

# Annual Report

Of

**Stewards Trust**

Apr'2021 – Mar'22



STEWARDS TRUST

**Stewards Trust**

## CONTENT

Message from the team  
About Stewards Trust  
Highlights

### **MAIN FEATURES OF THE YEAR**

Goat Rearing Project  
MHM project  
Primary Education  
Women Empowerment  
Capacity Building  
Awareness  
Final Note

## *Dear Friends & Partners.*

While putting together this annual report for the last year we are in the midst of COVID-19 Pandemic 2<sup>nd</sup> phase, witnessing the worst effect of the disease among the masses. Many families lost their loved ones because of the disease.

Since the inception of Stewards Trust, we are trying to bring hope through education, capacity and skill training and employment generation schemes among the rural families living below the poverty line. Our three educational centers are providing free education to girls and boys of neighboring villages, our expert team providing training to the key leaders (young men and women) to identify their needs and available resources to fulfill the same so that the benefits could flow to the community. The empowered men/women are equipped with tools and techniques to bring development in their respective communities with and/or without outside help. Women and men are encouraged to form SHG and network with existing government resources/centers and get benefited. Women in the surrounding areas are given training in Low Sanitary Pad Making and selling so that they can increase their household income with proper Menstrual Hygiene and Goat rearing project was implemented among the BPL families to earn extra income for their immediate needs.

We are still discovering many layers and aspects of our work and its impact on the last person we connect with. To do so, the organization keeps updating its 'Strategic Plan' to achieve more from limited available resources.

This year's report has some insightful information and some powerful pictures from the project areas depicting the work of the organization in partnership with local communities.

In the last 34 years of our work we have tried to bring attention and resources to underprivileged rural community masses. One thing came out loud and clear – that we do our best to fulfill the vision of the organization by working towards basic needs, dignity and the voice of the last person. Let's build a society where we respect, value each other and payback to the ones who are true nurturers.

We as an organization trust the reader to appreciate the work which has brought positive changes in human lives and would step forward to strengthen the hand of the organization in this novel work.

*Dr. John Sylvester*  
*Executive Director*

[On behalf of Team Stewards Trust]

## ***Main Features of the year 2021-22***

**50**

Beneficiaries got 2 goats each  
Sustained income generation

**+ 1021**

Adolescent girls/women  
Menstrual Health & Hygiene  
Under sanitary pad project

**40 +**

Capacity of youth built  
under RYTP & ITRI

**357+**

Women in SHG  
Women Empowerment

**+ 100**

Children in Primary school  
Under Precious Hand project

# GOAT REARING PROJECT

## Income Generation Project



Goat is a poor man's animal. Goats are raised to sustain their daily needs. Goat is a tough animal in extreme climates (heat and winter) and can be fed on kitchen leftovers and leaves available nearby. It does not require much maintenance and care. Because of the available facts, the organization identified 25 extreme rural poor families in the block of Phaphamau and gave two goats each. An agreement between beneficiaries and the organization is signed stating that the beneficiaries will take care of the health and fodder requirement of the animal whereas, the organization will provide vaccination.



This also made clear to beneficiaries that goats provided to them are their property and kids born will belong to them. Once they have enough goats, they can sell them in the market and fulfill their families' needs.

The goats were distributed to the beneficiaries in the month of April in the presence of the veterinary doctor who examined the health and gave one shot of vaccination. The second shot of the vaccination to the goat was given before the onset of monsoon. Each goat was tagged for identification and reporting by the veterinary doctor before distribution.

Apart from goat distribution, beneficiaries were also encouraged to form SHG and induce monthly small saving habits. It has been reported that one SHG is formed by the women in the area who are saving a small amount in the group. However, their linkages with Village Level Organization and Block office are not done yet.

# MENSTRUAL HEALTH & HYGIENE

## Sanitary pad distribution and manufacturing



Menstrual Hygiene among adolescent girls and women in the rural areas is very poor. Stewards Trust aims to create awareness among the target women and adolescent girls on MHM through meetings and showing 'End of Period' – a short film in small groups. Apart from regular meetings and screening of films, the staff was also visiting door to door for awareness creation. The organization installed a manual pad making machine in a village Baithakwa of Koraon Block where the interested women were trained to make a low cost sanitary pad and to sell in the local areas. It has been reported that there were 11 women who got training in low cost sanitary pad making in one year. Whereas, 15 women were involved in selling the pads in local markets and door to door. However, it is also reported that the manual pad making machine was not good enough to produce quality sanitary pads to compete with already available pads in the market. Therefore, on the demand and advice from the trainees, the pads were sold to the women at  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cost. The women involved in pad making and selling were also formed a group which started saving money to be utilized in maintenance of machines and procuring raw material.



There were more than 5000 pads distributed free of cost among the adolescent girls studying in different schools or even who are not going to school to create awareness and adopt good MHM practice.

## PRIMARY EDUCATION

### Free primary education to underprivileged children of rural areas

The organization is providing free education to underprivileged rural children through its three education centers situated in villages Baithakwa, Hardoan (Koraon Block) and Derwa (Shankargarh Block) of Prayagraj. Children are getting school kits which include school dress, shoes, stationery, and books according to their classes. National festivals and sports are organized by the school staff along with the children from time to time. Further, children are also entitled to get a mid-day meal and/or nutritious meal for their proper health development. The organization motivates the parents for sending their girls to education centers specially.

Stakeholders e.g. Parents, Teachers and community members are



involved in addressing the issues in children education and taking initiatives to solve them.

Through three primary education centers, the organization is reaching more than 100+ underprivileged children who without support would have been working in

the fields or as unskilled labour in nearby towns.

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

## Self Help Group - Literacy - Income Generation



Self Help Group is one of the most powerful tools to empower underprivileged women financially. Stewards Trust is determined to support rural women living below the poverty line and hence, Women Self Help Groups is a holistic programme of micro enterprises covering all aspects of self-employment, organization of the rural poor women. Capacity building, planning activities, infrastructure build up, technology, credit and marketing are the other main features of self-help Group. Self-help group refers to a self-governed, peer controlled, informal group of women with the same socio-economic background and having a desire to collectively perform a common purpose.

The organization has been able to mobilize small savings within the group members who were not expected to have any savings. In the past year through the organization effort, there were 13 functional SHG formed having 161 active women. There were 9 literacy classes organized for the illiterate women where 134 women learn to read and write simple Hind and Math. With the help of SHG and loan from the nationalized banks 14 women started their own small scale business, e.g. goat rearing, small shop and buffalo rearing. These activities increased the women's family income and sustain their requirement.



# CAPACITY BUILDING/TRAINING

## Of rural youth

Selected young men and women from the village background were provided a 2 years' training programme which built their capacity in different aspects e.g. identification of community needs, identification of resources, uniting people to address the needs, getting help of existing non-government organizations / government agencies to fulfill their needs and tools and techniques to make small community based proposals to benefit their community. Reference materials on tools and



techniques were developed and translated in Hindi by the organization which was provided to trainees. Because of the reduced funding the programme is restricted in two districts i.e. Prayagraj and Varanasi. In the previous year (2021-22) capacity of 40 such youths was built who are addressing local issues with available local resources.

The project had brought a number of benefits e.g. safe drinking water (hand pumps), village sanitation, Awas Yojana, making of Aadhaar Cards/ration cards for BPL, pothole implementation and many more to the rural community in more than 31 villages by the local people.

Under the programme active rural youth participate in two days workshop and thereafter they go back to their community to practice. The workshop is conducted after two months' interval. The participants were provided with lodging and food

during the workshop period along with learning material e.g. diary, pen, charts etc.

In the above picture, a handmade bamboo bridge is built by the local community members over a rain water drain so that the old people and children could cross the drain without any difficulty. In the absence of the constructed bridge at the time of rain people have to walk 2 km extra to reach the market or school.

# **AWARENESS**

**Creating awareness on social issues**



## **FINAL NOTE**

We thank all our partners who have been with us on this journey. Please note that each and every contribution/suggestion to us is important.

Every year more needs are identified which urgently need to be addressed. Stewards Trust is committed to fulfill the rights of each and every citizen in its capacity.