# JANUARY 2023



"The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one."

- MALCOLM S FORBES



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#### **INTRODUCTION**

#### HISTORY OF M S INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Manu and Rika Shah founded MSI in 1975, in the basement of their home in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. MSI is now the largest importer and distributor in the world of Premium Surfaces including granite, marble, porcelain and ceramic tiles, slate, travertine, limestone and other natural stone products from 37 countries. Most notably, MSI provided the granite for the Vietnam Memorial in DC.

Manu and Rika Shah established Sarva Mangal Family Trust (Sarva Mangal means 'let all be happy' in Sanskrit) over 20 years ago with compassion as their driving force for philanthropy. Manu's vision for SMFT is to act as a catalyst, challenge status quo, nurture passionate change-makers and support leapfrogging ideas that are scalable and sustainable. Today, all members from the Shah family are involved in social impact initiatives that are undertaken by SMFT. Manu supports VOSAP — Voice of Specially Abled People, which has created over 10,000 change makers and rated over 18,000 buildings rated for accessibility. He also supports Lend a hand India, which provides digital vocational training to over 300,000 students in 20,000 schools.

In 2007, Mr. Manu Shah was named Ernst & Young's national "Entrepreneur of the Year" in the distribution, manufacturing, and security category.

#### **ABOUT SARVA MANGAL FAMILY TRUST**

Established in 1994 by the Founders of M S International, Inc. The mission of the Sarva Mangal Family Trust is to improve and strengthen the health, education and wellness of communities and help them prepare for global jobs of the 21st century. Sarva Mangal is a Sanskrit word which means "Goodness to All."

To advance this mission, the Sarva Mangal Family Trust has donated to and is continuing to work with various organizations and programs in health promotion and prevention, assisting victims of domestic violence, empowering seniors, entrepreneurship, technological literacy, community activism, and children's education.

#### MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



INAUGURATION OF SARVA MANGAL FAMILY TRUST SCHOOL On 20 January 2023, Rika and Manu Shah Virtually inaugurated the Sarva Mangal Family Trust Primary School in Vaghpar, Morbi. This school has been made by Life Global, a nonprofit supported by SMFT. Additionally on the same day, digital learning program at SMFT Primary School was also inaugurated by Pratham team in the virtual presence of Mr. and Mrs. Shah. The school will cater to grades 1 to 8. (Continued on Page 8)

#### **NGO VISIT – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION**

**January 2023** - Sarva Mangal Family Trust team visited One Billion Literates Foundation in Bangalore.

One Billion Literates Foundation is dedicated to transforming the lives of rural communities through systemic focus on primary education, public health, developing socio-economic capacity for women, and rehabilitating the severely poor.

Their mission is to provide quality education to children and sustained healthcare support to people from socio-economically weaker sections of society in rural Bangalore, leverage the intersectionality of education, healthcare, and empowerment of rural women to build a progressive community and engage, employ and build agency in women from rural communities to address the massive learning and healthcare disparities, thereby creating an equitable platform for sociology economic development.

OBLF's Elevate program provides a comprehensive learning program in English literacy for primary school children studying in rural government schools.

The Kickstart Program is a unified program delivery system that identifies and trains semi-educated women from within the communities that OBLF engages with. These women are then subsequently employed as either community teachers at OBLF schools or as frontline health workers in the public health initiatives. Over the last 12 years, OBLF has trained and skilled more than **350** women, and currently employs close to a hundred of these women in its programs across Education and Healthcare.

OBLF's Remedy program ensures sustainable and equitable healthcare access for highly marginalized rural communities, and reduce non-communicable diseases through curative, preventive and palliative support.

OBLF has adopted **92+** schools through which they have reached **7,000+** children, trained **350+** women in vocational skills, **2,000+** severely poor impacted and **15,000+** provided access to healthcare services.









### **NGO VISIT – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION**













#### **NGO VISIT – JAIN MISSION HOSPITAL**

**January 2023** - Sarva Mangal Family Trust team visited Jain Mission Hospital in Chikkaballapur.

Sarva Mangal Family Trust sponsored a medical and surgical camp at no cost to the patient on 16-17 January in general medicine, pulmonary medicine, pediatrics, vascular surgery, orthopedics etc. This camp was conducted at Jain Mission Hospital in Chikkaballapur wherein team of doctors from the US performed the surgeries and conducted medical checkup of patients.

At the 2-day camp, on an average **300** patients a day were screened for various disorders and a total of **1,600** patients were given treatment. Out of these, **294** cases were for surgeries in different specialties like general surgery, orthopedics, Ophthalmology, Urology, vascular surgery, neurology surgery etc. All the patients were given medicines free of cost.

Medical camp also focused on eye and hemoglobin checkup. Hemoglobin checkup was conducted using noninvasive method of anemia detection using masimo device. Eye checkup was conducted using 2 methods a) regular eye checkup using tonometer and b) using auto refractor followed by which eyeglasses were provided to patients on the spot.

Jain Mission Hospital's vision is to provide quality health services that are equitable and affordable for all. The hospital is committed to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and families.

The trust focuses on ensuring equitable access for the deprived rural and urban population to quality healthcare, to create a comprehensive ecosystem of hospitals that can deliver accessible quality healthcare to all, to make available in Tier II and III cities, modern, well-equipped and efficient health care facilities that provides a much higher standard of patient care than the existing especially to women and children and to create a model hospital, that provides not only institutional health care but conduct regular outreach camps in semi-urban and rural areas.









### **NGO VISIT – JAIN MISSION HOSPITAL**













#### **NGO VISIT – LIFE GLOBAL**

January 2023 - On 20 January 2023, Rika and Manu Shah virtually inaugurated the Sarva Mangal Family Trust Primary School in Vaghpar, Morbi. This school has been made by Life Global, a nonprofit supported by SMFT. Additionally on the same day, digital learning program at SMFT Primary School and 4 other schools was also inaugurated by Pratham team in the virtual presence of Mr. and Mrs. Shah. The school will cater to grades 1 to 8, has multiple halls, playground, terrace, separate toilet blocks etc.

Project Life supports & enhances primary education by transforming old school buildings into new state-of-the-art primary schools, providing educational aid and equipment for the development of the students and community.

The vision of project life is to transform existing infrastructure for excellence in education in interior rural areas of Gujarat State.

The main purpose of instituting Life Education Centre (LEC) is to provide quality primary education to the deprived children in the interior rural region of the Gujarat State of Western India. LEC is committed to the cause of promotion of education with an ultimate aim of achieving excellence in education through holistic development of the students by implementing various measures. They firmly believe that it's the duty of a civilized society to provide quality education with basic infrastructure to every child. LEC is committed to the cause of education and continuously initiates and executes educational program for the student community. It regularly conducts faculty development program, executes talent hunt events and provides educational kits to the students.

Project Life has by far dedicated **106+** primary school to the government, **32,000** students benefitted every year, given **26,000** merit scholarships, **15,000+** scholarship given to girl students, **1,110+** schools benefitted by science on wheels, **1,50,000+** students benefited from SOW.









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## **NGO VISIT – LIFE GLOBAL**













#### NGO VISIT – PRAGNACHAKSHU PUNARVASAN KENDRA

**January 2023** - Pragnachakshu Punarvasan Kendra works toward improvement of socio-economic and educational status of visually impaired women.

The philosophy of the institution is to get rid of inferiority complex and diffidence of visually impaired girls so that they can lead life with confidence.

At present, they provide food, shelter, education, clothing and other amenities free of cost to **203** Visually Impaired girls. They believe visually impaired people should get work.

Visually Impaired women are provided vocational and rehabilitation support training.

Activities conducted at Pragnachakshu Centre are: Primary Education and High School Education - In Gujarat there is no separate school for blind girls. Therefore this institution has started a blind girls high school in which education from standard 8 to 10 is being imparted. Braille Script - train VI girls in braille reading and provide books in braille script. Home Science - Girls are taught how to cook and do other household work. They plan to start a systematic diploma course soon. Mobility Training - VI girls are trained to move independently. Craft – VI girls are given training for crafts that occupies less space such as coir, canning, Beed work, jute bags etc. The institute has started a canning diploma course recognized by Technical Board, Gandhinagar. Computer Operating and typing training is given in English and Gujarati. VI Girls operate computer by the use of latest voice software which is very useful for blind people to operate computer. Marriage, Child Bearing and Nurturing Practices and Old Age Home.

The organization plays a parental role in getting visually impaired couples married.

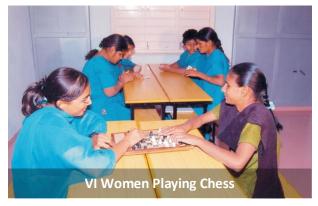
They also provide the couple with a residential flat which has 1 room, kitchen with balcony.

Additionally, they are coming up with a new residential building of 17,500 sq. ft. where they will come up with 26 flats.









### NGO VISIT – PRAGNACHAKSHU PUNARVASAN KENDRA













# NGO IN FOCUS FOR JANUARY'23 – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION

One Billion Literates Foundation (OBLF) is a grassroots non-profit and has been working in the Anekal District of Karnataka since 2010. Anekal is a very large district covering 530 Sq. Kms. and has a population of more than 8.5 Lakhs. In the initial years, OBLF focused exclusively on primary education and invested heavily to teach English to primary school children studying in the rural government schools. Currently OBLF teaches its English language program daily in **90** rural government schools covering more than **6500** children.



During the pandemic and given its severe, extended impact on rural communities, OBLF teachers became the vehicle for last mile delivery for medicines and rations in the interior villages. OBLF also extended support to the local government health institutions during the years 2020-21 by way of building pediatric ICUs, oxygen plants, providing oxygen generators, and vaccination camps. This experience gave them a first-hand view into the challenges of last mile delivery of basic health services, and on further reflection, ongoing public health interventions to support communities while complementing the education and livelihood initiatives seemed the way forward.



# NGO IN FOCUS FOR JANUARY'23 – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION

After a detailed needs- assessment visit to the 13 primary health centers in the taluk, and considering OBLF's existing strengths, a decision to focus on one primary health center area-Indlawadi, serving 30 villages, was taken. The aim is to enter into a comprehensive approach to health, through a focused screening programme for Non-Communicable diseases - diabetes and hypertension. The strategy being used is health education, early detection, and treatment for the at-risk age group- above 30 years. To this end, 16 women from this area



were chosen and trained to be the backbone of the programme as Community Health Workers. Initially collecting detailed household data for population and prevalence details, they are continuously being trained in their role as front line health workers, working alongside the government ASHA workers to carry out this work.

#### The project addresses three key issues:

- 1. Screening of at-risk populations for diabetes and hypertension
- 2. Treating the patients detected with these conditions on an ongoing, regular basis to reduce the risk of complications which may lead to severe Cardio Vascular Diseases.
- 3. Reducing the out-of-pocket expenditure incurred due to these chronic conditions, and providing treatment at the village itself.



# NGO IN FOCUS FOR JANUARY'23 – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION

# The project takes a focused approach to resolving these issues by –

- 1. Village based mobile clinics that visit each hamlet monthly to which the health workers bring patients.
- 2. Testing blood glucose and blood pressure for all attendees over 30 years to screen and diagnose diabetes and hypertension.
- Treatment provided, for all complaints and drugs issued until the next clinic date.
- 4. Regular follow up by the team, to ensure continuity of care; even if they take treatment elsewhere.



Intervention Geography: Indlawadi and Vanakanahalli gram panchayats, Anekal taluk, Bengaluru Urban District

#### **Intervention Goal:**

Early detection of diabetes and hypertension in the at risk population of Indlawadi and Vanakanahalli panchayats, with regular treatment.

Start date of the project: December 2020

**Impact:** Since the clinics have started in August 2022, four rounds of clinics have been completed in the 30 villages in these two panchayats. So far, of the target population of **7469** people over the age of 30, **2029** (27%) have been screened as of December 2022. The total number of diabetics and hypertensive, diagnosed and on regular monitoring and /or treatment are **1029**.

### **SUCCESS STORY – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION**

Sri Girish, aged 44 years, was diagnosed with hypertension in one of OBLF's village clinics in Telagarahalli. Member of the local Vanakanhalli Gram Panchayat, he has a Name of Beneficiary: Sri Girish

**Project:** Remedy: Public Health Initiatives

**Location:** Telagarahalli

chicken farm and some real estate business as well. Resourceful and responsible, he cross-checked diagnosis with tertiary centre Narayan Hridayala. Reassured that the treatment protocol was correct, he is all praise for the clinics and will continue treatment with OBLF. He spoke about how the programme benefits the poorer patients, who do not have the resources to access treatment. Surely a strong voice who will support OBLF, based on his personal experience.



#### **SUCCESS STORY – ONE BILLION LITERATES FOUNDATION**

Smt Lalithamma, aged 52 years is a widow, who lives alone, making flower garlands for a living. Her daily earning is about Rs. 50/ day and she has diabetes, needing regular treatment. Earlier she went to a private

Name of the Beneficiary: Smt Lalithamma Project: Remedy: Public Health Initiatives

Location: Choodenhalli

hospital, but shifted to Government hospital when funds dipped. She has been a satisfied patient of the Choodenhalli clinic, where she experiences "clean" care, with a caring team. Earlier a visit to Anekal General Hospital would cost her about Rs. 300 to 500, but now saves this since she just walks down to the local Ambedkar Bhavan, even saving the day's wage.



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