



POSITIVE DEVIANCE INITIATIVE

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PD EXAMPLES IN THE NEWS



Monique Sternin, Ram Shrestha, and Jim Levinson at a recent PD workshop in Nepal

An early September PD workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal facilitated by Monique Sternin and Jim Levinson was a success. Levinson said of the workshop, "We now have a group of PD devotees who have some valuable skills. They are sufficiently committed that they have decided to establish a PD Nepal 'community of practice' which will keep these folks - and others - well connected and will permit them to share the latest PD activities. Some absolutely remarkable people were part of the group!" **Read more here.**

Newborn Health in India: Listening to Communities for a Change

"Some of our most valuable insights for saving newborn lives have come from listening to rural communities in South Asia and Africa. Not surprisingly, programs aimed at increasing the acceptance of simple, life-saving behaviors like early breastfeeding have met with limited success and have frequently been attributed to communities' reluctance to embrace change. On the contrary and in the same geographies, we have also witnessed communities' curiosity for new knowledge and willingness to experiment with new ideas and rapidly embrace change. Why does the community respond so differently depending on the 'intervention'? **Read more here.** *By Vishwajeet Kumar, Healthy Newborn Network.*

Pinellas School District (FL) to Study What's Working with Black Students

"In a potentially groundbreaking move, the Pinellas school district (FL) is proposing to find out which teachers are having the most success with black students — and trying to replicate their behaviors and strategies. 'If we know what's working, then we can help spread that to more teachers,' said associate superintendent Bill Lawrence." **Read more here.** *By Ron Matus, St. Petersburg Times.*

Community-Led Initiative to Improve Sanitation in Kalyani, India

Dr. Kasturi Bakshi, a local municipal health officer in the township of Kalyani, successfully began the Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) project in the slum of Harijan Para which motivated the sweeper community in the area to increase sanitation and become an Open Defecation Free (ODF) city. The article emphasizes the importance of community ownership in solving intractable problems, stating that, "As Kalyani has just shown, only community participation and community-led initiatives can bring about total sanitation in Indian villages." **Read more here.** *By Ajitha Menon, OneWorld South Asia.*

Photo credit: Dr Kasturi Bakshi



Local municipal health officer, Dr Kasturi Bakshi, with community members involved in the community-led initiative to improve sanitation in their township.