



# The Philanthropist

*Transforming Lives*

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Global Pragathi (Global Progress)

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Pragathi Welfare Society (Sister Concern in India)

**President: Alok Agrawal**

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### POVERTY ALLEVIATION THROUGH:

- Education Improvement
- Women Empowerment
- Youth Employment
- Preventive Health Care
- Community Involvement
- Infrastructure Improvement

### OUR CORE VALUES:

Compassion, Dignity, Peace, and Progress beyond Race, Caste, Religious, Gender, Political, and Socio-Cultural Divides

## Support Indigenous Development Organization, IDO Inaccessible, Remote - Bhadradri Kothagudem Tribal Belt

This edition of the newsletter features the efforts of two young doctor couples, Drs Narendar & Swathi; Drs Kapil & Archana. They have sacrificed everything in life to work with tribal communities in 54 interior forest habitations & 8 rural regions with poor access to healthcare, lack of access to schools, electricity & basic nutrition. I Do, the nonprofit works with the objectives of providing comprehensive primary health care to eight thousand people. Interventions are in the areas of health, nutrition and also education. Initial survey in 2017 showed:

- Infant Mortality Rate 4 times the national average.
- > 70% of Under-5 age kids have stunting, wasting & are underweight.
- 99% of pregnant women & 98% of Under-5 age children are anaemic.
- > 65% of pregnant women no access to a complete antenatal checkup
- Traditional beliefs, taboos, black magic & malpractices high.

## Dr Padma Veligeti (Gynecologist & Humanitarian, USA):

**“To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity. Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice.” – Nelson Mandela**

A visit to the area by me and Alok in 2022 – and the above words from Mandela resonate all the time. Looking at the sorry plight of the people in these areas, Dr Narendar BHMS and his wife Dr Swathi, a gynecologist set up a makeshift clinic under a tree, with minimal resources and a lot of passion for improving the health of these tribals. Currently, the patients are seen in antenatal clinics, which we helped construct. Community Health Workers (CHW's) are chosen from the hamlets depending on their interest and capability. We are regularly involved in on-line education of CHW to identify high risk pregnancies, empowering them with techniques to coax mothers for timely referral to receive institutional care. There is also a mobile medical unit that covers about 30 hamlets for in-home care. About 80% of pregnant patients now get at least 1-2 PN visits with BP and weight checks, nutrition, iron supplements, immunizations, routine point of care diagnostic labs and one ultrasound. All pregnant women are encouraged institutional delivery. IDo has done a tremendous job – Pragathi is supporting in a small way. **Please join us in bringing justice to our fellow human beings.**

## **Pragathi Supports Construction of Healthcare Center**

The least we can do is to support the young couple's efforts are to help the underprivileged by providing financial support for the construction of the health center. Providing this base should go a long way in supporting the 8000 people from 54 tribal habitations. Hopefully, the other 100 habitations can also be covered soon.

## **We Provided Mosquito Nets to Prevent Malaria to 1800 Households**

Malaria is highly prevalent. 3500 mosquito nets treated with insecticidal agents were provided. This helped decrease the number of malaria cases significantly.

## **Donated Motorcycles and Other Equipment**

Three motorcycles, breathing nebulizers, pulse oximeters, bedsheets, hand sanitizers, face masks, sanitary pads, and medications were provided in 2022. More support is being planned in future.

## **Medical Advice and Support to I Do Team**

Remotely, we have provided advice from a gynecologist, pediatrician, neonatologist about maternal and child care. Connecting them for nutrition services with the experts, and with physicians at higher medical centers. We will continue to connect the I Do team on the ground with other specialists. We are in touch with I Do team almost daily. Initially, we did a web based video call once a week. Currently, it is done on an as needed basis.

## **Some of I DO's Accomplishments - Zero Maternal Deaths in 2022**

1. Nice Concept - 54 Community Health Workers" from each habitation identified, & trained every month
2. During a monthly celebration of pregnancy, high risk pregnancies are identified.
3. To combat anaemia & malnutrition, a nutrition powder is provided to 1800 beneficiaries i.e. children, pregnant women & lactating mothers every month.
4. Home deliveries decreased from 78.2 % in 2021 to 59.7 % in 2022.
5. Mobile Medical Unit serves 28 habitations.
6. Identifying and treating patients with pyrexia, anemia, malaria, TB, hypertension, diabetes also
7. Transporting critically ill patients to higher centers is difficult due to poor connectivity
8. 13 bridge schools in 13 habitations have been setup over 3 years now.
9. Over 400 children have access to basic education & midday meals.
10. More than 200 children have been taken to residential schools in other areas.
11. Nearest Medical facility is over 20 kms away with extremely poor connectivity.

**Pragathi Team Works to Alleviate Poverty  
We Promptly Provided Humanitarian Aid of \$120,000 in 2022  
We Encourage People to Work Together and Eliminate Poverty**

## Primitive Life They Live !!!



Dr Alok Agrawal & Dr Padma Veligeti Visited the **Inaccessible Hamlets With No Roads**



**Mean Family Income Less Than \$50 a Month  
No Electricity, No Toilets**



**No Education - Basic School Started by I Do Group**



**Dr Padma Training Community Health Workers in Ante Natal Care in The New Health Center**



**No Hygienic Water - Tribals Often Walk 2-3 kilometer to Collect Water**



**Checking Weight of The Baby in The Hamlet  
IMR, MMR, Malnutrition and Anemia Rates High**



## Message From Indigenous Development Organization (I Do) to Pragathi Team

IDO team is extremely glad to have been introduced to Dr Alok Agrawal in January 2022. To understand the challenges better, he visited the interior tribal habitations with us & also our planned health centre site in MARCH-2022. Since then there has been magnanimous humanitarian support from Global Pragathi and Pragathi Welfare Society teams in form of funding for construction of health centre, crucial for providing primary health services, mother & child health services for the needy. As the prevalence of malaria is high in the remote habitations, Pragathi through its vision of "preventive health" has provided 3500 high quality treated mosquito nets to 1750 tribal families in AUGUST-2022. We have noted a great decline in malaria cases. Motorcycles, bedsheets and medications have also been provided.

Dr Alok, actively involved in community service for a very longtime in various regions across India has been frequently interacting with IDO team providing suggestions & gathering support for the cause. He has connected us to highly motivated team of gynecologists, pediatricians & volunteers who are giving out their valuable time for consultations and hand holding of patients for admissions to higher centre during referrals. We are thankful to have met a wonderful humanitarian Dr Padma Veligeti, a senior gynaecologist practicing in USA. She has been regularly interacting with us & providing her valuable support through Pragathi. In NOVEMBER-2022 she had visited our habitations & stayed with us for 3 days. She interacted with community health workers & 50 pregnant women during the monthly event. She inspired the tribal youth working selflessly in their respective habitations. IDO team is looking forward to make this collaboration stronger which helps us serve the community better & reach the unreachable.

Warm Regards

Dr Narendar, Dr Swathi , Dr Kapil & Dr Archana, Team IDO

### Donor Recognition

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Pragathi thanks profusely all the donors and well-wishers, without whose timely and generous help it would have been impossible to carry on our work of helping the poor.

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<https://www.globalpragathi.com/media/>

## Pragathi Thanks Advisors and Supporters

Dr Padma & Dr Laxminarayan Veligeti, Dr Nitin Chauthai, Dr Sangeeta Agrawal, Mr Kotesch