

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

Disaster Relief: Helping Individuals Affected by COVID-19

Our teams in the U.S. and India are hard at work assisting people who have been affected both by the COVID-19 pandemic and by the resulting

lockdowns implemented to slow the spread of the virus.

In under three months, during Phase 1 of our disaster relief efforts, we have directly helped more than 100,000 individuals by providing thousands of N95 masks and readyto-eat meals for healthcare heroes in the U.S., distributing more than 100,000 meals and thousands of Gratitude Grocery Kits, providing funding for a 75-bed COVID-19 hospital in Gujarat, and equipping nearly 50 rural villages with pandemic awareness and education. This work is possible through an allocation of \$200,000 in funding for the first phase of our response. With your continued support, we will accomplish Phase 2 for rehabilitation and relief in the USA and India.

Coronavirus Education & Awareness

Additionally, our on-the-ground volunteers in India are working to equip villagers with the supplies and education needed to combat the spread of the virus in their communities.

Our new Village Upliftment program (initiated in early 2020) places 12 Lokmitras ("friends of the people") in 12 Gujarat villages. Their roles are to offer solutions for community-wide issues, to modernize mindsets as well as the villages themselves, and to serve as a liaison between village and government. Once the COVID-19 pandemic began, the Lokmitras immediately set to work educating villagers about the virus and about the importance of hand washing and social distancing. They have also played a key role in identifying (and providing aid for) families who have been affected most severely by the ongoing crisis.

Share & Care remains committed to aiding the poorest of the poor during this global pandemic, while also observing all recommended social distancing and safety guidelines to protect our volunteers and beneficiaries. We thank you for your continued support and trust.









TOP LEFT: A vegetable vendor and daily wage earner receives a khichdi meal in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

BOTTOM LEFT: For safety, volunteers in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh utilize contactless grocery distribution. Each beneficiary receives one grocery kit.

TOP RIGHT: A volunteer delivers groceries to struggling families in |harkhand.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Volunteers pack grocery kits in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

EVENTS POSTPONED

WE HAVE POSTPONED ALL UPCOMING PUBLIC EVENTS AND ARE TAKING NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE ENTIRE SHARE & CARE COMMUNITY. PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES AND FUNDRAISERS.

JUNE 2020 SHARE & CARE NEWS



\$200,000 in Disaster Relief Funding: Masks, Meals, and More

With an allocation of \$200,000 in funding for our COVID-19 disaster relief response (Phase 1), we have worked diligently to provide aid for hard-hit communities and individuals, both locally and overseas in India. This response is being rolled out in phases and in partnership with various organizations. Below is an overview of how this relief has been distributed so far.

Meals & Masks for Individuals in the U.S.

- 10,380 N95 masks for healthcare workers at various facilities throughout New York and New Jersey
- 1,000 surgical masks for healthcare workers and first responders in New York and New Jersey
- 300 meals for healthcare workers at Foundation for University Hospital (\$1,000)
- 120 meals per day for four weeks, prepared by Frappe Joe Coffee, for workers at JFK Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey (\$10,000)
- 1,200 meals, prepared by The One 16th Restaurant, for nightshift health-care workers at Virtua Memorial Hospital in Mt Holly, New Jersey (\$7,200)
- Meal kits for 65 families for 12 weeks in Queens, New York (\$15,000)



Ready-to-eat meals are delivered to healthcare heroes and frontline workers in New Jersey.

COVID-19 Treatment Centers

- Gujarat (Facility #1): Funding to purchase N95 masks, PPE, and other medical equipment for a COVID-19 treatment and isolation center (\$13,900)
- Gujarat (Facility #2): Funding to purchase ventilators, N95 masks, PPE, and other medical equipment for a 75-bed COVID-19 hospital (\$15,000)

Grocery Kits of Gratitude

- Ahmedabad, Gujarat: Meal kits for 1,000 families for two to three weeks (\$15,000)
- Mumbai, Maharashtra: Meal kits for 1,100 families for two weeks (\$15,000); Meal kits for 1,000 families (\$8,250); Meal kitchen to provide 72,000 meals over three months (\$10,000)
- Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh: Meal kits for 2,000 families (\$7,500)
- Jharkhand, Eastern India: Meal kits for 400 families for 20 days (\$15,000)

Village Safety Kits & Awareness Initiatives

- Ahmedabad, Gujarat: 15,000 handmade masks for villagers, with funds/proceeds benefiting local artisan women (\$3,000)
- Rajasthan: Safety kits and COVID-19 awareness initiatives for 20 villages (\$8,300)





Volunteers practice social distancing while delivering grocery kits in Queens, New York.



Learning Is Not on Lockdown

Share & Care has a long, passionate history of promoting education as a means to uplift underprivileged children of India by cultivating a lifelong passion for learning. Through our Educate 2 Success program, we have provided hundreds of students with the opportunity to thrive as productive, compassionate, and confident members of society.

We recently partnered with the NGO Gujarat Vidyapith (founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920) to empower 4,050 students across nine village schools in Gujarat

through a program focused on experiential learning. This program — Experiential Science & Technology Learning for Village Schoolchildren — helps to prepare students for a new "science ecosystem" by utilizing the NBG (Narmada Bal Ghar) System of Experiential Learning.

The new science ecosystem means traditional jobs are being rapidly replaced by new jobs, which require a strong background in science and technology — making it crucial to challenge traditional teaching methods. At the core of this new, NBG learning system are science and technology kits that were created in collaboration with top scientists in India. These kits enable interactive learning of topics such as:

- Computer coding
- 3D printing
- Drone piloting
- · Artificial intelligence
- Internet of things (IoT)

Modern learning in a knowledge economy is about teachers and students working together to build skills around collaboration, solving complex problems, critical thinking, and developing different forms of communication and leadership skills.

Experiential learning aligns perfectly with our mission to provide opportunities — to help people help themselves — and to do so equitably through access to effective education.





TOP: In India, female students continue to be held back from school and an education. This project aims to empower girls equally and fits with our mission to cultivate a future of equality.

BOTTOM: As part of the project, teachers are instructed on how to use technology kits in a classroom lab setting. Under teacher guidance, students are encouraged to immerse themselves into the experience.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING DURING COVID-19

As the coronavirus took hold worldwide, we adjusted our support for Gujarat Vidyapith, which enabled their team to identify and act on solutions to fit with the world's current challenges. These solutions include providing students with at-home experiment kits and newly created online videos, as well as monitoring (and working to improve) internet access for the students enrolled in their program.



FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES

Alongside our NGO partner MWS, we are providing relief for 2,000 individuals in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh who are facing such extreme poverty that they have resorted to eating grass to survive. A decade ago, this same community was forced to subsist by eating rats — that is, until Share & Care provided support to help them find employment. Now, as these families again face unemployment due to COVID-19, we are providing them with essential support kits including rice, lentils, beans, soap, and safety masks.

JUNE 2020 SHARE & CARE NEWS



"If by strength is meant moral power, then woman is immeasurably man's superior."

—MAHATMA GANDHI

Channeling the Strength of Women to Create Societal Change

n 2018 we joined forces with Sabarmati Harijan Ashram, established by Mahatma Gandhi in 1917 to promote his constructive visions regarding women empowerment, sanitation, literacy, and the eradication of oppression relating to "untouchability," among other social issues. Gandhiji recognized that women are fundamental to creating societal change, and believed they are capable of infinite strength, which only needs to be realized and channeled.

The Ashram hosts female students from India's most marginalized sections of society and has three schools: a primary school, a high school (grades 9-12), and a teachers' training college. We are now in our second year of partnership with the Ashram, which is supported by our Women Empowerment and Educate 2 Success programs.



Students participate in workshops to enhance creative and critical thinking, effective communication, and self expression.

Our assistance directly supports the high school (which hosts 350 students) and the teachers' college (which hosts 150 students). A majority of the students travel from remote villages and stay in an onsite hostel, ensuring they remain safe and healthy while learning life skills.

Our aid provides resources for holistic development, including (but not limited to):

- · Sports and self-defense training
- Gender equality education
- Character building and leadership development
- Health checkups and treatment
- Personal hygiene education and supplies
- Gender- and environment-themed excursions for holistic learning



We at Share & Care feel that there is no better way to empower women than to grow the seeds Gandhiji himself planted at Sabarmati Ashram.

Empowerment During COVID-19

The Ashram's usual activities have paused due to the coronavirus pandemic, but support for these young women continues. The Sabarmati team are checking in regularly with the students to inquire about their well-being, to remind them about social distancing measures, and to provide financial assistance for families who are struggling during this challenging time.

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

"We are grateful to Share & Care for sending funds amid such an unfortunate crisis. Gratitude is a small word for the noble work you're doing. To think of our children here and their needs, while your own are far too pressing, is no small feat of support. On behalf of our Ashram family, we take this moment to bow before you for showing us how crisis gives us a chance to find our best selves again and to renew our connection to one another beyond all boundaries."

— SABARMATI ASHRAM



"I want other girls from my village to pursue further education, just like me."

— DHARVI SHARMA, A STUDENT AT SABARMATI

Dharvi comes from a small village in the Bhavnagar district. Her goal is to receive a graduate degree in education, and to become a role model for the girls in her village. She would like to give them the message that education is more than just gaining knowledge — it's a means to becoming an independent woman who can carve out her own niche in life.

Friends of the People

ou would be glad to learn that the recent Groceries of Gratitude and Lokmitra projects have found incredible harmony. Together, the projects have brought great transformation and impact.

"In fact, the Lokmitras are building deeper trust and are understanding the needs of the villagers and communities — and through the recent grocery kit deliveries (with help from village leaders and influencers), they reached out to the most needy families. Right now, the Lokmitras are becoming instrumental in availing government entitlements that have been announced. We know there are multiple schemes, but it's sometimes difficult for the most needy to access the correct documents and engagements. In such cases, our Lokmitras come forward as angels.

"The coronavirus crisis has brought such testing times, and we are grateful to this team of Lokmitras, who are doing wonders. We feel gratitude for the whole Share & Care family for supporting such interventions."

— ESI, GUJARAT VILLAGE UPLIFTMENT NGO PARTNER









TOP LEFT: Ready-to-eat meals are distributed to hungry children living on the streets of Mumbai.

TOP RIGHT: In Gujarat, Lokmitras instruct village children about proper hand washing methods.

BOTTOM LEFT: Local artisans sew handmade protective masks.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Volunteers prepare handmade masks for distribution in Gujarat.

Please send a gift. Save a life.

Your contribution can provide urgent support for individuals affected by COVID-19.

\$25	Donate to COVID-19 disaster relief efforts
\$50	Send grocery kits to 20 families
\$100	Provide PPE suits for healthcare professionals
\$250	Send 100 masks to healthcare workers in the USA
\$500	Equip healthcare workers with masks, isolation gowns, and face shields
\$1,000	Provide vocational training and rehabilitation for migrant workers in India who are now unemployed due to the pandemic.
Any Amount	Contribute to the COVID-19 Relief Fund (Phase 2)

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.

SHARE & CARE MANAGEMENT

Sharadkumar Shah, President

Suresh Patel,

Jayu Parikh, Chair, Board of Trustees

Saumil Parikh, Secretary, Board of Trustees

EDITORIAL & STAFF

Tejal Parekh, MA, Sp.Ed., Director, Administration & Operations

Jyotindra Jatania, CPA, Controller







We're honoring healthcare heroes in the U.S. with meals prepared by local restaurants.

At Share & Care, no crisis will keep us from our mission to empower the underserved. In addition to continuing our regular Signature Programs, we allocated \$200,000 for Phase 1 of our COVID-19 disaster relief efforts. These funds are providing meals, protective masks, and other essential resources for tens of thousands of people in the U.S. and India. Please continue to support those in dire need during Phase 2 (Rehabilitation & Relief).

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 (Phase 2: Rehabilitation & Relief)													
	My gift is in memory or in honor of:													
	My gift will be matched by:													
Name														
Address														
	City										Zip			
Email Address														
Phone														

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.