SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1
NO POVERTY
Indicator 1.4.3 | Programmes for Services Access

Poverty is not only a lack of income; it is also a lack of access to health care, information and banking. A family that cannot afford a trip to the town hospital may live for years with poor eyesight or untreated anaemia. In 2025 Centurion University of Technology and Management, Andhra Pradesh (CUTM AP) took these services into villages, schools and care homes across north coastal Andhra Pradesh, with **students from all four schools volunteering** at the camps.

Through **36 health outreach events**, the University's programmes **reached 5,875 people**, and its medical camps, awareness sessions and training added hundreds more.

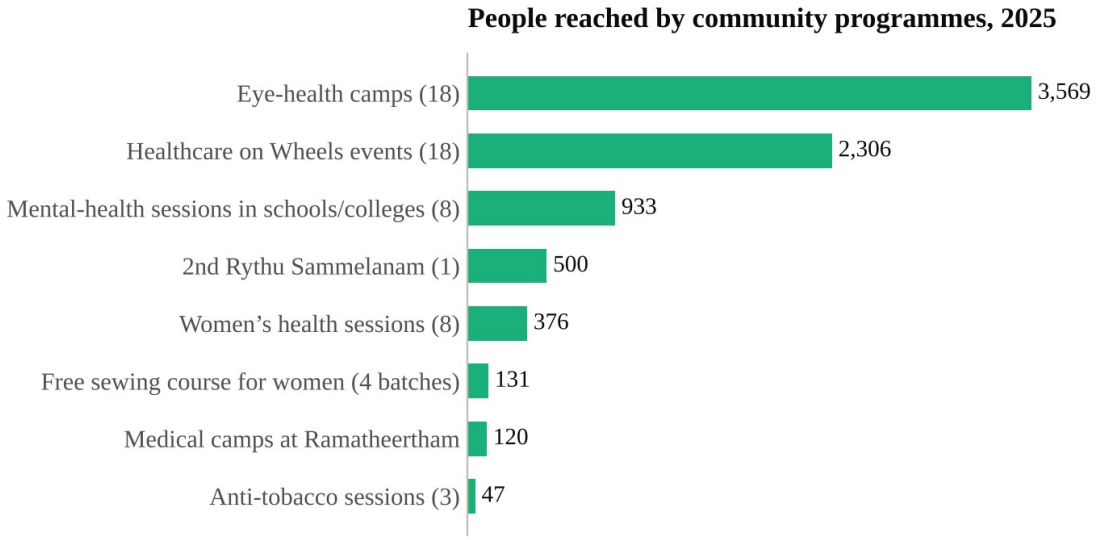

Figure 1: People reached through CUTM AP's community programmes, 2025

1. Healthcare on Wheels

The University's mobile health programme, **Healthcare on Wheels**, held **18 events** in schools, colleges and communities in Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam, reaching **2,306 people**. Each visit offered free screening of vital signs, haemoglobin, blood group, vision and children's growth, followed by counselling on nutrition, hygiene, women's health and stress.

2. Free Eye Camps

Eighteen free eye camps across the Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and Anakapalli districts screened **3,569 people**. People found to need glasses or cataract surgery were given prescriptions and referred for treatment, often for the first time in their lives.



Healthcare on Wheels screening in the community



Free eye screening camp



Health check-ups for elderly residents



Village health camp run with student volunteers

Figure 2: Free health services in communities around the University, 2025

3. Care for the Most Disadvantaged

- **Seethamdhara settlement** (19 January 2025): health screening for **51 residents**.
- **MIHIRA Charitable Organization** (11 August 2025): eye screening for **64 people**; 20 refractive errors found, 5 spectacle prescriptions given and 10 people referred for cataract treatment.
- **Gajapathinagaram Community Complex** (14 October 2025): screening for **60 people**.
- **Helen Keller Memorial Foundation for the Blind** (October 2025, World Sight Day): health screening, plus blankets, water bottles and lunch for residents.

4. Medical Camps with Free Medicines

Medical camps at **Ramatheertham** (8 and 15 February 2025) offered medical, dental and eye check-ups, blood pressure and sugar tests, free medicines and free spectacles to **120 people**. A camp at **B.C. Colony, V.T. Agraharam** (27 April 2025) also provided free medicines to residents.

5. Blood Donation

On 11 April 2025 **75 donors** gave about 18.75 litres of blood for **Maharaja Government Hospital**, Vizianagaram, which serves many patients who cannot afford to buy blood. A second drive by the NSS and NCC units on 20 November 2025 collected **105 units**.

6. Health Awareness Sessions

Awareness sessions gave people the knowledge to look after their own health: **8 women's health sessions** reached **376 women**, **8 mental-health sessions** in schools and colleges reached **933 participants**, and **3 anti-tobacco sessions** reached **47 people**.

7. Financial Literacy and Skills

The 131 women in the free Sewing Machine Operator course learned how to use a bank account, save regularly and apply for government schemes for women entrepreneurs, giving them the tools to reach formal financial services.

Table 1: Programmes improving access to basic services, 2025

Programme	Service accessed	Reach	Delivered
Healthcare on Wheels (18 events)	Health screening and counselling	2,306	Directly
Free eye camps (18 camps)	Eye screening, spectacles and cataract referral	3,569	Directly
Medical camps at Ramatheertham (2)	Check-ups, free medicines and spectacles	120	Directly
Blood donation drives (2)	Blood for hospital patients	180 units	Directly, with Maharaja Govt Hospital
Women's health sessions (8)	Health information for women	376	Directly
Mental-health sessions (8)	Mental-health awareness	933	Directly
Anti-tobacco sessions (3)	Tobacco awareness	47	Directly
Sewing Machine Operator course	Financial literacy and skills	131	Directly

8. Conclusion

By taking screening, medicines, eye care and health information to the people who need them most, and by teaching women how to use banks and government schemes, CUTM AP helps families around its campus reach the basic services that a life free from poverty depends on.