

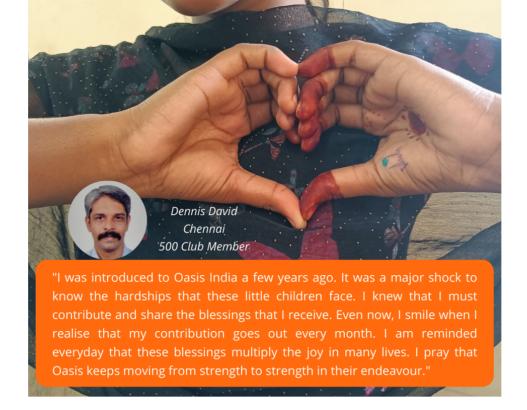
Dear all,

February was filled with lots of love from our donors and many more inspiring stories from the field. Take a look at a few updates we have for you.

## **Donor's Corner**

For Valentine's Day, we reached out to our donors, asking them to share their love for supporting the cause of anti-human trafficking with the world. Here's what they had to say.









# Thank you donors! We love you!



Sarita was heartbroken when she had to quit school because of financial issues at home. She often found herself consumed in thoughts, worrying about her future. She was forgetting how to speak English and it was frustrating. All she longed to do was go back to school.

Joining our Basic English Course at Nalasopara, Mumbai was the most exciting thing that had happened to Sarita in a long time. In the first class, she motivated herself by saying that the English language has only 26 letters, and if she could ace learning them and study how to use them, then she could speak good English. Sarita enjoyed learning English and often practiced it with her big sister. Every opportunity she got, Sarita spoke in English.

While talking with our tutor, Sarita said, with tears welling up, "I am not privileged to study further. I just wish to go back to school." The tutor was inspired by her interest in studying and began looking for ways to enrol her in a school. One of our staff sought the help of a principal, who assessed Sarita and agreed to enrol her in 8th grade. Sarita's face lit up with great joy. Her dreams were finally coming true.

Sarita says, "I love going to school! The Basic English Course has helped me greatly in understanding and responding in class. I am so happy."

### **Agro Farming in Manipur**

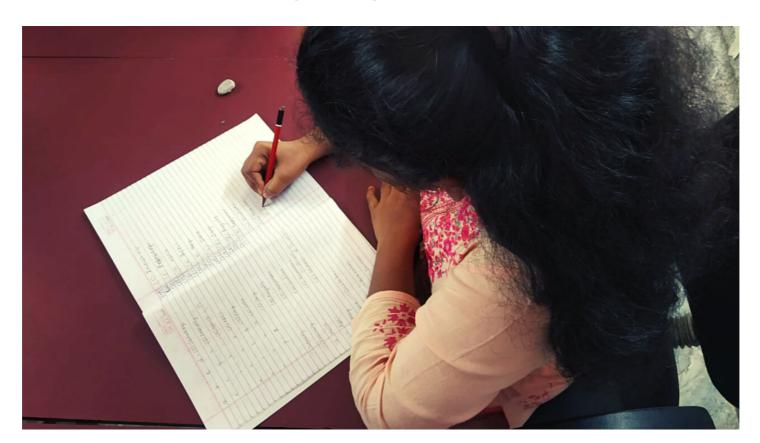


"My name is Phalzahat. I live with two of my sons in Tuinom village in Churachandpur, Manipur. We are cultivators, and I earn money by cultivating various crops and seeds depending on the season. My biggest challenge every year is the cost of the seeds that we buy during the cultivation season. As we solely depend on the income earned from cultivation, once we consume what we have earned, we don't have any cash to buy seeds for the new or next season.

Since I attended the vegetable cultivation training organised by Oasis India along with Krushi Vidya Kendra (KVK), my life has changed. During the training, I received seeds for cultivation, which was of great help to me. I did not have to spend money to go to the market to purchase the seeds. Receiving the seeds on time and being able to sow the seeds at the right time has given me a good harvest. The seeds produced 2 kg of peas and 5 kg of farm beans. By selling the produce, I earned INR 4000. Through this earning, I'm building a sty for rearing pigs for additional income. I feel like I've been able to move forward in life for the better.

Thank you for helping me make my dreams come true and take care of my family. "

### Bhavya Gets a New Beginning



Bhavya\* was trafficked into sex work by a well-wisher who often visited her house, enticing her with good job opportunities in the city. She never returned home but maintained a good report that everything was okay at the job and that she was earning well.

Bhavya fell in love when she met Ajay\*, and she got married, hoping that life was going to get better with him around. She was relieved that she did not have to go back to the red-light area anymore. When Bhavya was pregnant with her second child, Kaushik\*, she found out that Ajay was already married. He was no longer living with her or supporting her, forcing her to return to the red-light district with her two

children. She was lost and worried that she had to go back to her previous lifestyle.

Bhavya met our change agent, Madhavi, who helped her babysit her children. She guided Bhavya to put her two children in a hostel where they would be safe. Arya was sent to a hostel in Bangalore, and Kaushik was put up in a hostel in Mumbai. At the peak of the pandemic, Kaushik was transferred to a government home as the hostel that he was in was closed due to legal issues. Bhavya began panicking as his custody procedure was complicated and she was clueless as to what to do. Our Drop-in Centre staff in Grant Road helped Bhavya with the documents needed to get custody of her son. Last December, we helped enrol Kaushik in an NGO in Pune, where he will receive help with education, care, and shelter. Kaushik gets holistic care and is well-adjusted to his new home. On the other hand, Bhavya has moved into our rehabilitation home, Nirmal Bhavan, for the new beginning that she always deserved.

Our staff have helped many more women like Bhavya who are forced by circumstances to go back to the red-light area. They are guided to make informed and good choices for themselves and their children.

\*Names have been changed to protect their identities.

### **Budding Enterpreneurs**





Our Chennai staff have an exciting new initiative to promote entrepreneurship, healthy eating, and well-being at our Chennai hubs. We have started Cloud Kitchen Courses for women in our communities where they will learn to cook everyday meals with healthy substitutes like millets and vegetables. They also learn about the nutritional values of all of these foods.

Ponmozhi, our cloud kitchen trainer, says that "Everyone goes to work in our communities, and women often choose easier options to cook faster, which are not always healthy, leading to diabetes and obesity. So, in our classes, we teach women to substitute rice with millets and to include vegetables rich in nutrients in all the dishes. They learn to cook smarter and faster."

Our goal is for women to take this up as a small business, either as a group or individually.

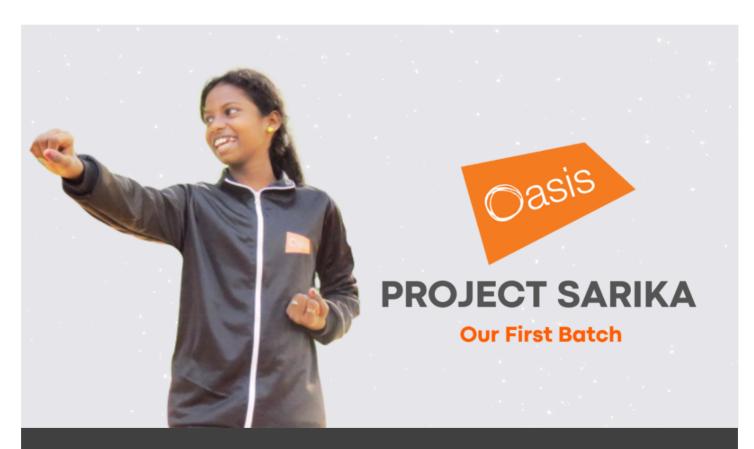
#### Children Take Up AHT to Schools





Our Bangalore team formed five new anti-human trafficking groups (AHT) in the Hallegudadhahalli hub, with over 15 children in each group. They meet regularly to learn about human trafficking, safety, and protection. The AHT club members will choose one leader every month and report to the staff. The club members will also help spread awareness on the Child Helpline and information about human trafficking and its related issues in their schools and communities.

### Project Sarika – First Batch Graduates!



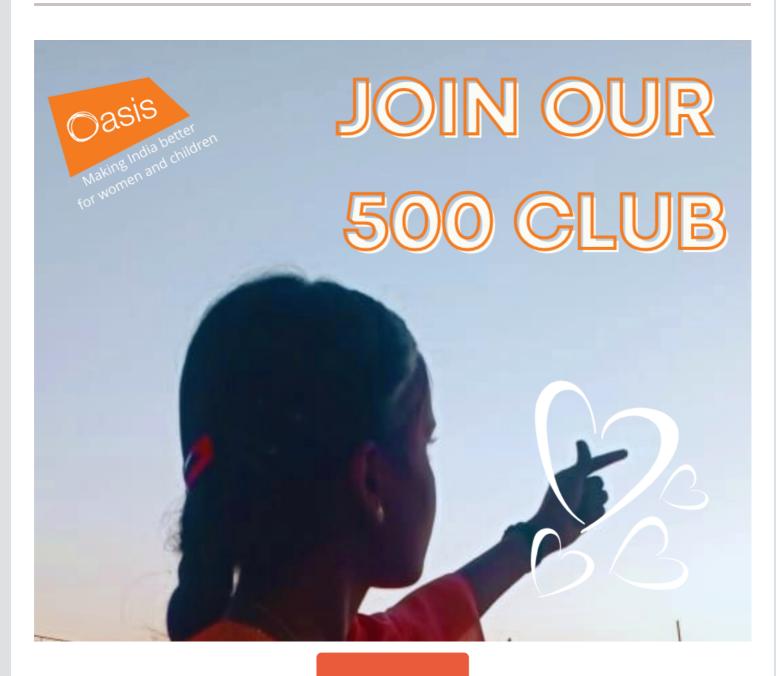
Our first batch of Project Sarika girls have graduated after taking up 4 months of training in self-defence and fitness. Take a look at this video to see what they learnt in the training.

**Watch Video** 





We created awareness on keeping the environment and home clean by distributing dustbins to over 70 community members at Nalasopara, Mumbai. Two of our change agents, Becchan and Kallu have taken the responsibility of ensuring cleanliness and maintaining a litter free zone.



**Join Today** 













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