

# E-SAMBANDH



## 39 YEARS OF SOCIAL IMPACT

**CELEBRATING OUR PAST, STRENGTHENING OUR PRESENT,  
AND INSPIRING OUR FUTURE**

Marking 39 years of dedicated service and community stewardship with a vibrant Foundation Day celebration.. The event featured an insightful staff development session on productivity conducted by Ms. Kanan Joshi, emphasizing continuous learning and organizational excellence. The celebration also included team-building activities and an engaging interaction with trustees, reinforcing collective purpose and shared leadership.

As we move forward, we continue to uphold our mission of collaborative community development while building stronger systems, partnerships, and capacities.





# FUSION STUDY FOUNDATION MARKS 20 YEARS

## A MILESTONE CELEBRATION HONOURING JOURNEYS, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND THE PROMISE OF TOMORROW

This year marks a monumental milestone—20 impactful years of Fusion Study Foundation. What began as a small step toward educational equity has grown into a legacy of transformation, empowering students to pursue higher education and build brighter futures.

The anniversary was celebrated at our Bi-Annual Get-Together, where warmth, wisdom, and cherished memories filled the room. The event brought together students, mentors, and supporters to reconnect, reflect, and celebrate the milestones achieved over the past two decades.





## NURTURING DREAMS & SHAPING FUTURES

The milestone celebration also witnessed the launch of 'Endeavour 2025', the latest edition of the annual project magazine. The publication documents the project's evolution, featuring narratives, achievements, and insights that highlight its sustained impact over two decades.

As part of the program, Ms. Kanan Joshi conducted a capacity-building session focusing on emotional intelligence, equipping students with tools to enhance personal growth, resilience, and interpersonal understanding through reflective activities and guided learning.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all participants and stakeholders whose support has shaped this remarkable journey. Together, we continue to unlock opportunities and empower students to rise as leaders of tomorrow.



# 124 STUDENTS SELECTED UNDER THE UNITED FUSION STUDY FOUNDATION

## SUPPORTING AMBITION THROUGH OPPORTUNITY

The Fusion Study Foundation (FSF), a flagship initiative of United Way of Baroda in partnership with the Stichting Fusion Study Foundation (Netherlands), provides higher education support to talented yet financially disadvantaged students across Gujarat by covering essential academic expenses.



### Applications received

in 2025-26

**503**



### Selection Process

Home surveys and personal interviews to assess financial conditions, merit and career goals



### Students selected

in 2025-26

**124**



**3 Crores**  
Total Funds  
Disbursed  
in 2025-26

**1456**

Students supported  
till date



# 232 STUDENTS SELECTED UNDER THE SHIKHAR SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## FUELS SCIENCE EDUCATION THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

The Shikhar Science Scholarship Program aims to reduce high dropout rates in secondary science education by offering financial support to deserving students in Grades 11 and 12. Through a merit- and need-based selection process, the program ensures that talented students facing financial challenges can continue their academic journey with confidence.



### Applications received

in 2025-26

**453**



### Selection Process

Home surveys and personal interviews to assess financial conditions, merit and career goals



### Students selected

in 2025-26

**232**



**80 Lakhs**  
Total Funds  
Disbursed  
in 2025-26

**345**

Students supported  
till date



An interactive session with students and their parents further strengthened the program's commitment by addressing challenges, offering motivational guidance, and preparing families to support students in the year ahead.



# 242 STUDENTS SUPPORTED UNDER THE MISSION SHIKSHA PROJECT

## RESTORING HOPE IN HARDSHIPS

In response to the devastating impact of COVID-19, Mission Shiksha provides holistic support to children who lost one or both parents during the pandemic, helping them navigate emotional, financial, and social challenges. The program ensures uninterrupted education by covering school fees, providing learning materials, and addressing essential needs, while community outreach and emotional support help families regain stability. Operating across six districts of Gujarat, Mission Shiksha continues to serve as a vital lifeline for vulnerable children striving to rebuild their futures.

A focused interaction with students and parents opened up to overcome challenges by sparking important conversations, delivered renewed motivation, and aligned to better support academic success in the coming months.

**242**  
Students supported  
till date

**76 Lakhs**  
Total Funds  
Disbursed



# 400 STUDENTS SUPPORTED UNDER THE UMANG SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

## MAKING EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE FOR DESERVING LEARNERS

The Umang Educational Scholarship Program reinforces United Way of Baroda's commitment to making education accessible for every aspiring student, regardless of financial constraints. Supporting bright and underprivileged learners across Vadodara District, the program helps bridge the financial gaps that often hinder educational continuity.

This year, Umang received 232 applications, and through a fair and need-based selection process, 136 deserving students were awarded scholarships—enabling them to pursue their academic goals with confidence.

**400**  
Students supported  
till date

**20 Lakhs**  
Total Funds  
Disbursed



# PACKING HOPE INTO EVERY SCHOOL BAG

## EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO LEARN, EXPLORE, AND DREAM



Under the Orphan, Destitute, and Single Parent Project, United Way of Baroda distributed educational kits to **1,737 students** across **65 NPSS schools**, giving children from underprivileged backgrounds the resources they need to learn with confidence. Each kit—containing a school bag, notebooks, stationery, a lunch box, a water bottle, and other essentials—serves as a symbol of hope and opportunity. Through this initiative, UWB remains committed to reducing educational barriers and nurturing young learners, ensuring every child has the tools to pursue their dreams without limits.



# BUILDING STRENGTH THROUGH SAFETY

## SELF DEFENSE TRAINING FOR CONFIDENCE AND PREPAREDNESS

United Way of Baroda organized an empowering self-defense training session for its women employees. The workshop equipped participants with essential techniques designed to enhance personal safety—ranging from basic defense moves and escape strategies to situational awareness and preventive actions.

The session combined practical demonstrations with guided practice, enabling participants to build both physical readiness and mental resilience. Beyond learning how to respond in moments of threat, the team also explored ways to stay alert, assess surroundings, and make quick, informed decisions in unexpected situations.

More than a skill-building exercise, the training fostered a sense of solidarity and empowerment. It encouraged them to trust their instincts, strengthen self-belief, and take proactive steps toward personal security.



# A WIN FOR THE PLANET

## UWB WINS VNM ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2025

United Way of Baroda has been honoured with the Winner's Award in the NGO Category at the 10th All Gujarat VNM Environmental Excellence Awards 2025. This recognition celebrates our steadfast commitment to environmental sustainability, community empowerment, and impact-driven solutions that address pressing ecological concerns.



# POWERING PEOPLE WHO POWER CHANGE

## BUILDING STRONGER TEAMS FOR DEEPER COMMUNITY IMPACT

Great initiatives need great people behind them—and this training helped us level up! The United Way of Baroda team participated in Team Training Intervention under SARAI—Train the Trainer initiative by AURA Education Trust, with a focus on emotional intelligence, empathy-led leadership, and impact-driven facilitation skills.

This initiative empowers our changemakers to not just deliver programs, but to inspire, support, and transform lives more effectively.

Through hands-on activities, personal reflections, and shared learning, the training emphasized effective communication, relationship-building, and reflective engagement—key pillars in ensuring our team delivers support with insight, respect, and emotional sensitivity.



# FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION

## VADODARA'S STUDENTS UNITE FOR RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING HABITS

Electronic waste and improper disposal of expired medicines are growing public health and environmental challenges. Discarded devices such as batteries, phones, and chargers release toxic chemicals into soil and water when dumped irresponsibly. Similarly, medicines disposed of through household waste or drains can contaminate water bodies and harm ecosystems.



The programme aimed to educate students on environmental hazards and empower them to take responsible action within their homes and neighbourhoods and received enthusiastic participation from both students and parents, reflecting increased public awareness around safe disposal practices.

To address this pressing concern, United Way of Baroda in Collaboration with SoCleen conducted Awareness Sessions across 14 schools in Vadodara, followed by a Collection Drive.



All collected materials were handed over to a recognized waste management organization - Kachre Se Azadi, ensuring scientific treatment and recycling. This prevented hazardous waste from entering landfills, safeguarding soil and water ecosystems.

**Total E-Waste Collected  
649.3 Kg**

**Total Expired Medicines Collected  
90.03 Kg**



By combining education, participation, and responsible waste management, the initiative successfully diverted harmful waste while nurturing environmental stewardship among young citizens.

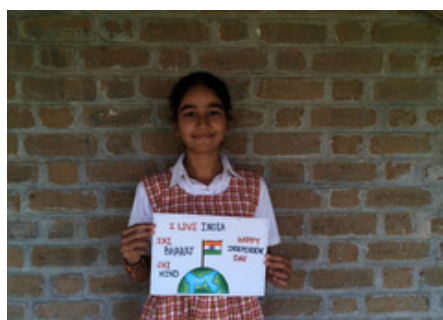
# 500 GREETING CARDS THAT CARRY VOICES OF GRATITUDE

## DIWALI GREETINGS HANDCRAFTED BY OUR YOUNG HEARTS FOR OUR SOLDIERS

United Way of Baroda, along with the Faculty of Journalism and Communication at The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, supported Aabhar 9.0—an initiative devoted to gratitude and national pride. This year, students from partner NGOs created 500+ handmade Diwali cards, carrying heartfelt messages for the soldiers who guard our nation. Over four days, journalism students and the UWB team visited Disha Charitable Trust, Children Home for Girls, Asha Special School, Arpan Charitable Trust, Akshar, Shram Mandir Trust, XTI, Vikas Jyot Trust and others, witnessing inspiring participation filled with creativity, respect, and sincerity.



Each card reflected the compassion of young minds and the strength of collective appreciation. UWB extends deep gratitude to all partner NGOs for nurturing empathy and community spirit among their learners. Through Aabhar 9.0, we proved that gratitude is most powerful when practiced together—sending Diwali warmth and respect straight to the hearts of our nation’s protectors.



# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## SMART ANGANWADIS FOR STRONGER FOUNDATIONS

### FIVE NEWLY RENOVATED SMART ANGANWADIS INAUGURATED IN PADRA TALUKA THROUGH AMI LIFESCIENCES CSR INITIATIVE

Under CSR Collaboration with the Ami Lifesciences CSR Project, five newly renovated Smart Anganwadis were inaugurated across Padra Taluka in Sandha, Majatan, Harshadpura, and two in Karkhadi.

The inauguration witnessed the presence of dignitaries from Ami Lifesciences Pvt. Ltd., ICDS Vadodara, Padra CDPO Office, United Way of Baroda, Anganwadi Workers, Sarpanches, and community members, all joining hands to celebrate this meaningful development.

This initiative strengthens the foundation for children at the start of their learning journey—ensuring brighter beginnings for brighter futures.



With Smart TVs loaded with engaging educational content, improved classroom infrastructure, and enriched teaching learning materials, the centres are now better equipped to provide joyful learning experiences for young children.



# GREEN MODEL SCHOOL UPGRADE AT LAXMIPURA PRIMARY SCHOOL

## DEVELOPING INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY



United Way of Baroda, in collaboration with CSR partner Banco Aluminium Pvt. Ltd., inaugurated the Green Model School Initiative at Laxmipura Primary School, Padra. The project aims to create a learning environment that is not only child-friendly and resource-enriched but also sustainable and environmentally conscious.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by dignitaries from Banco Aluminium Pvt. Ltd. and United Way of Baroda, who reiterated their shared commitment to sustainable development and quality education.



The campus has been upgraded with solar power installation, renovated classrooms adorned with vibrant educational murals, safe drinking water facilities, green landscaping with a kitchen garden, paver block pathways, and new classroom benches. These enhancements support both academic growth and experiential learning, while instilling eco-conscious values among students.



This initiative marks a significant step towards building greener, healthier, and more inspiring school environments that foster holistic development for young learners.





**UNITED WAY**  
Baroda

OFFICE ADDRESS:

1965, ALEMBIC CITY,  
ALEMBIC ROAD,  
BARODA, 390003

PHONE: 07984075303 | 07984051699

Email: [unitedwayofbaroda@unitedwayofbaroda.org](mailto:unitedwayofbaroda@unitedwayofbaroda.org)

[WWW.UNITEDWAYBARODA.ORG](http://WWW.UNITEDWAYBARODA.ORG)

FOLLOW US:

