### Project emPOWER in India

### What is Project emPOWER?

Project emPOWER centers around making self-defense training accessible in schools so that kids can be better equipped to deal with abductions, bullying and general safety while working on their self-esteem and confidence. Students spend about 1000 hours on P.E. from elementary to middle school, and if 30 of these hours were to be spent on self-defense, students would be able to make the community a better place for themselves and for others.

In partnership with the Town of Danville Recreation, Arts and Community Services Department, Girl Scout Troop 32666, which I am a member of, piloted this program at Diablo Vista Middle School and organized a *free* educational self-defense course.

## **Good Harvest School**

While equality and progressiveness is constantly being pushed here in America, there are areas of the world, such as rural India, where women still are fighting the everlasting battle for equality. The Good Harvest School is a school founded in rural India which:

- Is an all-girls school for the less-privileged who wouldn't normally have the opportunity to be educated
- Aims to transform the current education system in villages
- Allows girls to explore who they are as young women without social pressure
- seeks to establish strong bonds of connections between the girls
- Offers a comfortable learning atmosphere with strong female role models as their positive mentors, equipping our students to adapt to the ever-changing demands of the world.

#### THE GOOD HARVEST SCHOOL

The Good Harvest School is an initiative to give free education to rural girls in Unnao. Giving them a fair chance to learn and grow, and helping them break the cycle of poverty and gender inequality.



### Why Self Defense for Good Harvest School?

Data on violence against children, especially girls, shows a fraction of the real picture:

- In India, one in three (34 per cent) of adolescent girls (aged 15-19) married or in union have experienced physical, sexual or emotional violence by their husband or partner. Among these, more than one in 10 (13 per cent) have experienced sexual violence by their partner.
- Almost half of girls (45 per cent) and boys (48 per cent) justify wife beating.
- Twelve million adolescent girls that is almost one in five – have experienced physical violence since the age of 15. In these cases, the most common perpetrator of physical violence for married girls is the husband or partner (33 per cent). For unmarried girls the mother or stepmother is the most common abuser (41 per cent), followed by the father or stepfather (18 per cent) and teacher (11 per cent).



## What can CJSF do?

- Giving Good Harvest School girls access to self-defense would cost money (to hire trainers, buy equipment, etc.)
- Seeing as CJSF largely believes in supporting causes such as this, fundraising for this event would be something we could be able to do

#### IN ALL THIS WE NEED YOU

According to a rough estimate, the amenities we want to provide here today, will take about 20 years to reach in this village if no such initiative is taken. But you can be the catalyst of change, so that the village children can have a fair chance to grow and learn.

## More Information About the Good Harvest School and its mission

A survey says,

## **98.8%** OF YOUTH IN RURAL INDIA DON'T WANT TO GET INTO FARMING

Our food is at risk.



#### A SMALL SCHOOL IN NORTHERN INDIA IS SLOWLY BRINGING A CHANGE.



## THE GOOD HARVEST SCHOOL

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# **Agriculture and girls**



Due to migration, agriculture is not a male dominated field anymore. It is actually women who often outdo men. From selecting, preparing and sowing seeds to transplanting the seedlings, applying manure and then harvesting, winnowing and threshing, women work harder and longer on the field than men. Yet, we fail to recognize their hard work. The Good Harvest School is a small and a long-term effort to support young girls from the farming community to become responsible food growers in the future.



## OUR CORE VALUES

In whatever we do, we must

#### TAKE CARE OF THE EARTH

In whatever we do, we must

#### TAKE CARE OF THE PEOPLE

Anything excess, we must SHARE OR RETURN IT

#### MORE THAN A SCHOOL - OUR INITIATIVES

Setting up a Seed Bank and an agrilab

Designing agri-based curriculum for children

Free green education for all  $\star$ 

By 2022, our goal is to be 100% self sustainable +

Connecting and helping female farmers

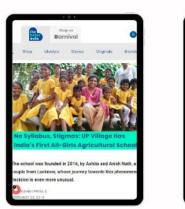
## WE NEED YOU

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Anish Nath and Ashita Nath Founders of The Good Harvest School Anish Nath worked in advertising field for 7 years and decided to make a career shift by becoming a full time farmer in 2014. Since then Anish has been working on different crops and animals, and developing models for farmers to increase their income.

Ashita Nath is M.Sc in Zoology and B.Ed. She has over ten years of teaching experience. She has also worked in Delhi with an NGO to set up a home for children with difficult backgrounds. Ashita has been representing the school on various platforms including two TEDx Talks.















#### MAKING SOME (GREEN) NEWS



#### www.thegoodharvestschool.com





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### Click here to donate to Sonia's initiative to bring self defense instruction to the Good Harvest School.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/empower-girls-in-rural-india