

Mapping Community Health Leaders in SAS Nagar Mauli, Punjab: An Initiative to Strengthen Rural Healthcare Networks

Ashok Dayal

Amity University, Haryana, India

Abstract: *Community health leaders significantly impact healthcare accessibility and awareness in rural settings. This study explores the mapping of community health leaders in SAS Nagar Mauli, Punjab, identifying their roles, challenges, and opportunities for enhancing healthcare delivery. Using quantitative approach, including interviews, surveys, and GIS mapping, the study examines leadership structures within the community. Findings suggest that strategic interventions, training programs, and technological integration could strengthen rural health networks.*

Keywords: Community health, rural healthcare, leadership mapping, healthcare accessibility, GIS in health

1. Introduction

Ensuring effective **community - led health systems** is crucial for improving rural healthcare outcomes. In SAS Nagar Mauli, Punjab, local health leaders serve as **bridges between formal healthcare systems and the community**, providing vital services such as **maternal care, vaccination awareness, and public health education**. This study aims to map these leadership structures, assess their impact, and provide recommendations for enhanced efficiency.

2. Methodology

2.1 Research Approach

Quantitative research was conducted to analyze community health leadership dynamics.

2.2 Data Collection

- **Interviews** with health workers, NGOs, and village representatives.
- **Surveys** assessing healthcare accessibility and community engagement.
- **GIS Mapping** of healthcare centers, volunteer groups, and leadership networks.

2.3 Sample Overview

- 18 active health leaders
- 200 households surveyed

3. Findings & Discussion

3.1 Characteristics of Community Health Leaders

- a) **Demographics:**
 - Healthcare volunteers: 05
 - ASHA workers: 03
 - Health Care Professionals: 03
 - Panchayat Representatives: 07

b) Roles & Responsibilities:

- **Provide Financial Support:** Providing/ arranging financial help to economically weaker section in case of medical emergencies.
- **Health Awareness Campaigns:** Conducting workshops on maternal health and nutrition
- **Vaccination Drives:** Organizing immunization programs for children and pregnant women
- **Public Health Advocacy:** Educating communities on sanitation and disease prevention

3.2 Key Challenges

a) Limited Resources:

- **Shortage of medical supplies** in rural clinics
- **Lack of formal training programs** for health leaders

b) Policy Gaps:

- **Limited integration** of community health leaders into Punjab's formal health system
- **Insufficient funding** for grassroots health initiatives

c) Cultural Barriers:

- **Resistance to modern healthcare practices** in certain communities
- **Gender - based challenges** affecting female health leaders

3.3 Strategies for Improvement

a) Enhanced Training & Capacity Building:

- **Regular health workshops** for leadership development
- **Skill - building programs** for ASHA workers and volunteers

b) Stronger Government Partnerships:

- **Collaboration with Punjab Health System Corporation**
- **Policy reforms** to formally recognize community health leaders

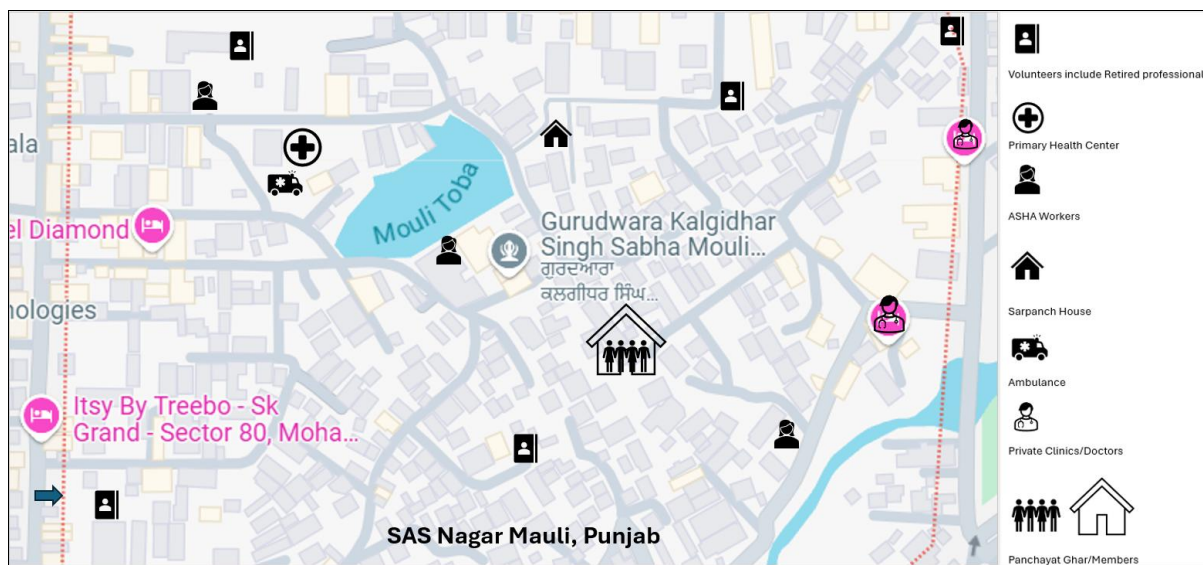
c) **Technology - Driven Solutions:**

- **Implementation of mobile health apps** for real - time patient monitoring
- **GIS - based mapping** to track healthcare accessibility

improve healthcare delivery. By investing in leadership training, policy reforms, and digital solutions, community health networks can be fortified, ensuring **sustainable health improvements** in rural Punjab.

4. Conclusion

Mapping community health leadership in SAS Nagar Mauli underscores **the need for structured interventions to**



Community Health Leaders location map in SAS Nagar Mauli, Punjab

References

- [1] Mauli Baidwan Village Census Data
- [2] Punjab Health System Corporation Reports
- [3] Health Indicators Dataset for SAS Nagar