



## Asha & You How can you help?

### Join Central NJ chapter

Volunteer your time! We meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. Join Asha Central NJ mailing list and be an informed supporter.

### Donate to Asha

Make a tax-deductible donation. Double your donation if your company matches donations. **United Way accepts Asha donations.** You can also donate a car, computer or book subscription.

### Support a Project

The Asha Stars program allows a few individuals to take responsibility for a specific project.

### Get Involved with Projects in India

Visit a project in India. You can also volunteer in India. For details visit [www.ashanet.org/centralnj/projects](http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj/projects)

### Shop for Asha

Buy Asha merchandise (calendars, T-shirts, handmade cards, etc). Also, when you shop at stores like Amazon.com, a portion of the revenues can go to Asha.

### Help with Events

Volunteer your time during our events. Be a **Marathoner** or spread the word. Visit [www.ashanet.org/centralnj/events/marathon](http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj/events/marathon) It's a lot of fun, and all for a good cause.

For more information visit  
<http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj>



## Donate to Asha for Education

Your contributions can make an enormous difference to hundreds of poor children in India. Donate to Asha CNJ by completing this donor form.

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All contributions are 100% tax exempt. We will mail you the receipt.

Write checks payable to:  
Asha for Education  
Mail checks to:  
1308, Centennial Ave., Suite 117,  
Piscataway, NJ 08854

\_\_\_\$500 \_\_\_\$250 \_\_\_\$100 Other\$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Subscribe to the Asha, C NJ newsletter via

Email

Snail Mail

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Donate Online at  
<http://www.ashanet.org/centralni/>



## To catalyze socio-economic change in India through education of underprivileged children

Asha for Education is an international non-profit organization committed to providing access to basic education for underprivileged children in India.



Central New Jersey (CNJ) chapter

Web: <http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj>

Email: [centralnj@ashanet.org](mailto:centralnj@ashanet.org)

1308, Centennial Ave., Suite 117,  
Piscataway, NJ 08854.

### Call us:

Joydeep Acharya (C) 732 331 4931  
Chandana Pairla (C) 908 531 0596

## Objectives of Asha

- To provide education to underprivileged children in India.
- To encourage the formation of local groups, in India and abroad, and reach out to larger sections of the population.
- To support and cooperate with persons and groups already engaged in similar activities.
- To provide opportunities to individuals outside India to participate in developmental activities in India.
- To address, whenever possible, other issues affecting human life such as health care, environment, socio-economic and women's issues.

## Some Facts about Asha

- Founded at UC Berkeley in 1991, it has grown to more than 66 chapters across the world including chapters in Singapore, Australia, Canada, Zurich, London and Eleven major cities in India.
- The chapters are made up of more than a 1000 active volunteers including professionals and students.
- Currently Asha supports over 385 projects in India that directly impact more than 15,500 children.
- Total disbursement of over \$4 million in 12 yrs and over a million in 2002 alone; the average size of project support is in the range of \$4,500 to \$5,500.

## Projects supported by Asha CNJ

Visit [www.ashanet.org/centralnj/projects](http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj/projects)

### *Mathru Educational Trust for Blind, Karnataka*

Mathru provides education to blind children and prepares them to live a fulfilled life. Since the students are from poor families from rural/semi-urban areas, food and health care is provided. In order to build self-confidence and life skills of the children, they have music, art and drama academy along with sports. Mathru also serves the community at large by conducting eye, medical, dental and blood donation camps. Asha CNJ is funding for most of its infrastructure like hostel, library & Braille transcription center.

### *Guria, Shivdaspur, Varanasi, U. P.*

The school, for children of prostitutes, was started in 1994. Deprived of a stable environment at home, most of the children do not go to school, are early dropouts or are not enrolled in local schools because of stigmatization and discrimination. Guria provides the education, support and confidence they so desperately need. At present the classes for about 100 children between the ages of 4 and 14, are conducted on an open patch of bare ground. Asha CNJ has provided funds to build a three-room schoolhouse with provision for a medical dispensary, counseling center and library.

### *Projects supported by Asha:*

- Are not affiliated with any political or religious groups.
- Are evaluated, funded and monitored for performance and impact, by on-site visits by volunteers.

## Events Conducted by Asha CNJ

<http://www.ashanet.org/centralnj/events.shtml>

### Indian Cultural Shows

We conducted a music and dance extravaganza featuring the group SurBahaar on October 2002. There was extensive TV/Radio/Newspaper coverage targetting over 10,000 Indians in NJ/NYC

### Marathon

A marathon is 26.2 miles or 42 km run. But with Asha CNJ's 5 month training schedule conducted by the best professional coaches in NJ, you can not only achieve this feat, but also go on to raise money for the noble cause of educating the underprivileged kids in India. First time started in 2003, 10 runners raised over \$30,000. All of them were first time runners who went on to actually complete the marathon

### Quiz

Asha CNJ organized the quiz in 2003, 2004 and 2005. The quiz which is targeted both for young adults and adults and is well known in the east coast for novelty, excitement and fun.

### Benefit Gala Dinner

On March 2005, Asha organized a benefit gala dinner and panel discussion about Universal Quality Education and invited prominent social workers and corporate people. The assemblyman Mr. Chivukula was our chief guest