



## Visamo Kids Foundation volunteer's unique fundraising initiative for cervical cancer vaccines for underprivileged girls



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Ahmedabad, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024: In an inspiring initiative, Shaivi Patel, a grade 11 student and volunteer with the Visamo Kids Foundation (VKF), has launched a fundraising campaign to provide cervical cancer vaccines to underprivileged girls.

Shaivi began her mission by raising Rs.50,000 by selling paintings made by children of VKF and raised an additional Rs. 1 lakh through donations from friends and family. Shaivi uses her Instagram page to raise awareness about cervical cancer and encourage others to support this mission.

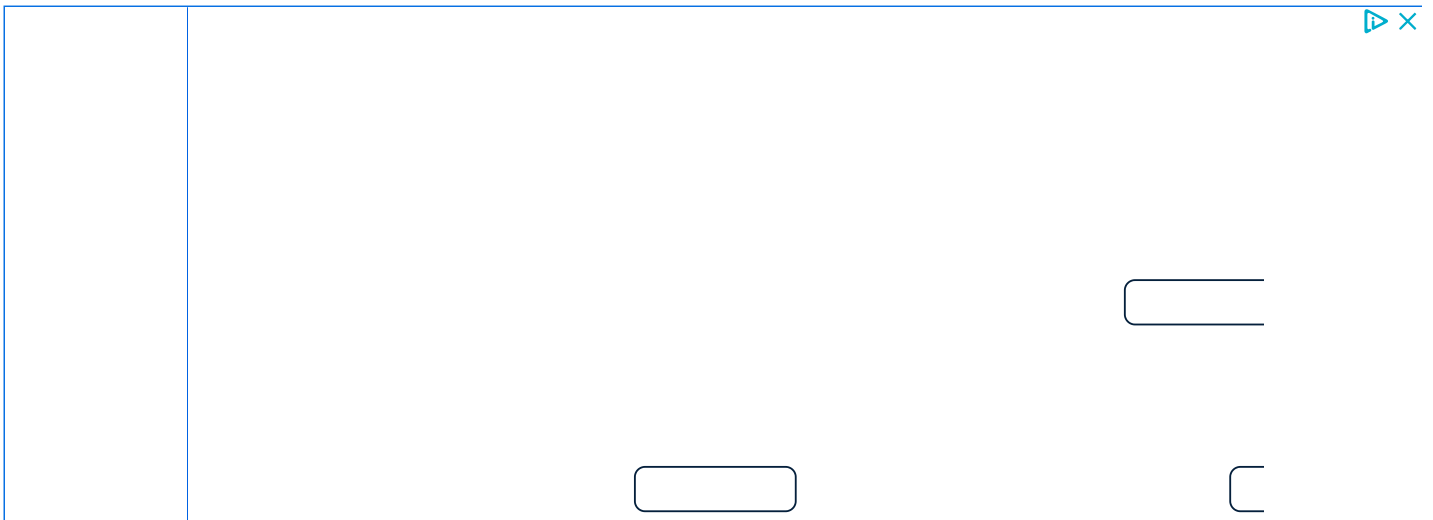
Her efforts have already facilitated the first cervical cancer vaccine dose for 37 girls, with 25 more scheduled to receive their second dose next month. The donation drive remains open for contributions.

Speaking about her initiative, Shaivi, who has been associated with VKF for five years, said, "When my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2023, I witnessed firsthand the emotional, physical and financial toll cancer takes on a family.

I realised that many people cannot afford these treatments and that is when I decided to take action. I started this donation drive to fund cervical cancer vaccines for girls who might not otherwise have access to them. I know I am just a small drop in the ocean, but I hope my efforts contribute to building a healthier society."

Ami Shah, Project Supervisor at VKF, said, "Shaivi's determination to make a difference is inspiring. Her initiative is a powerful example of how young people can take meaningful action to address critical challenges.

We at Visamo Kids Foundation are proud to support her efforts and encourage more people to join her impactful cause."



Shaivi's initiative aligns with the global targets of the World Health Organization (WHO) to achieve 90-70-90 by 2030 – vaccinating 90% of girls, screening 70% of women and treating 90% of identified cases. It also supports Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of eliminating cervical cancer in India.

Cervical cancer, the second most common cancer among women in India, is both preventable and curable. The introduction of the CERVAVAC vaccine in 2023 has made vaccinations more accessible and affordable in India.

Approved by the Drugs Controller General of India and included in India's public health programme, it represents a critical step in combating this disease.

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