

Together, we can make a difference in saving lives."



The town of Khatav in Satara District faced vaccine hesitancy and fear among its residents during the COVID-19 vaccination drive. However, a youth group of 60 young men, united by their common goal of helping the villagers in any way possible, stepped up to the challenge.

The youth group faced multiple challenges, including vaccine hesitancy, lack of transportation for beneficiaries, and a lack of awareness among the elderly who could not read the pamphlets provided by the Primary Health Centre.

The youth group decided to lead by example and got vaccinated themselves, along with their family members, to convince others to get vaccinated. They went door-to-door to counsel the villagers and collaborated with CYDA volunteers to identify beneficiaries who were yet to be vaccinated. They also helped transport more than 200 beneficiaries to the vaccination centre on their own vehicles. The group used pamphlets designed by CYDA to explain the significance of COVID-appropriate behavior to the citizens, especially the elderly who could not read.

Through the efforts of the youth group, over 700 people have successfully vaccinated for COVID-19, and 25 migrants working as sugarcane cutters have been vaccinated. The youth group has also helped reduce vaccine hesitancy and fear among the villagers, and the beneficiaries who took the vaccine after being counselled by the Youth Group expressed satisfaction and relief.

The youth group in Khatav village has set an excellent example of community involvement in the COVID-19 vaccination drive. Their efforts have helped save lives and reduce the spread of the virus in the village. Community participation can make a significant impact in achieving public health goals.