

## Developing Village Health Leaders

IND-HCH-DVH-P01



Uttarakhand, Northern India



Education

Year 1 Budget \$46,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

APR 23

MAR 26

### Overview

Our implementing partners have been training 30 to 40 community leaders each year since 2011. These lay-leaders live amongst the poor in remote villages and provide basic healthcare within their communities once trained. This project will train 60 people each year to support those with disability in these disadvantaged, remote populations. A training curriculum has been developed specific to the needs of disability care, educating lay-leaders with knowledge, skills and attitudes to serve those with disability in their local villages and schools with rehab services, empowerment activities, health promotion and basic health care.

### Impact for April 2023 - March 2024



#### A world class curriculum and program

developed in collaboration with the Government has been delivered to 60 participants. During their field placements, trainees impacted 8550 people affected by disability.

#### Government accreditation for volunteers

in disability care. The first intake of students has completed their course-end theory exams for accreditation. They are trained to identify challenges specific to an area and develop possible solutions that will provide support and care for those living with disabilities.



#### Field placements for practical exposure

This year, 3 field placements, totalling 96 days of practical experience, were undertaken. Each student averages 50 days of field experience during their six-month course.

#### Able to learn new topics and seek advice

An equivalent of 70 days worth of contact hours were held. Classes are designed to enable students to easily learn new topics and to know who to refer patients to if they require further treatment.



- 73% of India's population lives in 600,000 villages but 75% of healthcare professionals are concentrated in the cities. Few, if any, therapists or disability professionals will commit to living or even working in these remote and difficult areas.
- This applied course is not highly academic but develops competency and skills for local community leaders to become disability workers.
- Remote villagers will now have access to disability care and will be accorded dignity and respect, leading to an improved quality of life.



### Mrs Kamuti's Story

"I am a palliative care volunteer in a hospital which encouraged me to attend training in disability. Despite the challenges of distance (1400km away), formal education only to Grade 10 and being new to the field, I was determined to learn and succeed so I could serve my community better. My eyes were opened to the needs of those living with disability. In fact, I hardly knew they existed because families keep them so hidden away. The theory classes were a revelation to me about the many myths and superstitions surrounding disability. I now feel much more empowered to help."



**Thank you  
for making  
a difference**