



Be the Change and Be the Enjoy
Hope Begins Where Help Reaches!
Khushi for All — Change for Good!!

Annual Report 2024 -25



One Change, One Community



Bureau of Obligate and Accompanier for Rural Development (BOARD)

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Managing Director's Desk.....

Dear friends, times are changing fast, and so are the challenges in our society. It is a time to learn, adapt, and act together.

Bureau of Obligate and Accompanier for Rural Development (BOARD), along with its dedicated team and supporters, continues to walk on the path of service with courage and commitment.

Our Women Empowerment and HIV/AIDS Awareness Program has been implemented successfully with community participation. Working with small and rural communities in Patna and Nalanda districts has brought both challenges and rewards. Together with local partners, we are creating opportunities for women, youth, and adolescents to live a life of dignity and hope.

Our education and skill training projects in Daniawan, Fatuha and Karai Parsurai blocks have helped many poor girls and women to learn new skills and earn livelihoods. Through life education and coaching, we are seeing young girls becoming confident and self-reliant. Due to the growing demand for our programs, we are developing new income-generation models that include financial inclusion for poor families.

We are also addressing health, hygiene, and HIV/AIDS prevention through awareness and counseling. Our team works closely with schools, health workers, and local hospitals to promote better health practices and responsible behavior among adolescents and youth. It is heartening to see rural communities taking ownership of these changes.

In the past year, BOARD has touched the lives of more than 4,000 people—youth, women, and children—through our education, health, and empowerment programs. Our efforts supported by donors like the Mercury Phoenix Trust (UK), Tzedek, UK and The Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust, UK have been recognized and appreciated globally. Activities like health awareness sessions and quiz competitions have helped rural youth learn and express their talents with pride.

We strongly believe that change begins –

When women and girls are empowered and treated equally.

When women get education, skills and respect, families & communities grow stronger.

As we complete 28 years of service, I express my deep gratitude to our Board members, donors, supporters, and team members. Together, we will continue to bring Khushi (happiness) and hope to those who need it most.

Let us move forward – where help reaches, hope begins!

Naresh Chandra Verma

Managing Director

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ABOUT US

Bureau of Obligate and Accompanier for Rural Development (BOARD) is a non-profit social organization working in Bihar since 1995. It aims to improve the lives of the poor and marginalized people, especially women and children. BOARD works in Patna and Nalanda districts on education, health, livelihood, human rights, and poverty alleviation. Founded by Shri Naresh Chandra Verma and a dedicated team, BOARD believes in community participation for self-reliance, dignity, and social empowerment.



VISION

To promote and advocate for the creation of a society that is free from discrimination, logical, and balanced, ensuring that the poorer sections of society share the benefits of development equally.

MISSION

BOARD is committed to fostering people-centered development, focusing on underserved and marginalized individuals and communities through participatory processes that empower them to claim and reclaim their human rights, including the right to life, dignity, food, land, and livelihood.

GOAL

BOARD is dedicated to shaping a more equitable society by concentrating on critical areas such as Education & Skill Training, Health & Family Welfare, Livelihood, Community Development, Ecological Awareness, and the Rights of Women and Children.

Strategic Interventions to Realize Our Goal

1. Partnership Approach: Working with government, NGOs, and communities for joint rural development.
2. Sustainable Livelihoods: Promoting income, food security, ecology, and women empowerment.
3. Organizational Growth: Building a strong team through training and leadership.
4. Research and Learning: Improving work through regular review and learning.
5. Use of Technology: Using technology for better planning and wider impact.



Legal Status:

- Registered under the Indian Trust Act, 1882, by Registrar, Govt. of Bihar. Reg. No. IV/17dated 29.11.1995.
- Registered under FC (Regulation) Act, 1976, by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India. Reg. No. 031170172 dated 24.02.2000. Certificate valid till 30th June, 2027.
- Income Tax Act, 1961 of the section 12 (A),
- PAN No. AAATB6075G
- Niti Aayog Unique ID Number – BR/2009/0006776
- GuideStar India Unique ID Number – 4430

OUR RESOURCE PROVIDERS

- The Mercury Phoenix Trust, UK
- Tzedek, UK
- The Eleanor Rathbone Trust, UK
- Global India Fund, USA
- District Rural Development Authority, Govt. of Bihar
- Women Development Corporation, Govt. of Bihar

OUR PROGRAMETIC SUPPORTERS

- GuideStar India, Mumbai
- Samhita Social Ventures, Mumbai,
- Voluntary Action Network of India, New Delhi
- Bihar Voluntary Health Association, Patna
- International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW), New Delhi
- Lutheran World Relief, Washington, D.C.
- We Can, U.S
- Interfaith America
- OLAM, UK
- Team Maanch, UK

HUMAN RESOURCE COMPOSITION:

As on March 31, 2025

Gender	Full -time Staff	Part -time Staff	Consultants	Volunteers
Male	04	02	02	05
Female	05	03	02	06
Total	09	05	04	11

BOARD is governed by the following personalities:

Name	Age	Sex	Designation	Experiences in Issues	Meetings attended
Mr. Naresh Chandra Verma	62	M	Managing Director	Social Management & Rural Development	5/5
Mr. Omkar Pd. Singh	63	M	Director	Rural Development & BCC	3/5
Ms. Annapam Niti	39	F	Director	Health and Livelihood Service	3/5
Ms. Nirmala Kumari	58	F	Director	Community Mobilization	5/5
Ms. Sangeeta Kumari	53	F	Treasurer	Office & Finance Management	5/5

OUR JOURNEY FOR



SOCIAL SUPPORT



SKILL DEVELOPMENT



HEALTH PROGRAM

SINCE INCEPTION, WE WORK CLOSELY WITH COMMUNITIES TO DELIVER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES ACROSS KEY AREAS, CREATING LASTING IMPACT.



EDUCATION



LIVELIHOOD INITIATIVES

COMMUNITY AWARENESS



What We Do

- * We uplift communities through engaging programs for children.
- * We empower rural women & girls with essential skills training.
- * We enhance community well-being with better healthcare access.
- * We strengthen education to create lasting opportunities.

Why We Do It

We act to elevate and include, inspiring hope that a brighter tomorrow is possible. We do it out of our deep commitment to humanity.

Program Highlights: Last Year's Successes

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY

Overview: Women empowerment in Bihar means giving strength, respect, and equal opportunities to women in every area of life — social, economic, and political. It is about ensuring that women stand with confidence, have their own identity, and can make decisions for themselves and their families.

Our goal is to promote gender equality by improving women's education, health, skills, and financial independence. In many villages, women still face traditional and cultural challenges, but through collective efforts, awareness, and support, we can bring real change. Our programs aim to help women become self-reliant, respected, and active members of their communities. Programs under Women Empowerment Theme

Partnering for Gender-Equitable Education and Youth Advocacy

BOARD has launched a special initiative for adolescents to build a "Safe Village." The program works closely with schools to introduce simple and practical gender education modules covering topics such as safe and unsafe touch, body awareness, menstruation, emotional changes, and breaking traditional gender stereotypes.

The main focus is to give young girls and boy's confidence to speak openly, understand equality, and make respectful choices. Many adolescent girls who earlier stayed silent or dropped out are now encouraged sharing their views and continuing their studies.

Teachers, education officers, and community stakeholders are trained to promote gender-friendly classrooms. Schools have conducted Gender Audits and Safety Audits to ensure equal opportunities and a safe learning space for all children.

Twice a year, creative awareness campaigns are held using storytelling, street plays, debates, and art activities. These programs teach children that every person deserves respect and safety.

Young women leaders are also being trained on important issues such as gender-based violence, reproductive and mental health, and digital literacy, so they can become strong role models and change-makers in their villages and communities.

(a) **Activities and School Programs for Gender Equity:** Gender equity sessions were conducted in four high schools across Daniawan and Nagarnousa development

blocks, involving more than 800 students (243 boys & 609 girls). These sessions encouraged boys to help household work and had motivated girls to dream bigger like learning to ride bicycles or preparing for professional careers.

Workshops on mental health and peer pressure reached around 1,200 children, helping them build self-confidence and empathy.

On World Girls' Education Day, about 287 students participated in programs promoting equal education, prevention of child marriage, and gender equality.



A marginalized community exhibition taught 98 students about traditional livelihoods and cultural respect. On International Women’s Day, 55 students joined a campaign encouraging girls to learn technology and use mobile phones confidently.

These small yet meaningful steps are bringing visible change —boys now support their mothers in using mobile phones, while girls feel more confident, independent, and respected. Students also learned to value and include children with disabilities and those from different backgrounds and lifestyles.

- (b) **Working with Teachers for Inclusive Education:** Teachers play a crucial role in shaping children’s values and mindset, especially in rural areas. To strengthen this, we trained 61 teachers from the Daniawan and Nagarnousa blocks on gender sensitivity, equality, and preventing sexual harassment in schools. The training helped them understand how to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students, regardless of gender or background.



Through workshops, teachers learned effective, inclusive teaching methods that cater to all students, including those with special needs or different social backgrounds. We also focused on helping teachers develop a gender-sensitive curriculum, ensuring that both women and men’s achievements are equally highlighted in lessons. This approach promotes fairness and gives students a balanced view of history and society.

By encouraging teachers to make classroom lessons more relevant and inclusive, we are working to ensure that every student feels valued and respected. This initiative is designed to break down barriers in education and create a more equal, empowering learning experience for children in rural areas. With these efforts, we aim to build a future where no child is left behind, and all children—regardless of gender or background—are given equal opportunities to succeed.

Impact

These continuous efforts have created visible change. Girls and boys are learning mutual respect and equality, parents are becoming more supportive, and schools are turning into safer and more welcoming spaces. The community is gradually recognizing the strength of empowered women and confident youth.

True women empowerment is not only about education or income — it is about changing mindsets, building confidence, and creating equality in everyday life.

Economic Empowerment and Climate Change Management in Rural Areas

In rural areas, where poor families rely on multiple income sources, livelihood support focuses on four key sectors: agriculture, horticulture, livestock, and micro-enterprises. Over time, our teams have developed livelihood models under Poverty Alleviation Initiatives that are tailored to local resources and conditions. This year, women's groups reached out to 224 women, making up 27% of the total households in the Self-Help Group (SHG) network, engaging them in various livelihood activities.

Farm-Based Livelihoods

Our approach to farm-based livelihoods focuses on better natural resource management to ensure food security throughout the year. The goal is to help families earn enough income from their own land to sustain themselves, without the need to migrate for work.



Agricultural activities were planned through consultations with women farmers, volunteers, local experts, and government officials. Cluster-level meetings were held to involve more people in improving farming practices. Vegetable farming has become a key source of income, with about 22% of agricultural households now growing different types of vegetables. In total, 142 families have engaged in agriculture and horticulture, covering 78 hectares of land.

By using improved seeds, treating old seeds, setting up short-duration nurseries, and adopting new farming techniques, these families have seen better returns. Diversifying crops with locally suited vegetables has improved both nutrition and income stability, moving away from the risky monoculture farming practices.

Goat Farming



Goat rearing is becoming an important livelihood activity in rural areas. Currently, 185 families across more than 10 villages (04 villages in Shahjahanpur Panchayat of Daniawan block in Patna district and 06 villages in Ariawan Panchayat of Nagarnousa block in Nalanda district) are involved in goat farming. Initially, women-led groups started small, but with financial support from BOARD organization under the Poverty Alleviation

Program, they have expanded. Today, nearly 50% of these families earn more than Rs.10,000/- annually. By adopting improved breeding practices and providing regular health care, the success of goat farming has increased. These efforts are helping families become financially independent and improve their overall livelihoods, leading to better economic stability and growth.

Climate Change Program

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges we face today. It is causing severe changes in weather patterns, leading to extreme conditions like heavy rainfall, droughts, floods, and rising temperatures. These changes are affecting our crops, water resources, and the overall livelihood of farmers and rural communities. To address these issues and help rural communities adapt, Board Trust has developed a Climate Change Program.

Program Goals:

The main goal of the Climate Change Program is to raise awareness about the impacts of climate change and implement practical solutions to help farmers adapt. This includes educating farmers, promoting practices like organic farming, rainwater harvesting, and crop rotation, as well as adopting disaster preparedness strategies and encouraging community engagement.

Activities Undertaken:

Workshops and Training Sessions: We organized regular workshops and training sessions by agriculture expert for farmers to understand climate change, weather patterns, and how to adopt sustainable farming methods. A total of 106 farmers, including women, participated in these sessions. They learned about climate-resilient seeds, water conservation tools, and organic fertilizers. The knowledge shared was tailored to the local needs of the community.

Climate-Smart Agriculture:



We have focused on promoting climate-smart agriculture techniques such as intercropping, agro forestry, and biological pest control. These methods are helping farmers reduce the negative effects of climate change on their crops and improve overall farm resilience. Collected basic scientific information on crop, soil, water and environmental sustainability to develop and

monitor qualitative indicators in the watersheds.

Water Conservation and Emergency Response:



We have introduced rainwater harvesting systems and efficient irrigation techniques to ensure a stable water supply, even during droughts.

Additionally, we have formed community response teams to provide first aid, food, and support during natural disasters like floods and droughts, ensuring the safety and well-being of all community members.

This approach helps farmers adapt and build resilience to changing climate conditions.

Entrepreneurship Development Program:

The Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) for women is a key initiative aimed at empowering women by providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge to start and run their own businesses. The focus is on rural women who face challenges due to limited resources, lack of education, and socio-economic barriers. The program is designed to support women by offering business training, financial literacy, and other essential entrepreneurial skills.

Objectives:

1. To promote self-employment and entrepreneurship among rural women.
2. To provide necessary business skills and training for women to start their own small businesses.
3. To boost women's economic independence and contribute to rural economic growth.

Activities undertaken:

- (a) **Training Programs:** Two ED training sessions were organized in Shahjahanpur and Fatuha, both located in Patna district, Bihar. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including basic business concepts, financial management, marketing strategies, and effective management of small-scale businesses.



These sessions were conducted over three days in two separate batches, with a total of 63 young women participating. The training was delivered in simple, easy-to-understand language, tailored to the literacy levels and rural context of the participants, ensuring that the content was accessible and relevant to their needs.

- (b) **Workshops on Skill Development:** Workshops on tailoring, agriculture-based entrepreneurship, and dairy farming have been conducted in Fatuha block to equip women with practical skills tailored to their local context. These workshops aim to empower women by teaching hands-on skills that can be directly applied in their daily lives, enabling them to start small businesses within their communities.



A total of 132 women from various villages participated, learning valuable techniques to enhance their livelihoods and achieve financial independence. By focusing on local resources and needs, these workshops will help women establish sustainable enterprises, thereby contributing to rural economic growth.

(c) Financial Literacy Sessions: Among the beneficiaries, special sessions on financial literacy have been conducted, covering topics like saving, money management, and accessing micro-financing. These sessions help women understand how to handle business finances effectively, make informed decisions about loans, and manage investments. The goal is to empower women with the knowledge to make sound financial choices for their businesses.

Impact:

The response from the women beneficiaries has been very positive. Many have successfully started small businesses such as tailoring, food processing, and selling local crafts. In several areas, women have formed Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), where they pool resources and share knowledge through monthly meetings. These groups have not only created employment opportunities for women but have also boosted the local economy by improving access to quality products and services. As a result, women are now able to contribute more actively to their communities and support their families financially.

Conclusion: The Entrepreneurship Development Program has made a significant impact on rural women in our intensive areas. By providing the right tools, training, and support, the program has helped women become more self-reliant and confident in their abilities. Moving forward, it is crucial to continue and expand such initiatives to reach more women, enabling them to become successful entrepreneurs and play an active role in rural development across our vision areas.

The Financial Literacy Program

Gramin Chetna Diksha is a financial literacy program launched by BOARD in 2018 in the name of Magalam Diksha, aimed at empowering low-income families with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed financial decisions and reduce financial risks. The program focuses on two key aspects of financial inclusion: improving financial literacy and increasing access to financial services.

Key Components:

Financial Literacy Training:

Members receive detailed training on important topics like financial planning, budgeting, savings, borrowing options, and modern banking facilities (such as savings accounts, ATMs, cheque books, and cashless transactions).

Bank Account Assistance:

Participants are guided in opening savings bank accounts with local banks to ensure they have access to financial services.

Outcomes:

Training: A total of 82 women have completed the financial literacy training in the FY.

Bank Accounts: 73 new bank accounts have been opened for women participants.

Loans: 65 women successfully secured individual loans from BOARD's M F Unit.

Overall, Gramin Chetna Diksha has made a significant impact by enhancing financial literacy and helping women in underserved communities gain access to essential banking services, contributing to their financial independence.

EDUCATION & LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Vocational Training for Women and Girls: BOARD Trust works for poor and needy people and provides long term solutions to the problems caused by poverty. We believe that real change comes through self-development. When people acquire the proper training, skills, and small businesses, they gain power – power to earn, power to make decisions, and power to change their lives forever.

Our Life-Skills Training Program provides quality vocational training to women and youth who do not get such chances anywhere else. The training is professionally designed but kept simple, practical and suitable for rural background learners. Through this training, young women & girls get skills, confidence and support for job placement. The training center was first started for marginalized women and girls in Shahjahanpur village. Now it is also open for youth from nearby villages, slum areas and rural communities. Most trainees are school dropouts or have never received formal education. BOARD is operating Vocational Training Centers at Shahjahanpur Village and Fatuha Urban, which are managed by expert trainers and closely monitored by BOARD Management.

Life-skills training focus on hands-on learning, practical work and real-life skills. After completing the course, trainees receive a certificate and placement support. This helps them start earning and break the cycle of poverty they were born into.

Aims of the Program:

- To equip poor women with the skills to earn and live independently.
- To support adolescents with job-oriented training.
- To provide life-skills, vocational, and technical courses.
- To offer additional support like childcare, nutrition and educational assistance.
- To promote income-generation and self-help groups.
- To build self-confidence and unlock individual potential.

Key Trade Taught During the Year:



In the past year, 76 women and girls have received training in vocational skills like Tailoring & Embroidery and Entrepreneurship Management. In Tailoring, they learned to make garments, aprons, bags, and also perform mending tasks.

household items.

Embroidery training focused on decorative stitching and applying embroidery to garments and



These are providing skills courses to women and girls to provide them with new opportunities and inspire them to see a different future. They are curious to gain skills, find employment or work from home, provide services to their communities, and improve financial independence.



Apart from these, we also provided training in Basic Computer Skills, Entrepreneurship, and Financial Management to 24 girls. The Computer Applications course taught them how to use the Operating System, MS Office, and programming languages like C and C++, along with developing simple applications through project work.

These skills help trainees earn a living and create income-generating opportunities. All participants of computer course had at least a 10th-grade qualification, which allowed them to access this training and improve their skills for better livelihood options.

Poverty Alleviation Initiative

The Poverty Alleviation Program aims to uplift poor families by offering a variety of financial services through Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Joint Liability Groups (JLGs). The main goal is to make these services accessible at the lowest cost, right at the doorsteps of rural households. BOARD also focuses on creating both self-employment and wage employment opportunities to improve the community's livelihoods.

Since its inception, BOARD has partnered with organizations like Rashtriya Gramin Vikash Nidhi (RGVN) and Tzedek, UK, to provide financial support as business capital to underprivileged women using the JLG model. This model allows women who do not qualify for loans from traditional banks to access small loans. BOARD not only provides credit for basic needs but also for income-generating activities, along with insurance to safeguard lives and livelihoods.

BOARD's financial services have helped many families, especially women, become financially independent. Many SHGs have become self-sustainable, with members starting small businesses like selling vegetables, fruits, sweets, tea, and snacks.

Key Achievements:

- Trained 76 families in micro-enterprise development
- Formed 8 JLGs in Fatuha urban area
- Provided loans totaling Rs. 5,00,000 to 30 beneficiaries
- Offered loans ranging from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000 with a 99% recovery rate

The program is running successfully in the Fatuha and Daniawan blocks of Patna district, Bihar, significantly improving lives in rural areas.

Success Story



Sanju Devi, a 45-year-old woman from Shahjahanpur village in Daniawan block, joined the "Janani Mahila Sahayata Samooh" initiated by BOARD. Initially, her son was hesitant, fearing fraud, but Sanju was determined and decided to join. After receiving proper training, she was granted a capital loan Rs 30,000/- in March 2023 for cow rearing, she also contributes Rs 20,000 from own savings. This business brought her good profits after six months, and now she saves Rs 3,500 every month from milk and compost sales. Using her new skills, Sanju and her family also started vegetable farming, earning about Rs 30,000 annually. Sanju is extremely grateful to BOARD and their team for supporting her in building a better, more independent life.

Education Initiatives

Indiscipline and Lack of Values in Rural Education:

In rural areas, especially in places like Bihar, problems such as indiscipline, intolerance, and disrespect towards women and elders are on the rise. This is mainly due to a lack of communication between parents and children, as well as a lack of proper education or guidance on cultural and social values. As a result, many young people are becoming involved in anti-social activities.

To solve this, we held a meeting for primary school teachers in Shahjahanpur in April 2024, which was attended by 47 teachers from 6 different primary schools. This was part of our effort to improve education and instill values in children.

Making Education Accessible to Every Child (Universalization of Elementary Education)

Although India's literacy rate has gone up, there are still many illiterate people, especially in states like Bihar. Many children, particularly girls from poor backgrounds, either don't go to school or drop out early.



To address this, BOARD has set up 2 Non-Formal Education (NFE) centers in Shahjahanpur and Fatuha blocks. These centers are teaching 96 children (both boys and girls aged 6-14). The goal of these centers is:

- To ensure children learn the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic.
- To build moral values and good character.
- To prepare children for formal school education.



In May 2024, we conducted a 3-day training program for teachers at these centers, teaching them new and better ways to teach, including how to handle multi-grade classrooms effectively.

Challenges in Rural Education

While many villages in Bihar have schools, there are still many girls who remain illiterate. This is often because girls are needed at home to help with family work, or because they face other challenges in attending regular schools. Many girls drop out after Class V, as they can't continue their education due to various reasons.



To support these girls, BOARD has started two "Adolescent Girl Education Centers (AGEC)" in Salarpur and Kharbhai Panchayats, in the Daniawan block of Patna district. In the 2024-25 academic year, 72 girls benefited from these centers. These centers not only provide quality education but also focus on health education. Female teachers and health workers regularly visit

to conduct health check-ups, organize awareness camps, and hold health competitions.

This initiative has begun to change the community's mindset, with more and more families recognizing the importance of educating their daughters.

Inclusive Education for Every Child

BOARD is also working to make education inclusive for all children, regardless of their background or abilities. In Shahjahanpur Panchayat, we have an NFE center where 38 children, including 9 disabled children, are learning together. The center ensures there is no discrimination, and all children, whether able or disabled, are actively involved in school and community activities. This has led to a positive change in how the community views education for disabled and underprivileged children. Families and neighbors are now more supportive of their children's education.

Support for Underprivileged Children



Many children from poor families face difficulties in their education because their parents are uneducated or don't have enough time to help them. To help these children, BOARD has set up tutoring classes in Sonaru village, Fatuha block. These classes offer a safe and focused environment for children to learn, with personalized support for their studies. In 2024, 49 children benefited from this initiative.

Empowering Rural Youth through Spoken English for Better Job Opportunities

The program was started in November 2024 with the combined efforts of the English teacher of Fatuha High School and BOARD. The main aim of this program is to improve the English speaking skills of youth between the ages of 15 to 20, helping them get better job opportunities. It offers a 3-month Spoken English course.

This program is very beneficial for youth who are looking for good jobs but face challenges because of their lack of English speaking skills. Many youths have potential, but they miss out on opportunities simply because they cannot speak English confidently. This program gives them the chance to overcome this barrier and open door to better career options.

It has been very encouraging for the youth, providing them with a platform to learn, practice, and improves their English speaking skills. By the end of the course, participants are more confident and ready to face job interviews or work environments where English is required. The program is helping rural youth to dream bigger and achieve their goals, ultimately contributing to their personal and professional growth.

It has been very encouraging for 26 youth, providing them a platform to learn, practice and improve their English speaking skills. By the end of the course, the participant was more confident and prepared to face job interviews or work environments where English is required. This program is helping rural youth to dream big and achieve their goals, ultimately contributing to their personal and professional development.

Conclusion

BOARD's education initiatives are making a big difference in rural Bihar, especially for girls, disabled children, and children from poor families. By combining education with health and community awareness, we are creating long-lasting changes and giving these children a brighter future.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

Project: HIV/AIDS Prevention Education and Awareness Program among School Adolescents & youth

Target Groups:

- School Students (12–19 years) and Rural Youth (15–24 years)
- Secondary School Teachers
- Health Service Providers (HSPs), Parents, Rural Young Women

Why These Groups?

These groups were selected because they play a crucial role in spreading awareness and influencing their communities. By targeting adolescents, youth, teachers, and health service providers, the project aims to ensure that vital messages about HIV prevention reach even the most remote corners of rural Bihar. Engaging these groups helps create a ripple effect, spreading knowledge and changing behaviors across communities.

Brief Introduction:

HIV/AIDS remains one of the most significant public health challenges in India, and especially in Bihar. The lack of awareness, coupled with risky behaviors, contributes to the continued spread of the disease. This project is designed to address these issues by focusing on awareness and education. Through interactive sessions and community engagement, it aims to empower adolescents, youth, teachers, and health workers with the knowledge they need to prevent HIV and reduce its transmission.

Project Focus:

HIV/AIDS is one of the biggest health challenges in the world. It requires a global effort to stop new infections and ensure that those living with HIV have access to proper treatment. In Bihar, awareness and knowledge about HIV/AIDS are still limited. This project focuses on spreading information and raising awareness about HIV/AIDS through various activities like training workshops, rallies, assessments, and distributing information materials. These efforts will help build a foundation of knowledge and safe practices within the community.

Objectives:

- Increase knowledge about HIV/AIDS and prevention methods among target groups.
- Promote safe practices related to sexual health and reproductive rights, especially among adolescents and youth.
- To raise awareness in schools, families, and communities about how HIV is transmitted and how it can be prevented.

Activities Undertaken:

1. Educational Sessions: Workshops, seminars, and training programs for school students, teachers, and health service providers were organized. These sessions aimed to spread accurate knowledge about HIV/AIDS and prevention methods.

Progress: A one-day HIV/AIDS awareness workshop and sensitization meeting were successfully conducted with the support of experienced health experts and project staff. The main objective of the event was to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, its prevention, and its protection.



A total of 679 participants attended the workshop, including 509 school students, 58 teachers, 21 village health workers, 64 rural women, members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and 27 parents. The sessions covered topics on HIV/AIDS infections, sexual health, and the importance of prevention.

Keynote speeches were delivered by Naresh Chandra Verma, MD of BOARD, and Mrs. Pallavi Bharti, Gram Panchayat Mukhiya. They emphasized the roles of village health workers such as ANMs, ASHAs, AWWs, and the mothers of girls in reducing HIV risk.

The sessions were conducted by Rishi Prakash Gautam, Anupam Niti, Asmita Singh, and Mamta Singh, supported by Ruby Devi and Rekha Kumari. Presentations were followed by interactive discussions, role-playing activities, and Q&A sessions.

Topics Covered:

- Importance of open discussions about sex, sexuality, HIV, and condom use.
- Promoting accessible health services, including reproductive health and prevention of mother-to-child transmission.
- Protection of women's rights in the context of HIV risks.
- Enhancing awareness of sexual health among migrant workers' wives.
- Educational video presentation on HIV/AIDS in Hindi.

Participant Feedback:

The participants expressed satisfaction with the information provided, particularly regarding the vulnerability of migrant workers' wives, who are often illiterate and financially dependent. They suggested that more focused efforts are needed to increase HIV awareness in this vulnerable group.

Conclusion:

The sensitization meetings successfully increased awareness about HIV/AIDS. Participants demonstrated improved knowledge about safe practices and transmission methods. Continued educational efforts are essential to sustain and build upon these positive outcomes.

2. Pre- and Post-Test and Assessment:

Goal and Objective: The objective of this part of the project was to assess the knowledge and perceptions of HIV/AIDS among school students and rural youth before and after the educational interventions. The aim was to measure the effectiveness of the training and identify areas that require further attention.



Pre-Test Activities: A self-designed questionnaire was distributed to 509 participants, including both school students and rural youth. The questionnaire assessed their basic knowledge about HIV/AIDS, its transmission, and preventive measures.

Pre-Test Findings:

- *Many participants lacked comprehensive understanding of HIV/AIDS. Misconceptions such as HIV being transmitted through mosquitoes or shared utensils were common.*
- *Knowledge gaps were identified in key areas like the use of condoms, sterile needles, and understanding the modes of HIV transmission.*

Post-Test Activities: A post-test questionnaire was administered to the same participants to assess changes in knowledge and perceptions after the educational interventions. The responses were analyzed to evaluate improvements and identify any remaining misconceptions.



Post-Test Findings: The post-test study revealed significant improvements in the participants' knowledge about HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention:

- 84% correctly identified that HIV is not transmitted through casual contact like shaking hands or hugging.
- 89% recognized that sharing barber tools could potentially transmit HIV.
- 83% knew that sharing needles/syringes is a mode of HIV transmission.
- 91% understood that sexual contact is a primary route of HIV transmission

Knowledge of HIV Transmission Routes:

Sexual Contact: 91% of respondents identified sexual contact as a mode of transmission.

Breastfeeding: 79% acknowledged that HIV can be transmitted through breastfeeding.

Kissing: 70% correctly understood that HIV is not transmitted through kissing

Gender Differences: Overall, girls demonstrated better knowledge than boys about HIV/AIDS, including prevention methods and the risks associated with transmission.

Conclusion of Pre- and Post-Test: Pre- and post-assessment studies show that significant improvements were made in the knowledge of HIV transmission, prevention, and treatment among school students and rural youth. However, some misconceptions persist, particularly regarding transmission through casual contact. These findings indicate that while progress has been made, further education is needed to reinforce accurate information.

3. HIV/AIDS awareness workshop for School Students and Village Youth.



A total of 457 adolescents & youth (261 girls and 196 boys), both school-going and out-of-school, successfully participated in 08 workshops held at schools and community venues. The workshop structured into several interactive sessions, including presentations, group discussions, and role-playing activities. Each session was designed to address different

aspects of HIV/AIDS awareness and education. The workshops addressed several important issues, including:

- Causes and impacts of HIV/AIDS
- Possible actions and responses to mitigate the negative impacts of HIV/AIDS
- Open discussions about sex, sexuality, and HIV/AIDS with peers.

Thereby participants developed a stronger ability to assess and measure their commitments and actions within their communities. Discussions also included the impact of the HIV response on health and society, highlighting how HIV programs can shape current and future responses to the epidemic. Sustained and sustained efforts in education and community engagement are required to maintain and advance these positive outcomes.

Overall Conclusion: HIV/AIDS prevention education program in Bihar has made significant strides in improving knowledge and awareness among school students, teachers, rural youth, and health service providers. The pre- and post-test results clearly show a positive shift in understanding HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention methods. However, continued efforts are needed to address remaining misconceptions among migrant communities and vulnerable groups such as women and youth, especially in rural and deprived areas.

By providing interactive, engaging, and culturally relevant educational sessions, the program has created a foundation for better understanding of HIV/AIDS.

Adolescent Health & Protection Program

Sexual and Reproductive Health Program: Early sexual intercourse and early pregnancy are serious challenges for adolescent girls in Bihar. These issues not only harm their health but also limit their future prospects. Cultural beliefs, traditional practices, and negative attitudes often prevent young girls from accessing reproductive health services, depriving them of their basic rights. Most of the challenges adolescent girls face during their transition from childhood to adulthood are related to their sexual and reproductive health (SRH). There is an urgent need to provide better access to services such as contraceptives, HIV testing, and STI treatment. However, many adolescents face difficulties in accessing these services due to lack of information, confidentiality concerns, overcrowded health centers, and youth-unfriendly environments. The program aims to delay early marriage and pregnancy through various approaches that address these issues.

Activities Undertaken:

Adolescent Girls Groups: The program has established and empowered 20 adolescent girls' groups in marginalized communities of Daniawan block. These groups offer a safe and supportive space for girls to meet regularly and discuss important issues like sexual and reproductive health (SRH), HIV/AIDS, gender equality, human rights, education, and more. The girls share their experiences, raise awareness, and build confidence to make informed decisions about their health and future. They also work together on community initiatives to improve their own lives and the lives of others.



The impact of these groups has been significant. They have empowered the girls with the knowledge and skills needed to challenge harmful cultural norms, reduce early marriages, and improve their health. By coming together, the girls are building a strong network of support, creating lasting change in their communities, and inspiring others to take charge of their well-being.

SRH and Gender Training for Teachers:



A comprehensive training toolkit on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and gender was developed for school teachers. This toolkit helps teachers organize awareness sessions on SRH and gender equality for both boys and girls. The training equips teachers with skills and knowledge to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

As a result, students become more aware of their rights, health, and gender roles, and are encouraged to engage in open discussions about these sensitive topics. This initiative has helped foster a safe and respectful school atmosphere where both boys and girls can learn about their health, rights, and gender issues, ensuring better understanding and support among peers.

Educational Camps for Girls' Leaders: The program organized five-day camps for 32 girls who are leaders within their networks. These camps provided essential SRH information and focused on boosting self-esteem, building life skills, and promoting healthy relationships. The camps not only educated girls about their reproductive health but also helped them understand their rights and roles in society.



Additionally, these camps served as an alternative to traditional initiation ceremonies, providing a more positive and empowering experience for the girls. The outcome of these camps has been highly impactful, as many of the girls have returned to their communities with greater confidence and leadership skills, ready to promote change and raise awareness among their peers.

Baseline and Evaluation Studies: A baseline study was conducted at the start of the program to assess the current situation. This study serves as a benchmark to monitor progress and measure the effectiveness of the activities. It evaluated the health centers' adherence to youth-friendly service standards and the level of violence against girls in schools. These findings will help track improvements over time and guide future interventions. The evaluation has already shown significant improvements in the availability of youth-friendly services and a reduction in violence against girls, highlighting the positive impact of the program.

Impact and Outcome: *through these activities, the program aims to improve the sexual and reproductive health of adolescent girls, reduce early pregnancies and marriages, and create a safer, healthier environment for them. By empowering teachers, leaders, and the wider community, the program is helping girls gain the knowledge and confidence they need to make informed decisions, overcome societal barriers, and lead healthier lives. Ultimately, it's creating a foundation for girls to grow into strong, empowered women who can drive positive change in their communities.*

HIV/AIDS Awareness and Health Camp:

An HIV/AIDS awareness camp was organized in Karai Parsurai village, Nalanda district, Bihar. The local community leader inaugurated the event and spoke to the people about the importance of understanding HIV/AIDS. They encouraged everyone to take advantage of the services provided by BOARD and the Bihar State AIDS Control Society. The event focused on raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and its prevention. BOARD set up informative stalls to educate the community. A street play was performed by local artists, highlighting the importance of HIV/AIDS awareness and the treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The play conveyed key information in a simple, engaging way. To encourage community participation, a quiz competition was held, testing people's knowledge about HIV/AIDS. At the end of the event, prizes were distributed to the winners to motivate more people to learn and spread awareness. This event successfully engaged the community, spreading important information about HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and the services available to them. It also promoted active participation, making the community more aware and proactive in fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Promoting Menstrual Hygiene among Adolescent Girls in Rural Areas

Since 2020, BOARD has been making significant efforts to improve menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls in rural areas. BOARD has conducted hygiene classes and orientation programs to educate approximately 272 girls about the importance of menstrual hygiene and how to maintain it. These programs are designed to raise awareness among girls about the basic hygiene practices required during menstruation. BOARD uses Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to make these concepts easier for girls to understand.



Women staff members of BOARD have played a crucial role in helping the girls learn the proper use of toilets and in informing them about the availability of sanitary facilities such as changing rooms and incinerators. The most important aspect of BOARD's initiative is creating an open platform to discuss the challenges girls face during menstruation, especially in rural

areas. Common challenges include a lack of clean toilets, the stigma surrounding menstruation, and limited access to hygiene products. BOARD's programs have not only raised awareness but have also provided practical solutions. They have encouraged girls to use sanitary napkins regularly, which is essential for maintaining good menstrual hygiene.

Impact of BOARD's Initiatives

In Daniawan block, BOARD's efforts have brought about a remarkable change. BOARD mobilized Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and adolescent girls in 11 villages to promote the use of sanitary napkins. Result has been very positive: adolescent girls and young women in these villages are now using sanitary napkins regularly, significantly improving their menstrual health and hygiene.



The impact of BOARD's programs can also be seen in the transformation of young girls like Rina, Savitri, and Kiran. Initially, these girls were just passive participants in the hygiene programs, but over time, they became active advocates for menstrual hygiene in their community. Rina, Savitri, and Kiran took on leadership roles in their school and worked to ensure that sanitary facilities were maintained for girls during menstruation. Their dedication to this cause earned them praise from their school headmaster, who recognized them as capable and active students.

Rina and Savitri's stories reflect the broader impact of BOARD's work, which empowers adolescent girls to take leadership and drive change in their communities.

Behavior Change Communication



In addition to menstrual hygiene, BOARD has also launched behavior change communication programs in rural areas. These programs focus on important issues like hand washing, breastfeeding, immunization, girl child education, and awareness about HIV/AIDS. The goal is to build long-term healthy habits that improve the overall well-being of rural communities. BOARD has conducted

ten training sessions across several villages in Daniawan and Karai Parsurai blocks in this year to educate women and girls on these critical health issues. These training programs have also helped build a network of advocates for women's rights and health in rural areas.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV)



BOARD has been actively addressing gender-based violence (GBV) in rural areas, a serious issue that affects many women. Research shows that over 78% of married women in Bihar have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence. This initiative aims to increase the availability of GBV services, reduce societal acceptance of violence, and

improve the policy environment for better GBV response.

BOARD's work in rural areas, particularly in Daniawan block, has exposed critical gaps in support for women facing GBV. Through community engagement, BOARD has developed a strategy to empower women and promote gender equality. This strategy focuses on helping women regain control over their lives, making decisions within their families and communities, and ensuring they live free from violence.

Conclusion

In conclusion, BOARD's initiatives have had a significant impact on rural communities, especially among adolescent girls. By educating girls on menstrual hygiene, promoting sanitary napkin use, and encouraging leadership, BOARD has empowered rural communities to tackle health and gender-related challenges. With its focus on behavior change, women's empowerment, and combating GBV, BOARD is paving the way for lasting social change, offering hope for a future where girls and women in rural areas live healthier and more empowered lives.

Bureau of obligate and Accompanier for Rural Development (BOARD)

At & P.O: Shahjahanpur, Dist.- Patna (Bihar)

REGISTRATION No. IV/17 Dated 29.11.1995 and F.C.R.A No. 031170172 Dated 24.02.2000, Renewal Date 21.05.2022

CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (Foreign and Domestic fund)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31,		2025	2024
SOURCE OF FUNDS		₹	₹
CAPITAL AND GENERAL FUND			
Capital Funds (As per last Balance sheet)	4,13,509.94		4,13,509.94
Surplus/ (deficit) as per Income & Expenditure Account	<u>(47,412.80)</u>	3,66,097.14	
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
Exigency funds			25,913.50
As per last Balance sheet	25,913.50		
Less: Adjustment of loans	<u>(24,363.50)</u>	1,550.00	
Unspent Grant of Mercury Phoenix Trust, UK		-	67,138.70
CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISION			
Liabilities for Expenses (Audit fee)		7,080.00	10,620.00
Unsecured Loan			1,05,000.00
As per last Balance sheet	1,05,000.00		
Add: Loan received during the year	<u>55,000.00</u>	1,60,000.00	
Total		<u>5,34,727.14</u>	<u>6,22,182.14</u>

APPLICATION OF FUNDS

FIXED ASSETS			
As per last Balance sheet	1	92,491.00	92,491.00
Less: Depreciation during the year		<u>(17,757.00)</u>	74,734.00
LOAN & ADVANCES			
Loan to Beneficiaries (JLGs members)			
As per last Balance sheet	3	4,47,645.00	4,47,645.00
Less: Recovery/Adjustment of loan		<u>(61,182.00)</u>	3,86,463.00
CURRENT ASSETS			
Closing Balance			
Cash in hand	2	3,065.50	3,829.50
Cash at Bank - SB A/c No.2004101010257 with Canara Bank, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna-800 001		775.02	7,799.02
SB A/c No.39999566276 with SBI NDMB, New Delhi		2,372.09	52,103.09
SB A/c No.2004101013318 with Canara Bank, Luv-Kush Tower, Exhibition Road, Patna-800 001		805.62	2,979.62
SB A/c No.11836695398 with SBI Shahjahanpur, Patna		63,503.90	7,439.90
SB A/c No.11836695659 with SBI Shahjahanpur, Patna		<u>3,008.01</u>	7,895.01
Total		<u>5,34,727.14</u>	<u>6,22,182.14</u>

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements

Significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements are annexed.

For and on behalf of the Society/Trust


Naresh Chandra Verma
Managing Director


Sangita Kumari
Treasurer

For BIPIN VIVEK & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

Reg. No. 010177C


BIPIN VIVEK
Partner
Membership No. 079917

Place: Patna
Date: 20/06/2025



Bureau of obligate and Accompanier for Rural Development (BOARD)

At & P.O: Shahjahanpur, Dist.- Patna (Bihar)

REGISTRATION No. IV/17 Dated 29.11.1995 and F.C.R.A No. 031170172 Dated 24.02.2000, Renewal Date 21.05.2022

CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (Foreign and Domestic fund)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH, 31	2025		2024
	₹		₹
INCOME:			
<i>Bank interest</i>			
Foreign Accounts	600.00		2,931.00
Domestic Accounts	251.00	851.00	426.00
			3,357.00
Receipts during the year (As per Schedule of Annexure)			
Foreign Grant and Subsequent Receipts			3,33,941.30
Unspent Grant of the Mercury Phoenix Trust, UK		67,138.70	
<i>Program Revenue</i>			
Vocational Training Centres (VTCs)	-		9,980.00
Poverty Alleviation Initiatives	1,500.00	1,500.00	10,736.00
			20,716.00
Domestic Fund and Resources			
<i>Program Revenue</i>			2,33,628.00
Educational Program (Coaching Classes)	41,290.00		
HIV/AIDS Awareness Program	29,225.00		
Gender equality and Climate Change program	26,110.00		
Adolescent Health Program	15,375.00		
Entrepreneurship Development Program	25,165.00		
Vocational Training Centres (VTCs)	64,735.00		
Poverty Alleviation Initiatives	1,48,601.00	3,50,501.00	
Donation - General (Public/Community/Friends)		1,63,472.00	98,446.00
<i>Other Receipts - Domestic</i>			
Membership Fee	17,500.00		15,000.00
Consultancy Fee	16,000.00		13,000.00
Sale of Group Passbook & IEC Materials	1,120.00		210.00
Sale of old News paper & Periodicals	1,706.00		632.00
Rent of Training venue (Project Program)	12,500.00		5,000.00
Service Charge	9,600.00	58,426.00	-
Exigency funds (Adjustment of loans)		24,363.50	52,170.00
Surplus/ (deficit) for the year		47,412.80	63,346.00
Total		7,13,665.00	8,39,446.30
EXPENDITURE:			
Foreign Accounts (As per separate Accounts)			
HIV/AIDS Prevention Education & Awareness Prog.(MPT,UK)			
Project Personnel Cost	55,500.00		1,21,500.00
Prevention Education & Awareness Programs	60,240.00		2,08,982.00
Outreach Program	-		26,693.00
General Operating/Support Cost (Program/Adm. Expenses)	9,032.00	1,24,772.00	14,603.30
			3,71,778.30
<i>Skill Development cum Income-generating Programs</i>			28,284.00
Poverty Alleviation Programs			40,310.00
Administrative Expenses		1,346.00	5,249.00
Domestic Accounts (As per separate Accounts)			
Administrative Expenses		50,971.00	51,095.00
Program Operating Expenses		1,84,612.00	-
<i>Social Impact Programs (Health and Social Awareness)</i>			1,29,078.00
Educational Program (Coaching Classes)	48,482.00		
HIV/AIDS Awareness Program	33,908.00		
Gender equality and Climate Change program	40,972.00		
Adolescent Health & Protection Program	26,170.00	1,49,532.00	
<i>Skill Development and Income-generating Programs</i>			
Vocational Training - Tailoring Trainings	1,03,402.00		55,975.00
Poverty Alleviation Programs	74,193.00		96,710.00
Program Promotional Expenses	-	1,77,595.00	10,630.00
Audit Fee (Provision for the year)		7,080.00	10,620.00
Depreciation		17,757.00	39,717.00
Total		7,13,665.00	8,39,446.30

Signed subject to our separate report of even date.

For and on behalf of the Society/Trust

For **BIPIN VIVEK & ASSOCIATES**Naresh Chandra Verma
Managing Director

Place: Patna

Date: 20/06/2025

Sangita Kumari
Treasurer