



Helping India Together



2024

ANNUAL REVIEW

CONNECTING THE DOTS

Letter from the Director



I recently listened to an interview with an economist outlining her research on successful poverty alleviation. “The idea is simple,” Nobel Prize-winning economist Esther Duflo says. “You take a big problem and break it into manageable pieces... You can think of these projects as one dot, and little by little, these dots start forming a picture.”

“You can think of these projects as one dot, and little by little, these dots start forming a picture.”

That resonates. She could have been talking about HIT!

HIT employs this very strategy: breaking down seemingly insurmountable challenges into smaller pieces and getting to work. Poverty, social oppression, and disease are common in rural India, pushing millions to the margins. Yet, we see an image forming with growing clarity—not just project by project, but person by person.

Connecting the Dots

This year, our work expanded in both size and scope. We introduced mental health and resilience programs for leaders in mountainous regions. We strengthened partner hospitals that serve as hubs for health and community outreach, we partnered with a new livestock care organization that transformed our program. That’s a lot of new dots for a small organization like ours. But we pour ourselves into this work because “connecting dots” means connecting people to life-changing, sometimes life-saving, programs.

- It means a child will reach adulthood with better nutrition because his family’s livestock is healthy.
- It means the camaraderie and laughter of leaders at a HIT conference, even when the topics are heavy.

- It means a nurse walking confidently into an operating room after once being told her only future was as a day laborer.
- It means dignified, high-quality medical care for the poor.

We travel to India every year. We meet with community development workers and teachers, talk with the nurses, and connect with community leaders. We witness transformation firsthand, whether through long-term palliative care or a simple deworming treatment.

We see how this Nobel-prize-winning process plays out in the Indian countryside. Our partners do prize-worthy work.

A New Symbol of Togetherness

This year, we introduced a new logo that visually represents our mission. The three dots in the center are more than just a design element—they symbolize the unity of HIT, our national partners, and our supporters. This togetherness makes our impact possible.

The logo’s petals represent the lotus, a symbol of beauty in Indian art and architecture. As a scientist, I love measuring progress and tracking results, but I often forget to step back and appreciate the beauty of the bigger picture—communities coming into stability and health after years of struggle.

By joining us on the margin, you are part of this beauty. We couldn’t do it without you. Thank you for being part of this transformation.



Michael Atchison

Michael Atchison, PhD
DIRECTOR, HELPING INDIA TOGETHER



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

How we serve at the margin:



Health Care

Partnering with hospitals that have more than 100 years of serving in their communities. HIT helps with medical education, equipment, building improvements, and community health outreach to support all facets of healthcare.



Education

Teaching at every intersection where discrimination or poverty has blocked a person’s chance to learn. That stretches from early childhood learning for low-caste children, to school tutoring centers and adult literacy classes, to nursing education.



Leadership Development

Supporting compassionate, talented leaders to navigate the challenges of the region. Rural Indians have the skills and the context. We help provide the tools so that they can thrive.



Livestock Care

Helping livestock thrive means more milk production and stronger offspring. That translates to better health for families and more income for women and children in the poorest villages of rural India.

“The emerging picture is beautiful.”

Michael Atchison

DIRECTOR, HELPING INDIA TOGETHER



► SCAN TO SEE A VIDEO OF OUR WORK

Livestock Care

Simple Solutions for Outsized Impact

Goats stream down a narrow walkway between houses, guided by their owners with rope leads. Villagers smile and chat. Children weave around the animals, proudly showing off their prized livestock. It has the feeling of a 4H gathering but with vibrant colors and bustling energy.

It's a deworming day at a village near Kachhwa Christian Hospital.

For just a few dollars per treatment, community workers administer anti-parasite medication that protects livestock, ensuring healthier animals and a better livelihood for families. This straightforward intervention is one of the most transformative programs HIT supports.

This year, our impact multiplied through a new partnership with VetNet, a national organization committed to livestock care. Our "animals treated" count skyrocketed from hundreds to thousands.

One example is Krishna's family. They own a cow and a buffalo calf that provide milk and income. When the

calf suffered from a severe tick infestation, the family spent money on ineffective treatments from rural markets. Meanwhile, the ticks posed a health risk to their home. One dose of antiparasitic medication changed everything—restoring the calf's health and improving the family's well-being.

It's that simple.

Even if we don't frolic like the goats, we feel like it when we see the results.

And the impact goes beyond animals. One hospital administrator noted that while illness or seeking medical care can carry a social stigma, livestock care does not.

Connecting to hospital staff through livestock programs opens doors to other services: counseling, cancer screenings, snakebite treatment, palliative care, job training, and education. More than that, it could expand our advanced career training to more than just nursing but to veterinary technician as well.



BY THE NUMBERS



1,300

LIVESTOCK TREATED WITH
DEWORMER + PARASITE
MEDICATION



580

WOMEN EMPOWERED IN 350
FAMILIES, ACROSS 15
VILLAGES



80%

OF WOMEN SEE INCREASE
IN MILK PRODUCTION +
INCOME FROM LIVESTOCK

Education



Focusing on One Person—100 Times

What began as a leap of faith to fund nursing tuition for 3 students reached 121 nurses last year.

Nothing demonstrates the power of incremental change like nursing education. Time and again, we see young men and women, seemingly bound by generational poverty, step into careers in healthcare.

People like Dharma. Her father died when she was an infant. Her mother worked exhausting hours as a day laborer. Her mother provided for the family as a day laborer from 3 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon with a few breaks to go home and cook for her children, barely providing enough for the family.

Now, as a nurse, Dharma supports her family's food and education, helps build a better home for her mother, and inspires other rural women to envision a different future.

Her story moved us so deeply that we created a nine-minute video about her journey—look for its release later this year. While we celebrate reaching 100 students, we are even more determined to transform the lives of the next 100.

How do donor funds impact nursing students?

- > **Mentorship**
Students receive mentorship as they navigate being away from home, studying in English, and the pressure of being the first in their families to get an education.
- > **Job Placement**
Students are hired locally, where they can become role models to the surrounding community.


121
STUDENTS
(AND COUNTING)



Leadership Development

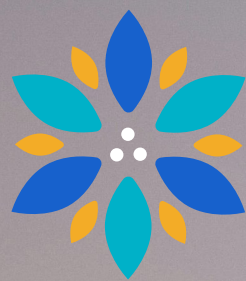


Strengthening Those Who Serve

This year, we introduced a vital new program: a 10-day trauma care conference for community leaders. These local mental health and development professionals work in environments marked by poverty, violence, and extreme hardship.

For those who give so much to others, this training was both informative and healing. One mental health director described it as transformative—helping not only their communities but also themselves. The impact of this program motivates us to provide even more.





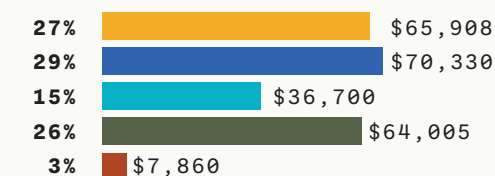
Thank you for partnering with us to serve at the margins. Your generosity fuels our work.

Financials

Stewarding Your Investment.
Building with Vision.

HIT and our national partners layer tangible solutions to tackle complex challenges. Every generously given donation allows us to continue.

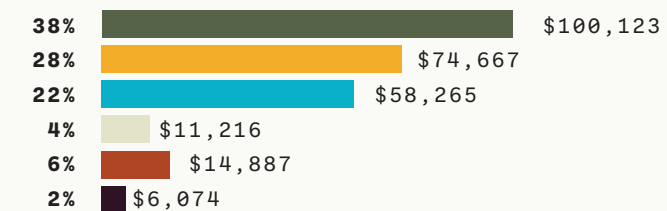
Income



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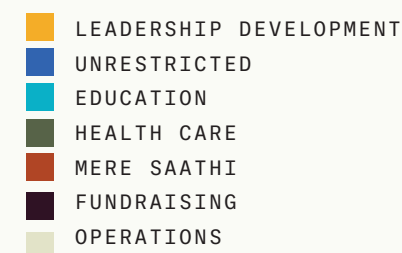
TOTAL: \$244,806

Expenses



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TOTAL: \$265,232





Join us at the margin by
donating today.

Give by ACH Bank Transfer:

(saves the 3% charged for credit cards)

Give by Check:

Payable to: Helping India Together

Mail To:

Helping India Together
500 Gen. Patterson Dr.
Glenside, PA 19038

Give Online:

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