Dear Friends,

This Mother's Day is a great reminder of how mothers bring hope and strength to those around them, in good and tough times. Here are the words of our 92-year-old "Board Mother" Eva Haller, who reminded us this week that "Our optimism remains palpable and our hope for the future is vibrantly alive."

We are delighted to announce that yesterday Asia Initiatives won the prestigious Future of Work Award from the Caterpillar Foundation and MIT SOLVE for our "Cascade of Upskilling" program. In this program, we incentivize skilled people in communities to teach others the skills needed to participate and prosper in the digital economy with SoCCs. You can see more about our solution HERE. Our founder, Dr. Geeta Mehta was at MIT for the announcement.

Empowerment With Financial Literacy & Mobile Banking
We are helping empower 300 rural women in Bolangir, Odisha, where severe drought is affecting agricultural production. With our local partner NYDHEE, Asia Initiatives is providing alternate income opportunities for women and their families. Women earn SoCCs for learning to use mobile banking applications for financial and digital proficiency, for planting trees and for keeping their neighborhoods clean. They will redeem their SoCCs for starting goat rearing and poultry enterprises, as well as seed kits for their kitchen gardens to enhance nutritional and income security.

Community Change-makers Transforming Education

Our local partner, Mera Gaon Meri Duniya, trains Community Change-Makers in Madhya Pradesh to mentor children and support their education. Children redeem SoCCs for library services, and attending science and language classes. The Community Change-
Makers redeem their SoCCs for teacher leadership training programs and funding for community projects. The program helps bridge the educational gap that many students face as a result of the Covid pandemic, while developing a supportive cohort community. Parents also earn SoCCs for regular engagement through project-based activities with the Community Change-Makers.

In our Cascade of Learning program, children in 14 middle schools in Bihar, India are engaged in shared learning, storytelling, and library activities. Children can redeem their SoCCs for computer classes in our digital learning labs equipped with Raspberry Pi devices. This program is being implemented with Karunodaya - Mantra Social Services, which uses innovative teaching techniques to engage students. This partner also helped us distribute emergency supplies during the height of the pandemic in 2021.

You can also see more about our work at our Website and at our YouTube Channel.

Wishing you much happiness this Mother's Day and beyond, Geeta Mehta and the Asia Initiatives Team

Click here to have 100% of your donations reach our project sites
Asia Initiatives has special consultative status with the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.

Asia Initiatives has the Platinum Seal of Transparency.

You can support our work by selecting Asia Initiatives from the list of charities while shopping at Amazon, or at your favorite stores via our partner Kiindly.

Asia Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes sustainable development for underserved communities, with a particular focus on women and their families.

You can contact us at: info@AsiaInitiatives.org

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