



## Highlights of 2001

Asha Seattle has worked extremely hard in 2001 to establish closer ties with its project partners in India. Asha volunteers have been conducting many site visits, through which we are trying to understand the various issues that our partners are facing in their areas of work. Asha's goal is to bring about socio-economic change in the different communities that we are working with. Being involved more closely with our project partners in India and the communities is a first step towards this.

We continued the tradition of events such as the Picnic, Hike, AshaFest & Concert (Shweta Jhaveri). We also had a new golf tournament event this year.

## Projects

**This is a summary of Asha Seattle's projects for calendar year 2001.**

### **ANUGRIHA**

This group has set up a model school providing a unique educational approach using the techniques of Glenn Doman. This school ensures that children from underprivileged families get high quality education. The project is located in Arasavangadu in Tamil Nadu.

### **APPROPRIATE LEARNING**

This is being run by the Spastics Society of Karnataka, located in Bangalore. Their objective is to educate children with special needs and/or children from low-income families. The aim is to create a facility where computers can be used to help children with multiple disabilities have access to better means for learning & for expression in terms of speech & writing. The children are in the age group from 6-17 years & have neurological impairment with multiple physical disabilities &/or learning disabilities.

### **ASTHA**

ASTHA stands for Alternative Strategies for the Handicapped. They run an outreach program in the slum villages of Govindpuri in South Delhi for children with disabilities such as polio, blindness, speech & hearing impairments, epilepsy, mental retardation & cerebral palsy.

### **AVEHI ABACUS**

Located in Mumbai, this project deals with both Mumbai Municipal Corporation schools as well as non-formal education centers run by other NGOs

(non-government organizations) on the pavements & slums of Mumbai. They also focus on changing the present school curriculum & teaching techniques to be more relevant & providing training courses for schoolteachers.

### **BHARATHI TRUST**

Asha supports one-time & recurring costs for a school run by Bharathi Trust, an organization for the upliftment & empowerment of Irula tribal communities in the interior pockets of Thiruvalluvar District in Tamil Nadu. Also through this trust two hemophilic children Rudra & Santosh.

### **BHOOMI HEEN SEWA SAMITI**

This project aims to provide basic education to the children of landless laborers & extremely poor families in Banda, Uttar Pradesh. We are supporting the recurring expenses for this project. Part of the work An Hour 1999 funds went towards improving infrastructure in this school.

### **BTS (Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha)**

The project aims at avoiding rural dropouts amongst children by making education more enjoyable & appealing than over-crowded government school classes & utilize childhood capital by protecting the subjects from child labor & stagnation.

### **CHAMPA MAHILA SOCIETY**

This was the first project that Asha Seattle took up & is still going strong. This project involves 10 non-formal schools run by the Champa Mahila Society in the Basanti area of Sunderban in West Bengal. In these centers, children are taught lessons, games, paintings, songs, recitation, etc.

### **CHAMPA MAHILA SOCIETY ORPHANAGE**

This is also run by the Champa Mahila Society in West Bengal & provides shelter, food, clothing, medicine & education to orphans.

### **CHETANAA**

The mission of CHETANAA is to help in the education of children in India living in poverty. They adopted village Mirjapur as the initial site. During the short span of seven years, CHETANAA has not only stirred the peoples' imagination, but has also produced tangible results. CHETANAA provides textbooks, school uniforms, & sweaters to all the children. These children also get free annual medical checkups & immunizations.

### **DIGANTAR**

Digantar is an organization experimenting with several new educational techniques & is recognized within India as one of the top quality schools providing alternate education. They are located near Jaipur in Rajasthan.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Ravi Aluganti is been supported as an Asha fellow. He is working with the teachers in many schools in Molakalacheruvu Mandal, Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh to improve the quality of education by using multi-grade teaching technique.

### **IOI (International Ocean Institute)**

IOI has a trust that works for the socio-economic development of dalit villages in Tiruchendur Taluk of Tuticorin District in Tamil Nadu. They are working in 40 villages altogether & Asha is involved in a school for the children of these landless laborers in one of the 40 villages.

### **JEEVAN GNANDAYA**

This is a school for the hearing impaired – the only one of its kind in that area. This school in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu is growing as the students are passing out each class. This year they started class XI & hence started a science lab.

### **JYOTHI NILAYAM**

This project provides school & meals to kids of low-income families in Vemulanarva, Mahboobnagar District in Andhra Pradesh.

### **KAITHI**

The aim of the project is to set up a Research-Documentation-Training Center at Kaithi, Varanasi

District (25 km from the city), in the area of bee keeping & cultivation & processing of medicinal & aromatic plants. The Kaithi center will work in close coordination with Asha ashram.

### **REDAG**

REDAG (Rural Educational Development Action Group) is a non-profit voluntary organization working for welfare & development of the Thally area in the northwestern corner of Dharmapuri District in Tamil Nadu. They run an orphanage that is partially supported by Asha.

### **RHEDT**

RHEDT (Rural Health & Educational Development Trust) is based in the Karamadai tribal block of the Coimbatore District in Tamil Nadu. They aim to provide education, environmental awareness, cultural programs, gardening, sports, etc. to the children in three small tribal villages.

### **SHASTRI SCHOOL**

Shastri School in Bangalore was started by the parents of children who are hearing impaired because their locality lacked such a special education school. The school is run entirely on donations & their needs were construction of buildings, raising teachers' salaries & buying educational equipment. Some of the kids are orphaned & are covered under the Support A Child program (mentioned in details later).

### **SUMAVANAM**

Sumavanam aims to give high quality education to rural children in a village in Andhra Pradesh. Asha has supported them for infrastructure (computer, telephone) as well as for recurring expenses.

### **SUPPORT**

SUPPORT is a group that is dedicated to fighting against AIDS & drug abuse among street children of Mumbai. Asha started partnering with them this year. They provide vocational training, awareness regarding AIDS & other diseases, basic education, basic business skills & counseling for street living.

### **SUTRADHAR**

This is an educational resource center in Bangalore with a wealth of information on different teaching & learning methodologies, literature & teaching aids. The goal of this group is to impact government schools by making teaching learning a more meaningful experience for both teachers & learners.

**UDAVUM KARANGAL**

This Chennai-based organization has been involved in rescuing wandering mentally sick people from the streets. They also have several mentally retarded children who are being provided special education & treatment. This year they set up a lab. We also support them through Support A Child (mentioned later).

**VIDYA BHAVAN**

This group in Udaipur, Rajasthan is providing an educational resource center for exploring education related aspects & methodologies helping different non-governmental organizations in the area.

**OTHER PROJECTS**

We are currently partnering with some of the other Asha chapters by partially funding the following projects:

Aralu, Muskaan, Sahanivasa, Sankurathi Foundation, Shanti Sadhana Ashram, SSUP, Street-to-School.

**Support A Child (SAC) Program**

Under the Support a Child Program donors are matched with individual kids of their choice. If the project concern is willing the donor can have a personal communication with the sponsored child. These are the projects, which come under SAC.

**UDAVUM KARANGAL**

Asha is also supporting the orphans at Udavum Karangal through the SAC program. The girl/boy ratio in this school is 64/57 & the cost per month per child is \$10.

**PRASANNA JYOTHI**

Prasanna Jyothi is located in Puttenahalli, situated off JP Nagar, Bangalore. It houses as of now 18 girls children in the age group of 9 to 19. They are provided with healthy housing under loving care, food, & clothing & are sent to good schools for education. The children are also provided opportunities to express themselves in various cultural activities like, music, drama, handicrafts etc. The children are studying in various classes from 4th to 10th. Also three of them are doing Post SSLC career courses, viz., Diploma in Secretarial practices & Diploma in Computer Sciences. The girl/boy ratio in this school is 16/0 & the cost per month per child is \$20. This cost includes total living expenses.

**EACH ONE TEACH ONE**

Each One Teach One is located in Mumbai & provides uniforms, books, extra tuition & stationery to underprivileged children who study at municipal schools. The girl/boy ratio in this school is 17/13 & the cost per month per child is \$10.

**SHASTRI SCHOOL**

The orphaned children are covered by the SAC program. The girl/boy ratio in this school is 21/19 & the cost per month per child is \$11, which takes care of their total expenses. This project also has support from Govt of India.

**Finance**

Description	Income	Expense
Project Support		\$221,392.00
Cash Donations	\$261,986.35	
Special Events (Concert, Asha Fest, etc.)	\$50,181.00	\$2,932.68
Stock Donations	\$10,469.85	
Administrative Expenses		\$1,507.67 (100% from volunteer donations)

Our current commitment for calendar year 2002 is \$238264.00

**For More Information**

Join us at our monthly meetings in the Lake Washington School District Administration Building near the Redmond Town Center. The next few meeting dates & rooms are listed below.

- Feb 7 Morton Johnson A (Feb 6 was all booked)
- Feb 21 Sammamish A
- Mar 6 Morton Johnson A
- Mar 21 Sammamish A

Our meetings are open to everyone. Please call one of the volunteers listed below for more information or check our web site if you need directions. Please take a moment to send a contribution & change the literacy landscape of India.

Together we can make a difference!

Email: [asha@u.washington.edu](mailto:asha@u.washington.edu)  
Web: <http://www.ashanet.org/seattle>

- Jayashree & Ashok: 425-868-9819
- Swati Sircar: 206-985-0803
- Charu Srinivasan: 425-898-9795

**Asha contribution slip**

- (i) I am enclosing \_\_ \$25 \_\_ \$50 \_\_ \$100 \$ \_\_
- (ii) I would like to make a quarterly contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your checks payable to

**Asha for Education**

& mail them to  
Asha For Education (Seattle Chapter),  
23608, NE 45th Place,  
Redmond, WA 98053

100% of your contributions go towards  
Asha's projects in India.

Your contributions are tax deductible.



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