Acronyms

IDS  Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
BCC  Behavioral Changes Communication
BPC  Bangladesh Penal Code
BANDHU  Bandhu Social Welfare Society
CBO  Community Based Organization
CSR  Corporate Social Responsibility
DIVA  Diversity in Action
DIC  Drop in Center
DLLG  District Level Lawyer Group
EKN  Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands
EU  European Union
FGD  Focus Group Discussion
FHI  Family Health International
GOB  Government of Bangladesh
HIV  Human Immune Virus
HR  Human Rights
HR-D  Human Rights Day
HTC  HIV testing and Counseling
ICDDR,B  International Center for Diarrhoea Diseases & Research, Bangladesh
ICAAP  International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific
IEC  Information, Education & Communication
INGO  International Non-government Organization
ICPD  International Conference on Population and Development
MSM  Male having sex with Male
MSW  Male Sex Workers
MIS  Management Information System
MI  Motivational Interviewing
MOSW  Ministry of Social Welfare
MOHFW  Ministry of health and family welfare
NHRC  National Human Rights Commission
NLC  National Law Commission
TG  Transgender
NASP  National AIDS/STD Program
NGO  Non-Government Organization
PFT  Project Facilitation Team
PLHIV  People living with HIV
RBM  Result Based monitoring system
SGM  Social Group Meeting
STD/STI  Sexually Transmitted Diseases/Infection
SHG  Self Help Group
UPR  Universal Periodic review
UN  United Nations
UNAIDS  Joint United Nation programme on HIV and AIDS
OUR VISION

Bandhu Social Welfare Society envisions a society where every person leads a quality life irrespective of gender and sexuality.

OUR MISSION

Bandhu works towards ensuring a dignified living for sexual minorities through protecting human rights, quality health including sexual and reproductive health, access to social security and justice.
The year 2017 was significant for Bandhu in many ways. It marked the 20 years of organizational devotion and dedication towards promoting and protecting the health and health rights of gender diverse population in the country. It was again the launching year of Bandhu’s ‘4th Strategic Plan 2017-2021’ which is designed to continue with the success plethora and contributions towards attaining SDGs, particularly 1, 3, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

During this span of 20 years, Bandhu has strengthened partnerships and collaborations to fulfill its mandate with focus on further increasing the operational efficiencies, widening the SRHR service provisions and enhancing advocacy initiatives towards improving the better living of the gender diverse communities.

Despite challenges in worldwide funding scenario, Bandhu always remained committed to its organizational mission and vision. With the limited resources, it has been able to manage the remodeling of its HIV and other health service interventions and increased the geographical coverage.

As an organization responsive to social, cultural and religious values, Bandhu has also been able to efficiently maintain its kinetic progress towards the betterment of its targeted population throughout these two decades with remarkable and recognized achievements in an environment where their behavioral pattern is not accepted and tolerated.

These achievements have facilitated to firmly entrench Bandhu’s presence in the national and international arena as the largest organization to work for gender diverse communities in the South Asian region in terms of activities, population and area coverage.

The rigorous assessments of Bandhu’s organizational capacity carried out by multiple international bodies at different times have the clear reflection on the enhanced organizational capacities. Scoring the outcome ‘A’ (outstanding) in organizational assessment conducted by Rutgers in 2017 and getting selected as Host Organization and Implementing agency for ‘Right Here Right Now’ (RHRN) initiatives through Bangladesh Platform consisting of 10 organizations and an alliance and also scoring top in organizational capacity assessment conducted by KPMG for RFSU/SIDA during the same year remain as the key indicators and proofs of current organizational strengths.
These strengths have also been recognized by different international entities in 2017. For outstanding services to the HIV/AIDS response and its dedicated efforts towards ensuring Equality and Rights of the gender diverse population, Bandhu received ‘Hero Award’ from APCOM, a coalition of organizations working in Asia and the Pacific region. It also received "Ardhanareeswara Award" in the category of Human Rights Defender from Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand in this year.

The year 2017 was marked by many policy advocacies and public events focusing on mainstreaming the health and human rights issues of gender diverse population. The involvement of the policy-makers, upper echelon government officials, members of civil society, social gatekeepers, central and divisional level journalists, lawyers, academicians, students were efficiently ensured to ensure the lasting effects of our activities and interventions.

As a part of continuation of international Advocacy, Bandhu in 2017 focused on UPR and proactively took steps in preparing gender diverse inclusive CSO report and submitted jointly with Human Rights Forum of Bangladesh (HRFB). Along with it, Bandhu as the host organization of RHRN Bangladesh Platform, submitted a youth-led youth SRHR focused CSO report for the 3rd cycle UPR in collaboration with the Asian -Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and the Sexual Rights Initiatives (SRI).

We value and gracefully acknowledge the trust and confidence that our donors and development partners have placed on our stewardship to manage the allocated resources. Therefore, we always remain committed to excellence in program quality and management and ensure value for money.

We also thankfully recognize the support of our Executive Committee, Advisory committee, stakeholders, associates, well-wishers, community members and the thriving work-force for the remarkable progress we have made so far on this challenging path towards attaining our organizational mission.
Bandhu Social Welfare Society acknowledges the guidance of Government of Bangladesh and the financial supports from all development partners above for accomplishing achievements in 2017 through its project and programs.

The organization recognizes the partnerships with Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP), Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), BRAC Education Program, Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB), James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH)- BRAC University, Nanipokkho, Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Programme (RHSTEP), SERAC- Bangladesh and Unite for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance.

Bandhu also values the partnerships with Hum safar Trust in India and Blue Diamond Society in Nepal.

The organization sincerely appreciates the RFSU/SIDA supports to organizational core activities, essential to materialize it's 4th Strategic Plan 2017-2021 for achieving the mission and vision.
Bandhu - a quick snapshot

Bandhu Social Welfare Society started its journey in 1996 with a mission to address the health care needs and human rights issues of gender diverse population for achieving a vision of a Bangladesh where every person, irrespective of their gender and sexuality, is able to lead a quality life with dignity, human rights and social justice.

Today after 21 years, Bandhu is sincerely continuing to serve the communities with undivided commitment and is paving the way for obtaining their social justice, equality, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

The impacts and outcomes of Bandhu program interventions, implemented through 36 field offices in 22 districts and 31 partner CBOs across the country, are adding significant values to the national response to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights including HIV/AIDS of gender diverse population.

Program Coverage of Bandhu
Highlights of 2017

Hero Award and Ardhanareeswara Award for Bandhu:

- The organizational dedication towards its mandate of ensuring health and health rights was recognized by different entities through awards many times.

For outstanding services to the HIV/AIDS response and its dedicated efforts towards ensuring Equality and Rights of the gender diverse population, Bandhu received 'Hero Award' in 2017 from APCOM, a coalition of organizations working in Asia and the Pacific region.

The ‘Hero Award’s stands for a prestigious recognition for extraordinary contributions of individuals and organizations who have contributed to improving the lives of gender diverse people affected by HIV/AIDS throughout the Asia Pacific region.

Out of 350 individuals and organizations from Asia-Pacific, seven individuals and organizations received awards in seven categories. Bandhu received the award in the best organization category.

- Bandhu also received "Ardhanareeswara Award" in the category of Human Rights Defender from Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand in 2017.

Bandhu scored outcome 'A' (outstanding) in organizational assessment conducted by Rutgers, The Netherlands and selected as Host Organization and Implementing agency for 'Right Here Right Now' (RHRN) initiatives through Bangladesh Platform consisting of 10 organizations and an alliance.

Bandhu also scored top in organizational capacity assessment conducted by KPMG for RFSU/SIDA.

The year 2017 was marked by many policy advocacy and public events focusing on mainstreaming the health and human rights issues of gender diverse population.
Celebration of 20 Years and Launching of 4th Strategic Plan 2017-2021

Bandhu Social Welfare Society celebrated its 20th year of its journey towards the development of health and health rights of gender diverse population on 23 April 2017 with illustrious presence of luminaries, development partners, government officials, well-wishers and beneficiaries.

On this day, Bandhu also launched its organizational 4th Strategic Plan 2017-21 which is designed to ensure that its program interventions on health and health rights can add significant value to national response on health for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly 1, 3, 5, 16 and 17.

Honorable Guests of the event were:

Chief Guest
Mr. Kazi Reazul Hoque
Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh

Special Guests
Mr. Habibur Rahman, BPM, PPM
Additional DIG of Bangladesh Police

H.E. Ms. Leoni Margaretha Culemaere
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Bangladesh

H.E. Ms. Sidsel Bleken
Ambassador of Norway to Bangladesh

H.E Mr. Johan Frisell
Ambassador of Sweden to Bangladesh

H.E. Mr. Mikael Hemniti Winther
Ambassador of Denmark to Bangladesh

Ms. Kelly Mitchell-Clark
Public Diplomacy Officer-American Center, US Embassy
Recommendations

The luminaries recommended the following for successful implementation of its 4th Strategic Plan 2017-2021:

- Draw the attention of the honorable Prime Minister on the true and dire needs of the 3rd gender community for better livelihood with dignity
- Create space and engage those who needed the most so that no one is left behind for successfully achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Be the Lighthouse for promoting the health and human rights of gender diverse communities and extend support towards education, mental health issues and knowledge generation
- Mainstreaming the community through creating social tolerance for gender diversity seeking support from all government, social and individual level

Organizational 4th Strategic Plan (2017-21)

Bandhu operates within its own strategic plan designed for every five years. 2017 was the first year for Bandhu to implement its 4th Strategic Plan 2017-21 (4th SP).

The development part of this 4th SP was initiated in mid-2016 which coincidentally not only provided timely opportunity for Bandhu to design strategic approaches to continue its leadership role in responding to the needs of gender diverse population and but also presented a leverage to include development response of Post-2015 development agenda, which later termed as 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs).

It is expected that the program interventions on health and health rights that Bandhu started implementing from 2017 through its 36 well-equipped field health centers in 22 districts and 31 partner CBOs across the country, will add significant value to national response on health for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly 1, 3, 5, 16 and 17.

The 4th SP 2017-2021 revolves on a Theory of Change considering the needs of gender and sexual minority communities:

(i) access to comprehensive and high-quality health care services
(ii) access to social entitlements and social protection services; and
(iii) to live in an environment where their human rights are protected in order to have a minimum acceptable quality of life with dignity and respect like any other human beings.

To achieve this, Bandhu structures and strategizes its response around three main development pillars in its 4th SP 2017-2021:

- Improved access to quality health services
- Protection of human rights and access to justice
Access to social entitlements and social protection
These three pillars constitute the key results that Bandhu would like to achieve by 2021, as measured by a set of core-Indicators of Bandhu.

Organizational Annual Review Meeting 2017 and 2018 OP formulation

2017 was the first year of implementing organizational 4th Strategic Plan 2017-2021 which is designed to contributing to SDGs, particularly 1, 3, 5, 16 and 17, and also to achieving organizational mission and vision through addressing health and human rights issues of the gender diverse communities of the country.

As a part of organizational commitment to efficiently operate and manage its program interventions, Bandhu routinely reviews its operational plan (OP) of the previous year and designs annual OP of the following year in accordance with its SP (the 4th SP) with a provision of mid-term review.

This method has already been proven effective in terms of quality service delivery and achieving goals as set in its 4th SP. The annual review 2017 and planning workshop 2018 was held during 20-27 December 2017. With staff contribution, the ARM-2017 was organized in Paro, Bhutan The Executive Committee, senior management team and all staffs of program, finance and administration took part in the workshop and contributed in the efforts.
Development Pillar - 1
Improved access to quality health services

The Strategic Plan of Bandhu 2017-2021 is aligned with national and international development policies and instruments. Replacing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include 17 goals. SDG 3: Good Health and well-being which talks about "ensure healthy lives and promote well being for ALL at ALL ages".

As per the strategic plan of Bandhu pillar one- will be directly contributing the tool, explore the progress toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3. THE SDG’s are designed to spur improvements in health, equity, and overall well-being by 2030 in countries at all levels of development.

The program such as the HIV prevention intervention, SRHR, Adolescent and young, care and support for the PLHIV, mental health and counseling are the key features of Bandhu’s health programs. All the project objectives are directly contributing in achieving Universal health access (UHC) for all. This all activities will ensure to attain equitable and sustainable health outcomes and improve the well-being of individuals and communities.

The Global Fund Country Project of Bandhu is supporting the Health services for the gender diverse population and Hijra with treatment and care. Health system strengthening is also a means to progress towards Universal Health Coverage. A functioning health system is organized around the people; institutions and resources that are mandated to improve maintain or restore the health of a given population. Health system strengthening refers to significant and purposeful effort to improve the system’s performance.

Strengthening is one way to ensure that the system’s performance embodies the intermediary objectives of most national health policies, plans and strategies - quality, equity, efficiency, accountability, resilience and sustainability. There are number of activities consultation meetings, workshop, training for government and NGO’s are organizing by Global Fund country project, Positive actions, HIM initiatives and through UBR project.

Young and adolescent health is one of the important agenda of SDG’s and to address the issues Bandhu is undertaking different programs. Achieving the 2030 agenda of UHA will require strong partnerships between young people and all stakeholders so that young people’s challenges are addressed, their contributions recognized, and that they are included at all levels of decision making process. Bandhu acknowledged the important and though all of Bandhu’ activities and programs are ensuring the issues around Young and adolescent health.
HIV Prevention and intervention services

The Government of Bangladesh is envisioning achieving the SDG’s goal. The overall social and economic development has a major role of the development of health as a whole. The government of Bangladesh in partnership with different donors and development partners developed different cooperation agreement with different agencies to implement programs and project to attain SDG’s. Though Bangladesh has significant achievement against different health related indicators under the MDG’s and the successes towards achieving SDGs are continuing.

The Global Fund is a major donor in Bangladesh which is supporting HIV Prevention Program in the country under the guidance of AIDS and STD Program (ASP), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), With the technical support of International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research (icddr,b), one of the Principle Recipients (PR) of the Global Fund grant for HIV/AIDS, Bandhu has been implementing HIV prevention intervention in 22 districts for approximately 19000 members of TG, hijra and males belonging to gender diverse communities.

The goal of the HIV prevention and care intervention is to minimize the spread of HIV and the impact of AIDS on the individual, family, community and society.

Major activities of the program include

- Health education to most vulnerable male population and Hijra through outreach and center base activities
- Condom promotion among most vulnerable male population and Hijra through outreach and center base activities
- ICT based peer education
- Provide STI and general health services from clinical set up (Static and satellite clinic)
- HIV testing and Counseling as well as referral for treatment and care support for the HIV positives persons.
Mental Health counseling through a dedicated helpline and in-person as and when needed
SRHR related information and activities
Create an enabling environment for most vulnerable male population and Hijra through social mobilization, community participation and advocacy

Key Performance/Achievement Against Target in 2017
The Global Fund is a Performance-based financing system to improve program performance and thus it is value for money. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was one of the first global-health funders to deploy a performance-based financing system. However, it is complex, multistep system for calculating and paying on grant ratings has several components that are subjective and discretionary. We aimed to test the association between grant ratings and disbursements, target and achievements. This aim of the Global Fund is transmitted to grant recipients such as the PR’s, SR’s and other partners.

The overall achievement under the project is good against each indicator and Bandhu Social Welfare Society was ranged as A1 rating SR-Sub Recipient as per the criteria in 2017 and based on the indicator wise achievement.
### Indicator wise achievement in 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl No</th>
<th>Name of Indicators</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No. of Individual Gender diverse Population received comprehensive condoms, lubricants &amp; HIV education</td>
<td>21431</td>
<td>22395</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>No. of gender diverse population tested for HIV</td>
<td>10716</td>
<td>9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>No. of providers of clinics/health facilities trained and sensitized by Bandhu</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>272</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>No. of gender diverse population who received SRHR services</td>
<td>21431</td>
<td>21513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>No. of clients diagnosed and treated for STIs</td>
<td>5676</td>
<td>5851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>No. of clients provided mental health counseling</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>357</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>No. of Gender Diverse populations sensitized on human rights issues (through IEC, workshop and training)</td>
<td>22000</td>
<td>16941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>No. of Union Parishads/Ward Councils sensitized</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>No of District legal aid officer sensitized</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>No. of lawyers sensitized and available for legal support</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sensitization of Dist Level Lawyers Group, Dist Legal Aid Committee Members, Bandhu empanelled lawyers, Village Court Officials</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>167</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Fellowship award on Students, Media and Lawyers, divisional media personnel, divisional Lawyers, Journalism,</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>No. of Gender Diverse populations received vocational skills development training</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Linkage developed with employers (Corporate sectors)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>No. of gender Diverse peoples who received jobs</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SRHR intervention for the young and adolescent

This year our thoughts inevitably have turned to accelerate and making resolutions for better ways to work on the area of SRHR through different projects particularly some largest platforms such as Unite for Body Rights (UBR), Right Here Right Now (RHRN) and others small scales programs which started intervening in recent years with an aim to create greater access of health care service for the young people giving a special focus on gender diverse population.

The program strengthens the provision of quality public and private SRHR services that are accessible, acceptable and affordable for young people in order to meet the increased demand. As technical partner under the UBR
alliance/platform, series of trainings have been organized by Bandhu for the service providers that includes the youth organizers of partner organizations affiliated in UBR program to strengthen their capacity on the gender diverse population in relation to their needs of SRHR and human rights which in many extents are difficult to ensure due to societal barriers particularly unaccepting aspects towards this community.

Through the provision of good quality in and out of school SRHR education, the UBR programme empowers young people to make healthy and well-informed decisions where the issues around gender diverse population and their needs for SRHR service were taught by teachers following a curriculum name Me and My world (MMW).

RHRN platform/program led by Bandhu in Bangladesh is a part of strategic global partnership and brings together the organizations and an alliance working in SRHR field to bolster youth participation in service interventions and decision-making process for effective national response in Bangladesh is very low. Engaging young male slum dwellers in Bangladesh in SRH education is a considerable challenge. Slum-dwellers tend to suffer from a poorer mental and physical health status than the rest of the population and their knowledge of SRHR issues is very low. They have high probabilities to be confronted with early sex, early marriage, drugs and violence. Interventions so far mostly targeted women; the attention garnered towards men is still substantially limited.

They have high probabilities to be confronted with risky sexual behavior. In addition, attention garnered towards SRHR in men is still substantially limited.

The main purpose of the project is to develop a proof of concept regarding the usage of enhanced and locally tailored psychodrama (guided dramatic sessions) methods to address the deeply rooted norms, beliefs and needs that underpin sexual behavior. The intervention design engages urban young men (aged 18-29 years) to explore existing and alternative attitudes towards their own and their peers’ sexual health. Moreover, this serves to investigate individual problems and clarify issues, facilitate insights, personal growth, and integration on cognitive, affective, and behavioral levels. The study will subsequently also develop psycho-education counselling modules and formulate innovative strategies to disseminate education on sexuality, gender and SRHR.

The other key component of the project is to develop a proof of concept

Effective approach: Psychodrama as transformative intervention in the SRH of young men in urban slums in Dhaka - Bandhu partnership with James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Knowledge on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) of slum dwellers
of the usage of enhanced and locally tailored psychodrama methods to address the deeply rooted norms, beliefs and needs that underpin sexual behavior. The study will subsequently also develop psycho-education counselling modules and will serve to explore enabling factors, local forms of socialization and education of sexuality of urban male to formulate innovative strategies to disseminate education on sexuality, gender and SRHR.

Bandhu has been partnering with this interesting project and it is expected that the project will end by September 2018 with significant output as planned.

Launching of Right Here Right Now Bangladesh Platform: an Initiative Towards Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Adult Partnership Towards Policy Advocacy

Right Here Right Now (RHRN) is a strategic global partnership of 163 organizations active in ten countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America including the Caribbean sub-region. Harnessing the collective and catalytic strengths of inclusive and diverse partnerships, it drives multi-level advocacy initiatives to have a policy environment that is responsive to young people’s realistic needs.

The RHRN in Bangladesh is being implemented by a platform consisting of the 10 (ten) organizations/body and 1 (one) alliance with unique expertise in the respective areas of SRHR and SOGI issues. The Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) in Malaysia is the regional partner and Rutgers in The Netherlands supports the platform as development partner. Bandhu is the Host Organization for RNRN Bangladesh Platform.
RHRN Bangladesh Platform prioritizes multi-level advocacy drives for comprehensive reproductive health and sexuality education, increased social tolerance towards gender expressions and for ensuring Youth Friendly SRHR services at public and private facilities.

As the host and implementing agency, Bandhu organized the Launching Ceremony of RHRN Bangladesh Platform during October 2017.

The ceremony was illuminated by the gracious presence of Mr. Kazi Reazul Hoque, Honorable Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh and H.E. Ms. Leoni Margaretha Cuelenaere, Ambassador of Netherlands in Bangladesh together with heads of RHRN platform member organizations and Unite for Body Rights Alliance steering committee members. Representative of UN organizations and other allies participated in the colorful event together with the representatives of youth and adolescent clusters.

**Possibility**

Possibility” in Bangla "Shombhob" was incepted in February 2014 with the mission to break the silence around SRHR and Women’s Sexuality topics, and to ascertain the rights and recognition of individuals who identify as different from other in terms of gender and sexualities.

The group Shombhob was thus registered under the Project Possibility and became Bangladesh’s first platform that defends the Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of women belonging to sexual and gender diverse groups. Possibility is continuously supporting the rights of SOGI population in Bangladesh through establishing effective networks for knowledge sharing, capacity development, advocacy and intervention among the stakeholders and set up a self-help organization.
The key objective of Project Possibility is to work for the rights and recognition of gender variance women belonging to groups. In order to work towards the Projects objectives, the Group Shombhob is working with the goals of creating a strong community network, providing a safe space, creating an environment where information can be shared between members, enabling capacity building on SRHR issues and counseling etc.

**Helpline to serve un reached women**

“Possibility” introduced its 24/7 hours helpline to help gender diverse people for further growing and development with their own identities. This helpline also make people oriented on gender and sexuality, human rights, physical health along with mental wellbeing.

From May to December 2017, a total of 259 calls were received from the group members and most of the issues were SRHR, psychosocial counseling and legal issues. 4% of total calls reported violence from the family and other areas. Maximum calls were received from Dhaka, Khulna and Rangpur division whose age range between 18-35 years and their issues were forced marriage, divorce, separated from their partners, depression, conflict in with the parents etc. Besides possibility received number of calls from the community people whose age range in between 14-below 18. And their most concern was to gather information on LBT community.

**HIM - A young and adolescent platform for gender diverse population**

Considering their HIV vulnerability, access to relevant and appropriate services and information around SRHR, self-esteem, education and human rights abuses of the young gender diverse cluster, Bandhu established a Youth Corner “HIM” in 2013 with a view to address their psychosocial, psychosexual and other health care needs along with knowledge generation.

HIM initiative is a part of Adolescent Key Population (AKP) intervention which also includes STI and HIV preventive services through referral mechanisms. The intervention is being implemented in four divisional cities Dhaka, Khulna, Chittagong and Mymensingh where a total of 676 individuals adolescent/young key populations of Hijra and other gender diverse population gradually be reached through direct outreach and Voucher Scheme to bring this unmeet adolescent and youth cluster of MARP under safety net for HIV testing, STI and general health coverage particularly the SRHR.

The projects such as Unite for Body Rights (UBR), UNICEF - HIM Star applies community-based approach for delivering HIV & AIDS and SRHR related interventions. The Objectives of these projects are to provide health care services including Psychosocial and Psychosexual, Mental and HIV testing Counseling, increasing health seeking behavior and uptake HIV/AIDS and sexual health, improving knowledge on sexuality education, sexual and reproductive health and
rights, HIV/AIDS prevention and Gender based violence.

Over the year the member/staffs of HIM participated many national, regional and international events such as Asian Pacific Conference on Reproductive, Sexual Health and Rights. HIM affiliated with Youth, Voice Count, SRHR Forum such as Unite for Body Rights (UBR), Bangladesh and Right Here Right Now (RHRN)- Platform Bangladesh, United Nations Volunteers in Bangladesh

Care and Support

Sparsha: Inspiring life to live with love

Over the period, the number of HIV positive increased among the gender diverse population and with Hijra as well as increases the demand for their treatment care and support. This community also experienced some of problems and challenges to take the treatment support through different initiatives and organizations.

Due to different behavior, attitudes of this community the incidents of stigma and discrimination are noticed by HIV positive people of the communities. At the same time, there was inadequate support from the service providers. Those were also come forward in a study (AmFar) of Bandhu in 2012. Based upon the experiences a separate platforms of HIV-positive people of hijra and gender diversified communities group formed.

The platforms namely Sparsha whose ceremonial journey started in 2015. Since 2008 to 2017, 120 HIV positive people have been registered with Sparsha. Of which 93 people are receiving different services including regular healthcare and 80 are receiving ART from Government hospitals. Besides offering some services from Bandhu it is also playing a critical role with the government hospitals to ensure the ART services for this population.
Aiming 90-90-90 targets to achieve through Sparsha

The mentioned community people are able to test HIV from different HIV testing centers of Bandhu under Global Fund project and also from HIM initiatives. If someone is identified positive, then Sparsha refer that person for their next services from Bandhu and form government hospitals.

Sparsha is maintaining a regular communication with its entire member and extend necessary support. In that way Sparsha is contributing to achieving the 90-90-90 target by ensuring treatment care and support of HIV positive people of hijra and gender diversified communities. But it is necessary to have a quick response at the following issues to achieve this goal by 2020;

- Develop and practice the HIV status Disclosure Policy
- Advocacy to eliminate negative attitude of common people to hijra and gender diversified community people
- Strengthen treatment care and support through the "Test and Treat" policy
- ART supply and opportunistic infections treatment need to provide through stigma and discrimination free environment
- Introduce Unique Identifier Code (UIC) for ARV supply and other supports for PLHIV

The accessibility of treatment care and support to every HIV positive person is very important in achieving the goal of the HIV program of the country, because treatment care and support is a substantial service for HIV prevention programs. Without comprehensive treatment care support services of PLHIV, prevention program will not succeed though it is very challenging. But to achieve the national goal of HIV program, we do not have alternative option in our hand. Sparsha is working for it and will continue its journey in future with the support of the government, development partners.
Stigma & Discrimination free Society for MSM /TG PLHA: Positive Action

Health access into government hospitals or health care settings to gender diversified people is a big challenge in Bangladesh. Unfold stigma and discrimination can worsen HIV epidemics and can hinder provision of prevention information, testing, and care. These conditions push Gender diverse & TG underground, making them extremely difficult to reach. HIV resources are often offered at sites that provide other health services; attitudes of people for the community in these settings can make it particularly difficult for Gender diverse & TG to get care. Even health care workers who declare acceptance of the specific community have been known to display the same community. To create stigma & discrimination free environment and increase awareness & knowledge about harmful impacts for ignoring gender diversified people, Bandhu is implementing a project named "Stigma and discrimination free environment for HIV infected and affected MSM" from November 2016 to contribute to National HIV response.

A number of training and sensitization workshops were undertaken by the project in different secondary and tertiary level medical college hospitals with the service providers in order to increase the capacity and attitudes towards this population. This sort of initiative is creating access to the community towards the hospital setting.

Sparsha and its members were actively involved with a national study on "People Living with HIV Stigma Index, Bangladesh, 2016" along with other PLHIV service organizations supported by UNAIDS Bangladesh. Major objectives of the study are to generate evidence to improve policies and ensure that the policies are grounded in the realities of PLHIV; the findings from the Stigma Index will be used to promote the human rights of PLHIV and advocacy for policy change and to engage and empower PLHIV
throughout all stages of the implementation process. The final report of the study is under process and waiting for the dissemination with key stakeholders.

**Story telling: a young HIV positive person from gender diverse community**

The weather is gloomy and dark today as like my heart today. I am feeling alone and helpless, where to go, whom to share my feelings, where is the place in the world where I can feel peace for my heart, I do not have any control over my tears. There is river beside my residences, I often go to the river bank and sit for sometime which gives me a comfortable feeling for some time. I talked with the river and feel that the river is listening me and is diffused by pain to its clear garnish water.

I was thinking a bit back, me and my family was preparing for my study in abroad in 2016, that time I had to go through HIV testing and I was found myself HIV positive. All of a sudden I felt the lamps of my life went away, all my hopes were over. I was so shocked, depressed and saw only darkness around me. I cannot share the issue with my family. A serious misunderstanding occurred within my family that; why I am deciding not to go aboard for the study. Oh river can you remove my pain; you are so big so wide can you.

Let me introduce myself. I am Anando, 21 years old. I was born in 1995 in Dhaka. From my childhood I was different from other boys around me that I can clearly remember. I used to play with girls and planning with toys which usually play by the girls. I felt that I am a girl and loved to dress like my sisters. My family is educated and pious, but my mother understood me and my feeling. Along with me they also have aspiration that I will be studying and will have my higher education and establish in life in a good way. I have my only sister and I am unable to disclose my HIV positive status with my family because that might have an impact on the marriage of my sister.

I go back to my past again and again, I was a little sweet boy I would love by all, by the time I admitted in the school at the age of 9 years. One of my teacher’s in the school specially adored me and he wanted to spend time with me, I sat on his lap I used to play with him, he gave me different kind of gifts and I also felt an attraction to him. He tried an intimate physical relationship with me and forced to do that. Later on, I shared the conduction of my teacher with me mother and my mother complained this in the school and took me out from and school and admitted in another school.

I was thinking higher education in abroad, do something better for my family and better for the society. But my feeling and emotions always challenged me either I am a boy or a girl. When I searched to explore my feelings I found there are many
around me who also feel the same emotions I feel as I am a girl. Before that I was frustrated thinking that I am the only person who is thinking like this but when I found other's like and I shared by experiences and feeling with them. I did not think myself alone still an emotional ups and down and had a struggle inside me happening. I was happy with my likeminded friends. Through some discussion with friends and some reading I was convinced myself that I am normal and it is not wrong to have a different gender and sexual orientation.

I started feeling comfortable; I like to cook, cross dress, dancing. I am so happy being a diverse person. During January 2015, I got concerned about my health. Due to my lack of knowledge and understanding about HIV and its preventive measures, I was not careful about HIV.

By the help of a HIV counselor, I got little hope. Later on, through a friend I came to know about Bandhu, a community-friendly organization. I found a trustworthy place where I can talk freely with other peers. I was invited to the "Social Day" for the persons living with HIV, where again I found I am not alone there are also other people who are living with HIV. I met with the counselor of Bandhu and now I feel that this is the support that I have been looking for. I know there are many obstacles that I have to confront being a HIV positive person. The social day and the treatment and counseling give me a hope to live to life. I feel happy to be with Bandhu. Now I know, I can be happy and lead a healthy life with treatment. I now it is also necessary to take precaution to not to spread the HIV to others.
Development Pillar – 2
Protection of human rights and access to justice

As a part of Policy Advocacy initiatives, Bandhu has been actively working with Govt. of Bangladesh and other relevant stakeholders on key issues around health and human rights of gender diverse population in Bangladesh with the following achievements:

- Gazette notification by the Govt. recognizing Hijras as ‘third gender’.
- Inclusion of sexual minority issues in 2013 UPR (Universal Periodic Report)
- Livelihood training programs by MoSW and Bandhu
- Under social safety net, Ministry of Social Welfare is providing
  - Educational stipends
  - Elderly allowance and
  - Vocational training
  - Grants to Hijra to start small scale business/enterprise
- Successful organizing of countrywide ‘Transgender/Hijra Pride 2014 by Bandhu begot a kinetic momentum at policy level to consider a space for 3rd gender community
- The identity recognition of 3rd gender population (TG) as “X” in Bangladeshi passport is a milestone
- The Supreme Court division of NLASO introduced a separate box for ‘third gender’ in the legal aid form.
- A separate section on gender diversity issues (section 8.3) is included in National Psychosocial Counseling Policy 2016
- Job creation by UNDP, Bandhu, ATN Bangla and other private organizations
- Legal helpline services by Bandhu and legal assistance through NHRC
- Establishment of a separate cell named Ain-Alap by the Bandhu Social Welfare Society along with establishment of communication with the National Human Rights Commission and National Legal Support Center in order to ensure legal support for the community.
- Developing training modules for providing trainings towards the government physicians and arrange trainings throughout the country.
- Assurance by the National Curriculum and Textbook Board to develop Teacher’s Manual & Supplementary Reading Material for the Hijra community.
Advocacy/Sensitization

UPR and Engagement of Bandhu in International Advocacy

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is an effective mechanism for addressing the human rights issues of gender diverse population. UN bodies can make recommendations to the country based on this review.

Bandhu along with Human Rights Forum Bangladesh submitted 1st and 2nd UPR report to Human Rights Council and the UPR committee in 2009 which made strong recommendation for Bangladesh to end the criminalization culture in laws and policies.

Bandhu initiated a number of policy dialogues and stakeholder meetings for the proper implementation of the recommendation made by the UPR committee since 2009.

In 2017, Bandhu have designed an advocacy plan & strategy on 3rd cycle UPR report. As a part of it, Bandhu participated national consultation for draft UPR report prepared by the Government of Bangladesh, national consultation for draft UPR report of National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh.

Apart from these, Bandhu have also organized workshop for preparing CSO report for joint submission under the flagship of Human Rights forum Bangladesh. It has also formulated a fact sheet on the key issues for advocating with the states that are interested in the issues and identified the states that made recommendation in the previous UPR cycle.

Along with these efforts, Bandhu as the host organization of Right Here Right Now Bangladesh Platform (RHRN-BD), submitted a youth-led CSO report in Bangladesh for the 3rd cycle UPR in collaboration with the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and the Sexual Rights Initiatives (SRI). The report focused on the rights of the young people’s sexual and reproductive health & rights (SRHR).

Besides UPR, Bangladesh first time submitted its initial report under the
Covenant on Economic, social and Cultural Rights to UN treaty body. Human Rights Forum Bangladesh has also submitted a joint alternative report on the same underline. Bandhu have also jointly invested its effort to develop the report from the very earlier stage and placed the issues of sexual & gender diverse population along with specific recommendations.

As the reports will be reviewed in April 2018 in Geneva, Bandhu had a have contacted with consultation meeting with diplomatic missions and UPR focal persons in the Embassies for sharing the fact sheet and meeting on these issues. The organization has also plan to attend UPR session in Geneva or follow it online in the website.

Exchange visit by the honorable delegates of Bhutan and Sri Lanka to improve the policy environment with regards TG and HIV related issues in South Asia

Save the Children International- Nepal arranged an exchange visit in Bangladesh to create common understandings, build relationships, hardships of shared experience, develop commitments to new approaches and friendship foundation for future networking.

A total of 10 high officials including policy makers and government officials of Bhutan and Sri Lanka visited Bandhu Social Welfare Society during 2nd week of August 2017. The purpose of the visit was to improve the policy environment in South Asia and also to demonstrate successful achievements and good practices highlighting GO/NGO collaboration in Bangladesh.

As a part of their visit, the delegate met UNAIDS representatives, Honorable Health Minister, National Human Rights Commission, National Curriculum and Textbook Board, AIDS/STD Program.

"Recognition of Third Gender: Obstacles & Way Forward" - A Roundtable Discussion with Prothom Alo

The Roundtable Discussion was organized by Bandhu Social Welfare
Society (Bandhu) at Conference Room of The Daily Prothom Alo, Dhaka. It was a joint initiative with this leading newspaper of the country to pursue and speed up the process of addressing human rights issues of 3rd gender community at the policy-making level.

The objective of the roundtable was to create awareness about ‘Third Gender’ among Civil Society and bringing them into mainstream society. A total of 55 eminent guests from ASP-DGHS, Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, Journalists, Govt. Health Sectors, NGOs, INGOs, CBOs, and educational Institutes including Mr. Kazi Reazul Hoque, Chairman of National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRC), Mr. Khandakar Rakibur Rahman, Director General of the NGO Affairs Bureau, Mr. Gazi Mohammad Nurul Kabir, Director General of Social Welfare Department, Dr. Robayet Ferdous, Associate Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Dhaka University attended the event.

The major outcomes and recommendations of the Roundtable are:

- Create job opportunity for Hijra Community people and friendly working environment
- Social Welfare Department to come forward with more options for Hijra Community.
- Constitutional recognition, legislation on property inheritance, quota system in job sector, reserved seats for Hijra Community in the Parliament for bringing Third Gender People into mainstream.
- Sensitize mass population to be positive about hijra population
- Sensitize health service providers including medical doctors for providing stigma, discrimination and harassment free health services at public and private facilities.
- Tolerant and congenial environment for basic education in educational institutions
- Nurture the inherent cultural talent of Hijra communities.
- Collective advocacy at school and college levels for changing attitude towards Hijra people.
Options for identity as hijra on national identity card and accordingly, name change opportunity in educational certificates.

Inclusion of Hijra Issues in National Textbook Curriculum: Bandhu’s Relentless Advocacy And Progress

Bandhu Social Welfare Society is consistently working for advocating the rights of Third gender community in Bangladesh with different stakeholders. As a part of its policy advocacy initiative, Bandhu has been persistently advocating with National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) for the inclusion of Third gender issues in the National Curriculum since 2016.

In 2017, Bandhu initiated multiple advocacy drives bringing together the top echelon officials of Education Ministry, National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh (NHRC) and NCTB involving civil society which also included the academicians, lawyers, journalists and cultural personalities.

As a part of successful advocacy drives, NCTB agreed for incorporating hijra issues as Supplementary Reading material and Bandhu has already developed one Supplementary Reading Material for Standard-VI with NCTB supports and submitted for approval for taking next course of actions.

Media advocacy forum meeting

In Bangladesh, media has made tremendous progress in its struggle to establish democracy and rights. Media can also play a tremendous role to promote good governance and Human Rights of Gender Diverse group. Taking this into account, Bandhu initiated to make a bridge between the Gender Diverse group and the media journalists and formed Media Advocacy group to:
1. facilitate a more positive media environment on reporting on Gender Diverse Population
2. improve the policy and legal environment for Gender Diverse Population
3. facilitate the process of effective implementation of Bandhu’s ongoing activities, and to create a sustainable milieu for the Gender Diverse Population in Bangladesh.

In 2017, Ms. Shahnaz Munni, Convener, Media Forum of Bandhu and Chief New Editor, News24 got nomination by Bandhu to participate Stockholm Pride on gender diversity in Sweden. Being an activist and journalist, she shared her long experience especially Role of Media to Protect and Promote the rights of Gender Diverse Population in Bangladesh in the pride. After her return to Bangladesh, the experience and learning of Sweden Pride was delivered to Bandhu Forum Members as well. Over the year, the Media Advocacy Forum remained active and spoke in favor of health, health-rights and human rights issues of gender diverse gender in various forums and events including Role of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for the wellbeing of 3rd Gender communities and drives of Bandhu with policy makers, social and media gatekeepers.

Learning and experience sharing initiatives for CBO representatives

Bandhu has been working with 31 CBOs to enhance their existing capacity for addressing STI/HIV related issues within targeted population. Bandhu also provides technical assistance to strengthen referral services & networks and work for sustainability through advocacy initiatives.

As a part of community capacity enhancement during 2017, Bandhu organized a learning and experience sharing visit for the CBO representatives at “Hijra Manab Polli” in Dinajpur which was established by Mr. Iqbal Rahim, Whip and honorable Member of the National Parliament, Bangladesh. The objectives of the visit were
To observe and exchange ideas/experiences of CBOs achievements and share promising practices

To gather experiences on community sustainability through alternate livelihood

Identify major challenges and issues at the local level and way out mechanism

The effort also covered team responsibility and organizational good-governance practices, safety and security; disaster planning: appropriate use of communication; management of members conflict; mental wellbeing and counseling; basic organizational ethics and improvement techniques; prevention of STI and HIV transmission; record keeping, monitoring and evaluation on CBO activities.

The CBO representatives handed over a Crest and Uttorio to Mr. Iqbalur Rahim for his outstanding contribution to betterment of Hijra community which is also recognized by World Leadership Federation (WLF) through a prestigious award.

Technical Working Group: Recommendations and Implementation progress

A Technical Working Group (TWG) was formed by Bandhu in 2015 to align policy, review difficulties and challenges and coordinate action with the support of 16 members and the membership includes Government, LEA, Media, Civil Society, Judge Court, Religious leader and Community Members.

The current TWG is chaired by Ms. Meghna Guhathakurta, honorable member; National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRCB). In 2017, based on the recommendations of TWG, Bandhu completed the following tasks over the year.

1. a brief study on utilization of Training skills by Hijra who received Livelihood trainings under Social Welfare Department since 2013

2. organized Students Fellowship and 13 Fellowship offered for the students of Public and Private Universities.
3. involved Media in Bandhu’s programs and activities apart from awarding the fellowship to journalists of different divisions.

Consultation with health service providers on stigma and discrimination free health access to PLHIV

The government has started ART services for PLHIV communities from its health facilities from October 2017. At present a total of 6 (six) government hospitals across the country are providing the services.

Health access into government hospitals for gender diversified people in Bangladesh is a big challenge due to non-tolerant socio-cultural perspectives towards same gender relationships. This hinders appropriate delivery of life-skill information, testing and care. These hostile conditions push Gender diverse & TG underground, making them extremely difficult to reach which poses much risks for further spreading of HIV.

Bandhu therefore, organized a number of sensitizing sessions involving AIDS STD Program of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) for doctors and other government health service providers so that the PLHIV communities, especially MSM and TG clusters of Bandhu’s “Sparsho” members can get stigma and discrimination free ATR services from government health facilities.

Consultation Meeting of Possibility with Media

“Possibility” in Bangla “Shombhob” was incepted in February 2014 with the mission to break the silence around SRHR and Women’s Sexuality topics, and to ascertain the rights and recognition of individuals who identify themselves gender diverse women.

Media is the mirror of the society. The project “Shombhob” believes involving journalists and media personnel will help to create mass awareness on gender diversified women’s SRHR issues and increase social acceptance in
the society. From that perspective "Possibility" organized a discussion session with media personnel where 15 journalists from different media houses attended and discussed roles of mass media in reducing violence against sexual diverse women.

The significant recommendations below which came out from the consultation are now being implemented by Bandhu:

1. Regular communication with Bandhu media fellows and provide updated information on SRHR issues focusing Gender Diverse Women.

2. Roundtable discussion with different media gatekeepers and underlining the needs and issues of Gender Diverse Women.

3. Engage social workers in project activities and involve girl’s schools and colleges for advancing with the SRHR issues.

4. "Journalist Awards" on community issues to increase interest of media journalists.

Consultation with ally organizations working on gender and sexuality

To accomplish the aims and objectives of project "Possibility", cooperation of other organizations especially who are working on gender and sexual issues are vital.

Understanding the facts that due to gender expressions and identity, inclination towards same gender relationships many women are enduring psychological trauma and other gender-based violence and even forceful early marriage, Bandhu feels it important to link gender diverse women's SRHR issues with the activities of organizations working to address GBV in the country.

In 2017, Bandhu initiated a number of linking drives successfully and now many organizations have already incorporated this cluster of gender diverse women in their program coverage. These efforts also have opened up new doors for "Possibility" to work jointly with other organizations and expand its horizon. For reaching female gender diversified population living in remote areas these organizations will be a great help as they already have an existing arrangement and are providing support on women's SRHR issues.

Stakeholder's consultation at district level

Bandhu Social Welfare Society organized district/divisional level stakeholder's consultation meeting in Sylhet, Fen and Comilla during 2017. The purposes of these meetings were to sensitize different level stakeholders about the community and protect the rights of gender diverse population. A total of 150 stakeholders participated from different sectors including representatives of civil society, media, NGO, INGO & Government authorities, lawyers, LEA, Public and Private Universities, Students, community members, religious leaders, etc.
The significant achievements throughout the events were:

- UCEP Bangladesh will work for the Hijra population and arrange livelihood trainings in Sylhet Division.
- In terms of any legal issue, Hijra community will be recommended to get legal support from District Legal Aid Committee.
- Skill building training for Hijra community can be arranged under women affairs office that might help for their income generation in Comilla.
- Youth development department in Comilla will arrange a vocational training where 25 Hijra will be enrolled.

Consultation with Corporate and Media Houses

Bandhu for the first time arranged a consultation with corporate sector in 2017 with an aim to sensitize them on gender diversity issues and create job placement for this gender diverse communities, especially hijra/transgender persons.

A total of 16 companies including media houses participated. Mr. Thomas Pope, Director of the Office of Democracy and Governance, USAID/Bangladesh attended Special guest. Eagerness of the corporate houses to also focus in this area and also to link Bandhu through CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) provisions was the direct result of this consultation.

Lawyers’ Conference in Divisional Cities of Bangladesh

Gender diverse communities frequently face oppressions and discriminations because of their gender identity and sexual orientation. Due to social non-tolerance towards accepting diversity in gender expression and sexual orientation, they barely have opportunity to seek legal support. Evidences show that some lawyers are reluctant to render legal support to this diverse community because of this persistent notion. Bandhu continued its efforts to address this and formed a panel Lawyers consisting 204 volunteer panel lawyers. To bring the lawyers and marginalized community into a same platform and increase the level of understanding Bandhu organized 7 consultations in 7 divisional cities. A total of 147 panel lawyers attended the conference and also made commitment to the legal needs of gender diverse communities and to work closely with the locals and government organizations and increase the accessibility of the communities to the legal services rendered by those organizations. In all the conferences, Police department officials were invited as guests.
Consultation on Legal Gender Recognition for Third Gender Community

Bandhu jointly organized a consultation on ‘Legal Gender Recognition’ for Third gender community with National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh (NHRC) in 2017.

Full time members of NHRC Mr. Nazrul Islam, MS. Megna Guhathakurta, Member and Chair-Hijra, Dalit and other excludate minorities community, NHRC, Ms. Nurun Naher Osmani, Member-NHRC, lawyers, journalists, development practitioners, students, member of law enforcement agencies, community members, members of civil society organizations and Bandhu official discussed the legal and policy gaps that impede the protection of human rights of the 3rd Gender community.

The forum recommended the followings as way forward:

- File Public Interest Litigation (PIL) for formulating specific law and policies for the protection of hijra rights,
- Create job opportunities for hijra in National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh
- Place Hijra study report in the next meeting of the National Human Rights Commission immediately for approval of publication and dissemination,
- Enact new policy/law to ensure the legal rights of transgender people in the state.

Orientation with District Legal Aid Officers

Bandhu organized a day-long orientation with district legal aid officers (Sr. Assistant Judges) in September 2017 in cooperation with National Legal Aid Services Organization (NLASO), a regulatory body of government legal aid services in Bangladesh.

A total of 24 legal aid officers from different districts participated in this program. Md. Zafirul Hasan, Director-NLASO, Dr. Misanur Rahman, Professor, Department of Law, University of Dhaka and former Chairman of NHRC, Md. Tareq Moinul
Hasan Chowdhury, Sr. Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Law & Parliamentary Affairs, community members and Bandhu officials also discussed to make effective provisions for sigma free access of gender diverse communities to justice and legal aid services.

In the orientation, Bandhu advocated with NLASO for introducing a separate box for the third gender as a separate gender in the application form of NLASO for seeking legal aid officially.

The Director-NLASO agreed to endorse access of Bandhu’s representatives to district legal aid committee meetings as observer which will ultimately help the district judges to understand the legal needs of gender diverse communities more clearly. Bandhu is working towards this access provided by NLASO.

Consultation Meeting with Legal Aid Service Provider/Organization to Ensure Better Services to the Community

To ensure better services for the MSM and transgender community and also discuss on the protection of local rights defenders, Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu) organized consultation meetings with legal aid service providers/organizations to ensure better services to the community over the year 2017.

Participants from different reputed legal aid service providing organizations including National Legal Aid Services Organizations, National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, Bangladesh Center for Human Rights and Development, advocates took part in the consultation meetings.

Bandhu has been designing and implementing its advocacy drives based on the recommendations coming out from these consultation workshops/meetings and addressing the human rights issues of the gender diverse communities underlining the importance and requirements of social inclusion to ensure their dignity as human being.

Involvement of Faith Leaders in Bandhu’s Consultation

Faith leaders have a strong voice and respectable position in the society. Mass people follow their advices on the ground of religious belief and reverence. Understanding the fact that involving religious leaders in efforts towards mainstreaming gender diverse communities have ripple and positive effects on the social inclusion, Bandhu organized consultation meetings with the faith leaders in Chittagong and Dhaka during 2017.

The issues discussed in the meetings were:

- Impact of gender, masculinities and sexualities in society from the faith perspectives
- How the psycho-social and psycho-sexual (mental health) issues of communities can be addressed through religious preaching
The sessions also identified gaps and discussed ways forward to bridge faith leaders, faith-based organizations and gender diverse communities through empathetic dialogues.

Prominent faith leaders from different religions attended the consultation and shared important and evidence-based statements in a positive manner. The faith leaders highlighted that though hijra culture is seen in Indian subcontinent but they cannot live with the family unlike other countries of the world. Their contribution makes their family happy but they are not welcome in the family occasions.

In Islamic Hadith, the Holy Prophet (pbuh) told to protect the Khuntha (intersex) and Mukhannath (transgender) if they are loyal to the Almighty Allah. Besides, in Fiqah, Khuntha and Mukhannath are entitled to have parental wealth as inheritance.

In Christianity, the transgendered persons have a respectful position.

There are incidents of being baptized. They were the trusted persons in Christian society. Buddhism categorized people in four categories: man, woman, uvatobyanjanaka (intersex) and pandaka (transgender).

In Hinduism, transgender have special part in Holy Scripture. Few gods accepted the transgender identity. Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvotee together became Ardhanaarishawara, Lord Arjava became Bhohonola. There are many more examples of transgender god and cross dressing identity in Hinduism.

Analyzing the beliefs of religion, the Faith leaders stated that the family of the transgender people should be sensitized about the rights of transgender people thus may create opportunity to stay in their family. They recommended to develop different booklet on gender diversity and agreed to motivate people through their motivational speech in future.
Promote and protect human rights through Ain Alap of Bandhu

Ain-Alap: A Legal Helpline Corner of Bandhu

The constitution of Bangladesh affirms that all citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law. Nonetheless, the fact remains that “Sexual Minority in Bangladesh are subjected to a high degree of violence, extralegal and extrajudicial violation of rights. Concentrating on this fact, Bandhu with its experience of dealing rights violation cases by its legal cell, initiated AIN ALAP in July 2013 and introduced a dedicated legal helpline number to extend support to Gender Diversity Population against the harassment, violence and rights violation they face. The number, 01771 444666 is dedicatedly attended by trained personnel from 09:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Sunday to Thursday every week. In 2017, a total of 572 calls were received by Ain Alap and extended support as required.

Besides regular phone calls, a total of 99 complaints from all over country have been documented. Among these, 42 were resolved at local level with the support of Lawyers Panel, Watchdog Committee, DICs and CBOs, 56 complained were under process which is dealing through AIN ALAP legal unit. 1 complaint has been referred to NHRC for mediation. 7 cases were physically investigated directly by Ain Alap. For the rest of the cases, way forwards and steps are being made either through counseling or linking/referring those to Bandhu’s field offices and/or panel lawyers of the respective areas. Below is the graph on the nature of rights violation incidences:
Network and Mass Awareness

Role of Media to Protect the Right of Gender Diverse Population

Bandhu understands that along with regular targeted interventions, the related stakeholders who can influence in policy making and changing, also need to be sensitized on the issues of gender diverse communities for ensuring true, meaningful and effective response.

Media is an effective policy influencing tool to make issues more obvious to general audience and policymakers. Newspapers and television channels around the world have raised public awareness on important issues by consistently highlighting HIV/AIDS, gender violence and so many other issues around the world.

Bandhu constantly tries to introduce innovative ideas in its programs and introducing Media Fellowship is one of them. Under the support of Multi-country South Asia (MSA) grant of GFATM this fellowship is on board since 2011.

Bandhu is confident that this initiative is bridging the media journalists with the gender diverse population which is meaningfully contributing to raise mass awareness on their health care needs and human rights issues through news, reports and activities.

It is also strongly believed that these engagements of journalists with the communities are helping them to understand more on SOGI (Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity) issue and they will be motivated to contribute more after experiencing in person how issues are in real time scenarios.
Media Fellowship Award and Closing Ceremony 2017

Bandhu understands that along with regular targeted interventions, the related stakeholders who can influence in policy making and changing, also need to be sensitized on the issues of gender minority communities for ensuring true, meaningful and effective response.

Media has the strong influence to raise public awareness on important issues by consistently highlighting the causes. The health and health care needs, gender-based violence, social non-tolerance and non-acceptance and so many other issues that affect the inclusion and dignity of the gender diverse communities, particularly, hijra, can be surfaced by media for increasing social tolerance and social space.

Considering this, Bandhu introduced Media Fellowship in 2011 to create a that leverages the influence of the media to work as a positive force for improving the human rights and health of this vulnerable population.

In 2017 Bandhu awarded two media fellowships: one at central level (Dhaka) under MSA regional grant of GFATM and one at divisional level under USAID support.

At central level, 13 fellowships were awarded and at divisional level, 13 fellowships were awarded to the journalists from print, television, radio and online media houses. This year Bandhu awarded Media Fellowships ceremoniously like the previous years. Two separate ceremonies were organized matching the fellowship period.

Dignitaries like Mr. Kazi Reazul Haque, Honorable Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh (NHRC), Justice Md. Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed, Chairman-Bangladesh Press Council, luminaries, media gatekeepers, civil society members and community representatives illuminated those two ceremonies with their presence and wise thoughts on future initiatives for Bandhu.

Bandhu now has a total of 82 media fellows who actively join in Bandhu’s drives for advocacy on health and human rights of gender diverse population.
Lawyers Fellowship 2017

As Bandhu works for the wellbeing of gender diverse communities and envisions a Bangladesh where every person, irrespective of their gender and sexuality, is able to lead a quality life with dignity, human rights and social justice.

In continuation with its effort, Bandhu has collaborated with a group of lawyers across the country and set up platform to promote and protect of human rights, addressing legal barriers, reducing stigma and discrimination which results in improving overall Human Rights violation amongst Gender Diverse Population. This voluntary group of lawyers is called Panel Lawyers of Bandhu and so far, 205 lawyers across the country have enrolled themselves in the group voluntarily.

To encourage the panel lawyers, Bandhu awarded Fellowship to 10 lawyers in 2017 among the panel lawyers through a criteria-based selection process. The objective of the fellowship was to involve different lawyers from districts level who were eager to work and support voluntarily towards most stigmatized community at local level.

The major responsibilities of the fellows were to:

- Investigate, monitor and fact finding of rights violations cases focusing on Bandhu’s targeted group and provide a comprehensive legal support to address their legal issues in light of current laws and practice,
- Provide legal support in any situation especially focusing on harassment, stigma, discrimination and human rights violations cases,
- Analyze the cases of Ain Alap and generate report with further scope of work with the government’s District Legal Aid Committee (DLAC).

After successful completion of the assignment, Bandhu organized Lawyers Fellowship Award ceremony where all 10 lawyers were awarded for their sincere contribution towards the communities. Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Advisor-International Affairs of Prime Minister was present as a Chief Guest and Mr. Z I Khan Panna, Chairman, Human Rights Committee, Bangladesh Bar Association was there as a special guest.
As a part of fellowship, each fellow received crest, certificate and fellowship honorarium from Bandhu.

**Student’s Fellowship: Innovation of 2017**

University students are the future leaders of the country and will enter into different professions just after their graduation. It was felt that sensitizing the students on gender diversity issues will facilitate awareness and empathy on gender diversity issues in their respective areas of works in the near future.

In line with this, Bandhu offered student fellowship to the students of Law Department, Stamford University, Journalism Department, American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) and Media & Film Studies, University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh (ULAB) where a total of 15 students completed the fellowship program in 2017.

The assignments for these fellowships were:

1. Research on different types of challenges faced by gender diverse communities and its extent in our society or
2. Produce a short documentary on the distressed life of this deprived community.

After three months' assignment, Bandhu arranged a Fellowship Closing & Award Giving Ceremony at ULAB auditorium where Prof. Imran, Vice Chancellor of University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) was present as Chief Guest. Mr. Jude William R. Genilo, Professor and Head Department of Media Studies and Journalism, ULAB and Mr. Kevin Gash, Office Director, Democracy and Governance Office, USAID were present as Special Guests to enlighten the program.

The fellowship students expressed their gratitude to USAID and Bandhu for giving them opportunity to gather knowledge about transgender community. The student fellows presented their fellowship assignments through presentation and the documentary film was screened. Around 150 students along with their parents were there to enjoy the award giving ceremony.

To include the Hijra community in the program, a mind blowing welcome dance was choreographed and performed jointly by Hijra community and Fellowship students. The certificates, crest and lump sum cash were awarded to the students.

**Observation of International Human Rights Day 2017**

"When the fundamental principles of human rights are not protected, the center of our institution no longer holds. It is they that promote development that is sustainable; peace that is secure; and lives of dignity." This is a very popular quote by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein.

The slogan of Human Rights Day 2017 was "Let's Stand Up for Equality, Justice and Human Dignity" was contemplative reflection towards preserving human rights of all human
being around the world and aims to promote and raise awareness. Bandhu Social Welfare Society observed this Human Rights Day in a befitting manner in all divisional cities across the country. Around 600 participants celebrated Human Rights Day, 2017 across the country. The central event in Dhaka was observed jointly with National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRC).

Training on Advocacy, Networking and UPR Process

The two-day long training on ADVOCACY, NETWORKING and UPR PROCESS was conducted at divisional level where a total of 175 participants attended. The contents of the training were well designed and target specific. An interesting and promising result was reflected in the pre- and post-evaluation of the participants. In each division, post-test marks were remarkable compared to pre-test marks.

Capacity building initiatives to develop capacity of relevant stakeholders

As a part of capacity building, Bandhu organize training not only for Community but also for relevant stakeholders to strengthen their understanding and skill on different issues. However, in 2017 Bandhu organized significant number of trainings for Govt. Health Service Providers, Lawyers, Frontline community volunteers, Care Givers, aligns partners etc.

Training on Safety and Security

As a part of Bandhu’s persistent efforts to strengthen the capacity of the gender diverse population, Safety Security related trainings were also provided so that they can deal and systematically encounter security threats and opt for safer approach.

The overall objective of this training was to increase participant’s capacity on security issues both individual &
organizational and boost their capacity on digital security. A total number of 159 participants from 8 (eight) divisions received the training.

At the end of the trainings, the major learning of the participants were how to develop personal and organizational Security Plan, formation of security committee and record of movement status, Uninstalling unsafe software from phone and using safe communication software etc.

**Pilot Training on 'Treatment as Prevention'**

Bandhu organized training on Treatment as Prevention for PLHIV and some service providers who directly involved with PLHIV program as well as other services. The objective of this training was to sensitize the PLHIV community people on comprehensive treatment necessity, educating of opportunistic infections & advocating regarding HIV treatment and literacy. The major learning of the trainees was necessity of doctor’s consultation, continuation of treatment and family orientation, importance of proper food chart to avoid malnutrition, information about "SPARSHA" and service facility and effective communication with partners for ARV medication.

**Training on Mental Wellbeing and SRHR Issues**

Bandhu organized training on "Mental Wellbeing and SRHR issues for Counselors" with the major objectives to explain, analyze and address the mental wellbeing and SRHR issues of Gender Diverse Population and their partners. The training was designed for 31 counselors who were directly involved with service delivery program and counseling at field level.

The key learning of the Trainees were relationship between Sexual and Mental health, importance of reproductive health of Hijra, beliefs and myths related to Sexuality, wet dreams and negative perception, introduction of different parts of male and female
organs and its functions and coping strategies of mental stress. The pre-test average score was 70.65% and post test average score was 87.74%.

**Strengthening the capacity of Workforce and relevant stakeholders on SRHR and Gender Diversity**

In collaboration with Rutgers, Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu) hosted daylong training with the country SRHR partners supported by the EKN in Bangladesh. The training basically designed to cover very basic things related to Sexual & Gender Diversity and tried best to discuss with providing relevant information as much as possible. An assessment was done by Rutgers to know the learning objectives from participants before the training and accordingly received a picture of their views/expectations that helped to select the contents from Bandhu. On the basis of learning objectives found from participants, following areas were covered focusing the issues on young gender diverse population and other relevant concerns of this group particularly the needs of SRHR services and uplifting their human rights:

- National and International perspectives with referring the Statement of former UN Secretary General – Mr. Ban Ki Moon on SOGI population
- Body Mapping and Gender Diversity
- Reconstruction the knowledge on sexual orientation & gender diversity, Gender Boundary in Bangladesh
- Required service of SOGI population for upholding human rights and support
- Different identity in relation to gender development… Journey to self-identification
- Share the required skills for the
Change Makers to work in the areas of Human Rights for gender diverse population

Further as a part of creating access to Government and other likeminded organization, there were networking meetings at some of the Upazilas that focused about the needs and concerns on SRHR and human rights of gender diverse population beside other young people.

Lawyers Training on Human Right and National & International Laws Related to SOGI Population with Bandhu Panel Lawyers

Bandhu organized a training "Lawyers Training on Human Right and National & International Laws related to SOGI Population with Bandhu Panel Lawyers". The objective of the training was to ensure legal support for sexual and gender diversified population in every district across the country. A total of 43 participants were participated in this training over the year.

The key objectives were to (i) create a reliable, community friendly legal support avenue in protection and promotion the rights of sexual and gender diversified population (ii) Enable access to justice for the sexual and gender diversified population (iii) Strengthen legal support unit of Bandhu.

The overall challenges faced by the lawyers were tendency of hiding information and indifferent to file and continue litigation by the community, temporary address of the community and lack of evidence during proceeding the case, phobia towards community, insufficient monetary assistance to provide legal assistance.
Involvement of Govt. Physicians in Bandhu’s Activities to Ensure Stigma Free Health Services Towards Gender Diverse Population

Over the years Bangladesh has experienced that regardless of significant steps for prevention, there is a treatment gap. In line with this, Bandhu intends to strengthen the capacity of governmental health service providers and has organized a series of day-long consultation workshops and training in 2017 where altogether 86 government doctors attended.

The purpose of the programs were to introduce the global health service systems and regional scenario of treatment and discrimination highlighting Gender Diverse Population and to provide information on sexuality issues of Gender Diverse Population accessing stigma free treatment in Govt. Health Care settings.

A good rapport has been established with the community people and government hospitals including Upzila Health Complexes where they can get access and also refer their own group members for stigma and discrimination free treatment that was direct outcome of the meetings.
Knowledge Management

Gender and Sexuality Resource Centre

The Gender and Sexuality Resource Centre (GSRC) works to provide a safe and affirming space for all and acts as a hub for organizations, resources, services and programs of interest to the Gender Diverse population. The major objective of the resource centre is to increase visibility and create awareness of issues surrounding gender identity/expression and sexual orientation. The GSRC provides a variety of resources and amenities available for people of all sexualities and gender identities including Space to socialization, study, interaction and updated information, a library with over 1000 books and 84 movies/DVDs, documentaries, Over 84 movies/DVDs, documentaries, electronic media reports and hub of Internet browsing.

A large number of visitors including representatives of public and Private Universities (i.e., University of Dhaka, University of Liberal Arts of Bangladesh, Stamford University and American International University of Bangladesh), community people, journalist, CBO representatives, artists, GO-NGO and INGO representatives visited the Bandhu resource center over the year. This is the first time for GSRC that "Student Fellowship Program" of Bandhu for different university students was held under the banner of this gender and sexuality resource center during this quarter.

Materials Development in 2017

Hijra’s culture and life is not well informed to mass people thus is manipulated differently. Eventually a misconception has developed about the identity, sexuality, life, livelihood and culture of Hijra people. To reduce misconception, increase positive awareness and disseminate actual information about this isolated community, different toolkits have been produced by Bandhu thus briefly reflects the definition of Hijra and their violation and dignity, SRHR issues and hundred years old culture. National and international legal structure in favor of human rights of gender diverse people is also included in the toolkits. The information about the basic rights, constitution and process of pursuing legal support was there. The details of knowledge materials:

- "Bandhu and SRHR" to share information about SRHR and to create awareness amongst young beneficiaries
- Spotlight - a toolkit of success story of legal case
- Culture & diverse life of hijra population: a booklet of Hijra definition and tools to get clear misconception
Publications of 2017
EXCHANGE VISIT

To improve the policy environment with regards TG and HIV related issues in South Asia

ABOUT EXCHANGE VISIT

As part of the strategic objectives outlined in the project document on enhancing information sharing and knowledge exchange, the Children International-Nepal arranged exchange visits in Bangladesh where the delegates of Bhutan and Sri Lanka will visit Bandhu Social Welfare Society from 7 August to 11 August 2017. Purpose of the visit is to improve the policy environment in South Asia and also to demonstrate successful achievements and good practices highlighting NGO collaboration in Bangladesh.

MEETING WITH UNAIDS, BANGLADESH OFFICIALS

On 08 August 2017, Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu) organized a meeting with UNAIDS. Bangladesh officials, Bandhu and delegates from Sri Lanka and Bhutan at Anikita, Mini Conference Room (14th floor), Amarui Dhaaka, 47, Road No.41, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. 12 eminent guests attended the meeting representing Country Director of UNAIDS, Executive Director of Bandhu, MP from Bhutan, State Minister of Sri Lanka, Director of NASP and other foreign delegates. Major discussions of this meeting were working strategy of Bangladesh and coordinating policy with civil society.
Promotion of Bandhu at international level

Initiative to build Staff’s Capacity is one of the key focus of Bandhu and in 2017 Bandhu nominates seven (7) persons: Masbah U Ahmed, Md. Moshiur Rahman, Md. Muzib Ullah, AKM Anisuzzaman, Hasanur Rahman, Nazmul Haque and Mx. Arifa Yasmin Moyuri to participate on following trainings:

- Knowledge Management, Marketing and Communication Skills Enhancement Workshop for MSA Community Advocates*
- "Changing Gears Reanimating HIV Services for MSM and Hijra Communities"*

The workshops were organized by APCOM with the support of different skills based facilitators. The purposes of these workshops were to know about knowledge management and strategy so that trainee team can contribute its organization, develop proper guideline of marketing and communication strategy and to improve understanding traditional and contemporary HIV programming of respective organization/country. Communication Strategy and E materials are being developed by the team are direct outcome of the trainings.

Organizational safety issues

Security Policy

Bandhu’s focus, depth of works and span demand to ensure safety and security of its staffs and beneficiaries. Accordingly, in 2017 with support from Freedom House, Bandhu developed a Security Policy addressing specific security needs of the organization and its downstream partners.

This Policy has been crafted keeping in mind the nature of threats that Bandhu and its partner CBOs are exposed and subjected to. It is now being implemented as a security directive for the organization, its staffs, downstream and collaborative partners. To keep the safety and security issues on track, Bandhu has a dedicated staff with required expertise.

Security Equipment

In the backdrop of recent socio-political climate in Bangladesh, proper security plan and security measures like Security Equipment installation in place is essential. For this reason, Bandhu took initiative to install security equipment as part of security measures for its head office and installed CCTV with recording provision. Besides, thumb access control mechanism has been installed in all 36 (thirty-six) field offices including HO.
Saksham: A tri-country partnership of Bandhu

Skills building and capacity enhancement of staffs are key components towards organizational growth and development. In addition to mutual understanding, sharing skills and experience could overcome limitations about program implementation and find out innovative ideas for program beneficiaries.

With this view, Bandhu is a part of tri-country learning-exchange partnership initiative "Saksham" which is supported by FK Norway, a government wing affiliated to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a vision of "Fostering leadership for global justice, creating change on the ground and in minds".

The other two partners are Humsafar Trust of India and Blue Diamond Society of Nepal. Bandhu is performing the role of coordinating partner of this project.

In round two period (2017) of the partnership, two skill personnel (termed as FK participants) from each organization have been placed to other partner organizations for a period of one year. Accordingly, Bandhu has been hosting one person from Humsafar Trust, and one from Blue Diamond Society.

The FK participants have been sharing their own organizational best practices with the host organizations they are assigned to and equally, learning the new processes, practices. They are working out on online outreach, HIV and STI prevention, mental health, SRHR issues of SOGI people in the host organization. They are also involved in advocacy initiatives of the host organizations.

After returning to the home country, these young personnel will transfer their gained knowledge, learning and new ways with the management and staff of his/her own organization to bring positive change in organizational efforts and thereby, through involving and guiding in this change making process, leadership qualities will be developed among them to contribute even more.
Development Pillar - 3
Access to social entitlements and social protection

Consultation Workshop with Service Providers on Stigma and Discrimination Free Health Access to PLHIV

Bandhu hosted a program titled “Consultation workshop with government, treatment centers and HTC service providers at national level on stigma and discrimination free “Test & Treat” access and guideline/policy development” at ASP, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dr. Md. Ehteshamul Huq Choudhury, ADG (Admin) of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and Line Director of AIDS/STD Control Program (ASP) graced the event as Chief Guest. Dr. Faizun Nassa, Dy. Director & PM, Dr. Md. Belal Hossain and Dr. Tarit Kumar Saha, Assistant Directors of ASP, DGHS were present as special guests.

A total 40 participants from Govt and non Govt hospitals, PLHIV network and community people also took part in the workshop. The meeting intended to cover some specific objectives such as to create conducive environment for HIV infected and affected Gender diversified and Hijra population in health service settings. And to extend stigma and discrimination free treatment access of PLHIV.

Immediate results of the event:
As per situational demand ASP assured to take initiative to develop “test and treat” guideline as soon as the approach is introduced for HIV intervention by Bangladesh government. ASP requested Bandhu to immediately initiate the sensitizations workshops at different government hospitals where the ART services have been initiated. The AIDS/STD Control
authority felt that this will make the service providing centers stigma and discrimination free and facilitate a conductive environment for PLHIV.

Creating job opportunity in different sectors

In collaboration with local CBOs, Bandhu organized number of advocacy and networking meetings with UNO, Divisional Commissioner, local industrialists, SWD, Jubo Unnoyaun Adhidoptar and officer in charge of police stations for sensitizing them with an aim to create job opportunity for the Hijra community at their organizations. Bandhu is also conducting such advocacy drives with corporate sector including financial institutions, garment industries and media houses. The 2017 achievements are as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the persons</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Nature of Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Md. Faruk Hossain</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Govt. Jute mill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Shohel Rana</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Panishail, Tailors (Garments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Anis</td>
<td>Dinajpur</td>
<td>Ward Boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Islam</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Tailor (Garments)master</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Amit Hasan</td>
<td>Rajbari</td>
<td>Dutch Bangla Bank Booth In-charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Ibrahim</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Tailor (Garments)master</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Sajedur</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Tailor (Garments)master</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faruk Hossain</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Grameen tower guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Shamim</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>NGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Jony Hossain</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>NGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Abul Salam</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Farmhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mx. Suraiya</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Farmhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Giasuddin</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Night Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Islam</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Farmhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Ashraf</td>
<td>Natore</td>
<td>Cook at Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Sattar</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Cook at Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Shariful</td>
<td>PABA, Rajshahi</td>
<td>Cook at Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Md. Rana</td>
<td>Rajshahi</td>
<td>Gov. Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Create Awareness about Gov. Schemes Among Sexual and Gender Minorities

As a part of community sustainability and community-based program, increasing awareness about governmental schemes for gender diversified including hijra populations is important.

Bandhu has been regularly providing the information about governmental schemes through resource mobilization and other events such as trainings, advocacy meeting/workshop on different issues with relevant stakeholders.

Bandhu strongly believes that without awareness, it is hard to convey all the government schemes towards the community. The major objective of these initiatives is to provide information so that they can access those relevant schemes in Govt. operational settings.

By this time, many of community peoples enjoyed, gathered and availed latest information, clear understanding on their course of action on different governmental schemes. Develop Information pack of governmental schemes for easy access

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Develop Information/Inventory of Governmental Schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No</th>
<th>Name of Gov. Schemes</th>
<th>Name of Department</th>
<th>Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Old aged remuneration</td>
<td>Social welfare Department under Ministry of Social Welfare</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Educational Stipend</td>
<td>Social welfare Department under Ministry of Social Welfare</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Alternative livelihood training</td>
<td>Social welfare Department under Ministry of Social Welfare</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Grant for livelihood continuation</td>
<td>Social welfare Department under Ministry of Social Welfare</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Yearly Financial Grant (20,000 BDT)</td>
<td>Bangladesh Jatio Samaj Kallyaun Parish under Ministry of Social Welfare</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Vocational Training and provide sewing machine</td>
<td>Department of youth under Ministry of youth and sports</td>
<td>Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Grant for livelihood from minister</td>
<td>Any Ministry</td>
<td>Hijra can apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Joyeeta Award</td>
<td>Joyeeta Foundation</td>
<td>Also applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Department of women affairs</td>
<td>for Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Under Ministry of women and children affairs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Victim support center</td>
<td>Bangladesh Police in collaboration with 10 NGO’s</td>
<td>Also applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>for Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>National help line center</td>
<td>Bangladesh Police in collaboration with 10 NGO’s</td>
<td>Also applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hot Line - 10921</td>
<td></td>
<td>for Hijra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Support seeking for Legal Aid</td>
<td>National Legal Aid Service Organization</td>
<td>Also applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>for Hijra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Livelihood Opportunity

Gender diversified and Hijra peoples has a long history of vulnerability to employment vicinity for its stigmatization as citizens and has tendency of the rejection in particular by local job market and minority people requiring emergency works to survive the live. Bandhu has taken different types of initiatives to improve overall status of job environments for the Gender diversified and Hijra peoples/group under a plan called “Livelihood for Gender diversified and Hijra peoples Program” which has been supporting in many ways. Key Achievements of this initiative are:

- Formation of trained groups with a strong social / private enterprise philosophy able to ensure continuity and timeliness of delivery to job market
- Establish effective network with some private industries for job opportunities and some of private company/garments has been recruited 16 HIjra as tailoring master.
- Achieve higher returns by setting directly to employer rather than into the first level of a traditional job marketing chain with several sequential barriers or institutional involvement.

Essence of Soul: A Community Dance Troupe to Create Mass Awareness and Reduce Stigma

As it is now being widely perceived that there is a relationship between the personal creative expression and sexual identity, as well as between expressiveness and physical & emotional health, Bandhu created a dance group “Essence of Soul” in 2006 with the young members of gender diverse communities.

With Bengali name of “Sattaya” the Essence of Soul poses, portrays and projects the voice, vulnerability and vital needs of gender diverse population in terms of health care needs and human rights issues through their mesmerizing performances.

Now ‘Sattaya’ has become one of the key vehicles to create mass awareness on SRHR and Human Rights issues and is regularly performing thematic dances and fashion shows with specific messages in different platforms. In the year 2017, ‘Sattaya’ performed 7 stage shows and was acknowledged by the government high officials and diplomats.
Collaboration with Ministry of Social Welfare & Government Budget Allocation

Over the last year Bandhu has successfully collaborated with the Ministry of Social Welfare and have been able to carry out significant level of activities like providing training to the Hijra's. A number of 1650 Hijras have received the training on tailoring, Computer, Beautification and Cooking course. A picture of the this collaboration has given below:

- 1330 Hijras have received educational stipend from department of social services under social welfare
- 2340 Hijra have permitted to take old aged remuneration/ stipend under social welfare department
- 1650 Hijras have trained on computer, beautification, cooking, tailoring.
- 650 training participants have received some hand cash (25,000 BDT) as livelihood initiatives.

In the other hand from 2013 government has taken very positive initiatives about Hijra people to improve their livelihood. As a continuation of these initiatives, government has already allocated BDT 11 cores for the fiscal 2017-2018 under 64 districts.

Bandhu has also been working to build networks toward social enterprises, service providers, investors, corporations, public servants, academics and researchers by: providing information, research, best practices and building capacity; telling the stories and aggregating the impact of social enterprises; creating a fertile social enterprise ecosystem via advocacy and awareness building; and building successful local social enterprise communities and national networks.

As a result 6 CBO has already been established own entrepreneurship with the full support of local governmental authority and created work opportunity for the own community.
Seed Fund Grant to CBOs
Community System Strengthening (CSS) and Advocacy Seed Grants Program is a small grants mechanism which provides support towards MSM and Hijra/TG led organization/Community Based Organization (CBO) to address and advocate their issues related to HIV epidemic in different South Asian countries.

Bandhu initiated seed fund grant initiatives since 2016. Following the approved process of the donor, 16 CBOs have completed their activities gradually and at present, 8 CBOs are successfully implementing the program accordingly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI No</th>
<th>Name of The CBO</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Siri Samaj Kallyan Shangsta Shalmaulur</td>
<td>Successfully started and smoothly operated handicrafts business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Bachar Asha Shongsrikrit Shonghothon –Paba,Rajshahi</td>
<td>Successfully started tailoring (home based garments factory) and gradually received order from local sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Agragami Shomaj Kollayan Shongsta Siraigong</td>
<td>Tailoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Shustha Jibon-Dhaka</td>
<td>Medicine (Not SFG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Chinnomul Manab Kollayan Society-Khulna</td>
<td>Successfully Restuarent and catering business started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Arpon Manab Kollayan Society-Jessor</td>
<td>Rickshaw van (on-going)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Sathi Hijra Shongho-Dinajpur</td>
<td>Cow project (on-going)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Shapla Hijra/ MSM Unnayan Shonghotho-Bogra</td>
<td>Tailoring but now started duck project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organize Consultation Meeting with Corporate/Industry bodies and Media Houses for creating employment opportunities for gender diversified people

Bandhu has arranged a consultation meeting with corporate/industry and media house to sensitize the corporate/industry bodies and media personnel regarding the gender diverse population about to create employment opportunities for them so that their livelihood trend can developed. In the meeting representative from furniture sector, ceramic sector, leather and footwear sector, agro-food procession sector,

SME foundation and media took part. They were found very keen to work for the gender diverse population as a part of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) activities. A bunch of important recommendations were come out from the fruitful discussion.

- Most of the Hijra are used by their Guru to collect money from different sources so considering the fact it is urgent to motivate them to come out from disgraceful ways of earning
- Bandhu can arrange a job fair for the gender diverse population and invite different companies in the fair to recruit Hijra community people.
Hijra are engaged in public entertainment activities in different countries i.e. Thailand. As such Hijra people could be trained and employed in entertainment sectors.

In the tourism sector, especially in accommodation and hospitality management sector Hijra population can be employed through proper training and sensitization of owners.

Bandhu could communicate with SME foundation or National Skill Development Counsel for skill development training to Hijra community people. SME foundation will be happy to arrange loan from Banks for the Hijra population if they apply.

Comilla EPZ (Export Processing Zone) may recruit trained Hijra community people as swing operator.

Provide skills development training

Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu) has been providing the technical support to local community-based organization for their sustainability by managing local or own fund to run their business plan. Based on that, Bandhu has hosted one workshop on "Resources mobilization and community sustainability" by the support of APCOM. Subsequently another also been provided a "CBO sustainability and alternative livelihood where for 25 CBO’s attended. During that training 12 CBO’s has developed their organizational resource/business plan with the assistance of Bandhu and most of them has started proceeding to implement.

A good example of Bandhu is to extend necessary support for the community sustainability by mobilizing resources and during this reporting period 5 local community-based organizations has been awarded for seed grant. The seed grant is basically providing for the community development that ultimately contributes to the govt. commitment to achieve the SDG. Now the communities are able to decide about their needs and priorities they gained skills and confidence to arrange necessary resources. As an indicator of success under this effort, recently a Hijra named Ms. Poly has awarded by 'Joyeeta Award 2017" for her great works towards sustainability which was initially started through the Bandhu's resources mobilization plan made in 2015.
CBO Related Success Story and Some Achievements

Celebrating the Hijra Pride by CBO at Division Level
In Bangladesh the first Hijra Pride celebrated by Bandhu Social Welfare Society in 2014 and after that it was not possible to host same program except providing technical support to CBOs for arranging the event successfully in different part of Bangladesh. After a long time, this year the community-based organization has been celebrated the Hijra Pride by the support of Bandhu which held in particular date. The program comprised by rally and discussion among the community that includes the local level stakeholders. The meeting created a big opportunity to make a new path for bridging the community and GOs/NGOs on a same platform with an aim to create positive aspects towards gender diverse population.

Organized & Facilitated "Divisional Level Consultation Meeting" by CBO with GO, NGO and different stakeholders
Involving CBOs of respective areas, Bandhu initiated hosting “Divisional Level Consultation Meeting” at different divisions to make aware about the SOGI people and their importance in the development and sustainability. This was basically an effort to increase capacity of CBOs so that they can host such kind of event by their leadership. Number of CBOs have conducted this event at local area with utilizing the capacity they have gathered.

The focus of the meeting was to introduce the CBOs working with Global Fund Multi-Country South Asia Regional Project with leading existing stakeholders of the division and to create an opportunity for CBOs thereby they can get support from others in maximizing their capacity and also offer their support to others to utilize the CBOs in various activities. To create
a network of CBOs, located in the division so that they can help each other in organizing the Most at Risk Population (MAR)P of HIV and run the activities of CBO targeting the wellbeing of SOGI to get information about different service options related to HIV and AIDS intervention and other livelihood issues where CBO can make referral linkage. The daylong meeting used over 50 participatory discussion including debates and discussions, presentations by divisional level CBO, community voice as well as UN secretary general short speech. This meeting was the first formal exposure to diverse sexuality and rights for some participants from organizations other than CBO, even though some of them were working in related fields. The silence and stigma around gender diversity related issues in society is somehow encounter in Bangladesh and other countries of South and Southeast Asia too. Therefore it did not come as much of a surprise that many participants were not aware of the diversity in sexual and gender identities. Participants were led through a series of discussion to help them understand community needs and reality, diverse sexuality, sexual and reproductive health from an affirmative and rights based perspective. Now, it is proved that after that meeting CBO has established network with the organizations from where they can get support and refer their community people for required services. Communication with different government department has become smooth to process registration and raised request to get different governmental support. All of these have supported CBO for its sustainability in the long run.

Training under seed fund changed knowledge, attitude and behavior of a community people

MY NAME IS SHUVO. When I was about 8/9 years old, I felt more comfort playing with girls. I used to play in front of mirror wearing clothes of my mom and sister. Life was going well. While I was growing up, boys started treating me in a very discomforting manner. They used to touch me in different parts of my body, rubbed their sex organ against mine, forced me to touch their sex organs, etc. When I was in sixth grade, senior brothers would touch me sexually and I began to feel good. One day four or five elder brothers of my school took me to the toilet and they pull off my pants, I got scared and I cried. That time a cleaning lady from the school noticed it and rescued me.

One day, I met a school student and I fell in love with him. That was my first love. I loved him so much that it cannot be explained with words. We met behind the school or at my house and used to
get intimate. Sometimes it seemed he loved me more than I loved him. It was magical. We remained lovers and days were passing by beautifully. When he finished his studies, he went back and we never got in touch. I could not forget him. I felt sad and blue. I used to go to the riverside and usually sat alone thinking of the memories. One day I met some kothis in the Burigonga riverside. They took me to the Paddakuri office where I shared my inner feelings and stories with them. They gave me the mental support I needed back in then. I started going to Paddakuri office regularly and from there I got introduced to other men who were like me. I got polygamous and started having sex. I was unaware and did not practice safe sex. Later, one day Paddakuri invite me for training under seed grant project where I came to know about HIV/AIDS and STI diseases, importance of condom use, how to use condom, etc. This training changed my life. I started using condom and encouraged my sex partners to do the same for our protection.

I still go to the Paddakuri office regularly where I get to meet and share stories of my life with other like-minded people. I came to know a lot of other good looking men, yet deep down inside, I keep looking for my first love.
Case Studies

Increased social acceptance by using negotiation skills for house rent

"Mx. Rupa" is a 41 years old hijra and has been living in old Dhaka since 2002. She suffered and was embarrassed a lot from house owner due to her gender identity. She tried to convince him by her own logic but ultimately failed to keep this rented house for her dwelling.

Mx. Rupa had no option to stay, talk, or make alternative logic and became frustrated. After receiving the orientation session, counseling tips and Human Rights trainings from Bandhu, she understood her situation and tried to make her own strategy to negotiate with house owner.

The training improved her negotiation skills as well as behavior and positive attitudes. She was briefed by Bandhu trainers on how to set the line of discourse and negotiation and she was also given 3rd gender recognition document of the government to show it to the house owners. After a long searching Mx. Rupa got a beautiful and clean house for her accommodation and she now believes that she can make a rationale negotiation effectively. She is happy with her gender identity as well as new house.

Recovering the possession of property and legal rights

Md. Shahidul Absar (40), a member of gender diverse community bought 3 decimal of land in 2015 from a person named Lal Miah. Just after one year, when he wanted to take position of his own land, the neighbor land owner named Nurul Amin hindered him to take possession of the land by using local power and force. He also threatened Shahidul to vacate the land.

As a member of gender diverse community, he could not manage any local/social support. Having no hope and with frustration he met Mr. Zia Uddin, a CBO representative cum member of Bandhu’s watchdog committee of that area and filed a complaint to Bandhu’s Ain Alap (legal wing of the organization).

The CBO representative had the minimum skills to fill out the complaint form as he was trained by Bandhu trainers on human rights and case documentation as well. On the basis of this complaint, Bandhu legal unit took initiatives and resolved the issue establishing the social justice.
Social tolerance: a silver line

In schools and universities around the country, young people are bullied or excluded by teachers and peers, because they are (or are perceived to be) gender diversified or questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity. Some find it impossible to continue with their studies and leave prematurely, while others suffer in silence and get poor results, in turn affecting their future prospects.

The impact of all this on their mental health and well-being lasts well beyond their student years. However, when some NGOs and governmental department promote human rights for all and positive Hijra role models, harmful social attitudes can be challenged before they become fixed. All young people are then able to learn in a safe and enabling environment and become equipped for the future.

On the other hand currently in Bangladesh few Hijra came under focus through their social work and contribution. Nadira, a member of the Hijra community of Rangpur city compete in election for Ward Councilor position of city corporation. In her locality, she is admired for her work as a social worker and for raising her voice on various issues.

After her candidacy was confirmed, she proceeded to distribute leaflets in which she vowed to work for the betterment of everyone in the area, if elected. “Voters accepted me more than I expected,” Nadira told Bandhu while campaigning at the Babukhun High School ground. “I am receiving a good response from people of all strata and they are helping me in many ways. Many women are voluntarily coming to my aid in the electoral campaign.”

Nadira’s ordeal

Nadira was forced to leave her family home in her childhood due to her father’s resentment of his transgender child. Rejected by her family, Nadira was later accepted and brought up by her maternal uncle in Dinajpur, who used to treat her like one of his own children.

Fighting against all odds, she obtained her bachelor degree from Dinajpur Model Degree College before completing a Masters at Rajshahi University in 1999. Nadira said she faced difficulties in finding employment because of her gender and was ridiculed quite a number of times. Despite all the challenges she worked with Bandhu from 2001-2005 at Mymensing field office.

Finally, she didn’t able to succeed that election but received 7026 (Total voter were 25000) people’s mandate in favor of her commitment towards the society.
Second Time Joyeeta Award Received by Hijra

Mx. Poly is hijra and lives in Rajshahi. In her family she has two brothers and one sister along with her father & mother. From her early childhood she realized that she is not like other boys and felt discomfort to play with them.

When she was only 9, she faced new experience from her cousin brother which put her in upsetting situation. She used to receive misbehaviors even from her mother as they carried the social judgment in their mind setup. She liked to make dresses using sewing machine and had a knack for applique works. But nobody recognized her skills as hijra fashion designer.

When she grew up she became mentally strong and started new life journey with her own vision. She discussed her feelings and future thoughts with her mother and sister. In the meantime she communicated with local community friends for an enterprise as she knew that she could make a difference by her potentialities.

Many of Hijra developed community-based organization (Denar Alo Hijra Shangha) for upholding their social life and status. Gradually she received trainings from Bandhu and increased her diverse skilled for resource mobilization and sustainability purpose.

She started her small tailoring business with the support of Bandhu technical group and promoted her production in local market area.

After a long struggle she is recognized by government and she was awarded “Divisional Joyeeta Award” from Prime Minister under Rajshahi division 2017 for her tremendous social work contribution.
Financial Statements 2017
Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu)

Statement of Financial Position
as on 31 December 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Amount In Taka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Property, plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>2,255,666</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Advances, deposits and prepayments</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Investment in fixed deposit receipts</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Loans &amp; Receivables</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Cash and Cash equivalents</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>42,421,663</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</th>
<th>Amount In Taka</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Grant received in advance</td>
<td>6,206,691</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Deferred income</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Liabilities for expenses</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Loans</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td><strong>23,835,206</strong></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Amount In Taka</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>42,421,663</strong></td>
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</table>

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statement.

Chairperson: Executive Director: Director: Finance & Administration

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka,
25 March 2018
Financial Statements 2017
Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu)

Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the year ended 31 December 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Amount in Taka</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Grant income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Receive</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Expenses</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Expenses</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Expenses</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>137,833,793</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Excess/(Deficit) of income over expenditure before taxation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,017,402</td>
<td>1,531,374</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>137,833,793</strong></td>
<td><strong>113,785,496</strong></td>
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</table>

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Chairperson          Executive Director          Director
                      Finance & Administration

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka,
25 March 2018
Financial Statements 2017
Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu)

Statement of Receipts and Payments
For the year ended 31 December 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Amount in Taka</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at bank</td>
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<td>Foreign donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Donation</td>
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<td>Donation received by Core</td>
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<td>Other Receive</td>
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<td>Bank Interest</td>
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<td>security deposit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advance realized</td>
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<td>Loan received from core</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receive against Common Pool</td>
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<td>Grant Transfer from previous project</td>
<td>1,288</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable Realized</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest on FDR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loan realize</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151,044,410</td>
<td>716,337,124</td>
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<tr>
<td>178,290,808</td>
<td>226,774,064</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PAYMENTS
Project expenses | 121,300,853 | 105,096,990 |
Salaries & benefits | 1,223,486 | 1,063,247 |
Program expenses | 3,040,509 | 698,290 |
Administrative expenses | 1,177,574 | 250,411 |
Fund refund to the Donor | 665,272 | 209,472 |
Paid to projects by core | 7,530,913 | 47,458,669 |
Capital expenditure | 2,448,097 | 1,306,033 |
Advances, deposits & prepayments | 1,657,622 | 11,063,359 |
Loan paid to projects | 5,351,514 | 10,959,264 |
Payment against accounts payable | 5,779,692 | - |
Bank Interest Transfer to The Donor | - | 8,562 |
Grant Transfer from previous project to new project | 1,288 | - |
Preserve for expenses | - | 12,720,036 |
Accounts Payable Adjusted | 1,100,153 | 5,949,997 |
FDR | 1,364,183 | - |
Loan repayment to core by project | 1,588,428 | 9,765,617 |
| 151,301,385 | 204,527,966 |

Closing balances:
Cash in hand | 33,656 | 1,318 |
Cash at bank | 21,735,467 | 22,346,780 |
| 21,759,123 | 22,346,098 |
| 178,290,808 | 226,774,064 |

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statement.

Chairperson  Executive Director  Director
Finance & Administration

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka,
25 March 2018