How else can you help?

8760 ~ the number of hours you get every year
1 ~ the number of hours it takes to make a difference
Donate an hour of your salary towards rural empowerment

http://www.workanhour.org

Support A Child (SAC) is another Asha initiative where donors sponsor educational/living expenses of a child in India every month.

http://www.ashanet.org/austin/projects/sac/

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY ASHA AUSTIN
SPREAD ACROSS INDIA IN 6 STATES, 20 PROJECTS AND COUNTING...

http://www.ashanet.org/austin/projects

E-mail: austin@ashanet.org
The Banyan is currently caring for around 400 destitute women suffering from some sort of psychiatric ailment. Over the last decade, Banyan has been instrumental in the rehabilitation of over 700 women. It has developed a model of comprehensive care that tackles the immediate problem of providing shelter and medical care, and works on their reintegration. A significant feature of this model is imparting vocational and occupational skills to these destitute women. Once set on the path of recovery, most women begin to recall their families and want to be reunited with them. Banyan has been considerably successful in making such reunions possible. Asha Austin supported the vocational training and occupational therapy unit for the last two years.
**Vasundhara**  
*Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra*  

Vasundhara - Science on Wheels program was started to promote science education through a development of logic, systematic observation and experimentation. They primarily operate in the villages of Sindhudurg district (Kudal taluka) of the Konkan region. 41% of the population lives below poverty level and no post-literacy programs exist. Vasundhara seeks to make learning science an enjoyable experience, help students learn analytical thinking, encourage them to question the world around them. In 1999-2000, the program was organized 96 times in 60 schools. It is extended now to the upper-primary. Another initiative is Sunday Science school – a consecutive 7-sunday science course/forum where children will be able to participate in science related experiments and activities that cannot be pursued in a Science-on-Wheels like mobile-laboratory set-up -- activities which involve large, fragile models etc.

**Asha Deepa School for the Blind**  
*Bidar, Karnataka*  

Asha Deepa School is a residential school for blind children from the rural and semi-urban areas in Bidar and surrounding districts of Karnataka. Asha supports the living and educational expenses of the blind children. Mr. Dilip Kumar who was born visually impaired started the Jeevan Prakash Educational society in December 2003 to help the visually impaired in Bidar and the surrounding districts; the main motivation was the immense dissatisfaction with the government aided school in the Bidar area and the lack of other institutions for rehabilitation of the visually impaired in the area. One of the main efforts has been to start the ADSFB residential school for the education and rehabilitation of the visually impaired in the area.
to continue the learning and rehabilitation at home.

Amer Kadam, Rajasthan

Rajasthan Mahila Kalyan Mandal (RMKM) has been working in the field of training and education of mentally challenged children for last 10 years. Through educational and vocational training, many children are working in shops, private services and other income generating activities. RMKM has set up an inclusive school in Ajmer where quality education is imparted to mentally challenged children and normal children are working in shops, privy to vocational training. Many children who finish 6th grade go to a government school nearby for furthering their studies. The children are near the school and those who are far away from the school are taught by RMKM teachers who travel to their villages. The school provides better quality education than other schools in the vicinity, and the children who finish 6th grade go to a government school nearby for furthering their studies.

This project educates children of socially and economically backward communities in a village near Babhnauli who cannot afford educational expenses. The organization also works on raising community awareness along with education.

Pahla Kadam, Rajasthan

RMKM, an organization involved in the field of education and vocational training of mentally challenged children, has been working in the field of training and education of mentally challenged children in Ajmer for the last 10 years. Through educational and vocational training, many children are working in shops, private services and other income-generating activities. RMKM has set up an inclusive school in Ajmer where quality education is imparted to mentally challenged children and normal children are working in shops, privy to vocational training. Many children who finish 6th grade go to a government school nearby for furthering their studies. The children are near the school and those who are far away from the school are taught by RMKM teachers who travel to their villages. The school provides better quality education than other schools in the vicinity, and the children who finish 6th grade go to a government school nearby for furthering their studies.

This project educates children of socially and economically backward communities in a village near Babhnauli who cannot afford educational expenses. The organization also works on raising community awareness along with education.
Humana School for Children - Sahibabad
Ghaziabad District, Uttar Pradesh

Humana School for children in Kadkadmandal village is targeted towards children of migrant laborers. Most of these children have never gone to school before. The school will run classes from 1st to 3rd standard. The goal of the project is to provide basic education to the children, to teach them good life practices and to encourage and enable them to join government schools after 3rd standard. Staff trained by Humana People to People India (HPPI) will run the school. The teachers will interact with the parents, businesses and authorities in the local community to garner support for Humana’s School. Since June 2008, Asha Austin has been supporting the running expenses of the school - some furniture, teachers’ salaries, quarterly health checkup for children and exposure visit expenses.

Bharatiya Jan Seva Ashram
Jaunpur District, Uttar Pradesh
http://www.ashanet.org/austin/projects/sac/

This project supports a school in Badlapur, Utta Pradesh. The local community in this area largely consists of poor and socially oppressed people. There was no school in the area before the BJSA school was started five years ago. Currently there are 57 children from classes one to five. The school is supported under the Support-a-Child (SAC) program. The support helps providing children with books and stationery, taking them on an annual excursion, organizing a bal-mela, helping them with medical costs and conducting two week-long teacher training programs to improve the quality of education.
Asha-Austin supported the creation of the first model school by Fellowships. Siddamma, a grass roots activist who has been working extensively with the Irula tribal communities for over 16 years now. She set up Bharathi Trust, an organization that works on issues faced by the Irula workers. She has coordinated many motivational centers that help integrate children into mainstream education. She has also worked with the youth in organizing people and making them aware of their rights, like earning minimum wages.

Asha Fellowships are provided to individuals who have great potential to create social change and need support towards their basic sustenance.
Jigani is a village located on the outskirts of Bangalore. The village is in an industrial area that has several industries ranging from marble manufacturers to pharmaceutical industries. Most of the people in the village work in the industries or are farmers. Sree Nityanandaswamy Educational Trust began in 1961 and currently has a strength 1500 students from class 1 through 12 and BCom section. It is one among the four high schools and the only pre-university college in a 15 km radius. A lot of the students that go to school at Sree Nityanandaswamy, are from very poor background. Asha Austin supports the educational needs of 80 children from class 6 through 12. The support includes tuition, books and uniforms for the students.

The community resource center is an initiative undertaken by Bharathi Trust in Tamil Nadu. Through their experience of over 16 years of working with rural communities, the members of Bharathi Trust have come to believe that the collapse of local economies have increased the dependence on outside products, leading to a decline in the living conditions of people. Hence they came up with the idea of the resource center to document community-based knowledge. It provides a platform for the community to experiment with eco-friendly, sustainable alternatives to the currently mainstream practices in agriculture, pottery, weaving etc. With agriculture becoming an expensive affair, the resource center hopes to revive traditional methods of agriculture that use local seeds and organic methods to farm, rather than the farming that uses chemicals and water intensively.
Nandlal Master is a grassroots social activist who has been working with the communities near Varanasi since 1994. He started evening classes for a few children who were not going to school in his village. Currently, his classes have grown to 2 day and 10 night schools. Nandlal and Lok Shanti has been playing an important role in the creation of 35 self-help groups for women. Recently, Nandlal and Lok Shanti have been protesting against the Coca-Cola bottling plan in the area. The protest is against the company mining large amounts of ground water, encroaching on Panchayat land, evading stamp duty and dumping harmful sludge on farmlands. The communities in the neighboring areas have been suffering from water shortage and health problems due to the harmful waste from the plant.

Shristi Special Academy (established in 1995) has a unique set of programs designed to enable independence among the mentally challenged, developmentally delayed, and those with autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders. Through an intensive, individualized and child-focused training program, Shristi has enabled many children with developmental delays to go to normal schools. Shristi Special Academy is a grassroots social activist who has a fellowship sponsored by the Asha network.

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Shristi Special Academy is a grassroots social activist who has a fellowship sponsored by the Asha network.
Project Freedom
Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu

Project Freedom is an initiative by Bharathi Trust, an organisation working for the cause of up-liftment and empowerment of Irula Tribal communities living in the interior pockets of Thiruvallur district. There are many families who work in rice mills as bonded laborers in Thiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu. Project Freedom played a key role in rescuing and rehabilitating hundreds of Irula families. In addition to providing rehabilitation for the adults, the project aims at mainstreaming the children of these families. Asha Austin in collaboration with Project Freedom intends to create a 'Child Friendly Center' wherein children will be trained with basic skills and education like counting numbers, reading alphabets, craft work, drawing etc.

Gnanodaya
Singaperumalkoil, Tamil Nadu

Gnanodaya is a residential school located at Singaperumalkoil near the outskirts of Chennai, Tamil Nadu. It was started in 2001 to provide educational opportunity for healthy children of leprosy affected patients who are below the poverty line. Gnanodaya provides free shelter (in hostel located on campus), food and education to the children. There is a lot of stigma attached with leprosy and these children suffer a lot of discrimination in regular schools because of their parent's disabilities. Through proper medical care, good nutrition and education these children will be integrated into the mainstream society. Some children belonging to backward communities from nearby villages also attend the school as day scholars. Currently 203 children attend the school (115 stay in hostel and 88 children come from nearby villages). Since June 2007, Asha Austin started supporting part of the annual expenses for running the school which includes teacher and staff salaries, food related costs etc.
Prajnalaya, is located in the rural area of Saraipa ni, near the town of Titabar, district Jorhat. This is a school for underprivileged children in a remote rural district of Assam where children of poor and uneducated parents have little chance of education. Asha Austin supported the organic fertilizer initiative of the school management. This effort would provide employment for members of the community, vocational training for the children and also funds for the school in the future. Asha Austin currently supports part of teacher salaries and also provided financial support to fix storm damage to buildings in the recent monsoon season.

Prasanna Jyothi is a home which provides a nurturing environment for disadvantaged girl children. The project takes care of boarding and education of these children through Asha’s Support a Child program. Asha Austin has been supporting the project for a Child program. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment. Asha Austin supported the organic environment.

The children are educated in a friendly environment and are encouraged to learn and grow in a friendly and safe atmosphere. Prasanna Jyothi is a home which provides a nurturing environment for disadvantaged girl children. The project takes care of boarding and education of these children through Asha’s Support a Child program. Asha Austin has been supporting the project for a Child program. Asha Austin supported the organic environment.

Bangalore, Karnataka
Prasanna Jyothi

Titabar, Assam
Prajnalaya