Asha for Education

ANNUAL REPORT 2000

One Child at a Time

One early morning a passerby saw a young man picking starfish off the beach and tossing them back into the sea

"Why in the world are you doing this?" he asked him.

"If the starfish are still on the beach when the tide goes out and the sun rises higher in the sky, they will surely die" said the young man as he still continued to toss them into the sea.

"That is ridiculous! It is a waste of time and energy! You can't really believe that what you are doing can possibly make a difference".

The young man picked up another starfish, paused thoughtfully, and remarked, "it makes a difference... to this one!" as he tossed it out into the waves.

- A Parable

Just like the young man in the story, we at Asha for Education are trying to save our starfish by supporting basic education projects for the under-privileged children in India. Our goals are focused on what matters to the children and what makes a difference in their lives.

Being aware that a problem exists is the key to unlocking its solution. By volunteering with Asha for Education, many of us have cleared through the smog of our own misconceptions and apathy towards the situation in India. Asha provides a medium for individuals who step out of the quagmire of our day-to-day routines to come together in addressing these issues.

With your continued support, Asha for Education has been able to support the education of India's underprivileged children. We hope that you, the patrons of Asha, will continue to support the cause and take an active role in our projects.

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foreword

The year 2000 can be called "the year of action" for Asha for Education. As a result of the changes made in 1999, Asha worked more efficiently than ever before. We fixed gaps in our decision making process, we started using national focus groups to enable small teams to concentrate on specific activities and see them through completion. Volunteers joined focus groups based on personal interest and the needs of the Asha Family. Together, we accomplished major tasks with high quality and groundbreaking speed.

Asha for Education supported 122 projects in the year 2000. We launched our first ever Asha Fellowship Program in August, to support the activities of those interested in pursuing full-time social work in India. Asha 2000, the first large-scale assessment of the impact of our projects, took place. We surpassed $1,000,000 in annual fundraising. And, Asha produced and broadcast our first publicity film in many cities in the U.S. – inviting the general population to participate in Work An Hour 2000.

Asha's volunteer base in India grew significantly, as more part-time and full-time volunteers joined the team. Activities took hold at the Asha Centers in Kanpur and Lucknow. The Bangalore chapter became stronger, while a new chapter emerged in Chennai.

In 2000, an enthusiastic team of volunteers in the U.S. took up the task of building and maintaining our projects database. This was a gigantic task, considering the number of project proposals and chapters involved. This database will not only improve our record keeping, but it will also help us track the progress of projects through our evaluation and monitoring process. The Asha Stars program found a renewed focus by developing long-term goals including establishing at least one Asha Stars project in every district of India. Our biggest fundraiser ever, "Harbingers of Hope", raised over $100,000. Twenty-two Asha volunteers from the Silicon Valley Chapter went through the grueling training for the 26.2-mile Hawaii Marathon. All team members completed the race, some with remarkable times. In addition, Asha for Education's annual Work An Hour event drew almost 1400 people from all over the world, raising $86,025 towards six large-scale education projects.

As we became better at managing projects and raising funds, we started questioning the direction in which we were headed.   With the number of Asha volunteers and chapters growing steadily, we needed to re-evaluate our goals and mission.

- Should we try to support a project in every district in India?
- Should we start working towards changing the entire infrastructure that supports the current education system?
- Should we work with government schools?
- How aggressively should we invest in pilot projects that help develop innovative teaching techniques?
- How do we continue our zero-overhead policy while meeting the real costs associated with project management?

These questions address fundamental issues facing Asha today. Serious discussions of these subjects began with the aim of reaching a decision during the upcoming year.

In May 2001, Asha for Education will organize a worldwide conference to celebrate our 10th anniversary, to evaluate our past, and to decide our future. The conference will be held in Berkeley, California – where it all started. We expect over 125 volunteers from around the world to attend this event.

As we complete our first 10 years, Asha volunteers are more enthusiastic than ever. We have shown again and again, that a dedicated group of people can make a differ - ence and indeed bring about a lasting change.   We look forward to increasing our volunteer base and working together towards our common goal – to provide good quality education to all underprivileged children in India.

Richa Govil
President, Asha for Education

introduction

Asha mission statement: To catalyze socio-economic change in India through the education of underprivileged children.

Asha for Education was founded in the summer of 1991 by Sandeep Pandey, Deepak Gupta and V.J.P. Srivastavoy at University of California, Berkeley. These individuals had a simple vision – to help play a role in the development of India. They strongly believed that education is the critical requisite to bring about social change in India. To achieve this goal, they focused their efforts on India's underprivileged children, the future of India. They named the group "Asha", which means hope in many Indian languages, to signify the hope they wished to bring into the lives of India's children.

The objectives of Asha are:

- To provide education to underprivileged children in India.
- To encourage the formation of various local groups, both in India and abroad, to reach out to larger sections of the population.
- To support and cooperate with persons and groups already engaged in similar activities.
- To raise the required human and other resources to achieve the group objectives.
- To provide opportunity to individuals based in the U.S. who wish to participate in Asha activities in India.
- To address, whenever possible, other issues affecting human life such as health care, environment, socio-economic aspects and women's issues.

Thanks to many dedicated volunteers and the financial support of its donors, Asha has grown to 35 chapters spread across the world. Our members carry out Asha's mission by encouraging the formation of local groups, both within India and abroad, in order to reach a vast cross section of Indian people. Asha acts as a lens, focusing the energy and funds from individuals based outside and in India, into action and results.

Asha volunteers in each chapter identify, research and raise financial support for educational projects in India. To help facilitate this we promote cooperation between chapters by organizing conferences, promoting focus groups, and keeping clear communication channels across chapters, projects, volunteers, and donors. Although our projects have touched the lives of thousands, significant work remains. There are still millions of children in India who do not have access to basic education. Looking forward, Asha is attempting by the year 2001 to complete a comprehensive study of Asha's impact on its projects. It is currently in the process of establishing goals for the next 10 and 50 years.

This annual report highlights the work of Asha's dedicated volunteers, the projects that have benefited and the direction Asha is taking in the future.

Asha for Education, along with the beneficiaries of our projects, would like to sincerely thank the many individuals, families and organizations that support our work and help us realize our mutual aspirations for a better India. We look forward to your continued support in the future.

remembering sri

V.J.P. Srivastavoy or "Sri", as he was fondly called by his friends, was a post-doctoral researcher in Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, in April 1991, when he called the first meeting of a group of Indian students and scholars. It was at this meeting that the seeds of Asha were sown. A scientist and a thinker, Sri was also a sensitive human being. He wanted a group of Indians to organize themselves in the US to serve the interests of their country. He guided Asha towards this goal and it was because of his leadership that Asha was able to take roots as a strong organization in such a small time. Sri will always be remembered in the Asha family for the wonderful gift that he has given to mankind, a dedicated team of over 500 people from around the world, working together towards the education of the underprivileged children in India.

Sri passed away in May 2000 in Bangalore. Sri, we salute you and pledge to carry your efforts forward.

Below, in the inset, is an article appropriately called "The Beginnings" that Sri wrote for the 1992 Asha newsletter.
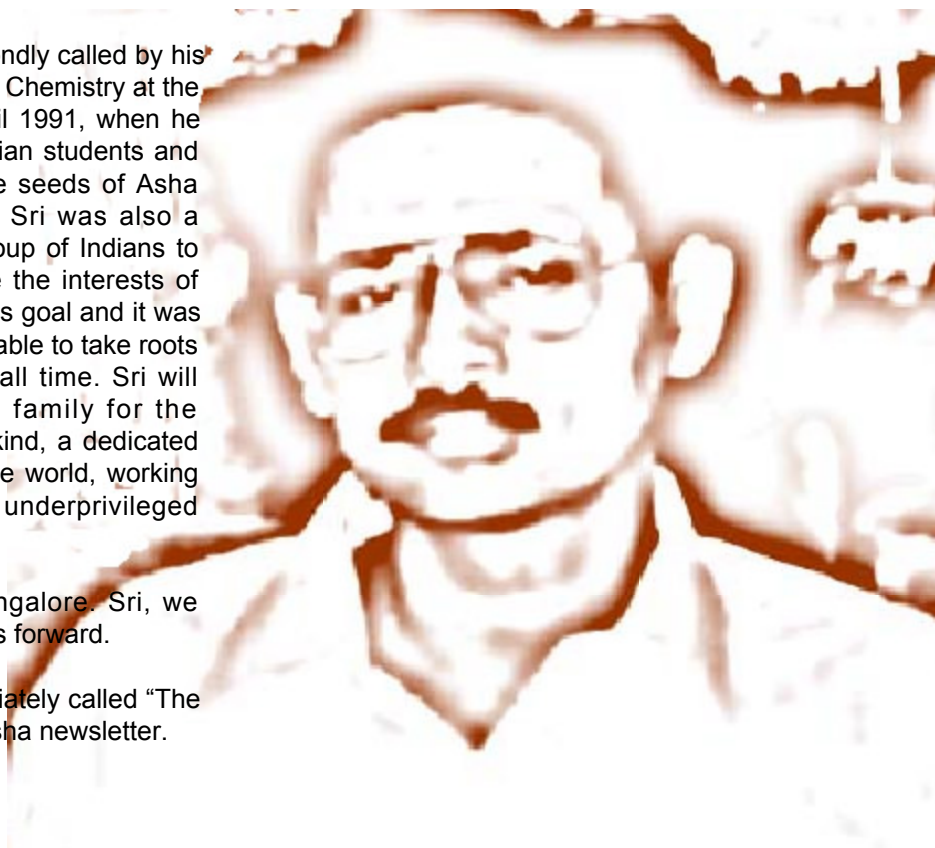
The Beginnings

It all started in April 1991. I was trying to organize a discussion group on educational issues. My initial idea was to start a non-profit research group of students who would be returning to India. The group would focus on the issues of education and appropriate technology for India.

Contrary to my expectations the response was initially lukewarm. The first two meetings were poorly attended. At the second meeting, Dinesh Verma suggested the creation of PC networks for information exchange. I talked about the establishment of an "open ended network of various professionals that could be utilized for developmental purposes. Arun Ahuja wanted to develop educational videos. Sandeep wanted to contribute to the primary education of poor children in India. Even though we all had slightly different approaches and interests, we had one thing in common - we wanted an action group.

The basic goals of the group emerged from these discussions. We decided to concentrate on basic education for children in India. Sandeep, Deepak and I drafted a preliminary constitution. Sandeep and Deepak did most of the initial work. On the way to San Francisco, one evening, we discussed possible names for the group: we agreed upon the name Asha - "hope in some Indian languages. Thanks to the effort of a lot of people the group has surpassed our initial aspirations.

V.J.P. Srivastavoy, in the 1992 Asha Newsletter

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A post-doc, two grad students, a desire to do good, and a trip to San Francisco – these were the ingredients that went into the creation of Asha. In April 1991, V.J.P. Srivastavoy, a chemistry post-doctoral fellow better known as "Sri", called a meeting of 5-6 Indians at the University of California, Berkeley. Sri was interested in starting a non-profit group of Indians in the U.S., who could help scientists in India with fast transfer of the latest research ideas and technology. Sandeep Pandey, a mechanical engineering graduate student, wanted to work for basic education for underprivileged children in India. Arun Ahuja aspired to develop educational videos. Dinesh Verma suggested creating a network for information exchange. One common desire among them all was to be an "action group."

Discussions continued into the next meeting. Deepak Gupta, another mechanical engineering graduate student, expressed interest in social intervention in India. They all felt that many of the issues could be addressed at the root through a more educated and aware population. Thus, they agreed on the idea of forming an action group supporting basic education for underprivileged children in India.

Sri, Sandeep and Deepak drafted the constitution. In May, they went to San Francisco and visited the office of Overseas Development Network (ODN), a non-profit organization working on international development issues. During the car trip, they developed the foundations for an informal group with no hierarchy or administrative costs and a decentralized set-up. The group was to be based on the spirit of volunteerism where the voice of every volunteer, new or old, would carry the same weight. They wanted the group to have a very simple name that represented the objective. They named it Asha, which means hope in many Indian languages.

Sri, Sandeep and Deepak obtained a list of non-governmental organizations that were being supported by ODN. They reviewed a few that were running children's schools. These became the first Asha projects.

Having no non-profit experience in the U.S., the team approached Indians for Collective Action (ICA), a well-respected San Francisco Bay Area organization supporting developmental activities in India for two decades. Over the next few years, ICA's guidance and support would be invaluable to Asha.

Asha's first donation of $40 was given by Sandeep. During the fall semester, the group started holding regular meetings, attracting other students on campus. In order to raise funds for the projects, the team held a fundraiser, an evening of Indian dance and music. The event was a success and the young organization supported four projects within its first year of existence.

After completing his studies, Sandeep left for India in the summer of 1992. After completing his post-doc, Sri left Berkeley for a position in Europe and Deepak took the role of the group coordinator. As Asha publicized on newsgroups and at Indian events, donations began to pour in. Students at Stanford and UCLA started their own chapters. By the end of 1993, Asha was supporting over 10 projects in India.

In 1995, Asha was a collection of chapters and volunteers, loosely held together by our guiding principles, constitution, and bylaws. Stanford and Berkeley were the most active Asha chapters at the time, but many other chapters had formed across the U.S. There was a need to organize Asha activities at the national level. In true Asha spirit, non-hierarchal, democratic structure was adopted. Once an email list of volunteers from each chapter was created, there was much more interaction among chapters. We were able to discuss issues relating to education – its philosophy and goals. We debated how to maintain records and how to attract and retain high quality volunteers. The mailing list gave us a sense of community.

In 1996 Asha surpassed $100,000 in fundraising. It was an incredible accomplishment for a completely volunteer-run organization with no administrative costs. However, this achievement came with its own challenges. The need to quickly and efficiently identify good projects became greater as the number and size of our projects grew. Deepak invited all Asha volunteers to Arizona, where he was now working, for the first ever Asha conference. People who had become friends over emails, met face-to-face for the first time. We refined our goals, discussed our operations, and decided that we had grown large enough to obtain our own non-profit status in the U.S.

In November 1997, Deepak accepted a position at IIT, Kanpur and moved back to India with his family. A team of Stanford and Berkeley volunteers led Asha through the process of registering as a public non-profit organization in the U.S.

By 1998, it had been six years since Sandeep had returned to India. He had spent most of his time pursuing activities related to children's education programs in rural

areas. He had visited various other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in India, to learn about effective techniques and programs. He had participated in people's struggles and started thinking about education as one part of a holistic plan of development. Now he felt he was ready to undertake a significant project himself. He asked Asha US volunteers for support.

Around the same time, in June 1998, Ravikanth Pappu, an Asha-Boston volunteer suggested a fundraiser where people would pledge one hour's salary towards Asha projects on India's Independence Day - August 15th. He called the fundraiser Work An Hour (WAH). The event involved all chapters in publicity, web-design, and project selection. The first project funded using WAH funds was the Asha Center in Lucknow proposed by Sandeep Pandey. With WAH funds, he started a center based in a rural community that would develop innovative educational techniques, initiate income generation programs, and act as a resource for other NGOs. Not only was WAH hugely successful as a fundraiser, but it also brought the many geographically distant chapters together to work for a common project.

In May 1999, over 60 volunteers from 15 chapters attended the Asha conference in Boston. The enthusiasm among the volunteers was contagious. Many key decisions were made that significantly affected the future of Asha. We agreed to work through focus groups, to undertake a comparative study of our projects, and to launch a fellowship program. In 1999, Asha support over 100 projects in India. In 2000, Asha raised over $1million in funds. Reports from Shanmuga's Asha 2000 study provided great insight into Asha's impact. Volunteers formed new chapters in Bangalore, Chennai and Mumbai. We had become a strong organization, with a clear identify of our own.

Over the last 10 years, Asha has supported 244 projects, disbursing $1.5 million in funds. The biggest accomplish ment of Asha has been to bring together a dedicated team of individuals, from all walks of life, who bring hope to underprivileged children in India. We have made Asha a part of their lives and their dreams.

Our hearts, their minds, one hope – Asha for Education.

timeline

1991
• Asha is born in May 1991, at Berkeley, CA
• First fundraiser, Images of India, Berkeley
• Asha supports 4 projects

1992
• First Asha website is functional
• Asha co-founder Sandeep Pandey moves back to India
• Asha Trust is registered in India as a non-profit organization
• Asha crosses $10K in annual fundraising

1993
• Asha hosts "Workshop on Development Issues in India"
• Asha supports more than 10 projects

1994
• More than 10 chapters

1995
• Asha develops cross-chapter organizational structure
• Asha Stars program launched

1996
• Asha crosses $100K in annual fundraising

1997
• First Ashawide conference in Arizona
• Asha co-founder Deepak Gupta moves back to India

1998
• First Work-an-Hour campaign
• Asha Center gets established

1999
• Asha conference in Boston
• Asha supports more than 100 projects
• Asha conference in Lucknow

2000
• Asha 2000 Study begins
• Asha Fellows Program launched
• Asha raises more than $1million in funds
• Asha conferences in Mumbai and Chennai

2001
• Asha 10th Anniversary Conference, Berkeley

conferences

Asha-wide conferences provide a forum for volunteers from different chapters to come together and discuss issues relating to Asha's work, and to chart the future course of Asha. The first Asha Conference was held in 1997 in Phoenix, Arizona. It was hosted by Asha Arizona and organized by one of the founders of Asha, Dr. Deepak Gupta. About 25 volunteers attended the event that brought together 10 chapters from across the U.S. We discussed projects being supported, issues facing Asha, and the missing links in the organization. Many of us formed lasting relationships and left with a clearer perspective onour goal of educating underprivileged children in India. As a result, the level of interaction between volunteers increased dramatically. Some of the biggest accomplishments of the following two years were a direct result of this conference.

During 1998, with the help of WAH funds, Asha India laid a strong foundation with the establishment of the Asha Centers in Lucknow and Kanpur. It was decided that biannual meetings would be held so that Asha-India trustees and volunteers could review progress with the project coordinators. In addition, the meeting place would change each time to a new location, preferably close to a project so that the attendees could stay close to the children whose lives Asha is striving to improve.

In December 1998, the first Asha India conference was held in Ballia. It brought together 15 volunteers from India and 3 from the US. This initial meeting was a modest affair with discussions directed at the details of individual projects and new proposals. But it laid the foundation for closer ties between Asha projects in India and volunteers in the US.

In May 1999, the Boston chapter hosted the second Asha US Conference. Seventy-five volunteers from 15 chapters attended the conference on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Boston. Topics covered included streamlining the decision making processes within the organization, setting Asha's long term vision, establishing boundaries to be shielded from political interference, sharing fundraising ideas, and operational issues facing the chapters. One of the great concepts conceived at the conference was using focus groups to make decisions on specific topics. This allowed interested volunteers to participate in specific focus groups across all chapters. Guidelines were set up by the Asha FG Focus Group lead by Prithvi Prabhu, from Asha-Arizona. Asha volunteers demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm, and continued discussions well past 1:00 am every night. Different volunteers had different views about Asha's goals and we worked towards a common vision. In the endnote session, Dr. Parameshwar Rao guided the attendees through an exercise that illustrated that Asha volunteers were in fact united about promoting volunteerism, education and participatory democracy. The conference proved to be a wonderful way to meet volunteers from across the world, many of whom had already become good friends via email interactions. As with the conference in 1997, many friendships were made, many bridges were built, and many ideas were shared among the members of the Asha family.

In June 2000, the second Asha India conference was held at IIT, Mumbai. Hosted by Asha-Mumbai and organized by Dr. Rahul Pandey, the conference was a critical time for Asha and was attended by over 25 people. At this time, the outstanding issues facing Asha included the proposal by co-founder Sandeep about formally aligning with NAPM (National Alliances for People's Movements). Heated debates over the Asha-wide mailing list resulted in several members expressing reservations about the political nature of NAPM. In addition, the need to be all-inclusive (all chapters, both U.S. and India) when making policy changes was strongly asserted. It was vitally important to narrow the differences between Asha USA and Asha India at this crucial time. Dr. DP Prakash, represented the chapters in the U.S. and the serious concerns raised by all volunteers about Asha's alignment with NAPM. The group concluded that a decision would be deferred until the Asha 10 year conference in Berkeley, California in May 2001. Sandeep would then be able to address a larger audience in person about NAPM. During the Mumbai conference, the seven Asha Trustees present also accepted Universal Primary Education by 2047 (UPE 2047 – India's 100 year independence anniversary) as one possible long-term goal for Asha. Stability among all Asha chapters was reached due to these vital exchanges.

Meeting of Minds

In December 2000, the third Asha India conference was held in Chengalpattu, organized by Asha-Chennai, and hosted by Jeevan Gnanodaya School for the Deaf, one of the many non-government organizations(NGOs) supported by Asha. Shanmuga Subramanian arranged this meeting, termed "Meeting of Minds" (MoM), a title conceived by the Asha-Yale chapter. The event was funded jointly by Asha-Yale and Asha-Seattle. The vision of MoM was to bring together Asha's various project

coordinators from around the country and allow them to exchange their ideas and experiences. The host school provided warm hospitality, an informal setting and excellent home cooked food. The children from the project enthusiastically performed several dance performances, which they had been rehearsing for months.

Every NGO had a chance to present their work and learn from others' experiences. It was incredible listening to the work being done by so many different organizations during the four-day conference. They covered a broad range of topics such as dalit struggles, rehabilitation of street children, non-formal/formal/alternative education programs, teaching methodologies, and teaching aids to promote better learning. There were discussions on community involvement, self-sufficiency, and incorporation of income generation programs in education projects.

On the last day, everyone sat in a circle to participate in discussions on the quality of education, child beating, social change through education, attainability of Universal Primary Education, and a host of other subjects. One commendable aspect of the deliberations was that they were carried out among participants who spoke different languages. Translations were constantly provided in Hindi, Kannada and Tamil. If only we could follow these ideas across India!

Overall, the conference attendees had an interesting mix of diverse experiences and backgrounds, which lead to participants being exposed to different viewpoints. The conference also assisted in guiding several young groups by more experienced ones. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) found this meeting valuable in exchanging ideas and learning from each other's experiences. Some went ahead to schedule training sessions of teaching methodologies learned at the conference. Conversations went on for hours within small groups regarding common problems and possible solutions. The feedback from our project partners after the conference was that they found the meeting very useful and energizing. This conference demonstrated that Asha for Education plays a critical role

in linking different groups so they can exchange ideas and experiences. This unifying factor is invaluable. We all came home with food for thought and plenty of ideas to start a new era.

In May 2001, we will return to the birthplace of Asha, at the University of California, Berkeley. The Asha Ten Year Conference (Asha10) will be the first conference where Asha's founders Sandeep Pandey and Deepak Gupta will be present together to address the U.S. chapters. This event will mark Asha's 10th year and bring us to the next phase of thought and action. We will be reviewing our basic principles, goals and policies. How can we continue to work effectively as the number of active volunteers crosses 500? How do we engage the government in implementing sustainable solutions to educational infrastructure? What are Asha's strategic goals for the long run? These will be some of the questions we will be addressing at Asha10, and that will help guide Asha towards our goals.

chapters
& volunteers

A s a volunteer-based organization, Asha is only as strong as our volunteers and chapters. Each chapter is unique and volunteers bring their own set of perspectives and skills to Asha. The first chapter was formed in Berkeley, California with only a handful of volunteers. Today Asha has not only spread throughout the U.S., but across the world. We currently have 34 chapters in the US, 6 chapters in India, and 2 international chapters. Thanks to the Internet, Asha has become a borderless organization with over 500 active volunteers across the world. There is an increased emphasis on the formation of more chapters or Asha centers in India that would draw upon the collective energy and experience of part-time and full-time volunteers to build closer bonds with the projects of Asha, network like-minded projects and individuals and pioneer bold educational initiatives in the field of education.

Roles & Responsibilities

While each Asha chapter is unique and can independently pursue its own vision, a common set of principles binds all chapters. Each chapter has a chapter coordinator and a treasurer. Other than these two positions, each chapter is free to organize themselves in whatever way they feel works best among their own volunteers. Due to the non-hierarchical nature of Asha, every volunteer's opinion has equal weight, no matter what their position is. Most chapters meet at least once a month, in addition to focussed meetings for projects, fundraising, publicity, or special events.

Asha India Chapters

While chapters outside India carefully evaluate projects and take ownership, chapters within India are able to do this much closely. Due to the close collaboration of Asha India chapters with chapters outside India, the volunteers in India are able to focus almost all of their efforts on projects and directional issues, rather than on fundraising. Asha India volunteers are the eyes and ears of the worldwide team and are there to see firsthand, the impact Asha makes on the projects. They are also able to see shortcomings, thus guiding Asha through the new paths towards our goal.

OFF THE MAP
- Melbourne, Australia
- London, England

INDIA
- Bangalore
- Chennai
- Lucknow
- Mumbai
- Pilani

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Nothing exemplifies this more than the Asha-2000 initiative. Shanmuga Subramaniam, an Asha volunteer from Princeton who returned to India, is on a 1 year tour of the entire country to assess the impact that Asha supported projects have had. He is learning from the NGOs, and educating the rest of the Asha family. The effort is also proving to be key in identifying and networking social organizations that are leading the fight for a better society through education. Some of these groups include the Bharathi Trust, Sahanivasa, Muskaan, AVEHI, Suvidya and Sutradhar. The Asha-Delhi team of Sangeeta, Ravi and Anil Sharma have been researching and documenting alternative educational experiments that can be shared across future projects.

The Mumbai chapter volunteers take active part in the efforts of several NGOs that Asha supports. They provide after-school support in the slums of the PhuleNagar project and teach children who work at railway stations how to use computers at the VOICE project. The Bangalore chapter, like its Mumbai counterpart, does site visits and project evaluations of current and prospective projects in the vicinity. In addition, they research new possibilities such as cooperating with the Government to make the public school system in India functional.

The bulk of Asha's work in India is handled by the Lucknow and Ballia Asha center. The volunteers at the Ballia center have taken up responsibility for conducting many of our project site visits.

Asha India hosted three nationwide meetings – in Ballia (December 1999), Mumbai(May 2000), and in Chengalpattu (December 2000) to discuss the focus and direction of chapters in India. By bringing together project coordinators and social workers from different corners of India – from Rajasthan to Assam to UttarPradesh to TamilNadu – these efforts facilitated the exchange of ideas and experiences on issues facing Asha India.

New Chapters and New Challenges

In the past year Asha has seen growth in its numbers with new chapters in Houston, London (U.K.) Michigan State University (Lansing) and Omaha. In addition, two new chapters have been started in India at BITS, Pilani and in Chitradurga, Karnataka.

While this growth is very exciting, it also presents challenges. One of the challenges is to help new chapters form, and encourage them to develop into strong and productive chapters. In the past year we have initiated the Satellite Chapter program. The idea of satellite chapters came about as a way to deal with the increasing number of requests for new chapters. If an individual is interested in Asha, and there is no local chapter nearby, they often times feel the only option for them to be involved is to start a new chapter themselves. This may seem overwhelming to some people, so they either do not pursue involvement in Asha, or they start a chapter that sometimes does not become very active and eventually folds. Satellite chapters are meant to help with some of these problems and to make it easier for the overall functioning of Asha. Every new satellite chapter is paired with an existing experienced "parent" chapter.

Benefits

- Easier record-keeping as all funds are routed through the parent chapter
- An option for someone interested in Asha but no local chapter exists
- Easier for the web team to stay current as chapters will be more stable
- End result is stronger chapters formed... only those

grow and develop a strong volunteer base will go on to become official chapters

Asha-wide Activities

Some volunteers extend their efforts beyond their chapters and participate in Asha-wide activities. Some of the key Asha-wide activities in 2000 included raising funds through Work An Hour, publishing the newsletters, and organizing Asha conferences in Mumbai and Chengalpattu. Several chapters have worked together to create Asha merchandise such as calendars, t-shirts, mugs, cards, etc. Our supporters are constantly impressed by the quality and creativity shown in developing this merchandise.

There are a number of Asha-wide focus groups that are open to any interested volunteers. The groups discuss, debate, and decide on many aspects of Asha including fundraising, projects, ecommerce, films, use of computers in education, research, and news.

Asha volunteers participate in cross-chapter activities by organizing themselves into focus groups that communi cate through email lists. The following are just some of these groupos that have initiated and carried out exciting Asha activities.

- asha-wide – the main Asha mailing list. All active volunteers around the world are encouraged to join this group as it covers all aspects of Asha and the happen ings that effect all chapters

- asha-projects – all projects are posted here for inter-chapter coordination and reference. Key issues and questions on proposals are discussed on this list.

- asha-frfg – thoughts, experiences, and goals on fund raising issues are shared for inter-chapter coordination and exchange of ideas

- asha-web – this group is comprised of the webmasters of each chapter, who maintain the www.ashanet.org website and chapter websites.

- asha-upe – this group focuses on understanding, discussing and evaluating the goals and future prospects of Asha in the light of achieving universal primary education by 2047. Some key education issues are debated here such as the fundamental right to education, government's intervention, and the roadmap to UPE 2047.

- asha_ewg – this group has three primary goals: to find out how Asha can use the Internet to raise funds, to facilitate the sales of Asha merchandise and event

tickets through the web and to make credit card donations through the Internet simple and straightforward.

- asha_fwg – this group reviews, discusses, and evaluates candidates for the Asha Fellowship Program as well as monitors the progress of current Asha Fellows.

Outline of Satellite Chapters

The Satellite Chapters (SCs) are made up of at least 1 or 2 interested individuals. They should have a clear understanding of Asha for Education's goals and objectives. The SCs will be paired with the nearest geographical chapter. The parent chapter will be a mentor to the SC on activities like fundraising, projects and publicity. The parent chapter will also guide the SC through the various phases of becoming a full-fledged stable organization. The SC can function independently, but all funds raised are routed through the parent chapter to the projects in India.

If they are close enough and if members desire, the SC and parent chapter will organize a few common meetings. After a reasonable time period, (usually one year), if the SC has a strong volunteer base and feels comfortable with the responsibilities of an official Asha chapter, they may go ahead and form an official chapter. If they are not yet ready, the SC can continue on as satellite of the parent chapter for another year.

Satellite Chapter	Parent Chapter
Sacramento, CA	Berkeley
Carbondale, IL	St. Louis
Mid-Hudson Valley, NY	NYC/NJ
Toronto, Canada	Boston

projects

The 2001Census of India shows that for the first time since independence, the absolute number of illiterates in India has shown a remarkable decline. Literacy recorded an impressive jump of 13.17 percentage points from 52.2% in 1991 to 65.4% in 2001. The gap in male and female literacy rates also decreased from 28.8 percent in 1991 to 21.7 in 2001. The literacy rate for males is 75.9% while the literacy rate for females is 54.2%. This means that more than three-fourths of the males and more than half of the female population in the country are literate today.

While these numbers are very heartening, it also shows that organizations like Asha still have a long way to go. If 35% of a nation of 1 billion is illiterate, that means there are more than 350 million illiterate people in India, which is larger than the entire population of the United States of America. Providing these 350 million people with quality education is an enormous task. Achieving this task will open up several new avenues of development in India. The dream of every Asha volunteer is to provide education to every single child in India.

In 2000, Asha supported 127 educational projects run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in various parts of India. $614,000 in funds were contributed by Asha towards these projects, compared to $514,000 in 1999.

One of the characteristics that makes Asha unique is that we also take an active role in identifying, reviewing, approving, and monitoring the projects we fund. Asha volunteers are increasingly working more closely with the

projects, to learn from them and in turn help them in ways other than monetarily. Results indicate that personal bonds of this nature enhance the effectiveness of our projects. A few examples are:

• Asha-Boston's work with the Jeevan Gnyanodaya School for the Speech and Hearing Impaired in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu
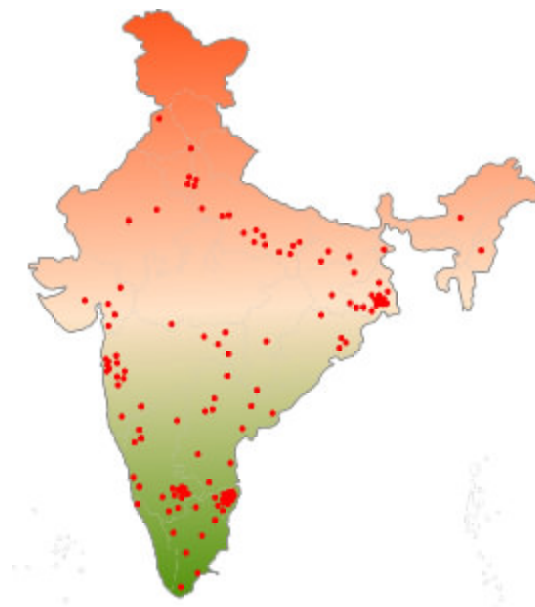
• Asha-St.Louis's association with the Voluntary Organization In Community Enterprise (VOICE) in Mumbai
• Asha-Seattle's work with AVEHI-Abacus program in Maharashtra
• Asha-Yale's involvement in computerizing the operations of Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)
• Two projects in Bihar and Rajasthan being initiated by Asha volunteers in the US.

States most in need of funds

(All projects from 1991-2000)
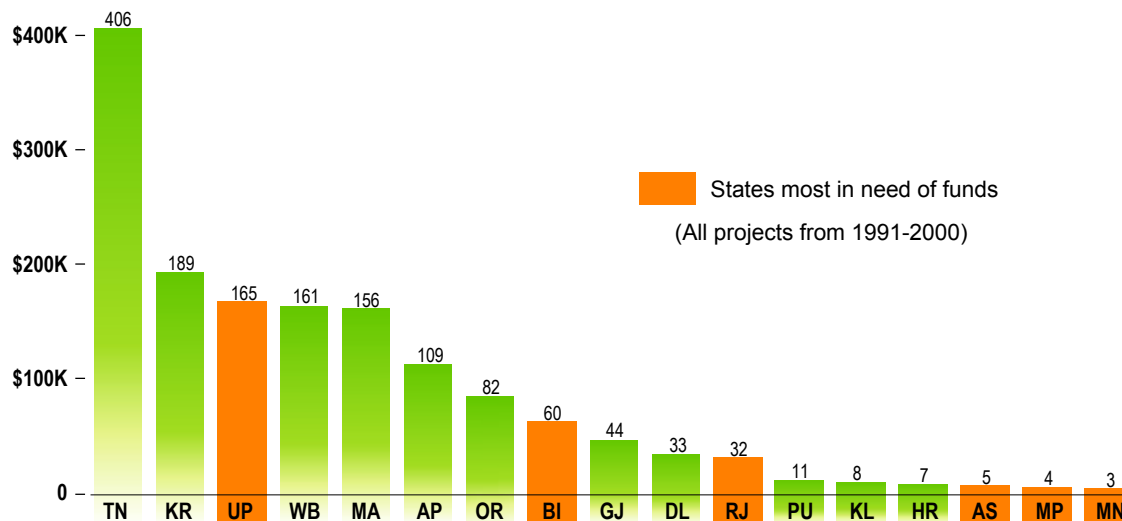
Many chapters have a separate projects focus group that meets regularly to research and discuss projects thoroughly. A visit to the Asha website offers a glimpse of the efforts made by Asha chapters to identify and support 127 projects in India benefiting thousands of children in 2000. Through the diligent efforts of many Asha volunteers, an Asha projects database and an associated process have been developed that ensure that a steward volunteer and a steward chapter get assigned to each new project proposal that comes to Asha for Education. The steward volunteer keeps track of the status of the project as it goes through various phases such as evaluation, site visits, and funding. Asha volunteers are currently working to enhance and web-enable the database to facilitate on-line entry of information.

Projects Database

In order to streamline the process of receiving and evaluating project proposals across different Asha chapters, we are creating a projects database which gives a short description and overview of the project, the steward/US point volunteer for the project and the list of chapters that are currently evaluating the project. This ensures that there is no duplication of efforts across chapters and information can be shared with other chapters interested in the same project.

Glimpses of Asha Projects

Gram Vikas

Gram Vikas is a non-partisan, secular, voluntary organization working in partnership with tribal, dalit, and poor sections of society predominantly in south and southwest Orissa. The mission of Gram Vikas is to promote a sustainable process towards a dignified quality of life for rural communities characterized by the following:
- Opportunity for secure livelihoods
- Ecologically sound upgrade of natural resource base
- Basic education
- Primary health care
- Safe drinking water
- Hygienic living conditions
- Enhanced self-reliance and self-esteem.

When most parts of Orissa was devastated by the hurricane in October 1999, Asha stepped forward to rebuild schools and supply educational materials that was lost. A proposal to reconstruct 100 schools was made by Gram Vikas to Asha for Education. Realizing the urgency of the situation, two Asha chapters (Silicon Valley and New York City/New Jersey)

immediately evaluated the project proposal. Together, they contributed $66,500 for the reconstruction of 50 schools.

Maharogi Sewa Samithi, Anandwan, Warora

Maharogi Sewa Samiti runs a residential school for blind, deaf-mute and orphan children. The school has educational facilities till the VII standard, and the slow-paced educational program allows students to finish schools by the time they are 18. Unfortunately, traditional education alone does not seem adequate since physically challenged people rarely find meaningful employment once they leave school. With this in mind, a long-term plan was proposed for funding by Dr. Vikas Amte, Baba Amte's son and one of the leading persons at Anandwan, for providing these students some vocational training that would be useful in rehabilitating them in the longer term.

Asha St. Louis received the proposal from Anandwan, for Rs. 15 lakhs spread over 3 years towards construction of a workshop, residential accommodation to house 100 more children and machinery for the workshop, such as handlooms, powerlooms, welding machines etc. Since the amount required was high, several different Asha chapters contributed towards the project. The Asha funds for the Vocational School project were provided by the St. Louis chapter, Work an Hour 1999, and the Seattle chapter. There have been several site visits made by Asha volunteers within the last three years to Anandwan. The construction and infrastructure development has been completed.

Sweekar (Rehabilitation Institute and Special School for Handicapped)

Sweekar is a special school and rehabilitation institute for handicapped children. Located in Hyderabad, it serves destitute/poor handicapped children from throughout Andhra Pradesh. Sweekar was established in 1977 and has grown into a 75-room facility, serving 1600 people per day, hosting 200 residents, and manned by 200 staff members. A dedicated team of pediatricians, disability specialists, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, special educators, audiologist, orthopedic and ENT surgeons, physio therapists, prosthetic and orthotic engineers also provide their services. The educational and vocational training center of Sweekar caters to the urban population and imparts urban based industrial training in trades like embroidery, tailoring, book binding, and making toys, dolls, candles, chalk, and envelopes.

The physical medicine and rehabilitation center of Sweekar serves 75 persons per day with various physical disabilities like hemiplegia, paraplegia, facial palsy, polio, accidents, burns, and strokes. The Prakrut Integrated Rural Rehabilitation Project and Research Academy of Sweekar is a residential facility for the mentally handicapped. It provides training in rural based Agro industrial trades like dairy poultry, agriculture, horticulture, pottery, and bee keeping.This project was funded by the MIT and Silicon Valley chapters for a total of $12,500 to educate 30 handicapped children for 3 years.

Asha Stars

The Asha Stars program, which began in 1995 in the Los Angeles chapter, has been gaining a lot of momentum. With this program, a group of Asha Stars (typically 5 to 10 people depending on the size of the project) take up the responsibility of ensuring the success of a particular project over the long-term. Each Asha Star guarantees financial support of at least $300 per year towards the project, with the ultimate goal being to guide the project towards self-reliance. The Asha Stars are encouraged to visit the project that they are supporting in order to give them a closer feel for the cause.

Asha Stars Projects

Our experience over the last ten years has confirmed that ownership is key to the success of a project. Besides this, there is a need for sustained support to projects in India until they strike roots and become self-reliant; opportunities for direct participation of volunteers in Asha projects; and a scalable model involving all individuals interested in contributing to the cause – to create a mass movement for the resurgence of India

These have led to the development of the concept of Asha Stars Projects. The seeds for this idea were sown in Asha Los Angeles in 1995 (see The Asha Star Story). Since then, the seeds have sprouted and are spreading fast. Currently volunteers across the world are involved in 32 Asha Stars Projects spread over 14 states and union territories in India up from 23 a year ago.

Once a project is identified in India, a group of volunteers led by a Star coordinator, comes forward to take ownership of the project. These volunteers can be physically located anywhere in the world. They work with the people involved with the project in India and come up with a specific long-term goal, as well as a plan to achieve it. A project proposal is then submitted to a registered Asha for Education chapter for approval. The project is approved and monitored by an Asha chapter as per the procedure

The Asha Star Story

The Asha Star program began in 1995 with a small group of Asha Los Angeles (Asha LA) volunteers taking direct ownership of a project. It started in response to mounting concern regarding the transient presence of volunteers at a chapter, which made sustained impact very difficult; and also placed too much responsibility on the remaining volunteers. Furthermore, a field trip to India and discussions with the project coordinators there showed that donors dropped out within two years when sustained volunteer involvement was lacking.

In order to address these problems, it was decided to form small groups of people who would take up the responsibility of ensuring the success of a particular project over long-term. These people would be the Asha Stars for that project. Typically, Asha Stars operate in groups of five to ten people depending on the size of the project. Each star guarantees financial support of approximately $300 per year towards their project with the ultimate goal of the project achieving self-reliance. As the teams are small, accountability is self-contained. Asha Stars are not restricted by their geographic location. Their commitment bridges the distance between them.

Projects are directed through the personal involvement of these teams in cooperation with volunteers in India. Each team has a coordinator who maintains detailed information about the project on the web. Most coordinators visit their project sites periodically, keep the team well informed, seek input from teammates, and facilitate decision-making. Progress reports are posted on the Internet regularly, thus spreading awareness and enabling new volunteers to join the effort. Within two years, forty Asha Stars emerged to support six out of eight Asha-LA projects, and this concept has subsequently spread to other chapters as well.

The Asha Star concept has proved to be extremely effective, as the progress of a project continues unhindered by the dynamic status of the Asha volunteers. The Asha Stars make sure that the needs of the project are met and it moves successfully towards its goals. In addition, the personal involvement of the people, and the sense of ownership that arises from it ensures greater commitment to the project

for any regular project. The Asha Stars coordinator and the members own the project and hence do what is needed to make it succeed. They get personally involved with the project to the extent possible in its planning and implementation and go beyond just funding it. They come up with ideas on what they and Asha can do to change the status quo for the better in the communities the projects are located (libraries, scholarships, vocational training, etc.).

Modern developments in communications around the world has definitely helped in making the Asha Stars Projects successful. The Asha Stars remain involved with the project by regular phone conversations with the project representatives in India. Each Asha Star by turn calls the project, at least, once every two months. Thanks to the extensive installation of long distance telephone lines by the Indian Government, this method of contacting projects is a reality even in remote areas and has been found to work well. The Asha Stars "meet" (remember they can be anywhere on the globe or outside it) via phone conferences every one to two months. This helps in building a working relationship among the Asha Stars. Tools of the cyber age – web-sites and eGroups - have been of great help in increased communication, publicity efforts, educating the world about the project as well as in fund raising.

The Asha Stars contribute $300 or more per year towards the project. This usually is a good point to get everyone involved – but obviously does not end there. Nearly always, they need to raise more funds. Members have been known to come up with innovative methods to raise funds for their projects. As with any regular project, funds sent to the project needs to be approved by the chapter and followed through – this is part of the checks and balances system evolved by Asha for Education to monitor projects. The Asha Stars help the chapters in the process in any way they can.

Asha Stars have committed to work with their project for 10 years, by which time the project reaches self-sustenance or becomes redundant (e.g. no child in the area is involved in child-labor and all of them go to school).

Future Goals

Asha for Education can be a source of hope to any child in India in need of support. To make this a reality, the organization needs to have a presence in every region of the country and be accessible to the community and the child. Asha Stars Projects, which have community involvement, can be this source of hope. That is why we

need to enssure that Asha Stars Projects are operating in every single part of the country.

Our long-term goal is to have at least one Asha Stars Project is each of the 461 districts in the Indian states and union territories by the end of this decade - 2010.

The current distribution of Asha Stars Projects reveals that 50% of them are located in the three states of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. Even within states, most of the projects are located near major cities. For example, of the six Asha Stars Projects in West Bengal, four are in and around Calcutta. To address the issue of distribution of projects across the country while maintaining the high standards of Asha Stars Projects, we are taking a systematic approach to setting them up. The country is divided into 10 zones, based on geographical contiguity and the literacy rates of the states. Teams, familiar with the region are being set-up to coordinate the efforts for that zone. This zonal approach helps in taking faster action to initiate new projects. This will also help us reach our target of one project in each district at a steady pace over this decade.

Further information on Asha Stars Projects and its progress may be obtained from www.ashanet.org/stars/ If you are interested in participating in this movement to transform India by community participation, please join the Asha Stars team.

Ongoing Asha Stars Projects

Chapter	Project Name (PIN)*	Location	Brief Description
1 Arizona	Vivekanda Education Society for Children (116)	South 24 Parganas, West Bengal	Eradicate child labor and help children attend schools
2 Arizona	Sumavanam (114)	Madanapalli, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh	Provide education to underprivileged children using innovative methods
3 Arizona	Sai Kripa (112)	Vazidpur village near NOIDA, New Delhi	Provide education to underprivileged children who are unable to gain admission to other schools
4 Princeton	People's Association for Community Health Education (138)	10 villages in the Chellampatti block of Madurai District, Tamil Nadu	To provide literacy and life-oriented education to children in the age group of 6-14 in the project area
5 Princeton	Nalamdana (55)	Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Nalamdana's mission is to create a cohesive group of the brightest and most socially committed students from the low income group and empower them through education
6 Princeton & RTP	Khajurdaha Nabankur United Club (139)	Khajurdaha village, Hooghly District West Bengal	The main goal is the emancipation and development of the indigenous rural people of Khajurdah, especially women and children, through reduction of poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and apathy towards others.
7 Berkeley	Abilities (140)	Indira Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka	Abilities offers its many services free of cost to children/persons with disabilities, to ensure accessibility even to those deepest in need. The Stars contribute to furthering the organization's Braille program
8 Berkeley	Sarvodaya Parivar Trust (12)	Tal Dharampur, Pindval District, Gujarat	The Sarvodaya Trust has established a flourishing school on a remote plateau in Gujarat. It is the only school available in this 30 km x 30 km region populated by Adivasi farmers.
9 Berkeley	Path of Light (141)	Nanakwada, Valsad District Gujarat	Educational and vocational training for the blind at live-in campus as well as assistance integrating into the public school system.
10 Berkeley	C.A.S.T. (142)	Tirunelveli District Tamil Nadu	Creche for small children in five villages and women empowerment
11 Berkeley	Pride (161)	Urur Kuppam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	This project is aimed at improving, a virtually non-existent, school environment in the pre-schools in the area.
12 Berkeley	Jyotirgamaya (136)	Adivasi Tola & Gotoli, Katihar District Bihar	Jyotirgamaya is dedicated to improving the state of primary education among underprivileged children of Adivasi Tola and Gotoli of Katihar district.
13 Los Angeles	Helping Hands (76)	Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Presently focuses on supporting computer education to orphaned children. A pioneering effort is in progress.
14 Los Angeles	Rise and Shine (143)	Amritsar, Punjab	Provides educational stipends to children in Amritsar, Punjab whose fathers or both parents were killed by the violence in the area.
15 Los Angeles	Youth Dreams (144)	Bhadrak District Orissa	To improve the educational conditions in a set of four schools in rural Orissa, one of the most economically challenged regions in India.
16 Los Angeles	Seize the Moment (145)	Midnapore District West Bengal	The aim is to allow children who work in the fields a chance to go to school. Provisions are being made for medical aid and check ups for the students.

Chapter	Project Name (PIN)*	Location	Brief Description
17 Los Angeles	Self Reliance (146)	North 24 Parganas District, West Bengal	The larger project seeks to make all the villages in the district North 24 Parganas self-sufficient. Schooling is provided for 300 children in four villages in the area
18 Los Angeles	Street to School (147)	Kalighat, Calcutta, West Bengal	Offers formal schooling and vocational training opportunities to children of prostitutes
19 Los Angeles	Bridge the Gap (148)	Cheetah Camp, Mumbai, Maharasthra	Star English School seeks to provide quality education to the slum children in Cheetah Camp, one of the biggest slums in Mumbai bridging the gap between Tamil and English medium curricula.
20 Los Angeles	Right Livelihood (149)	BR Hills, Mysore District, Karnataka	Support the children belonging to the Soliga tribe in Mysore district and aims for progress in the areas of health, community development and education
21 Silicon Valley	Centre for Development of Disadvantaged People (18)	Muthukondapuram and Adi-Andravada, Tamil Nadu	Provide literacy and vocational training for 50 children in the two villages of Muthukondapuram and Adi-Andravada
22 Silicon Valley	Lokshala (150)	Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh	Motivate local panchayat and volunteers to induce the government to open schools and to help them run more effectively. Expected to impact 44 villages.
23 Silicon Valley	Prachiti (11)	Padsare, Maharashtra	To develop a replicable model of development ensuring that the career and self-development of individuals are satisfied.
24 Silicon Valley	Prerana (151)	Deodurg Taluka, Raichur Dt, Karnataka	Set up schools modeled on government schools with outside assistance as well as local villagers.
25 Silicon Valley	Irula Project (59)	Tiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu	Set up 8 motivational centers to enable the Irula children to join the government schools in the area.
26 New York City/ New Jersey	Vanavasi Ashram Trust (48)	Wayanad District, Kerala	project aims spread awareness about governmental welfare schemes and to establish a school in the tribal area so that the region can qualify for government support at a later date.
27 New York City/ New Jersey	Manaviya Shiksha Sanskar Sanstha (152)	Kanpur District, Uttar Pradesh	Alternative stream of education for children of migrant laborers to help them move towards self-sufficiency.
28 New York City/ New Jersey	Sumangali Seva Ashram (107)	Bangalore, Karnataka	Introduce computer education for underprivileged children and destitute women to help them economically.
29 St. Louis	Voluntary Organisation in Community Enterprise (28)	Bandra, Mumbai, Maharashtra	Provide non-formal education (NFE) to street children on railway platforms.
30 Washington DC	Rural Development Institute (153)	Garhwal District, Uttaranchal	Sustainable development in the hilly district of Garhwal through education and health care.
31 Michigan State University	Muskan (79)	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	To promote meaningful education amongst the children of Bhopal's slums, to raise social awareness and to provide basic necessities and opportunities for learning basic skills to help youth and women achieve economic independence.
32 Urbana Champaign	SSUP (160)	Malda District, West Bengal	Funding has been granted for running 12 Children Learning Centers with 25 students in each.

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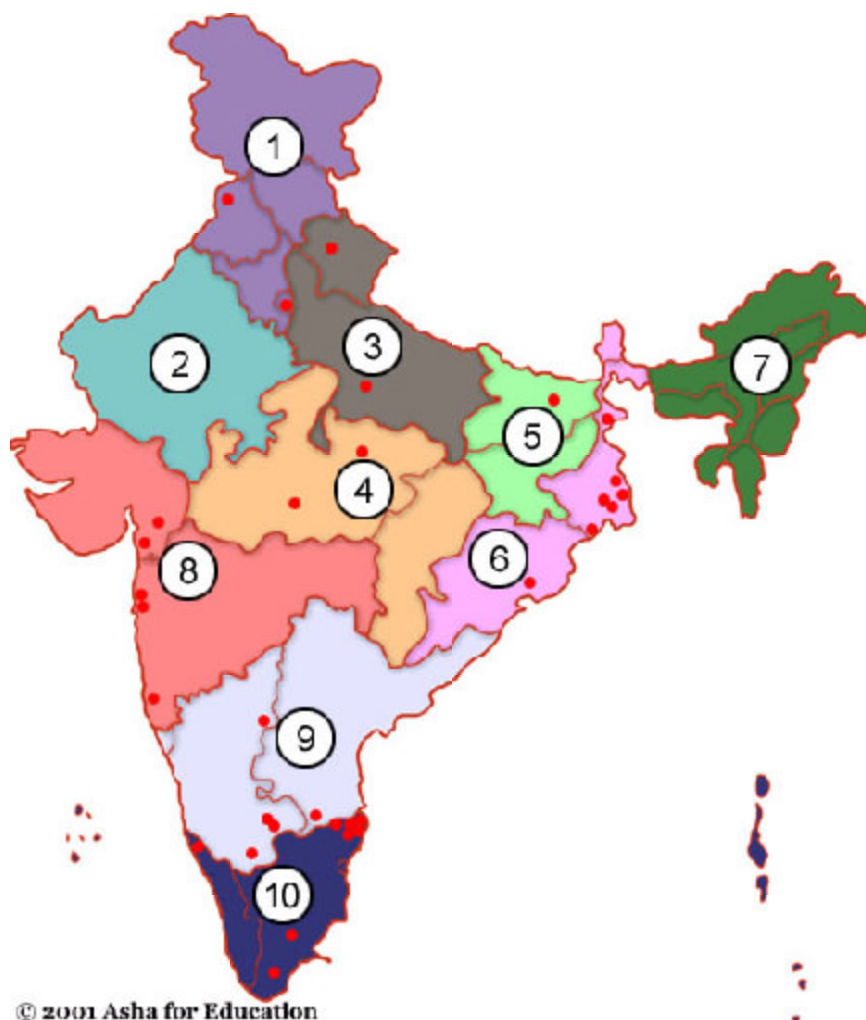
Zone	State/Territory	Projects	Total
	Jammu and Kashmir	0	
	Punjab	1	
	Haryana	0	
	Chandigarh	0	
	Himachal Pradesh	0	
1	Dehli	1	2
2	Rajasthan	0	0
	Uttar Pradesh	1	
3	Uttaranchal	1	2
	Madhya Pradesh	2	
4	Chattisgarh	0	2
	Bihar	1	
5	Jharkand	0	1
	Sikkim	0	
	West Bengal	6	
6	Orrisa	1	7
	Assam	0	
	Meghalaya	0	
	Arunachal Pradesh	0	
	Nagaland	0	
	Manipur	0	
	Mizoram	0	
7	Tripura	0	0
	Gujarat	2	
	Maharashtra	3	
	Dadra Nagar Haveli	0	
8	Daman and Diu	0	5
	Goa	0	
	Karnataka	1	
9	Andhra Pradesh	4	5
	Tamil Nadu	7	
	Kerala	1	
	Andaman Nicobar	0	
	Lakshadweep	0	
10	Pondicherry	0	8
All India = 32			

fundraising

fundraising event annually. Some recent examples include:

- Asha-St. Louis hosted Tarang, an annual event that included carom, table tennis, and a chess tournament and raised over $8000.
- The city of Cambridge was witness to the melodious and uplifting music of Dr. K.J. Yesudas. Asha-Boston

" a million bucks !!! "

Fundraising is one of the key activities of Asha. In our first year, we raised $3500 from many individuals, with the average contribution of $10-$15. Since then, the average size of our donations has increased significantly, with 98% of our contributions coming from individuals. In 2000, we crossed $1,000,000 in funds raised. Recently, we have increased our corporate fundraising efforts in order to tap in to the large funds available from many corporations.

As a result of the growth in revenues, the grants paid out to the projects have also been steadily increasing. Compared to $2500 in 1991, and $37,000 in 1995, Asha disbursed $614,000 to projects in 2000.

One of the ways that chapters express their creativity is through fundraising. This not only raises money but more importantly, increases awareness of Asha within the local community. In 2000, Asha chapters raised over a million dollars through a variety of fun and educational fund raisers. Almost all Asha chapters hold some form of

raised $4500 from the event.
- Asha-Arizona showcased many aspects of Indian culture (contemporary and Traditional music and dances) in Rasa that raised over $5000.
- Asha-Seattle hosted concerts by the giants of hindustani classical Music – Pandit Jasraj and Ustad Amjad Ali Khan and raised close to $30,000.

Local Events

Most of the funds are raised by Asha chapters through local events and publicity campaigns. This tradition was started back in 1991 with Asha's first ever fundraiser "Images of India", an evening of music and dances from India performed by local talented artists, most of whom were students at University of California at Berkeley. Since then Berkeley and other chapters of Asha have established their own unique shows and events which bring in funds and raise awareness about Asha and children's education issues in the local community. In addition to cultural shows, our chapter volunteers host

Funds Raised and Disbursed
(in Thousands of Dollars)

Raised
Disbursed

Chart showing funds raised (green) and disbursed (orange) from '91 to '00, with values ranging up to approximately 1050 in '00. Y-axis marked at 200, 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1200.

movie screenings, cricket matches, booths at local functions and even run in marathons!

Merchandise sales have become a strong component of Asha fundraising, contributing over $15,000 in project funds. We sell calendars, greeting cards, stationary, ceramic mugs, t-shirts and clay diya-candles, among other items. Asha calendars are very popular among the NRI population since not only are they attractively designed, they also feature both Indian and US holidays. In 2000 we sold close to 4,000 calendars in the US.

Harbingers of Hope

A team of 22 runners finished the 27th Honolulu Marathon in Hawaii as part of a novel fundraising effort by Asha Silicon Valley. Dubbed 'Harbingers of Hope', the team collectively raised over $80,000. Each volunteer was responsible for raising at least $2620 ($100 for every mile run) from co-workers, family and friends. The Harbingers of Hope program included 17 weeks of rigorous training, personalized training (for beginners and intermediates), weekly long runs and speed training, diet tips, gear education - all under the guidance of coaches who boast several ultra-marathons and over-35 marathons

Book Drive

At Asha for Education, we believe in developing lasting relationships with the projects in India, and-the involve ment often takes the shape of non-monetary support. One such example is a recent initiative undertaken by Asha chapters to provide access to quality books and literature to the underprivileged children in the numerous schools in India that we fund. Due to limited resources, children often

remain restricted to curricular textbooks and have no exposure or access to a well-stocked library – an essential component of a complete education. Asha attempts to help via two different but complementary approaches:

• Providing monetary gifts for books and magazine subscriptions available in India to the NGOs for circulation among the children.
• Collecting and sending books donated in the U.S. to deserving schools in India.

The first route seeks to tap the wealth of children's literature that is readily available in India, and introduces the children to extra curricular reading material in the language of their choice. In the near future, visitors to the Asha website will be able to view a list of books and magazines available for subscription, choose the projects of their choice, and make a payment through their credit card for subscriptions to be sent to the selected projects! The second route seeks to benefit those projects that could use books in English, by connecting them with families in the U.S. who would like to donate old books. These could include comics, picture books, children's fiction, dictionaries and encyclopedias and would be sent to supplement or initiate school libraries. In this effort, we are partnering with another U.S. organization, 'Friends of Young Minds' (http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~foym/) which will help ship the donated books to India. We expect to send the first large trial shipment of books in the next few months to an Asha-Seattle supported project, Anugriha, in rural Tamil Nadu.

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one for the book donation program at Asha. Our ultimate goal? To ensure that every child in every project we fund can have access to books that challenge the mind and kindle the imagination. If you would like to donate used books or gift subscriptions of Indian magazines, please contact us at books@ashanet.org.

Awareness and Publicity

Raising awareness among the local community is taken as seriously by chapters as raising funds. Lectures have been given at various chapters by distinguished speakers like Jean Dreze, who headed the research team that produced the authoritative Public Report on Basic Education (PROBE) in India. He demonstrated how education is inter-connected with other social and development issues, making it important for development organizations to design holistic solutions. We also hosted talks by Prof P.Sainath on the caste contradictions in Indian Society, by Dr. Jay Prakash Narayan of Lok Satta on revitalizing the Indian Democracy, and screened films such as the Bhopal Express. Asha volunteers also

highlighted educational issues in India through media articles in Rediff, the Indian Express, the Hindu, India West, India Post, and Sulekha as well as the creative television commercial for Work An Hour 2000 (http://www.ashanet.org/workanhour/movie.html).

Asha Computers

The Asha-Computers initiative aims to promote digitally enabled learning at projects in India. For this initiative, we work with projects that have basic infrastructure like classroom, electricity and teachers and are enthusiastic about computer-enabled learning. Presently we have chosen SEWA in Gujarat, Udavum Karangal in Tamil Nadu, and Project Pride in Chennai.

Hardware Procurement.

There are basically two options that involve a tradeoff between cost and logistics complexity. One is to ship used computers in large quantities from the U.S. The other is to simply buy computers in India itself. Several groups have been shipping computers from the U.S. in recent times, such as World Computer Exchange (WCE) and Computers for India. The cost of a computer when shipped from the U.S. can be as low as $25-45 while the cost of buying a computer is India can be 10 times more. While the cost advantage is a definite plus, shipping computers involves a number of dependencies. The computers have to be obtained from donors and corpora tions, inventoried, shipped to U.S. ports, insured, received at the Indian ports, go through the customs-with govern ment support and non-interference, and get sent to the right schools. All this can be a logistical challenge. But if done successfully, hundreds of computers can reach the destination.

Teacher Training

Our experience shows that without proper follow-up training and support, the digital divide is not easily crossed. Just shipping the hardware is not enough. Training of the teachers, administrators, and in some cases the parents, is needed for the initiative to be successful.

Curriculum Development

This is an important part of the process if we are to deliver high quality education. SchoolNet, a for-profit company that offers subsidized support to Asha projects has been chosen as a partner of Asha for Education in teacher training and curriculum development. SchoolNet follows the KG-12 system used in Canada and charges

Rs. 15/month per child. Teachers from Udavum Karangal and Project Pride are now receiving consistent support to overcome their fear of computers and also to develop their own relevant lessons using computers.

Monitoring for Continued Improvement

We are deeply involved in our projects as we feel this is necessary in order to ensure long-term progress and high quality. Such commitment allows us to gather insights into the best practices that can be applied to new projects. Asha's ongoing presence also brings credibility to the initiative and energizes local communities.

The Future

Massive deployment across villages in India is our ultimate goal. The Asha-Computers team will support the necessary technology transfer. We would first like to demonstrate a few successful models that make a real impact in our projects. We are well on our way and expect to achieve this by the end of year 2001. Ultimately we want all Asha projects in India to have the option of offering an enhanced learning environment through the use of computers.

asha fellowship

The need for providing financial and moral support to individuals interested in performing social work in India has been discussed in Asha for over five years. In 1999, two parallel efforts were initiated. First, the Asha Fellowship Working Group was established to formulate the Asha Fellowship program. Second, an unofficial fellowship program was initiated, in which development workers identified primarily by Sandeep Pandey were supported through direct individual contributions made outside of Asha. The goal was to start learning about the issues that arise in fellowship programs, while the official program was still being formulated.

Currently, 13 unofficial fellows are being supported by ten individuals, separate from Asha funds. The support provided ranges from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 8000 per month (approximately US $25 to US $ 200 per month). The initial fellows are/were Anil Sharma, Ashish Sharma, Biju Barbaruah, Mahesh Bhai, Raju Thapa, Sandeep Pandey and Shanmuga Subramanian. They have been involved in a variety of activities, many of which are directly related to Asha projects. For example, Mahesh is the secretary of Asha-India and helps with day-to-day activities including project coordination, accounts and delegation of duties to volunteers, formulating policies and evaluating new projects. Mahesh is also the overall coordinator of the Asha Ashram at Lalpur. Another Asha fellow, Shanmuga conducted the Asha 2000 study, a review of Asha's activities in India in the past decade. In the past year, he has visited over 60 projects, 35 of which were previously/currently supported by Asha, and the other 25 were being considered for support. Biju underwent training in the khadi cloth manufacturing process at Ahmedabad, and has used this knowledge in strengthening the women self help groups she has created in Assam. Currently she is interacting with and helping over 83 such groups.

The Asha Fellowship program was developed by the Fellowship Working Group, which was established by Shanmuga Subramanian in June 1999. Shanmuga wrote an extensive white paper and a draft of the Asha Fellowship program as a starting point. Asha's Fellowship Program was launched, with the following salient features:

Scope of Work

Fellows can focus their work on different aspects of development work, including but not limited to education (formal, non-formal, alternative), women's empowerment, child labor, and environmental issues. To maintain Asha's focus on education related activities, it was decided that 65% of the Fellows supported would address education related issues.

Selection Method

Fellow applicants have to be nominated by Asha volunteers and social workers in India. Asha chapters interested in supporting fellows would review the nomination and application. One person from the selection panel would visit with the applicant and provide review comments to the selection panel, which would then make a decision.

Support Provided

Typically, support would be provided for a four-year period. Monthly stipend would be $150 for single fellows and $225 for those with a family. Additionally, up to $400/year could be provided to cover administration and traveling costs.

The first two nominations have been made for the fellowship program and are currently being reviewed by the Asha-Seattle chapter.The Asha Fellowship program is now poised to take the next step, where support to such committed individuals will be provided for a four-year period.

	Fellow	Location	Responsibilities
1	Sandeep Pandey	Lalpur, UP	Asha Ashram
2	Shanmuga Subramanian	Chennai, TN	Asha 2000 Project Evaluation
3	Parmita	Lalpur, UP	Asha Ashram
4	Biju Barbaruah	Nalbari, Assam	Women's self help groups
5	Raju Thapa	Lalpur, UP	Asha Ashram
6	Kusum Verma	Lucknow, UP	Sachchi-Muchchi; Curriculum Dev/
7	Chandrabhushan Tiwari	Lucknow, UP	Child Education
8	Brajendra Bhai	Ballia, UP	Child Education
9	Shalini Verma	Lalpur, UP	Health work
10	Anil Sharma	Lalpur, UP	Overall asha-secretary.
11	Ashish Sharma	Lalpur, UP	Computer hardware support
12	Ajit Singh	Varanasi	Destitute women
13	Vimal Bhai	Delhi	Project Monitoring

asha & the web

"This is the freedom of the universe." "A spirit," he claimed "spread beyond itself, communicating good, a simple blessing, or with evil mixed." William Wordsworth probably was not musing about the Internet and the web in his Discourse of the Wanderer some 200 years ago, but it certainly has a striking resemblance, at least as far as the Asha universe is concerned. From the ability to instantly communicate with volunteers around the world, to the ability to collect donations online, the world-wide-web has played a crucial role in the development of Asha. Over 300 volunteers around the world use a plethora of virtual groups to discuss, debate, plan and execute everything from project proposals and site-visit reports to fund-raising events. There are 23 mailing lists related to activities spanning all chapters and an additional 30 chapter mailing lists. The web has become the nervous system of Asha.

But the use of the web has not been without its hurdles. Asha volunteers in India sometimes have to work in places without electricity, such as the Asha Center in Lalpur. Asha-India volunteers, Sandeep Pandey, Mahesh Pandey, Arundhati Dhuru and others have to travel 14 km to Lucknow to be able to communicate with the rest of the Asha community. This effort to correspond and coordinate with the rest of the volunteers really shows the importance we give to the Internet.

The web has been revolutionary for us. While the hurdles put things in perspective, the success stories give a glimpse of the potential that lies ahead. One example of the advantages of the web is how we coordinate projects. Asha volunteers also use the Internet for coordinating project activities and record keeping. Almost all the activities of the Asha Star teams happen on the web. The project records are maintained on our website. Site visit reports are entered and updated there. The Asha Stars communicate with each other through electronic groups (mailing lists). Not only does this allow us to coordinate our activities, it also increases the transparency of our operations to our donors and volunteers.

Overall in 2000, the number of visitors to our website declined compared to 1999. We had an estimated 40,691 unique hits compared to 49,380 in the previous year. Users from 69 countries have viewed at the www.ashanet.org website. While about 1800 people found Asha in Yahoo's directory, over 2500 others found us through search engines like MSN, Google, and AltaVista. Besides the word "asha", the most popular keywords people used to come upon our site were "India", "education", "volunteer", "children", and "hope".

Credit Card Donations

For the first time, Asha received donations through the Internet in late March 2000. Thanks to Allcharities.com, Asha was able to accept credit cards contributions without having to incur any administrative costs. Thus we were able to follow our tenet that 100% of all donations go towards to the projects. Most of the online donations were during Work An Hour. We received $2,029 from March to June, $41,486 during WAH July to September, and $19,606 from October to December.

E-Commerce

A number of chapters have made use of online ticket sales for their events and fundraisers. Online sales simpliy the process of getting the tickets to the attendees and broadens the potential audience for Asha events. Sites like TicketWeb.com greatly improved Asha's reach in the community as well as increase the number of attendees to fundraisers.

With little effort, supporters can help raise funds for Asha while they shop on the Internet. Most online stores have affiliate programs where we receive a percentage of all purchases made while "clicking-through" the ashanet.org website. Asha started joining affiliate programs in 1999 and we were able to raise $1538. In 2000, we raised $1899, a 23% increase from the previous year.

We plan to use the web to its fullest for coordination among volunteers, communication, publicity, record-keeping and fundraising. We know that we have the talent base to do it in the future. The future of Asha for Education is on the web.

work an hour

$86,025 to six projects. The progress graph and a statistical breakdown of funds received is given below. It is interesting to see the comparison amongst the WAH events from the last three years. There is a clear trend indicating that WAH's popularity (funds raised and donors involved) and effectiveness (number of quality projects supported) is on the rise.
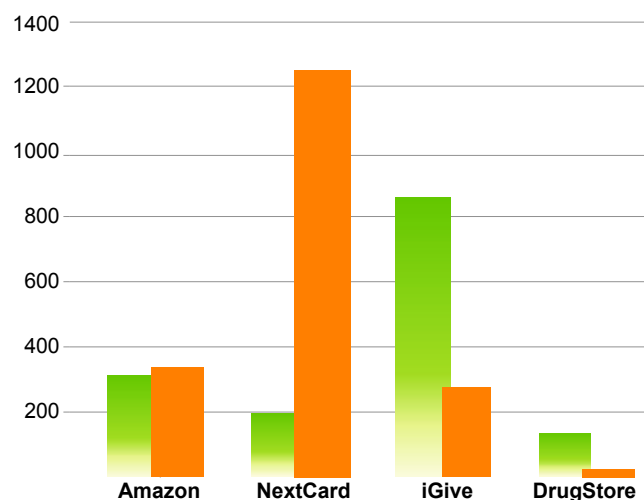
Work An Hour (WAH) is Asha for Education's largest worldwide, on-line event during which people are encouraged to donate one hour or more of their salary towards educating underprivileged children in India. WAH begins every year on the 4th of July – Independence Day in the U.S.A. The event reaches its peak on August 15th, India's Independence Day, which is the symbolic date chosen for this phenomenal coming together of the human spirit. Started in 1998, WAH proves to be an excellent way to bring all chapters together, support great projects, raise awareness, and raise funds.

At a Glance

WAH 2000 was a result of hundreds of volunteers collab - orating to publicize, collect feedback, and execute this international fundraiser. This kind of success has enabled us to have a positive outlook on leveraging the world-wide-web for future fundraising activities. Donors from all over the world made 1,378 pledges and Asha disbursed

WAH stats

Projects Supported

It is important to note that Asha volunteers are personally involved in the selection and evaluation of projects. The WAH team ensured that all project proposals were properly reviewed, visited by an Asha volunteer, had sound financial records, and future monitoring of the project was in place. A total of six projects were funded.

1. Irula Project:

The Irulas are a tribal community living mainly in Thiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu, with near 100% illiteracy. Irulas are traditional snake and rat catchers. This is no longer their means of living, and over these years they have learned to earn their living by doing "coolie" work. This could be through a variety of odd jobs like, working in the rice mills, collecting firewood, fishing or working in the fields of landlords during the sowing and harvesting seasons. However, the Irulas have been forced to migrate for work due to the severe drought situation. This uncertainty of livelihood, in addition to the lack of schools in the vicinity, poses a great challenge in educating the Irula children.

Funds from WAH 2000 ($23,125) benefited about 530 children aged 5 to 15 years. The support was used to build 8 motivational schools, train teachers, and provide meals for the children in 11 villages under the aegis of the Bharati Trust. These motivational centers will bring full access to education to the Irulas in three years – something they have never had before. It was deemed important to setup motivational schools because the children of the marginalized Irulas face uncertain lives and need to inculcate a value for education. Two experts on alternative education have also been working closely with the Bharati Trust to train the teachers. In all, three site visits were made in 2000, all of which noted excellent progress and proper utilization of funds.

2. Voluntary Organization In Community Enterprise (VOICE):

VOICE is a non-governmental organization working towards the overall development of street children in Mumbai. VOICE was established in 1991 and its core members include development professionals, doctors, and
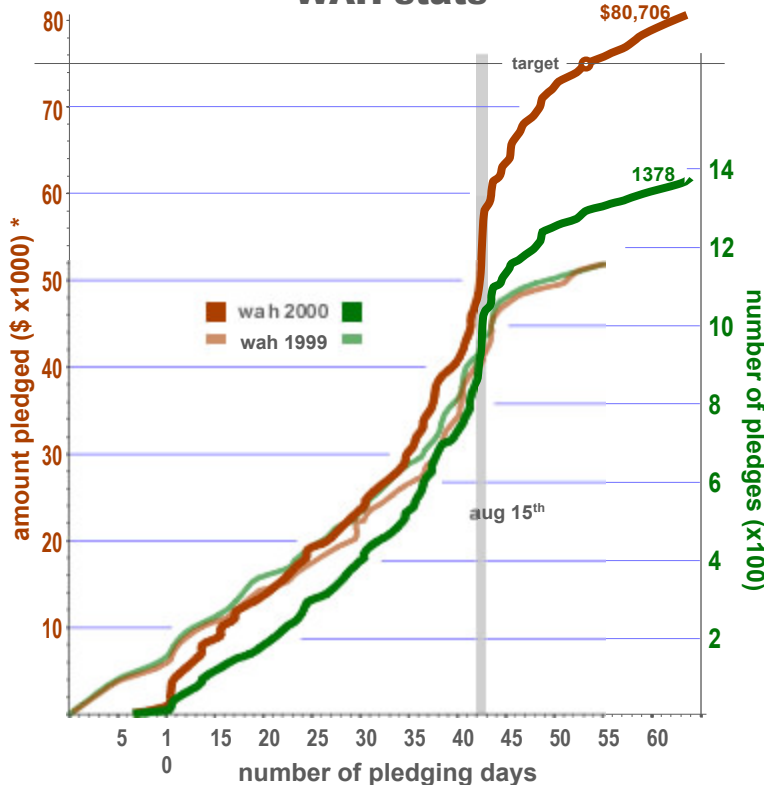
Year	Number of Donors		Amount Raised		Project Funded	Amount Disbursed
	#	% Chg.	$	% Chg.		
1998	750	-	31,000	-	3	30,000
1999	1,150	53.33	54,986	77.37	4	50,000
2000	1,378	19.82	85,898	56.21	6	86,025

voluntary social workers. If the street children of Mumbai cannot go to school, VOICE brings the school to them by teaching on railroad platforms or streets of Mumbai where the children beg or do menial labor.

WAH 2000 funds ($8,700) will benefit about 250 children aged 3 to 14 years. The support was used for a non-formal education center called "Swadham" in Andheri and a vocational training center. This non-formal education is aimed at children who live and work on the railway platforms. This approach for these children has proved successful since out of 250 children, 125 students are now enrolled in Municipal/Private schools.

Asha St. Louis oversees the progress of the VOICE project. One site visit was done in 2000 with encouraging results. The teachers and VOICE representatives are in constant touch with them, earning their trust and continued support.

3. Urmul Marusthali Bunkar Vikas Samiti (UMBVS):

Started in 1989, UMBVS in Phalaudi Tehsil, Rajasthan, is a society formed by weavers for weavers. While initially concentrating on the Income Generation Program (IGP) for the weavers they represented, the scope of the organization grew to take on Shikshakarmi Pariyojana - this program focused on the education of both boys and girls. In addition, they have started Lok Jumbish Pariyojana, an educational scheme that incorporates elements of women's empowerment program and integrated rural development program.

Jaisalmer is one of the most backward districts in the State of Rajasthan. The Indira Gandhi canal is snaking its way across the state, and has already reached Mohangarh Tehsil. The distribution of arable land to dalit farmers is currently underway. UMBVS will bring access to education to the existing settled weavers, and the new

wave of farmers who are on their way.

WAH 2000 funding ($17,000) will benefit about 300 children in the community. The support went towards the construction of 10 schools and salaries for 15 teachers.

4. The International Ocean Institute (IOI):

IOI, a division of Foundation for Sustainable Development, is partnering with Anawim Trust to work with the dalit community in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. The project aims for sustainability by linking micro-credit for women with the Asha Junior Center. Ever since the project was approved for WAH in September 2000, background work for the project had been going on in the field. After detailed discussions and review of past experience, IOI decided on the following parameters for the WAH Project:

• The project should be implemented in a large village.
• The village should be a "deserving" one, in terms of its location, distance to the nearest school, general level of socio-economic status, etc.
• There should be willingness and commitment on the part of village as a whole to sustain the Junior Center from the beginning of the fourth year.

The program is being implemented in the village of Valasubramanian. WAH 2000 funds ($11,000) will benefit about 90 families in the village and about 60 children.

5. Jeevan Gnanodaya:

Jeevan Gnanodaya school for the deaf and mentally retarded is an institution run by the Jeevan Gnanodaya

Source of funds	Percentage
Donations received through personal checks	55%
Donations received through credit cards	42%
Funds raised through affiliate programs	3%

Charitable Trust, in Chengalpattu near Chennai. The students are all from very poor rural families and some are orphans. Without this school, they would have been ignored and resigned to menial work from a young age, without a chance to improve their situation. The school not only gives them a chance to be independent but also to become contributing members of society. This proposal was for setting up an Industrial Training Institute (ITI) at the school.

There were plans to start an ITI as soon as possible, where the older children would learn vocational skills like carpentry, embroidery etc. The land and building for this purpose were ready but the machinery, raw materials and other equipment needed to be procured so that it could become functional at the earliest. This project is associated with Boston and Silicon Valley.

WAH funds ($15,500) were requested for this and benefited 110 children aged 16 to 19 years.

6. Sahanivasa:

Sahanivasa has initiated its activities among Dalits, agricultural workers, women and children from the year

1985. The main goal of this organization is to educate the children in the dalit community about the root causes of poverty and to prepare them to overcome their poverty by teaching them the necessary skills and knowledge to build their own future in a more sustainable and equitable manner.

WAH funds will be used to develop supplementary education and coaching program for 5 centers in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh. WAH funds ($10,700) benefited 120 children aged 11 to 12 years and youths between 16 to 18 years.

Publicity Drive

WAH publicity contained many aspects including email a friend, banners on the web, signatures in messages, print flyers, radio commercials, articles in newspapers & magazines, and a 60 second television advertisement. A WAH button or banner appeared on over 25 different websites, and the commercial was aired in major metropolitan areas in the U.S. such as the Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York, Houston, and Seattle. These various communication channels were responsible for mobilizing the donor base. A statistical break-up on how the 1378 donors found out about WAH is give below:

WAH 2000 was a spectacular success as it significantly exceeded the target of 1200 pledges and $75,000. We hope that the collective human spirit once again will help us support excellent projects and raise funds for the education of underprivileged children of India for WAH

Channel for publicity	Number of donors	Percentage
Email	696	50.50%
Volunteer	269	19.50%
In Person	195	14.20%
Web	76	5.50%
Other	48	3.50%
WAH 1999	42	3.00%
Television	20	1.50%
Newsgroup	14	1.00%

financial report

Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition (Financial Year 2000)

	End of Year 2000	Beginning of Year 2000
Assets:		
Cash - non-interest bearing	15,000.00	18,745.00
Savings and temporary cash investments	960,167.00	543,273.00
Land and building	0	0
Other assets	0	0
Total Assets	**975,167.00**	**562,018.00**
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	0	0
Grants payable	0	0
Other liabilities	0	0
Total Liabilities	**0**	**0**
Net Assets or Fund Balance	**975,167.00**	**562,018.00**

Consolidated Statement of Income (Financial Year 2000)

Fiscal Year	1999	2000
Revenues:		
Direct public support	554,536.00	735,260.00
Indirect public support	8,253.00	67,438.00
Government contributions (grants)	0	0
Total contributions, gifts and grants	562,789.00	802,698.00
Membership Dues	0	0
Investment Income	13,287.00	25,175.00
Gross revenue through special events and activities	213,862.00	328,468.00
Less: Fundraising expenses	100,951.00	128,958.00
Net income from special events and activities	112,911.00	199,510.00
Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	29,655.00	35,905.00
Less: Cost of goods sold	15,180.00	15,102.00
Gross profit from sales of inventory	14,475.00	20,803.00
Other revenues	3,901.00	1,315.00
Total Revenues	**707,363.00**	**1,049,501.00**
Expenses:		
Grants and similar amounts paid	514,159.00	620,407.00
Professional fees and other payments	0	0
Printing, publication, postage and shipping	13,416.00	10,200.00
Other expenses	6,070.00	5,745.00
Total Expenses	**533,645.00**	**636,352.00**
Net Income	**173,718.00**	**413,149.00**

Footnotes:
1. The 'grants expense' of $620,407.00 includes $10,500.00 returned to I2 Foundation due to the project being unable to utilize funds from the grant.
2. The 'printing expense' of $10,200.00 reflects the cost for printing the calendars for 2001.
3. The 'other expenses' of $5,745.00 included banking fees of approximately $1,200.00 and other general and administrative expenses

Year 2000 Asha Projects

Asha – Arizona

ASHA(VivekanandGraminVikas Shodh Sansthan)	3,063.00
Deen Bandhu Trust	2,268.00
PATS Ragavendra Primary School	400
Sai Kripa	1,800.00
Shree Ramana Maharishi School for the Blind	1,000.00
Sumavanam	2,700.00
Total	**11,231.00**

Asha – Athens

CINI	500
Sri Sarada Sangha	1,500.00
Total	**2,000.00**

Asha – Berkeley

Abilities	2,600.00
Beekeeping (Kaithi)	1,000.00
CAST	5,500.00
ISDGEI	1,700.00
Jhansi Project	2,200.00
KVA Assam	2,320.00
MSE Trust	1,200.00
Path of Light	2,000.00
Sarvodaya Parivar Trust	2,000.00
SEED Project	1,650.00
Total	**22,170.00**

Ash a- Central NJ

Phulenagar Project	1,500.00
Total	**1,500.00**

Asha - Chicago

Aralu	5,200.00
Total	**5,200.00**

Asha - Cleveland

Sri Sai Ranga Vidya Samsthe	800
Total	**800**

Asha - Colorado

Vanasthali Rural Development Center	1,000.00
Total	**1,000.00**

Asha - Cornell

Institute of Social Work Primary Edn Project	900
Odanadi Seva Samsthe	1,300.00
Orissa Shelter Project	2,000.00
Rahul Multidisplinary Project	700
Spastics Society of Karnataka	700
Total	**5,600.00**

Asha – Corvallis

Government Higher Primary School	2,200.00
M.P. Elementary School	510
Total	**2,710.00**

Asha – DC

Asha 2000	460
Avaai Ashram	1,000.00
Nalamdana	1,300.00
Phulenagar	1,700.00
Total	**4,460.00**

Asha - Dallas

MS3	4,300.00
Saath	8,541.00
Total	12,841.00

Ash a- Delaware

Mother India Community Development Asso.	2,000.00
Total	**2,000.00**

Asha - Detroit

Irula's Project	1,000.00
Rishi Ubr Vidya Mandir	450
Total	1,450.00

Asha – Heartland

Sri Athiri Kala Nilaya Middle School	2,000.00
Total	**2,000.00**

Asha – Indiana

Bisauli	3,000.00
Garden House	15,000.00
Gurukulam	3,000.00
Jyoti Nilayam	1,500.00
Kislaya	2,344.00
Prakash	2,800.00
Total	**27,644.00**

Asha – Irvine

Ananya	1,500.00

Asha - Irvine (cont.)

Odanadi Seva Samsthe	1,000.00
Sri Ram Krishna Seva Nilayam	1,600.00
Child Care Emergency Fund	1,500.00
Total	**5,600.00**

Asha - Kentucky

Nalamdana	400
Total	**400**

Asha - Los Angeles

Right Livelihood	2,100.00
Rise and Shine	1,500.00
Sieze the Moment	5,500.00
Street to School	3,000.00
Youth Dreams	1,800.00
Total	**13,900.00**

Asha -Madison

Gandhian Institute Of Rural Development	2,750.00
Rishi Pragatisheel Shiksha Sansthan	5,000.00
Share and Care Foundation	1,000.00
Total	**8,750.00**

Asha -MIT

Aarambh	780
IOI	2,575.00
Jaher	1,500.00
Jeevangyanodaya	1,675.00
Nutanhat	950
Prerna Niketan	1,500.00
Schooling costs for Richa / Shraddha	800
SEED-Madurai	5,030.00
SLADS	4,440.00
Sumangali	1,090.00
Thulir School	500
VASORD	2,890.00
Viveka Kendra	1,500.00
VOICE	5,300.00
Total	**30,530.00**

Asha - MSU

Institute for Socially Disadvantaged Groups	866.13
Total	**866.13**

Asha - NYC/NJ

Door Step School	4,580.00
Gram Vikas	11,500.00
Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti	4,000.00
Manav Mandir	2,500.00
Manjari Sankurathri Memorial	5,000.00
Sarada Kalyan Bhandar	3,900.00
Sri Sarada Sangha	4,500.00
The Timbaktu Collective	4,750.00
Vanvasi Project	2,000.00
Pratham	6,163.61
Total	**48,893.61**

Asha – Portland

Lotus	500
Total	**500**

Asha – Princeton

FODRA	2,700.00
Khajurdaha Nabankur United Club	8,383.00
Nalamdana	2,800.00
PACHE	2,000.00
Vasundhara	6,000.00
Total	**21,883.00**

Asha - Seattle

Anugriha	6,000.00
Aralu	2,600.00
Asha Centers	8,000.00
Astha	6,000.00
Avehi Abacus	40,800.00
Bhoomi Heen Sewa Samithi	3,150.00
Champa Mahila Society	6,300.00
Cheelghat	2,000.00
Chetanaa	2,500.00
Deaf Aid Society	4,500.00
Digantar	6,000.00
Each One Teach One	2,640.00
GVSS	750
IOI	2,500.00
Irula (Bharathi Trusrt)	6,200.00
Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti	3,100.00

Asha - Seattle (cont.)

Jyothi Nilayam	7,350.00
Malleswaram Shishu Vihar	11,000.00
National Association for the Blind (NAB)	1,520.00
REDAG Association	500
RHEDT	5,571.00
Sanatan Dharm Intermediate College	3,600.00
Seva Bharathi	2,500.00
Sewa Fellowship	2,500.00
Shastri School	5,000.00
Spastics Society of Karnataka	3,000.00
SSUP	2,500.00
Sumavanam	7,800.00
SUPPORT	12,000.00
Udhavum Karangal	18,000.00
Valluvar Gurukulam	7,600.00
VOICE	2,300.00
Total	**195,781.00**

Asha - Silicon Valley

Abhiyaan	2,000.00
Bhagavathula Trust	16,948.00
CDDP	5,000.00
Irula Project	11,000.00
Jeevan Gnanoday	6,500.00
MS3	3,400.00
Nalamdana	2,500.00
Sarvodaya Vidyalaya	2,000.00
SSUP	1,825.00
To Reach You	1,000.00
Viveka	6,000.00
Total	**58,173.00**

Asha - St. Louis

Amba Foundation	1,500.00
Ekta Parishad	6,400.00
Jiaganj Raja Bijoy Singh Vidyamandir	4,000.00
Kislaya	781.25
Kokila Vikas Ashram	2,500.00
Maharogi Sewa Samithi	250
Nuthanhat Development Society	1,590.00
Prerna Niketan	4,200.00
Rachana Society for Social Reconstrn.	4,500.00
Vikas Adhyayan Kendra	700
Voice	2,900.00
Total	**29,321.25**

Asha – Stanford

Abhiyan	2,000.00
Nalamdana	2,500.00
Total	**4,500.00**

Asha – Syracuse

Ananya	1,920.00
Total	**1,920.00**

Asha - Urbana-Champaign

Balanand	1,230.00
Saathi	826.95
Total	**2,056.95**

Asha – Yale

Saurashtra Edn Foundation / Lok Bharti	13,350.00
Sharada Kalyan Bhandar	1,000.00
School for Tribal Children	1,500.00
School for Children	1,500.00
Anandan	500
National Association for the Blind (NAB)	1,000.00
Total	**18,850.00**

Work An Hour – 2000

Irula Project	23,125.00
Voice	4,350.00
Urmul Marusthali Bunkar Vikas Samiti	8,500.00
Sahanivasa	5,350.00
Jeevan Gnanodaya Charitable Trust	15,500.00
IOI	5,500.00
Total	**62,325.00**

Asha Master

To Reach You	2,050.00
MS3	5,500.00
Total	**7,550.00**

Ten years of Asha Projects

Project Name	Total	Project Name	Total	Project Name	Total
Aarambh	$780	Jaher	$1,500	Sai Kripa	$5,100
Abhilasha	$2,425	Jamshedpur Project	$1,500	Samanvay Ashram	$6,500
Abhiyan	$9,300	Jeevan Gnanodaya	$28,325	Samuha	$1,000
Abilities	$5,610	Jhansi Project	$4,050	Sanatan Dharm Intermediate College	$3,600
Agragami	$1,300	Jiaganj Raja Bijoy Singh Vidyamandir	$4,000	Saraswati Anath Ashram	$1,500
AID - Alternative for India Devlopment	$9,200	Jnana Prabodhini –Prachiti	$11,232	Sarvodaya Parivar Trust	$17,325
AIWC – Belighata Primary Sect	$250	Jyothi Nilayam	$10,950	Saurashtra Education Foundation	$13,350
AIWC – Central Calcutta Constituency Creche	$1,000	Kaithi Beekeeping	$1,000	School for Children,Orissa	$1,500
Akshay Pratisthan	$800	Kambhapatti Foundation	$10,000	School for Mentally Handicapped children	$500
Amba Foundation	$1,500	Katha	$3,500	School for Tribal Children, Bihar	$1,500
Ambattur	$1,000	KFI Rajghat Center	$5,450	Schooling costs for Richa / Shraddha	$800
Anandan	$500	Khairachati-Prabhat Eng High School	$2,000	SEED	$10,490
Ananya	$3,420	Khajurdaha Nabankur United Club	$9,383	Self Help Asso for Rural Education and Employment	$550
Anjali	$1,500	Kislaya	$3,125	Seva Bharathi	$7,500
Ankuran	$11,500	Kokila Vikas Ashram	$4,820	Seva Nilayam	$22,200
Anugriha	$14,600	Kushalappa	$500	Sevalaya	$2,970
Aralu	$7,800	Laubach Literacy	$9,000	Sewa Fellowship	$2,500
Asha 2000	$5,220	Little Stars School	$22,943	Sewa Kunj	$500
Asha Center - Ballia	$5,250	Lodhar Project	$2,058	Sharda Kalyan Bhandar - Sieze the Moment	$24,750
Asha Center - Lucknow	$16,000	Lotus	$500	SHARE- Self Help Ass for Rural Ed and Employment	$825
Asha Chennai	$23,125	LRG English School	$1,680	Shartul Foundation	$325
Ashraya	$4,545	M.P. Elementary School	$1,946	Shastri School	$5,000
Astha	$22,000	Maharashtra Sewa Samiti	$500	Shree Ramana Maharishi School for the Blind	$1,000
Auroville	$2,000	Maharogi Sewa Samithi- Anandwan	$26,750	Shri Vidhyalaya Trust	$1,250
Avehi Abacus	$50,800	Malarchi	$2,040	SLADS	$13,279
Avvai Ashram	$2,000	Malleshwaram Shishu Vihar	$13,501	SODWAC-Society for Dev of Women and Children	$1,000
Bal Niketan	$500	Manav Mandir	$2,500	Soligha Sangha	$1,100
Balanand	$2,260	Manav Sanskar Kendra	$1,000	Spastics Society	$1,500
Balanandana	$750	Manjari Sankurathri Memorial	$6,500	Spastics Society -Vidyasagar	$15,121
Balwadi	$580	MENTAID	$750	Spastics Society of Karnataka	$11,700
Bhagavathula Trust	$16,948	MICDA:MotherIndiaCommunityDevA?	$2,000	Sri Athiri Kala Nilaya Mid.School	$2,000
Bhainsaha School	$800	Michael A Daube Charitrable Trust	$1,500	Sri Sai Ranga Vidya Samsthe	$800
Bhoomi Heen Sewa Samithi	$24,200	MIPS - Madurai Inst. Of Peace Science	$5,660	Sri Sarada Sangha	$6,000
Bihar Project	$630	MS3	$27,700	Sri Venkateswara Middle School	$1,500
Bisauli	$8,000	MSE Trust	$2,400	SSUP	$6,825
Bombay Slums	$700	MSMF	$2,350	St. Gregorios Balagram	$500
Bustee Welfare Center	$5,938	MVF	$9,250	Sumangali Seva Ashram	$3,040
CAST–CommunityActionForSocialTransformatio	$13,800	Nalamdana	$14,000	Sumavanam	$12,900
CAUSE - Street to School	$15,000	Nandgad	$13,500	Support a Child - Each one Teach One	$12,941
CDD–Ctr ForDevOfDisadvantagedPeople	$41,630	Nankari School for Children	$1,000	SURP - Society for the Upliftment of Rural Poor	$8,775
Champa Mahila Society	$26,550	NAB, Gujarat - Path of Light	$4,000	Swami Brahmananda Trust	$350
Cheelghat	$2,000	National Ass For Blind (NAB)Karnata	$2,540	Swami Vivekananda Educational Society	$2,000
Cheetah Camp – Bridge the Gap	$9,280	National Association for Blind, Visnagar	$1,000	Swanirvar - Self Reliance	$14,750
Child Care Emergency Fund	$1,500	Naveen Samartha Vidyalaya	$500	Sweekar	$3,000
Child Welfare Project	$1,000	Navjyoti Swawalamban Sewa Sansthan	$600	TEA - Team for Education and Action	$4,000
Christ King Society	$10,000	Neel Bagh Trust	$3,600	Thoraiyur High School	$1,500
CINI	$6,800	Nevre - Dhamanase Sec. Edu Soc.	$2,460	Thulir School	$1,000
Concern for Working Children	$2,100	New Modern School	$2,500	Timbaktu Collective	$22,000
Deaf Aid Society	$4,500	Nuthanhat Development Society	$2,540	TNSF - Tamil Nadu Science Forum	$1,155
Deen Bandhu Trust	$2,268	Odanadi Seva Samsthe	$2,300	TNSF – Tamil Nadu Science orum Andhra Pradesh	$1,000
Deshpande Tribal School/Hostel	$300	Orissa Shelter Project	$2,000	TRY - To Reach You	$3,050
Dhaturi Tola (Ballia)	$1,000	PACHE	$5,412	UDAVI	$1,250
Digantar	$9,000	Padsare	$2,500	Udbhas	$7,000
Disha	$1,000	Pathri	$7,300	Udhavum Karangal - Helpling Hands	$40,451
Door Step School	$4,580	PATS Ragavendra Primary School	$2,000	Urmul Marusthali Bunkar Vikas Samiti	$8,500
Dr. MVR Prathamika Patasala, Gollaprolu	$3,580	Phulenagar	$5,700	Valluvar Gurukulam	$11,600
Duwa	$1,550	Prabal Maiti	$777	Vanasthali Rural Development Center	$4,000
Ekta Parishad	$6,400	Prakash	$5,300	Vanavasi Ashram - Kerala	$6,000
FODRA	$3,700	Prasanna Jyothi	$4,250	Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram - Maharashtra	$1,000
FWERW–Fdn for Women'sEd in Rural World	$4,625	Pratham	$6,564	VASORD	$2,890
Gahora	$3,000	Prerana Dham	$2,500	Vasundhara	$12,000
Gandhian Institute Of Rural Development	$2,750	Prerna Niketan	$5,700	VESC - Vivekanand Education Society	$20,000
Garden School	$15,000	Punjab Istri Sabha - Rise and Shine	$11,100	VGKK - Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra	$13,284
GB School	$4,800	Rachana Society for Social Reconstruction	$4,500	VGVSS - Vivekanand Gramin Vikas Shodh Sansthan	$3,813
Government Higher Primary School	$2,200	Rahul Multi-Discip. Res. Center	$1,400	Vidnyanvahini	$500
Gram Vikas	$66,673	Rajasthan Project	$3,100	Vidya	$4,000
Gurukulam	$3,000	Rashtra Nirman Vidya Vikas Trust	$3,750	Vikas Adhyayan Kendra	$700
GVVS – Grama Vikas Vigyan Samiti	$11,500	Red Cross	$700	VISA - Village Improvement & Service Assoc.	$9,600
Him Darshan Kutir	$4,100	REDAG Association	$1,500	Viveka Kendra	$7,500
Holy Mother Trust	$2,250	RHEDT	$25,417	Viveka Tribal Center	$6,600
Hosur	$980	Rishi Pragatisheel Shiksha Sansthan	$5,000	Vivekananda Ashram	$1,260
Inst For Socially Disadvantaged Groups	$866	Rishi Ubr Vidya Mandir	$450	VMGSPS - Ved Mata Gayatri Shiksh Peeth Samiti	$4,400
Inst Of Social Work Primary Edu Project	$900	Rishi Valley Education Center.	$500	VOICE	$20,550
IOI – International Ocean Institute	$10,575	Rotary District 5510	$1,903	Voice of People	$3,000
Irula – Bharathi Trust	4 1,325	Saath	$8,541	Youth Dreams - Bilana	$10,400
ISDGEI	$1,700	Saathi	$2,594	Other Projects	$40,254
Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti	$7,100	Sahanivasa	$7,350		

Asha Chapter Contacts

Chapter Name	Coordinator Name	Email
Arizona	Krish Krishnamurthy	girikrish@aol.com
Berkeley, CA	Nirmal Govind	nirmalg@ieor.berkeley.edu
Davis, CA	Amit Gupta	ampatel@ucdavis.edu
LosAngeles, CA	Murali Mani	mani@CS.UCLA.EDU
Redlands, CA	Ramani Nambisan	rnambisan@esri.com
Silicon Valley, CA	Munish Malik	mmalik_asha@hotmail.com
Stanford, CA	Pankaj Gupta	pankaj@stanford.edu
Irvine, CA	Shefali Mehta	smehta@uci.edu
Colorado	Pankaj Jagtap	pankaj.jagtap@crssc.com
Yale, CT	Viswanath Vinod	viswanath.vinod@yale.edu
Washington DC	Sukumar Srinivasan	nurture@ix.netcom.com
Delaware	Roopesh Mathur	mathurr@me.udel.edu
Gainesville, FL	Sangeetha Shekar/Latha Sampath	sash@grove.ufl.edu, lsamapth@cise.ufl.edu
South East Florida, FL	Ruchi Garg	docruchigarg@hotmail.com
Athens, GA	Thimmaiah Chendrimada	tchendri@uga.edu
Chicago, IL	Rekha Raghu	rekharaghu@hotmail.com
Kentucky	Rajesh Shewale	raesh@hotmail.com
Boston, MA	Srikanth Voorakaranam	sriki@wuche.wustl.edu
Detroit, MI	Srikant Ianmpudi	srikant@altair.com
Michigan State University, MI	Prasanna Pendse	pendsepr@cse.msu.edu
Minnesota	Ashutosh Malaviya	malaviya@computer.org
St. Louis, MO	Anand Eswaran	eanand@hotmail.com
Omaha, NE	Uma Gupta	ugupta@creighton.edu
Central New Jersey, NJ	Tushar Patki	tpatki@submarinesystems.com
Princeton, NJ	Anirban Hazra	hazra@princeton.edu
Cornell, NY	Jyothish George	jdg12@cornell.edu
NYC/NJ	Ranjeet Ranade	rranad@ctp.com
Syracuse, NY	Kabir Kumar	kakumar@maxwell.syr.edu
Corvallis, OR	Thimmappa Anekonda	thimmappa.anekonda@orst.edu
Portland, OR	Chandrika Nimmagadda	chandrika_nimmagadda@yahoo.com
Philadelphia, PA	Nramda(Asha) Sawlani	asha_s_g@hotmail.com
Seattle, WA	Jayashree Janardhan	jayjanar@hotmail.com
Madison, WI	S.Subramanya Sastry	sastry@cs.wisc.edu
Dallas, TX	Farida Rajkotwala/Sameer Parikh	sameer parikh@yahoo.com
UIUC, IL	Saurabh Bagchi / Ranjini Reddy	bagchi@uiuc.edu
London	Shankar Srinivas	shankar@srinivas.org
Melbourne	Subhash Challa	s.challa@ee.mu.oz.au
Edmonton	Ratna Bhushan Gopaluni	gopaluni@ualberta.ca
Toronto	Sujata Prakash	sujata.prakash@scotiabank.com

Contact Information:

Web	www.ashanet.org	
	USA	**India**
Address	Asha for Education P.O.Box 322 New York, NY 10040-0322	Asha Trust A-893, Indira Nagar, Lucknow 226 016, U.P.
Coordinator	Dr. Richa Govil President@ashanet.org Phone: (415) 627-1232 Fax : (413) 740-5355	Dr. Sandeep Pandey ashain@sancharnet.in Dr. Rahul Pandey rahulp@iiml.ac.in

The Annual Report Team: Radha Ganesan, Shailen Mistry, Ganesh Ramachandran, Ajay Dalmia, DP Prakash, Garima Bhatia, Jayashree Janardhan, Jayshree Bala, Netika Raval, Pankaj Gupta, Pawan Maini, Poornima Kasaragood, Prasanna Pendse, Ram Tekumalla, Ramu Thiruvamoor, Ranjeet Ranade, Richa Govil, Sandeep Pandey, Saurabh Dani, Srikanth Voorakaranam, Sundar Kumar Iyer, Uma Subramanian, Vivek Pai
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