



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Sewa International

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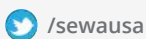
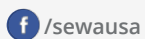


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VISION

We aspire to be the pre-eminent, Hindu faith-based, humanitarian organization that serves selflessly and with compassion to create a positive impact. We envision and strive for a world in which all people live in harmony, free from suffering.

MISSION

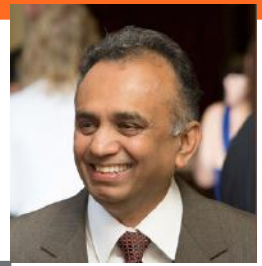
Sewa International's mission is to serve humanity in distress, aid local communities, run developmental projects for the underserved, and assist people in transformational change through the power of innovation by mobilizing partners, donors, and volunteers.

We accomplish this mission by focusing our efforts toward:

- Disaster recovery
- Family and child welfare and
- Promoting volunteerism

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We believe in the Dharmic principles of “Serving Humanity is Serving Divinity” and “Unity in Diversity.”
- We believe in service above self.
- We practice teamwork and self-reliance.
- We are proactive and responsive to the needs of society while promoting ‘Self Reliance’ among those who are served.
- We are pluralistic, trustworthy, and transparent.
- We create a positive impact through operational excellence and customer satisfaction.
- We respect and safeguard our environment.
- We value our volunteers, donors, and partners.
- We respect the dignity of every human being, and consider humanity as one family (*vasudhaiva kutumbakam*) while serving them regardless of race, color, religion, nationality, gender, and sexual orientation.
- We accept and celebrate diversity in people and community, and we are sensitive to the cultural backgrounds of people we serve.



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear Sewa Supporter,

I write this at a time when we are all deeply immersed in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. This contagion has set a 'new normal' and new ways of thinking not seen in three generations. Be that as it may, I am glad to present you this 2019 Annual Report of our beloved Sewa organization, highlighting the commendable work our volunteers and staff accomplished this last year, as every year in the last decade, and thanking the immeasurable and generous support of our well-wishers and donors.

I cannot present this annual report to you in person in the manner we have presented in the past such as at our well organized thirteenth National Annual Conference on May 4 and 5, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ.: at our annual conference where we sit and listen to our colleagues and friends summarize for us the work they have accomplished. I will not be able to offer you hardcopies of this report to thumb through at our annual conference, as we will be meeting "virtually" on July 18, 2020 to share this report – with all of us sitting in different locations and doing our presentations – a new normal.

We proudly noted then that within a decade of systematic and organized efforts we had grown to a "mid-level" charity organization, and being able to raise substantial funds over the year for our work serving communities in the US and around the world. I am happy to report that in 2019 we scaled further heights, being able to raise more than \$7.6 million, and we spent more than \$4.7 million.

I want to highlight a few of our accomplishments here before letting you read the rest of this 2019 report. First we received the highest 4-star charity rating by Charity Navigator, the top-rated ranking by Great Nonprofits, and more recently the 2019 Platinum rating by GuideStar. Charity Navigator recently ranked Sewa International among the Top 10 "Highly Rated Charities Relying on Private Contributions," with Sewa ranking fifth among the ten such listed charities, and achieved perfect scores on 'Accountability & Transparency' and 'Financial Health' ratings – the only Indian-American charity to achieve this distinction.

On the side of our education projects, we are now operating successfully the ASPIRE program in four of our major chapters: Atlanta, Cleveland, Houston, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Reaching out to and helping underserved students in these communities is work that will bring us both community goodwill and respect. "Each one, teach one" used to be a slogan to help neglected communities gear up, measure up, and become vibrant. Teaching students in these communities, I have no doubt, will bring us immense rewards and much gratitude.

Our supporters now help more than 1,500 children through the Sponsor-a-Child Program. Children in Colombia, Nepal and India are among the beneficiaries. The number of sponsored children has grown from 480 in 2011 to 1,584 in 2019. Currently 357 donors help fund the SAC program and 55 percent of beneficiary children are tribal, 26 percent are children from rural areas, and 19 percent are from urban areas. Among the children helped by the program, boys comprise 55 percent and girls make up 45 percent: new sponsorships in 2019 included 74 girls and 67 boys. Our work with a segment of the 90,000 Bhutanese community which is now mostly located in Ohio and Pennsylvania progresses on. We help offer Nepalese language classes, sewing and SAT preparation classes to enable Bhutanese high school students to go to their colleges of choice.

We continue to come to the aid of people in the US and around the world when disaster strikes – a significant portion of our financial revenue and expenditure. So, it was in 2019, with our ongoing rehabilitation efforts in Kerala and Karnataka in India, in Rosharon district in Houston, in Paradise, CA, and elsewhere.

All the good work done by our volunteers and team leaders do get recognized by the community, and so I am proud to note that Gitesh Desai of Sewa Houston was conferred the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (Overseas Indian Award) by Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India; Swadesh Katoch of Sewa Atlanta received the "Distinguished Service Award" for outstanding and dedicated community service and exceptional efforts in promoting human values, peace and harmony by the Yugal Kunj Radha Krishna Temple and Community; and I note, humbly, that I was inducted into the Cleveland International Hall of Fame in April 2019.

But life also takes a toll, and I want to mention here the accidental passing away of the president of our Atlanta Chapter, Pratap Singh Chouhan, and his wife Mayauri when they were traveling in New Zealand in a natural disaster.

We live in a very different world now, and I want to end this note here by wishing you all a safe 2020. Wear your masks, and maintain social distance, will be our new mantra!

Sincerely,

Prof. Sree N. Sreenath,
Ph.D., MBA (nonprofit MNO)
President, Sewa International

US PROJECTS

DISASTER RECOVERY

HURRICANE HARVEY REHABILITATION WORK



Hurricane Harvey was a devastating Category 4 hurricane that hit Texas in 2017 and caused catastrophic damage. It took the lives of hundreds of people and forced thousands to leave their homes. Fortunately, with the help of dedicated Sewa International volunteers working with several organizations, in Texas were able to successfully help recover and rebuild. One of the most affected communities was Rosharon, an economically underprivileged community in Brazoria County, part of the Metro Houston statistical area.

Sewa International was able to surpass stated goals of helping Rosharon recover from the devastation of the hurricane, staying true to our motto, "Together, we serve better". The American Red Cross awarded a \$499,823 RFP grant on September 1, 2018 to Sewa. The grant agreement's initial goals consisted of repairing 24 primary homes and rebuilding 11 primary homes, with 4,000 hours of Recovery Services being performed by 200 volunteers in the community. Sewa International outperformed the initial goal, reaching

out and serving many more needy people in the area. Using the grant money, Sewa was able to repair 73 primary homes and rebuild 11 primary homes.

Around 500 volunteers have put in close to 50,000 hours helping survivors of Harvey in the greater Houston area. They have helped them rebuild and repair houses, move houses, and arranging furniture in the new houses for seniors. These volunteers came from as many as seven different states and 13 different cities in the USA.

Overall, Sewa International has raised (both in cash and in-kind) material worth \$3.8 million to render rescue, relief, and recovery/rehabilitation efforts for Harvey survivors. This is in addition to thousands of hours of volunteer work, which if monetized as per voluntary hour standards set by IRS, would translate into an additional \$2.2 million.

By working together, Sewa International and the American Red Cross were able to make a significant impact and provide meaningful services for people affected by Hurricane Harvey. As the project ends, the American Red Cross commended Sewa for the dedicated work of volunteers and expressed the hope of continuing Red Cross' partnership with Sewa in future projects.



11
Rebuilt
Primary
Houses



73
Repaired
Primary
Houses



500+
volunteers



50,000
Volunteer
Hours

CALIFORNIA CAMP FIRE REHABILITATION

SEWA HANDS OVER FIRST “TINY HOME” TO CA WILDFIRE VICTIM



Tina Balasek, standing in front of her “tiny home”

The first “tiny home” built by Sewa International Bay Area volunteers, for those who lost their homes in the 2018 California Wildfire, was handed over on July 21, 2019 in Oroville, California. Part of the “small house movement” these tiny homes advocate simply living in small homes. There is no official definition of a “tiny home,” but houses less than 400 square feet in size are considered tiny homes..

Tina Balasek, a former substitute teacher, who was living in a temporary mobile home in Paradise, CA, after she lost her house to the wildfire, received the first tiny home. Tina is a 56-year-old differently abled person and went through a lot of trauma in the aftermath of the fire. She is a single parent with two daughters and is now the proud and happy owner of this home, built lovingly by Sewa volunteers.

The volunteers drove three hours each way every Sunday, over four months, to Oroville to build this first tiny home. They worked with Alyssa Nolan, a local construction volunteer and her team of builders, to construct this home. In addition to the labor, the Sewa team also collected and spent \$7,500 to buy construction materials and furniture for the home.



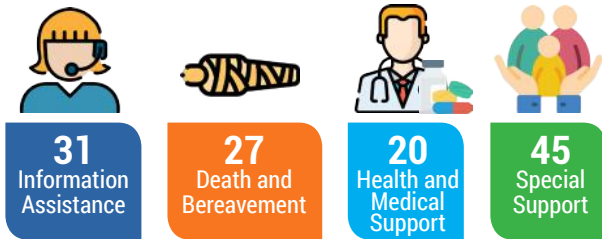
FAMILY SERVICES

FAMILY SERVICES HELPS 123 FAMILIES IN TURBULENT TIMES

During 2019, Sewa volunteers helped 123 families in various crisis situations in 20 cities across the US – Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Madison, Oklahoma City, Orlando, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Raleigh, San Antonio, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa, Toledo, Vancouver, and Washington DC.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

123 Cases Resolved



41 Workshops Conducted



TESTIMONIAL

“

Soon after I acquired a master's degree, I was diagnosed with a rare neurological disorder in which the nervous system of the body gets damaged. After unsuccessful treatment at two local hospitals, I was admitted in another hospital, which helped. My parents travelled from India to be with me and help me. But they cannot speak English and I was not able to breathe or speak.

We met the Sewa Family Services team. They helped us a lot during these hard times. They found donors who supported me with living expenses and food. For the past several months, they have been dropping off food at the hospital and at the rehab place. They also offered guidance for my medical insurance, arranged for me a powered wheelchair, and set up my acupuncture sessions.

I would like to thank the whole team for their unbelievable help and support. My parents and I are blessed to have you all in my life. Thank you so much to the whole Sewa Family Service team from the bottom of my heart.

”

STOP DIABETIES MOVEMENT



Some of the benefits that participants claimed they experienced through these SDM camps:

- Energy levels have improved
- Sleeping very well since the camp
- Hunger and cravings were reduced
- Have a better awareness of body and mind
- Managing stress has improved, and stress levels have come down
- Better all-round fitness

Sewa International, in partnership with SVYASA, organized several Stop Diabetes Movement (SDM) camps. The camps are specially designed for diabetic and pre-diabetic people to help them manage and control high blood sugar levels. The 20-hour module is spread over ten consecutive days, followed by ten weekly sessions. SDM camps are being conducted all across the country.

These yoga/SDM camps were extremely successful and the participants look forward to keeping up with the practices. These camps are offered free of charge, and participants are refunded their initial deposit after completing all the sessions.

The 10-day camp includes daily yoga routine, breathing, meditation, relaxation. Participants are provided with counseling sessions from physicians and specialists on the medical understanding of diabetes, stress management, diet, nutrition, and sleep. Participants share their experience about the transformation the camp brought in their lifestyle and in managing diabetes. Participants experienced a 10-point reduction in *fasting sugar level* and 23 points Post Prandial Blood Sugar (PPBS) level.



ASPIRE TUTORING PROGRAM

ATLANTA, GA



Sewa Atlanta Chapter’s ASPIRE initiative started a tutoring program at a Title 1 elementary school in the fall of 2018. From 2018 to 2019 the Atlanta Chapter changed it from a fortnightly session to a weekly session, increased the number of students tutored, and added a “Girls Who Code” class for 3rd-5th grade girl students. The school’s teachers taught the volunteers how to support in reading using the ARC (American Reading Company) reading system which is used in the classroom during the school week.

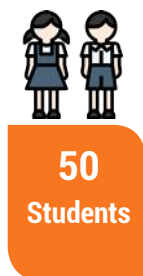
In the 2019-2020 school year, the high school volunteers took on greater responsibility, volunteering in roles such as administrative lead, STEM lead, gym/ yoga lead, and “Girls Who Code” lead. They served as mentors for children who were identified by the school as needing extra support in reading, facilitating parent check-in, teaching yoga and playing games, tutoring one-on-one in reading and math, and exposing to

STEM and coding, concluding each Saturday session with a healthy snack.

Over the summer, ASPIRE volunteers supported a second Title 1 elementary school with the school’s reading program once per week. One of the teachers gave us the following feedback:



“*Sewa plays an integral part in supporting our students. Aside from data, the relationship piece that is being built between the Sewa students and ours is immeasurable. So many of these students are left alone at home, often in charge of younger siblings, don’t get to travel and experience new places, or they sit in front of a TV for hours. Their parents work hard and, due to other barriers, may not be able to give them the support they need educationally. So, your program is very important in the overall development of these children.*”



BAY AREA, CA



The Bay Area chapter of Sewa International initiated the ASPIRE After-School program in 2019 to reduce gaps in education for students in the Ravenswood City School District in East Palo Alto. While the school district serves a diverse population of 4,500 students across seven public schools, it faces serious challenges such as low educational rankings, a high proportion of low-income students, and homeless students.

With the mission of empowering students intellectually, emotionally, and socially, ASPIRE began its pilot program at Costano Elementary School in East Palo Alto in May 2019, and continued till end of the academic year. Working with fourth-grade students in the afterschool program during weekdays from

HOUSTON, TX

Houston's ASPIRE program had an enrolment of 79 students (according to registrar data from city connections), with 22 students in the Olle Language Academy, and 20 students at the Youngblood Academy.

A total of 37 interns helped in the program during summer 2019, as well as interns helping Girl Scouts and the Adult Language Academy.

The ASPIRE program is conducted Monday through Thursday from 4 pm to 6 pm, and 11 am to 1 pm on Saturdays at the San Marcos location. At the Los Arcos location the program runs from Monday through Thursday between 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, and at the Villa Madrid location from Monday through Thursday

3-6 pm, our volunteers helped students with their homework, math, and reading, and engaged them with creative activities.

Following this successful start, ASPIRE was also involved in the summer school program at Costano from June 24 to July 19. From 8.30 am to 3.30 pm, volunteers worked with sixth to eighth grade students on subjects like Math, English, Critical Thinking, Gardening, Art, Drama and Debate, Coding, and Music. The summer school program was also well-received, as the students, teachers, staff members, and principal all appreciated our volunteers' commitment toward the students. In fact, the school recognized the efforts of Sewa International during its showcase event on the last day of the summer school program.

This academic year, Sewa International continues to serve the students of Costano Elementary School during its afterschool program. Volunteers work with 58 students in grades 2-5, for three days a week from 4-6 pm, stimulating the students' curiosity and providing them the personal help they need to succeed.

between 4 pm and 6 pm.

The Language Academy classes at Olle Middle School are conducted Mondays and Tuesdays between 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm, and at the Youngblood Intermediate School on Wednesdays between 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm.

Forty-one people responded to a survey conducted by the Houston ASPIRE Program, with the question – "What are the benefits of the ASPIRE Center for you and/or your family?" (see infographic), and another 41 responses were gathered on what improvement they had seen in their child/children who attended the program.

BHUTANESE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



Sewa International conducted a youth camp for Bhutanese students in Indianapolis, IN from August 1 to August 4, 2019. A total of 36 students from nine American cities took part and benefited from an array of physical, intellectual and spiritual activities conducted in the camp. Sewa's Bhutanese Empowerment Project (BEP) volunteers invited 100 high school and university students to the camp who had participated in the Bhutanese Heritage Camps in their cities in 2018.

The national youth camp was a big step forward for the BEP as many years of work and careful planning made the camp possible. Sushmita Mishra, a student from Ohio State University and six other Bhutanese students helped organize the camp. Saumitra Gokhale, member, Sewa's Board of Advisors, and Bhuwan Pyakurel, a Bhutanese community leader,

attended the camp. As a direct result of the camp, regular weekly activities for the Bhutanese youth have started in Boston, MA; Cincinnati, OH; Columbus, OH; Dallas, TX; Harrisburg, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Phoenix, AZ; and, Reynoldsburg, OH.

Due to the internal migration, nearly 80 percent of the Bhutanese population of about 90,000 in the US now reside in the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Sewa is able to reach more than 60,000 of them through projects such as Nepalese language classes, sewing and SAT preparation classes. Sewa is working closely with the community in Harrisburg, PA; Phoenix, AZ; and Atlanta, GA, in conjunction with Bhutanese community organizations BCCO in Columbus, OH and Atlanta, GA. Sewa awarded scholarships to five Bhutanese students for college education with the help of Hindu Temple of Atlanta.

LEAD

THE LEAD PROGRAM PAVES THE WAY TO BUILD SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP

The LEAD program provides a platform for young adults to explore, innovate and generate ideas and serve their local communities by working on Sewa's ongoing service projects. The LEAD students take part in workshops, service activities, discussions, lectures and meetings with the community leaders from different fields such as media, social work, business and non profits, during the academic year.

The LEAD program introduces socially conscious leadership to young adults and expects the interns to commit to a minimum 50 hours of service including

direct service in volunteer events. It is an effective tool for educating, training, and developing the community and business leaders of the future.

In 2019, Sewa's New Jersey chapter extended the internship to six months to cover the entire summer, and the Phoenix chapter is planning to follow suit in 2020. Other than these two, Bay Area and Houston chapters have been running successful LEAD programs. A few other chapters, such as the Denver chapter, have started them in a limited way.

PROJECT STATUS SUMMARY

Young people are shaping the world like never before ... LEAD 2019 was a significant year.

Youth programs were organized in 18 US cities. Overall, 250 youth from over 60 high schools clocked more than 2,000 volunteer hours in programs such as Refugee Empowerment, Stop Diabetes Program, Family Services and SERVE events.

LEAD Activities

- Street, parks, and beach clean up
- Trail Expansions
- Blood Dove
- Environmental awareness outreach
- Fundraise for a Cause - Walkathons, Bike-A-Thon's and Sports tournaments
- Leadership building workshops
- Camping
- Winter Coat Drives
- Diwali Food Drive
- Bhutanese refugee empowerment
- STEM - Design thinking process

LEAD Projects

- Refurbish Laptops and donate
- Intern with local consulates
- Serve at community food banks to aid in sorting and delivering motivational Speaker series
- Adopt a highway Program

Sewa School and Community clubs

- Encourages to think about local communities
- Builds Leadership skills
- Helps bring the community together





YOUTH ACTIVITIES & VOLUNTEERING

In order to cultivate socially responsible leadership, sense of service, and overall personality development in youngsters, Sewa International chapters conducted year-long youth activities.

Most of the youth engagement and volunteering happen through these two programs:

- 1) *LEAD* program for high school students
- 2) *Get Inspired* program for college students



The activities these youth participated in are very diversified. Here are a few of them:

- Different types of community service activities
- Food collection and volunteering for soup kitchens
- Refurbishing old laptops and donating to poor children
- Conducting environmental awareness activities
- Parks and roads clean-up
- Winter coat drive
- Sewa outreach programs
- Habitat for Humanity projects
- Tutoring younger children of underserved communities
- Walkathons for social causes
- Conducting blood drives
- Fundraising for Sponsor a Child, Girl Child Toilet and Hygiene, and other projects
- Speaker series by socially aware community leaders
- Workshops on different topics



INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

SEWA'S WORK IN COLOMBIA, IRAQ, INDIA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND PAKISTAN



Muslim Community - After School Education Center at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India



Toilets built for a charitable trust school, Karnataka, India



Water pump repaired by Sewa in Iraq



Turning on the Lights for Tribal Children near Bogota, Columbia



Sewa TT

DISASTER RECOVERY

KERALA FLOOD REHABILITATION 2019

Sewa International and Deseeya Sevabharathi Keralam, Sewa International's partner organization in Kerala, handed over 25 newly built houses to families that lost their homes in the 2018 floods that devastated large parts of the South Indian state. Keys to the houses were handed over to the new owners in an event held on November 25, 2019 at Nandavanam Auditorium in Alappuzha (Alleppey), Kerala. These houses were constructed as part of "Punarjani," or 'Second Life,' Sewa's rehabilitation program for the Kerala flood victims. Out of the 25 houses planned so far, 16 were sponsored by Sewa International, USA and eight more houses will be ready for distribution by February 2020.

Each house is 800 sq.ft in area and contains one living room, a kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom. Brahmashree Manikuttan Tirumeni, Secretary of the Chakkulathukavu Sri Bhagavathy Temple in

Alappuzha, lit the lamp at the event organized for the house distribution, and Dr. T.P. Senkumar, Retired Director General of Police, Kerala, was the chief guest at the event. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) State Secretary, M. Radhakrishnan, Seva Pramukh A. Vinod, Deseeya Sevabharathi Keralam State Vice President Dr. Balachandran Mannath, District President Dr. C. Dileep and other Sevabharathi volunteers attended the event. Sewa International volunteers, Sasidhar Mutyala, Sharat Mudupu, and Aravinda Rajagopal also took part in the event and visited the beneficiary families.

The Sewa International team also visited the "Punarjani" Counseling Centers and sites of schools under construction. The event was attended by over 350 volunteers, beneficiaries, and supporters.



Flood affected families in Kerala that received Sewa-built houses pose for a picture with guests (on stage) who attended the event

SPONSOR a CHILD

Sponsor a Child (SaC) is a recurring donation program, where the contribution made by the donor is spent on education of children in rural and tribal places in India. In 2019, under this decade old program, Sewa added four new learning centers – two in Maharashtra and one each in Karnataka and Arunachal Pradesh. With this addition, the SaC program now covers Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka,

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana.

Sewa strives to provide a holistic education through the SaC program. Children in SaC learning centers take part in both academic and outside-school activities such as sports, dancing, singing, debates, arts and crafts.

TESTIMONIALS

FROM DONOR

“

“It was really a memorable experience for us to talk with our three sponsored children Shankar Geedam, Sanjay Kumar Purusanga and Ashish Bashetti from Ekalavya Avasam in Mancherial, Telangana”.

“When I called the Hostel manager, he told us that kids just finished their morning yoga which is a good way to start their day. I got to talk with all the three boys who are in 6th grade and each one of them has their individual goal of achieving their dreams. The manager also explained how the kids schedule work and how the support from individual donors like us makes a big difference in the lives of those rural kids. My conversation with children gave me immense pleasure and I am very thankful to the SaC team for coordinating it”

*Ramalakshmi,
Texas, Houston* ”

FROM LEARNING CENTER

“

Sewa International has been supporting the education of 100 students in the Viveka Tribal Centre for Learning through the “Sponsor a Child” Program. It is with the support of partners like Sewa that SVYM is able to work with the children of the indigenous tribal groups of the Mysuru District in Karnataka. The support from Sewa goes beyond mere financial aid and we constantly explore the opportunities to cross-learn from other partners across the country. We look forward to working with Sewa for several years to come.

*Praveen Kumar S
Deputy CEO & Head - Institutions
Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement* ”

SPONSOR A CHILD – NOW EXCEEDS 1,500 SPONSORSHIPS



Sponsor a Child (SaC) program added 141 new sponsorships in 2019 taking the total number of sponsored children to 1,584. It also added four new learning centers, and expanded its work to seven states in India.

In the recently released 2019 annual report for SaC Program Director Ravichandra Chakinala expressed confidence that SAC would see a larger increase in sponsorships in 2020. He said many website enhancements targeted to increase donor interaction with sponsored children and better program impact measurement would be implemented in 2020.

The number of sponsored children has grown from 480 in 2011 to 1,584 in 2019. Currently 357 donors help fund the SAC program: 55 percent of beneficiary children are tribal, 26 percent are children from rural areas, and 19 percent are from urban areas. Among the children helped by the program, boys comprise 55 percent and girls make up 45 percent. New sponsorships in 2019 included 74 girls and 67 boys.

Seed funds from Gayatri Yoga Center, Kiev, Ukraine thanks to Prabha and Pankaj Agrawal of Chicago, IL, helped expand the SaC program. Anil Dhamani from Atlanta, GA supported 100 tribal children in Madhya Pradesh, while the New York and New Jersey Sewa chapters sponsored another 100 children in Telangana. Arvind Sodhani from California supported 30 tribal children in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, and Pramod Sajja of Atlanta, GA supported 25 tribal children in North Karnataka. Ananda Rajagopal from California sponsored 18 tribal children from Mysuru, and Shirim Foundation from Ohio sponsored 12 children from Bengaluru. Veerashaiva Samaj of North America, Connecticut Chapter sponsored 10 tribal children from Mysuru.

From October 2019 the SaC team has begun publishing monthly newsletters, which are sent to donors, and the first weekend of every month a video call is arranged between desirous donors and beneficiary children. The SAC program team has received a great response from donors for these initiatives, Ravichandra said.

SEWA'S ALTERNATIVE LEARNING CENTER IN COLOMBIA

Sewa International's LEARNING CENTERS REACH OUT TO UNDERPRIVILEGED COMMUNITIES IN COLOMBIA, WHERE THERE ARE LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN TO FIND A SAFE AND COMFORTABLE PLACE TO LEARN, TO HAVE A NUTRITIOUS SNACK, AND TO EXPLORE THEIR INNER POTENTIAL.

WHERE WE ARE



In 2019, we opened two centers, in two regions of Colombia (Bogotá D.C and Boyacá).

THE PROBLEM

- ✘ Children are exposed to the risk factors specific to their locality.
- ✘ Lack of physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual & social training that encourages children to respond to their daily life with moral values.
- ✘ Limited opportunities available for these children and their families.
- ✘ Lack of educational spaces that offer, free of charge training in development skills.

EVERY 60 MINUTES, IN COLOMBIA, TWO CHILDREN BECOME VICTIMS OF SOME TYPE OF VIOLENCE
COLOMBIAN FAMILY WELFARE INSTITUTE (ICBF, Oct 2018)

THE SOLUTION

To create a safe and loving space for children, where the **10 life skills** proposed by the WHO (*Worlds Health Organization*) are extensively cultivated, with the guidance of an expert and passionate team.

By implementing this program, we anticipate that the children will develop the essential skills needed to interact with society and their environment in an active, balanced and harmonious way.

SOCIAL VALUE PROPOSITION

Our **Indigo Schools Program** provides complementary learning opportunities that holistically nurture the **life skills of children** from vulnerable areas of Colombia, Latin America.

OUR MISSION

We strive to educate predominantly for the **reconstruction and development of a sustainable social fabric**, by teaching how to live peacefully and in harmony with life.

OUR PURPOSE

To provide an **education for peace**, where children develop a **sense of importance, purpose and responsibility** for their own existence.

BENEFICIARIES | 2019

- 100 children | 7 to 12 years old
- 20 Women
- 10 Volunteers
- 7 Facilitators
- 7 Key Partner
- 1 Intern student

To invigorate a new generation of children with the **life skills** needed to effectively contribute to **current global challenges**.

ACADEMIC PROPOSAL

Centers have the flexibility to customize the curriculum & mythology based on their **core competencies & the locality's specific needs and opportunities**. This model enables us to partner with more local like-minded organizations around Colombia.

Besides this, our **main objective** is to awaken children's interest to learn and to stimulate artistic, cognitive, spiritual, social and physical aspects of their holistic development.

COST STRUCTURE

OUR VISION

Items

Healthy Snacks	190\$USD
Stationery, art and learning Materials	117\$USD
Facilitators	138\$USD
Utilities	55\$USD

Cost per Month

\$USD500

✘ The Cost Structure calculation is different for each Center. Depending on how much local support we receive in each locality, the monthly budget varies slightly from Center to Center.

✘ This budget is calculated for approximate 20 children.

BY THE END OF 2019, WE WILL HAVE ACHIEVED OUR



GOAL OF OPENING **3 CENTERS PER YEAR**

NORTHEAST INDIA EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

SEWA HELPS BUILD TWO SCHOOLS IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH



An AVP School building under construction in Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh

Arunachal Vikas Parishad (AVP), Sewa's partner organization in Arunachal Pradesh, India, has completed a major portion of the school and skill

Community Activity Centers (CAC)



A Community Activity Center (CAC) building in a village in Arunachal Pradesh

Documentation



Inside a Wancho language class in a village in Arunachal Pradesh

AVP is working on documenting the indigenous practices, culture, and traditional knowledge of all local tribes in Arunachal Pradesh. This initiative aims to record in detail local festivals and rituals followed at the various stages of life such as birth and marriage. Creating audio and video documentaries, writing articles and books, publishing periodicals in

development center construction in Namsai town in Namsai district, and Raga village in Kamle district. In both places AVP has started running schools in these buildings and about 400 children are enrolled in the schools. In each school, two floors have been constructed so far. Construction work on the buildings is in progress.

The AVP was founded in 1993 by Golgi Bote Talom Rukbo. It is affiliated with Vanavasi Kalyan Ashram. Sewa is supporting AVP in the following areas: education, culture, community development, language, and documentation of traditions.

Community Activity Center or CAC is a place for village communities in Arunachal Pradesh to share and preserve their indigenous faith, culture, knowledge, heritage, customs, and language and to stop external forces that threaten and destabilize their way of life. In the last 40 years, AVP has built about 500 CACs, and Sewa is helping build another 100 centers by the end of 2020. Through CACs, AVP has successfully steered villagers from focusing on individual development to development of the entire village.

local languages, Hindi and English are part of this project. So far, out of the planned documentation of 26 communities, documentation of five communities is complete.

Language preservation

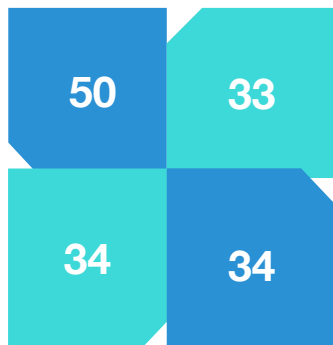
To preserve local languages, AVP is conducting language classes, and in collaboration with Wancho Literary Mission (WLM), these classes are now being offered in twenty schools. This initiative also aids the documentation of folk tales, stories, and poems. A team headed by Banwang Losu, creator of the Wancho script, is working on a Wancho-English online dictionary and a WLM team is working on incorporating Wancho script in Android mobile phones.

PUBLIC HEALTH & HYGIENE – INDIA



2019 Highlights

GOOGLE PROJECT
25 toilets each in Karnataka (Belgaum) and Uttar Pradesh (Mirzapur)



UTTAR PRADESH AND ARUNCHAL PRADESH
20 toilet units across Uttar Pradesh. and 13 toilet units in Arunachal Pradesh.

MAHARASHTRA AND WEST BENGAL
Repaired 18 toilet units in Maharashtra and 16 toilet units in West Bengal.

RURAL KARNATAKA
34 toilet units across Karnataka. (Belgaum, Kolar Hassan, Mandya)

Key Focus Area



Menstrual hygiene awareness as a Part of the project Closure activity



Repair and Rebuild flood affected schools of North Karnataka.



Toilet Installation in three new Indian states. (Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal)

Our Success Stories

“We had 6 toilets and 10 urinals for 1,500 school children and 70 staff members. Among them, there are over 500 girl children studying in this school and 35 female teachers. We were having a lot of issues due to lack of sufficient toilets. With new toilets built by Sewa, we have separate toilets for use by girls and female teachers. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”
Primary Class teacher,

Govt School Number 14, Belgaum, Karnataka

“Thank you Sewa team, for understanding our needs. It was very difficult for us to attend nature calls as most of our toilets were in bad condition. With the leaking roof and damaged doors, we felt unsafe to use them. We thank you for the new toilets. We feel safe now.”

Class 9 students, Uttar Pradesh

www.toilets-sewausa.org

Our Reach



478 Toilets

29,379 School Children

7,803 Families

6 Indian States

Our Journey



KUMBH MELA – 2019



Kumbh Mela, included in the ‘intangible cultural heritage of humanity’ list by UNESCO, is a major Hindu pilgrimage of faith -- the world’s largest gathering of people, period. The 49-day Kumbh Mela in 2019 started at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, on January 15 on *Makar Sankranti* and ended on March 4, culminating in the festival of *Maha Shivarathri*. The Kumbh Mela hosted nearly 150 million pilgrims from around the world. It’s a moment of pride for every Indian to be a witness to this grand spectacle, more so when one is engaged as a volunteer during this event.

To provide holistic health services for the attendees, over 2,000 medical practitioners, including 300 doctors, have volunteered to cater to the pilgrims. *Doctors for Seva*, an initiative of Youth for Seva -- Sewa

International’s local partner in India -- established “Kumbh Sevamitra” to engage doctors in delivering essential services -- another step towards ensuring a truly memorable experience for the visitors.

Massive arrangements were made for this event including building the world’s largest temporary city with over 4,000 tents, 155 miles of roads, 22 pontoon bridges, and a parking space of 32,000 hectares. Over 180 drivers and staff were engaged to ply 90 ambulances, including advanced life support ambulances and river ambulances round the clock for the benefit of pilgrims. The event created more than 600,000 jobs, promoted tourism in Uttar Pradesh and surrounding states, and generated \$17 billion in revenues.

THE SCALE OF KUMBH MELA



49
Day Event



\$ 17 billion
Revenues



4,000+
Tents Setup



155
Miles Roads
Constructed



600,000+
Jobs
Created



22
Pontoon Bridges
Built

THREE HUNDRED DOCTORS MOBILIZED FOR KUMBH MELA



Sewa International sponsored the cost of basic preventive measures, immediate care facilities for the event, and supporting 300 voluntary experienced doctors, each committing for a ten-day cycle, at the world's largest faith congregation. During the first 17 days of Kumbh, 47 voluntary doctors treated over 35,000 patients, including delivering eight babies. The team of doctors included General Physicians, Cardiologists, ENT specialists, Anesthetists, Surgeons, Dermatologists, Gynecologists, and Orthopedists who were ably supported by nursing staff, technicians, and other support staff.

EXPERIENCE IN KUMBH: Dr. Sulochana Lola is an allergist-immunologist in Santa Clara, California, who received her medical degree from Bangalore Medical College and has been in practice for more than 20 years, is a Sewa volunteer from the Bay Area. She volunteered at the Ardh Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, which was celebrated from January 15, 2019 to March 4, 2019. Dr. Lola shared a tent with several physicians who had a background in pediatrics, intensive care, and pathology, and worked with them for two weeks taking care of the sick and tending to those in need. The patients at the Kumbh Mela were grouped into

two categories: one of them included pilgrims who were sick because of unfortunate weather conditions, and the malnourished pilgrims who were poor and/or illiterate. They were in desperate need of medical help, and many medicines were not easily available to these people. The other group of pilgrims, who were local residents, received free expert medical advice from physicians and specialists. During her two-week stay, Dr. Lola had the opportunity to help doctors deliver a newborn baby. She felt that it was one of the highlights of her two weeks there, and said, "It was such a special spiritual experience to take care of the baby in the holy atmosphere of Kumbh Mela. I felt blessed. I had the most invigorating and spiritual two weeks of my life and am thankful to Sewa for giving me the opportunity to travel and serve at such short notice".



It was a lifetime best experience for me at Kumbh Mela, rendering whatever little service i could to those in need. There were lots of learnings from the team of paramedics, doctors, and yes, from the sadhus (monks) at Kumbh.

I'd like to thank Team Sewa whole heartedly, who have altered the way look at seva and volunteering."

-Dr.Prajwal, General Practitioner, Bengaluru.

SEWA INTERNATIONAL DECADE LONG JOURNEY

FROM HUMBLE ROOTS TO COMMANDING HEIGHTS -- SEWA INTERNATIONAL'S DECADE-LONG JOURNEY



Sewa International 13th National Conference delegates assembled at the Thunderbird School venue in Phoenix, AZ

Sewa International's 13th National Annual Conference was held at Thunderbird High School in Phoenix, AZ, on May 4 and 5, 2019. Prof. Sree Sreenath released the 2018 annual report and, while recounting Sewa's growth, said, "started in 2004, Sewa has, in less than two decade, grown to a mid-level charity with a well-diversified portfolio of projects and a dedicated volunteer force. Sewa has almost become a five-million-dollar charity in 2018. As custodians of the trust our donors and volunteers have placed in us, it is our responsibility to be transparent and execute programs that align with our values and achieve greater good for society. Success comes with higher responsibility."

The National Conference is an annual event that brings together Sewa's board of directors, its executive team, employees, and volunteers to review progress made the previous year and learn from each other's experiences. A record 108 participants from 18 chapters and 20 cities across the country attended the 2019 conference hosted by Sewa's Phoenix

chapter. Among the attendees of the conference was Prof. Ved Nanda, recipient of one of the highest Indian national awards, the Padma Bhushan.

Saumitra Gokhale, a member of the Sewa's Board of Advisors inaugurated the conference and Dr. Sailesh Rao, an environmental scientist, delivered the keynote address. Sewa felicitated Sachin Kulkarni who donated a million dollars to build schools in the remote areas of Arunachal Pradesh, one of India's northeastern states.

Vice President of Finance, Venkat Santhanaraman, presented the 2018 annual report, and said Sewa raised \$4.3 million in 2018, which included a few large grants. There were presentations on family services; marketing, social media, fund-raising, and youth and volunteering projects. Sewa's chapter leaders presented posters that included chapter highlights and achievements.

AWARDS AND HONORS



GITESH DESAI

President, Sewa Houston, was conferred the 2019 Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (Overseas Indian Award) by Ram Nath Kovind, President of India, at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India on Jan 23, 2019 for Community Service and Leadership..



SWADESH KATOCH

Sewa Atlanta, and Vice President, Disaster Recovery, received the “Distinguished Service Award” for outstanding and dedicated community service, and exceptional efforts in promoting human values, peace, and harmony in an event organized at Yugal Kunj Radha Krishna Temple and Community Center in Atlanta, GA, on July 16, 2019.



SREE SREENATH

Sree Sreenath, President, Sewa International, was inducted into the Cleveland International Hall of Fame in April 2019.

SEWA INTERNATIONAL IN NUMBERS – 2019

Structure/Operations



Volunteers



All Projects



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ADVISORS & EXECUTIVE TEAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ramesh Bhutada, M.S. (Chair)
Mukesh Goel, M.D.
Sarojini Gupta, B.A
Prof. Manohar Shinde, M.D., Ph.D.
Sridhar Talanki, B.S.

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Shrinaryan Chandak, M.S.
Saumitra Gokhale, M.S.
Amit K.Misra, J.D.
Girish Mehta, M.S.
Prof. Yashwant Pathak, Ph.D.
Dhiren Shah, C.P.A., C.M.A., C.F.O.

EX-PRESIDENTS

Srikanth Konda (2003-2005)
Gautam Desai (2006-2008)

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Sree N. Sreenath, Ph.D., M.B.A. President
Arun Kankani, M.C.A., Executive VP & COO
Anil Deshpande, M.Tech., VP, Information Technology
Ashwani Garg, B.Tech., M.B.A., VP Administration
Swadesh Katoch, B.Sc., VP, Disaster Recovery
Sandeep Khadkekar, B.E. (Hons.), VP Marketing & Development
Syam Kosigi, M.Sc., M.B.A., VP Organization
Venkat Santhanaraman, FCMA., CIA., MBA., VP Finance
Achalesh Amar, Director Disaster Recovery
Ravichandra Chakinala, B.Tech., Director, Sponsor a Child
Bhaskar Enaganti, M.E., B.Tech. Director Technology
Kirthi Jain, CPA, CMA., Director of Finance and Control
Viswanath Koppaka, B.E., M.B.A., Director., National Marketing
Rakesh Pathak, M.Sc. M.B.A., Director, Technology Services
Prem Pusuloori, M.Sc., DCA., Director of Programs & Projects
Jayanthi Ramanan, M.A., Director, Public Health & Hygien
Vidyasagar Tontalapur, M.A., Director Communication

SEWA INTERNATIONAL – FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

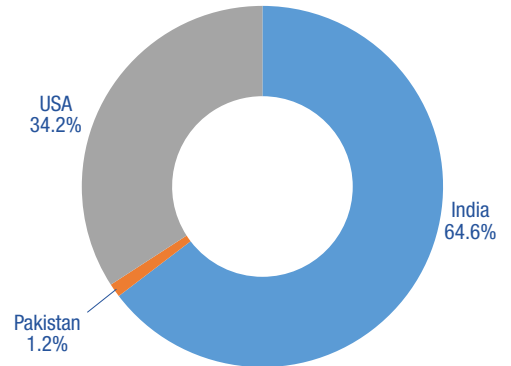
BALANCE SHEET

Opening Fund balance (Net of liabilities)	\$ 4,847,247
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	\$ 3,276,009
Closing Fund balance (Net of liabilities)	\$ 8,123,256

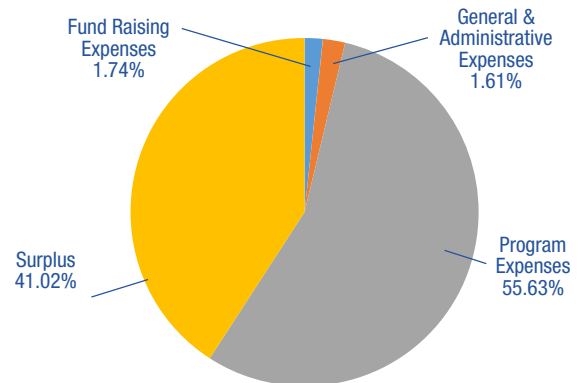
INCOME STATEMENT

Income	
Income - Cash	\$ 7,601,547
Income in Kind Donations	\$ 384,338
.....	
INCOME - TOTAL	\$ 7,985,885
Expenses	
Fund Raising Expenses	\$ 138,879
General & Administrative Expenses	\$ 128,563
Program Expenses (See Details below)	\$ 4,442,434
.....	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 4,709,876
SUPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$ 3,276,009

Program Expenses - by Country



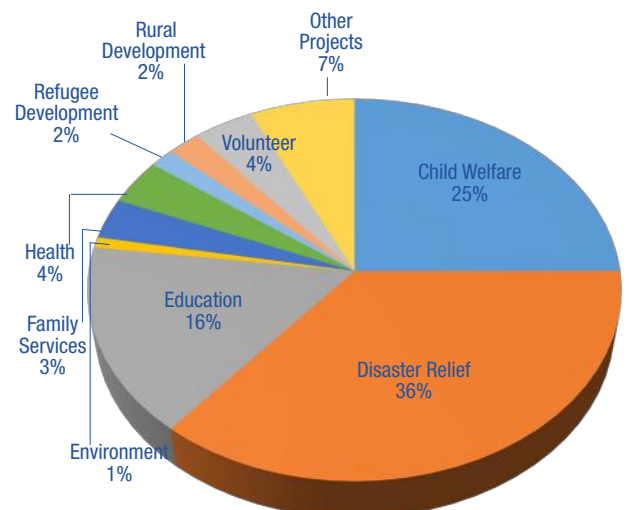
Expenses Ratio



PROGRAM EXPENSES BY THEME

PROJECT	TOTAL
Child Welfare	\$ 1,108,877
Disaster Relief	\$ 1,600,656
Education	\$ 710,809
Environment	\$ 38,654
Family Services	\$ 151,608
Health	\$ 170,145
Refugee Development	\$ 72,164
Rural Development	\$ 98,000
Volunteer Development	\$ 178,825
Other Projects	\$ 312,696

Program expenses by Theme



Sewa International is a 501 (C) (3) Hindu faith-based nonprofit, charitable organization. All donations are tax deductible (cash, cars, clothes, securities, etc.). Tax Id # 20-0638718