



## DEC 2018

**Donation Amount: \$2375.00**

Building on the foundations of ensuring adequate nutrition, CINI's (Children in Need India) work in education and health throughout the critical period of children's development is pivotal.

Susmita came into CINI's IICCHAA program (Indian Initiative for child centred HIV/Aids approach), after being rejected by her community because of HIV, a disease they feared was transmitted touch. She was devastated, isolated and alone. Afraid to eat with, or even hold her young son.

IICCHAA outreach workers met with both Susmita and her community, teaching them about how HIV is transmitted and prevented. This is a powerful way to reduce the stigma and isolation. Empowered with this new knowledge and understanding, Susmita is now confident to care for her son safely. Her community support and accept her again. Her son is back in school, where he is protected from abuse and exploitation. Education is essential to interrupt the cycle of intergenerational poverty, ill health, malnutrition and illiteracy in deprived communities in India.

Education means ensuring children's schooling, educating communities about HIV/AIDS and building the capacity of parents with HIV to be economically independent. The IICCHAA is helping many others in the same position as Susmita.

