



Girl's Sponsorship Program

More than 600 girls from 43 villages in Kalrayan Hills are covered by the sponsorship program. The program aims to keep girls in school as a long-term solution to prevalent literacy, poverty and health problems. These girls will form the first generation of literate women in these villages, which in turn will provide them with a greater ability to fend for their rights and bring in an income.



Although a lot of development is taking place in the world and in India, it is a fact that many women in India do not realize equal opportunities. In the rural areas it is even more prominent. Women are barred from speaking, working and socializing in the same manner as men. This is reflected directly in the education of girls and in Kalrayan Hills the figures have been alarming. A survey conducted in 1993 showed very low literacy levels among the whole tribal population and among women it was almost at 0%.

To empower women and bring about some change in society, Intact started a sponsorship program to allow consistent education for girls and thereby provide the possibility of a better quality of life in the future and help the villages. It has been observed that women, when educated, tend to stay back in villages and replough their education to their own families and communities. With sponsorship, parents are motivated to send girls to schools where they initial were very sceptical toward their daughters studying and thereby often having to be away from home.

A Girl's Story

Selvi is a tribal child from Eluthur village in Kalrayan Hills. Her parents Aandi & Papathi are illiterate agricultural labourers. Her two elder siblings didn't go to school, but Selvi has been able to with the help of Intact's sponsorship programme.

Selvi was fortunate to be the last child, since it means that she doesn't have to drop-out of school to baby-sit younger siblings. She is very interested in attending school and started 7th Standard 7 in June 2014. She goes to High School in Gomuki Dam at the foot of the hill. "I will absolutely resist if my parents force me

to get married while I am still in school. I will complete my education and become a teacher!" Selvi says.

Which Girls?

Any tribal girl is welcome to go to school under the sponsorship scheme and they receive a welcome kit when they start. All expenses pertaining to education such as, school fees, books, note books, equipments, uniform dresses, hostel and medical expenses are covered. The support can be extended until the age of 20 year or when education is completed, whichever happens first.

Villages

So far the scheme is introduced in 43 villages, among them, Vellimalai, Kottaputhur, Devanur, Melmadur, Nadumadur, Thalmadur, Mel mundiur, Thal mundiyur, Kaviyam, Thal thoradipattu, Nadu thoradipattu, Mel thoradipattu, Puliandurai, Mel muruvam, Eluthur, Ettrapatti, Vilampatti, Pudur, and Thal pacheri.

About Intact

Intact, a non-profit, charity organization, was established in 1992 by Thomas Ebenezer who, by helping those in need of food, shelter and a sense of security, is living his dream.

Intact works to empower marginalised individuals in society, with focus on people with physical and intellectual disabilities, mountain tribes and poor women, by creating opportunities for independent living.

We want to achieve a society where everyone, regardless of caste, ethnicity, gender, religion, colour and ability is accepted and given the opportunity to develop to their full potential – without discrimination.