



## Empowering a Generation Through Literacy — and Much More



**EDUCATE 2  
SUCCESS**

Throughout India, especially in rural areas with high tribal populations, school dropout rates remain a significant concern. In partnership with reputable, on-the-ground NGOs, Share & Care's Educate 2 Success program supports projects that provide impoverished children with tools and resources to complete their education.

### Project Anando

One such initiative is Project Anando, which operates in the rural districts of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. While the project's prime focus is to keep kids in school, the broader goal is to bestow upon the students opportunities for comprehensive, well-rounded development.

In preparing these adolescents to embark on futures outside the grasp of poverty, Project Anando has adopted the "3E" approach, meaning: "Educate, Empower, and Equip for Employability." In addition to providing beneficiaries with educational resources, the project also incorporates home visits, intensive one-on-one counseling, and weekend empowerment workshops designed to build self-confidence.



### Project Gujarat Vidyapith

Share & Care has also joined forces with Gujarat Vidyapith for a project enabling school-age students to meet the challenges of rapidly advancing science and technology. We have chosen 25 schools in the Banaskantha districts of Gujarat for the implementation of a new methodology known as the "NBG System of Science Learning." This program presents an overall look at the effects of science and technology in daily life, providing students with the familiarity and skills to cope with the changing world. Implementation of this program will lead to student empowerment in science learning, resulting in the upliftment and skill potential of students in the area.



### A Young Woman's E2S Success Story

Shubhangi was selected as an E2S beneficiary when she was in Std. VIII, not long after her father passed away. In an attempt to support their remaining family of five, Shubhangi's mother had taken up odd jobs in a nearby slum village — but it wasn't enough. Without enough earnings to meet the family's basic needs, the likelihood of Shubhangi completing her education seemed bleak.

Then Share & Care intervened, and Shubhangi was enrolled in Project Anando. She passed her Std. X exams with flying colors, discovered a passion for science, and eventually gained admission into (and graduated from) a college for optometry. She now works as an ophthalmic technician at the Laxmi Eye Hospital and earns enough to comfortably support herself and her family. ●

**TOP:** This summer, nine student volunteers from Share & Care's Kids4Kids program will travel to India to work with E2S beneficiaries. (More details inside.)

**BOTTOM:** Between 2017 and 2018, Project Anando served 526 beneficiaries in Maharashtra and 140 in Madhya Pradesh for a total of 666 beneficiaries. Without intervention, these students would have faced lives of extreme hardship. Now, they are able to pursue their dreams and reach their full potential.



**EDUCATE 2 GRADUATE**

## Cultivating Potential: Realizing Dreams of E2G Scholars

Share & Care initiated Educate to Graduate as a Signature Program in 2007. In just over a decade, the program has provided interest-free loans to help more than 1,500 brilliant but economically challenged students to turn their dreams into reality and attain college educations. Approximately 800 E2G scholars have graduated and are either gainfully employed or studying for post-graduate degrees, whereas 700 are still studying for a college degree. Through education and hard work, these beneficiaries will eventually help liberate their families from the vicious cycle of poverty. Below is the story of one such family.



Utpak Pankhania, along with hundreds of other E2G scholars, is using higher education to escape the cycle of poverty.

### Once a Marginalized Student, Now an Empowered Citizen and Mentor

Utpak Pankhania's father, a newspaper vendor in greater Ahmedabad, worked to provide his family of four with the basic necessities. However, his earnings of less than \$1500 per year were not enough to meet the expenses of college for Utpak and his younger brother.

Utpak, a motivated learner, dreamed of getting a higher education and bringing his family out of poverty. His determination helped him earn high marks in Std. XII, which allowed him to appear for the IIT-JEE entrance examination. Scoring well on this exam, he secured admission to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, West Bengal. At this time, he sought help through E2G.

We were fortunate to include Utpak among other bright young scholars in the program, which provided him with an interest-free loan for all four years of his studies. He graduated from IIT with a B.Tech degree and secured a job with ZS Associates, where he earned over 10 times his family's income. After working for two years, he secured admission for

a master's program from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad. He earned his MBA degree in June 2019.

With these outstanding accomplishments, Utpak was able to secure a job offer during campus recruitment from a multinational company, where his yearly compensation package will be over 40 times his family's income.

## COOKING for a CAUSE

Share & Care's Women Empowerment Committee is excited to announce our:

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cooking for a Cause

A delicious competition, tasting event, and fundraiser featuring celebrity judges!

Calling all men and women 18+ who love to cook! Join us in New Jersey in November 2019 for an event benefiting programs that provide empowerment opportunities for marginalized women in India!

*Date and location to be announced soon.*

**Interested in participating or learning more?**

Please direct inquiries to: [events@shareandcare.org](mailto:events@shareandcare.org)

## 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FREE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

**Sunday, October 20th, 8:30 to 12 noon**  
Hindu Samaj Mandir, 247 Ramapo Ave, Mahwah NJ 07430

Organized by Share & Care with Hindu Samaj Mandir. Includes free flu vaccinations and various consultations from a group of 30 doctors.

**Blood draw for analysis:** 8:30 to 11 am on Sunday, October 13

### For registration and inquiries:

email [healthfair@shareandcare.org](mailto:healthfair@shareandcare.org) with your full name, age, address, & phone number.

### For more info:

Hema Shah: (201) 925-9170

Dolly Kaur: (646) 226-3834

Dr. Bharati Palkhiwala: (201) 264-4977

## EDUCATE 2 GRADUATE CONT. FROM PG.2

### When the E2G Scholarship Letter Arrived

We recently communicated with Utpak, and he told us that when the mailman delivered the scholarship letter, his mother said: "God has sent the Sir from Bharuch, Gujarat to help us (Bharuch vala Saheb ne toh bhagvane mokalavya chhe)."

"Through the E2G program I was able to complete my education," says Utpak. "And through regular scholar meet-ups it has molded me into a more humble human being who is sensitive to marginalized sections of society. In today's world, only magic can make a stranger help the needy like us."

Because of you, our supporters, Utpak is now a contributing and compassionate citizen who is armed with skills to join a team of nation builders. With your continued help in years to come, Utpak's story can be replicated for other such deserving students and their families.

### Looking Toward the Future

In recent years, other avenues have also opened up in India for students to obtain financial assistance for higher education. Since 2015, the Government of Gujarat has announced several scholarship and interest-free loan schemes for deserving students from lower income families. In light of these developments, Share & Care is upgrading the E2G program from its current loan program to a new scholarship program, which will be implemented beginning in 2019.

We have noted that in most cases the total funding provided under the government program is insufficient to cover all educational expenses. Under the E2G Scholarship Program, Share & Care will offer a scholarship grant to meet this shortfall in funds. The upgraded E2G grant program will allow us to select the brightest and the neediest students from the poorest segments of society, ultimately helping them (and their families) to escape the cycle of poverty. ●

**"In today's world,  
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**EDUCATE 2  
GRADUATE**



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### WITH GUIDANCE, A YOUNG MAN PURSUED HIS DREAMS

Guatam Hatagale grew up as a neglected child in a low-income family in Mantha, Jalna District. His parents worked as farm laborers to support their family of five, but it was difficult for Guatam to devote time to his education or to his dream of joining the Indian Armed Forces. In 2011, Guatam was selected as a beneficiary for Project Anando, where he received resources and guidance to pursue his goals. Thanks to the program's mentors and workshops — and his own determination — he not only completed his education but also cleared the Armed Forces exams and graduated with a degree in Humanities. In March 2018, he got married and built his own home. He is now supporting his wife's journey to complete her education. We could not be prouder of Guatam and his achievements.

### A COMMUNITY OF KIDS WHO CARE

Share & Care **Kids4Kids (ages 13-18)** aims to create a community of children who care. They are currently collecting funds for Project Anando, and to date, they've raised more than \$17,000 for the program.

This summer, nine Kids4Kids members (Krish Sheth, Arnav Choudry, Parth Mehta, Akshay Mehta, Vidit Shah, Arya Shah, Rishin Shah, Neil Parikh, and Yash Mehta) will also spend two weeks overseas, volunteering with E2S beneficiaries who live in the slums of Mumbai, India. Our volunteers will help the students with their verbal English communication skills and mentor them in using iPads. In return, the students will teach their visitors to play cricket. We are certain these volunteers will bring back priceless memories and lessons that will last a lifetime.



**SHARE & CARE FOUNDATION**  
676 Winters Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652

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**Your gift will provide opportunities for neglected children to get the education they deserve. It will empower hardworking students, as well as their families, peers, and communities. It will help put an end to the vicious cycle of poverty and create hope for generations to come.**

# Yes! I want to empower rural India!

I want to join Share & Care Foundation in creating a world in which everyone has access to **Education, Gender Equality, and Healthcare** by making the following donation:

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

My gift is  in memory *or*  in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

My gift will be matched by: \_\_\_\_\_

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