

EUREKA FOCUS VILLAGES



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AID INDIA



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THE STORY OF IRUMBEDU

In 2021, when the AID INDIA team first visited Manja Board Kuppamedu, a huge garbage dumpyard near Chennai, we found 21 Irular families living in the middle of the rubbish heap. This toxic environment led to people falling ill continuously.



Over 2 years, AID INDIA got identity documents for the families, and applied for land allocation by the Government. Finally, in 2023, land was allotted at Irumbedu, nearly 40 km away, for 76 Irular families from 6 hamlets like Manja Board. But this land was barren, with no habitation, water or electricity.

AID INDIA built huts, dug a bore-well, built water tanks, installed solar street lights, provided food provisions for 2 months and helped the families settle down in Irumbedu. During the rains, to prevent water-logging, we also dug a canal around the village.



As families settled into Eureka Nagar at Irumbedu, AID INDIA supported them to start kitchen gardens and explore local livelihood opportunities. We enrolled the children in the local school and started tuition classes for them. We also built concrete homes for 8 families. Seeing the impact of this work, Rotary Club of Madras came forward to fund homes for the rest of the families.



Today Irumbedu has 39 pucca houses, with 24 more under construction. We have also built an education center and got electricity connections for the families. In just two years, these Irular families have witnessed a remarkable transformation in their living conditions.

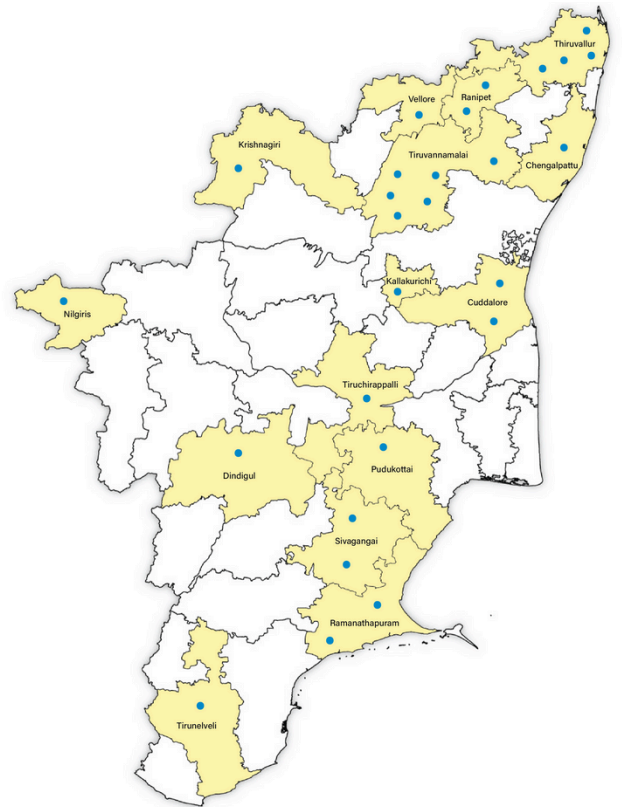
EUREKA FOCUS VILLAGES

OUR PROGRAMS

- Eureka Homes for the Homeless
- Kitchen Gardens
- Eureka Tuition Classes
- High School Classes for Exam Readiness
- Scholarships
- Reading and Library Classes
- Kindergarten Classes
- Tree Clubs
- Sports for Girls
- EdTech Classes for Math and English
- Cycles For Girls
- Science and Tinkering Clubs
- Rights and Entitlements

NOW ➤ 115 Focus Villages

GOAL ➤ 250 Focus Villages



15 Districts: Each blue dot represents a cluster of 3 to 7 focus villages.

OUR WORK TILL NOW

- 867 Homes constructed
- Rs. 445 lakhs of Govt. benefits ensured for 3,829 families
- 1,000 girls playing sports regularly
- Kitchen gardens for 5,000 families
- Daily classes for 11,931 children
- Weekly EdTech classes for 3,057 children
- 549 cycles given to school girls
- 24,967 trees planted and cared for

VILLAGE TRANSFORMATION

**BEFORE
2015**



In Cherukkanur, the Irular community initially lived near the local pond. After years of struggle with other caste groups, the local Panchayat finally allocated land to them in a new settlement, 3 km away.

When AID INDIA started working with this community, people had no electricity, water, or basic amenities. Children had to walk long distances to reach schools. AID INDIA started education classes, installed solar street lights, and started building concrete houses for families. This brought the first ray of hope to the community.

Until 2015, no student in the Cherukkanur Irular community had passed Class 8. Then, children started attending AID INDIA's tuition center and learned Tamil, Math and English skills. This motivated them to continue in school.

Anusha, who was in Class 5 in 2017, started attending the Eureka Tuition Classes every day. She learnt enthusiastically, and started doing well in school.



CHERUKKANUR

NOW
2025



Over the last 10 years, we have built 30 homes, provided electricity, arranged water connections, and secured a proper road from the panchayat. We have also planted more than 80 trees, transforming the barren settlement into a green, thriving village. This transformation has inspired 27 more Irular families to move to Cherukkanur, making it a vibrant, growing community.

Today, Cherukkanur Focus Village is a powerful testament to the impact of resilience, hope and community effort.



AID INDIA provided bicycles to help children attend high school regularly. We have also been conducting physical and virtual classes to assist high school students in exam preparation.



Anusha recently became the first girl from her community to pass the Class 12 board exams. She is now enrolling in a nursing course to help people in her community — a proud moment for her entire village!

HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS

867 Homes
Constructed

Most tribal families live in extreme poverty and face constant discrimination. They live in makeshift huts without access to clean drinking water, electricity, or sanitation. For them, a pucca house is more than just four walls. It is a life-changing step toward dignity and stability.



A Eureka Home provides security, better health, and protection from harsh weather. It dramatically improves the family's living conditions. Once a family has a home, they save money and buy their first almirah, TV and utensils. They start working towards a better future. AID INDIA has constructed **867 Eureka Homes** so far, inspiring families to hope and dream.



KITCHEN GARDENS

5,000
Families

We help families grow their own vegetables at home, with seeds, saplings, compost, organic pesticides and hands-on guidance. Eating vegetables regularly improves the health and nutrition of the entire family.



Chinnammal from Piranmalai used to earn a modest living making flower garlands. When AID INDIA introduced kitchen gardens in her village, she started growing vegetables and used them to make pickles. Chinnammal took the bold step of selling her pickles.

Inspired by her efforts, AID INDIA helped her form a women's self-help group and she now runs a food processing unit. This unit buys surplus vegetables from 50 families, and makes 23 varieties of pickles, sauces, and sundried chips. Chinnammal now leads this team, transforming not just her life, but her entire community.



EUREKA TUITION CLASSES

9,079
Children



Right from primary school, many children struggle with reading and Math, often leading to them dropping out.

In our daily evening classes, Eureka teachers use fun games and simple activities to build skills in Tamil, English, and Math. Progress is tracked using skill charts, ensuring every child gets the support they need.

As they catch up, their confidence grows, setting a strong foundation for future learning.

HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

686 Children

In high school, the challenge shifts to advanced concepts in Math, English, and Science. We conduct in-person and online classes to help high-school students strengthen their skills and do well in exams.

AID INDIA has also given scholarships to 250 students to help them pursue college and achieve their dreams.



READING AND LIBRARY CLASSES



Many children in poor communities struggle with reading. Our morning reading classes help children build their reading skills. They start with letters and progress to sentences and stories. With fun library books and story cards, they begin to understand and enjoy what they read.

KINDERGARTEN CLASSES

1,740
Children

Children from poor tribal families often grow up without toys or early learning opportunities. Our kindergarten classes give kids a head start. Eureka teachers use games, songs, stories, and activities to boost early childhood development in kids aged 3 to 6. This fun approach keeps them excited to learn every day. The entire village celebrates their achievements with a special graduation day, where the tiny tots wear robes, hats, and gleeful smiles, as their proud parents cheer them on.



TREE CLUBS

24,967
Trees Planted

Just planting a sapling is not enough. Watering it, taking care of it, and ensuring that it grows into a strong tree takes a lot of effort. Every child in the Eureka Tree Club takes care of a few saplings. Planting a sapling and watching it grow teaches children responsibility. It also makes the village greener.



SPORTS FOR GIRLS

1,000
Girls

Girls in villages are often told not to play. Sports challenges social taboos, and helps girls grow into confident young women.

Our sports coaches visit villages every week to train girls on volleyball, athletics, silambam, yoga and self-defence. They get fitter, bolder and confident. They also develop a strong sense of team spirit.





EDTECH CLASSES

3,057
Children

In tribal villages, access to good Math and English teachers is very rare. In AID INDIA's EdTech program, children learn Math and English directly from expert teachers through concept videos.

Our local facilitator ensures that children understand each concept well, and helps them build skills through practice questions, flashcards and workbooks. Our EdTech classes have been demonstrating a large jump in learning levels.

CYCLES FOR GIRLS

549
Cycles

Most adolescent girls in tribal villages drop out of school because they have to walk a long distance, and it is not safe. Often, they have to complete household chores before leaving, which makes them late for school. The gift of a cycle gives these girls the freedom to chase their dreams. They are now able to travel safely and independently, and attend school regularly.



SCIENCE AND TINKERING CLUBS

Children learn best by doing. Eureka Science and Tinkering Club lets them explore Science concepts through hands-on experiments. Local technicians like cycle mechanics, electricians and plumbers turn into mentors, sharing real-world tech skills that kids love to learn.



RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS

3,829
Families

The government has many schemes for tribal communities, but most tribal families are unable to benefit from them. The process involves a lot of paperwork and follow-up, and many families don't even have basic ID cards, which makes it difficult for them to access these services.

The AID INDIA team works closely with each family to help them apply for and obtain identity documents like Aadhaar and Voter cards. With these in place, we then assist them in accessing key entitlements such as Ration Cards, Old Age and Widow Pensions, Community Certificates, and Land Rights.

This year, 3,829 families have received government benefits worth a total of **₹445 lakhs**, through this program.



PAACKUPETTAI

A journey of change and hope

**BEFORE
2023**



**NOW
2025**



For over two decades, 19 Irular families lived in tiny huts in Paakkupettai village, working as agricultural laborers and scrap-collectors. They had no land titles and faced severe discrimination from other caste groups. They were not allowed to enter the local temple or even use the common cremation ground. Every monsoon, their huts would get flooded and they would be shifted to relief camps.

For the last 2 years, the AID INDIA team has worked with these 19 families to claim their land patta rights from the Govt. We raised the low-lying land and built pucca houses for all the families. Our team installed solar street lights and helped people start a community kitchen garden. We are also running evening tuition and kindergarten classes for children.

Like Paakkupettai, hundreds of marginalized communities are still struggling to live a dignified life. A small support goes a long way to help these families improve their living conditions and live with security and dignity.



In a moving gesture, Chinnaponnu of Paakkupettai donated her patta land to construct a learning center for the children of her village. She has decided to live with her grandson's family in his Eureka Home.

The Eureka Focus Village Program is transforming the lives of the most marginalized families in villages across Tamil Nadu.



When individuals, families, or groups of friends support a focus village, it sparks a huge change in the lives of the poorest families. Every contribution makes a difference.

Support a Eureka Focus Village. Transform Lives.

Donate in the USA

<https://aidindia.org/eureka-focus-village-fund/>

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GET INVOLVED. VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME.

- Visit a village and document inspiring stories and local efforts.
- Join TeenAIDers to teach and mentor village children through online classes.
- Collect toys and clothes for children.
- Raise funds from your community and friends to support a focus village.

SUPPORT A EUREKA FOCUS VILLAGE

Donate in the USA

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