

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Patna. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This past year, thousands of families started growing kitchen gardens to increase access to nutritious foods. Pregnant women and new mothers also gained crucial knowledge on maternal health and childhood nutrition, so their children can grow up healthy and strong.

More than 3,600 girls and boys are also empowered to stand up for their rights and say no to child marriage in their communities. And girls are overcoming taboos around menstruation while gaining the knowledge they need to make informed decisions about their bodies.

We know the best is yet to come and your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Patna.



6,700

Families received seeds to start kitchen gardens



6,995

Children provided with school supplies



66

Events raised awareness on the harms of child marriage



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN INDIA

Hear from Meenaskhi about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"I was afraid to take the COVID-19 vaccine because I thought I would get sick and die. Then Plan visited our community and shared information about the vaccine and the benefits. I decided to take the first dose and I was fine. I motivated my friends, and now I am fully vaccinated. Thank you Plan International."

CASE STORY: REACHING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



NAME: TARANNUM

AGE: 12 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: READING

"I always wanted to go to a big school and do well for myself and my family, but my parents could not afford the fees and I didn't have the necessary identity papers. Plan International helped us get documents for admission, and now I am confident I can fulfil my dreams."

Meet Tarannum

Like your sponsored child, Tarannum has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Tarannum has top marks in her grade, and she's excited about what the future holds for her. She and her three siblings are all enrolled at good schools and can access government programmes, thanks to their new identity cards.

I Am Here

Tarannum's parents moved to Delhi in search of work. Her father was the only earner, and it was hard for him to make ends meet.

Government supports for income and food existed, but the family didn't have the proper identity cards. The documents were also needed for admission into secondary school.

After joining Plan International's child sponsorship program, Tarannum learned about the importance of having identity documents to claim her rights and access the supports she's entitled to.

Tarannum and her family now have their identity cards, and they can play an active role as full citizens in their community.

Family Support

COVID-19 has been hard on Tarannum. Her father lost his job, and it became a struggle to provide food for the family, even with government programmes.

While distributing face masks and hygiene kits to help keep children and families safe from the virus, Plan International also provided financial support. Through this support, Tarannum's parents were able to purchase nutritious food for her and her siblings.

Tarannum is dreaming big for her future, and her parents are giving her all the support she needs to reach her goals.



Tarannum on her way to school

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 6,051 CHILDREN IN PATNA

OUR PROJECTS IN PATNA ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



STAYING HEALTHY



Youth raise awareness on how to prevent and treat tuberculosis

More than half of young women use unsanitary methods during their menstruation. This leaves girls and women at risk of health issues. Tuberculosis is another serious health risk in Patna, which can cause lifelong damage or death if not treated properly.

To help girls learn more about their bodies and reduce the stigma of menstruation, communities celebrated Menstrual Hygiene Day. And 175 young women have now been trained as peer educators on menstrual hygiene. So far, they have reached more than 9,600 girls to help them manage their periods with dignity.

Through awareness events, 3,750 people improved their knowledge on how to prevent and treat tuberculosis. Community health volunteers also identified 47 cases of tuberculosis, and referred those people to the local hospital for care and treatment.

RESPONDING TO COVID-19



Many families in Patna struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic. Parents lost their jobs, and food and hygiene items became scarce. Misinformation around the virus and available vaccines also meant people lacked the knowledge they needed to keep themselves safe.

To support families affected by COVID-19, more than 7,100 food kits and a further 6,000 hygiene kits were distributed. Children and parents were able to stay healthy and protect themselves during the Omicron wave.

Through 13,434 home visits, over 53,000 people learned how to reduce the spread of the virus and the importance of vaccination to prevent serious illness. Vaccination rates continue to go up, and people can now share this information with others.



"We are very thankful to Plan International who supported us during the pandemic. Our family received food and hygiene kits which helped a lot. I was also happy to get an education kit which is a great help to continue my studies."

- Chandanj (16) from Patna

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



30%

Of students drop out of school



22%

Of children under the age of 5 are underweight



40%

Of marriages are of children under the age of 18



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- Around one in three children drop out of school. We will support schools to create inclusive and inspiring learning spaces so girls and boys can continue their education.
- We will also increase access to vocational and entrepreneurship training so young people can get a good job or start their own business.
- Harmful taboos around menstruation prevent girls from playing an active role in their community. We will ensure girls have the knowledge they need about their menstrual health to take charge of their bodies.
- Child marriage rates remain high in Patna. We will work to strengthen local child protection committees and raise awareness of girls' rights.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Patna.



"We are thankful to all who have supported us during the pandemic. Our programmes have helped support nutrition, education, child protection, and medical care. With your kind support, children can become agents of change in their communities."

Sanjiv Kumar
Programme Area Manager, Patna

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS