BLOSSOM PROJECTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

A caste-free society based on liberty, equality, and inclusion.



Blossom Projects
501(c)(3) status #26-3130349

P.O. Box 1226
Menlo Park, CA 94026

BlossomProjects.org

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A Letter from the Board

Dear Blossom Friends and Supporters,

Every young person deserves the chance to dream, discover their potential, and build a future of their own choosing. At Blossom Projects, this belief drives everything we do.

2025 was a year of growth, new beginnings, and extraordinary possibilities. Twenty-four young people took their next steps toward independence—nine entered colleges and universities, ten pursued vocational training, and five began their professional journeys. We welcomed sixteen new students and celebrated the graduation of our tenth batch of 12th-grade students, a milestone a decade in the making.

Behind these numbers are stories of resilience and determination. Sivakami earned a place at Azim Premji University, Rithwik discovered his path through video, and Vasanth moved closer to a career in government service. Their journeys remind us of what becomes possible when young people are given the opportunity to thrive.

This year, we also expanded our support beyond the classroom, strengthening pathways to higher education, employment, and independent living. Our first employer partnership for Sahaas Ghar opened new doors for young women graduates.

Our community of supporters grew stronger too. We welcomed Dr. Dipankar Ghosh, a leader in Life Sciences, to our Board of Directors, and were inspired by a new generation of young volunteers eager to contribute to our mission. Our September Thrive gala in California raised over $100,000, a testament to the generosity and commitment of our US community.

Together, we are doing more than changing individual lives. We are breaking barriers, creating opportunity, and building a future where every young person has the chance to thrive.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Every milestone we celebrate is also a reflection of your belief in what is possible.

> *"Merely to impart information is not education. Education should aim at encouraging and stimulating the curiosity of young minds"*
>
> **JRD TATA**

With heartfelt gratitude,

Chithra Rajagopalan

The Board of Directors

Blossom Projects

Chithra Rajagopalan, Board President
Pushpinder Lubana, Board Member
Dipankar Ghosh, Board Member

2025 Year in Review

24
students completed their program

16
new students joined Blossom

10th
batch of 12th-grade students graduated

Of the 24 students who completed the program:



- 9 students joined universities and colleges
- 10 students joined vocational training courses
- 5 students are now working

Five Programs, One Mission

In 2025, Blossom Projects formally launched five programs, each designed to meet students at a different stage of their journey, from the classroom to their first paycheck.

Project New Roots

High school program, our flagship residential program

A 10-month to 2-year residential program providing intensive literacy support and helping students who have failed or dropped out complete high school or their 12th-grade equivalency exams.

Project Udaan

"To Fly", higher education & college counseling

Guidance, training, and coaching that helps students prepare for college entrance and step into technical training or higher education after their time at Blossom.

Project Elevate

Vocational skills & job placement

Connects graduates with employment opportunities and skill-building programs, and provides financial support during technical training or college, creating a pathway to economic self-sufficiency.

Sahaas Ghar

"Home of Courage", working women's hostel

A safe, supervised residence for young women graduates who are working or studying in a big city, opened in 2025 to give them a secure place to live as they launch their careers.

Project Nourish

Health and nutrition

Workshops and community-led sessions on nutrition, personal hygiene, sexual and reproductive health, and disease prevention, equipping students to make informed health decisions.

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES



Sivakami celebrating her university selection with friends at Blossom

Sivakami — Selected to Azim Premji University

Sivakami, our +2 student from Palakkad district, was selected for the undergraduate programme at Azim Premji University in Bangalore, one of the most respected liberal arts universities in India. Her Blossom community celebrated the news together.



Rithwik Sharon

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Rithwik: Finding a Path Through Video

Rithwik Sharon is from Kozhikode district. He had failed his twelfth-class exams after becoming addicted to video games, an addiction that cut him off from his parents, friends, and everyone around him, leaving him completely isolated.

His father then sent him to Blossom, where he joined the Plus Two equivalency program. It changed his life: he passed, and the environment at Blossom helped him rediscover himself.

Rithwik is now studying Multimedia 3D Animation at Sree Sankaracharya College, Vatakara. During his time at Blossom, where students were allowed to use their phones once a week, he began recording and editing videos of the Blossom community, with the support and encouragement of friends and teachers. He is now also pursuing a professional video editing course, and credits that early encouragement with helping him find his path.



Vasanth

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Vasanth: Waiting on His Government Job Appointment

Vasanth, one of our 10-month program students, was selected for an entry-level government job and is now waiting on his appointment letter, he also placed well in the police force selection exam and is waiting on his call letter and physical test.

Soon after finishing his Blossom program, Vasanth enrolled in vocational training and joined an evening coaching program to prepare for government job exams. He called us recently to share the news, and to say what the confidence he built at Blossom meant to him: many of his friends dropped out of the coaching program along the way, but he stayed patient and confident because of the training and inspiration he found at Blossom.

Celebrating Women's Day: Voices from Our Teachers

This March, Blossom Projects marked Women's Day by spotlighting the women who teach, mentor, and run Lokuttara day to day.



Sobha

Sobha

Sociology Teacher

Sobha has taught at Lokuttara since the very beginning of the Plus One class, always one of her dream projects. Though she was scared to speak in front of others as a child, she found the teacher in herself during her postgraduate seminar classes in Sociology at Loyola College. She believes sociology frees a person from caste, religion, nationalism, and all such man-made divisions of society, and says the sparkle in the eyes of the children she teaches inspires her the most, which is why sociology and teaching remain her passion.



Haritha Rajesh

Haritha Rajesh

Political Science Teacher

Haritha Rajesh's journey with Blossom began on July 12, 2023. As a fresher with only her postgraduate degree in hand, the management and board gave her an invaluable opportunity to start her teaching career. Most of Blossom's students come from underprivileged academic backgrounds, and she found interacting with them a deeply enriching experience, she learned as much from them as she taught. It was during her time at Blossom that she cleared her UGC NET exam, which she credits to the positive atmosphere and her colleagues' support. Above all, she says, Blossom made her feel safe, valued, and inspired.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S DAY: VOICES FROM OUR TEACHERS



Anju Gopinath

Anju Gopinath

Administrative Manager

Anju Gopinath has been the Administrative Manager at Lokuttara Leadership Academy since 2015. For the past eight years she has not just managed operations, but actively cultivated a thriving educational environment. Beyond her administrative duties, she leads workshops on conflict resolution and communication skills, and mentors students on their personal growth plans. Her passion for understanding how students learn led her to pursue an MBA in HR, along with diplomas in child psychology and counselling psychology, all in service of Blossom's mission and its reach.



Visrutha

Visrutha

Political Science Teacher

Visrutha hails from a small village in Kerala, and despite life's challenges completed her 12th standard with flying colors before earning her postgraduate degree in Political Science from Kerala University. She has always been passionate about public speaking, and teaching has let her share that passion while continuously learning herself. As a Political Science teacher, she believes her subject plays a vital role in fostering socially responsible, civically conscious individuals, students who go on to actively participate in shaping their communities.

Key Milestones from India

A Landmark Graduation

Our 10th batch of 12th-grade students graduated this year. This was a milestone a decade in the making.

New Batch Inaugurated: July 14, 2025

Our 13th batch was welcomed to Lokuttara Leadership Academy on July 14, 2025. College placement support also took a real step forward this year, with more graduates than ever connecting to jobs and further study.





The 13th batch (PlusOne class) at their inauguration ceremony, Lokuttara Leadership Academy

Key Milestones from India

Building Sahaas Ghar: A Safe House with Tata Ceramics



Arun Boudh visiting Tata Ceramics Limited, Special Economic Zone, Kakkanad, Kochi (Aug 13, 2025)

This year we identified our first employer partner for Sahaas Ghar, our working women's hostel: Tata Ceramics Limited, based in the Special Economic Zone in Kochi. The company, which produces premium ceramic tableware used by clients ranging from Taj Hotels to heads of state has agreed to offer entry-level jobs to Blossom alumnae, with three graduates (Meera, Babitha, and Renjini) ready to join and two more candidates being identified.

Tata Ceramics maintains supervised, single-sex hostels with strict safety policies for its employees, along with subsidized meals and transport to and from the facility for evening shifts. Our first cohort will stay in an established girls' hostel near the Special Economic Zone while we plan to open our own Blossom-run Safe House roughly three months after the first appointments begin, ideally led by two of these first employees as on-site leaders. Arun Boudh visited the company on August 13, 2025 to finalize the partnership details.

A New Addition to the Blossom Family

On a personal note: Arun and Anju welcomed their second daughter this year. Congratulations to the Boudh family from the whole Blossom community!

Onam at Lokuttara

Onam is Kerala's largest and most cherished festival, a ten-day harvest celebration rooted in the legend of King Mahabali, a beloved ruler said to return home once a year to see his people thriving. Across Kerala, families mark the season with pookalam (intricate flower carpets laid at the doorstep), the grand Onasadya feast served on banana leaves, and traditional Kasavu attire in cream and gold.

At Lokuttara, staff and students came together to celebrate Onam with their own pookalam, festive dress, and shared meals ....a joyful reminder of the community and culture that Blossom's programs are rooted in.







Onam celebrations at Lokuttara Leadership Academy

Board & Community News



Chithra Rajagopalan with her parents at Lokuttara

Board President Chithra Rajagopalan Visits Kerala

Board President Chithra Rajagopalan visited Lokuttara with her parents, with visits in August and December 2025 — a chance for the board to see the program firsthand and spend time with students and staff.

BOARD & COMMUNITY NEWS

Thrive, Sept 20, 2025

Over $100,000

raised

Blossom Projects Annual Gala titled Thrive was a huge success. The event brought together philanthropists, tech leaders, and entrepreneurs in a gorgeous golf club setting at the Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae, CA.

The event raised over $100,000—funds that will directly fuel Blossom Projects' programs, providing education, mentorship, and safe spaces for marginalized youth in India.



A dance performance at Thrive 2025

THRIVE, SEPT 20, 2025



Green Hills Country Club, Millbrae, CA, set for Thrive 2025



The Thrive 2025 dinner menu



A presentation at Thrive 2025



Board Member Pushpinder Lubana with guests







Guests at Thrive 2025

Financial Report — CY 2025

Blossom Projects raised $154,594 in total revenue and support during CY2025. Thank you to everyone who supported this work. Here is the financial report as of December 31, 2025.

Financial Statement	CY 2025 TOTAL
Revenue & Support	
Contributions	$59,800
PayPal sales (online donations / event receipts)	$80,289
Unrestricted	$14,255
Services	$250
Total Revenue & Support	**$154,594**
Expenses	
Program Expense	$39,745
Event expenses	$19,168
Merchant account fees – PayPal	$1,940
Merchant account fees – Square	$121
Office Supplies & Software	$1,947
Other Business Expenses	$1,186
Website Expense	$1,000
Legal & Professional Services	$200
Bank Charges & Fees	$76
Depreciation	$1,411
Total Expenses	**$66,793**
Net Revenue (Change in Net Assets)	**$87,801**

Statement of Activity for the year ended December 31, 2025 (cash basis). Figures rounded to the nearest dollar.

Looking Ahead

2026 is already taking shape: Sahaas Ghar opens its doors, Project Elevate scales its job-placement partnerships beyond Tata Ceramics, and our 13th batch begins the journey so many Blossom students have walked before them.

Your support means students from marginalized communities are able to study in a safe, nurturing environment with access to housing, meals, medical care, and emotional support. Each student we help becomes a catalyst for change among their peers, families, and communities — and those effects compound well beyond the walls of our classrooms.

BLOSSOM PROJECTS

Thank You

Thank you for investing in this transformational work.

With gratitude,

The Blossom Projects Board and Team

Blossom Projects is a US-based non-profit organization, with 501(c)(3) status #26-3130349
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