

# E-SAMBANDH



## EMPOWERING YOUNG GIRLS THROUGH 'ATMASHAKTI'

### LAUNCH OF A SELF-DEFENCE PROGRAM FOR SAFETY AND RESILIENCE

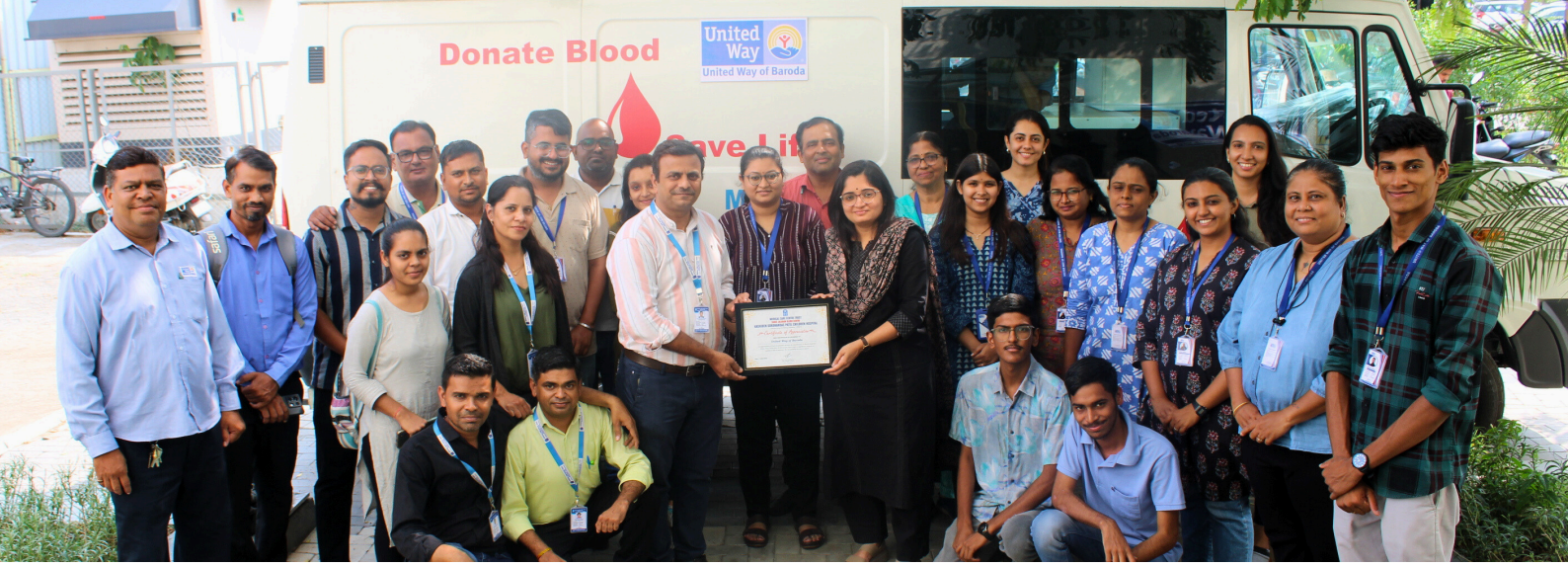
United Way of Baroda proudly launched 'Atmashakti,' a transformative self-defence program aimed at empowering girls from Standards 6 to 8 in NPSS schools. This thoughtfully designed initiative not only equips young girls with practical self-defence skills but also fosters confidence, resilience, and self-assurance.

The inaugural ceremony took place at Kavi Premanand Primary School, Gajrawadi, during 'Pravesh-Utsav,' an event graced by the esteemed presence of Mr. Kamal Dayani (IAS), Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat, and Mrs. Nilam Acharya, Executive Director, United Way of Baroda.

Atmashakti is more than a program, it's a commitment to shaping a safer, brighter tomorrow for our young girls, empowering them to face the world with confidence and strength.



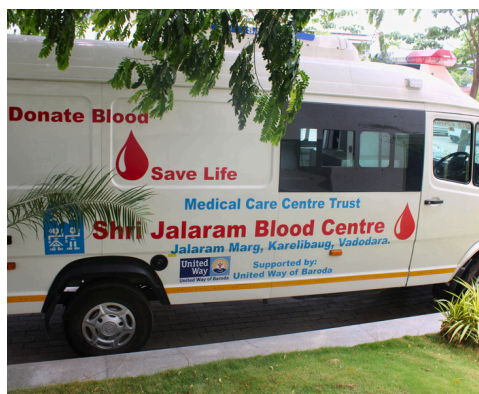
The pilot program, led by expert self defence trainer Adv. Shilpa Dave, will commence in five schools during school hours, ensuring accessibility for all students. The success of this pilot phase will pave the way for its expansion to additional schools, amplifying its reach and impact.



# IGNITING HOPE THROUGH IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY ACTION

## SHARING THE GIFT OF LIFE BY DONATING BLOOD

On the observance of World Blood Donor Day, United Way of Baroda organized a Blood Donation Drive. By collecting **60 units of blood**, we assembled a community united by compassion, commitment, and a shared desire to make a difference. Inspired by the thought - "One unit of blood can save three lives," numerous citizens enthusiastically participated in the drive, showcasing the true spirit of community responsibility. Each donor became a beacon of hope and exemplified humanity at its finest. Each drop of blood collected is more than just a donation – it's a ray of hope, a chance at life, and a reminder of the strength we have when we stand together.



# BEATING PLASTIC, NURTURING FORESTS

## COMBINING ACTION AND INNOVATION FOR A HEALTHIER PLANET

In celebration of World Environment Day 2025, United Way of Baroda reaffirmed its commitment to environmental sustainability by organizing a clean-up drive at its Miyawaki forest plantation sites, aligning with this year's global theme - "Beat Plastic Pollution."

The Miyawaki method is an innovative urban afforestation technique—creates dense, fast-growing forests in compact urban areas using native species. But environmental stewardship extends beyond planting. To ensure sustained growth and impact, our staff and interns actively carried out de-weeding, plastic waste removal, and debris clearance at three green sites in Narhari and Makarpura.



Three dynamic teams - Team Tulsi, Team Aloe Vera, and Team Mint, led the charge, each playing a vital role in reviving the sites and supporting ecosystem health. From removing plastic to nurturing young saplings, their efforts brought life back to these crucial urban forests.

A standout feature of this initiative was the integration of digital technology for ecological monitoring. Each tree has been geo-tagged, enabling real-time tracking, efficient aftercare planning, and better long-term impact evaluation, demonstrating United Way's forward-thinking approach to urban forestry. This initiative reflects our ongoing mission to build resilient green spaces and promote community-driven environmental action for today and for generations to come.



# ROOTING FOR THE FUTURE

## TEAM UWB EXPLORES MIYAWAKI FORESTS AND CARBON IMPACT IN EXPERT SESSION

To strengthen its commitment to sustainable environmental practices, United Way of Baroda hosted an enriching expert session for staff and interns on the Miyawaki Forest concept, focusing on its development methodology, ecological relevance, and real-world application.

The session was led by Ms. Shreya Dalwadi, an architect, certified town planner, environmentalist, and greenpreneur—who offered in-depth knowledge on building dense native forests using the Miyawaki method. Her insights provided a comprehensive understanding of the step-by-step implementation process and its long-term ecological benefits.

This knowledge will directly enhance our approach to existing and future green initiatives, empowering us to plant with greater purpose and measurable impact.



Key highlights of the session included discussions on carbon sequestration, carbon offset potential, and the evolving domain of carbon credit trading. These discussions offered valuable perspectives on how urban afforestation contributes tangibly to mitigating climate change.



# WEAVING A STRONGER TOMORROW

## SPREADING JOY THROUGH SHARED PURPOSE

In the spirit of giving, PATTERNS joined hands with United Way of Baroda as a supporting partner for the 'Joy of Giving' initiative, extending compassion and care to the residents of Shram Mandir, an institution that shelters and supports individuals affected by leprosy.

As part of this heartfelt campaign, PATTERNS contributed by donating clothes to the beneficiaries of Shram Mandir.

While our role was a supporting one, we remain proud to be part of a campaign that proves how even the smallest contributions can inspire a ripple of kindness across communities.



# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## PROMOTING ENHANCED HYGIENE

### ADDRESSING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS



BEFORE



AFTER

In a significant stride toward fostering a healthier and more hygienic learning environment, United Way of Baroda, in partnership with CSR donor Troikaa Pharmaceuticals, inaugurated a newly constructed toilet block at Swami Vivekanand School, Karelibaug.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of the school principal and committee members, who expressed their heartfelt gratitude to United Way of Baroda and Troikaa Pharmaceuticals. Their swift and meaningful intervention has created a lasting impact on the school community, ensuring a cleaner and more inclusive environment for all.



Responding to the school's urgent need for adequate sanitation facilities, the new infrastructure includes separate toilets for girls, boys, and staff. This addition not only addresses a critical gap but also promotes dignity and safety for the students and faculty alike. This initiative underscores our commitment to improving education through holistic support.

# COMMITMENT TO HEALTH THROUGH SAFE WATER ACCESSIBILITY

## A COLLABORATIVE STEP TOWARDS HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

On May 10, 2025, Sun Pharma and United Way of Baroda came together to inaugurate two Water ATMs in Govindpuri and Ghoghamba – a significant step toward ensuring safe, affordable, and accessible drinking water for the local communities.

These units, with a capacity of 250 liters per hour, will provide clean water at just ₹1 per liter or ₹5 for 20 liters, bringing a sustainable solution to the region's water challenges.

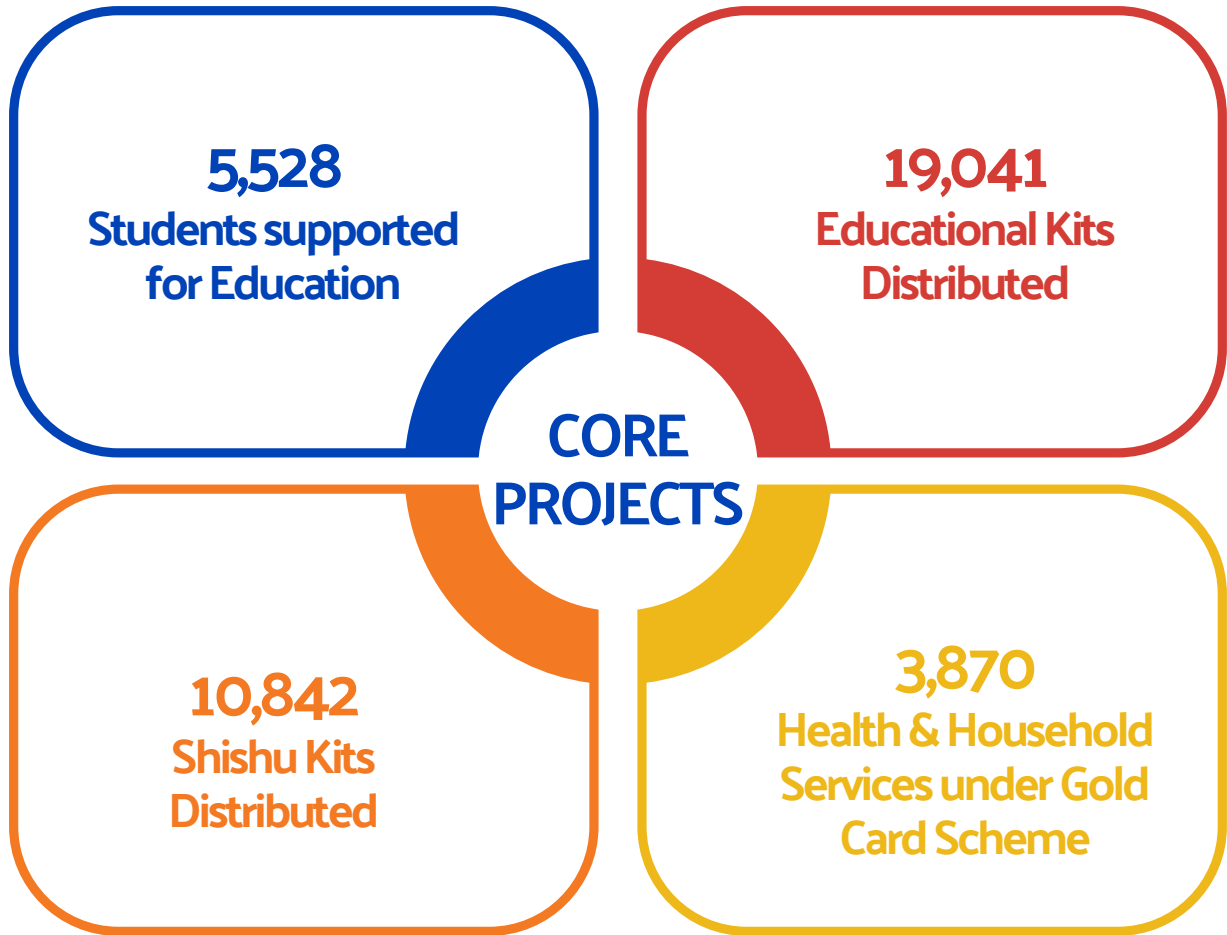
The event witnessed a warm and enthusiastic response from the local community, including the esteemed presence of Shri Jaydrathsinh Parmar, Hon'ble MLA, Taluka Panchayat officials, Sarpanches from nearby villages, and hundreds of villagers.

Representing the collaboration were Mr. Pratik Pandya, Manager CSR, Sun Pharma, and Ms. Ritu Atthwal, Assistant Manager CSR, United Way of Baroda, along with their dedicated teams.

This initiative reflects our mutual and long-standing commitment to building healthier, more resilient communities to create lasting.



# IMPACT 2024-25





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