



GLOBAL OUTREACH GRANT

Advancing Sexual Health Education Where It's Needed Most

Addressing the Taboo Associated with Sexual Health Discussions by Dr. Gajanan Bhat

ISSM Global Outreach Grant Case study

The Global Outreach Grant offers an exciting opportunity to drive meaningful change in sexual health education and care, making an impact to professionals and communities in the regions that need it most.



Key audiences

- Adolescents in secondary schools
- Newlywed couples at marriage ceremonies
- General public visiting hospitals in Sirsi Taluka, Karnataka, India



What was done?

- **42 school sessions** for adolescents (June–August 2024)
- Weekly hospital-based sessions (June–November 2024)
- Outreach to **1,072 newlywed** couples at wedding venues
- Program carried out with the support of the Indian Medical Association Sirsi Branch
- Delivered educational talks, greeting cards, and USBs with expert-led sexual health video



Key results 2024



3,044

students participated in school sessions (2,892 completed pre/post tests)



2,897

adults attended hospital sessions



1,072

couples received materials and sought follow-up consultations



97.9%

of adolescents felt comfortable discussing sexual health after the sessions



14-fold

increase in hospital sexual health consultations over 5 months

Tangible implementation



Sexual health sessions embedded in general clinics to reduce stigma.

Welcome kits for newlyweds: cards & USBs = 100% follow-up with sexual health professionals.



Culturally appropriate talks integrated into school health programs.

Delivery supported by local physicians and community leaders.



Would you like to make a difference too?

ISSM Global Outreach Grants for 2025 now open
Deadline 1 May 2025

[Apply Now](#)

Supported by

