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ENDEARING CAUSES



Quarterly newsletter of Asha for Education, Silicon Valley chapter



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Asha for Education
Bringing hope through education
Silicon Valley chapter



Message From The Coordinator

Dear Friends of Asha,

The past year was one for the books! With pandemic spreading rapidly specially during the second wave in India, things could not have been more challenging. We are proud to have survived 2021 without impacting the funding of our existing projects. In addition, we (along with Asha central's help) provided support to multiple projects during the second wave of Covid. We also added four new projects through Edu-Impact 2021, which will receive funds starting this year. This has only been possible because of your generous support. We can't thank you enough! We wouldn't be where we are today without your continuous support.

We are very excited to bring you the first Newsletter of 2022. In this edition, we will highlight status of project renewals, and success story from GVS, among many other topics.

If you would like to volunteer, donate, or learn more about our initiatives, visit sv.ashanet.org, or write to us at sv@ashanet.org. Thank you again for your continued support towards Asha for Education, Silicon Valley chapter.

-Chapter Coordinators



2022
so far...

5127



Children Impacted

\$81,510



Disbursed

7



Projects Supported



Project Renewals

It is project renewals season at Asha SV and volunteers are engaged in weekly budget reviews, discussions and votes.

Pratirodh Sansthan: Pratirodh Sansthan is based in the Amarpura village of Rajasthan, where it has established the Aadharshila Residential School for daughters of tribal families who have no direct access to education, while also acting as a bridge to enroll girls into government/formal schools. Through Asha for Education's support, the project aims to enhance and strengthen the curriculum and hire adept faculty at the residential school so that girls can get a strong primary school education and pass their grade 5 examination, allowing them to enroll in the government-run middle /high schools. [Learn more...](#)

Door Step School: Established in 1989, the project aims to bring education to the doorsteps of the poor and the often-forgotten children of pavement dwellers, slum dwellers, construction site families. This is done by establishing Education Activity



Pupils at one of DSS EACs

Centers (EAC) at construction sites and other ad-hoc locations where schools are not accessible. The organization has reached nearly 700 children in the 2021 academic year. With the help of Asha SV and the builders who employ these workers, DSS will be operating 8 EACs in rural areas of Maharashtra. Learn more about DSS in the [project page](#).

VARUN: runs small educational centers that cater to educational needs of former nomad families at the Bihar-UP border and has been an Asha SV project since 2003. In the last few years, VARUN has reached 412 children and has undertaken Library expansion, installation of First aid boxes in all centers, Solar panels for light and fans. With the help of a project specific donor and funds from Edu Impact in 2021, VARUN is also slated to construct and operate a girls' hostel at Naugarh. This year's renewal will help VARUN continue the operation of Samudayik Shiksha Kendras and make improvements where possible. [Learn more...](#)



Project Renewals Contd.



One of VARUN's Education Centers

Samagra Seva: Samagra Seva was established by a group of young persons hailing from the lowest socio-economic echelons of the society who had experienced the pangs of poverty, exploitation, and atrocities in their childhood. The project's goal is to work towards enabling the weakest to safeguard their rights and realize their entitlements with stress on ensuring child rights. It aims to do this by The goal of the project is to improve access to qualitative school education for the Musahar children in the Jamui district of Bihar. Asha for Education is planning to support 30 Cultural Education Centers (CECs).



Samagra Seva CEC students

Volunteer Spotlight



Medha Joshi is a long time Asha volunteer

Medha Joshi began her long volunteering journey at the young age of 17, when she would spend her vacations teaching rural/tribal children through grassroots organizations in India. After moving to the USA as a grad student back in 2005, she was looking for a way to connect to NGOs as well as her motherland from afar. She found that Asha Stanford chapter was a great way to continue her efforts and has since donned many hats as a volunteer. Medha has worked as a part of Asha central projects team, has had a stint as project coordinator and currently serving as a part of the Silicon Valley treasury team.

Medha stewards the Maitri project which is active in the tribal villages of Melghat since 2019. Medha strongly believes in empowerment through education, and wishes to resume on-the-ground volunteering soon after she retires.

Your volunteering can have a great compounding impact on Asha and countless other lives! [Click here](#) to learn how you can help.



Projects Showcase - Gramin Vikas Samiti



Gramin Vikas Samiti is a government-sponsored community-based intervention program that works primarily in the region of Damoh, Madhya Pradesh to implement CHILDLINE 1098, a 24-hour toll-free telephone helpline for children in distress. The project is the first of its kind and operates across hundreds of cities via a network of nonprofits, concerned citizens, institutions, etc. GVS is one of the organizations involved with CHILDLINE working to keep children safe in the Damoh area and provide care and protection to children in need. The main focus of the organization has been working to track and care for missing, abused, runaway, displaced, or trafficked children, all of who are desperately in need of care and protection. Through the implementation of this helpline, GVS staff has rescued and rehabilitated more than 500 children since their inception and tackled issues ranging from child marriages, missing children, sexual harassment, community harassment, racial abuse, biased government services, un-authorized evacuations, etc. In all of these cases, GVS provides first response support and connects the other concerned government agencies to resolve the particular issue at hand. To learn more about this project click [here](#).



Success Story



GVS 1098 helpline center



Suri's family

GVS (Gramin Vikas Samiti) is one of the many non profits across India working with the CHILDLINE 1098 helpline. This helpline is offered by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, and is India's first 24 hour toll free helpline for children in distress. GVS services the Damoh area of Madhya Pradesh via Childline, and focuses on missing children, abused children, runaway children, children in disaster situations, trafficked children, children at work, all children in need of care and protection. GVS has been an Asha SV project since 2020 and was the selected organization for the very first Edu Impact season.

The story of Suri and her infant boy is a recent example of GVS's active impact in the area, as well as the efficacy of the childline program. Suri and her baby were without food or shelter and were camped in the harsh 45-degree summer under a tree outside Belaji village where she worked as a sweeper. Having been abandoned by her husband three years ago, Suri had to fend for herself. She found companionship with another partner, which was not accepted by the village and hence she and her son were not being helped by them either. Suri had no shelter or food and her baby was severely malnourished. When a compassionate passerby contacted Childline about their situation, they were on the scene immediately. GVS is assisting Suri's mother (pictured on the top-right) with essentials and food so she can afford to house her daughter.

GVS team contacted the DCPO (District Child Protection officer) to provide her nutritional supplements provided under ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) and the health department so that her infant could get the required vaccinations and medical care. They are also in contact with the District Magistrate and Janpad CEO so they can help her with the paperwork required to obtain shelter through the PM-AWAS scheme.



2021 : A year in review

We are happy to present you the Asha for Education, Silicon Valley Chapter's Annual Report for 2021. Despite being in a challenging second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the chapter has found its footing and come ahead with multiple wins. Highlights from the annual report can be seen below, but please read on to know more about Asha TA program, Edu Impact project, COVID-19 response and some inspiring success stories from 2021 [here](#).

Funds disbursed
\$ 503,341*

Children impacted
22,899

Funds raised
\$ 424,235+

Projects supported
23

States reached
12

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#As of Nov 30, 2021. Final 2021 numbers to follow

Silicon Valley Chapter Impact



Nearly \$8.8
Million Disbursed

100k+
Children
Supported



23
Years of
Service



"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

AESOP