



GivingPi
India Family Philanthropy Network

Dear GivingPi Member,

Convening has always played an important role in philanthropy - creating space for new perspectives, shared learning, and relationships that can influence how giving evolves. As the challenges philanthropy seeks to address become increasingly interconnected across sectors and geographies, these spaces for exchange matter even more.

Over the past month, this was visible across the philanthropic calendar. United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Week brought together leaders from philanthropy, government, business, and civil society around global development priorities, while the India Philanthropy Forum (IPF) New York City 2026 examined the evolving role of the Indian diaspora, cross-border giving and collaboration. On the sidelines of UNGA, GivingPi convenings and roundtables created intimate spaces for members to exchange experiences, engage with new perspectives, and explore complex questions.

These interactions can shape philanthropic practice over time - deepening understanding, opening new avenues for engagement and building relationships that may lead to collaboration. They are also a reminder that values are reflected not only in how we give, but in the choices we make.

With the festive season approaching, this edition carries that idea into a different context. Alongside insights from across the philanthropic ecosystem, we are sharing the **GivingPi Festive Edit** - a selection of organizations supported by GivingPi Members that create thoughtfully made, ethically sourced products while supporting livelihoods and communities. We hope it offers a few meaningful options to consider for your festive gifting this season.

Taken together, this edition reflects some of the conversations, perspectives and moments that have shaped the past month across the GivingPi community.

With gratitude,
Team GivingPi

The GivingPi Festive Edit

A curated selection of organizations supported by GivingPi Members, offering thoughtfully made products that support livelihoods and communities - and a few meaningful options to consider for festive gifting.

Jai Vakeel Foundation

GivingPi Members Amit and Archana Chandra are closely associated with Jai Vakeel Foundation, where Archana serves as CEO. The Foundation runs one of India's largest sheltered workshops for young adults with intellectual disabilities, creating opportunities for artisans to build skills, earn a living and engage meaningfully through their work. Purchasing from Jai Vakeel Foundation helps support these opportunities and the artisans behind the products. Explore the product catalogue [here](#).

Kshamata

GivingPi Member Nikunj Jhaveri serves as an Advisor to Kshamata and works closely with the organization to support its efforts to empower women and girls from vulnerable communities. Through Kshamata Unlimited, the organization creates dignified livelihood opportunities for survivors of human trafficking by enabling them to develop skills and create products for sale. Each purchase supports their journey towards greater economic independence and provides a meaningful way to support their work. To explore Kshamata's range of products, click [here](#).

EkiBeki

GivingPi Members Neellesh and Vishpala Hundekari founded EkiBeki to support the revival of India's traditional crafts and create sustainable livelihoods for artisans. EkiBeki works with artisan communities across India, adapting traditional techniques into contemporary products while helping keep these crafts relevant and connected to new markets. From home décor and accessories to stationery, jewellery and festive gifts, EkiBeki's products bring Indian craft into everyday life. To explore their range of products, click [here](#).

Women's India Trust

GivingPi Member Gool Udwadia, Hon. Chairperson of Women's India Trust (WIT), supports the organization's work to create sustainable livelihoods for women through skills training and employment opportunities. WIT has been working with women across Maharashtra for over five decades, providing training in areas including tailoring, block printing, food production, toys and handicrafts. To explore their products and find something for your festive gifting, click [here](#).

artisan:re

GivingPi Member Radha Goenka founded artisan:re under RPG Foundation to connect farmers with fair markets while promoting regenerative agriculture and sustainable livelihoods. The social enterprise works with farmers and their families across the cotton value chain, from regenerative farming and organic cotton to hand-spinning, weaving and tailoring, and creates products that carry this approach through to the consumer. From home décor and dining to accessories and gifting, artisan:re offers a thoughtful way to bring sustainably made products into your home. To explore their collection, click [here](#).

reCharkha

GivingPi Member Anandhi Yagnaraman has been a patron of reCharkha, a social enterprise that creates upcycled, handcrafted products while enabling livelihoods for women and youth in rural areas. From discarded plastic, it creates bags, home accessories, and everyday essentials using traditional handloom techniques. To bring their thoughtfully created products into your home or make them part of your festive gifting, explore their collection [here](#).

Global Pulse Opportunities & Insights in Philanthropy

This section curates timely opportunities, events, and thought leadership shaping philanthropy and the social sector globally. Whether you're a funder, nonprofit leader, or ecosystem builder - here's where you'll find tools, conversations, and collaborations worth exploring.

Common Ground: Emerging Ideas in Social Change

Dasra's new editorial publication brings together ideas and perspectives shaping philanthropy and social change, drawing on conversations from the India Philanthropy Forum London 2026. The inaugural edition explores shifts across evidence, entrepreneurial philanthropy, intentional giving, finance, grassroots ecosystems, climate, and inclusion. To read the publication, click [here](#).

Indian American Philanthropy: Strengthening Values and Community Across Generations

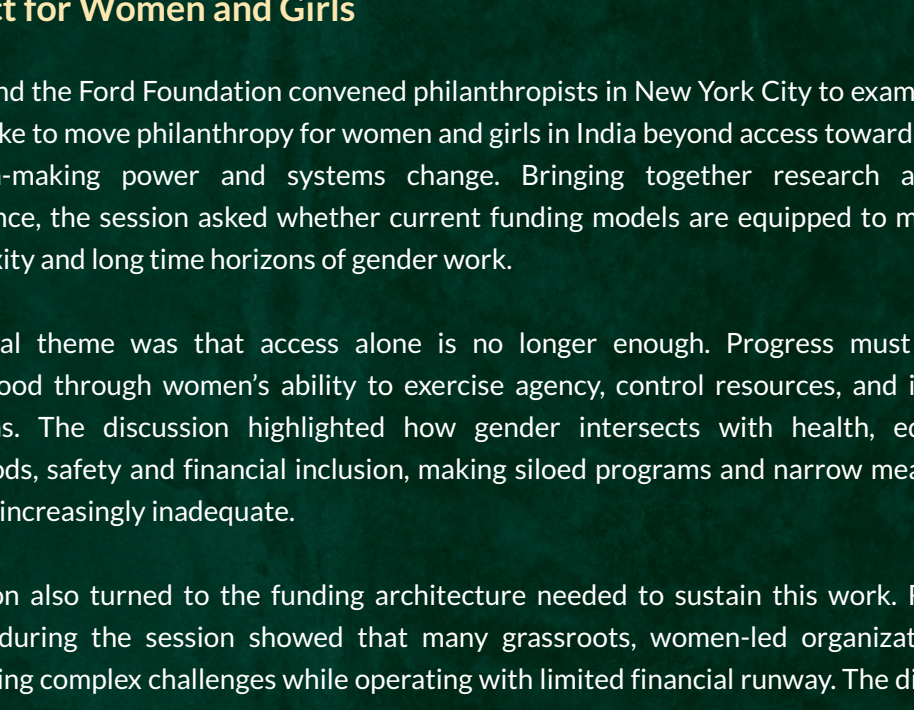
A new Bridgespan report, developed with Ford Foundation, explores the evolving philanthropy of Indian Americans and the potential for greater giving across the US and India. Drawing on conversations with more than 60 donors, nonprofit leaders, and experts, it examines how values, community, and intergenerational connections shape giving. To read the report, click [here](#).

The Gap in Funding Clean Air

A global analysis from the Clean Air Fund finds that less than 0.1% of philanthropic foundation funding between 2019 and 2023 went towards clean air, with the most polluted regions receiving a disproportionately small share. The report examines funding trends and gaps, and highlights opportunities for philanthropy to direct capital toward data, policy, implementation, and underfunded geographies. To read the full report, click [here](#).

Powered by GivingPi What We're Unlocking

Where partnerships are sparked, networks deepen, and bold conversations take shape.



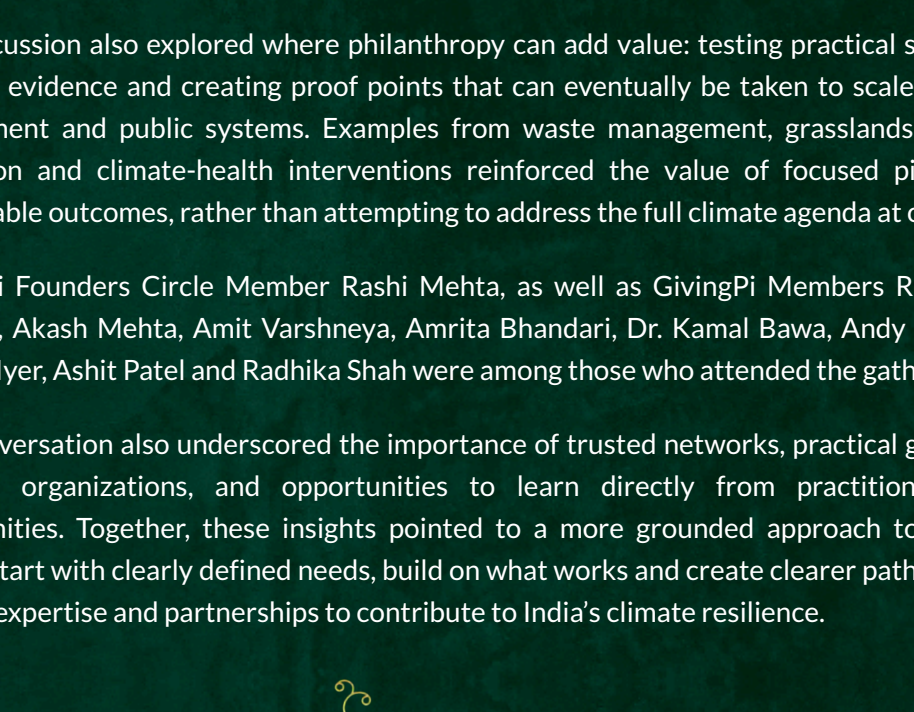
Dasra Convening | Grounded in Communities, Rooted in Action

How can philanthropy better support organizations that are closest to the communities they serve? Anjana and Ashvin Patel, supporters of the Rebuild India Fund, hosted a closed-door gathering in Los Altos Hills, California, bringing together the GivingPi and wider Bay Area community for a conversation on supporting grassroots organizations in India.

The evening featured Sujana Krishnamoorthy, Executive Director of Under The Mango Tree Society, and Bhanumathi Kalurbi, Executive Director of Dhatri Trust, in conversation with Vishal Kapoor of Alameda County Community Food Bank. Drawing on their work with communities across India, they reflected on locally led solutions, women's leadership, and the importance of enabling communities to shape the decisions that affect them. The convening was attended by GivingPi Members Radhika Shah and Ashit Patel, Amit Varshneya, Reetu Gupta, Nitin Kumar, Deepak Chopra, and Mari Tilos.

Deval Sanghavi, Co-founder and Partner of Dasra, brought the evening to a close with a reflection on what it takes to back proximate organizations with the trust, capital, and long-term support needed to deepen their work.

We are grateful to Anjana and Ashvin Patel for opening their home and making space for a thoughtful exchange on community-led change and the role philanthropy can play in enabling it.



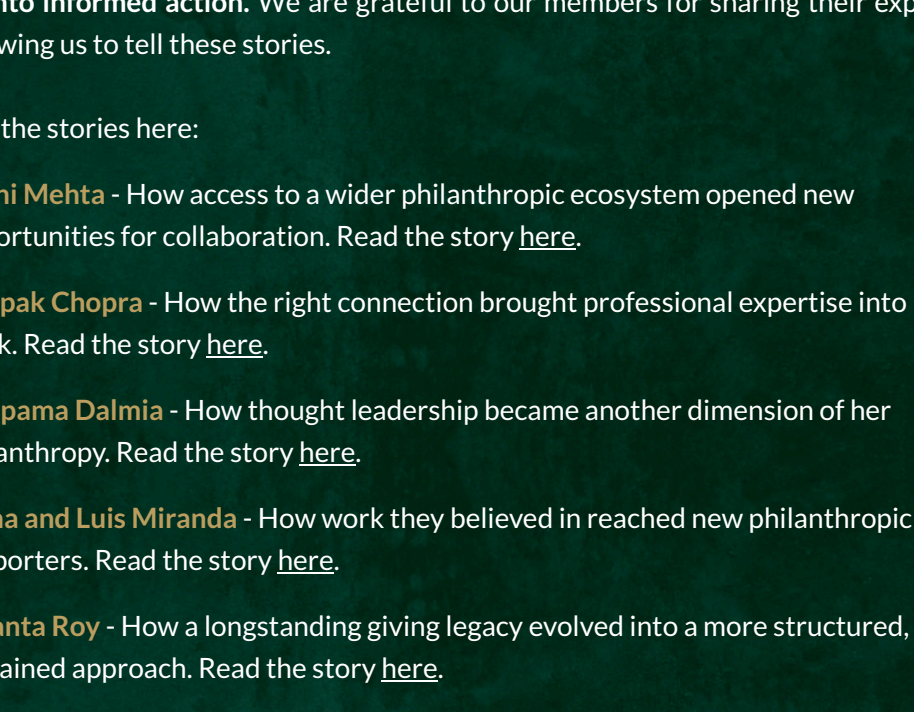
Salon Series | Reimagining the Public Education Landscape of India

GivingPi Members Vivek and Nilima Ragavan hosted an intimate dinner bringing together philanthropists and sector leaders to explore what it takes to strengthen public education in India. The gathering offered an opportunity to look beyond individual interventions and learn from organizations working alongside communities to build change within the public education system, including the work of Mantra4Change and the Shikshagraha movement.

Santosh More and Khushboo Awasthi, Co-founders of Mantra4Change, shared the vision behind the Shikshagraha movement and its approach to advancing public education through community-led, decentralized action. GivingPi Founders Circle Member and Founder of Iron Lady Foundation, Rashi Mehta, reflected on her own engagement with Mantra4Change, offering a perspective on how connections between philanthropists and organizations can deepen over time and open pathways for more informed giving and collaboration.

An introduction to GivingPi and its approach to personal philanthropy also formed part of the evening. Together, the conversations highlighted the value of trusted networks in helping families understand complex issues, learn from credible organizations, and find meaningful points of connection with others working towards shared goals. GivingPi Members Radhika Shah and Ashit Patel, Deepak Chopra, and Rekha Pai Kamath were present alongside other guests.

We are grateful to Vivek and Nilima Ragavan for hosting the evening and helping deepen the conversation on the role philanthropy can play in strengthening public education in India.



GURLZ CLUB | Film, Conversation and Reflection in New York

On the sidelines of the India Philanthropy Forum New York City 2026, GivingPi brought members and friends of the platform together for a screening of GURLZ CLUB, hosted by Suparna Gupta and Nikkhil Advani in collaboration with Dasra.

Directed by Zoya Parvin and inspired by true events, the 22-minute film is set in a remote Indian village and follows six spirited young girls whose simple request is refused by the village council, sending their solidarity into a tailspin. GURLZ CLUB explores friendship, freedom, and the girls' determination to claim space for themselves.

The screening was followed by reflections and a conversation with the makers, exploring the themes and realities brought to life through the film, as well as the role of storytelling in shaping narratives and advancing futures for women and girls in India.

The evening brought together GivingPi Members Amit Varshneya, Anne Lindsay-Makepeace and Tarun Jotwani, Andy Kalamb, Ashit Patel and Radhika Shah, Mari Tilos, Salma Merchant Rahmathulla, Dr. Satish Tripathi, Sejal Desai, and Urja Shah alongside other guests.

We are grateful to Suparna Gupta and Nikkhil Advani for co-hosting the screening and using film as a starting point for reflection on the realities, aspirations and agency of women and girls in India.

India Philanthropy Forum | New York 2026

The India Philanthropy Forum New York City 2026 brought together 230+ philanthropists, family principals, sector leaders, and changemakers to explore how India's relationship with the world is evolving, and what it means to move from giving back to building forward. The Forum examined how capital, ideas, culture, community, and leadership can move across borders in both directions, creating new possibilities for India and the world to learn from, contribute to, and strengthen one another.

Across the Forum, a recurring theme was the need to question familiar approaches to philanthropic decision-making. Discussions explored what lasting change can look like beyond organizational scale, the role of proximity and context in understanding what communities need, and how funders can create the conditions for stronger institutions, local leadership, and systems change. Conversations on the next generation, AI, and culture extended this lens to changing forms of influence, contribution, and connection to India.

GivingPi Founders Circle Member Rashi Mehta, as well as GivingPi Members Anne Lindsay-Makepeace, Donald Lobo, Rekha Pai Kamath, Salma Merchant Rahmathulla, Sapphira Goradia, Sejal Desai, Srividya Prakash, Uma Venkataraman, Urja Shah, and Vandana Pamecha were among those who attended the gathering.

The session pointed to a broader shift in philanthropic practice: advancing agency for women and girls requires investing not only in programs, but in the institutions, people and ecosystems that can sustain change over time.

Turning Intent into Impact | Diaspora Giving for Climate Action in India

At The Rockefeller Foundation in New York City, Dasra convened a closed-door roundtable with diaspora philanthropists, climate leaders and ecosystem partners to explore what it takes to translate growing interest in climate into sustained engagement with India's climate transition. Supported by The Rockefeller Foundation, the discussion examined what can help philanthropists move from understanding the issue to identifying credible pathways for action.

A key thread was that climate becomes more actionable when connected to issues people already care about. Conversations on food, health, education, livelihoods, nature and community resilience showed how climate can be integrated into existing philanthropic priorities rather than treated as a standalone issue.

The discussion also explored where philanthropy can add value: testing practical solutions, building evidence and creating proof points that can eventually be taken to scale through government and public systems. Examples from waste management, grasslands, climate education and climate-health interventions reinforced the value of focused pilots and measurable outcomes, rather than attempting to address the full climate agenda at once.

GivingPi Founders Circle Member Rashi Mehta, as well as GivingPi Members Rekha Pai Kamath, Akash Mehta, Amit Varshneya, Amrita Bhandari, Dr. Kamal Bawa, Andy Kalambi, Govind Iyer, Ashit Patel and Radhika Shah were among those who attended the gathering.

The conversation also underscored the importance of trusted networks, practical guidance, credible organizations, and opportunities to learn directly from practitioners and communities. Together, these insights pointed to a more grounded approach to climate giving: start with clearly defined needs, build on what works and create clearer pathways for capital, expertise and partnerships to contribute to India's climate resilience.

The Network Effect: How GivingPi can shape what comes next

Over the past month, The Network Effect has brought GivingPi's role into sharper focus - showing how the platform has helped families navigate pivotal moments in their philanthropy with greater clarity, confidence and direction.

Across eight stories, our role took many forms: shaping giving strategies, identifying credible organizations, opening new areas of support, connecting peers and experts, creating pathways for collaboration, and enabling contributions that extended beyond capital. The common thread was not any one service, but GivingPi's ability to understand what could move a member forward and bring the right knowledge, relationships or opportunities to that moment.

Featuring Amit and Ruchi Varshneya, Anupama Dalmia, Deepak Chopra, Fiona and Luis Miranda, Jayanta Roy, Nalini Saligram, Oliver Banger, Rashi Mehta, and Vivek Jain, the campaign captured what can happen when philanthropic intent is matched with the right infrastructure to act on it.

At its core, The Network Effect made visible something that often happens behind the scenes: **GivingPi helping turn questions into choices, connections into collaborations, and intent into informed action.** We are grateful to our members for sharing their experiences and allowing us to tell these stories.

Explore the stories here:

- **Rashi Mehta** - How access to a wider philanthropic ecosystem opened new opportunities for collaboration. Read the story [here](#).
- **Deepak Chopra** - How the right connection brought professional expertise into FEA's work. Read the story [here](#).
- **Anupama Dalmia** - How thought leadership became another dimension of her philanthropy. Read the story [here](#).
- **Fiona and Luis Miranda** - How work they believed in reached new philanthropic supporters. Read the story [here](#).
- **Jayanta Roy** - How a longstanding giving legacy evolved into a more structured, sustained approach. Read the story [here](#).
- **Nalini Saligram and Oliver Banger** - How a shared interest in preventive healthcare became a collaboration neither had planned. Read the story [here](#).
- **Vivek Jain** - How trusted recommendations opened new directions for philanthropy. Read the story [here](#).
- **Amit and Ruchi Varshneya** - How a multigenerational vision became a clearer strategy for family giving. Read the story [here](#).

Reach out to us



Amplify

We would love to amplify your philanthropic efforts 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



The information, data, and impact figures featured in this newsletter have been provided by the respective organizations and are shared for informational purposes. They do not represent independent verification by GivingPi.