

SMILE FOUNDATION USA

NEWSLETTER



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, SMILE FOUNDATION USA

Dear Friends,

As we step into the final quarter of the year, I am filled with gratitude for your continued trust and support. Every effort, every partnership, and every smile we share brings us closer to a healthier, more equitable world. From healthcare on boats in Assam's rivers to STEM labs in Mumbai's classrooms, and from empowering women entrepreneurs to upskilling youth in Odisha, your support makes it all possible.

Together, we are creating opportunities and changing lives: one community at a time.

Warm regards,
Hari Agrawal
President, Smile Foundation USA

Community Connect

Bringing Healthcare to River-bound Villages in Assam

In the riverine islands of South Salmara, Assam, where communities are often cut off by water, Smile Foundation's Smile on Boat initiative, supported by MSD, is delivering essential healthcare to more than 27,000 people. The mobile boat clinic serves 12 islands, providing consultations, medicines, maternal and child health services, and preventive care. Beyond treatment, the initiative emphasizes awareness sessions on hygiene, nutrition, and regular health check-ups. Villagers now receive timely antenatal care and follow-ups, reducing out-of-pocket expenses and improving health-seeking behaviour. In alignment with the National Health Mission, Smile on Boat brings healthcare with dignity and consistency to regions where hospitals are miles, and rivers, away, proving that compassion and innovation can sail together.



Health and Well-being

World Heart Day 2025: A Nationwide Effort for Healthier Hearts

On World Heart Day, Smile Foundation united doctors, health experts, and local communities across India to promote heart health and the prevention of cardiovascular diseases. Through interactive sessions, health talks, and screenings, participants learned about nutrition, exercise, and the importance of avoiding tobacco and alcohol. The initiative also encouraged preventive check-ups for early detection of risk factors. Communities engaged enthusiastically through Q&A sessions and awareness pledges to adopt healthier lifestyles. The campaign reaffirmed our belief that prevention must become a daily habit, empowering people to care for their hearts before risks turn into emergencies. Smile Foundation continues to champion community-based healthcare, ensuring that awareness and access go hand in hand for every individual.



Supporting India's Nutrition Mission



As part of Rashtriya Poshan Maah, Smile Foundation conducted awareness activities across India to complement the government's efforts toward a healthier and well-nourished nation. Community sessions engaged antenatal and postnatal women, providing guidance on balanced diets, hygiene, and nutritious food preparation. Practical cooking demonstrations, health check-ups, and distribution of healthy food items helped women understand how small changes can significantly improve family health during pregnancy and lactation. Schools also joined the campaign, with children participating in interactive sessions and creative activities that teach the importance of nutrients, healthy eating habits, and balanced diets. These initiatives are designed to instill lifelong habits for good nutrition and well-being, while also building awareness in families and communities.

Strengthening Last-Mile Healthcare through Collaboration

Smile Foundation participated in the 23rd Foundation Day of Neurosynaptic Communications Pvt. Ltd., which convened experts to discuss "Digital Bridges to the Last Mile: India and LMICs." Dr. Rashmi Ardey, Director of Programmes (Health), shared insights on scaling sustainable digital health models, while Mr. Satnam Singh, Sr. General Manager (Health), joined a panel on building trust and impact in underserved areas. Discussions highlighted how technology, trust, and collaboration among stakeholders are essential for inclusive healthcare. The panels reinforced that people-centered approaches and community participation are the keys to achieving last-mile impact. Smile Foundation remains committed to integrating digital innovation with grassroots implementation to make healthcare accessible, equitable, and effective across India.



Education and Empowerment

STEM Learning Takes Root in Bangalore

Smile Foundation has introduced engaging STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) learning in schools across Bangalore. Through hands-on experiments, creative models, and activity-based sessions, children are encouraged to explore, question, and innovate. The initiative transforms classrooms into hubs of curiosity and discovery, making science fun and accessible to all learners, especially from underserved backgrounds. By nurturing problem-solving and critical thinking skills, the program aims to spark long-term interest in STEM subjects, building confidence and aspirations among young minds. This initiative reflects Smile Foundation's vision of blending education and innovation to prepare children for a future shaped by technology and creativity.



Plumber Saathi: Upskilling Youth in Odisha



In partnership with *Ashirvad by Aliaxis*, Smile Foundation launched the *Plumber Saathi* Mobile Training Programme in Jharsuguda, Odisha. Inaugurated by Shri Suresh Pujari, Honourable Minister of Revenue & Disaster Management, Government of Odisha, the initiative is designed to equip local youth with practical plumbing skills aligned with industry standards. The mobile training unit, fitted with modern equipment and guided by expert mentors, will travel across the state to provide hands-on sessions and certifications. This collaboration aims to create sustainable livelihood opportunities while strengthening India's skilled workforce. Together, we are empowering youth with tools for dignity, employment, and independence.

Empowering Women through Business and Financial Literacy

Smile Foundation recently organized a series of *Business Idea Generation* and *Financial Literacy workshops* across Hoskote, Nelavagilu, and Belkere in Karnataka, reaching more than 200 women. The sessions equipped participants with tools to identify viable business ideas, understand market needs, and explore government schemes. Women also learned practical financial skills, including budgeting, credit management, and savings. Many participants developed innovative, locally relevant business concepts and expressed confidence in managing their finances independently. The initiative not only builds economic resilience but also inspires women to become change-makers within their communities, driving sustainable livelihoods and social empowerment from the ground up.



Disaster Response and Relief

Supporting Families in Himachal Pradesh & Punjab

Following widespread damage from heavy rains and landslides in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab, Smile Foundation extended relief support to the affected families. Relief kits including dry ration, hygiene and essential supplies were distributed to help families rebuild and restore stability in their lives. This initiative embodies compassion in action, offering hope, strength, and solidarity to those recovering from natural calamities.



Special Moments

A Day of Smiles with Bobby Deol

Bollywood actor **Bobby Deol** recently visited Smile Foundation's children in New Delhi, spending a heartwarming day filled with laughter, conversation, and encouragement. He spoke about the importance of education, hard work, and believing in one's dreams. The children, thrilled to meet him, shared their stories and aspirations, receiving words of motivation and kindness in return. The visit brought immense joy and left behind memories that continue to inspire. Smile Foundation thanks Bobby for his time, compassion, and for reminding every child that their dreams truly matter.

