



**aasai**



**American Association for Social Advancement  
of India**

*...help others to help themselves...*

Volume 14

May 2015

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF IN-  
TEREST:**

- Vocational Skill
- Cancer Screening
- AASAI's network
- Green projects

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***A Stitch in Time.....Gives Livelihood***



**Women Vocational Training at Kalanjiam**

**11136 Lake Breeze Drive, N. Potomac, MD20878, USA  
Phone: 301 838 0732 Web: <https://www.aasai.org>**

# Chairman's Corner



Thanks to your continued generosity, AASAI is making significant progress in its projects to help others. Because of your generosity:...

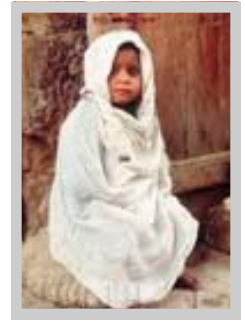
- ◆ More than 500 children receive high quality education normally available only to privileged families
- ◆ More than 300 children now bike to school, rather than walk, which minimizes school dropouts
- ◆ Several mentally ill men and women receive free care and rehabilitation training
- ◆ Numerous children with autism and cerebral palsy children receive special training with helps them become independent
- ◆ Many women in villages around Chennai are pre-

screened for cancer and have free access to health centers

- ◆ Nearly 50 women receive tailoring skills now and by the year end this number will reach 100 becoming independent wage earners
  - ◆ AASAI's used home goods store, Pudhumai, generates income which provides shelter for abused and mentally ill women.
- Sincerely hope and wish your continued support for these worthwhile projects.

Gratefully  
Raghavan

## Let me enlighten



Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles; it takes away today's peace.

All things in life are temporary. If going is well enjoy it, If going is wrong don't worry, Neither lasts..

When you pray for others, God listens and blesses them; when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

A car's windshield is large and the rear view mirror is small like our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on.

When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when He does not HE has faith in yours.

When we lose hope and think this is the end, Relax, it is just a bend, not the end

Author Unknown

## Support to OMAYAL ACHI Health Center AASAI Initiates Free Cancer Screening



Dental and Eye care. Intensive health care services is provided to 18 villages by the Health Centre benefiting more than 20,000. For conducting the screening with state of the art techniques, AASAI provided financial support to buy advanced Colposcopy-Digital equipment and financial support additional equipment and clinical services. The camp has identified several positive cases which could have been unnoticed before. Your support is vital for saving many lives.

AASAI in cooperation with Omayal Achi Community Health Center (Health Center) run by MR Omayal Achi MR Arunachalam Trust (Omayal Trust) initiated breast and cervical cancer screening at villages in and around metropolitan Chennai. The Health Center (Est. 1998) serves the poor in and around 45 villages and provides free health care services in wide range of areas such as General Morbidity, Chronic Disease, antenatal, Gynecology, mental health wellness, children wellness,



Omayal Achi Health Center—Free Cancer Screening Camp



## AASAI Inaugurates Vocational Training for Women at Kalanjiam



A Woman trainee at the Sewing machine

### Mr. Dorairajan inaugurating the tailoring School

Our dear friend and patron Mr. Dorairajan, (see picture above speaking), Chairman, Kanzen Institute Asia-Pacific private Ltd, a management consulting firm, in Chennai, talked to Mr. Siddharth Agarwal, Owner of Silkasia Rajasthan and requested four sewing machines for Kalanjiam. Mr. Agarwal spontaneously and generously contributed the machines and had them delivered to Kalanjiam. This enabled us to obtain two more sewing machines from our dear friends, Mr. Gopalan Connecticut and Vaidyanathan, Bangalore. Thanks to this generosity, on Feb 26, 2015, AASAI initiated its long-awaited vocational training program at Kalanjiam to train deserving women to acquire skills to earn independent living. Mr. Ezumali, a veteran tailor in the nearby village who has been associated with Kalanjiam as a committee member for nearly 5 years will train the women to become tailors. He along with another

supervising tailor manage the entire production and training. While on training, AASAI provides Rs. 50 per day as stipend. At the end of this year, 24 women, selected on the basis of family need, would have acquired necessary skills to stitch ordinary items such as woman's blouses, skirts etc. Currently, the women as they get trained stitch bed sheets and pillow covers for Voluntary Health Services (VHS), a hospital in Chennai that provides medical care to the poor. The material is provided free to VHS as AASAI's contribution to VHS. In return, VHS provides free medical care to all deserving poor from Kalanjiam sponsored villages. Thus our

funding to Kalanjiam helps the women to become skilled and earn a livelihood, and at the same time helps VHS in its noble cause and also provides free medical care to Kalanjiam which is not ordinarily available to them. This model of self help, sharing of skills resources with other AASAI's projects will be cloned at Rehoboth and Shanitivanam both caring for mentally ill. Please join me to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Agarwal, Mr. Dorairajan, Mr. Gopalan and Mr. Vaidyanathan. May I request you to extend your support to this wonderful initiative.



Women Trainees Receiving Admission into Program



# AASAI Continues its Bi Cycle Initiative to Reduce School Dropout

A few years ago, we initiated a project with Kalanjiam, (a charity organization involved in rural development programs) to provide bi-cycles to poor students in rural village areas as a way to reduce school drop outs. AASAI has thus far provided nearly 300 bicycles. Commuting to school by bicycles saves time, reduces physical strain and enhances energy level through physical exercise.



This make the students more active / alert in the class room and improves learning. Buoyed by the

success of the project, AASAI has determined to continue this project. Many of you have contributed to AASAI in this initiative. It takes a mere \$75 for one cycle. AASAI is grateful for your contributions and sincerely hope that you will continue to support us in this project. Please be a part of this wheels in motion for education..

# AASAI Self Sustaining Model at Rehoboth - Home For Women in Stress



ventory) .Besides income the store provides the women pride of business ownership. Now AASAI funded resources for these women to make Phenoyl, a disinfectant, and cleaning soap. They sell them to the public. This year we plan to train and engage the women whose



AASAI opened Pudhumai store in 2011 as a self help model to sell donated used home goods. The Store currently generates a monthly sale Rs 50 to 100 thousand (depending upon the in-



poor in Chennai area. VHS in turn provides totally free medical care to Rehoboth residents. We are very proud of this self help and sharing of resource model. Please support by your generous donations.



cerebral palsy children are cared for at Rehoboth, as tailors earning decent daily wages. More significantly Rehoboth provides Rs. 30,000 worth of Phenoyl now and later the finished tailored products free to VHS, (a hospital in Chennai providing medical care to





# AASAI 'S Green Revolution at Shantivanam -Home for Mentally Ill



AASAI 's Goshala (cow farm), Biofuel cooking gas,, fertilizer, vegetable garden, rice paddy field generate income and promotes self sustainability..



**Waste to wealth  
Barren to Bounty**





# Network Transforms Energy To Synergy - Beneficiary to Resource



Totally free medical care to Rehoboth residents

Totally free medical care to deserving patients from the Kalanjiam sponsored areas

## Voluntary Health Service

General financial support  
other support as depicted here

Phynoil  
Soap  
Mop

Bed Sheets  
Pillow Covers



## Rehoboth Home

Pudhumai store  
Livelihood Program  
Phynoil Project  
Tailoring

## Kalanjiam

General financial support  
Bicycles to children to reduce school dropouts  
Women livelihood program



# aasai



Professional medical care to the women and special children

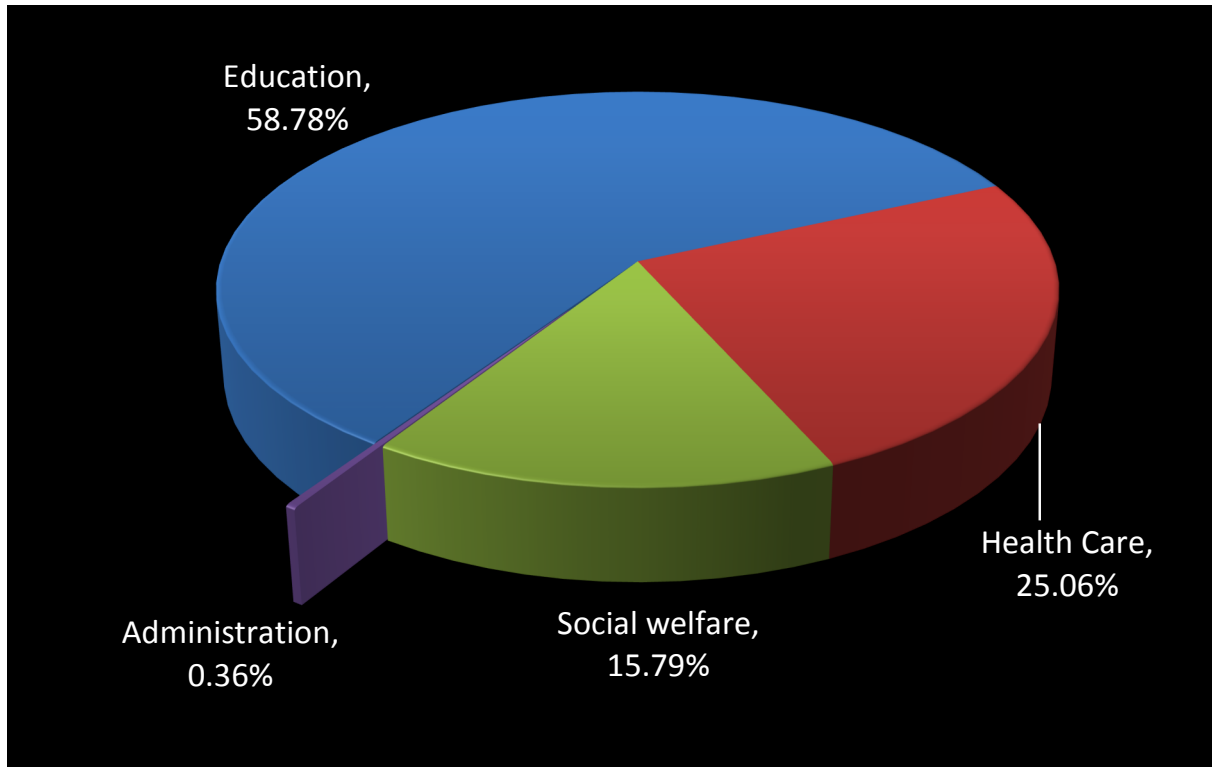


## Shantivanam


General financial support,  
Goshala (Cow farm),  
biogas plants for cooking gas,  
Organic fertilizer production  
Finance to school for special children



**AASAI's unique model provides resources for self sustainability of individual NGOs to do what they do best. Their skills and resources are shared with other NGOs in AASAI's network to promote effectiveness and efficiency through synergy. Please share your views with us and help us**



**American Association for Social Advancement of India**  
*....help others so they can help themselves....*



- ❖ Let none lack opportunities to excel
- ❖ Let all have equal access to health care to prosperity
- ❖ Let elders lead a secure and dignified life
- ❖ Let all minds realize its full potential
- ❖ Let women be empowered to lead a life without fear, discrimination and abuse
- ❖ Let us wipe out tears from every eye
- ❖ ....yes, together we can achieve....

**Goodness is the only investment that never fails---Thoreau**



## Organization

### AASAI

11136 Lake Breeze Drive, N. Potomac, MD20878

Ph: 301-838-0732 E-mail: we\_care@aasai.org



**AASAI Inc. is a non-profit charity that helps the under privileged in India. Its focus areas range from children to senior citizens, education to social causes, health issues. AASAI is unique in that it does not manage projects by itself; but rather diligently identifies deserving charities to support them to sustain themselves and do what they do best. Resources and skills are shared with other charities in AASAI's network for effective and efficient use of funds. Our admin costs are less than 0.39%. Your Donations to AASAI are fully tax deductible.**

### Helping others to .....help themselves

## AASAI Supports Shiv Shantha Trust Temple of Service - Free Medical Clinic



These clinics provide free consultation, medication, immunization and bear the cost of hospitalization when

health care in a caring and conducive environment. Health camps are conducted to raise awareness of health issues in the public and to provide an opportunity for early diagnosis and intervention. A milk program provides a source of additional nutrition to school children who live in the vicinity of the clinics (Chennai & Tirukovilur).

Your support is greatly appreciated.

AASAI initiated general financial support to 'Siva Shantha Trust', a charitable Trust founded in 2002 by His Holiness Swami Shantananda. The Trust serves society through it's 'Temple of Service', 'Temple of Fine Arts', and 'Temple of Knowledge'. The Temple of Service provides free medical care for the underprivileged through two outpatient clinics in Chennai and a consultation service in Tirukovilur (Villupuram dist), Tamil Nadu.



needed. General and Specialty clinics are run on a regular basis with special emphasis on pediatric care and of the elderly population. The aim is to provide health education, and preventive and curative





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Yes I would like to become a member. Annual dues \$120

Yes I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_

My address:

Email:

Telephone:

### Our Projects:

#### Education

- Srividyasram– Aduthurai Rural School for poor children
- Shree Parashara Gurukulam - Modern education through traditional values
- Avvai Home - Girl's English medium school
- Kalanjiam - Rural Village development

#### Children Welfare

- Balavidyalaya - School for hearing speech impaired children
- Atma School for Autistic Children
- Kalanjiam - Rural Village development

#### Health

- Voluntary Health Services- medical needs of the poor and middle-income groups
- Shantivanam, Trichy - Home for destitute mentally ill
- Rehoboth Home -Home for mentally challenged and battered women
- Omayal Aachi College of Nursing - Women health Screening
- Shiv Santananda Trust—Free Health care for poor

#### Vocational Training / Livelihood Development

- AASAI Jyothi Tailoring School at
  - Rehoboth Home –Employment for mothers of special children
  - Kalanjiam - Employment for Village poor women
  - Nambikai (Shantivanam)—Employment for rehabilitated mental patients

**“Goodness is the only investment that never fails” - Thoreau**

**WE ARE AN IRS-APPROVED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 UNDER SECTION 501(c)(3). YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE FULLY TAX  
 DEDUCTIBLE. OUR TAX ID NO. 31-1634640**

## **Appeal – \$1000 a Year Dedicated Contribution**

We appeal to your generosity to commit \$1000 a year contribution to AASAI to enable us to pursue, develop and implement projects in a predictable manner. Many of you are already contributing significantly higher amounts. Please continue the same level of support..

Encouraged by your support, AASAI has been involved with a wide range of activities, from children's education to care for abused women, from free health care to care for children afflicted with autism, and from women health center to vocational training and development of employment opportunities for women and other poor citizens. We are extremely thrilled of our success and diligently focused on improving these areas.

AASAI has been following a unique model of self sustainability of individual NGO and developing synergy through integration and sharing of skills and resources. (See page s 4 and 5). In addition our projects are environmentally friendly ensuring nothing goes to waste. For ex: at AASAI's Pudhumai Store, Rehoboth Home, donated used clothes are either sold to public or used by the residents. Remaining not wearable items are made into floor mats or mops and washed and provided free to VHS hospital in Chennai. Similarly, at Shantivanam, a mental health center, AASAI's Goshala, milk is either sold or consumed by the patients, cow dung is used at the biofuel plants generating cooking gas. The remaining waste is processed and sold as organic fertilizer and used in site vegetable garden, rice paddy, and grass feed for cows. These are but a few examples how your contributions are used effectively and efficiently. (see details in this news letter elsewhere)

Our annual fund collection is approximately \$70,000. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 a year. (We do not want to grow beyond that). We strive to find ways to raise the needed funds with certainty and with minimum efforts so we can focus our efforts on ensuring success of the projects rather than fund raising.

In order to reach the goal, we need you and other 99 donors to commit \$1,000 a year to AASAI. (If you have been contributing higher amounts, please continue. Considering several employers match your contributions, we need less than 100 people to rise \$100,000 year.) The simplest way to do this is to include AASAI as a payee through your bank's online bill pay and set up recurring monthly payments of \$83.33. Our address for payment is AASAI, 11136 Lake Breeze Drive, N. Potomac, MD20878. Please consider this request.

We are ever so grateful for your continued support and contributions.