

REBUILDING HOPE- TOGETHER WE CAN

While the world is going through a huge crisis due to COVID- 19, we at PPES are positive that together we will cruise through this to see a new dawn. Despite the predicament however, PPES has been at the forefront of creating holistic models of mitigation and intervention that aim to empower and safeguard our communities. The newsletter brings forth the various undertakings, accolades, recognitions and efforts of the organisation and its people.



Dear Friends,

The Last six plus months have completely shaken up the world and there is no real sign of it abating. The marginalised have been further pushed to despair and hunger. And unfortunately women and girls are facing all kind of suppression and abuse, none more so that in our state of Uttar Pradesh, which has been in the news recently for all the wrong reasons. However we have received some positive reviews in many articles which are available in the links below.

But with all this going on we have not lost the hope, the positive mindset and can-do attitude which are

the foundations on which we succeed. It is these principles, during this time of hardship which inspired us to launch a mission of 'Sustaining Hope During COVID-19' We as an organisation went through a huge learning curve, we relearnt the true meaning of service, compassion, support and action. I hope that this newsletter will give you a glimpse of PPES's work during the time of lockdown. Where we could reach out to the most needy and vulnerable only because of your support and trust.

Thank you for being in this journey with PPES. Renuka



EDUCATION - A CONTINUOUS PROCESS

As we know education has been the most adversely hit area amid the pandemic. While schools in urban centres have the benefit of technology, schools in rural areas such as ours do not have the ability to fully utilise it. This is due to lack of infrastructure and lack of access to hardware or data.

PPES has been carrying out active engagements and building more channels of social communication to ensure that the process of growth and empowerment track of the girls continues to point towards a bright future.

To ensure that we can continue our students' education, we have started distributing assignments to the students' villages so that they can continue their studies.

TAKING DIGITAL EDUCATION HOME

It is undeniable that lockdown has created unprecedented pressure on the #education system throughout the country, affecting nearly 300 million children across 1.4 million schools in the country. Even though we are trying our very best to mitigate the disruption to our girls' studies by delivering workbooks and reading materials on a fortnightly basis, there is no substitute for face to face learning. We can reduce the impact that #COVID19 has had on our girls' education through the utilisation of technology.

As the students of class 10th and 12th are at crucial junction we have provided tablets to them so that they can take online classes effectively and achieve their dreams.







SANITARY PADS DISTRIBUTION

Even in todays' times inly 14% of women in India has access to proper sanitary products. This is primarily due to non-availability of financial resources to access hygienic sanitary products. To tackle this we distributed sanitary pads to the girls and women of the village and taught them the importance of regular use of the pads.

The organisation had organised a drive where an awareness program was integrated with a distribution model. To further cause of proper

sanitary hygiene and reproductive health, the school has taken active steps when it comes to teaching girls about health and hygiene, specifically their menstrual hygiene and puberty changes.

We believe health and safe periods is the right of every girl.

HEALTH CHECK UP DRIVE -

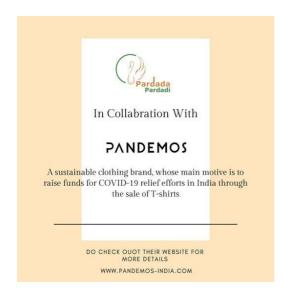
The 180,000 thousand strong community of Anupshahar has for a long while haven't been able to access even basic healthcare. These people who already remain on the margins of social and financial well-being are in an urgent need of health care access especially with the onslaught of Coronavirus. To tackle this:

We are continuing to provide support and information to rural villages and communities that we support. Our mobile medical van is now visiting the villages, whilst taking all safety measure required to enhance the awareness of the symptoms of COVID-19 and how they can best protect themselves.

ORGANIZATION REVIEW

We were proud to have Ravinder Kumar, the District Magistrate of Bulandshahar, visit our school in this month. He expressed his admiration towards the organisation's efforts to ensure that all safety measures are in place to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. He also said that the efforts of the school should be a benchmark that other privately owned as well have government run schools should follow and take a motivation from. This further adds to the organisation's ethos of developing intervention strategies in the form of creating models that can be replicated in other places and situations as well.





COLLABORATION WITH PANDEMOS

We are extremely proud to announce our partnership with Pandemos, a sustainable clothing brand, whose main motive is to raise funds for COVID-19 relief efforts in India through the sale of T-shirts. In support of communities that have been most affected by the pandemic due to the loss of livelihood, Pandemos is stepping up by donating 100% of their profits towards the COVID-19 relief effort in collaboration with PPES. It is also with such initiatives that we can collectively get over this crisis. In this regard Pandemos stands as a beacon of hope with its

commitment to enable, help, safeguard and empower communities. We feel that various other organisations should follow this example.

SELECTION OF GIRLS FOR NCC

We are proud to inform that a lot of the girls have been selected for NCC. During the month the core committee from NCC had visited the school for new recruits. Following a gruelling physical examination followed by a test of mental capacity and intelligence, 25 of our girls were proudly offered the opportunity to join the NCC. The examination committee of the NCC were also pleasantly surprised by the determination, skill, strength of character and a holistic intelligence that the girls exhibited.

The committee also said that they look forward to having our school provide the best in class national cadets.





A STORY OF HOPE AND DETERMINATION - MRS MADHU



Ms. Madhu is one of those heroes of Pardada Pardadi Educational Society, who is leading the charge in fighting the COVID-19 virus and its socioeconomic consequences on the ground. She has been associated with the organization for the past 12 years and she has been teaching Hindi to 9th and 10th Standard girls. Rural education has been severely hit because of the COVID-19 lockdown. And so, Madhu

has been playing an extremely important role in ensuring that our students receive the best quality of education as we can deliver, despite the limited resources and infrastructure in the surrounding villages of Anupshahar.

To accomplish the above, she has been taking online classes since the lockdown was implemented. She says that with a specified program she is helping the students in understanding the subject while also enabling and guiding them to overcome all their personal difficulties. Additionally, she takes sessions to inform the girls about the coronavirus and its preventive measures. She is in regular contact with all the girls and helps them in solving their academic as well as personal issues. She's a true example of having a friend in your teacher.

MEDIA COVERAGE

News18

How School Girls From This Uttar Pradesh Village Stopped Child Marriages During the Pandemic: to read more please click <u>here</u>



Asiavillenews

COVID and child marriages: How minor girls are fighting back in West UP: To read more please click <u>here</u>.



Bhaskar

Ground report: Child marriage has increased due to lockdown. To read more please click here.



Bhaskar

Pardada Pardadi School Is Providing Free Education To 1600 Poor Girls With Facilities Like Public School. To read more please click <u>here</u>.



Soch India Ek Kranti on youtube.

To watch the video please click <u>here</u>.



Cost of education of a girl in one year

This year we are focusing on meeting all compliance and further enhancing the quality of education for the girls. We are increasing the number of buses for girls to travel to school and hiring specialist resource persons. Factoring in inflation and little increase in abovementioned costs, per girl per year cost towards education, is revised to INR 35,500/- (USD 480, CAD 625, GBP 370) (from 1st April 2020- March 2021)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

We welcome you to visit us, volunteer for our cause and make donations to educate and empower these rural girls and women and help them in achieving their dreams.

DO VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS FOR REGULAR UPDATES!!



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