



Transforming rural healthcare through Community Health Entrepreneurs (CHEs)

About Healing Fields Foundation

Healing Fields Foundation is an Ashoka Fellow-led NGO dedicated to ensure access to affordable and quality healthcare for all, especially for women from resource-poor communities. With a vision to build community-first healthcare ecosystems, we train and support women to become Community Health Entrepreneurs (CHEs)—grassroots change agents revolutionizing healthcare in rural India.

Our approach: community-driven health transformation

Many rural communities struggle with lack of health education, limited access to healthcare services, and high out-of-pocket expenses. Healing Fields Foundation empowers local women to bridge these gaps through:

- **Preventive Healthcare Education** – Raising awareness on hygiene, nutrition, maternal health, and common diseases.
- **Health Navigation & Access** – Connecting communities to government health services and entitlements.
- **First Aid & Primary Care** – Providing basic health support and facilitating timely medical intervention.
- **Telehealth & Digital Health Services** – Linking patients to doctors for remote consultations.
- **Health Entrepreneurship** – Enabling CHEs to sell affordable health and hygiene products for sustainable livelihoods.
- **School Health Champion Program** – Training students to become peer educators and drive health awareness in schools.

Who are our Community Health Entrepreneurs?

CHEs are local women from marginalized backgrounds, trained extensively to become health leaders, educators, and service facilitators in their villages. Their multi-faceted role includes:

- Leading health awareness and education campaigns.
- Offering first aid and minor health services.

- Facilitating telehealth consultations for remote healthcare access.
- Mobilizing communities for government health programs.
- Creating kitchen gardens to promote nutritious diets.
- Supporting maternal and child health interventions.
- Implementing School Health Education programs to instil lifelong healthy habits in children.

Through their leadership, CHEs break barriers, build trust, and transform healthcare access in their communities.

Breaking barriers: Impact of CHEs on Community Health

Healing Fields Foundation trains CHEs to address critical healthcare challenges through sustainable, community-led solutions:

Challenge	CHE Impact
Lack of health awareness	CHEs educate families on hygiene, nutrition, and disease prevention.
Inaccessibility of health services	CHEs guide communities to government schemes, maternal care, and immunization programs.
High out-of-pocket expenses	CHEs promote preventive healthcare, reducing avoidable medical costs.
Poor maternal and child health	CHEs support pregnancy care, safe deliveries, and infant nutrition.
Limited access to doctors	CHEs facilitate telehealth services, bringing expert care closer to home.
Gaps in school health awareness	CHEs train students as School Health Champions, promoting hygiene, nutrition, and mental well-being.

The CHE Journey: Training & Empowerment

CHEs undergo a structured 12-month training program:

1. Six-month classroom training covering hygiene, nutrition, first aid, maternal & child health, and non-communicable diseases.
2. Six-month field internship applying knowledge in real-world settings, supported by mentors.
3. Ongoing telehealth training to integrate digital tools for consultations and patient follow-ups.
4. School Health Champion training empowering students to drive peer health education in schools.

CHEs receive continuous mentoring and participate in peer-learning clusters to refine their skills and maximize their impact.

Scaling Impact: Measurable Change in Communities

Healing Fields Foundation's CHE program has driven tangible improvements in healthcare access and health behaviors:

- 98% of communities report improved health practices.
- 82.5% of trained women have increased their household income.
- 600,000+ health education sessions conducted.
- 400,000+ women accessed menstrual hygiene products.
- 140,000+ Kitchen Gardens established for improved nutrition.
- 35,000+ government entitlements facilitated, unlocking INR 66.5 crore in benefits.
- 15,000+ students trained as School Health Champions, promoting lifelong wellness habits.

Empowerment & Sustainability

Beyond health education, CHEs build self-reliance and economic independence:

- Generating income through health product sales & telehealth facilitation.
- Becoming trusted health leaders and role models in their communities.
- Establishing a sustainable, locally-driven health ecosystem.



Healing Fields Foundation

Reaching healthcare to the under-served

- Strengthening school health awareness through the School Health Champion program.

Through their work, CHEs not only improve health outcomes but also transform their own lives—gaining confidence, financial stability, and leadership in their communities.

Join us in creating healthier communities

Healing Fields Foundation is scaling the CHE model to reach even more underserved communities. We invite donors, partners, and collaborators to support this proven approach to transform rural healthcare and empower women.

Get in touch: info@healing-fields.org

Visit us: www.healing-fields.org

Together, let's build a **healthier, stronger, and more resilient rural India.**