

# Gabriel Project Mumbai, India

*Brina Saklad*

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## BACKGROUND

Gabriel Project Mumbai is a Jewish volunteer-based initiative caring for vulnerable children living in India by providing hunger relief, education, medical care, and empowerment to children living in the Mumbai slums and outlying remote villages. In the slums children as young as four years old, faced with acute poverty, are often sent to work as rag pickers and sewage cleaners rather than attend school in order to receive a few rupees to pay for food for the family. GPM's solution is Eat to Learn. By providing daily nutritious meals to children attending class, GPM ensures that children are able to receive hunger relief and literacy.



*A new Ashte village class in front of their school*

## PROJECT IMPACT ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY



*School is a new experience for many kids*

Global Mitzvah project supported a Love2Learn program for creating five early childhood classes for 125 children in the rural district of Palghar. There is a long-term need to stem the influx of poor, uneducated rural children and families into the Mumbai slums. Education, health and nutrition programs are crucial in poor, remote villages of India. GMP provided \$1,200 for teacher training and teaching materials.

The primary aim of Love2Learn is to see every child succeed in literacy and math. The school uses progressive, culturally sensitive approaches to problem-solving and language acquisition. Love2Learn also incorporates creative components to enrich the children's learning experience, as well as technologically-based interactive English teaching through e-learning. Every child receives a fresh, hot meal when he or she attends school. There is a Mobile Health Unit with medical personnel that visits the village and provides check-ups, vaccinations, preventive care, and hygiene education.



*Children receive a hot, nutritious lunch*

The village welcomed the school. This is the first time that the Ashte village of 850 people had access to a preschool. Village leaders asked that the children be taught in English. They wanted to ensure that their children receive the finest education possible, on par with the better schools in India. The village provided a building for the school and fixed it up and a local tailor made uniforms for the children. The teacher is from the village and has a Bachelor's degree in



*Learning letters in a small group*

education from an Indian university and had not been able to find a job in the village in her field. There is also an assistant teacher from the village who had studied English at a university.

## **FOLLOW- UP INFORMATION**

- Videos can be viewed at:
  - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KffJ\\_3-uICw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KffJ_3-uICw)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2R55eIhwTU>
- To learn more about the Love2Learn school contact Jacob Sztokman, Founding Director, at [Jacob@gabrielprojectmumbai.org](mailto:Jacob@gabrielprojectmumbai.org)
- Extensive additional information about GPM is available on its website: <http://www.gabrielprojectmumbai.org>
- You can make a donation by calling: 1-917-725-3077 ; Or send your donation to the following address: Gabriel Project Mumbai, PO Box 5025, Bergenfield, NJ 07621