

Suicide Prevention Action for Communities

[Mariwala Health Initiative](#) (MHI) invites community-based organisations (social workers, project leads, field workers, outreach staff, and community organisers) to join Suicide Prevention Action for Communities (SPAC), an online training aimed at building long-term individual and organisational responses. Designed for 6-10 members from each community-based organisation, SPAC empowers teams to move beyond the clinical and individual lens and build a structured suicide prevention approach grounded in lived realities and structural understanding. SPAC enables organisations to form dedicated Suicide Prevention Teams equipped to support their communities through perspective-building, practical tools, collaborative learning, and rights-based support to those at risk.

Objectives:

The training will focus on building perspective, understanding social contexts, engaging in structured application practice with members, and responding at the individual and organisational levels.

The participants will engage with the following themes:

1. Understanding what suicide and suicidality are, and the connection between the personal and social.
2. Identify/Recognise risk, warning, and protective factors and prevention
3. Responding at an individual and organisational level, and connecting with family.

Eligibility:

This training is open to:

- Community-based organisations from the social sector in India.
- Staff members of community-based organisations: Social workers, project leads, outreach workers, field staff, and community liaisons of NGOs.
- Teams (6–10 members) from each community-based organisation who are committed to building suicide prevention practices with and for their communities.

Medium of Instruction: English

Timings: 09:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Date: 29th April 2026 (Wednesday)

Mode: Online via Zoom platform

Fees: INR 5000 per organisation (introductory price)

Please note:

- The training is **not** open to individual mental health practitioners in private practice or employees of for-profit organisations
- This training **does not** focus on crisis intervention or emergency response, but instead supports participants in building structured, long-term approaches to suicide prevention

Registration Link: Please click [here](#) to register!

Last date to register: 25th April 2026

Faculty:

Shruti Chakravarty, PhD, (cis woman; pronouns: she, her) has 20 years of experience in the social sector as a mental health practitioner, researcher, trainer, and social worker. Her areas of engagement have been mental health, gender and sexuality, from a rights-based perspective. She has an independent therapeutic practice based in Mumbai, has in-depth experience working with LGBTQIA+ clients in the therapeutic space, and has co-authored Queer Affirmative Counselling Practice (QACP): A Resource Book for Mental Health Practitioners in India. She has completed her PhD on the subject of queer intimacies from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. Shruti is Chief Advisor and Training Team Lead at Mariwala Health Initiative (MHI) and also faculty at the Queer Affirmative Counselling Practice course run by MHI. Additionally, she has been an Assistant Professor of Psychology at KREA University.

Pooja Nair (She/her) has been part of the non-profit sector for 15 years. She has an MPhil from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and has worked in the areas of life-skills training, curriculum development, gender, sexuality, mental health, violence and child sexual abuse. Pooja has an independent counselling practice and is a consultant therapist with Mariwala Health Initiative.

She is a faculty member at their flagship Queer Affirmative Counselling Practice Course and co-author of the QACP Resource Book for mental health practitioners in India. Pooja is also the MHI Project Lead on the Queer Inclusive Health Systems Initiative, an MHI collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Government of Kerala. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Psychology of Genders, Sexualities, and Relationships at IIT Palakkad.

For queries or clarifications, please reach out to: training@mariwalahealthinitiative.org