in the South, and the risk and protective factors that affect HIV/STD outcomes. Recommendations included engaging local stakeholders to increase awareness of STD risk in these populations and address gaps in services.

P2-S2.05

# MOBILISING FEMALE SEX WORKERS TO ACCESS OUTREACH AND MEDICAL SERVICES: A CASE STUDY FROM SOLAPUR DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA, SOUTH INDIA

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T Raghavendra. Karnataka Health Promotion Trust, Bangalore, India

**Background** Solapur in south India is a district to which large numbers of female sex workers (FSWs) migrate from nearby states. The district also holds a number of jatras (religious festivals), in which thousands of people assemble for a short duration of time at a

specific location, and where FSWs find a ready market for their services. We are implementing an HIV prevention program in the district among approximately 2525 FSWs, with a view to reducing the transmission of HIV and STIs, and improving their health seeking behaviour.

Methods Services provided include condom promotion and distribution, and clinic visits for STI detection and treatment. Strategies used for mobilising the community include outreach planning using a peer-educator based approach, development of site-wise social and local hotspot analysis maps, provision of voluntary HIV counselling and testing services in public-private partnerships, and provision of night outreach clinics in brothels. Those FSWs accessing the program are registered with a unique identification number and each outreach contact or clinic visit is recorded using a standard format, with type of service rendered. Peer cards and clinic forms are used to record individual outreach and clinical services provided, and information is entered into a computerised database at local level. The system is web-enabled to avoid double counting. and local implementation units can access information on the provision of services to any particular FSW at multiple clinics across the district.

**Results** Over a nine-month period in 2010, 51% (1,298) of the FSWs visited the clinic each month, and 88% (2214) visited the clinic at least once in a quarter. 31% of newly identified FSWs received presumptive STI treatment within 1 month of initial contact. 86% of the women reported condom use at last sex with a commercial sex partner. 1,051 FSWs were tested for HIV, and 4% of them tested positive. 91% of positive FSWs were linked to care services, including assessment for anti-retroviral therapy.

**Conclusions** Mobilising the FSW community to utilise clinic services on a regular basis is a challenge, especially in a context of high levels of migration, with frequent turnover. This requires a multi-faceted strategy and effective outreach planning, using micro-plans at local site level. Providing health services close to the community and at convenient times is very important for achieving high levels of coverage.

P2-S2.06

## BECOMING A SEX WORKER: THE NEXUS BETWEEN VIOLENCE, GENDER DISADVANTAGE AND POVERTY

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M Shahmanesh, S Wayal, F Cowan. University College London, London, UK

**Background** Community mobilisation of female sex workers is integral to India's HIV prevention strategy. Sex workers often become infected by HIV soon after initiation into sex work. The societal factors that propel women into sex work may also inhibit the self-efficacy/agency required to access healthcare and adopt safer sexual behaviour.