

# [INDIA] Transforming Lives Through Tailoring: The Impact of Good Neighbors' Support Program

## General Information

<b>Project Sector</b>	INCOME GENERATION	<b>Project Duration / Period</b>	(01, 2024 ~ 10, 2024)
<b>Project Budget</b>	USD 3000	<b>No. of participants</b>	25 People
<b>Project Site / Target area</b>	IND 0105 CDP, RAYACHOTY Village	<b>Contact info. (GN staff member)</b>	Ms. Susmita susmita@goodneighbors.org



A women being trained in Skill Development Center, Ra...



Regional Head & Country Director imparting knowledge



Outside Ms. Shirisha Boutique

## *Introduction*

### **[Overview]**

The Tailoring Training and Sewing Machine Support Program by Good Neighbors in India aimed to empower women from underprivileged backgrounds by equipping them with practical skills to uplift their lifestyles and foster self-reliance. This three-month program provided training in stitching and basic designing, focusing on skills commonly required in the community.

The initiative not only transformed the lives of 25 women but also brought significant benefits to the larger community. Before the program, residents often had to travel 3 to 10 kilometers to access tailoring services. With

these women now offering affordable tailoring locally, the program has enhanced convenience and accessibility for the community.

Despite facing challenges such as resource limitations and a lack of local vendors to supply training equipment, Good Neighbors successfully implemented this program by innovatively sourcing solutions. These efforts underscore the organization's dedication to overcoming obstacles and creating impactful change.

While this program has concluded, Good Neighbors is committed to continuing "Empowering People, Transforming Communities" through future initiatives tailored to community needs.

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Below are **three inspiring success stories** from beneficiaries who have transformed their lives through this program.

**Ms. Tanuku Nagamani: From Sponsored Child to Skilled Tailor**

Tanuku Nagamani became a sponsored child under Good Neighbors in 2011 at the age of 9. Over nine years, she benefited from educational materials and health check-ups. After graduating from the program in 2019, Nagamani requested tailoring training, which Good Neighbors readily provided.

After completion of 18 years, she enrolled in the Skill development classes. Nagamani after completed her training and with good sewing skills, she was given a sewing machine. Now, she sews clothes for her family and community, earning approximately INR 300 to INR 500 daily. She has set up a small tailoring counter at her home and contributes to her family's finances.

**Ms. Abavaram Shirisha: From Unemployment to Financial Independence**

Abavaram Shirisha, a resident of Pediveedu village in Rayachoti, faced unemployment despite holding a degree. As a mother of two, she struggled to provide for her family. Recognizing her potential, Good Neighbors connected her with a Skill Hub Center, where she underwent three months of intensive tailoring training.

To support her further, Good Neighbors provided her with a sewing machine. Today, Shirisha earns between INR 700 and 1,000 daily, covering household expenses and securing her children's education.

**Ms. Lakshmidevi: Building a Boutique and a Better Future**

Ms. Lakshmidevi, a housewife with two sons, faced financial hardships as her husband's income as a rickshaw driver was insufficient to meet their needs. She enrolled in sewing classes offered by the Andhra Pradesh State-run Skill Development Corporation.

Good Neighbors, in collaboration with the state-run center, provided her with a sewing machine and additional support. Today, she operates a successful home-based boutique, earning an average of INR 1,000 daily. This financial stability has greatly improved her family's living conditions.

## **Case Story**

**Message from Nagamani:**

*"I am incredibly grateful to Good Neighbors for their support throughout my journey. I have been able to learn valuable skills and start my own small business. This has not only allowed me to support my family but also to contribute to my community. Thank you, Good Neighbors, for making a difference in my life and the lives of many others."*

Shirisha quotes :

*"I am deeply grateful to Good Neighbors for their support. During my difficult times, they truly lived up to their name by helping me when I needed it most. Now, I feel happy and more confident with my family. I am planning to buy a new sewing machine to expand my designs and grow my small shop. I hope Good Neighbors will continue to support me in this next step as well."*

Message from Lakshmidevi:

*"I am very thankful to Good Neighbors for their support. With their help, I have been able to establish my boutique and improve my family's financial stability. This has been a life-changing experience, and I am proud to contribute to my family's future."*



Ms. Nagamani , showing her best work.



Ms. Shirisha displaying her design

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Ms. Lakshmidēvi and her kids in her home boutique.

These stories reflect the profound impact of the Tailoring Training and Sewing Machine Support Program. By providing essential skills and resources, Good Neighbors has enabled 25 women, including Nagamani, Shirisha, and Lakshmidēvi, to overcome challenges, achieve self-reliance, and contribute meaningfully to their communities. This initiative highlights the transformative power of skill development and livelihood support in building sustainable communities and creating a brighter future for all.