

Working in Partnership with People

People are the first and best response against the many challenges facing our world, from climate change to the persistent COVID-19 pandemic. Since the beginning, PRASAD has been partnering with people to empower them and improve their quality of life, protect and restore natural resources, and advocate for equity and dignity for all.

All these issues are interconnected. How empowered people feel impacts their collective ability to improve and make progress. The stories we share help us imagine a better future for all.

Breaking Stereotypes



Pranjal Pramod Patil wanted to break stereotypes imposed on women to become homemakers. She graduated from Mumbai University and hoped to pursue a Master's degree. But without the means to pay for graduate studies, her parents arranged a marriage for her.

A PRASAD Chikitsa outreach worker encouraged Pranjal to form a Self-Help Group. Pranjal, wanting to do something for the economic upliftment of the women in her community, agreed and started a group with 12 women in 2016. Initially, the women sought help for their household needs. Now, they are becoming entrepreneurs, opening small businesses, like Pranjal's clothing shop, that fulfill local needs and bring economic stability to their families.

Pranjal commented, "Since my children started going to school, the financial burden increased a lot, but now with the added income from my shop, I am able to manage the expense."

Continue to Dream of a Good Future



This is the story of Adil, a hard-working young man from Vajreshwari village. He is twenty years old and lives in a small, rented room with his two siblings and his parents. His father, Shakil, works in the local factory but struggles to support the family with his limited earnings. Adil and his mother, Anjana, supplement the family income with part-

time work.

Adil was in his final year of high school when his family realized they couldn't afford the fees for him to graduate. Anjana learned about PRASAD Chikitsa's scholarship initiative and decided to apply for her son.

Anjana was thrilled when PRASAD Chikitsa granted them the amount needed to cover his expenses. "If we didn't pay the fees, Adil would not be allowed to take his final year exam. Thanks to PRASAD, we can continue to dream of a good future for our son and family," she said gratefully.

SO MANY LIVES IMPROVED IN SUSTAINABLE WAYS

In India to date PRASAD Chikitsa has already improved the lives of the people in the Tansa Valley by offering:

- Over **1,060,000 people** Mobile Hospital health care services
- **1,300,000** Milk and Nutrition servings
- **255,000 villagers** have received eyecare, screenings and surgeries
- **380,000 patient visits** to the Medical Centre
- **3,100 women** are now in the women's Self-Help Groups
- **99,000 saplings have been distributed** in the Tree Planting & Floriculture programme.



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