



# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



**Sewa International, USA**

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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
- 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

After the challenging and demanding times of 2021, we began to move into the "less severe" phase of COVID-19, although, in the US alone, a million people had died from COVID by the end of 2022, and 267,000 had died during the year. As the severity of the pandemic eased and the number of hospitalizations and deaths went down, Sewa's priorities changed to address the aftereffects of the pandemic. Sewa's efforts shifted to handling food insecurity, vaccination hesitancy in specific areas in collaboration with FEMA and other agencies, and managing the mental health challenge.



**ARUN KANKANI**  
President, Sewa International

Our LEAD program for high school students expanded to more than 20 cities, with nearly 1,000 students participating in this transformative internship. We provided an opportunity for youth to experience the "joy of serving" and introduced them to socially conscious leadership in the community so that they can also become socially conscious leaders of tomorrow.

Our family services programs continued to serve people facing various tough challenges. Sewa expanded its new "Seniors for Sewa" program in more cities. The SELF program in Houston inspired monthly 5k walk and run events. It encouraged many to join even half marathons and marathons for the first time. Our Sewa Service Center in the Bay Area is becoming the place where every week volunteers gather and undertake multiple initiatives to serve the local community.

Volunteers from Phoenix, Atlanta, and Dallas launched a new initiative to work with American Indian communities. We hope this initiative will grow to have a broad reach and impact in the coming years.

## **Sewa Food Pantry**

In a remarkable development, Sewa's first food pantry started in Simi Valley in the Los Angeles metropolitan area with the help of local government and voluntary organizations. This initiative is a natural extension of Sewa's work distributing food packets to more than 200 families weekly for over two years. The Sewa Food Pantry is an innovative program that provides healthy food options to needy families. Local high school students staff the pantry by volunteering their time to help others while gaining valuable life skills in the process. Sewa launched this program as a pilot initiative to test its viability. It has now become a sustainable program with support from various organizations.

Community organizations and local and state governments recognized the contribution of Sewa volunteers with various awards and recognition across the country. In early 2023, Sewa's young volunteer from Houston, Samiksha Deme, serving as an AmeriCorps volunteer, got the national "Make The Difference" service award presented by the First Lady in Texas. In 2021, Sewa volunteer Madan Luthra received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Texas Governor.

## **SAC Supports 10,000 Children**

Our efforts in India reached new heights as our Sponsor-A-Child program helped educate 10,000+ children from families severely affected by COVID. In 16 states in India, our SHE program was able to train and help 3600+ women to gain meaningful livelihoods. These women are from families that lost their primary breadwinner to COVID. We also launched a unique two-year Sewa Fellowship program where 30 young professionals would work with community organizations to create a resilient community.

## **War in Ukraine**

Alas, 2022 also saw the start of a new war by "another name" – in Ukraine – which led to a major humanitarian crisis. We are very proud of our partner Sewa Europe team, which jumped into action and helped evacuate international students and many others stuck in the war zone. Sewa Europe joined the efforts in helping refugees arriving in neighboring countries by setting up a help desk to guide them.

Sri Lanka is going through an economic crisis worsened by the war in Ukraine, with people not able to get even one meal a day. We have also extended our help to our partners working in Sri Lanka to provide food packets to needy families.

Here, in the US, we saw inflation rise, stock markets see significant losses, and a continuing and distressing divide in politics and political discourse. The land we call our "Karma Bhoomi" is somewhat troubled now. It needs our support and selfless Commitment more than ever to ensure the well-being of all communities.

## Strategic Planning

We did an amazing amount of good this past year. In this Annual Report, you will read about that work. We met in San Francisco to plan our future, given the amount of money we raised in 2021 and the leadership role we have taken to unite dharmic groups and collectively work for the welfare of society. It was a meeting of minds to take stock of what we have done before and create plans to ensure we understand our new opportunities and challenges. We got a better understanding of our objectives, and we designed processes to monitor the goals we have set ourselves.

Our work in disaster response, offering family services, providing education and after-school support, working for the welfare of the girl-child, and in volunteer development all saw a considerable spurt in the quality and amount of our work; our public relations, marketing, communication, grants-writing, and fund development efforts became more organized and more streamlined; our website got a fresh look, and our annual meeting in Washington, DC, was an enormous success!

## You are our Strength

We are deeply indebted to our countless volunteers for their dedication, commitment, and sacrifice in compassionately serving our community. We thank our supporters, donors, well-wishers, and the community for trusting us and our commitment to community service guided by the principle "Together We Serve Better."

You will find excellent information about our work in this Annual Report, and I request that you read it carefully. We started our service work in 2023 with much more energy, focus, and good spirits. Your continued support, goodwill, and energetic engagement will guarantee the health and longevity of Sewa International and, more importantly, the world's sustenance.

Sincerely,

*Arun Kankani*  
**Arun Kankani**  
President, Sewa International



# ENDORSEMENTS



**Congressman  
Gerald (Gerry) Connolly**  
Representative for Virginia's 11th  
congressional district, USA

*"Sewa volunteers have helped thousands of international students and citizens to evacuate the warzone, irrespective of their race, religion, gender, or nationality. They are one of the seven key trusted partners of the Federal Emergency Management Agency."*



**Congressman  
Raja Krishnamoorthi**  
Representative for Illinois's 8th  
congressional district, USA

*"I want to recognize the exemplary efforts of Sewa International for its heroic efforts. Sewa's work to provide international aid to fight COVID-19 has demonstrated compassion and commitment to humanity that is saving lives, preserving economies, and strengthening public health and safety across the world."*



**Gauranga Das Prabhu**  
Spiritual leader, ISKCON

*"Sewa International is a 'not-for-profit' organization inspired by the noble tradition of service before self, and working towards promoting volunteerism internationally amongst children, youth, women, and energetic senior citizens. Sewa International aids local communities and engages the beneficiaries to be agents of change in development."*



**Geoffrey Onyeama**  
Minister of Foreign affairs, Nigeria

**"Half a million thanks to the Government of Ukraine for providing the buses, Sewa International Europe and Sewa International UK for their amazing facilitation and coordination..."**

**and our indefatigable ambassador to Ukraine, Shina Alege for his determination and perseverance. They all delivered for our Sumy students."**

**-Geoffrey Onyeama  
on Twitter**





# ASPIRE

## ACHIEVING STUDENT PROGRESS, INSTILLING RESILIENCE, AND ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE

Sewa has been actively working towards empowering and assisting communities in need across the United States. Sewa International made significant progress with its ASPIRE (Achieving Student Progress, Instilling Resilience and Excellence) program in 2022. The program focuses on addressing language deficits and academic difficulties among students from underprivileged communities.

The ASPIRE program has supported about 3,500 students across 20 centers in seven US cities. In 2022, Sewa partnered with AmeriCorps to fund over 300 students. The program has led to an improvement in student attendance, high school graduation rate, college enrollment and employment, with students gaining marketable skills and academic distinction.



Sewa's Houston Chapter expanded its ASPIRE program by partnering with seven schools, running three ASPIRE centers, and helping 100 elementary and 200 middle and high school students. Sewa also founded new ASPIRE Learning Centers in Atlanta, GA, Cleveland, OH, and in the San Francisco Bay Area, partnering with AmeriCorps in Houston.

The ASPIRE program relies on donor support to continue providing academic and social support to students from underprivileged communities. Donations go directly towards supporting students by providing academic resources, funding teacher salaries, and purchasing educational materials.

The ASPIRE program has made a significant impact on the lives of students from underprivileged communities. With Sewa's partnership with AmeriCorps and expansion to new cities, the program is set to benefit more students in the future.



# LEAD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

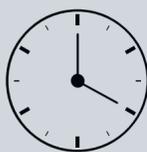
One of Sewa International's successful program is the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) program, which provides unpaid internships to high school students. This year, over 800 interns served their local communities and logged 80,000 hours of community service across twenty of the organization's forty-two chapters.

In promoting volunteerism, we offer a Sewa Fellowship Program that trains and equips future non-profit leaders and provides unpaid summer internships to college students. We seek to raise about \$200,000 to fund capacity building and youth programs like Get Inspired (GI), LEAD, and Serve Your City for one year. The initiatives will include strengthening the LEAD internship program, developing new programs to engage youth and increase volunteers, and recruiting skilled volunteers.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022



**833+ LEADS**



**80,000+ HOURS**



**120+ PROJECTS**



**20 SEWA CHAPTERS**

- Sewa trains youth through the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) internship program in 20 of its 42 chapters.
- Each year, over 800 High-Schoolers serve their local communities by involving in many activities, such as booking vaccination appointments for seniors and collecting toys and school supplies for children.
- In 2021, these interns logged 65,000 hours of community service, and in 2022, over 80,000.
- For the last three years, Sewa scored the top 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator, the premier non-profit rating agency for non-profits.
- Sewa is also rated number five among the top ten highly-rated charities relying on private contributions.
- Sewa has provided relief and rehabilitation services in over 26 disasters in the US and elsewhere.

# NLC 2022

## SECOND NATIONAL YOUTH CONVENTION A GRAND SUCCESS

Over 650 high school and college students across the U.S. participated in Sewa International's National Youth Convention on Saturday, July 30, 2022. The convention's attendees included members of Sewa's LEAD (Leadership Development through Community Engagement), Youth Cohort, and Get Inspired (GI) internship programs.



In a four-hour virtual conference, students gave an overview of their work in LEAD and GI Programs. Four virtual halls and nine break-out sessions allowed students to choose the sessions and topics. Participants played a game that helped create awareness of the "Save Soil Movement" that Sewa has taken up in partnership with the Isha Foundation. The convention unanimously passed a resolution encouraging policymakers to prioritize soil conservation in government agricultural and related policies.



# SEWA'S MULTIFARIOUS CAMPAIGNS

## NAR SEWA NARAYAN SEWA

SERVING HUMANITY IS  
SERVING DIVINITY



## VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM

HUMANITY AS ONE FAMILY

## SARVE SANTU NIRAMAYA

MAY ALL BE FREE FROM ILLNESS,  
MAY NO ONE SUFFER





# SEWA FAMILY SERVICES COMMITMENT TOWARDS SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Sewa International has developed and organized the Family Services Program across 40 US chapters with four main areas of focus.

**DISTRESS CASE MANAGEMENT**

**STOP DIABETES MOVEMENT**

**KNOW YOUR HEALTHY S.E.L.F**

**EDUCATIONAL & WELLNESS WORKSHOP**

Sewa International recognizes the vital role that families play in maintaining a harmonious society. We have been working to provide a social support system that enable families to handle crises.

In response to the needs of the Indian American immigrant population, Sewa initiated the Family Services program in 2013. It is a community service-based project that includes three main components: emergency services, health and wellness, and education and awareness assistance. The program caters to the specific needs of Indian American immigrant populations and has been successful in serving hundreds of families.

Emergency services provided by Family Services include home health services, grief counseling, legal services, and poverty alleviation initiatives. Sewa's goal is to provide for and enhance the client's physical, social, and spiritual well-being. Family Services conducts monthly Health and Wellness seminars and workshops. Popular programs include "Marriage 101," "Living Will," "Secrets of Working with a Teen," and "Raising a Culturally Balanced Child". These programs provide families with the tools and knowledge necessary to maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Education and awareness assistance to families to empower them to overcome challenges and build a better future is another of the Family Services' goals. This includes connecting families with appropriate community organizations to address their specific needs and conducting workshops and seminars on relevant topics.



# SEWA FAMILY SERVICES COMMITMENT TOWARDS SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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The chief dimension of the Family Services program is arranging "Health & Wellness" and "Educational Awareness" workshops or seminars useful for the families. The focus of this initiative is about sharing with families the opportunities and resources available to them in their neighborhood, such as the "Stop Diabetes Movement" yoga workshops, and yoga and meditation workshops. Seminars on topics vary from financial planning and parenting to college guidance for children and Living Wills/Advance Directives.

Under Sewa Family Services Case Management Projects, our goal is to help individuals and families in distress. We provide them with information, resources, or needed support, ensuring care and compassion. Our volunteers ensure that families under stress get through the crisis with reduced anxiety and pressure.

Family Services recruits volunteers to collaborate with local nonprofits to assist Sewa International clients with their needs. Sewa also creates a comprehensive database of community organizations to link individuals or families in need. This collaborative approach has been successful in serving families in need and building a stronger and more resilient community.

Sewa International has also been actively working with various refugee communities across the US, including Bhutanese, Burmese, Cambodian, and other groups. Sewa International has been working with refugees from Bhutan since 2008 when they were provided asylum by the US Government. We have worked in nearly 20 US cities and helped 43,000 Bhutanese refugees. Sewa inspired and supported Bhutanese refugees in starting community organizations to strengthen bonds and resolve conflicts.



**50+**  
Stop Diabetes  
Movement  
Workshops



**400+**  
Know Your  
SELF  
participants



**300+**  
Educational  
& Awareness  
Workshops



**725+**  
Cases handled



**43,000+**  
Bhutanese refugees  
rescued



# DOCTORS FOR SEWA WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH OUR MEDICAL INITIATIVES

Doctors for Sewa, with about 200 doctors, have been providing medical assistance to those in need. They have focused on various areas of medical care, including mentorship, international medical camps, telehealth, and free clinics. Sewa has mentored international and local students interested in pursuing a career in medicine. This program has been running for two years, and the response has been overwhelming. In the first year, 40 students registered for the program, while in the second year, 25 students participated.

Another area where our doctors have been making a difference is in international medical camps and collaborations in the medical field ecosystem. We have been collaborating with various organizations to provide life-saving medical aid to thousands of people, especially in areas where healthcare is not easily accessible. In partnership with the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI), Sewa gave telehealth services to around 2,000 beneficiaries. The telehealth service was helpful during the pandemic when people could not access medical care in person.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022



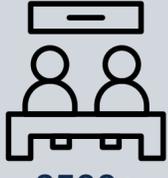
**250+ DOCTORS**



**60+ SERVICES**



**10+ COUNTRIES**



**2500+ STUDENTS MENTORED**



**2500+ TELEHEALTH SERVICE GIVEN**

Sewa International is working with Dr. Hedgewar Hospital in Nagpur, India, and Pioneer Medical Research Foundation's Project Palav to carve out a life-saving training program in the neonatal area. This program is instrumental in providing much-needed training to medical professionals in neonatal care. In addition, Sewa has been raising funds for Swami Vivekananda Hospital in Nagpur to provide medical assistance to those who live in places where healthcare is not easily accessible.

# SEWA DIWALI



Sewa Diwali, a large food drive organized by Dharmic communities nationwide, donated over 630,000 pounds of food in the U.S. in 2022. In its fifth year, the campaign benefited over 200 organizations from 32 states, including food pantries, homeless shelters, worship houses, and schools. Sewa International, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS), USA, and volunteers from many other dharmic organizations coordinated these efforts nationally.

Sewa Diwali extended to more than 200 Cities and towns in 2022, its fifth consecutive year. Since its inception in 2018, the Sewa Diwali project has donated nearly 1.5 Million pounds of food nationwide.

Pam Bozano, the Site Director of Nobel Prep for the Boys and Girls Club at Stonybrook Middle School, IN, thanked the Sewa Diwali initiative for the generous donation. He said, "There is a big food disparity in this community. So, we are very grateful and appreciative that this donation benefits our kids and their families during the holiday season."

Sewa Diwali saw active and spirited participation from Sikh Gurudwaras, Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist temples, Yogic organizations, Interfaith organizations, Indian American cultural and linguistic associations, and thousands of families and individuals all over the land. Several dharmic organizations such as BAPS, Chinmaya Mission, Arya Samaj, and Samskrita Bharati USA collected food among their supporters.



The Sewa Diwali drive continues to bring people together for universal good. All dharmic communities believe in the principle 'parōpakārārthaya idam sharīram' (a person lives to serve others selflessly). In all dharmic traditions, Sewa plays a crucial role in an individual's life.

Aimed at fostering togetherness and promoting the concept of Sewa (selfless giving), Sewa Diwali provides a platform for Dharmic and Indic communities to organize food drives during Diwali. Every year, starting in October to mark the celebrations of Diwali, the Dharmic Festival of Lights, the food drive runs through the end of November.



## SEWA ASSISTS HURRICANE IAN VICTIMS IN FLORIDA

Sewa International donated \$25,000 to help Hurricane Ian victims in Florida, and started a social media campaign to raise \$100,000. Sewa volunteers distributed drinking water, food, and other essential supplies in Fort Myers Beach, Sarasota, and other areas impacted by the Category 5 hurricane, said to be the deadliest since 1935.

Working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) our volunteers from Orlando and Tampa collected food, water, and other materials and delivered them to the FEMA help centers. They also supplied groceries to the Fort Myers Hindu Temple. The temple provided over 500 hot meals daily to physicians, nurses, and people in relief shelters for several days following the hurricane. Considered one of the deadliest hurricanes to hit Florida, Ian caused an estimated \$113 billion damage, primarily from flooding.

## WORKING WITH AMERICORPS, SEWA HELPS HURRICANE-HIT PUERTO RICO



Homes and businesses were washed away amid high winds and surging seas as Hurricane Fiona struck Puerto Rico on Saturday, September 17. The local authorities declared a state of emergency after the hurricane hit. In collaboration with AmeriCorps, Sewa International, with partner organizations came to the aid of those needing help.



## ONE HUNDRED GATHER AT SEWA'S SIXTEENTH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

At the sixteenth Annual National Conference on May 7 and 8, 2022, in Washington, DC, nearly one hundred volunteers from Sewa's nineteen chapters participated. They discussed and debated strategies to keep the growth and momentum generated in 2021 by Sewa's work during the COVID-19 pandemic when Sewa raised over \$45 million for pandemic relief efforts.

The conference felicitated Ramakant Rambhatla, Vice President and Chief Engineer of Invacare Corporation, for helping Sewa procure the much-needed oxygen concentrators to help India deal with the second pandemic wave. Honorary Board Member, Prof. Radheshyam Dwivedi, was also felicitated for his decades-long service to the community and his unwavering commitment to Sewa's vision, mission, and work. Dr. Suresh Jain, a member of Sewa's Board of Directors, delivered the keynote address at the inaugural session, emphasizing that only an integrated approach to life espoused by Hindu philosophy would save the world from disaster.

As a yearly gathering, the National Conference offered an extended family-like atmosphere in which Sewa volunteers learned from each other's work and planned to take the organization forward.

## TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY MEMBERS GET TRAINING IN MICRO ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Sewa International launched a microenterprise training program to help transgender people set up small businesses. Launching the program on August 15, in an event organized to celebrate India's 75th Independence Day with the transgender community in Bengaluru, India, Sewa began training 20 transgender individuals to set up garlic peeling facilities.

Volunteers from Sewa's Sanitation, Hygiene, and Empowerment for the Girl Child (SHE) and Covid Affected Families (CAF) projects organized the event. Senior Nodal Officer of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), R.P. Rathore, who participated in the celebration, promised to process voter ID applications from the transgender community expeditiously. These much-needed identity cards help the community members establish a business and conduct other financial transactions.





# **SHE** SANITATION & HYGIENE PROJECT FOR THE GIRL CHILD

Sewa International is dedicated to empowering women and girl children in India, and has reported significant progress in its Sanitation, Hygiene, and Empowerment Project for the Girl Child (SHE). The project focuses on building school toilets, educating children on sanitation and hygiene, and providing reusable sanitary napkins to adolescent girls.

Due to the COVID pandemic, we also launched the Sanitation, Hygiene, and Empowerment Project for the Girl Child & Covid Affected Families (SHE-CAF). The program provided masks, medicine, and groceries to affected families, identified COVID-impacted women, and provided them with career training to help them earn a livelihood. In the first phase, 1,040 women were trained, and in the next phase, 3,000 more women were trained. Job placement support and confidence-building sessions were also provided to help these women become self-employed.

## **SHE-CAF PROJECT**

Sewa International has appealed for donations to continue its efforts. A \$650 donation can build a toilet in a school, \$500 can provide health and hygiene supplies to 50 girls, and \$350 can provide livelihood and skill development support for one COVID-impacted woman.

## **MENSTRUAL HEALTH & AWARENESS**

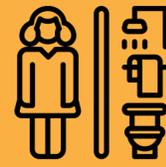
In the past year, 121 toilets have been built, bringing the total number to 594 in 13 Indian states. The program has assisted 53,989 schoolchildren and over 20,000 teenage girls, and menstrual kits have been distributed to more than 5,000 teenagers. The SHE program has received support from Google and various donors.



## PROJECT IMPACT



**121**  
TOILETS  
FOR GIRLS



**200**  
HAND WASH  
STATIONS



**53,989+**  
SCHOOL  
CHILDREN



**20,000+**  
ADOLESCENT  
GIRLS

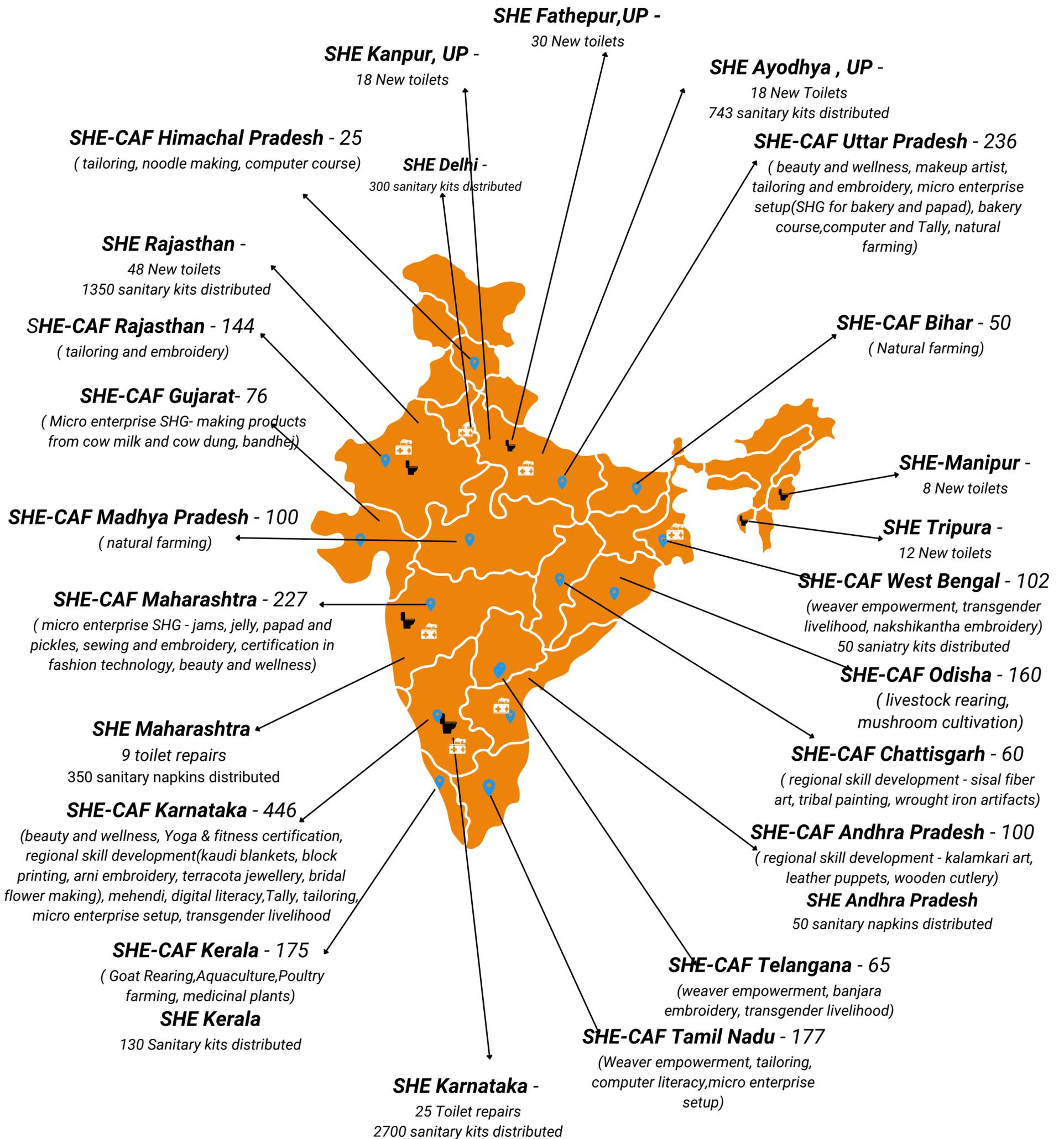


**3000**  
COVID IMPACTED  
WOMEN



**13**  
INDIAN  
STATES

# SHE PROGRAM FOOTPRINT - 2022



-  SHE-CAF beneficiary count and programs covered
-  Menstrual napkin kits distributed
-  Toilet installations/ repairs



**Sponsor a Child**  
Educating the needy to rebuild better nation

# Sewa International USA **SPONSOR A CHILD**

Sewa International's Sponsor a Child (SAC) program has since 2011 been providing quality education to children in India who cannot afford to pay for their education and are at risk of dropping out. The program has supported over 13,000 children since its inception, and over 2,500 children were sponsored in 2021 alone. The SAC program has been successful in linking compassionate individuals with children in need and has made a significant impact on the lives of the sponsored children.

In 2022, until October, the SAC program has provided school tuition for nearly 3,700 students from 21 states and four union territories in India. The program has been successful in providing education to children from economically weaker sections of society who would otherwise be unable to access quality education.

The SAC program is designed to provide continuous support to a child until they complete their schooling. The program pays the school fees/tuition directly to the school, and the sponsor receives regular updates on the child's progress. The program has been successful in ensuring that the sponsored children complete their education and become contributing members of society.



**552+**  
DONORS



**10,000+**  
STUDENTS



**\$1.62M**  
DONATION



**16+**  
LEARNING  
CENTERS

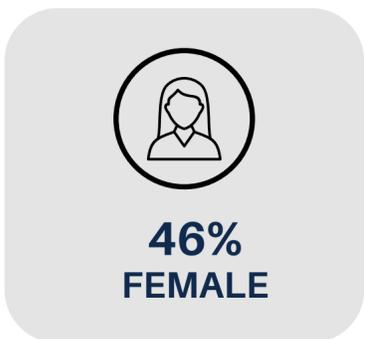
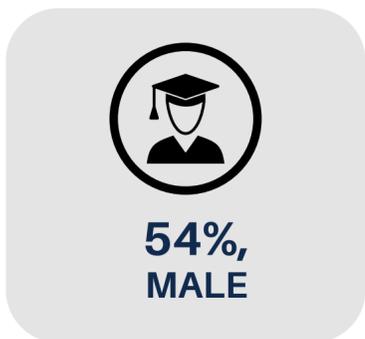
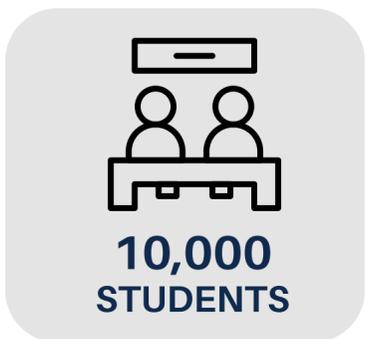


Sewa International USA  
**SPONSOR A  
 CHILD**

The SAC program is made possible through the generous support of donors. Each donor contributes \$360 a year (\$30 a month) to support one child. The program also allows donors to communicate through the mail with the beneficiary children, with the SAC team's help.

The SAC program has been successful in creating a connection between the donor and the sponsored child, which has helped in building a sense of responsibility and empathy among donors. By supporting a child's education, donors contribute towards the overall development of society.

**SPONSOR  
 A CHILD to provide  
 EDUCATION  
 & Empower Families**





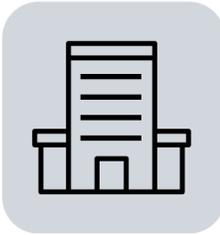
# DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST INDIA

## EDUCATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE



In the education sector, Sewa is constructing schools and skill development centers in Namsai, Raga, and Sadiya towns in partnership with Arunachal Vikas Parishad (AVP). Currently, over 500 students from 20 neighboring villages are enrolled in these schools. The skill development centers offer training programs in tailoring and electronic instrument repairs. AVP conducted online educational courses, online and in-person career counseling for the youth, and organized state-level five-day orientation camps for preschool teachers. AVP also organized online classes for high school students in English, Economics, and Physics, and offline career counseling for students to help them find jobs.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTERS (CAC)



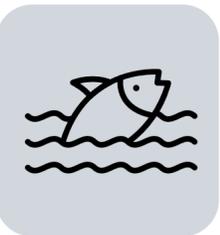
In protecting people's indigenous faiths, Sewa works closely with AVP to construct 50 Community Service Centers (CSC) in various tribal communities. The Community Activity Center (CAC) serves as a place for the village community to jointly pray, interact, share knowledge and skills, and prosper. Most importantly, it helps people keep their faith, culture, and languages.

## SEWA AAROGYAM



In the health sector, we launched the "Sewa Aarogyam" Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) in Kanchanpur, a remote village in Tripura. The MMU is staffed with qualified physicians and offers medicines, ECG facilities, and diagnostic tests. The mobile clinic serves over 50,000 people and conducts 61 free medical camps in 17 districts of Arunachal Pradesh. Sewa also trained Village Health Workers (VHW) from 34 villages in East Siang, Siang, West Siang, and Namsai districts.

## INTEGRATED FISH FARMING PROJECT



In the environment sector, Sewa initiated an integrated fish farming project in North Tripura. The objective is to build capacity and provide technical support to 100 fish farmers in two districts. AVP organized a statewide mass tree planting drive on World Environment Day and planted 3,400 fruit and ornamental saplings in over 300 places in 19 districts.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



Sewa International's achievements in the Northeast during 2021-2022 demonstrate its commitment to promoting social and economic development in communities across India. Our efforts in the areas of health, education, environment, and protecting people's indigenous faiths have positively impacted the lives of many people in the region.



## WE HELPED EVACUATE OVER 3,200 STRANDED PEOPLE IN UKRAINE

Amid a raging war and airstrikes in Ukraine, our volunteers in Europe assisted over 3,200 people in safely crossing the border to neighboring countries. More than 250 Sewa volunteers across Europe coordinated relief efforts in eighteen Ukrainian cities, working alongside Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) volunteers and fielding calls from those in distress through a Sewa helpline.

We helped evacuate 467 African students, including 367 from Nigeria and 100 from Namibia, Zambia, and South Africa, from Sumy, Ukraine, on March 8, 2022. Sewa Europe volunteers, who responded to a request from the Nigerian Ambassador to Ukraine, coordinated the evacuation.

The volunteers helped people reach Ukraine's western border by various means of transport and provided food and temporary shelter to them during their journey by collaborating with local hotel owners. Assisting people in the war zone was challenging, but Sewa and HSS volunteers worked tirelessly to aid international students, tourists, and others fleeing Ukraine to return home.

We released \$10,000 immediately after the war began and started a Facebook fundraising campaign.

## OPERATION GANGA: INDIAN GOVERNMENT LAUDS SEWA

The Government of India acknowledged Sewa International's help in evacuating Indian students stuck in war-torn Ukraine. The government launched Operation Ganga to bring back stranded Indian nationals from Ukraine as the war started. Sewa International volunteers in Europe quickly organized to help people cross the Ukrainian border at checkpoints in Poland, Romania, and Hungary. Within six days of the commencement of the war, Sewa volunteers helped more than 3,200 people cross to safety.

Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, wrote a letter of appreciation to Ashok Goyal, Chairman, Sewa International, New Delhi, commending Sewa volunteers for their assistance in facilitating the successful repatriation of over 6,000 Indian students from Hungary as part of Operation Ganga.



Evacuation of Students Stranded in



## SEWA STEPS IN TO HELP PEOPLE IN KENYA

Kenya's National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) said parts of the country was drought-stricken due to four successive failed rainy seasons. According to the agency, an estimated 4.35 million people suffer severe hunger and need humanitarian assistance. Between October 2021 and March 2022, over 1.5 million livestock, particularly cattle and sheep, died. The agency also said over 755,000 children under five and about 103,000 pregnant women are malnourished. By some estimates, nearly 1,500 people die of hunger each day in drought-hit East Africa.

Stepping in, we contributed \$10,000 towards drought relief efforts. We also started a social media campaign to raise \$100,000 for food distribution. In the first phase, Sewa distributed food kits to 3,000 families with help from our partner organizations in Machakos County. Food and other essential supplies were distributed next in the Makindu area.

Sewa's partner organizations, Bharatiya Swayamsevak Sangh, Hindu Council of Kenya, Hindu Religious Service Center, and Premchandbhai Foundation led these relief efforts. They also provided clean water, medical care, and educational facilities in Kenya's remote villages.

## ECONOMIC CRISIS IN SRI LANKA: SEWA PLANS TO HELP 10,000 FAMILIES

Sri Lanka faced a catastrophic crisis when in June 2022 the Prime Minister announced that the economy had collapsed. Daily power blackouts and shortages of fuel and other essential goods made life difficult in the island country. Thousands of families faced harsh and stressful conditions.

Sewa International, working with its partner organization, the Arumuga Navalar Charity Project, distributed food and other essential supplies. In the first phase, Sewa provided a month's worth of groceries to 500 economically challenged families in the Nuwara Eliya district. Sewa's goal was to assist 10,000 families.





# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

## "FESTIVAL OF GLOBE HERO AWARD CONFERRED ON ARUN KANKANI"



The Federation of Indo-Americans of Northern California honored President Arun Kankani on Sunday, August 21, 2022, with the "Festival of Globe Hero Award" recognizing Sewa International's work during the Covid-19 pandemic in the US, India, and worldwide. The "Festival of Globe Hero" award is a prestigious community award recognizing an individual's or institution's major and recognizable contribution to society. Speaking at the event, Arun Kankani thanked the Indian American community for serving local US communities during the pandemic and supporting India and nine other nations when Covid infections were at their peak. "We were able to serve all without discrimination as we believe the world is one family."

## ONESTAR FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS SEWA'S AMERICORPS PROGRAM



OneStar Foundation's annual report commended the work of Sewa AmeriCorps members and their impact in the classroom. Sewa-AmeriCorps volunteers' work led to academic improvement, increased attendance and classroom engagement of students. In addition to working with the youth, AmeriCorps members also worked with the families of students to provide a more stable home environment.

## FOURTH CONSECUTIVE 4-STAR RATING FROM CHARITY NAVIGATOR



Sewa International received the fourth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's leading independent charity evaluator. In a letter addressed to Sewa president, Arun Kankani, Charity Navigator's President and CEO Michael Thatcher said, "This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Sewa International, Inc., apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."

Congratulating Sewa on attaining the coveted rating, Mr. Thatcher noted, "This is our highest possible rating and indicates that your organization adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way". As per Mr. Thatcher, attaining a 4-star rating verifies that we exceed industry standards and outperform most charities in our area of work. Only 21% of the charities received at least four consecutive 4-star evaluations, which indicates that Sewa outperforms most other charities in America. In the "Financial" and "Accountability and Transparency" categories, we received a perfect 100 score.



## NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ramesh Bhutada (Chairman)
- Sridhar Talanki (Director)
- Sarojini Gupta (Director)
- Ajay Singhal (Director)
- Dr.Suresh Jain (Director)

## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

- Prof. Radheshyam Dwivedi
- Manohar Shinde
- Dr.Mukesh Goel
- Sachin Kulkarni
- Arti Gehani
- Avdhesh Agarwal

## FORMER PRESIDENTS

- Srikanth Konda
- Gautam Desai
- Prof. Sree Sreenath

## NATIONAL ADVISORS

- Amit Misra
- Dhiren Shah
- Girish Mehta
- Saumitra Gokhale
- Srinarayan Chandak
- Yashwant Pathak
- Venkatesh Murthy
- Shyam Parande

# Sewa International NATIONAL TEAM 2022

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

- Arun Kankani, President
- Venkat Santhanaraman, VP Finance
- Ashwani Garg, VP Administration
- Syam Kosigi, VP Organisation
- Sandeep Khadkekar, VP Marketing Fund Development
- Anil Deshpande, VP Technology Services
- Swadesh Katoch, VP Int. Pgm & Disaster Relief
- Kirthi Jain, Director of Finance and Control
- Viswanath Koppaka, Director of Marketing
- Vidyasagar Tontalapur, Director of Communications
- Vasudev Singh, Director of Grants
- Gopakumar Krishnapillai, Director of Donor Relations
- Amitabh Sharma, Director of Strategic Partnerships
- Rakhi Israni, Director of Public Relations
- Prem Pusuloori, Director of Projects & Programs
- Rakesh Pathak, Director of IT Operations
- Bhaskar Enaganti, Director of Technology
- Mitesh Rathore, Director of Admin
- Swarup Kurella, North East Region Director
- Vikas Arora, South East Region Director
- Prasad Koranne, Central Region Director
- Guru Prasad, West Region Director

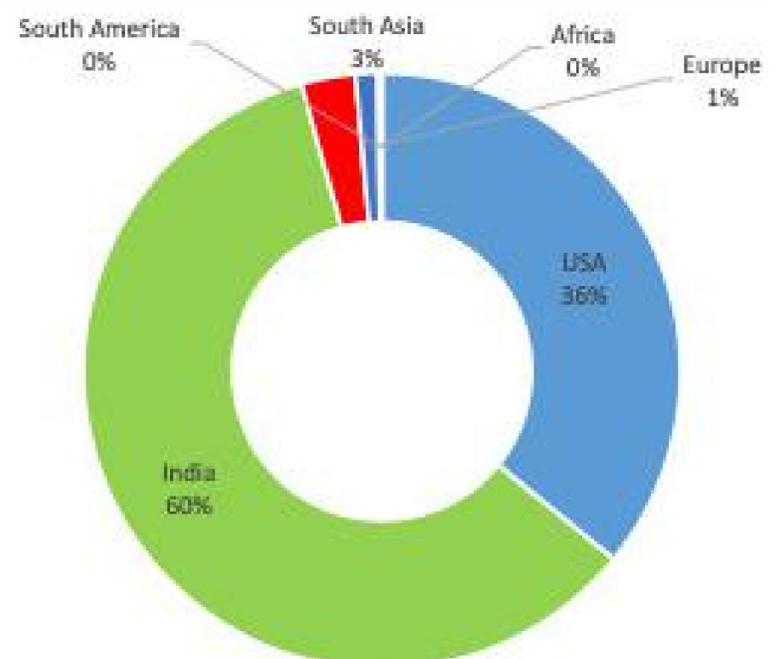
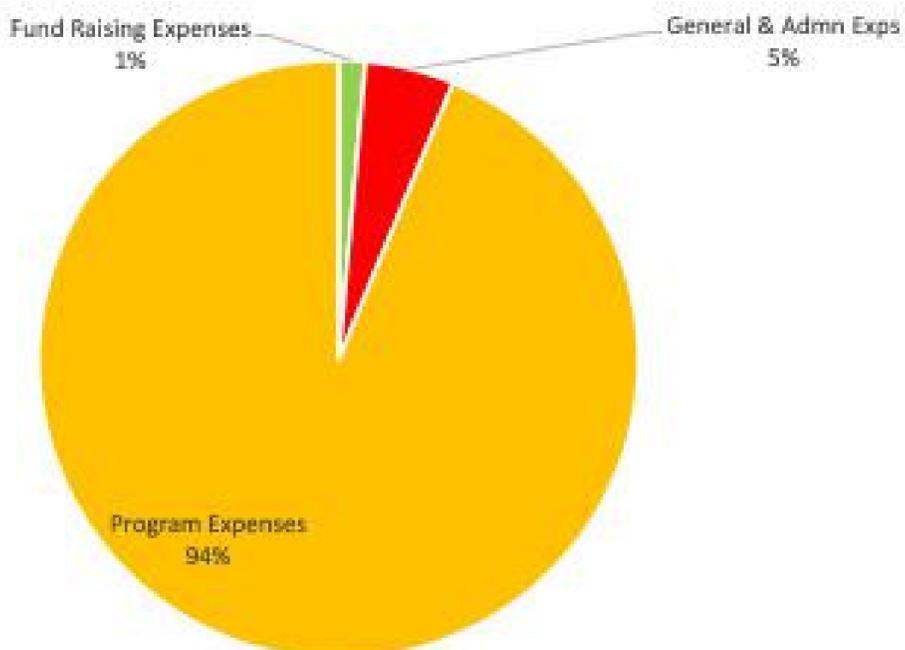
# FINANCIAL REPORT -2022 (UNAUDITED)

## BALANCE SHEET

Opening Fund balance(Net of liabilities) : \$28,774,404  
 Closing Fund balance (Net of liabilities) : \$23,384,289

## INCOME STATEMENT

Income	:	\$6,319,500
In Kind Donations	:	\$1,793,034
Total Income	:	\$8,112,534
Expenses		
.....		
Fund Raising Expenses	:	\$138,931
General & Admn Exps	:	\$466,082
Program Expenses	:	\$9,079,836
.....		
Total Expenses	:	\$9,684,849

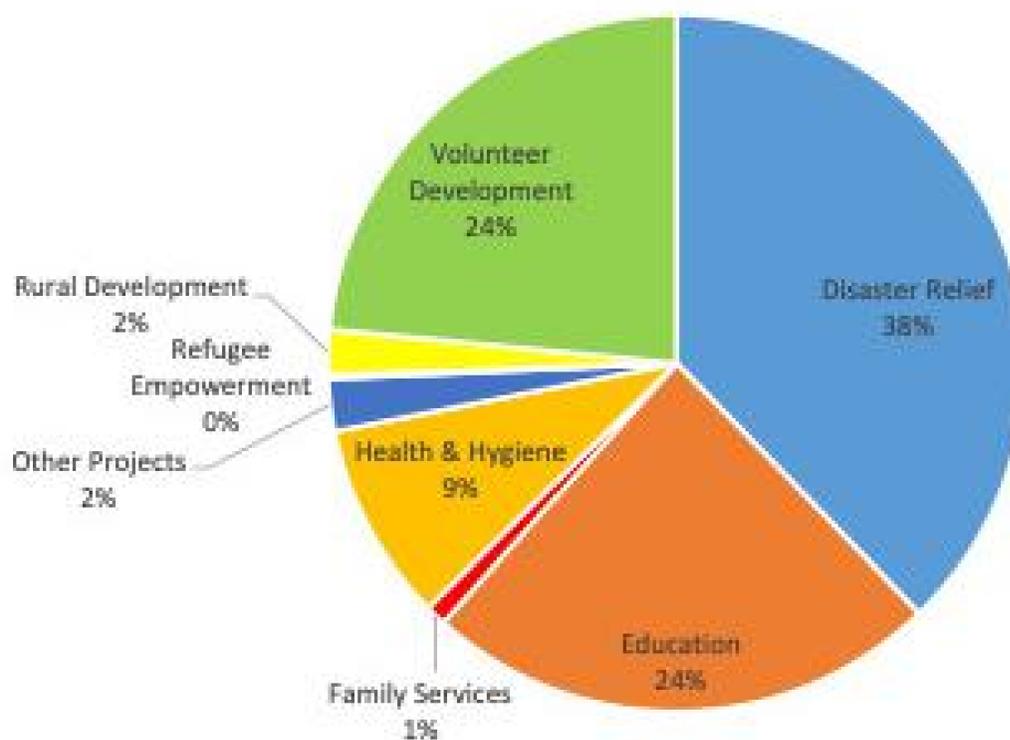


## PROGRAM EXPENSES BY COUNTRY

USA	:	\$3,257,615
India	:	\$5,427,106
South Asia	:	\$266,521
Europe	:	\$107,492
South America	:	10,686
Africa	:	10,416
<b>TOTAL</b>	:	<b>\$9,079,836</b>

## PROGRAM EXPENSES BY THEME

Disaster Relief (COVID 19)	:	\$3,426,658
Education	:	\$2,170,449
Family Services	:	\$87,679
Health & Hygiene	:	\$839,346
Other Projects	:	\$220,624
Refugee Empowerment	:	\$15,729
Rural Development	:	\$191,113
Volunteer Development	:	\$2,128,238
<b>TOTAL</b>	:	<b>\$9,079,836</b>





## Sewa International USA

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[www.sewausea.org](http://www.sewausea.org)