

# WOMEN4WOMEN INDIA

For millions of women and girls in India, poverty takes its toll. Sickness can quickly become part of everyday life with limited access to basic healthcare. But you can help change this.

Approximately 70% of common illnesses are preventable through health education. It starts with empowering one woman for only \$500. That's all it takes to train a community health leader.

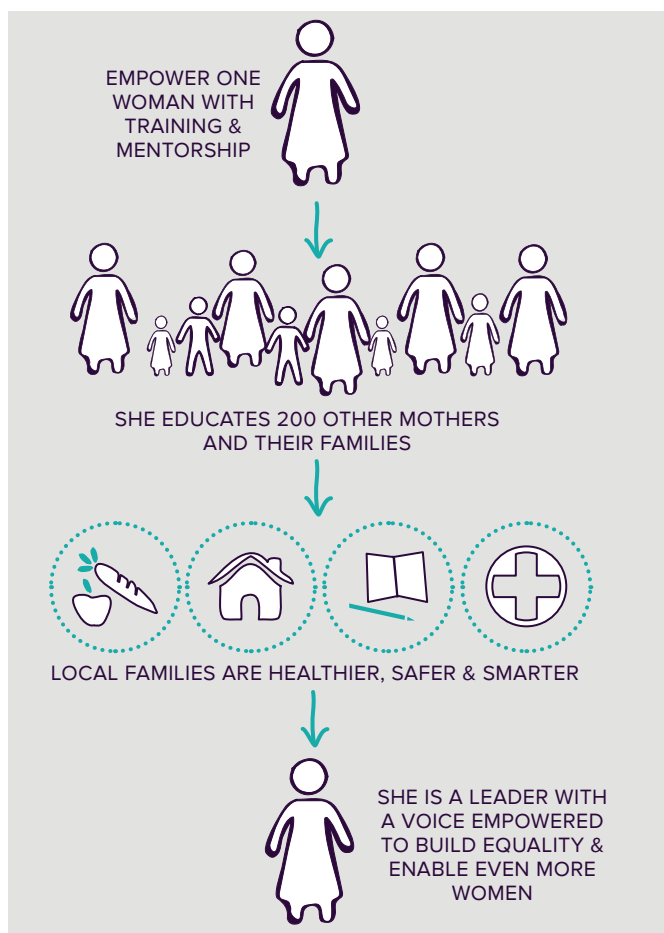
In Australia, it's easy to take good health and hygiene for granted. But in India, many girls do not attend school during their period. Health education and access to sanitary products are simple solutions – one that health leaders can provide.

They also advise communities about other life-changing behaviours: giving birth in hospitals, breastfeeding, vaccinations, rehydration salts, mosquito nets as well as access to microloans for building toilets and accessing clean water supplies.

And it's not just the community that benefits. The health leader herself is changed:

*"Before I was seen as nothing...I wasn't spoken to or recognised as worthwhile. Now I understand, as I have met other business women and (I'm) respected by all, as I educate my community about health and contribute financially to my family."* - Ananya

We invite you to join us as **Women4Women** and help us raise \$400,000 by 31 December 2016 to empower women like Ananya and Bebi.



## BEBI'S STORY

Bebi Devi lives with her husband and five children in rural Bihar, India. To supplement her husband's meagre income, she started working on village farms, just so she could afford to send her children to school.

Even then, her three daughters had to miss class five days every month because there were no toilets at their school, and Bebi could not afford to buy sanitary napkins.

When her husband could no longer work following an accident, Bebi turned desperately to Opportunity's partner, working in her village.

She joined the first group of women to be trained as community health leaders.

With her training complete, Bebi taught women in her community about the importance of good hygiene and basic health treatments and prevention. She also took out a small loan to start a sanitary napkin production unit, which generates a stable income and helps more girls in her community.

Bebi's daughters are now healthier, and can go to school every day of the month.

You can help someone like Bebi empower women in her family, and hundreds more in her community.

**You can empower a woman with just \$500!**  
 Visit [au.opportunity.org/groups/women4women](http://au.opportunity.org/groups/women4women)

