

# CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE



## A B O U T C H S J

#### **EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR CHANGE**

At CHSJ (Centre for Health and Social Justice), our mission is to transform the lives of marginalised communities through a rights-based approach. We are dedicated to enhancing both health and socio-economic conditions of individuals living in rural areas and urban slums across multiple states.

#### **OUR IMPACT**

Over the years, our work has made a significant difference in the lives of marginalised communities. We have positively impacted 3.40 lakh families in 1,040 villages across 7 states, improving their health and socio-economic status.

17 50
YEARS PROJECTS

1000 COMMUNITIES

2,000,000
LIVES TOUCHED



#### **OUR CORE FOCUS AREAS INCLUDE**

**Reproductive Health and Rights**: We are committed to ensuring that every individual has access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare and is empowered to make informed decisions about their health and family planning.

**Domestic Workers' Rights**: We advocate for the rights and dignity of domestic workers, striving to create fair and just working conditions for this often-overlooked workforce.

**Elderly Care**: We recognise the importance of caring for our elderly population, promoting programs and initiatives that provide support and care for the elderly in our communities.

**Fostering Positive Masculinities**: We actively engage men and boys in dismantling patriarchal norms, advancing gender justice, and serving as a valuable resource 1 for gender and masculinity issues.

## **OUR INTERVENTIONS**

CHSJ WORK WITH PEOPLE FROM MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

WOMEN

TRIBALS

MEN & BOYS

DALITS

**URBAN POOR** 

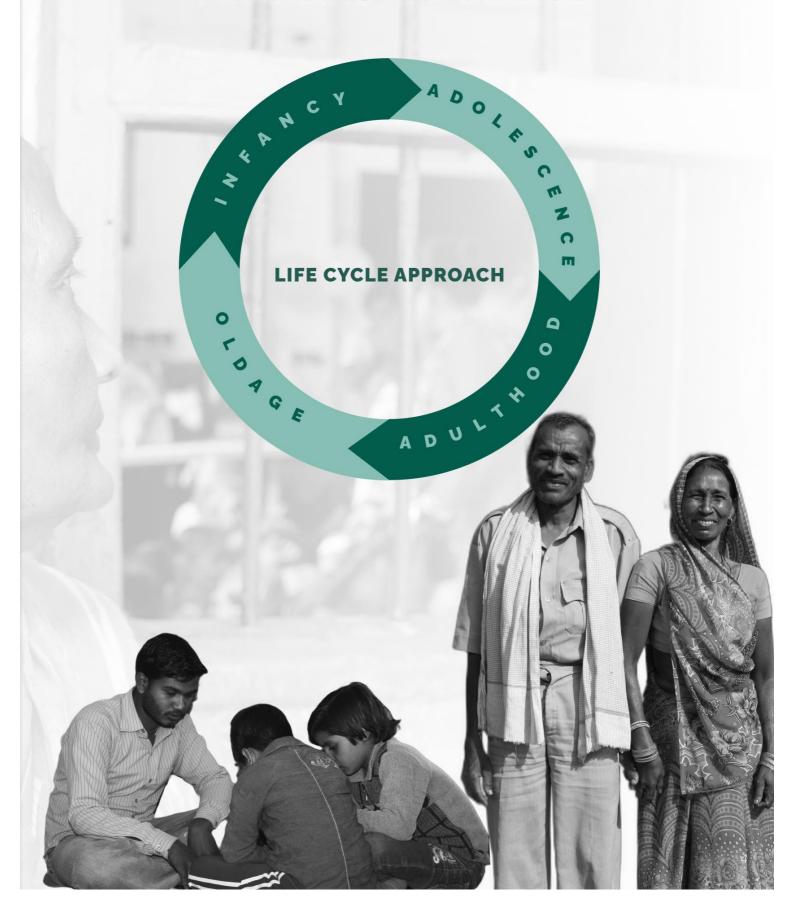
#### **KEY INITIATIVES**

**Health Entitlements:** We empower women to access their health entitlements, ensuring that they receive the care and support they deserve.

**Women's Safety and Empowerment:** We involve men in promoting women's safety and empowerment, creating a more secure environment for all.

Our approach is comprehensive, spanning the entire life cycle of individuals within these communities. We aim to empower our communities with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to assert themselves confidently, both within their households and in the broader community

#### **PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE**



## **OUR PROGRAMMES**



## Making The Unseen Seen DOMESTIC WORKERS' RIGHTS

CHSJ's prominent initiative involves offering comprehensive support to a network of 2000 domestic workers in Kolkata, coordinated through the Samadhan Griha Sramik Dal. This support extends beyond sheer assistance, encompassing activities designed to boost the confidence and leadership skills of these women workers.

#### **Empowering Women**

THROUGH LEADERSHIP BUILDING AND PEER SUPPORT

We foster women's empowerment through leadership development and peer support. Our mission involves promoting gender awareness and sharing knowledge to enable women to assert their rights and exercise their agency. CHSJ actively manages community groups to facilitate meaningful participation and forge partnerships aimed at driving positive change towards a more equitable and inclusive society.



#### **Men And Positive Masculinities**

PROMOTING MEN AND BOYS'
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GENDER EQUITY

We are dedicated to deconstructing traditional masculinity & patriarchy by actively engaging men & boys in the pursuit of gender justice. We are recognised as a pioneering institution, both locally and globally, for our profound expertise in working with men and boys and serving as a valuable resource centre on concerns of gender and masculinity. We create spaces for men and boys from diverse backgrounds to cultivate positive expressions of masculinity within themselves, encouraging them to stand as allies and partners in the advancement of gender equity while working in solidarity with the women's rights movement.



#### **Healthy Second Innings**

**ELDERLY CARE THROUGH DIDA CENTRES** 

In Bengali culture, "Dida" holds a special meaning as it represents Grandmother. Within our work at CHSJ, we deeply recognise the importance of providing care and support to elderly women who are marginalised. Our dedicated focus on elderly women's well-being has been a fundamental part of our mission for the last five years, and we have actively engaged in this endeavour across seven locations in Kolkata.





Our work is centered around promoting women's health rights, with a specific focus on reproductive health. We implement projects, do research, engage with policymakers, and collaborate with other organisations to bring about positive changes in policies and practices to improve the reproductive health outcomes of marginalised communities.

#### **Empowering Youth**

THROUGH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



We strongly emphasise empowering youth and involving them in decision-making processes to drive positive change. We prioritise skill development and digital literacy as crucial tools for empowerment while underscoring the significance of cybersecurity in this transformative journey. Our mission is to ensure that all young individuals, particularly those from marginalised communities, have equitable access to digital resources and skill enhancement programs. Through our Kolkata and Banda, Uttar Pradesh skill-building centres, we empower youth with skill development and digital literacy.

#### Research

Research plays a significant role in influencing policies and programmes for gender equality and improving the lives of marginalised women and girls. Our skilled team conducts quality research, fostering change through analysis, M&E and capacity building. CHSJ empowers partner organisations to drive gender equality and women's empowerment in their domains.



#### **OUR OPERATIONAL PROJECTS**

## Parichiti



Parichiti works towards strengthening women's leadership and is based out of Kolkata. This branch of CHSJ works with Women Domestic Workers (WDW) collectives called 'Samadhan Dal' and they successfully negotiated better working conditions from their employers. The collective helps in identifying domestic violence cases and provides necessary support to the victims. In the past, CHSJ has worked with the railway authorities and was successful in securing benefits for women domestic workers, who were railway commuters, by ensuring toilets for women in designated waiting areas in stations and an increasing number of women's compartments.

In the last four and half years, this branch of CHSJ has systematised its work on domestic violence and working in 25 urban slums of Kolkata and 24 South Pargana. CHSJ is also building awareness and skills among men and boys to take action to reduce gender discrimination and address gender-based violence at private and community levels. One of the primary areas of CHSJ's Kolkata work is supporting elderly women. It has established drop-in centres for elderly women in seven slums in south Kolkata. Parichiti runs a crisis support centre for the survivors of gender-based violence, and a 24X7 helpline number.







## MITRA



## Men's Initiatives To Transform Relationships Through Action

MITRA works with men and boys to foster 'positive' masculinities and gender justice at the community level within a rights-based framework.

MITRA promotes national and regional discussions and exchange of lessons on this issue and operates through a broad alliance of women's rights and social justice allies. It acts as a bridge between activists, organisations, institutions, researchers, media, and others working on issues related to men and masculinities. The key activities of MITRA include providing training and capacity building, supporting grass roots implementation of projects with men and boys,

supporting campaigns, and building and sharing knowledge on different

approaches and aspects of work on men and boys.

To know more about Mitra, visit www.mitraindia.org or scan rhe QR code below





## **Events**



Practicing Positive Masculinities For Gender Transformative Change



Legal Awareness Camp For Community Women, Kolkata, West Bengal



Providing Healthcare Services For Elderly

# Programmes And Achievements

CHSJ's efforts have positively impacted the lives of women, elderly women, adolescents and youth in marginalised communities. We have made significant contributions to improving the health and socio-economic status of marginalised communities, benefiting 339,162 families in 1,040 villages across 7 states. Our community-based approaches have enhanced women's access to health entitlements and increased men's involvement in promoting women's safety and empowerment.

We are proud to have received several prestigious awards and recognition for its impactful work. These include the mBillionth Award in 2019, where our Swasthya Darpan App was nominated among the top five finalists under the category of Inclusion and empowerment Diversity. CHSJ's work has also been featured in the acclaimed television series "Satyamev Jayate."



#### **OUR SPONSORS**































**WISH TO** 

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