

**Issue June to Sep 21**

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**WOMEN**  
IN NEED

**WIN has been a lifeline to thousands throughout the pandemic providing food, medicines, vaccines, and hope. None of this could have been possible without your support -THANK YOU!**

## Recovering from COVID



India's deadly second wave left a trail of destruction, and none felt it more than the country's underprivileged. Three months on and though the memory of that terrible period remains vivid, India is on the road to recovery. In Nagpur, WIN is playing its part in helping the vulnerable to pick up the pieces and move forward.

The city's domestic cleaners, cooks and labourers lost jobs due to lockdown restrictions and at the height of the second wave, struggled to afford food. The wealthy and middle classes in Nagpur monopolised food chain supplies and medical care driving prices to rocket. In response WIN ensured underprivileged women, children and their families received food and medicines throughout.

Then there was the fight for vaccines – again those that could afford the initial high prices of the vaccine in private facilities were able to get immunised. The poor continued to worry about food and surviving from one day to the next.

In July WIN selected women with underlying health problems and paid for their vaccine and transport at private centres until the government supply of vaccines became available. Accessing the government vaccine proved difficult for those unable to register online. Hundreds of women were supported by WIN with their online registration and door to door transportation to vaccination facilities.

Today WIN is helping women who lost jobs to find alternative employment – providing some with small businesses of their own. Vaccines continue to be a priority and our COVID food program continues to help those most in need. For the time being curfews have been lifted and the charity is able to resume a few of our vital health programs.

## Helping women get vaccinated



The cost of public transport to and from vaccinations centres prohibits many underprivileged women from getting immunised. WIN's door to door transport service ensures safe and reliable travel

WIN's social workers register the women online and accompany them to the vaccine centre



## WIN has helped 870 women get their COVID vaccine



For some the jab  
is painless – for  
others not so!

But all have  
received a 2<sup>nd</sup>  
dose of  
COVISHEILD



## Helping women who lost jobs through COVID to move from being dependant to independence again



60 year old Muktabai is a proud, independent and hardworking woman. Since her husband was paralysed by a stroke 20 years ago, she has worked as cook, successfully running the household and bringing up 2 boys, who are now married and settled in their own homes

When Coronavirus struck, restaurants were closed and Muktabai lost her job leaving her penniless. She turned to her sons for assistance but was left devastated when they refusal to help. Shock and depression led to a decline in Muktabai's health, and then she developed Tuberculosis.

At this point Muktabai was referred to WIN by neighbours. She was immediately put on anti TB treatment which the charity delivered to her home throughout the worst of the pandemic. In addition to which, Muktabai and her husband were supported by WIN with food rations and basic supplies, along with paying their electricity bills.

Once cured of TB Muktabai asked WIN to help her establish a small business of her own.

An investment of 10,000 rupees (£100) for a second-hand stall and general supplies got her started. Then, through her hard work and determination Muktabai developed in addition to her stall, a successful vegetable shop.

Today she operates the veg stall through the day and the general goods stall in the evenings.



Left: while recovering from TB Muktabai received food rations

Above: Then she was given a small general goods stall

Today, Muktabai is the proud owner of a thriving vegetable business



Below: HIV + Deepavali is a widow and single mother to small children. She lost her job as a cleaner during lockdown and depended on food rations from WIN. Today she earns through the provision of a snack stall.



## Helping Roshini fight cancer



17 year old Rohini comes from a small village in the Washim District which is 285 KM from Nagpur and a 7 hour bus ride away.

In January this year Rohini was diagnosed with bone cancer in her right leg. Referred to a semi-government cancer hospital in Nagpur, her leg was amputated, and radiotherapy and chemotherapy started.

Rohini was put in touch with WIN by a social worker at the hospital for financial assistance with her treatment and travel expenses.

Rohini is from a poor family in a farming community in Washim. Her father died from cancer 5 years earlier and her mother being the only bread winner, earns a meagre income as a farm labourer. Roshini's younger brother is studying in 10<sup>th</sup> standard and until the diagnosis, Roshini was engaged in her 12<sup>th</sup> standard exams.



Though poor their mother was determined to work long hours to enable her children to remain in education. But the diagnosis of cancer and the cost of travel and treatment was crippling the family leaving Roshini's mother with the heart-breaking decision to discontinue treatment.

Your donations have enabled WIN to provide the help Roshini so urgently needs. The cost of travel, lodging and food alone every month is £40. Then her symptomatic medical expenses are between £30-£38 every month.

Donations to WIN are helping Roshini fight cancer and offering her the priceless gift of hope for the future. THANK YOU X

## Resuming WIN's health programs after months of lockdown



Fear of COVID and lock down restrictions have led to an increase of advanced cases of breast cancer. The need to resume our screening program couldn't be more pressing



Your donations to WIN's COVID food program are still helping vulnerable women and children





## 13 yr old Chetali is an inspiration!

Chetali suffers from craniopharyngioma – a rare form of benign brain tumour that causes a variety of distressing symptoms including growth and vision problems, nausea and vomiting, confusion, and mood swings. Chetali's parents are poor. Her father is a cycle rickshaw puller and her mother a cleaner. Chetali is their only child and developed symptoms when she was 9. Visits to various private clinics cost a fortune but failed to conclusively diagnose the problem. Desperate to find the cause of his daughter's ill health Chetali's father took her to Nagpur's Government hospital which led to the diagnosis of Craniopharyngioma. In 2018 she had surgery to remove a growth and now requires continued monitoring and treatment to control the crippling symptoms of the disease. Though the government hospital charges reduced rates for treatment, meeting the cost of MRI scans and long-term medication was a struggle. WIN's support has relieved the family of the financial strain and counselling and guidance from our staff keeps the family positive.

Though gifted academically Chetali struggles with bullying at school and in her community due to her stunted growth and constant battle with nausea and dizziness. Despite all that she suffers, this bright, funny girl remains upbeat. It is a privilege to be able to help such an inspirational young person.



**Above: THANK YOU from Chetali & other youngsters helped through your support**

