

Some of our Projects

Shanti Mahila Mandaii, Medak district, Andhra Pradesh, was officially registered in December, 2000. It was started by three rural women as an informal organization working towards women's economic development. Initially covering two villages, it now reaches out to 42 villages and has facilitated the formation of 300 groups. Its members are women engaged in agricultural wage labour who now have access to bank loans and government programmes aimed at poverty alleviation and empowerment of minority groups. Their objectives include the revival of viable traditional practices relating to agriculture, health care, the environment and vanishing cultural forms. The group recognizes the importance of collective action for women's empowerment.



Jyothi Mahila Mandaii, at Addagutta, Secunderabad, is a self-help group started by three women and registered in October, 2000. Its membership has expanded to 55 women, many of them originally domestic workers from socio-economically deprived backgrounds. The mandaii began its operations as a small savings and credit initiative enabling women to access bank loans and government sponsored benefits. Today the group has expanded across the city, setting up micro-enterprises, organizing domestic workers and lobbying for women in the unorganized sector. It has recently set up a small informal school for girl children at its centre. The Mandaii in the long-term plans to start a residential school for children and a shelter for the elderly.

Ashish, a legal aid and counseling centre was sanctioned a grant of Rs. 50,000 towards conducting monthly legal awareness workshops in schools, colleges and women's workplaces. Headed by feminist lawyer Annie Matthews, Ashish plans to take up cases of women under trials in the city's prisons.



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