

Dear Arundhati,

We're thrilled to announce the second season of 'Unusual Suspects', a podcast series in collaboration with Moneycontrol. This season features GivingPi Members actively working in some of the most underserved sectors in the country and underscores the potential of family philanthropy in catalyzing change. To listen to the first episode featuring GivingPi Member, Raj Mariwala, on mental health and the importance of philanthropic investments in this sector, [click here](#). For more information and to stay updated on the further release of episodes, we invite you to follow GivingPi's social media channels.

We're also pleased to announce the return of the Young Philanthropist Program (YPP), a collaborative initiative by GivingPi in partnership with Stanford PACS. This intensive 2-week program in Mumbai, offers students aged 14-20 an immersive introduction to the Indian development sector. Participants engage in research projects, fundraising activities, expert sessions, mentorship, and peer learning opportunities. Following the successful graduation of 13 students in 2023, this year's program will host over 15 students in 20+ sessions, featuring interactions with 10+ experts and 2+ planned NGO visits. Interested participants or parents of participants can complete the application form [here](#).

As always, in this edition, we will be amplifying our GivingPi families and their philanthropic activities, highlighting upcoming events, and keeping you informed on the latest thought leadership in the field of philanthropy.

With gratitude,
Team GivingPi

New Launches at GivingPi

'Let's Talk Philanthropy', is a video series featuring exclusive interviews with GivingPi Members and leading philanthropists in India. With over 25 videos as part of the series, the conversation delves deep into the lived experiences, motivations and learnings of philanthropists and families involved in giving. 'Let's Talk Philanthropy' aims to encapsulate a diverse range of subjects, including discussions on women in philanthropy, collaborative giving, lessons from seasoned givers, the intersection of business and philanthropy, and the dynamics of family-centric giving. This series has been created to inspire others through the lived experiences, perspectives and learnings of stalwarts in Indian philanthropy. To watch 'Let's Talk Philanthropy', [click here](#).



Updates from our community

Veddis Foundation, Founded by GivingPi Member, Vikrant Bhargava, has partnered with the Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP) to accelerate its economic development agenda. With a \$2M commitment from Veddis Foundation, GoUP has signed a MoU with IDInsight for technical and analytical assistance in key priority areas to achieve the economic development goals of the state. GoUP aims to use a systematic, data-driven approach to maximize the effectiveness of its annual budget of over INR 6.9 lakh crores (~USD 9 billion) and drive the state's socio-economic growth. It intends to leverage data-driven governance, enhance state capacities, and have an outcomes-based approach to budgeting and financial decision making. This partnership with GoUP is part of a 3-year, INR 100 crore commitment to social development that they made in October 2021. Veddis Foundation through their philanthropy supports governments in policy making, policy insights and data driven action. To know more, [click here](#).



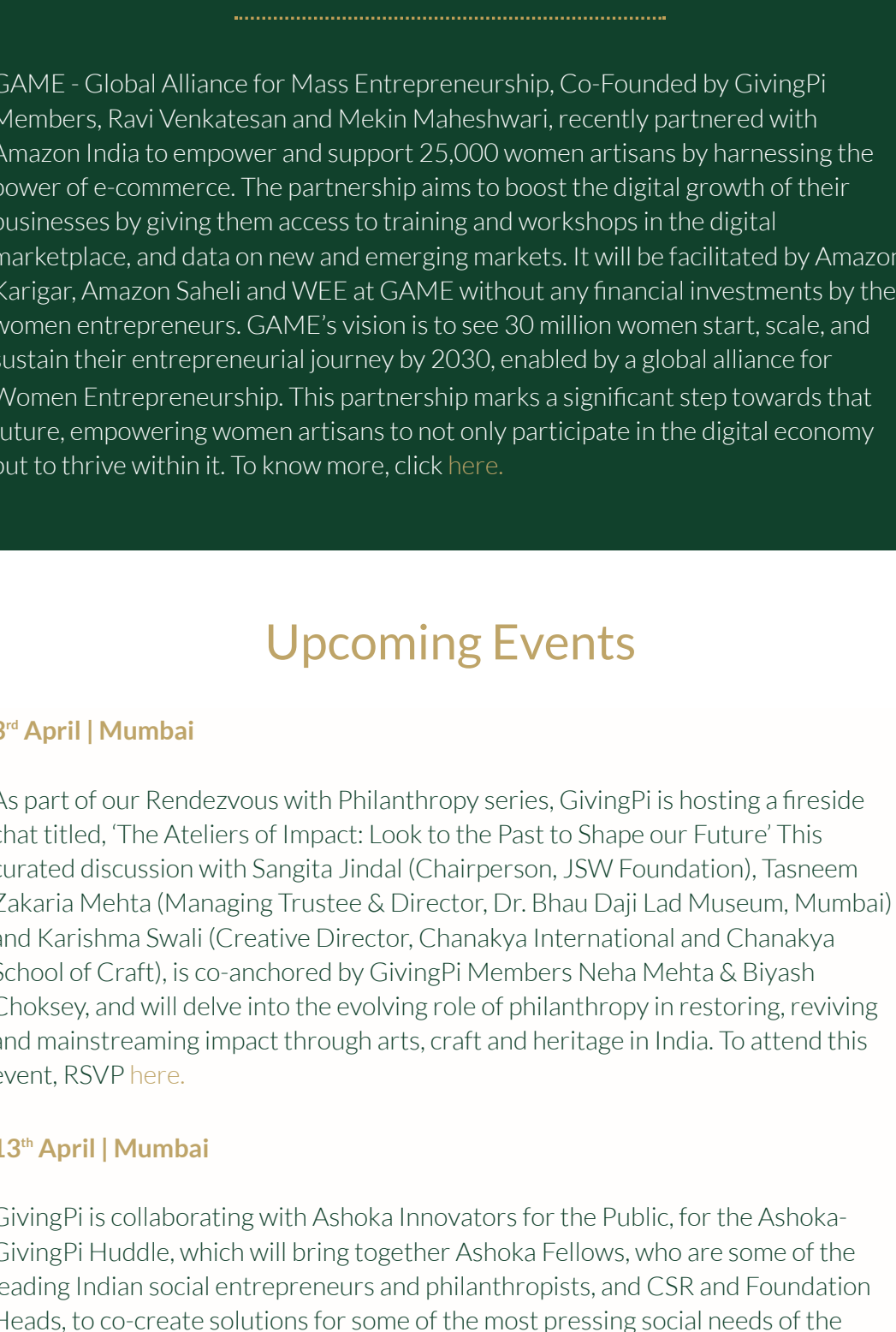
Koita Foundation, Founded by GivingPi Members, Rizwan and Rekha Koita, is supporting the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS) in launching India's first foundation course for digital health. The Digital Health Foundation Course (DHFC) has been developed by Koita Foundation with support from MUHS and with the help of subject matter experts, nationally renowned in their fields. MUHS will introduce the DHFC across more than 450 health science colleges, reaching over 40,000 medical students in Maharashtra. The DHFC is designed to equip healthcare professionals with the core knowledge and skills needed to use digital health applications - from core concepts like Health Management Information Systems (HMIS), Electronic Medical Records (EMR), clinical standards, data security, and data privacy, to advanced topics like clinical analytics, AI/ML in healthcare, and public health reporting. This course also features a virtual Digital Health Lab (DHL), offering students hands-on experience with real-world applications (including HMIS, EMR, and Telemedicine). To know more, [click here](#).



GivingPi Member, Raj Mariwala is the Director of Mariwala Health Initiative (MHI), which recently signed a MoU with the Goa commissioner and the Goa State Commission for Persons with Disabilities. This partnership aims to address gaps in mental health, foreground concerns of persons with disabilities, caregivers and NGOs working in the disability space, and implement programmatic changes for enhanced services. Upon reaching this milestone, MHI CEO Priti Sridhar stated, "This MoU marks a crucial moment in our commitment to addressing these deficiencies and infusing a mental health perspective into disability rights advocacy. We look forward to leveraging this collaborative framework to enhance capacities, optimize service delivery, and spearhead the development of programs that catalyze transformative change towards a more inclusive and equitable future." To know more, [click here](#).



GivingPi Member, Radha Goenka is the Director of RPG Foundation, which recently took a significant step towards environmental conservation and community empowerment in Mumbai by installing 210 artificial reefs in the Arabian Sea. The installation of these reefs will play an instrumental role in strengthening marine life and supporting coastal communities. This marks the second successful reef deployment in India, following a pioneering effort in Pondicherry. To know more, [click here](#).



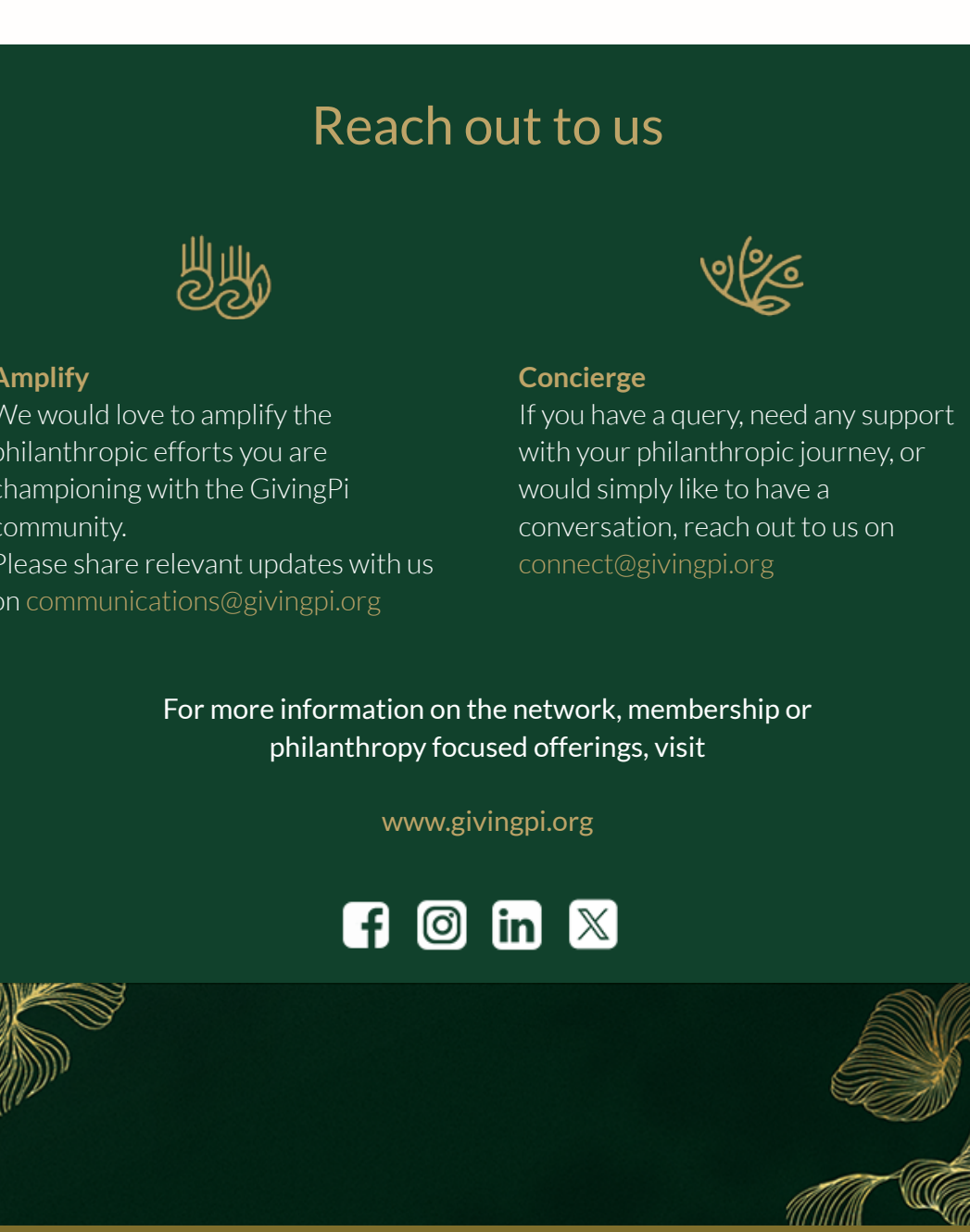
GivingPi Member, Hima Reddy, is the Director of IndiVillage Foundation, a non-profit skills training the Learning gap in rural India through digital literacy and 21st-century skills. The Foundation has been striving to bridge the skill and gender gap in the tech workforce through their gender-based STEM education program, Tech Her Forward. As an extension of this initiative, IndiVillage Foundation partnered with BI WORLDWIDE (India), and set up 6 computer labs in low-income private schools in rural Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, impacting 2,500+ students. To know more, [click here](#).



Catalysts for Social Action (CSA), Co-Founded by GivingPi Members, Vipul and Shibani Dasgupta Jain, has been working for the past two decades with children in over 100 Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in Maharashtra, Odisha, Goa and Madhya Pradesh. To support the Care Leavers (CLs) who leave institutional care every year, CSA has launched the first phase of the 'Job Readiness' program. The aim is to help CLs transition smoothly from an educational institution into a professional space. This January CSA trained over 45 CLs in Mumbai in time management, workplace communication, interview preparation and skills, resume writing, coping with work, and grooming. In February, CSA also organized a 'Train the Trainers' program in Pune for 35 CSA team members to learn facilitating techniques and to equip them with the tools needed to prepare CLs for this new phase in their lives. To know more, [click here](#).



GivingPi Member, Preetyam Buddhia, serves as the Director of iCanFly, an international school dedicated to educating children with special needs. iCanFly caters to a wide spectrum of disabilities, including Autism, ADHD, Down Syndrome, Learning Disabilities, Cerebral Palsy, and Intellectual Challenges. The school offers a comprehensive curriculum that includes functional academics, vocational classes, life skills training, co-curricular activities, hobbies, and sports. Each student receives an individualized education plan tailored to their unique needs. iCanFly is a pioneering institution in East India, offering international-standard facilities and admitting students of all ages without an exit policy, allowing them to attend for life. Preetyam and her mother, Dr. Minu Buddhia, are dedicated changemakers committed to improving livelihood and education opportunities for youth with special needs.



The Handloom School (THS), established under the aegis of WomenWeave Charitable Trust, is a family initiative of GivingPi Member, Yeshwant Holkar. THS is a school of Indian handloom, which blends tradition with global relevance. The school's focus goes beyond education; it operates to transform handloom communities into hubs of innovation and economic stability. Recently, the school celebrated the graduation of 15 talented young women weavers from Ladakh, Assam, and Madhya Pradesh, who completed their 'Certificate in Design and Enterprise Management' program after three months of intensive training. The graduation ceremony, which also featured an exhibition, highlighted the graduates' remarkable achievements and provided them with a platform to collaborate with industry professionals, including textile designers and business owners. The graduates are now gearing up for the next phase of their journey, participating in upcoming 'Buyer-Seller Meets' in Delhi and Mumbai, crucial to showcase their products and establish connections with potential buyers. To know more, [click here](#).

GivingPi Member, Siddharth Somaia is a Member of the Governing Council and Academic Council of Somaia Vidyavihar University, which is supporting an artist residency and fellowship. 'Immerse' serves as a channel for emerging artists and curators, facilitating their integration into the art ecosystem through a distinct fellowship program. With the aim of providing a platform for budding Indian artists across diverse mediums, fostering opportunities for both critical acclaim and commercial viability, this fellowship rigorously selects eight artists from a pool exceeding 500 applications. To know more, [click here](#).

GivingPi Members, Vasvi and Ashish Bharat Ram have launched a new philanthropy initiative - The India Mental Health Alliance, an entity that aspires to reimagine mental health in India through capacity building, strengthening communities and enhancing sectoral collaboration. IMHA's mission is to center lived experiences, local knowledge and non-pathologizing models in mental health capacity building and practice. IMHA is steered by its founding patrons Vasvi and Ashish and created in collaboration with leading mental health organizations, experts, doctors, practitioners and mentors. To know more, [click here](#).

GAME - Global Alliance for Mass Entrepreneurship, Co-Founded by GivingPi Members, Ravi Venkatesan and Mekin Maheshwari, recently partnered with Amazon India to empower and support 25,000 women artisans by harnessing the power of e-commerce. The partnership aims to boost the digital growth of their businesses by giving them access to training and workshops in the digital marketplace, and data on new and emerging markets. It will be facilitated by Amazon Karigar, Amazon Saheli and WEE at GAME without any financial investments by the women entrepreneurs. GAME's vision is to see 30 million women start, scale, and sustain their entrepreneurial journey by 2030, enabled by a global alliance for Women Entrepreneurship. This partnership marks a significant step towards that future, empowering women artisans to not only participate in the digital economy but to thrive within it. To know more, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

3rd April | Mumbai
As part of our Rendezvous with Philanthropy series, GivingPi is hosting a fireside chat titled, 'The Art of Impact: Look to the Past to Shape our Future'. This curated discussion with Sangita Jindal (Chairperson, JSW Foundation), Tasneem Zakaria Mehta (Managing Trustee & Director, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai) and Karishma Swali (Creative Director, Chanakya International and Chanakya School of Craft), is co-anchored by GivingPi Members Neha Mehta & Biyash Choksey, and will delve into the evolving role of philanthropy in restoring, reviving and mainstreaming impact through arts, craft and heritage in India. To attend this event, [RSVP here](#).

13th April | Mumbai
GivingPi is collaborating with Ashoka Innovators for the Public, for the Ashoka-GivingPi Huddle, which will bring together Ashoka Fellows, who are some of the leading Indian social entrepreneurs and philanthropists, and CSR and Foundation Heads, to co-create solutions for some of the most pressing social needs of the country. To learn more and participate in the Huddle, please reach out to [ethna@dasra.org](#).

17th April | Virtual
Join GivingPi and I. G. Advisors for an exclusive, virtual discussion with leading philanthropists on taking a closer look at next gen philanthropy and its unique approaches. This virtual session titled, 'Understanding the Nuances of Next Gen Philanthropy' will provide an opportunity for discussants to connect, share and learn from lived experiences of next gen philanthropists from across the globe on their approaches, strategies and barriers to impactful giving. To register for the discussion, [click here](#).

25th April | Mumbai
As part of our ongoing 'Rendezvous with Philanthropy' series, we are collaborating with Club Julies and St+art India for an insightful conversation on accelerating impact via the arts. This curated discussion will bring together GivingPi Members and leading philanthropists working in the realm of arts and culture, to explore the intersection of philanthropy and the evolving needs of the artistic community in India.

26th April | MAP, Bangalore
GivingPi is co-anchoring an inspiring conversation with GivingPi Member, Hima Reddy Machani, Director IndiVillage Foundation, as part of our 'Rendezvous with Philanthropy' series, on accelerating impact in education. This curated discussion will bring together GivingPi Members, leading philanthropists and social impact organizations working in the education sector in India.

A glimpse from the past

11th March | Delhi
GivingPi hosted a special edition of 'The Philanthropist Roundtable' on 'Women's leadership: The key to driving gender equity', in Delhi on 11th March. We'd like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Anupama Dalmia, GivingPi Champion and Director, Seekho Sikhao Foundation, for hosting this roundtable at her residence.

This gathering brought together a curated group of 20 leading women philanthropists and leadership of 7 global foundations such as Ford Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Co-Impact and Packard Foundation among others to have a thought-provoking dialogue on the critical role gender plays in the socio-economic development of India. The group engaged in open dialogue, shared personal stories of impact and diverse perspectives on empowering women leaders across sectors, while aligning on a shared vision of a more equitable future.

13th March | Virtual
GivingPi partnered with Ashoka Innovators for the Public to facilitate a virtual gathering between Ashoka Fellows, distinguished Indian social entrepreneurs, and philanthropists from the West Coast USA. On March 13, 2024, GivingPi Members, Sunny Gurpreet Singh, Srividya Prakash, Ambarish Malpani, Navneet Chugh, Nikunj Jhaveri and Harsha L'Acqua engaged in an immersive discussion, offering mentorship and strategic guidance to the Fellows. This collaborative session aimed to refine the strategies of Ashoka Fellows representing organizations such as SEEDS, Quest Alliance, Indus Action, INREM Foundation, Arogya World, Healing Fields Foundation, Saajha, Reap Benefit, Video Volunteers, and Catalyst Management Services.

In the media

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"As a philanthropist, it is your failures that shape you"
By Amit Chandra | India Development Review

GivingPi Member, Amit Chandra, Co-Founder of ATE Chandra Foundation, discusses his life as a philanthropist, his values and anxieties, and shares some lessons for his peers.

The Indian EXPRESS
On Women's Day, lessons on compassion and resilience from a 99-year-old
By Rohini Nilekani | The Indian Express

GivingPi Founders Circle Member and Chairperson of Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies, Rohini Nilekani, shares the inspiring story and life lessons of her centenarian mother-in-law, Durgabai Nilekani whose life is a testament to simplicity and resilience.

THE HINDU
An interview with Safeena Husain, who won the WISE Prize for Education 2023
By Soma Basu | The Hindu

A feature interview piece where Safeena Husain, Founder of Educate Girls talks about why and how she helps girls to go back to school.

Reach out to us

Amplify
We would love to amplify the philanthropic efforts you are championing with the GivingPi community.
Please share relevant updates with us on communications@givingpi.org

Concierge
If you have a query, need any support with your philanthropic journey, or would simply like to have a conversation, reach out to us on connect@givingpi.org

For more information on the network, membership or philanthropy focused offerings, visit www.givingpi.org

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