

Your impact through

# COVID-19 Emergency Response



## You've Helped Impact over 17 million Lives with Our COVID-19 Response

When communities across Asia were hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, and lockdowns threatened livelihoods and disrupted access to already limited healthcare services, our supporters gave generously to meet the escalating need. At the peak of the second wave of COVID-19 in India, nearly 5,000 daily COVID-19 deaths were reported, with some projections suggesting a more accurate count of 40,000 deaths per day. With cases reaching more than 400,000 a day, the pandemic overwhelmed health services, and rampant misinformation hampered vaccination efforts.

Your support enabled Opportunity International Australia to respond quickly to the most urgent needs of families living in poverty. We worked with our local microfinance partners and other partners with existing, trusted networks in communities to pivot our services to deliver crucial healthcare, emergency relief and support during the worst of the pandemic.

The outpouring of support from our community in Australia, as well as support from the Opportunity International network, allowed Opportunity to provide urgent health interventions to more than 15 million people in India including: mass vaccination hubs, mobile medical vans, primary healthcare support, education, countering vaccine misinformation, and COVID-19 prevention awareness, training on COVID-19 community health education modules for our local microfinance partners, and food ration kits for safe isolation at home.

In the second half of 2021, as India began to recover from the Delta variant of the pandemic and families there started rebuilding, the epicentre of the pandemic shifted to Indonesia and Nepal. Once again, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we were able to respond to the greatest need in these communities. We directed our efforts to localising COVID-19 education materials and provided online training on the materials to more than 55 microfinance institutions, reaching more than 2 million people.

Thanks to your support for our COVID-19 emergency response...

**17 million people** reached through our COVID response initiatives

**5.2+ million people** vaccinated

**COVID-19 community education** materials translated into 10 languages

## From COVID-19 Response to COVID-19 Resilience

Just over one year into our response to this health crisis in Asia – that resulted in an economic, safety and education crisis for the women and families we serve – Opportunity is focusing on helping low-income families to build COVID-19 resilience.

Through **improved healthcare**, ongoing **vaccinations** and prevention measures, a hand up in the form of **small loans to restart their businesses** and rebuild their lives, **safety initiatives** that help to keep girls and women safe in their homes and communities, and **education loans** that enable families to send their children back to school, together we are creating more resilient communities, and empowering people living in poverty to build back stronger from the pandemic.



## Opportunity's Response to the COVID-19 Emergency

Pro Bono Australia has awarded us the 2022 Impact 25 Award based on Opportunity's work in expediting access to mass vaccinations in India<sup>1</sup>.

Our Approach	Our Impact: India	Our Impact: Indonesia	Our Impact: Nepal
<b>Prevent infection in vulnerable populations</b> – tackled COVID-19 misinformation through SMS, WhatsApp, comics, posters, voice messages and in-person meetings	<b>10 million+ people reached with education</b> on COVID-19 prevention, transmission, and management  <b>8,500 people in high-hesitancy communities trained</b> to address misinformation	<b>1+ million households reached with education</b> on COVID-19 prevention, transmission, and management	<b>1+ million households reached with education</b> on COVID-19 prevention, transmission, and management
<b>Support those with mild symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 to isolate safely</b> – food ration kits, sanitary kits, basic medical equipment, and medicine distributed	<b>34,000+ people received dry ration kits</b> to support safe isolation  <b>1,200 rural villages</b> equipped with essential medicines and supplies		
<b>Manage COVID-19 cases and mental health at home</b> – remote care through telemedicine via helplines and mobile apps	<b>4,600+ individuals</b> received free telemedicine consultations		
<b>Treat and quarantine people with worsening COVID-19 symptoms</b> – community quarantine facilities and free mobile medical vans in high-risk containment zones	<b>800 people quarantined safely in 82 Community COVID Care Centres</b> , with access to nutrition, sanitation, telemedicine  <b>24,000+ patients served</b> through 'doctor at your doorstep' vans, with a \$3.93 return for every \$1 spent	<b>50 oxygen concentrators</b> delivered to public hospitals with high burden of COVID-19 cases	
<b>Expedite mass vaccinations and improve immunity</b> – worked with local governments to organise and facilitate vaccination hubs	<b>5.2+ million people vaccinated in over 43,000+ hubs in 15 states</b> , mobilised through networks of women microentrepreneurs, including in remote regions	<b>12,000+ people vaccinated</b> in under-served West Java, of whom <b>8% were children or youth with special needs</b>	

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.impact25.probonoaustralia.com.au/winner/annie-wang>



# Suganti's story

## Mobilising her Community to Protect Against COVID-19

Suganti's commitment to the health of her community has seen the health leader mobilise around 900 people in her community to get the COVID-19 vaccine. She initially faced resistance from many who were hesitant about the vaccine, but set about promoting the benefits of vaccination to protect against the virus.

The first vaccination hub she organised saw less than 100 people getting vaccinated, so she stepped up her efforts to educate local families, and got the vaccine herself, alongside her family, to demonstrate its safety.

She also educated her community about the need for social distancing and the importance of hygiene to help prevent the spread of the virus.

“I want no death in future due to coronavirus in my village, and that is why I want everyone to be fully vaccinated.”

**Suganti**, Health Leader, India

Her persistence has paid off, with around 300 people joining the second mass vaccination hub she organised, and a further 400 joining the third event. Suganti is determined to carry on her efforts to ensure that no one in her community misses out.



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This report highlights the impact of our programs up to 30 April 2022.  
For more information, past reports and client stories, please visit our website:  
[opportunity.org.au/your-impact](https://opportunity.org.au/your-impact)

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We are a valued partner of the Australian Government, receiving flexible funding under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) each year to implement development and poverty alleviation programs overseas. Every donation you make to this project will be combined with funding from the Australian government to reach more people – your donation will allow us to extend our programs.



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