

# Dhaka Ahsania Mission Recovery Get Together Program 2022



## Background:

Bangladesh is neither an illicit drug producing nor an exporting country. Geographical location of Bangladesh is in between the Golden Triangle- covering Laos, Myanmar and Thailand and the Golden Crescent- covering Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran makes it vulnerable to drug abuse. Illicit drugs are inflowing to Bangladesh from our neighboring countries India and Myanmar and making our country vulnerable to drug abuse.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has been a leading humanitarian organization functioning for the social and spiritual well-being of the community since 1958. The Mission also enjoys consultative status with UN ECOSOC and operational relations with UNESCO. In recognition of its contributions, DAM has received many awards both at the national and international levels. The four drug treatment centers of Dhaka Ahsania Mission are offering support for the recovery and rehabilitation of the drug users in Bangladesh and these centers have received many national awards for quality services from the Government.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission drug treatment centers are celebrating recovery get together every year to support the recoveries and help them to integrate in the society.

## The program 2022:

This year DAM had arranged a “Recovery Get together” program on March 26, 2022, at our Drug Treatment Center, Gazipur with the participation of around 400 Recoveries including 60 in-patients clients, family members and staffs of Health sector of DAM along with participants from Government, Non-Government and International Organizations. The program theme was **“Drug free Nation stronger than ever”**. The main objective of the

program was to celebrate the people in recovery who have overcome the stigma, denial and other barriers to treatment and as a result are living a healthy and productive life in recovery and contributing to the society.

It was a day long program. The program started with a short recovery run and then followed by opening ceremony, recovery sharing, family sharing, different sports activities, beautiful cultural evening, raffle draw and gifts distribution. Free T-Shirt, mask, hand sanitizer, mug and a publication containing anti drug articles from renowned scholars in the relevant field were distributed among the registered participants.



A 'Bonfire' was also arranged the night before the recovery day celebration.

The program was inaugurated by the Additional Director (Dhaka Division) Mr. Md Zafrullah Kajal, the local Ward Counselor Mr. Mosaraff Hosain, Dr. Aktaruzzaman Salim and Mr. Iqbal Masud, Director Health and WASH sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

In his valuable speech Mr. Zafrullah Kajal said that, at present, illicit drug is a worldwide hazard which has been rising immensely day by day. The increasing trend of drug abuse is alarming not only to Bangladesh but also to the global society in the world. Department of Narcotics Control along with other law enforcing agencies are working relentlessly for saving our future generation from the harmful effect of drug at any cost.



COVID-19 pandemic situation, the whole world facing at a time also added new fuel to fire to the existing drug abuse problem. The data from drug addiction treatment services also

shows that very few people seek treatment for addiction to sedative, hypnotic and tranquilizer drugs. The prevalence of abuse of these drugs is more prominent among the female population, population under stress, anxiety or mood disorder and the people with other psychiatric problems. He added that Dhaka Ahsania Mission is playing a



vital role in the field of Treatment and Rehabilitation amongst the substance users.

The opening ceremony was chaired by Iqbal Masud, who, in his speech said that recovery is a process of change to improve their health and wellness. Handling negative feelings without using substances and living a contributive life are more important parts of their recovery. Dhaka Ahsania Mission's drug treatment centers are fostering recovery process to prevent relapse. He specially thanked the participants and sponsors for supporting the program.



As part of the program banners from all existing projects of Health sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission were displayed all around the field of the venue. The banner of Dhaka Ahsania

Mission Female Drug treatment center won the best designed banner award. Crests were distributed among the recoveries who are living a long time sober life to show appreciation and encourage the others.

The in house clients of the Gazipur drug treatment and rehabilitation center were also present at the program throughout the day. Their participation was spontaneous and facile. They enjoyed the program and anticipated every moment of the program.



The program was highlighted in various national and international Bengali and English newspapers.

A souvenir was published on the occasion of this recovery get together program. Many renowned psychologists, psychiatric doctors and experts in the relevant field has ornamented the souvenir by contributing with their valuable writings.

