



**SHARE
& CARE**
FOUNDATION

NEWS

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.

38th Annual Gala & Fundraiser: Virtual Premier Show

RISING TOGETHER

A Musical Extravaganza with Parthiv Gohil & Band
Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 8PM EDT

Millions have been affected by the global pandemic, which has now existed for more than half a year. Some are coping with sickness or the loss of loved ones, while others contend with unemployment or drastically altered lives. Through it all, we are confined to our homes more than ever before, physically distanced from our communities and support networks. There is no mistaking that this "new normal" takes an emotional toll in both clear and yet-untold ways. However, it has also revealed the importance of social connection, and challenged us to find new ways to empower our beneficiaries — and one another.

That is why we are bringing our 38th Annual Gala & Fundraiser to the screen, for you to enjoy from your own home. We hope it will serve as a beacon of positivity, during this stressful time. We are also enthused that this first-ever virtual gala will allow us to connect with those located not only in the Tristate area, but across the U.S.

We at Share & Care are dedicated to uplifting humanity, and this gala will honor our community of beneficiaries and supporters who work to make this world a humanitarian haven. On October 10th, let us join our hearts together and embark on a musical journey.

About the Performers

Singer, composer, and global performer **Parthiv Gohil**, who has been a part of the Share & Care family for more than 15 years, has performed at the prestigious World Music Festival in London, was featured in MTV's *Coke Studio India*, and has lent his voice to a multitude of films.

Singer, actor, and producer **Manasi Parekh Gohil** has appeared in the award-winning film *URI*, the hit Gujju film *Golkeri*, and popular TV sitcom *Sumit Sambhal Lega* on Star Plus, for which she won an Indian Television Award.

Jahnvi Shrimankar is known for her experimental work in Bollywood, collaboration with acclaimed Indian fusion bands and her work in Gujarati film and folk music.

Bhoomi Trivedi has lent her voice to popular Bollywood songs, performed in the GIMA Awards and Radio Mirchi Awards, and won numerous awards for the super hit song "Ram Chahe Leela." ●



"The concept of sharing happiness and oneness is the purpose of this virtual concert. Music improves the mood, lifts the gloom, and brings positivity into our hearts. We hope and pray that our music will fill your evening with joy and inspire our shared dream to benefit those in need."

—PARTHIV GOHIL



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Manasi Parekh, Jahnvi Shrimankar, and Bhoomi Trivedi

IMPORTANT

TO BE NOTIFIED OF NEW GALA DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO EVENTS@SHAREANDCARE.ORG. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE.

COVID-19 Relief & Rehabilitation: Hope for the Future

No crisis will keep us from our mission to empower the underserved. As we continue our COVID-19 disaster relief efforts, we are continuing to partner with U.S. organizations and NGOs in India (such as those listed below, among others) to provide urgent aid to those in need.



A beneficiary who is a blind mother receives a food kit in Tikaria Village, Azamgarh.

Food Kits for 50,000 People in Uttar Pradesh

In collaboration with Mijwan Welfare Society (MWS), we are providing relief for tens of thousands of struggling people in Uttar Pradesh who have faced sudden unemployment and limited access to critical resources due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our assistance has included the distribution of dry food grain kits and hygiene kits (each of which includes two masks and two soaps per person). Through these efforts MWS has reached more than 50,000 individuals, distributed more than 100,000 kg of food grains procured from local farmers, supplied villagers with more than 6,300 bars of soap, and distributed over 27,000 masks. As a result, at least three villages are now 100% mask-equipped.

MWS uses a vehicle for distribution in remote areas and utilizes a “pick-and-go” method, which enables beneficiaries to receive rations while maintaining social distancing guidelines.

More than 72,000 Meals Served in Mumbai

As the pandemic grips countries across the world, one of the worst-hit states is that of Maharashtra, with thousands of vulnerable families and individuals facing unemployment in the capital city of Mumbai.

In partnership with Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust (RNCT), we are serving hot, nutritious khichdi meals to Mumbai’s daily wage workers. Since March 29, we have provided funding toward more than **72,000 meals** — with RNCT serving a total of more than 900,000 meals in that time. We are also supporting RNCT in operating five meal kitchens, providing food ration kits for 1,000 families in Mumbai. These initiatives will continue through the end of 2020. ●



Your ongoing generosity is appreciated. Support for Phase 2 of our disaster relief efforts will provide:

- Lifesaving medical equipment for COVID-19 treatment facilities in India
- Meals and grocery kits
- Vocational training and rehabilitation for migrant workers affected by the pandemic

LEFT: Children receive khichdi meals in Mumbai, Maharashtra.



HEALTHCARE 2 UNREACHED

Prevention Is Better Than Cure

From the arid deserts of Rajasthan and the remote villages of Gujarat and Maharashtra to the lush forests of Manipur and the humid plains of Tamil Nadu, our Healthcare to Unreached (H2U) program has improved the health of many thousands of women, men, and children. With the motto “prevention is better than cure,” our programs provide cost-effective solutions to combat high infant mortality, pregnancy and postpartum deficiencies, malnutrition, anemia, and poor knowledge on health and hygiene practices.

In partnership with reputable NGOs, our H2U projects are implemented by skilled professionals with support from local health facilities. In **Gujarat**, we introduced a new program for breast and cervical cancer prevention through education and early detection. In the remote hill villages of **Imphal**, mobile clinics offer preventive solutions. In **Rajasthan**, a holistic approach of education and intervention addresses nutritional disorders, STDs and reproductive issues, and mental health challenges faced by women and girls.



Healthcare workers provide free screenings and basic laboratory tests at a Mobile Medical Clinic in Manipur. (Photo taken before social distancing and mask guidelines went into effect.)

Support for Women and Infants in Tamil Nadu

This year, in one of the poorest areas of Tamil Nadu, we selected 100 pregnant women and began the project “Pregnancy and Maternal Care for Landless Labor Communities,” which is based on preventative, curative healthcare. Our local partner, Bharathamatha Family Welfare Foundation, has decades of experience working in this area. The women hail from poor labor communities and

lack modern medical facilities, nutritional care, and access to government hospitals. Key issues include maternal under-nutrition, anemia, pediatric HIV infection, and low birth weight.

Through this initiative, we “adopt” the women for a period of two years, assisting them during delivery and providing ongoing medical and nutritional support. This holistic approach — which includes medical care, nutrition supply (iron, folic acid, and thyroid care), support during delivery, and post-delivery care for both mother and baby — enhances the capability of the mother to look after the child. This program will support women and infants who would otherwise have to endure poverty and severe health issues, and will help to reduce rates of maternal and infant mortality in the villages selected for this project. ●

GRATITUDE IN TAMIL NADU

“We are happy to inform you that our program has received great appreciation. In our location, economic activity revolves around paddy cultivation — but in recent years, the monsoon has been uneven which leads to no cultivation. This means no work opportunities for our beneficiaries, who do not have balanced nutrition due to poverty. With your assistance we are providing nutrition-rich foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables to all the beneficiary women. Thank you!”

— BHARATHAMATHA FAMILY WELFARE FOUNDATION



ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE IN IMPHAL, MANIPUR

In collaboration with our NGO partner Rural Health Organization, our H2U projects in Imphal equip five remote and underserved villages with much-needed comprehensive healthcare. In just four months, we have provided: dozens of mobile medical clinics and weekly healthcare visits, community meetings to promote health and hygiene awareness, vaccinations for 298 children and 47 pregnant women, free medical treatments for 3,654 marginalized individuals, and much more.



EDUCATE 2 GRADUATE

Enhancing Knowledge. Transforming Lives.

Our Educate to Graduate (E2G) program fosters secure futures for brilliant and ambitious students from low-income families. It provides them financial support and career guidance to obtain college degrees in engineering, IT, and medical fields that will help them find well-paying jobs. It has been a singular success since it began in 2007. (See Figure 1.)

In modern India, the job market is highly competitive and it is increasingly a knowledge economy — meaning that higher education is key to financial success. It also creates enlightened citizens who possess a broad perspective on life, the power of reasoning, an appetite to continually improve, and a keen

awareness of ethics. In short, higher education creates happy and fulfilled individuals, who in turn contribute to nation-building.

Recent Developments: In 2019, we successfully transitioned the E2G program from a loan format to a scholarship format. Seventy-three students were enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year, and we plan for more in 2020. Although there have been some delays in college opening due to COVID-19, the admission process has begun and several colleges will open initially on a digital platform. We are putting increased emphasis on supplementary skill development to improve job prospects upon graduation.

Measurable Impact: Of the 1614 E2G beneficiaries so far, more than 850 graduates are already employed in well-paying jobs. (See Figure 2.) The average earning of recent graduates is about \$6,500 per year, though some earn much higher. For example, Parthkumar Dhankara of Surat — who was enrolled for B. Tech — graduated in 2019 and is currently working with ONGC at an annual salary of \$27,000. When he was enrolled in college, his father was earning only \$1,300 annually.

Your donation makes a brighter future possible for these families who come from generational cycles of poverty. We appeal to you for your generous support. Together we can enable their success. ●

13 YEARS OF PROGRESS

Students Enrolled To Date in E2G

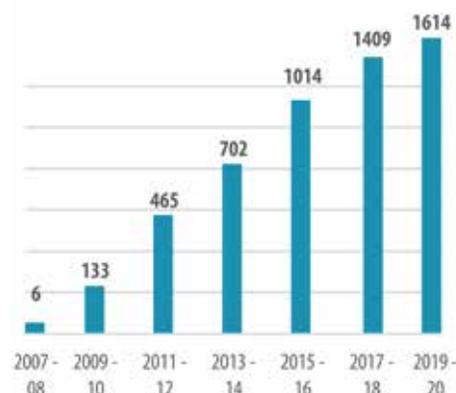


Figure 1

Out of 1614 Students Enrolled

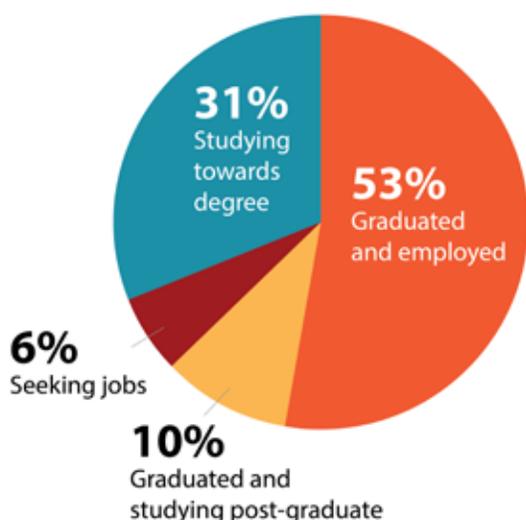


Figure 2

E2G: AN INTENSIVE PROCESS

Applications for scholarship assistance arrive several weeks before the beginning of the academic year. We interview the applicants and their families (preferably at their homes), then select and enroll an allotted number of students using well-defined eligibility criteria. We distribute scholarship funds in installments on an as-needed basis, and provide ongoing counseling on college life and education-related matters. Finally, we enroll beneficiaries in extracurricular courses that will improve their job prospects, and provide guidance during their job interviews after graduation.



HUMANITARIAN HELP UNDER COVID-19

Our partner NGO, Kalanjyam Trust in Tamil Nadu, provided direct help to the families of several E2G students who were affected by COVID-19 difficulties. These families, composed primarily of laborers, lost their work due to the pandemic. Kalanjyam supplied the families with two months' worth of essential groceries for their sustenance. We at Share & Care fully supported this urgent and much-needed assistance. We stand ready to extend further help as needed.

Investment in Human Capital Empowers and Uplifts 12 Village Communities

Early this year, in partnership with a reputable NGO, our Village Upliftment (VU) program placed 12 trained and college-educated Lok Mitras (“friends of the people”) in 12 villages throughout Gujarat. The role of Lok Mitras is to raise awareness about (and offer solutions for) issues affecting entire communities.

Guidance During COVID-19

The Lok Mitras have educated a total of 50,000 villagers about the pandemic and explained the importance of preventive practices. They have also empowered villagers in the following ways:

- Distributing Grocery Kits of Gratitude to over 1,000 families and sourcing 36,000 packets of nutrition-based snacks (Vitamin C and B12-rich) from program supporters
- Visiting 45 neighboring factories (along with village chiefs) to ensure safety for the returning village workers
- Empowering women to earn income by providing them with materials and training to stitch face masks which were distributed to villagers at nominal cost
- Facilitating local delivery of over 300 cooking gas cylinders to village households

Sustainable Upliftment

The Lok Mitras’ consistent presence in their villages makes change not only possible, but also sustainable. Other upliftment activities have included:

- Coaching children on education, hygiene, and personal development skills
- Hosting meetups with women and young girls to provide education on menstrual health
- Advising pregnant women, providing iron tablets, and arranging medical check-ups
- Addressing elderly villagers’ health concerns and connecting them to proper resources
- Arranging trips for farmers to learn about organic home farming
- Building food and water stations for birds and other animals

How Your Gift Makes a Difference

Your donation will help to bring this program — and with it, everlasting generational change — to more villages and individuals throughout rural India.

\$100	Empowers 100 villagers
\$250	Empowers one woman to stitch protective face masks
\$500	Supports one Lok Mitra to continue working on COVID-related activities in one village
\$2,500	Places one Lok Mitra in a village for one year
\$5,000	Uplifts one village (and empowers up to 5,000 individual villagers)

On the attached donation form, please check the “COVID-19” option if you would like your gift to directly support families and frontline workers affected by the coronavirus pandemic.



TOP: Lok Mitras host creativity and empowerment activities for village children.

BOTTOM: A woman stitches protective face masks.

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 Virtual Premier Show
RISING TOGETHER
 Saturday, October 10, 2020
 at 8PM EDT

To be notified of new gala details as they become available, please send your email address to events@shareandcare.org

In partnership with 16 NGOs, our COVID-19 disaster relief efforts have reached tens of thousands of individuals in the U.S. and India. In Phase 1, we have reached 7,500+ families, served 130,000+ meals, and distributed 34,000+ healthcare items. During our virtual gala we will recognize these and other milestones achieved by our hardworking community. We hope you will join us on October 10 for an evening of entertainment and positivity.

Yes! I want to help families in this time of crisis.

I want to join Share & Care Foundation in empowering people in India with **healthcare, education, village upliftment, and gender equality** by making the following donation:

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other: _____

I want my gift to be used for COVID-19 Rehabilitation & Relief

My gift is in memory *or* in honor of: _____

My gift will be matched by: _____

Name _____

Address _____

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Please help us go paperless by providing your email address (printed clearly) with check contributions. This will allow us to email you an environment-friendly donation receipt.

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