

NEWS UPDATE

APRIL 2024



"What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."

- ALBERT PINE



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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



SMFT Launches Third Mobile Clinic in Narayanpet, Telangana with Dava Cana

This initiative expands healthcare access to 50 surrounding villages, benefiting over 125,000 people. The clinic offers essential services, including preventive health screenings for blood pressure, diabetes, eyesight, asthma, and ECGs, as well as treatment for minor illnesses such as colds and fevers. With a well-trained doctor, essential medicines, and first aid facilities, the mobile clinic also provides telehealth services, enabling community members to consult with specialists online. This approach significantly enhances medical outreach and healthcare quality in remote areas. The partnership underscores SMFT's commitment to improving rural health infrastructure and ensuring timely medical care for underserved populations.

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NGO VISIT – DAVA CANA

April 2024 – The SMFT team recently visited Dava Cana’s new project site in Narayanpet District, Telangana, where they had the opportunity to interact with beneficiaries and the mobile clinic team. They witnessed firsthand the profound impact the mobile clinic is having on the community. For residents who previously had to travel 30 to 40 kilometers to access basic medical services, due to the lack of reliable transportation, many illnesses were left untreated. Now, with the mobile clinic's presence, residents receive timely medical attention and necessary medications, greatly enhancing their overall health and wellbeing.

The new mobile clinic bus is serving 12 villages, catering to approximately 250 patients from Monday to Saturday. It is well-equipped with various facilities, including a BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery) doctor, pharmacy assistant and an Aarogya Sakhi from each village. The Aarogya Sakhi is responsible for informing villagers about the mobile clinic's arrival times and maintaining communication with patients. The bus also includes storage for essential medicines and equipment for ECG tests, blood pressure and sugar monitoring, and first aid, ensuring a comprehensive range of medical services is available.

Additionally, the mobile clinic provides an innovative solution for rural healthcare by offering virtual consultations with specialist doctors at no cost to the patients. This feature bridges the gap between rural communities and urban healthcare expertise, allowing patients to receive specialized care without the need to travel long distances. The project not only addresses immediate medical needs but also ensures ongoing care and monitoring, significantly improving the quality of healthcare available to these underserved populations.

Through this collaboration with Dava Cana, SMFT is making significant steps towards its vision of providing high-quality healthcare to rural and underprivileged communities and now, thousands of people in Narayanpet District can get the healthcare they need.



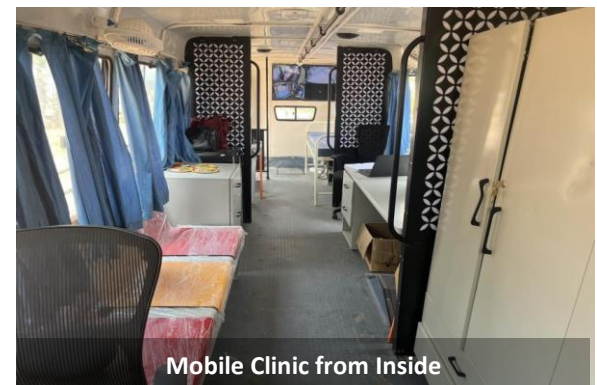
New Mobile Clinic Funded by SMFT



Dispensary inside Bus



ECG Test for the Patient



Mobile Clinic from Inside

NGO IN FOCUS FOR APRIL'24 – EKAL

About the Nonprofit

Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA's vision is to empower rural India's changemakers. Ekal provides tools to empower villagers living in nearly 100,000 remote tribal villages in India so that they can be the change makers who work to better their villages.

Ekal's mission is to bring literacy, healthcare, and economic prosperity to remote villages in India. With education as its flagship program, Ekal is expanding towards integrated village development with initiatives for digital literacy, women's empowerment, health services, sustainable agriculture, jobs and skills training. They implement the program with over 400,000 active and trusted volunteers in our network.



EKAL'S 5 DIMENSIONS... ...EMPOWERING VILLAGERS



NGO IN FOCUS FOR APRIL'24 – EKAL (Cont.)

About SMFT-Funded Project

SMFT has funded two different programs for Ekal.

1. Telemedicine Enhanced Arogya (TEA)
2. Integrated Village Development (IVD) program.

In TEA, the expected outcome is better knowledge of health and hygiene provided by local women trained to be healthcare workers and to promote early intervention for health conditions through doctor consultations via telemedicine.

In the IVD program, the goal is to bring holistic development of the villages. In addition to health, their programs focus on literacy, digital literacy and skill training. For the villagers they are their first introduction to computers and for the women their skill training programs have provided income earning opportunities



NGO IN FOCUS FOR APRIL'24 – EKAL (Cont.)

Project Geography

The TEA projects are in Sabri, Ukai, Paat, Dhamani, Limadi and Thava in Gujarat and in Sarupathar, Balichapori and Thelemara in Assam. The IVD programs are in Viratnagar in Rajasthan, Bajna and Jhirnia in Madhya Pradesh, Naushera in Jammu and Kashmir and Myorpur in Uttar Pradesh.

Recent Project Updates

The SMFT supported Telemedicine Program in Gujarat and Assam has already helped provide over 10,000 patients screening for Anemia, Blood Pressure and Glucose and teleconsultations. This has had a terrific impact on the villagers, who otherwise would ignore these conditions until they were in advanced states. The attention to Anemia is helping reduce the cases of severe Anemia in the villages. Nearly 250 women have received tailoring training with some of them running their own tailoring shop in their home earning Rs 2000-3000 /month. Over 200 youth have received digital literacy training at the computer training labs. This makes them eligible to take on jobs that require basic computer literacy. Nearly 300 farmers have been trained in organic farming. Nearly 4000 children attend the Ekal schools.



NGO IN FOCUS FOR APRIL'24 – EKAL (Cont.)

Overall Impact

Ekal has succeeded in going into very remote rural areas to bring education, health and skill training to areas which are some of the most underprivileged in the world. As the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said “Ekal goes to areas that sometimes even the government finds it difficult to reach”. In tribal areas where we have had schools for 3-4 decades literacy has gone by nearly 40%. Their impact has been significant in Border States and very challenging areas like in the state of Jammu and Kashmir where terrorism causes grave disturbances. Ekal Integrated Village Development programs in areas like Naushera funded by SMFT is bringing a ray of hope to people in these areas. Currently they have nearly 2.8 million children enrolled in their Ekal schools. Over 10 million children have passed through their schools over the years. While the preventative part of Arogya has impacted the lives of nearly 855,000 people, since the start of the Telemedicine Enhanced Arogya programs in the last quarter of 2022 they have been able to provide nearly 90000 patient screenings and consultations. The digital literacy initiative has already made over 20,000 youth digitally literate. Ekal Schools are also introducing children to tablet based education and thus improving their literacy and digital literacy.



Our Impact

1989

Established in

92,118

Schools

10 million

Girls and boys gained literacy

20,000

Youth are digitally literate

2.8 million

Children currently enrolled

855,000

Have access to healthcare

17,400

Women vocationally trained

90,000

Youth and adults gained skills training



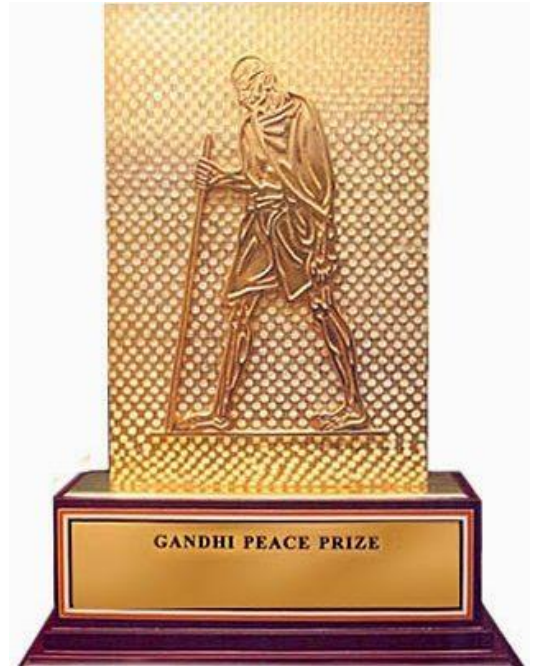
NGO IN FOCUS FOR APRIL'24 – EKAL (Cont.)

Highlight of the Month

Ekal expanded their skill training operations in the South in Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. This has now expanded to 55 centers. Over the past two months, sports competitions have been held in various villages to motivate the youth in the villages to push themselves. A Grand National level competition was held in Chhattisgarh. Certificates of accomplishment were awarded to all the participants. They have now initiated conversations with IIT Madras to collaborate with them to bring improved STEM training to the middle and high schools in the villages. The collaboration will provide Zoom based teaching by well trained volunteers who will be trained by IIT Madras to provide.

Awards

Ekal was awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize by the government of India, which is the highest award given to any non-governmental organization in India.



SUCCESS STORY – EKAL



Name: Divya

Location: Telangana

Project: Integrated Village Development

Divya, a young woman from Telangana, found herself at a crossroads after getting married and moving to a rural Ekal village. With limited job opportunities in the area, she was determined to find a way to support her family and pursue her dreams. Little did she know, a life-changing opportunity was just around the corner.

Thanks to the support of the SMFT-backed nonprofit Ekal and a pioneering partnership with IIT Madras, a unique remote training program for Software Quality Assurance (QA) was made available. Divya eagerly enrolled in the program, and her dedication and quick learning soon paid off.

Through the comprehensive training provided by Ekal and IIT Madras, Divya mastered the essential skills needed for a career in Software QA. Her hard work and determination caught the attention of a startup company, which offered her a position. Remarkably, Divya was able to accept the job without leaving her village, as the nature of the work allowed her to operate remotely.

Now, Divya works from the comfort of her home in the village, earning Rs 10,000 a month. This job has not only provided her with financial stability but also allowed her to use and further develop her skills.

Divya's story is a shining example of how access to education and remote work opportunities can transform lives. The partnership between Ekal and IIT Madras has empowered her to break through the barriers of her rural surroundings and achieve professional success.

Her journey serves as an inspiration to many others in similar situations, proving that with the right support and determination, it is possible to overcome obstacles and build a promising future.

Divya, a young woman in Telangana got married and moved to a rural Ekal village. She was looking for an opportunity for a job but had no options in the rural areas. SMFT supported nonprofit Ekal partnered with IIT Madras to provide remote training for Software QA. She picked it up very quickly and qualified to get a job with a startup. She can work from her home in the village. It has given her a great opportunity to use her skills and she is making Rs 10000 a month.

SUCCESS STORY – EKAL



Project: Laxmi Rao

Location: Myorpur

Laxmi Rao's story is one of transformation, dedication, and the profound impact of education and community support. Growing up in Myorpur, Laxmi attended an Ekal school as part of the Integrated Village Development program supported by SMFT. This early education laid a strong foundation for her future, instilling in her a passion for learning and a commitment to her community.

After completing her education, Laxmi joined the Ekal Arogya program, a healthcare initiative aimed at improving the well-being of rural communities. With determination and enthusiasm, she trained to become a healthcare worker, eager to make a difference in her village.

Today, Laxmi is a respected healthcare worker in Myorpur. Her role involves educating villagers about health practices, providing basic medical care, and supporting public health initiatives. Her dedication to her work is evident in the positive changes she has brought to her community. From organizing health camps to conducting awareness sessions, Laxmi's efforts have significantly improved the health and hygiene standards in her village.

Laxmi's passion for her work with Ekal has not only benefited the community but also earned her immense respect and admiration from her peers and neighbors. She feels a deep sense of pride and fulfillment in her role, knowing that she is making a tangible difference in the lives of those around her.

Her journey from a student in an Ekal school to a community healthcare worker is a testament to the transformative power of education and the importance of community-driven initiatives. Laxmi Rao's story is an inspiring example of how support from programs like SMFT's Integrated Village Development can empower individuals to become leaders and change-makers in their communities.

Through her work, Laxmi has become a beacon of hope and a symbol of positive change, demonstrating that with passion and dedication, one person can indeed make a significant impact.

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