

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Best HIV/AIDS and STI Prevention Program for Shahad – Unit 2 by Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society in 2022
2. Best HIV/AIDS and STI Prevention Program in Thane district – Recognition by National AIDS Control Organisation in 2021
3. Best Empower Transgender Award to Ms. Neeta Kene, President of Kinnar Asmita by Akshay Shakti Trust in 2021
4. Awarded Certificate of Appreciation by Sindhu Educational Society, Ulhasnagar for exemplary work and contribution to the society
5. Special Award by Rotary International



TESTIMONIALS:

“Leaving family and friends, I finally found my community family. The organization has helped me in every way, and I am now living my life with dignity.”

Iccha, Transgender Beneficiary

“Kinnar Asmita has helped me during the most difficult period in my life when I didn't even have enough food to eat. They constantly looked after my health and taught me new skills.”

Mohini, Transgender Beneficiary

“Kinnar Asmita has shown us the way of life, they gave us a place to stay. It is like a family and I shall remain forever grateful for everything they have done for me.”

Sapana, Transgender Beneficiary

CONTACT DETAILS:

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LEGAL STATUS:

Kinnar Asmita is fully compliant with 12A, 80G and Niti Aayog registrations.



ABOUT US:

Kinnar Asmita, Thane district's first transgender organization, has been transforming the lives of the transgender community by following a grassroots approach - educate, aware and empower. In 2008, transgender activist Ms. Neeta Kene, along with few other members of the transgender community, started working voluntarily to address the social, cultural and economic discrimination faced by the transgender community in Thane. After persistently advocating with Government and Non-Government stakeholders for 2 years and having resolved numerous crisis and having provided numerous services to the transgender community, the group got registered as a non-profit community based organization in 2010 under The Societies Registration Act, 1860 and The Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950. Currently, Kinnar Asmita has 17 full time staff based at 3 locations across Thane district – Bhiwandi, Kalyan and Shahad and is supported by an active volunteer base of around 200 community members, who aid in the execution of the various projects.

OUR VISION:

A dignified and healthier advancement in the lives and livelihood of transgender community.

OUR MISSION:

To work for the upliftment of Hijra and Transgender community by catering to their medical, social, cultural and economic needs.

AFFILIATIONS:

Kinnar Asmita is part of various national level networks for addressing the health and human rights of sexual minorities.

1. India Network for Sexual Minorities (INFOSEM)
2. National Network of Transgender Persons (NNTP)
3. Member CONNECT - Network of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in India

APPROACH:

Kinnar Asmita works on health, human rights, provides shelter and works for social and economic empowerment of the transgender community through:

1. **Asmita Warriors (Youth Group):** Collective voice of 80 transgender youth in the age group of 18-25 years for supporting young transgender community members.
2. **Nriyangana (Transgender Dancing Group):** The group performs a wide range of dance styles, from Indian Classical to Indian Folk, as well as Semi-Classical and Bollywood to assert their cultural and sexual identity.
3. **Ayushya:** A Support System for Transgender individuals living with HIV that provides health services to newly diagnosed transgender community members for positive and healthier living. Currently, 45 transgenders are part of this group.
4. **Unnati:** An enterprise incorporated in 2021 in Thane for sale of hand made products made by transgender community members.



CURRENT PROJECTS:

Garima Greh: A shelter home in Kalyan for transgender community members with support from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and National Institute of Social Defence [Since April 2021]

Garima Greh is a residential facility for homeless transgender community members that works for their holistic development and mainstreaming into society. Currently, 25 transgenders are residing (2nd batch) and are engaged in



various skill development initiatives like tailoring, computer courses, beauty and makeup, soap making, etc. 22 out of 25 transgenders from 1st batch have been successfully employed post their skill training at Garima Greh.

HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support Services with support from Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society (MSACS) [Since 2015]

1900+ Transgenders have been supported with HIV prevention, treatment and care services such as HIV testing, STI screening and treatment, condom distribution and behaviour change communication sessions. Varied counselling services at 2 drop in centres (Kalyan and Bhiwandi) are also provided through this project. Additionally, 100+ cases of violence and crisis against the community have been resolved. 190+ Transgenders living with HIV are receiving HIV treatment and referral services.



Awareness & Access to Social Entitlements:

Kinnar Asmita has been persistently working to generate awareness concerning constitutional rights and The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. They also work towards enabling access to social entitlements such as Transgender certificate (54), voter id card (480), PAN card (343) and ration card (53), thus enabling the community members to access social protection and welfare schemes.



PROJECTS COMPLETED:

Project Pehchan in partnership with The Humsafar Trust and with support from GFATM Round 9 [2012-2015]

1000+ Transgenders in Thane district were provided with HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Support services. The project also facilitated access to social entitlements such as ration card, PAN card and voter id card.

Project Transcend & Project Equal in partnership with The Humsafar Trust [2017 & 2018]

The project focused on advocacy and conducted 30+ sensitization workshops with 700+ participants from various Government and non-Government agencies such as health care providers, law enforcement agencies, political parties, corporates and colleges to address the stigma and discrimination faced by the community members.



WORK DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

Distribution of dry ration kits to Transgender Community



- 4680** kits in Thane with support from United Way Mumbai
- 500+** kits in Ambernath, Kalyan and Vitthalwadi area with support from ABS International company
- 500** kits each in Thane district with support from Kinneri, Anubhuti Foundation, Sonu Sood Foundation, Khushi Foundation, The Humsafar Trust and Kinnar Asmita
- 450** kits in Bhiwandi and Kalyan with support from Navodaya Foundation
- 480** kits in Bhiwandi and Kalyan with support from Vanya Foundation
- 300** kits with support from Yuva Unity Foundation
- 250** kits in Ambernath, Kalyan and Ulhasnagar area with support from Akshay Patra Foundation
- 200** kits with support from Annada Foundation

Distribution of 500 hygiene kits with support from Alliance India

Covid-19 Vaccination:

240 Transgenders received 1st and 2nd dose Covid-19 vaccine with support from Ulhasnagar Corporation, Kalyan Corporation and Vanya Foundation

149 Transgenders in Kalyan and Bhiwandi received 1st and 2nd dose Covid-19 vaccine with support from Navodaya Foundation

100 Transgenders in Bhiwandi received 1st and 2nd dose Covid-19 vaccine with support from Bhiwandi Corporation

320 Transgenders received booster dose at Garima Greh shelter home in Aug 2022 with support from Ulhasnagar Corporation



OTHER INITIATIVES:

A health camp for eye and dental check-up and cancer detection with support from Lion's Club Kalyan in 2022; 240+ Transgenders benefitted from this initiative.



UPCOMING PROJECTS (OCTOBER 2022):

Kinnar Asmita Beauty Salon:



Setting up of a social enterprise in Kalyan - Unisex Salon run by the community members, envisioned to provide high quality and stigma free beauty services to Trans community members and general population.

The project is supported by USAID and The Humsafar Trust with technical assistance from Family Health International 360 (FHI 360) and SATTVA.

Skill Building in Partnership with United Way Mumbai:



Scholarships will be provided to the Transgender community members to learn a vocation of their choice and post this, they would be supported for employment.



PARTNERSHIPS:

- Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society (MSACS)**
- Ministry of Social Defence and Empowerment, Govt. of India**
- National Institute of Social Défense, Govt. of Maharashtra**
- The Humsafar Trust**
- Family Health International 360 (FHI 360)**
- SATTVA**
- United Way Mumbai**

Kinnar Asmita is being mentored by FHI 360 on organizational development under the USAID and PEPFAR supported Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) project [2021 – 2023]