

UPDATE

January & February -2025

tenderheart
small things done in great love!



Dear prayer partners and supporters,

Greetings from India!

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and support for our work in India. Over the months we have been greatly encouraged by the responses we have received from the people whose lives have been touched through our various projects.



Since 2008 Tender Heart has served as a gateway to education and give socioeconomic mobility to families in the states of Goa and North Karnataka. Our mission has always been more than just a statement. We responded to the COVID 19 lock down and the floods in Karnataka by providing groceries and household necessities. We have equipped young people with the skills to continue to higher education, provided jobs and offered opportunities for communities to live and work with dignity.

We are only able to help these people because you faithfully stand with us through financially giving and praying. We trust that as you read this update you will be blessed and encouraged knowing your support is changing lives and transforming communities.

Tailoring Training Centres: An Initiative to Change the Lifestyle of women

At Present we have 5 tailoring centres in Goa and Karnataka. Ninety girls are going through the six months course. In 2024 over one hundred and seventy women have graduated. **Between December 2024 to January 2025, we had three graduations were over fifty-five girls graduated.** The students shared wonderful testimonies of how the tailoring and embroidery training was a turning point in their life.

On January 29th we had a graduation ceremony for 12 women who had completed their 6 months training in tailoring and embroidery.

The highlight of the graduation apart from all the singing and the celebrating, was the testimonies of the students. Each student shared how this training has given them confidence and courage to face life and stand on their own feet.



Transformed stories...



Yeshoda, Aged 38, explained, with her newly presented certificate in hand, how the tailoring course has changed the whole outlook of her future. Her husband is an alcoholic, and she has two children who often went to bed without food.

She has seen only tears in life, and often worried about the future of her two children. Many times, she thought of ending her life, but she decided to live for them. Not having any education or skills, she was working as a maid in different houses. When she learned about our free tailoring course, she enrolled herself on the six-month course.

Learning tailoring was not easy for her, she didn't have any previous training. In the mornings she would come for training and in the afternoons, she would go to work as a maid. But she was very determined to finish the six months training.

Now, because of the tailoring school, she has a stable way of making a living for herself and her two children and feels that she now has a future.

My dream of studying college fulfilled: Laxmi, Age 21

"I always wanted to go to college to study after completing high school but my parents could not afford to send me to collage. My parents are farmers, but the money they earn is not enough to feed the family. Because of the lack of finances my parents told me they can't afford to send me to collage, they asked me to join them working in the field or to get a job. I was so discouraged thinking about my future, I went into depression, I wanted to study more, I wanted to be a teacher, but I had to give up my dream.

I came to know about the tailoring training through a friend, but I thought it would be too expensive for me to join. Then I came to know that it is a free six-month course, so I enrolled into training.

It was hard in the beginning. But I reminded myself that working in the field under the sun is much more difficult than learning a new skill. I was motivated to learn, my teacher and co-students encourage me not give up but keep learning.

I completed the six months training in June 2024. Since my graduation I am working stitching cloths for others and have saved Rs 40,000 rupees so I can go to college and finish my degree"



Pre-Schools: Changing lives through education

At Tender Heart foundation our dream is to give opportunity to underprivileged children to fulfil their highest potential. This means education first. ***At present we have six pre-schools and a total 370 children getting free English medium education.***

We aim to be more than just an educational institution; it's a supportive community that cares for the well-being of its students. The preschool teachers are dedication to helping those truly in need. They are trained to help students socially and emotional as well as academically.

We strive to care for the whole child, whatever their needs are, our aim is to show them love and care through the way we educate them.

Vedant excitedly joined our Tender Heart Nursery class June-2024, but tragically, a week later, his mother passed away, leaving him devastated. He spent the next few months with his family in their village, trying to cope with the loss.

As expected, Vedant struggled to adjust. His behavior deteriorated and he started using inappropriate language, showed no interest in personal hygiene and was disinterested in his studies.

Our teachers recognized Vedant's struggles and quickly took steps to support him. We provided him with emotional support and guided him in developing good habits in hygiene and self-care along with encouraged him to focus on his studies

Over the course of this year Vedant has undergone a remarkable transformation. Through the diligent care of his class teacher, he is a model student, he has developed a keen interest in his studies and shown significant improvement, not only in literacy, but his overall academic performance.



Computer Training: *Creating job opportunities for youth*

At present we have 8 young people on the 3-month training course. This course equips them with a basic knowledge of computers, giving them a better chance of gaining employment which intern helps them earn money for their families. Some of the young people on the course are still students but have not had any experience of using a computer. They never thought that they would have the opportunity to learn because of the backgrounds they are from.



“Due to the financial situation at home, I was not able to continue my studies. My parents were putting a lot of pressure on me to get a job and earn money. I did not have any skills and I was not able to get any work, I am also underage. I dreamed of learning the computer and working in an office, but I was not able to afford the studies. But Tender Heart gave me the opportunity to learn and helped me with free training, **now my dream is fulfilled. This training will help my future and will help me to do well**” Ramesh, age 16.

Micro Finance: Rebuilding lives

"I lost my husband about one and half year ago in an accident. I lost hope and went into depression. I have two grown up children studying in collage. I was very concerned about how I was going to pay their collage fees and help them with their studies.

I was thinking to ask my son to drop out of college to find a job, that way he can take care of my daughter's education and help bring some income for family maintenance. But I know that my son has a dream to study well and get a stable job in the future.

I am good at two things; one is tailoring and the second is making Momos. So, I started to cook Momos, selling them to the fast-food restaurant nearby our house, I started making money, but it was not enough to meet our needs.

I was thinking, if I could get a new tailoring machine, I could start a stitching business, but I did not have enough money or savings to do that. I want to say "thank you" to Tender Heart Foundation for giving me a free tailoring machine.

In the past one month I have started tailoring cloths and am now making enough money to support my two children's education.



**“Thank
you”**

Thank you: Thank you for your financial support. Every seed that you sow is used to help fulfil our vision of "providing Education to every child, Feeding the hungry and Teaching new skills" Together we are making a difference and transforming lives.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us as we together making a difference.

Francis and Alison Pidugu

On behalf Tender Heart

To support Tender Heart Foundation financially

Please mention that donation designated to Tender Heart Foundation

For information and for gift aid form you can sent email to

Janet janet@amentrust.co.uk OR Robert Perry rperry4851@aol.com

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