



*“I would like to update myself to be more effective in my work. Coady Institute will accompany me in the learning process.”*

# Theresa Bandyia

*Coordinator for Socio-Pastoral Ministry*

*Amar Jyoti Society, India*

At present I am working for the empowerment of women in Chanho to improve the living conditions of local women through the formation and strengthening of self-help groups. We have formed 69 women groups in nine pancharyats. They do savings and inter-loaning. They are given training in leadership, book-keeping, record-keeping, and income generation programmes. They have formed a federation for the better functioning of the groups. They buy products from wholesale markets and sell in the groups. I also work in rehabilitating differently challenged children and youth who have dropped out of school.

Our organization is reaching out to remote areas where people have no access to education, health facilities or other means of livelihood. We help the people to help themselves through formation of self-help groups, clusters and federations, by:

- serving the poor, marginalized, exploited, and downtrodden, especially women, children, dalit and tribal through integrated development programmes;
- animating and building organizations, empowering them to fight for justice and human rights;
- providing health care education, preventive and curative care, and
- building self-help groups of women and slowly building bonds to initiate poverty alleviation and economic development programmes in rural areas.

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