

MISSION STATEMENT

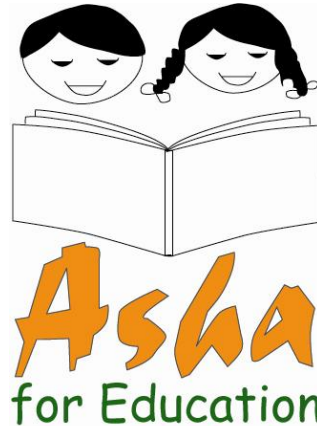
To catalyze socio-economic change in India through the education of underprivileged children.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Asha is a volunteer organization. Here is how you can get involved in the effort.

- Spare a couple of hours every month, come by our meetings or call us and take upon responsibilities that interest you -- monitoring projects, fundraising activities, corporate publicity.
- Become a **Project Steward** by taking personal interest in a particular project and making a long term commitment. Connecting with the children on a direct and personal basis is extremely rewarding!
- Join our **Team Asha** Marathon program. Join us on Saturday mornings in the Philadelphia area with our coach to run either the full or half-marathon in the Philadelphia Marathon in November.
- Participate in annual **Work An Hour** programs and contribute an hour's worth of your salary. Read more about this year's campaign on www.workanhour.com.
- Be a part of **Support a Child** program and bear the expenses of child's education through monthly contributions. You will receive periodic reports about the child's progress.
- Buy **Asha Merchandise**: T-shirts, diwali diyas, ceramic coffee mugs, calendars, and much more! and more! Merchandise can be bought online too.

All donations to Asha for Education in the United States are tax-deductible under IRS Section 501(c) 3. Asha for Education maintains near zero overheads and as a result, 100% of donations are sent directly to projects in India. Asha for Education is a global non-profit organization with no religious or political affiliations.



Asha for Education
Philadelphia Chapter

www.ashanet.org/philadelphia

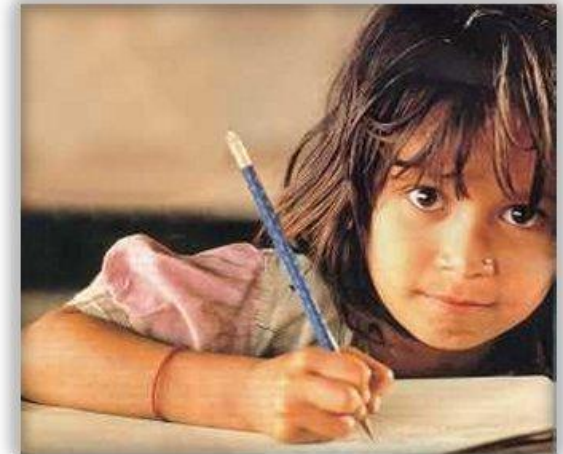
CONTACT US

Address:

Asha for Education Philadelphia
C/o Lavanya Madhusudan
3820 Locust Walk Box 176
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Phone: (248) 719 2063

Email: Philadelphia@ashanet.org



*Our Hearts...
Their Minds...
One Hope*

***Asha
for
Education***

Philadelphia Chapter

www.ashanet.org/philadelphia

Asha for Education

Asha for Education ("Asha" for short) is a global, voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to socio-economic change in India through the education of underprivileged children. In pursuit of this goal, Asha primarily focuses on education in the belief that education is a critical requisite for socio-economic change. We partner with project groups that are secular, apolitical and have an education-related component to them.

In the summer of 1991, a group of students at the University of California in Berkeley decided to found a group based on the belief that education was a critical requirement for social and economic change in India. They created a group based on this belief, and named it **Asha**, signifying the hope that they aimed to bring into the lives of children in India.

Today, Asha has more than 1000 volunteers across over 60 chapters worldwide. Since its inception, Asha has supported more than 400 different projects in many states of India. In terms of project funding, close to \$8 million have been disbursed to these projects since Asha's inception.

Asha chapters in North America



Philadelphia Chapter

Asha Philadelphia was initially started in the summer of 2001 by University of Pennsylvania undergraduates with a vision to bring about change. We organize several events involving university students and the greater Philadelphia region volunteers to help raise funds and spread awareness for the support of educational projects in India.

Some of our events include the annual online Work an Hour campaign, Basketball Tournaments, talent shows, potluck dinners and workshops, all to raise awareness and funds for our cause!

Our Projects

AASRA SEWA SANSTHAN

Asha works with Aasra Sewa Sansthan to bring education to the children of the marginalized communities in the village near Varanasi. The main goal is to facilitate the social progress of the marginalized communities in Varanasi by providing access to education. At present this community deprived access to education. Secondary goals are to make the community free of intoxicants and end the practice of child marriage.

ASHA SAMAJIK VIDYALAYA

Asha Samajik Vidyalaya was started in December 2005 by an Asha volunteer with the objective of initiating the process of education among the Mushar and Chamar communities in a tola (hamlet) called Gonwara, in Samastipur district, Bihar. These Dalit communities are landless and most of them including children below the age of 14 work in brick kilns. Total population of this tola is about 300. The major issues are untouchability, exploitation, poverty, illiteracy and consequent lack of awareness.

This project has identified education as one of the ways to empower these communities and bring them into the mainstream of society.

Please visit www.ashanet.org/philadelphia to find out about our current events! Donations can also be made at this site.

Team Asha

You pledge to run for Asha's cause. We will see you through the finish line. Simply sign up for our marathon training program. We provide coaching, motivation and support to people who want to run or walk an official marathon or half marathon. All we ask for in return is a pledge to raise funds for educational projects in India that Asha sponsors.

This program has become a key fundraiser for Asha through its various chapters over the last few years. And as you give back to society, you will join hundreds of other professionals in the region who realized their athletic ambitions.

Who can join Team Asha?

- Just about anyone who wants to run a marathon or half. In the past, Team Asha runners have included doctors, lawyers, techies, students and stay-at-home moms. There have been people with little or no prior running experience as well as marathon veterans.
- One does not have to be an accomplished athlete, or at peak fitness level to join the team. In fact, over 80% of Team Asha runners are new to running or any form of endurance sports.
- Roughly 40% of Team Asha runners are women
- They have been 22 to 45 years old.
- And almost everyone who sticks with the program makes it to the finish line. The track record: A success rate of more than 99 percent for athletes who completed the program.