A newsletter for rural India's caring community of supporters. Each issue shares news and real-life stories of empowerment through education, gender equality, healthcare, and village upliftment.

Welcome President Saumil Parikh

Share & Care Foundation announced that Mr. Saumil Parikh would serve as the next President of the Foundation. Mr. Parikh has served the Foundation in various capacities including as Treasurer, Board Trustee, and recently as Secretary and a key member of the Management Committee. He represents the young and vibrant next generation of Foundation members, raised in the U.S. but with the same dedication to building a better future here and in India.

SHARE & CARE FOUNDATION

Share & Care has undertaken more than 400 projects in India, covering Kashmir in the north to Tamil Nadu in the south, and from Manipur in the east to Gujarat in the west. These projects have uplifted the lives of over a million people. Beyond our signature programs, we have provided assistance after 16 major disasters, including the Gujarat and Nepal earthquakes — where thousands of people lost their lives and many suffered heavily after losing their livelihood — and we are currently focusing on COVID-19 relief and rehabilitation programs.

The Foundation's continuity is crucial as, at any given time, we are undertaking numerous projects and helping thousands of people in the fields of women empowerment, education, and healthcare. Due to our essential work,



the Foundation is mindful of selecting leadership. Recently, the Foundation was in search of a leader from the next generation of humanitarians with a solid background of successes, qualities that Mr. Saumil Parikh exemplifies. Mr. Parikh has experience managing his own business, holds management and accounting degrees from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business, and has earned his CPA after working with a reputable top 5 accounting firm. Share & Care looks to bring in youth at different levels, as well as capitalize on the varied experiences of our volunteers. Younger generations will help to bring in new ideas and ensure our continued long-term success.

Mr. Saumil Parikh succeeds Mr. Sharad Shah who served the Foundation for many years and retired as President in September 2021. Mrs. Jayu Parikh, outgoing Chairwoman, who has also dedicated many years of service will be succeeded by interim Chairwoman, Mrs. Darshana Gandhi. Mr. Suresh Patel will join Mr. Parikh in the Management Committee as Treasurer, along with Secretary, Mrs. Sudha Bhansali. Mr. Parikh in his acceptance speech thanked the entire Share & Care team as well as its beloved patrons, supporters, and well-wishers, all of whom are key pillars of the Foundation.

The Next Generation of Leadership

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Share & Care's Young Professionals Committee (YPC) is a dynamic group of individuals ages 25 and up with a mission to volunteer and fundraise for Share & Care programs while fostering a community for young professionals to connect over their passion for humanitarian service. YPC fundraisers have included poker tournaments, jewelry sale partnerships, and more. Members also have the opportunity to attend seasonal networking events for its members, sponsors, and potential new volunteers. To learn more about YPC, please email **YPC@shareandcare.org**.

KIDS4KIDS

Share & Care's Kids4Kids (K4K) is composed of dedicated and passionate students ages 12-18 in the New York and New Jersey area. They strongly believe that education is the key to ending cycles of poverty in rural India and host fundraisers to support students in India through our Educate 2 Success program. Recent fundraisers have included a basketball tournament, online yoga and art classes, gaming competitions, t-shirt sales, donation drives, and more. To learn more about K4K, please reach out to **kids@shareandcare.org**.



Emerging Better than Before

Looking Forward

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the livelihoods of those we serve in India in a tremendous way, and it's expected to continue in some form for some time to come. To counteract the pandemic's effects, equality will be even more crucial. As we reflect on this period, we ask ourselves, "What should be Share & Care's role going forward?" In such times, it's imperative that we continue to explore all possible ways of maximizing our efforts. It is more critical than ever that men and women work together on even playing fields, with equal treatment and opportunities. Though we have long been working to empower women, and have been successful in making strides, we must renew our commitment to women's causes and make extra efforts to provide skill and livelihood training for women to overcome the effects of the pandemic. It is a time to focus, brainstorm, reprogram where necessary, and forge ahead at full speed. — Dr. Ketki Shah, WE Chair



Arpan provides age-appropriate personal safety lessons to children and teens.

Accelerating Change

Since 2015, Share & Care has supported more than 5,200 children through our NGO partner Arpan's programs. Like all of us, Arpan didn't plan for the global disruption and turmoil of the pandemic. However, it created a catalyst for work that they envisioned embarking upon much later.

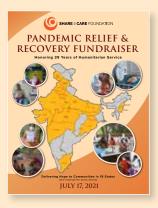
Arpan educates children and teens about personal safety so they can identify and seek help in unsafe situations. The World Health Organization estimates that worldwide, 20% of girls and 5-10% of boys are victims of sexual abuse. Arpan's Personal Safety Education courses are conducted in schools and through other NGOs, shelter homes, and orphanages, providing age-appropriate lessons in preventing childhood sexual abuse

and providing support for children and teens who have experienced it.

A more long-term program goal had been to transition from providing direct service to scaling their trainings to reach new and broader demographics. The pandemic accelerated these goals, allowing Arpan to increase their outreach and advocacy through online platforms. They adapted their content to suit digital presentations, worked to make them interactive and engaging for students, and created additional easily-shared content that could be disseminated across different platforms so they could reach more children.

With these new milestones reached, over the next three years Arpan will train 42,000 government employees, NGO employees, teachers, and counselors. They will also be launching online course modules for different age groups and in multiple languages for use by parents and teachers, and evaluating program efficacy and impact. Finally, Arpan will continue to advocate for policy-level change, pushing local, state, and national governments to integrate Personal Safety Education into required training, **empowering generations to come.**

A Special Message to Our Donors



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the donors, sponsors, and volunteers who supported our Pandemic Relief & Recovery Fundraiser as well as to those who have contributed toward our Signature Programs this year. It is due to your generosity that we are able to continue our **mission** of empowering women, uplifting villages, and bringing education and healthcare to society's most marginalized communities.

To request a digital copy of our Pandemic Relief & Recovery Fundraiser Souvenir Book, please email us at **info@shareandcare.org**. We'll send you a link to view the book and keep you updated about future Share & Care news and events. The book is also available online at **https://shareandcare.org/pdfs/21-SAC-Fundraiser-Souvenir-Book.pdf**.

Making An Impact

Localized Action, Worldwide Recognition

Projects supported by Share & Care are thoroughly studied and planned after learning of problems in the field, after which we consult with our partner NGOs to collectively design and implement them. When projects are successful, it's extremely rewarding, but when projects are implemented elsewhere it brings even greater satisfaction as our successes expand beyond the boundaries of our Foundation and partners. We recently learned of one such success with our Samridhi Saksham project.

Our Women Empowerment Signature Program (WE), in partnership with NGO Mijwan Welfare Society, installed the Samridhi Saksham project, which has a goal of producing a cadre of financially-independent rural women entrepreneurs. In its first year, 656 women benefited from the program, improving their business skills and learning intricate stitching and embroidery work, allowing them to earn Rs 3,000 per month — even amidst the pandemic — and eventually sustain their own businesses.

This project was recently featured as a case study in the research report, *Reimagining the Craft Economy Post COVID-19*, in which the British Council made recommendations for creating a sustainable roadmap to recovery. The British Council was founded in 1934 and works in more than 100 countries encouraging cultural, scientific, technological, and educational cooperation with the United Kingdom.



Through the Samridhi Saksham project, women artisans hand-crafted and embroidered masks and matching hair ties.

COVID-19 Rehabilitation

Since 2020, Share & Care's focus has been to provide relief to the humanitarian crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Different from other disaster relief efforts the Foundation has undertaken, this work required a multifaceted approach: helping to stop the spread, assisting those who lost their livelihoods, combatting the severe effects of reverse migration, and planning rehabilitation efforts. Our dedicated team got to work to fight this humanitarian disaster, initially beginning in the U.S. by providing meals, masks, and other needs for first responders. However, our focus quickly shifted to India as COVID-19 spread. Throughout the pandemic, Share & Care helped more than half a million people get vaccinated, provided nearly a million meals, and distributed thousands of masks and oxygen concentrators, along with other necessities.

To continue combatting this disaster, we are focusing on rehabilitation plans to assist 16,250 people affected by the deadly pandemic. Your generous support can:

\$100	Fund mental health initiatives
\$150	Educate, empower, and employ women
\$200	Rehabilitate migrant workers
\$500	Provide food, shelter, and education for orphaned children
Any Amount	Contribute to COVID-19 Rehabilitation

On the back cover donation form, please check the "COVID-19 Rehabilitation" option if you would like your gift to directly support individuals affected by the coronavirus pandemic.



Making Education a Force for Change

Share & Care is supporting two new projects for the 2021-2022 school year as part of the Educate 2 Success Signature Program. The first, in partnership with the SPRJK Trust, will serve 200 young women in high school in Ghatkopar, Mumbai. SPRJK Trust's mission is to provide educational opportunities to girls who live in the slums of Mumbai, where more than one million girls have no access to them. Without an education, girls often become victims of child labor, child marriage, and domestic violence.



The Trust's Diya sponsorship program provides children with everything they need to attend school, covering their fees, textbooks, school supplies, uniforms, as well as extracurricular fees like coaching or educational trips and training. In addition, the Trust is working to help their students and families meet their basic needs, like access to food and medical care. To help meet these needs, SPRJK Trust has established a Student Welfare Center that provides lunches, nutritious snacks, a ration program for the student's families, and access to free primary medical care. **With their basic needs met and access to a quality education, these young women will be able to realize their full potential.**



Meet Bhakti

Bhakti Satish Lodaya is a 9th grade student at the SPRJK Trust's secondary school. She lives in a 180-square-foot, one-room home with her parents and two sisters. Her father supplies plastic bags, but has lost income in pandemic-related shutdowns. Her mother is a homemaker, caring for Bhakti, her two sisters, and her cousin whose mother died due to COVID. Though her father works hard to make ends meet, the costs of the

TOP: The SPRJK Trust offers ration programs for families of their students to ensure they have food at home.

BOTTOM: Bhakti Satish Lodaya (second from right), pictured with her family, is an SPRJK Trust secondary school student who wants to become a lawyer when she grows up.

For just \$130 per academic year, an underprivileged student can receive a quality education. family's basic needs surpass their income.

Bhakti receives everything that she needs for school from the SPRJK Trust, and is an excellent student. She participates in every school activity that she can and has won many intra- and inter-school competitions. Bhakti wants to become a lawyer a bright future made possible by the support of Share & Care and its partners.

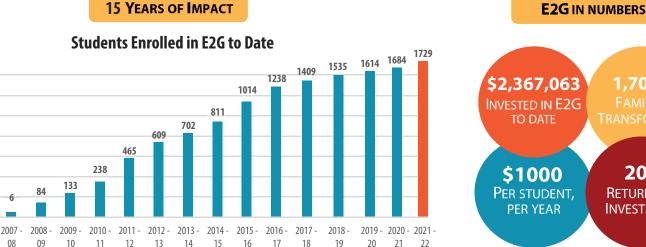
The second project, in partnership with NGO Shoshit Seva Sangh Foundation (SSS), will serve 200 high school students in Patna, Bihar. SSS operates Shoshit Samadhan Kendra, a K-12 residential school in Patna where children from the underserved Musahar community receive free education, room and board, clothing, and healthcare. The school also boasts a well-stocked library, "smart" classrooms, chemistry and physics labs, and a computer lab.

The Musahar community is primarily agricultural day laborers who live in abysmal conditions. One of the most marginalized communities in India, the literacy rate is less than three percent, and most live below the poverty line and have for generations. Like our E2S program, SSS believes that education can provide a path to empowerment and end generational poverty in these communities, and this progress has already begun. The school's students, all of whom belong to the Musahar community, have a 100 percent pass rate in the Central Board of Secondary Education's exams, and their alumni include lawyers, engineers, and students that have moved on to prestigious universities. **These successes will have a cascading effect for decades to come, transforming the lives of the students, their families, and their communities.**

Creating Generational Change Through Higher Education

our Educate 2 Graduate (E2G) Signature Program provides scholarships to brilliant, but economically underprivileged students, enabling them to pursue four- and five-year degree programs in the fields of medicine, engineering, and IT. This program has transformed the lives of more than 1,700 families, liberating them from the vicious cycle of poverty and creating lasting and sustainable change for generations to come.





\$2,367,063 1,700+ **INVESTED IN E2G** TO DATE **20x** \$1000 PER STUDENT, **RETURN ON** INVESTMENT PER YEAR

About Our E2G Signature Program

- We work with three NGO partners in India to implement our E2G program, including HEST and SNT, both in Gujarat, and Kalanjiyam in Tamil Nadu.
- Students selected are in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class.
- Their families have incomes of less than \$2,500 USD per year.
- Each student's metrics are tracked throughout their degree program to monitor progress.
- Students are supported emotionally as well as financially. They have access to mentors and personal and professional development opportunities.

What Our 800 Graduates Are Earning:

- Average salary: \$5,300+ per year
- Salary range: \$2,600 to \$66,800
- Wealth to be generated in 5 years: \$22 million



Our Educate 2 Graduate program supports brilliant, but economically challenged students as they pursue higher education.



Transforming the Future Through Primary Care Access

In the Tamil Nadu villages of Zameen Endathur, Maruvalam, Periya Vellikkadu, Periya Venmani, Atthivakkam, and Cheyyur, the majority of the population cannot access primary, preventative medical care or seek care for a wide range of illnesses. This is especially true for the children and elderly in the village, as they are dependent upon others to take them to a doctor or hospital. Kalanjiyam Trust uses a community-based approach, supported by Share & Care, providing much-needed primary care





TOP: Villagers wait to be seen by the Kalanjiyam RICH medical team during a health camp.

BOTTOM: The RICH team provides much-needed access to primary medical care in their mobile clinic.

through their Right Information Community Health (RICH) mobile clinic program. The RICH van makes its rounds, offering these villagers the basic health care they need.

While anyone can access care from the RICH program, adolescent care is their most critical focus as it is a sorely neglected area, but it also has the ability to change the trajectory of their lives. Good health and hygiene, particularly in the areas of preventative health care and reproductive health, can eliminate a number of medical issues later in life. A Kalanjiyam assessment showed that the majority of teens in the villages are poorly informed about menstruation, bodily changes they should expect to occur throughout puberty, and pregnancy and reproductive health.

The RICH medical team and outreach workers visited schools in six villages to conduct health camps, where they offered check-ups to nearly 900 adolescents. The medical team checked each student's height, weight, blood pressure, general vital signs, eye sight, dental hygiene, and reproductive

"We truly believe that these efforts will go a long way in reducing the burden of health problems among adolescents, increase awareness, and better prepare them for their future."

-KALANJIYAM TRUST

hygiene, and students also had the opportunity to have any other illness or symptoms they may have checked.

The students had a number of health problems treated, including headaches, fever, throat infections, eyesight problems, ear infections, tooth decay, and urinary tract infections. Additionally, anemia was extremely prevalent among the girls, and nearly 30 percent of them experienced irregular or painful periods.

The team also followed up with students who were treated to ensure they were faring well. The RICH team also hosted educational sessions at schools based on the knowledge gaps and common ailments they observed during the health camps. They focused on the importance of good nutrition, changes during puberty, and reproductive health. Through these treatment opportunities and educational outreach sessions, **Kalanjiyam is working to improve the health of the next generation and help these students secure brighter futures for themselves and all who follow.**

"The young students thank Share & Care for making these services possible, which they otherwise would not get."

—KALANJIYAM TRUST

Reshaping Villages Through Assistance and Advocacy

okmitras ("friends of the people") offer relief, education, and mentorship in their villages in Gujarat. Lokmitras working through our NGO partner ESI, with the support of Share & Care, have found that **their presence and efforts are creating lasting change — within and beyond the borders of the villages where they work.**

In the last year, much of their work has been focused on the pandemic and the needs it has spurned. In response, Lokmitras distributed masks, provided grocery kits, secured

oxygen concentrators, and held vaccination drives. However, their work doesn't end there. Lokmitras also offer solutions to other issues, conducting educational classes, creating job opportunities, meeting healthcare needs, and helping connect individuals with government entitlement and infrastructure development benefits available to them.



In response to the wide-ranging work of these Lokmitras:

- The Governor of Gujarat recognized the benefits and success of the Lokmitra program and is committing resources and training to replicate it in villages throughout the state.
- The State Bank of India is sponsoring water harvesting programs in two villages to recharge wells to be able to draw more water.
- The Gujarat government sanctioned a school of excellence to provide higher grade education in the village of Lilapur, which previously only had schooling up to the 8th grade.
- In another village, residents banded together to procure land to start an organic farm and nursery.
- Singer-performer Parthiv Gohil visited the village of Bharvad Vas, where he met with a girl named Maya. He was so impressed by Maya's voice and passion that he committed to providing her with a platform to showcase her talents.

The presence, advocacy work, and mentorship of Lokmitras is not only invaluable to the villagers they work with, but it's also inspiring the government, corporations, and individuals to **create opportunities for those who may not otherwise have had them.** These achievements are spreading across the Lokmitras' villages, to transform and uplift all of those who experience them.





LEFT: Plant Oxygen, an initiative to honor Mother Nature, has helped 16 villages plant 10,000 pipal and banyan trees.

RIGHT: Lokmitras offer relief, education and mentorship in their villages.

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SHARE & CARE NEWS



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"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." — MOTHER TERESA

Your gift can act as a stone on the water, with ripples that benefit generations to come. Will you make a contribution? It is with your generosity that we can create a brighter future for all those who are coming behind us, here and in India.

Yes. I want to build a brighter future!

I want to join Share & Care Foundation in creating lasting, sustainable change in India, **Uplifting Villages** to ensure everyone has access to **Education**, **Gender Equality**, and **Healthcare** by making the following donation:

	\$50	\$100	\$250	\$500	\$1,000	Other:				
	I want my gift to be used for COVID-19 Rehabilitation									
	My gift is in memory <i>or</i> in honor of:									
	My gift will be matched by:									
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Please help us go paperless by providing your email address (printed clearly). This will allow us to email you an environment-friendly donation receipt and/or acknowledgement .										

Please make checks payable to "Share & Care Foundation" or donate online at shareandcare.org/DONATE-NOW Mail to: **350 West Passaic St. 2nd Floor, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662** | **(201) 262-7599** | **info@shareandcare.org** | **www.shareandcare.org** © 2021 Share & Care Foundation. The Share & Care Foundation is a qualified 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Tax-exempt ID #22-2458395. Donations are 100% tax-deductible as allowed by law.