

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



10
MILLION
LIVES IMPACTED!



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A Letter from Our President

Dear Friends,

This year, as we mark **27 years of steadfast service**, I am moved by the journey we have traveled together. **Your partnership and belief have made all the difference**, not only sustaining our work, but propelling us further, into new possibilities for dignity and hope in rural India.

This fiscal year, **for the first time in our history, half of our funding comes from within India**. This shift is more than a number, it speaks to **deepening ownership, trust, and the collective momentum** we're building together. **Our team, now more than 55 strong**, stands alongside a **vibrant community of 500 Heroes**, our local community health and programming facilitators, **who daily turn vision into action** and bring our programs to life where they're needed most.

Thanks to your generosity, we've launched **innovative new pathways**: an **Electric Vehicle and Solar Skilling program** that brings green jobs and economic agency to rural youth, and an **Advanced Beauty Course** that is opening doors to confidence and independence for women across villages. Our family of initiatives, **now spread across 33 programs in eight states**, keeps growing, but remains rooted in what matters: **listening, evolving, and delivering on the lived needs and aspirations of our communities**.

The **Heroes for Humanity initiative**, fueled by tireless community leaders and wise counsel from our partners, has become a **shining example of trust in action**. It is a demonstration of how **bold, catalytic support can transform a moment of crisis** from the pandemic into a lasting legacy for millions.

Looking ahead, I am reminded that **true change is born in partnership**. Each time we invest in the **opportunity of women and girls, we invest in a future of shared prosperity and possibility**. Your belief in our mission coupled with your willingness to walk this path with us is the **foundation on which all this impact is built**.

As we look around at the current state of development and investment, **one thing is clear: if we fail to support the women and children of India, we fail to unlock a future of inclusive and economic growth for all of us**. From advancing women's livelihoods to empowering children through our STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) programs and learning centers, our work is building and nurturing the future. **Investing in the health, dignity, and economic opportunity of women isn't charity - it's a critical strategy for global stability and shared prosperity**.

On behalf of The Desai Foundation and the **countless lives touched by your support, thank you for believing in what's possible**. The road forward is brighter because you're with us.

With gratitude,



Megha Desai
President



Mittal Gohil
Executive Director



CELEBRATING
10 MILLION
LIVES IMPACTED!

Our Mission

**WE EMPOWER WOMEN AND
CHILDREN THROUGH COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS TO ELEVATE HEALTH,
LIVELIHOOD, AND MENSTRUAL
EQUITY IN RURAL INDIA.**

Our Story

The Desai Foundation is a thriving organization dedicated to empowering women and children through health and livelihood initiatives in India. Our belief that local community members should lead projects has proven to yield the best outcomes, with the core mission of restoring dignity and helping people envision a future beyond their current circumstances.

The journey began when we transitioned from a small family foundation to a thriving programmatic public 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2014, and launched a dedicated branch in India known as The Desai Foundation Trust. With the support of our community and donors, we were able to not only renew our focus, but execute on our commitment for change to creating sustainable and impactful programs, at scale.

The transition was challenging, but our goal was clear: to reach more people, uplift more communities, and just as importantly, bring people along with us in our mission. The ongoing support and trust from our donors has been instrumental in making this possible. The Desai Foundation's roots go back twenty-seven years, when Samir and Nilima Desai, originally from Gujarat, started the foundation with modest goals to serve the communities of Gujarat, New York, and Greater Boston. They were deeply passionate about health, livelihood, and celebrating Indian culture, and these areas became the foundation's initial focus.

Over the first decade, we made a significant impact in these communities through various initiatives, whether it was cultural celebrations like Sensational India at the Peabody Essex Museum, hosting health and wellness seminars in Massachusetts, or engaging students in community impact projects in Morningside Heights and Harlem, New York City. Our work in India also began during this time, starting with community programs in two villages in Gujarat, Talangpur and Untdi, aimed at uplifting the communities by focusing on women and children.

After our transition to a public programmatic non-profit, we shifted and refined our focus and mission: Health, Livelihood & Menstrual Equity for Rural Indian Women & Children. Thanks to you, we have

grown from one State to eight, from 250 villages to over 3,765 villages, and from 15 programs to over 30 programs.

At its heart, our story starts with you, our community. Over the past 11 years, you have brought us your passion, your generous support, and your ideas. In fact, many of our major regional expansions have been because of you. Many of our programmatic expansions have been a result of your ideas, connections, and vision.

After more than a decade, you have trusted us with your investment. So now, our story has really become your story, and the story of those we serve.



Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography

Our Model

At our core, our goal is to empower the lives of women and cultivate dignity.

We strive to do that in the following ways:





Courtesy of Priyanka Rao Photography

Our Focus

We are driven to promote health, livelihood, and menstrual equity, particularly for those who are both traditionally underserved and powerful agents of social change: **women and children**. Working with the existing strengths of a community, we focus on providing a healthy life, the dignity of a job, and the fulfillment of an education.



HEALTH

The lack of access to hospitals and qualified medical professionals creates mounting challenges for rural communities. Our comprehensive approach bridges this access gap and elevates community health and reduces preventable issues, fostering healthier, more resilient communities. Recognizing health as a fundamental right, we partner with nonprofits, universities, hospitals, and community centers to provide free screenings and education to those lacking access to care.

LIVELIHOOD

We view livelihood as the chance to live a fulfilling life by generating a meaningful income that can support the pursuit of diverse opportunities. By partnering with grassroots organizations, we offer youth mentorship, personality development camps, entrepreneurship workshops, and vocational training, including sewing, beauty courses, computer literacy, and financial education. Our programs empower individuals with useful skills and entrepreneurial resources and mindset, thereby fostering sustainable livelihoods and economic growth.

MENSTRUAL EQUITY

We focus on menstrual equity because everyone deserves equal opportunities to access meaningful education, economic empowerment, and health, regardless of gender. In rural India, rampant menstrual stigma and lack of hygiene facilities disrupts educational and livelihood pursuits. The Desai Foundation works to break this cycle, empowering women and girls with the resources and accurate information needed for having a safe and dignified period- and to lead a life free from period poverty.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

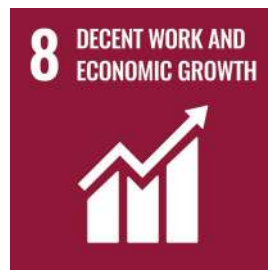
We empower rural women and the children and families they support to lead India's green transition through bold, community-centered investments in climate resilience. In the face of droughts, shifting weather, and threats to traditional livelihoods, our programs equip women with the skills, tools, and confidence to adapt and thrive. Through WASH, healthcare, renewable energy, and sustainable agriculture initiatives, rural women become champions of change, protecting the wellbeing of their families and serving as clean energy advocates and leaders in their communities.



EMPOWERING WOMEN AT **EVERY** **STAGE** OF THEIR LIVES

Our programs are designed to empower, elevate and impact the entire life of a woman so she can cultivate dignity and dream beyond her circumstances.

Local Action, Global Connection



ALIGNMENT WITH UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

At The Desai Foundation, we believe that local community development drives global advancement. Our mission strategically aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as outlined in the Sustainable Development Solutions Network's 2025 SDG Index Report. India's performance on key SDGs directly informs our programming priorities, particularly in areas where the country faces significant challenges and opportunities for improvement.

India's progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals has accelerated over the past five years, with the national index score rising. Our work is closely aligned with areas of national priority, directly addressing SDG 5 (Gender Equality), with women's leadership and economic empowerment programs being critical interventions. We directly contribute to decarbonization and net zero goals under SDG 13 (Climate Action), demonstrating the kind of progress our renewable energy training helps accelerate. Our employment rate supports SDG 1 (No Poverty), contributing to India's moonshot goal to end hunger in all its forms. Additionally, our WASH programs target SDG 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation) infrastructure gaps that continue to challenge rural communities, while our maternal and menstrual health interventions address SDG 3 (Good Health & Well-being) disparities in rural areas. By grounding our work in evidence-based SDG assessments, we ensure maximum impact on nationally prioritized development challenges.



COMMITMENT TO INDIAN NATIONAL INITIATIVES

Our programs strategically support India's flagship government schemes and development priorities, ensuring that grassroots interventions contribute directly to national development objectives. We align our work with groundbreaking socioeconomic initiatives, including Make in India, by training women in solar panel installation and maintenance, thereby building domestic capacity in emerging green industries. Through the Udyogini Scheme, we support women entrepreneurs in establishing renewable energy businesses and sustainable agriculture enterprises, creating pathways for economic independence and leadership.

Our integration with Digital Bharat ensures that rural women can participate in India's digital economy by combining digital literacy with technical skills training. We contribute to the National Solar Mission by building grassroots capacity for renewable energy adoption through community-based training programs, while supporting the Skill India Initiative's goal of training 400 million people through our specialized green skills programs. This strategic alignment ensures our community-level interventions create sustainable pathways for rural women's economic advancement while directly contributing to national development goals.

COMMUNITIES AS AGENTS OF CHANGE

We believe that true sustainable development occurs when communities drive their own transformation. By recognizing women's demonstrated capabilities and leveraging local expertise in climate adaptation, geography, and community dynamics, we ensure interventions are culturally appropriate and community-owned. Our model builds local leadership capacity, enabling program participants to become change agents who multiply impact across entire villages and establish sustainable pathways out of poverty.

ADDRESSING INTERCONNECTED CLIMATE AND GENDER CHALLENGES

Climate change and gender inequality are deeply interconnected in rural India where we work, as emphasized in current SDG assessments. The 2025 SDG Index Report highlights that India requires accelerated efforts in Gender Equality while maintaining momentum in Climate Action. Extreme weather events disproportionately impact women's health, safety, and economic opportunities, while fossil fuel dependence creates additional burdens through indoor air pollution and limited livelihood alternatives.





Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography

Methodology

We believe innovation is at the root of all progress. Innovation is what drives The Desai Foundation's programming and pushes us to incubate, iterate, pilot, evaluate, and further scale programs across regions for the most effective and powerful impact.

As we conduct mixed methods needs assessments in communities using surveys, focus groups, and interviews, we keep an eye out for unmet needs that need to be prioritized. These needs assessments are supplemented with our own research into regional obstacles to development, existing government and NGO interventions, and gaps in their programming.

This approach enables us to incubate programming that is representative of a community's current unmet needs, and aspirations. We then test out the programming in the form of pilot runs, often with the support of grant partners, grassroots partners, and external experts in impact evaluation.

After completing the incubation stage, we rapidly scale the programming based on the results from our impact evaluation procedures. This allows us to pivot and alter the programming based on the feedback we receive before larger scale rollouts.

For us, scale isn't always about increasing the sheer number of people we serve, but about enhancing the quality and end-to-end delivery of that service and having a comprehensive exit strategy in place that will nurture community ownership and sustained impact regardless of our presence.



Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography

Over the last 27 years in rural India, we have developed over 30+ programs with comprehensive MVPs in place. These programs span areas such as health, livelihood, menstrual equity, and most recently, climate resilience.

Now is the time for us to exponentially scale our incubated, piloted, and tailored programs so as to magnify our transformative impact along verticals such as health, livelihood, and menstrual equity. Our growth over the last seven years is due to a 3-step process:

- 1) Trust-building and comprehensive market feedback**
- 2) Rigorous incubation and pilot program implementation**
- 3) Flexible programming that can be tailored and accommodate diverse sources of funding and regional needs**

The people we serve and work with inspire, motivate, and lead us. By listening, evaluating, and iterating, we ensure that The Desai Foundation programs continually and effectively serve the needs of our communities.

Heroes for Humanity

A Story of Catalytic Impact

Launched in the wake of the COVID crisis, Heroes for Humanity began as a bold experiment to reach India's most underserved communities at a time of urgent need. With the extraordinary trust and investment of S.P. Hinduja Bank, this initiative quickly grew beyond emergency response. Their partnership became a catalyst, redefining how we connect with rural communities and transforming Heroes for Humanity into a resilient, highly adaptable framework for how we scale our proven models of service delivery across India.

Thanks to this collaboration, Heroes for Humanity has been at the forefront of rural impact, deployed in eight states, including Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka. By recruiting and training nearly 500 community facilitators, all drawn from the very communities they serve, we ensured that our work was rooted in genuine understanding and trust. These local leaders brought vital health and hygiene support, essential supplies, menstrual dignity programs, and hope directly to over six million individuals, making profound change personal and enduring.

What began as a means of immediate relief has, through unwavering support from S.P. Hinduja Bank evolved into a cornerstone of our programming. Today, Heroes for Humanity stands as clear evidence of what catalytic giving and a shared vision can accomplish. It is a testament to the power of investing deeply, trusting boldly, and reimagining what's possible for rural India. **On behalf of everyone at the Desai Foundation and the millions who have felt the touch of this movement, we offer our heartfelt gratitude to Karam Hinduja & S.P. Hinduja Bank.** Their commitment has not only changed our work; it has set new standards for partnership and transformation at scale.



Courtesy of Priyanka Rao Photography



2024-2025 IMPACT



496K

REACHED BY CANCER AWARENESS

This initiative brings vital health services directly to communities, offering education, lifestyle guidance, and on-site screenings. These camps aim to promote early detection, empower individuals with knowledge, and support healthier lives.



284K

REACHED BY HELP DESK SERVICES

Heroes promoted awareness and facilitated access to essential government social protection programs and inclusive financial services.



246K

REACHED BY MHM AWARENESS

Our heroes lead community education to break stigmas around menstruation, promote menstrual hygiene, and ensure access to essential health resources.



163K

HEMOGLOBIN TESTS CONDUCTED FOR ANEMIA DIAGNOSIS

Early detection and awareness of anemia, particularly among women and adolescent girls, are crucial for enhancing health, education, and livelihood outcomes.



20M

RUPEES IN SALARY PAID TO HEROES

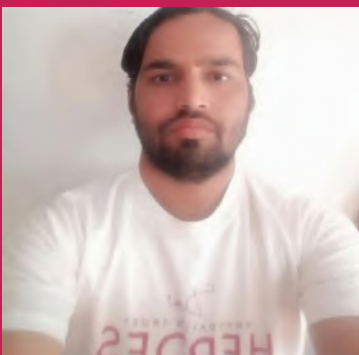
Heroes earned incomes which contributed to their financial independence and their family's quality of life along with training.



154

NEW HEROES TRAINED, HIRED, & PAID

Heroes, most of them women, earned incomes and became beacons of hope in their communities.



DHANRAJ
Tonk District, Rajasthan

Dhanraj is a man from Tonk district of Rajasthan. For the past few years, Dhanraj was working diligently as a Heroes For Humanity Health Facilitator and was supporting in the program's monitoring, reporting, and conducting awareness sessions.

He was now keen to start his own business to support his family amidst financial difficulties as his income from working as a full-time priest was not enough to make ends meet. However, he could not find any reliable source of information or resources on how to do so.

During this time, Dhanraj turned to The Desai Foundation's Entrepreneurship Training Course and learned about creative ways to utilize his existing experience and expertise to start his entrepreneurial journey. He decided to open a small business in the worship/spiritual field and started to make and pack items used in prayer at home.

With the help of his family, he would sell these items to nearby shops, and visit customers and shops regularly to collect feedback and make adjustments accordingly. He now earns Rs 5,000/month and is looking towards a bright future of further scaling and expansion of his business.



JYOTI
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Jyoti is a young girl from Bakshi ka Talab block of Lucknow. Her life had just begun as she embarked on building a career as a school teacher and learning key beautician skills via the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana in the hopes of opening her own parlor one day.

However, due to financial constraints at home, her father arranged for her to marry. It was then that she came across the Desai Foundation's Heroes For Humanity Program (HFH). She immediately enrolled as a Hero, and not only developed key skills as a community health facilitator, but also earned a respectable stipend.

Jyoti utilized this stipend to buy some beauty products and start a mini-beauty parlor from her home to financially support her family. The Desai Foundation's programming re-instilled in her a sense of confidence and desire to pursue her dreams no matter what. She now hopes to save enough money via the HFH program to pay for the wedding in full by herself.



By sponsoring a Hero, your contribution covers the essential expenses of training fees, programmatic costs, and supplies, all of which enable our Heroes to make a tangible difference within their local rural communities.

1 HERO	\$1000 ANNUAL COMMITMENT	2400 YEARLY DIRECT IMPACT FROM HERO	SUPPORTING HEALTH, LIVELIHOOD, AND MENSTRUAL EQUITY PROGRAMS
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Heroes For Humanity Gets Recognition From Secretary Hillary Clinton's Visit In India

In February 2023, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton visited Desai Foundation's flagship locations in India to advance the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) commitments to action. These commitments include providing employment opportunities and health care to women and children and supporting climate resilience - all items that Desai Foundation is impassioned about and focused on impacting across our 31 programs. Secretary Clinton's support and insights inspired our Heroes for Humanity team and reinforced the importance of their efforts. Her presence underscored the global significance of our mission to create a brighter future for women and girls in India.

“I am so impressed by the model of this program, and so delighted to hear about all the things you are doing as Heroes for Humanity.”

— Secretary Clinton

Clinton Global Initiative: September 2024 Meeting

At the Clinton Global Initiative Roundtable, the Desai Foundation led a powerful discussion on the urgent need to address menstrual inequality, framing it as a critical issue that impacts global health, education, economic growth, and gender equity. By spotlighting the economic and societal opportunities tied to menstrual health access, we helped shift the narrative from a women's issue to a global development imperative.





Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT SINCE 2014,

10 MILLION
IMPACTED TOTAL

11M ASANI SANITARY
NAPKINS PRODUCED

3765

COMMUNITIES
SERVED

5448

PEOPLE ATTENDED
OUR FUNDRAISERS

Where We Work

The Desai Foundation provides programming in eight states across India. We are deeply honored to have been invited into these communities and look forward to strengthening our relationship with the communities and our local partners.



📍 GUJARAT

Rural Gujarat, where over half the population lives, faces poverty, limited healthcare, and education gaps. Many children leave school to support their families, and women often lack access to basic services. With the right support, these communities have strong potential to grow, thrive, and build brighter futures.



📍 RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan's rural population makes up more than 75% of the state and faces widespread poverty, health challenges, and limited opportunities for women. Many children leave school due to financial pressures. The Desai Foundation is committed to empowering these communities and supporting sustainable progress.



📍 MAHARASHTRA

In Maharashtra, rural poverty affects over half the population, with many lacking access to health care, education, and fair wages. The COVID-19 crisis deepened income losses, but with targeted efforts, rural communities can recover and thrive.



📍UTTAR PRADESH

Uttar Pradesh faces deep-rooted challenges tied to poverty, rural isolation, and gender inequality. Despite cultural strengths, gaps in health, education, and jobs persist—especially for women and girls. Tailored, community-driven solutions are essential for meaningful change.



📍ODISHA

Over 83% of Odisha's population lives in rural areas, where environmental degradation limits livelihood opportunities alongside challenges in healthcare and education. The Desai Foundation supports holistic efforts to improve skills, health, and equality for sustainable community development



📍MADHYA PRADESH

Over 70% of Madhya Pradesh's population lives in rural areas, facing health risks, limited education, and scarce job opportunities. With better training and support, especially for marginalized communities, these challenges can be overcome to build stronger futures.



📍KARNATAKA

Over 60% of Karnataka's population lives in rural areas facing poor health, sanitation, and limited access to healthcare. Financial barriers and gender-based violence further challenge communities, highlighting the pressing need for comprehensive interventions to address social, gender-based, and educational concerns across the state.



📍TAMIL NADU

Over half of Tamil Nadu's population lives in rural areas, where access to quality education and healthcare remains a major challenge. Many schools lack proper facilities, limiting children's opportunities. Alongside poverty and health issues, improving education is key to empowering women and driving sustainable growth in these communities.

Expand to Your Hometown

Your support can play a crucial role in addressing local challenges and empowering the community to achieve its fullest potential. We would love to collaborate with you to bring transformative change to even more communities. If you are interested in expanding to your hometown, please get in touch at info@thedesaifoundation.org.

2024-2025 IMPACT

We are proud to share our latest impact from the past fiscal year:

NEARLY

2.1M

LIVES IMPACTED
DIRECTLY

MORE THAN

3.1M

ASANI SANITARY
NAPKINS PRODUCED

353K

REACHED WITH
MENSTRUAL HYGIENE
MANAGEMENT AWARENESS

9000

CHILDREN ATTENDED
SUMMER CAMPS

34K

CHILDREN ATTENDED BAL
HEALTH MELA

941

WOMEN EARNING
INCOME THROUGH ASANI



Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography



Health & Preventative Care

IMPACT IN FY 2025

353K

REACHED BY
MHM AWARENESS

205K

CHILDREN REACHED BY
HEALTH AND HYGIENE CLASS

163K

REACHED BY
ANEMIA SCREENING

29K

REACHED IN GENERAL
HEALTH CAMPS

14K

PROVIDED WITH
VISION CARE

154

NEW HEROES
TRAINED

BRINGING ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES TO INDIA'S MOST REMOTE COMMUNITIES

PRIMARY HEALTH AND HYGIENE CLASSES

We conduct health and hygiene sessions in our centers, schools, and communities on topics ranging from menstrual hygiene, maternal health, nutrition, and the importance of WASH.

BAL HEALTH MELA

Bal Health Mela is a fun-filled health fair for children. Our objective of these health camps is to provide easy access to high-quality health care services to children and their families residing in rural India.

GENERAL HEALTH CAMP

We operate general health camps for local community members where we provide overall medical care, check-ups, and vaccinations.

GYNACOLOGICAL SCREENINGS & CAMPS

We conduct gynecology camps for women that include high-quality menstrual health services, pap smear tests, breast cancer awareness, and prenatal and post-natal check-ups.

VISION CAMP

We provide vision camps and vision care through camps, including high quality vision services such as cataract surgeries, and items such as eyeglasses, eye drops, and more.



ANEMIA AWARENESS & SCREENING CAMPS

India has one of the highest rates of anemia globally, with over 50% of women affected especially in rural areas. The Desai Foundation's camps provide education, nutrition counseling, and on-site hemoglobin testing to address this silent condition.

DIABETES AWARENESS & SCREENING CAMPS

As diabetes cases rise in rural India, many remain undiagnosed until serious complications occur. Our Diabetes Awareness & Screening Camps offer education, lifestyle guidance, and on-the-spot blood sugar testing.

CANCER SCREENINGS

In rural India, low awareness and limited access to care contribute to rising cancer rates and delayed diagnoses. The Desai Foundation's Cancer Awareness & Detection Camps offer education, lifestyle guidance, and on-site screenings.

Livelihood & Vocational Skill Training

IMPACT IN FY 2025

2000

WOMEN TAUGHT
BEAUTICIAN SKILLS

14K

WOMEN TAUGHT
VOCATIONAL SKILLS

9000

CHILDREN ATTENDED
SUMMER CAMPS

5000

STUDENTS TAUGHT TO
USE COMPUTER

4000

WOMEN TAUGHT
TO SEW

941

WOMEN EARNING INCOME FROM
ASANI SANITARY PAD DISTRIBUTION



BEAUTICIAN SKILL TRAINING

Our Beauty Parlor vocational training program prepares women for a relatively high-paying job in an environment where they feel safe. Our course teaches hair, makeup, wedding, and special occasion services.

SEWING SKILL TRAINING

We host a variety of vocational sewing programs across many of the regions we serve. Women learn the basics of sewing and how to make various styles of handbags, and much more.

COMPUTER SKILL TRAINING

These classes teach valuable digital literacy skills to help advance personal, educational, and professional development.

HELP DESK

We operate a Help Desk Program that spreads awareness about government programs and services and enrolls eligible community members to ensure access to these benefits by the most vulnerable in society, including women, children and the elderly.

SOLAR SKILLS TRAINING

Our Solar Skill Training initiative aims to train rural women in how to set up, maintain, and repair solar panels, thereby enabling them to become financially independent and enhancing usage and adoption of renewable sources of energy in their communities.



EV RICKSHAW MECHANIC TRAINING

The EV Rickshaw Mechanic Training Program is exclusively focused on equipping rural women with skills in the maintenance, driving, and repair of electric rickshaws (Tuk-Tuks). This initiative fosters technical expertise, economic independence, and sustainable transportation practices that allow communities, especially women and children, to access life-saving services in urban centres such as hospitals, schools, and employment opportunities in their communities.

BANKING AND SAVING EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAM

Our Banking and Saving Education & Awareness Program empowers rural communities with essential financial knowledge from saving and investing to responsible borrowing and accessing government aid. By improving financial literacy, the program helps individuals make informed decisions, achieve independence, and build a more secure future.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Personality Development Program • Jewelry Making Training • Candle & Diya Making Training • Chocolate Making Training
Asani Production • Spoken English • Entrepreneurship Awareness

Climate Resilience Initiatives



OUR BREAKTHROUGH RENEWABLE ENERGY & CLIMATE RESILIENCE INITIATIVES

At The Desai Foundation, climate resilience is more than a mission; it's a promise made daily to thousands of families. Whether it's safe water, trustworthy healthcare, or vibrant community support, our programs offer stability in uncertain times, helping people weather whatever tomorrow brings.

We see Heroes every day in rural India, women who refuse to be defined by circumstance, who rise with determination and hope. When floods upend routines or power outages shut down dreams, these women are the ones finding solutions. That's why we invested boldly this year in Solar Skill Training and EV Rickshaw Mechanic Training in Bhopal, thanks to the partnership of **TE Connectivity Foundation**. 80 remarkable women stepped up, mastering solar and electric vehicle technologies, ready to light up homes and keep their communities moving forward. But it takes more than skills. It takes a pursuit to democratize

opportunities for those communities that are mostly underserved. So, we connected our graduates directly with 12 leading renewable energy companies, opening real doors to lasting work and dignity. This isn't just training; it's transformation. An 85% graduation and employment rate proves the power behind this women-led progress.

The impact is undeniable:

- Women are out-earning old expectations, seeing a 40% average boost in clean energy careers
- Their stories ripple outward, encouraging families everywhere to choose renewable energy
- They're breaking through barriers, bringing new talent and fresh ideas to industries that need them
- And every solar panel installed, every new skill shared, is a step toward a stronger, steadier, and resilient community

These journeys aren't only about powering homes, they're about powering hope. When rural women lead the way in clean energy, it's not just the climate that gets better. Livelihoods flourish. Communities unite. The future feels brighter and more secure for everyone.





Courtesy of Priyanka Rao Photography

Asani Sanitary Napkin Program

3.4M

Asani Sanitary Napkins
Produced in 2024-2025

189K

Asani Sanitary Napkins
Distributed Free of Cost in
2024-2025

941

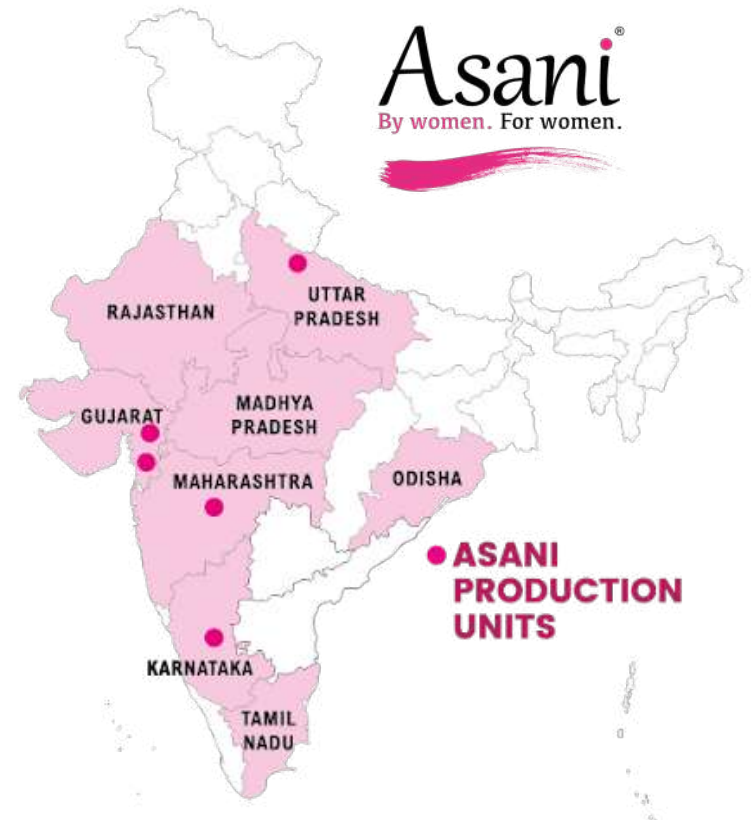
Women Earning Income from
Asani Sanitary Napkin Distribution
and Production in 2024-2025

1.5 MILLION

Impacted by MHM Awareness to Date

Menstrual health is a significant yet often overlooked aspect of public health which directly impacts women's participation in the workforce and overall economic productivity. In many regions, inadequate access to menstrual hygiene products and education leads to absenteeism in schools and workplaces, hindering women's ability to engage fully in economic activities.

When women cannot manage their menstrual health responsibly due to lack of resources or stigmatization, it creates a ripple effect that contributes to lost economic output. Estimates suggest that menstrual-related absenteeism costs the global economy billions of dollars each year, a staggering figure that underscores the importance of addressing this issue not only as a health priority but as an economic imperative.



Our model, Asani Sanitary Napkin Program, focuses on market-based solutions that promote menstrual health while stimulating economic growth. By investing in affordable, high-quality menstrual hygiene products and educational programs, we empower women and girls, enabling them to remain in school and fully participate in the workforce by ensuring accessibility and availability of menstrual products to them. These solutions foster a thriving market that drives innovation, creates jobs, and generates revenues, all of which contribute significantly to GDP growth. By addressing menstrual health through a market lens, we not only improve individual lives but also unlock the full economic potential of female populations.

In summary, investing in menstrual health is not merely a social good; it is an essential component of fostering inclusive economic growth. Our approach aims to harness this potential, promoting a healthier, more productive society that benefits everyone.



2025 Achievements

ASANI PROJECT BRINGS MENSTRUAL HEALTH SUPPORT TO POLICE ACROSS MADHYA PRADESH



Launched the Asani Project for police personnel across all districts of Madhya Pradesh with 54 sanitary napkin vending machines installed. The initiative tackled menstrual myths, ensured annual pad supply, and promoted dignity and hygiene among women in law enforcement.

NEW ASANI PRODUCTION UNIT IN UTTAR KARNATAKA BOOSTS MENSTRUAL HEALTH ACCESS NATIONWIDE



Established Asani Production Unit in Uttar Karnataka, marking a significant milestone as Asani now operates production facilities in four states, further strengthening our mission to advance menstrual health and empower women across India.

BHAVNABEN INSPIRES CHANGE IN HER VILLAGE THROUGH ASANI ADVOCACY



Bhavnaben is an Anganwadi worker from Dulsad village. Her journey with Asani began when she came into contact with a dedicated community health facilitator of The Desai Foundation in her area.

Deeply impressed by The Desai Foundation's model for building menstrual equity, Bhavnaben decided to join forces and assisted The Desai Foundation to organize Menstrual Health Management (MHM) sessions at the Anganwadi Center where she worked.

Upon learning about Asani Sanitary Pads, she decided to try them out herself. Her positive experience led her to recommend the product to adolescent girls and women that she came in contact with via her work as an Anganwadi worker.

Bhavnaben's story is a shining example of how local leaders can emerge as motivated and determined changemakers in their communities, should they find something to truly believe in and advocate for to communities that they work with.

Stories of Impact

SUPRIYA LEARNS THE POWER OF EARLY DETECTION AND NUTRITION TO RECLAIM HER HEALTH



Supriya is a young girl from Swareji Kharg village. She would regularly suffer from fatigue, fainting spells, and dizziness and had no avenue to seek reprieve for her condition. She also did not have access to any information about what these symptoms could mean for her overall health and well-being.

One day, she approached a local community facilitator from The Desai Foundation in her village. Upon hearing about her symptoms, the facilitator suggested that she get an anemia test done at The Desai Foundation's Anemia Test Health Camp. Her report showed that she was suffering from hemoglobin deficiency and was advised to take iron supplements and follow a nutritious diet.

The advice from the doctor and support from the community facilitator enabled Supriya to significantly improve her health and live out her daily life with renewed confidence. She now hopes that other women and girls in the village would do the same and learn about their health and well-being.

BUBBY ACTS QUICKLY ON MEDICAL ADVICE TO SAFEGUARD HER LIFE AND HEALTH



Bubby is a girl from Bhikampur village in Deoria district. One day, she noticed a lump in her breast and grew anxious and scared about what it could possibly mean for her health and well-being.

Not having enough money or accurate information about how to seek a consultation and treatment, she approached The Desai Foundation's on-ground staff in her village. A staff member informed her about a financially accessible way to get a diagnosis at a nearby medical college, and even attended the diagnosis visit with Bubby.

The doctor prescribed a medicine course for her and informed her that any further delay in seeking medical advice could have had fatal consequences for her. After taking the medicine course, Bubby was cured and is now able to live her daily life freely and healthily.

PADMABEN TRANSFORMS ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING INTO A THRIVING GROCERY BUSINESS



Padmaben is from Asma village in Valsad. She lives with her son and both are engaged in agricultural labor work to make ends meet. The working hours and conditions are extremely poor, with little to no pay- making it extremely difficult for Padmaben to support herself and her son as a single mother.

Padmaben came across The Desai Foundation's Entrepreneurial Trainings and promptly joined one being operated in her village. The training helped her learn about small scale business formation, diverse trades, funding routes etc.

The training enabled her to dream of starting her own grocery shop in the neighborhood using a loan from a local Self-Help Group. Now, Padmaben is a happy shop-keeper that is not only financially supporting her family, but also bringing fresh produce to her village.

SARASVATIBEN GAINS MENSTRUAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE AND BECOMES A COMMUNITY ADVOCATE

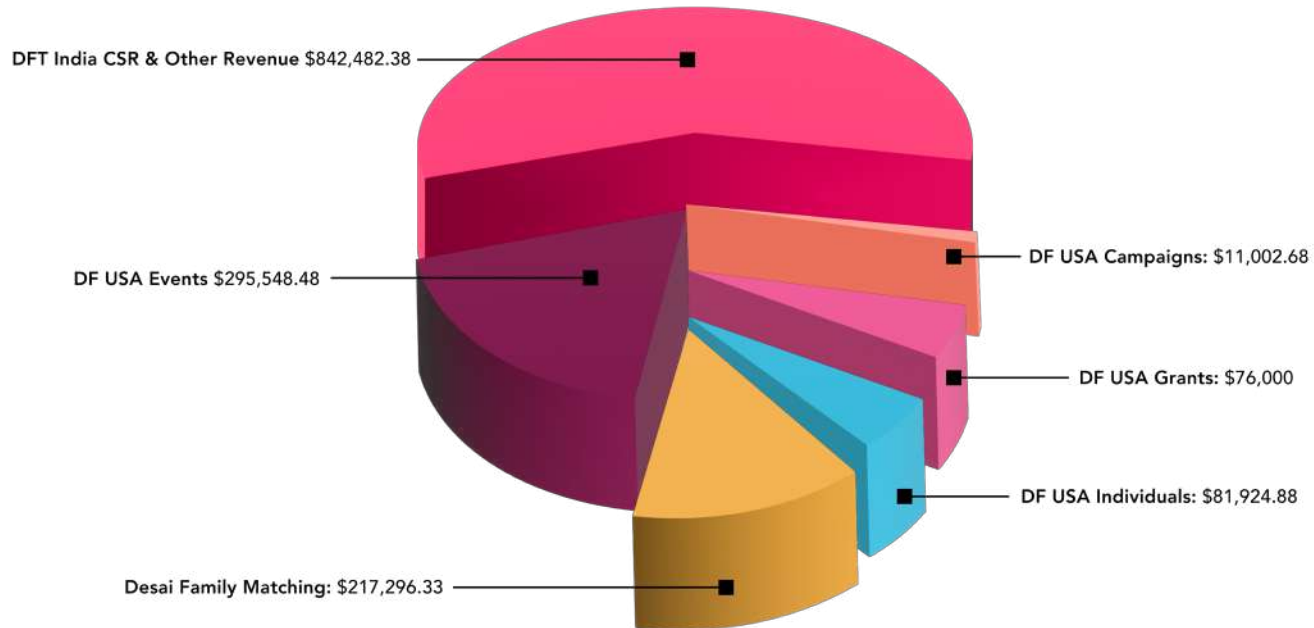


Sarasvatiben is from Valsad District and lives in a joint family. Thus, she grew up in a highly traditional household with little to no candid conversation, advice, or discussion about women's health and hygiene. Sarasvatiben would rely on a combination of cloth and cotton pads to manage her period but would face rashes and other health issues due to lack of proper hygiene.

Sarasvatiben attended a Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) session organized by the Desai Foundation at the invitation of one of the organization's local community facilitators. She was also given a sample of an Asani Sanitary Pad to try out for herself and given key information and training on how to safeguard menstrual health and hygiene.

She has since then permanently switched to using Asani Sanitary Pads and now has become a vocal advocate for access to safe and hygienic period products in her neighborhood.

2025 Fiscal Year Fundraising Revenue



TOTAL FUNDRAISING REVENUE

\$1,524,254.75

TOTAL IN-KIND DONATIONS

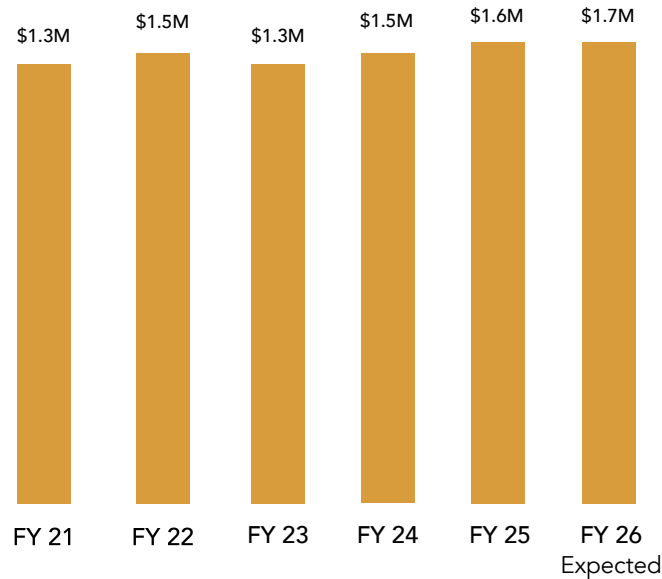
\$440,253

2025 Fiscal Year Expenditures

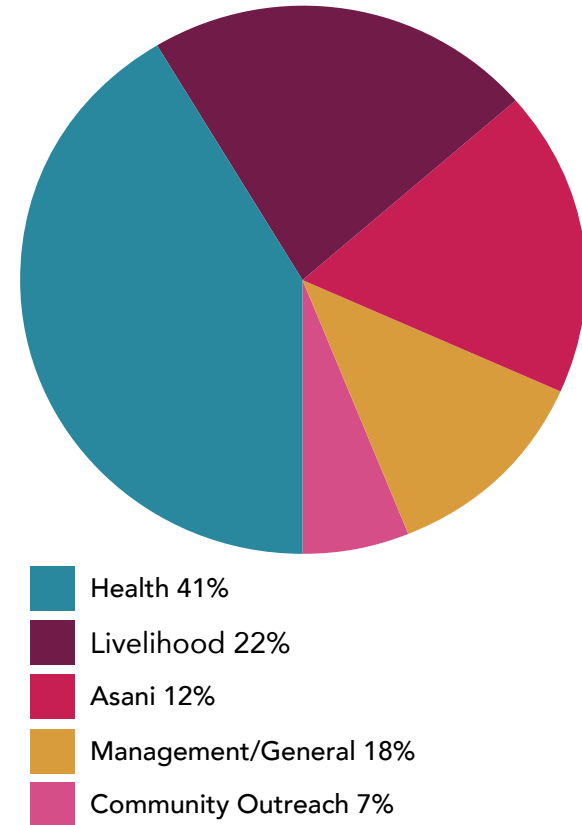
OUR COMMITMENT

EVERY DOLLAR raised for The Desai Foundation from individuals goes directly to the work on the ground. Our overhead is covered by the initial endowment, Board of Directors, and corporate donors. We work hard to ensure maximum value for every dollar you generously trust with us.

Total Program Contributions and Operational Expenditures in India & U.S.



FUNDS ALLOCATION



A Full Picture

In accordance with Indian law, The Desai Foundation Trust was established in 2016. All money raised in India is directed to The Desai Foundation Trust. To be as transparent as possible, we will disclose financials of both The Desai Foundation (US 501(c)3) and The Desai Foundation Trust together to present a full picture.

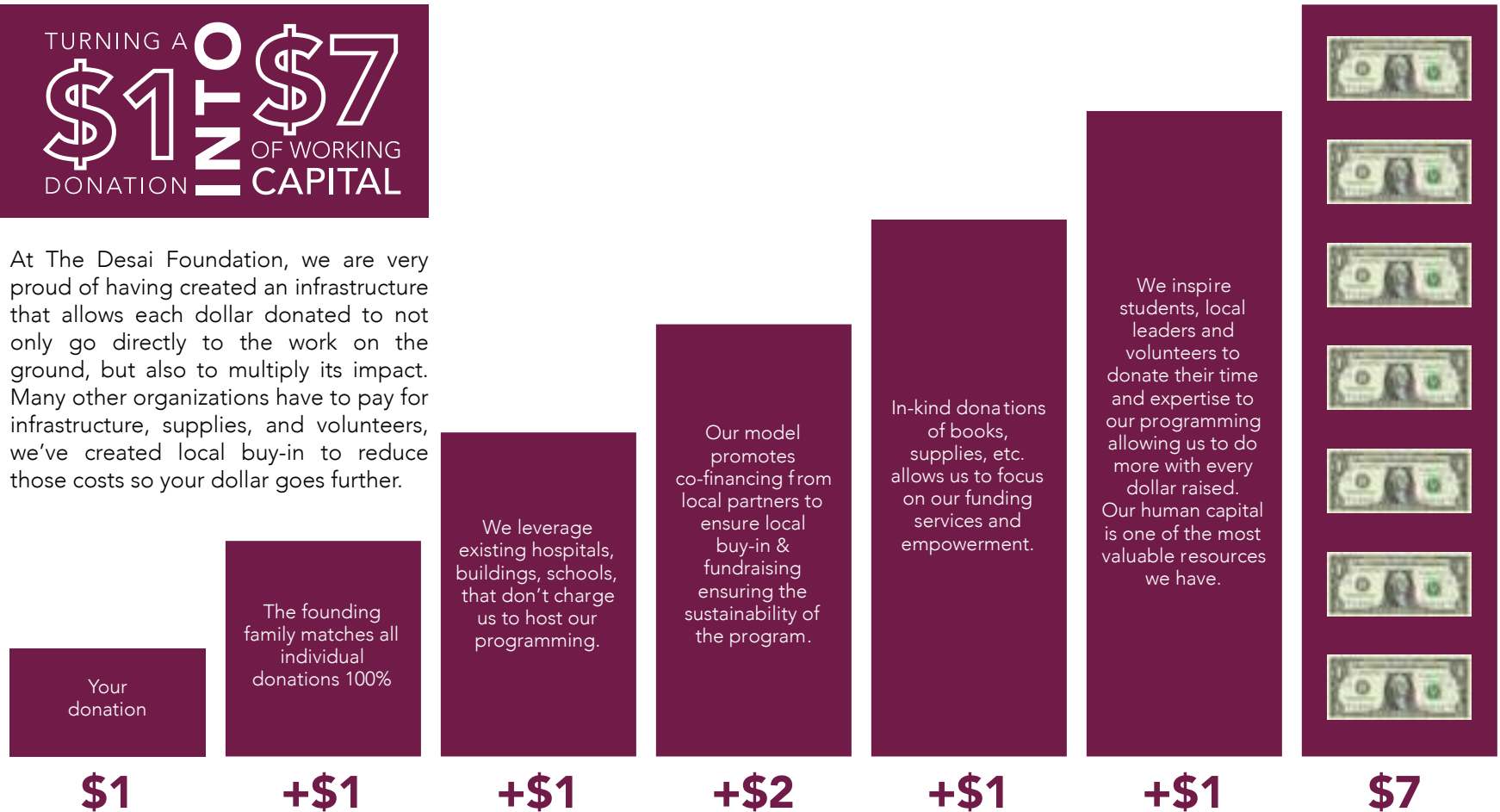


Courtesy of Priyanca Rao Photography

Our Model Amplifies Your Contribution

TURNING A
\$1  **\$7**
DONATION OF WORKING
CAPITAL

At The Desai Foundation, we are very proud of having created an infrastructure that allows each dollar donated to not only go directly to the work on the ground, but also to multiply its impact. Many other organizations have to pay for infrastructure, supplies, and volunteers, we've created local buy-in to reduce those costs so your dollar goes further.



The Desai Foundation has been able to inspire significant in-kind donations, which have grown every year, to support our mission and expand our impact.

2025 Awards & Recognition

We are profoundly honored to have received these awards, celebrating our collective efforts in advancing livelihood, health, and menstrual equity in India.



The Public Advocate of the City of New York for Diwali on the Hudson



Best NGO in Healthcare by 4th Bharat CSR & Sustainability Summit & Awards 2025



34th SGCCI Golden Jubilee Memorial Trust Award: 2023-24



CSR Times Award 2025 for Women Empowerment

Past Awards & Recognition

We are honored to have received numerous distinguished awards in recent years, not as accolades for ourselves alone, but as recognition of the dedication, impact, and passion that our team brings to the communities we serve. These honors reflect our ongoing commitment to empowering rural communities and the meaningful change we strive to create together every day.



Gujarat Women's Empowerment Award 2024



Bridgestone Award 2021



Indian Achievers Award 2022



The CSR Universe Award 2023



Indian CSR Awards 2023



Economic Empowerment Excellence Award 2024



Indian Social Impact Awards 2024



FY 2025 Grants

In FY 2025, we are deeply grateful for the generosity and partnership of our grantors, including corporations, banks, foundations, and individual philanthropists across India, the United States, and other global markets. Your support enables us to drive transformative change in rural communities through health, economic empowerment, banking, entrepreneurship, climate resilience, and beyond.

Our ability to implement and scale innovative programs stems from your trust and vision for a more equitable future. Together, we spark lasting impact: from opening new economic pathways for women and expanding health and hygiene services to powering menstrual equity initiatives and community-based pilot projects.

The **Schaeffler India** partnership, for example, empowered us to launch a salon in Vadodara, providing meaningful livelihoods for rural women. With **Shrimad Rajchandra Ashram**, we broadened health screenings that elevated wellbeing in remote communities. **Ghanta Family Foundation's** support allowed us to reach more rural schools and families with menstrual health resources.

Each of you, by investing in our mission, not only funds our programs but propels a movement toward dignity and opportunity for India's most underserved. We look forward to deepening this partnership and creating even greater ripple effects in the years to come. Thank you for your unwavering trust, vision, and shared commitment to community development.



SCHAEFFLER

SCOR
The Art & Science of Risk



Jeavio



the
pad
project.



Google Ad Grants

2025 Platinum Donors

In FY 2025, we received generous support from hundreds of individual, corporate, and foundational donors, with total contributions exceeding \$1.5 million. We are especially proud that, for the first time, over 50% of our funding came from within India, a milestone that reflects the growing strength of our local partnerships. The incredible support from our communities in the United States, India, and around the world continues to inspire and sustain our work. **Below, we honor our Platinum Donors who contributed \$5,000 or more during this fiscal year.** Thank you to these remarkable individuals, companies, and organizations for making our mission possible!

Allison Stockel

Anil & Monica Seetharam

Ankit Gupta

Darshana Zaveri & Gaurav Malik

Deepika & Amar Sawhney

Hitesh & Nitika Aurora

Karam Hinduja

Madavi & Gaugarin Oliver

Mary & Vinay Aggarwal

Meredith & Chris Pace

Michelle Ranavat

Mir Arif & Suki Kim

Nalini & Raj Sharma

Neha Desai Shah & Caryna Shah

Nithya & Navjot Singh

Paulomi Gudka & Rajesh Shah

Priti & Mukesh Chatter

Priya & Neil Desai

Raina & James Gardiner

Ramesh Raskar

Richard & Rose Byrne

Sandeep & Neeta Shah

Sapna Saxena

Sonal Patel Cochran

The Bachelder Group at Morgan Stanley Boston

Sudhir Shah

Zenobia Moochhala & John Paulson



RANAVAT



The Sharma Group
Private Wealth Advisors

Morgan Stanley
PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT



2025 Donors

We are grateful to all of our donors - whether you donated \$5 for a Pledge Your Period Campaign, donated to the Asani Program, or attended an event to support our programming. We would like to highlight donors who gave between \$300 and \$4,999 this year. Thank you!

Aakash Dhuna	Brandon Salimi	Jamie Farrill	Medha Munshi	Paul Lee	Seecharan A Beesham
Aashna Sharma	Brett Below	Jaspreet Sahota	Meehir Patel	Peter Lowy	Sejal Shah
Abhinav Vij	Bruce Schwartzman	Jay Mehta	Megan Kiefer	Pooja Banerjee	Shailee Shah
Abhishek Gosavi	Cathie Newman Clark	Jaya Malik Desai	Meghan Stevens	Prabha Iyer	Shailee Udani
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Ari Afsar	Girish Desai	Lok Yee Lorraine Leung Yeow	Nila Pancholi	Ryan Ahuja	Vanitha Patel
Ariel Alfred	Gitangeli Tiku	Lopa Mehrotra	Nilanjana Datta	Sahil Khurana	Vatsa Narasimha
Arun Valliappan Swarnam	Hallie Ransone	Madhu Alichala	Nimmi Roche	Sameer Acharya	Victor Patel
Arushi Ray	Hannah Rosenzweig	Madhu Southworth	Nisha Bahri	Samya Ahmed	Victoria Alexander
Ashish Patel	Heather Boyles	Madiha Ahmad	Nisha Karnani	Sandra Nastasi	Vikas & Nitigna Desai
Ashley McElheney Lafferly	Heena Jain	Maggy Pietropaolo	Nitasha Manchanda	Sangeeta Mudnal	Vikas Upmanue
Ashwini Anburajan	Heeren Pathak	Manavi Persaud	Nitigna Desai	Sangeetha Subramanian	Vinayak Natarajan
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Bhagya Krishnan	Ian Schenkman	Matthew Everett	Partap Singh Ahuja	Sarah Cochran	Wendy Siegel
Bharat & Rashmika Shah	Ibrahim Syed	Matthew Siegel	Parth Desai	Sarah Combs	Yin Lin
Bhavana Huliyar	Indu Foundation	Mauli & Bijal Kinkhabwala	Patali Thulimelli	Satish Huliyaar	Zakery Myrowich
Bhavna Dhir	Irene Breuer	Mausmi Dasgupta	Patricia Leavitt	Saurin Shah	Zameer Kassam
Bipen Pradhan	Isabel Villegas	Mayank Sangdod	Patricia Toto	Sean Gupta	

Desai Foundation Events

LOTUS FESTIVAL



The 10th year of the Lotus Festival took place on September 21st in Boston at the Omni Seaport Hotel. The gala invited you on a journey to India, where you could explore and immerse yourself in the programming offered by the Desai Foundation. We hosted an energetic live auction, featured engaging speakers, and enjoyed good company throughout the evening. As you wandered through the gallery, you discovered an array of activities and installations that highlighted the foundation's impactful work. We hope you enjoyed the journey and explored all that the mela had to offer!

DIWALI ON THE HUDSON



We were overjoyed to celebrate the 11th anniversary of Diwali on the Hudson at HK Hall, New York City, on October 17th, 2024 with dancing, dining and fun! This event attracted celebrities and changemakers all at the top of their industry and field. We danced the night away to DJ Suhel's beats and enjoyed a special performance from Jay Sean's new artist, Véyah!

COCKTAILS & CHAAT - BOSTON, NEW YORK & VICTORIA



We are incredibly excited that we have hosted so many Cocktails and Chaat events this year! We held two in Boston, thanks to the Desai Family and Tiffany & Co, one in New York with Lladró, and one all the way in Victoria, Canada at Kinu Restaurant! We were able to eat, drink, network, and raise money, thanks to our hosts around North America — contact us if you want Cocktails & Chaat to come to your city, or...country!

TIFFANY & CO. LLADRÓ

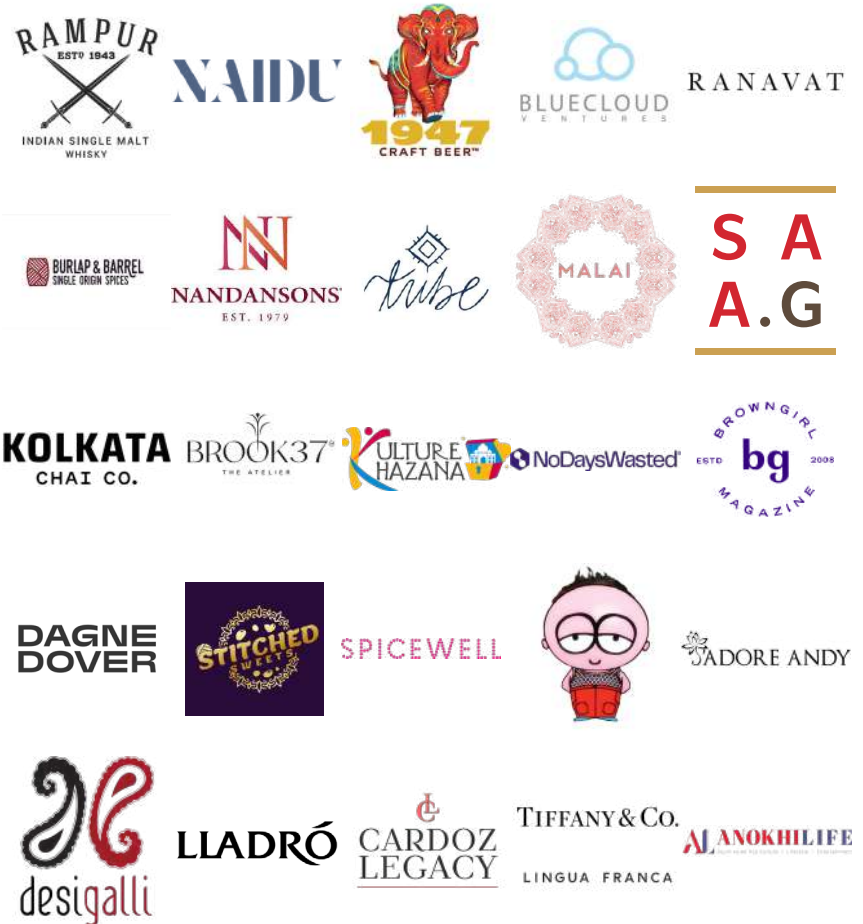
Brand & Event Partners

We are fortunate to have an incredible network of brand and event partners who support us in countless ways, from cash sponsorships and product donations to venue space and expert services. **In FY25, in-kind donations between India and the United States totaled \$440,253 helping reduce overhead costs and extend our impact.**

We're proud to partner with these amazing supporters who help empower women and girls. Thank you for making our work possible!

1947 Premium Liquor
Adjali's Cup
Anokhi Life
Aunt Flow
Blue Cloud Ventures
Boston Sound & Light
Brook37 Tea
Brown Girl Mag
Burlap & Barrel
Cardoz Legacy
Dagne Dover
Desi Galli Indian Street Food
DJ Suhel
Hummingway
J'adore Andy Photography
Kinu by Sizzling Tandoor
Kolkata Chai Co
Kulture Khazana
Lingua Franca
Live Tinted
Lladró
Malai Ice Cream
Max Arellano Videography
Morgan Stanley
Naidu Wine
Nandansons
No Days Wasted

Paavani Ayurveda
Period.
Rampur Whiskey
Ranavat
South Asian Art Gallery
Spicewell
Stitched Sweets
The Pad Project
Tiffany & Co
Tribe Bohemian



Pledge Your Period 2025

In 2025, The Desai Foundation's Pledge Your Period campaign rallied influencers, advocates, and supporters throughout May during Menstrual Hygiene Month to spark bold conversations and break menstrual stigma. With a goal of raising \$10,000 to provide a year's supply of Asani Sanitary Napkins to 1,000 women and girls in rural India, the movement combined online activism with real-world impact from all over the world - seriously, we even had more pledges in India this year than the US! With a combination of social media pledges, and a powerful virtual panel, The Desai Foundation brought together thought leaders and storytellers to shine a light on period poverty and how to end it, building a future where menstruation is met with dignity, equality, and opportunity.

Shifting the Narrative Panel

May 1st, 2025



Claire Coder, Founder and CEO of Aunt Flow

Karan Babbar, Director of the Centre for Development Studies at Jindal Global Business School

Elissa Stein, Author of "Flow-The Cultural Story of Menstruation"

Pragya Gupta, Special Program Manager of the Desai Foundation Trust

Trisha Sakhuja-Walia, CEO & Co-Founder of Brown Girl Magazine (Host)

#PledgeYourPeriod Challenge

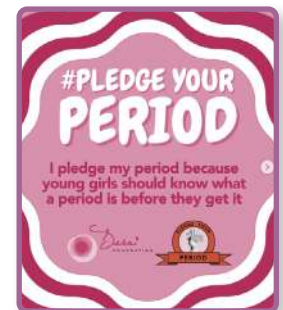
Social Media Mentions



**ANOKHI
LIFESTYLE**



**ANISHA
RAMAKRISHNA
TARPARA**



**THE PAD
PROJECT**



Implementing Partners

We work with regional implementation partners, including grassroots NGOs, universities, and institutions, who help ensure our programs are culturally relevant, locally responsive, and attuned to geographic complexity. We are grateful for these collaborative partnerships, which expand our reach and deepen our impact across rural India.



UNTDI VIBHAG KELAVANI MANDAL (UVKM) **Year of collaboration – 2012**

UNTDI VIBHAG KELAVNI MANDAL has been our most trusted collaborator and partner. They have allowed us to experiment, develop and incubate our change-making programming with the collaboration of not only the staff but the community, as well.



LATE DIWALIBEN UKABHAI PATEL SARVAJANIK TRUST Year of collaboration – 2019

LATE DIWALIBEN UKABHAI PATEL SARVAJANIK TRUST has been a committed partner in driving impactful community development in remote tribal regions along the eastern-southern border of Gujarat. Their deep local connect and sustained grassroots efforts have significantly strengthened our outreach and outcomes in these underserved areas.



GRAM SEVA TRUST (GST): **Year of collaboration – 2016**

GRAM SEVA TRUST, based in Kharel, Navsari district of Gujarat, is a dedicated organization working in the field of health and development. Operating a 100-bed secondary-level rural hospital and implementing various community outreach initiatives across Navsari and Dang districts, the Trust brings valuable expertise in tribal community engagement. Their strong grassroots presence and years of experience have greatly strengthened our partnership by ensuring deeper community support and active participation.



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY-GANDHINAGAR (IITGN): **Year of collaboration – 2016**

Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar, through its community outreach programs NEEV empowers women and youth from under-served communities with skill development, entrepreneurship, and livelihood opportunities. The institute also extends vital educational support to children of migrant construction workers in and around its campus through NYASA. As a partner, IIT Gandhinagar consistently goes beyond conventional approaches to drive visible and lasting change in the community.



SHREE YOGANAND SARASWATI EDUCATION AND MEDICAL RELIEF TRUST (YST): **Year of collaboration – 2016**

Shree Yoganand Saraswati Education and Medical Relief Trust is our first and oldest partner, playing a pivotal role in our journey. Their strong presence in the Talangpur region of Gujarat has significantly contributed to strengthening community development through consistent health and education interventions.



SPS: **Year of collaboration – 2021**

The significant reach and strong community ties of SPS India make them an invaluable partner. For any community-based pilot project envisioned for Southern Tamil Nadu, we can anticipate strong support and efficient logistical arrangements through their collaboration.



SCODWES:
Year of collaboration – 2022

With a wealth of experience in improving conditions for women and tribal communities, SCODWES demonstrates a strong understanding and presence, particularly in Northern Karnataka. Their proven track record includes the design and implementation of successful health projects in remote areas, alongside active involvement in diverse agricultural and non-agricultural livelihood initiatives. Their valuable experience and resources can be effectively utilized to bolster our projects.



UGVS:
Year of collaboration – 2024

The UGVs strong command of government liaisoning is a key strategic advantage, particularly in the Marathwada region. This capability will be instrumental in fostering effective collaboration with district administration, thereby ensuring the smooth implementation of our projects through the support of government resources.



SAFE SOCIETY (SS):
Year of Collaboration – 2023

Safe Society's deep local outreach has been a strong support in expanding Desai Foundation Trust's flagship initiatives—the Asani sanitary napkin program that has enhanced community wellbeing, created income opportunities, and boosted health awareness at the grassroots level.



YCDA:
Year of Collaboration – 2023

YCDA's operational footprint across multiple districts in Odisha, along with their focus on projects such as women and child development, aligns perfectly with our core mission. Their significant experience in non-agricultural livelihoods makes them an invaluable asset should we pursue expansion opportunities in the region.



PRIYANSHI EDUCATIONAL CULTURAL & SOCIAL SOCIETY (PECSS)
Year of collaboration – 2023

With over 22 years of experience in the areas of health, education and livelihood, Pecss's mission and vision strongly align with DF's mission and vision. Their strong work ethic and commitment to serve the community have helped us expand our reach to the tribal belt of the Dhar and Barwani regions in the state of Madhya Pradesh.



CENTRE FOR UNFOLDING LEARNING POTENTIALS (CULP):
Year of Collaboration – 2020

We leveraged CULP's grassroots outreach and DFT's proven program models to create sustainable impact in the Indian State of Rajasthan. Together, we are enhancing access to knowledge, hygiene, and livelihood opportunities for women & children. This collaboration marks a shared commitment to inclusive development and long-term community transformation.



CCD:
Year of collaboration – 2023

CCD operates in an area facing considerable challenges, particularly regarding access to basic amenities and health services. This presents a crucial opportunity for us to collaborate on developing and piloting impactful health and livelihood projects. While CCD's current focus does not include geographical expansion, a partnership would allow us to combine our efforts and collectively empower a wider network of deserving communities.



Gram Chetna Kendra :
Year of Collaboration: 2025

GCK is our new partner in the state of Rajasthan, with whom we are looking forward to enhancing our program implementation through their deep community insights and grassroots connections. Their on-ground presence shall ensure greater reach, trust, and impact within the target communities. We are positive about this partnership.



Shubhamkaroti Foundation:
Year of collaboration – 2019

Shubhamkaroti Foundation brings deep community trust and effective outreach in Maharashtra. We implement impactful initiatives that promote menstrual health, skill development, and economic independence. This collaboration reflects our shared vision of creating healthier, self-reliant rural communities.

Desai Foundation in the Media FY 2025

We are deeply honored to be featured in these esteemed publications, shining a spotlight on our mission to advance health, livelihood, and menstrual equity in India. This recognition inspires us to continue our work with even greater dedication.



In the Headlines Across India FY 2025

Celebrating our programs featured in local and state newspapers, shining a spotlight on the impact of the Desai Foundation in communities nationwide.



PREVIOUSLY FEATURED IN

Forbes

GOOD MORNING AMERICA

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

MSNBC

ELLE

marie claire

The Boston Globe

Hindustan Times

ALJAZEERA

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Our Team



Megha Desai
President



Mittal Gohil
Executive Director



Yati Desai
Deputy Executive
Director



Parissa Nowshadi
Chief Operating Officer



Manoj Panda
Director of Development



Pratik Parekh
Sr. Program Manager



Colby Siegel
Partnerships & Special
Projects Manager



Megha Verma
Digital Marketing and
Communication Manager



**Abhinab Shaky
Pradhan**
Operations Manager



Brighton Kaoma
Special Initiatives and
Insights Manager



Divyesh Markana
Development Manager



Atul Singh
Program Manager



Pranav Pratap Singh
Program Manager



Ravi Patel
Program Manager



Neelam Chauhan
Program Manager



Pragya Gupta
Program Manager



Yogendra Sisodiya
Manager of Accounts



Hina Patel
Data Manager



Priyanka Dhimmar
Admin Officer



Pratik Idodara
Account Officer



Payal Prajapati
Program Coordinator



Rameshvari Mahla
Asani Area Coordinator



Yash Choudhary
Development Executive



Suman
Executive Administrator



Monika Singh
Program Executive



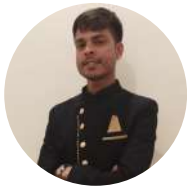
Kiruthiga Anand
Program Executive



Vishal Pethani
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Shailaja Desai
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Indumati Debi
Area Coordinator



Jinal Patel
Area Coordinator



Awantika Singh
Area Coordinator



Hemantkumar Sharma
Area Coordinator



Sunil Prajapat
Area Coordinator



Shanti Pal
Area Coordinator



Vinaya Naik
Area Coordinator



Vandana Nishad
Sales and Data Operator



Shital Patel
Field Officer



Umesh Marathi
Field Officer



Pratik Patel
Asani Technician



Vikas Patel
Driver



Dhaval Dhimmar
Driver

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Founder
Board of Directors, USA
CEO of Aditi Inc.



Moha Desai
Board of Directors, USA
Healthcare Strategist



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Businessman



Vikram Parekh
Board of Directors, India
Businessman



Dipika Desai
Board of Directors, India
CFO at Getwell Board &
Paper Pvt. Ltd

WELCOMING DR. NAMITA GUPTA TO THE DESAI FOUNDATION USA BOARD



Dr. Namita Gupta
Board of Directors, USA
Co-Founder of Restocq

We're excited to welcome Dr. Namita Gupta, co-founder of Restocq and a powerhouse in the dental industry, to our USA Board of Directors! Based in Australia, she is helping expand our community and fundraising there. Through our new partnership with Myriad Australia, Australian donors can now make tax-deductible contributions to support the Desai Foundation's dignity-driven programs in over 3,750 villages in rural India.



Leadership Council & Advisors



Nishith Acharya
CEO of Equal Innovation



Kara Gustafson
Economic Impact
Specialist



Deepika Sawhney
Leader in Education



Rakesh Kamdar
Founder of DB
Healthcare, Inc.



Vikas Desai
Medical Intervention
Specialist



Eshani Shah
Co-Owner S4, Inc



Courtesy of Priyanka Rao Photography

Ways to Give



Scan to Donate:



Send a Check to:
The Desai Foundation
300 Tradecenter Dr., Suite 3450
Woburn, MA 01801



Bright Funds

Or Visit:
**[TheDesaiFoundation.org/
take-action/donate](https://TheDesaiFoundation.org/take-action/donate)**

Your Support Empowers Women & Girls to #DreamBeyond

Do you want to support women and girls in rural India to dream beyond their circumstances? Check out the many ways you can join us in this mission!

MAKE A DONATION



DONATE ON OUR WEBSITE

To get started, visit
[www.thedesaifoundation.org/
donate-now](http://www.thedesaifoundation.org/donate-now)



MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS

If your company has a matching gift program, apply for a matching gift and increase your impact!



CORPORATE PROGRAMS

If your company has a CSR program, introduce them to our work and encourage them to make a gift.



LEGACY GIVING

Legacy Giving helps ensure lasting support for rural communities in India, empowering future generations through programs that promote health, livelihood, and sustainable development.



CRYPTOCURRENCY & DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donate crypto as a non-taxable event, or recommend a grant to The Desai Foundation.

TAKE ACTION

ATTEND AN EVENT

Enjoy yourself while also supporting a good cause by attending an event hosted by The Desai Foundation.

PLEDGE YOUR PERIOD

Join the campaign on social media during Menstrual Hygiene Month next May!

HOST A COCKTAILS & CHAAT PARTY

We provide the toolkit!

DONATE YOUR BIRTHDAY

Creating a birthday campaign is a piece of cake. We'll walk you through the steps!

VOLUNTEER

Contribute time, ideas and energy to our causes. You might even get school credit!

INTERN

Enhance your skills and knowledge with an internship while also contributing to a greater cause.



SHOP WITH OUR PARTNERS WHO GIVE BACK TO US

Our 1% Partners aren't just brands, they're changemakers. With every sale, they invest in a future where women and girls can thrive with dignity. From luxury beauty to artisan spices to statement fashion, these partners prove that doing good and doing business go hand in hand.



RANAVAT

Ayurvedic luxury skincare crafted with care. A portion of every purchase supports The Desai Foundation's work empowering women and children in underserved communities.



NAIDU

Elegant, small-batch wines inspired by tradition and innovation. Your purchase helps fund health, education, and livelihood programs through The Desai Foundation's impactful initiatives.



SPICEWELL

Nutritious, flavor-packed spices designed to elevate meals and well-being. Every jar you buy supports The Desai Foundation's mission to empower rural communities in India.



Bold, single-origin spices sourced directly from farmers. In partnership with Floyd Cardoz Legacy Masalas, sales help fuel The Desai Foundation's transformative community programs.



LINGUA FRANCA

Hand-embroidered cashmere with meaningful messages. Each sweater purchased contributes to The Desai Foundation's efforts to create sustainable opportunities for women and children in need.



Curated home décor with a soulful, global touch. They provide beautiful décor and event sponsorships, and we're proud to partner with them. Your purchase supports The Desai Foundation's mission to uplift women and children.

Traveling to India? Come Visit Our Programs in a Nearby Village!



You're invited to witness the change you made possible!

From the heartlands of Gujarat to the hills of Tamil Nadu, our programs are changing lives every day. We invite you to see our impactful programming firsthand.

Whether you're here for business or family time, take a day (or a few) to visit a project site. Meet the women and children whose lives have changed, because of your support.

Program Highlights

Meet our
beneficiaries



Visit a Pad
Production Unit

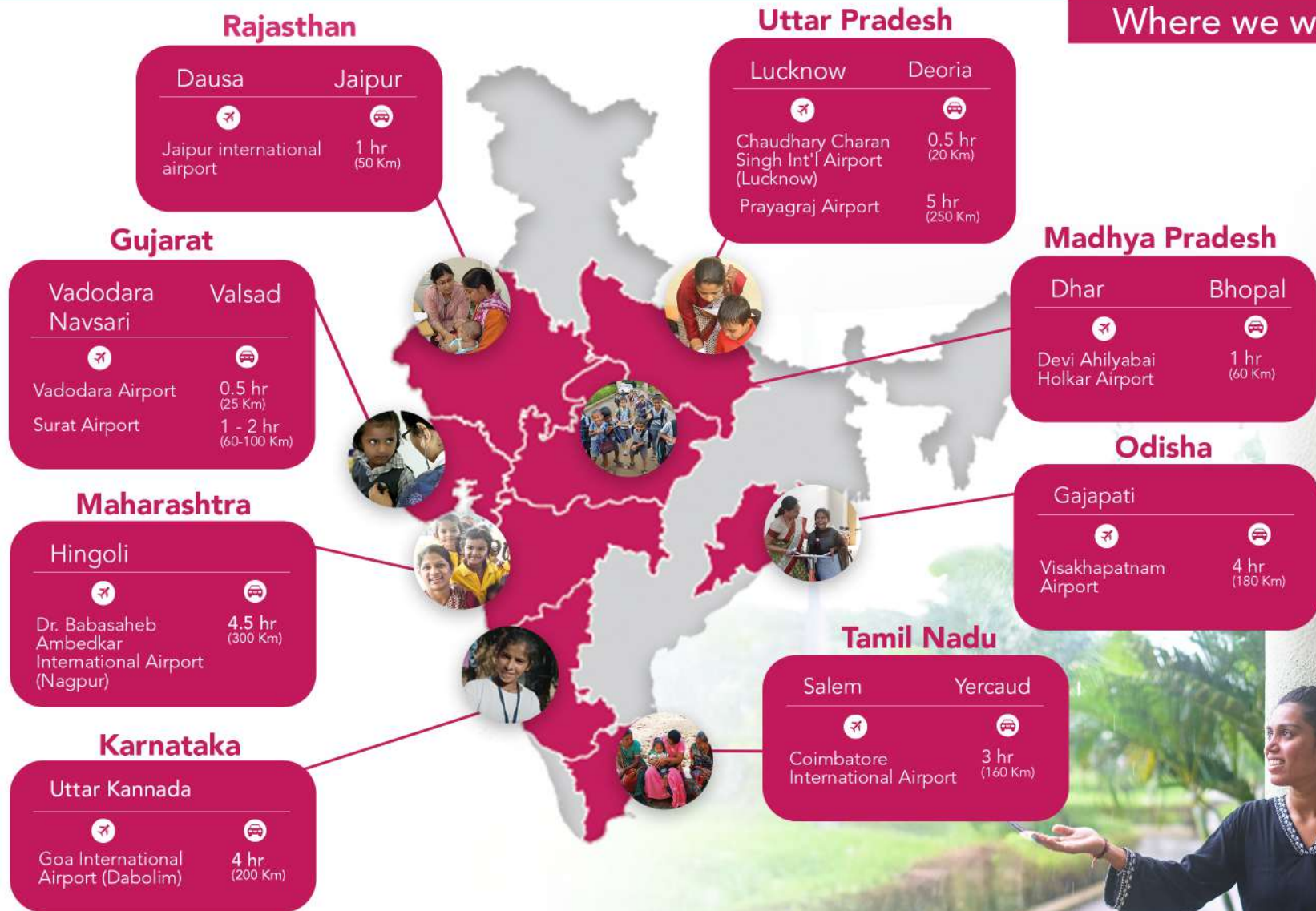


Witness a
program in
action



We hope to see you in India!

Where we work



Contact us at info@desaifoundationtrust.org and we'll help curate a meaningful field experience during your stay.

Join our Youth Internship Program in India



Real-time volunteering in health, livelihood, and menstrual equity programs



Open to high school juniors/seniors & college students

Apply for a once-in-a-lifetime transformative experience that combines service, purpose, and self-discovery.



Apply Now

 info@thedesafoundation.org

Subject Line: Youth Internship

A heartfelt thank you to **Priyanca Rao** for capturing the stunning images of our beneficiaries and programming featured throughout this year's Annual Report. Your visit to our programs in India last year brought these moments to life, and your lens beautifully reflects the heart of our mission.





Connect With Us!



@Desai Foundation



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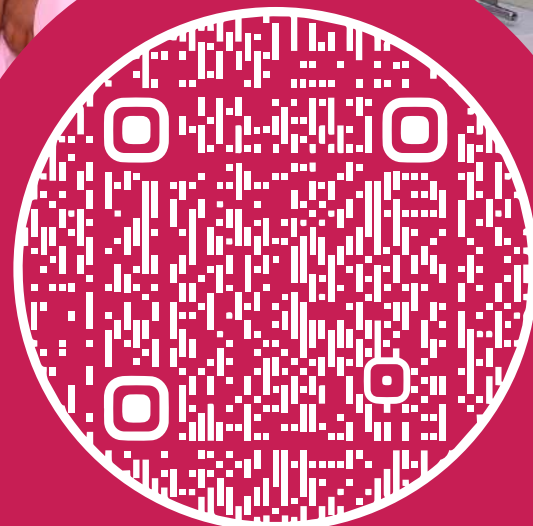
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SCAN TO DONATE