



# VISION



Asha-Toledo Presents:

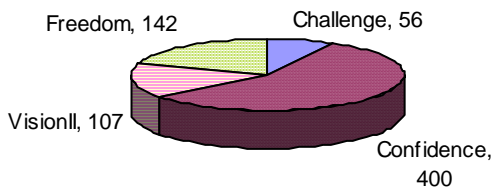


Annual Fund Raising Event

(22nd July 2006)



## People Benefited by Asha-Toledo



Prospective project: Dnyanada



Teaching in Sign Language

### Project: Challenge

(Location: Dharmapuri– Tamilnadu)

Dharmapuri is in southern part of India; home to some of the poorest of people. The "Rotary Vivekananda School for The Deaf" is a non-profit school; established with the help of the Rotary Club aims at providing basic education and vocational

training to children with hearing or speech disabilities.

As most school is for deaf-mute children, Asha-Toledo has provided "group hearing aids" to enhance the quality of education impact. This tool is equipped with individual earphones, microphone and a volume control meter for each student and one teacher. Each set benefits eight students.

Looking at the performance success of the 2 sets sent earlier; Asha-Toledo has sent remaining 4 new sets in May-2006.

### A Thought for a Change

As time passes by, the world ages  
 And things become less cherished  
 A tree which once stood proudly  
 Now lies withered and old  
 Swaying in the slightest zephyr  
 A stately and illustrious lion  
 Who was once the king  
 Lies now in shame, prideless And isolated

The human race, once tolerant and  
 Empathetic is now thoughtless and unforgiving

We have aged in the realm  
 of the emotionless time  
 Our earth was once a sanctuary for life  
 But time has made it so that  
 Conflict, and agony can be seen everywhere  
 A mother struggling to feed  
 Her hungry children  
 A lonely abandoned child  
 Caught in the web of a perilous emotion  
 An injured animal, vulnerable  
 And unable to move  
 We must change this

By making Earth a heaven for life  
 Once again, but to do that  
 We need to help another do the same  
 And one day we will all accomplish that  
 And earth will be a place which only  
 Become even more priceless as time passes by  
 And it will be illuminated by the radiance of God,  
 So help us, for the fight for humanity  
 Is one which will never age.

- Lakshmi Varanasi

(A 12 yr girl from Michigan)

Visit: <http://www.ashanet.org/projects/project-view.php?p=679>

**Project Coordinator:**

**Sarnath Santhanam:** [sarnath\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:sarnath_s@yahoo.com)

### **Project: Dnyanada**

(Location: Pune, Maharashtra)

A site visit to the proposed *Dnyanada project* in Narayangaon, Pune district (Maharashtra) was done by one of our volunteers in March 2006. He visited the two schools of the "Dnyanada Shikshan Mandal", one in Narayanaon itself and the other further ahead in Alma.

This project has been divided into two phases:



The school at Narayangaon is only for girls. It is from class 5 to class 10, no fee is taken from these girls. Recently, a private company donated a building for the school. Though there are laboratories in the school building, there is no infrastructure or equipments to perform experiments. So, as phase I of this project Asha Toledo will provide funds to equip the labs with the necessary instruments.

### **Phase II: Alma Residential School**

(Location: Alma; Maharashtra)



Alma is a very small tribal village; one hour further ahead from Narayangaon where there is another school. It is a residential school specially started for the local children of the tribal population

in and around Alma. Around 450 students are enrolled presently from class 1 to class 10. There are currently 2 school buildings and the children sleep at night and study during the day in the same rooms. They do not have separate residential facilities. Alma being a very wild area is quite densely populated with animals, hence for the safety of the children there should be proper toilet facilities. Recently, a toilet block for the girls has been constructed, boys still have to go in the open. As phase II of this project, Asha Toledo will raise funds to help the organization build two separate dormitories for the girls and boys. Also a separate toilet block for the boys near the school building.

*A detailed site visit report and photographs are available on the web-site.*

#### **Visit:**

<http://ashanet.org/toledo/Dnyanada.htm>

#### **Project Coordinator:**

**Pallavi Kulkarni:**

pgiyer16@gmail.com

### **Project-"Confidence"**

This project is divided into two areas. Both projects are executed along with Bhaghvatula Charitable Trust (BCT). ([www.bctindia.net](http://www.bctindia.net))

#### **Part I: AHAR** (Academy of Humans As Resources)

(Location: Visakhapatnam – AP)



This institute will train about 400 youth living in nearby villages of Visakhapatnam and enable them to sustain themselves with self-reliance. The courses have been planned based on the fact that they are in demand as observed by BCT and it can be learned in a short

span of time. This institute will be inaugurated on June 26,2006.

With the help of Toledo Rotary Foundation and an anonymous donor, equipments needed for the two courses dress making and electrical maintenance are being currently purchased under the supervision of Rotary club of Waltair and Dr. Shakila Shaik. The good news is collaboration of BCT with National Academy of Construction (**NAC** - [www.nac.edu.in](http://www.nac.edu.in)). This will help the construction courses like carpentry, electrical maintenance and repairs, masonry etc to get certificates on completion which would be recognized by the government and would assist them to getting jobs or start their own small business or assist in micro-financing.

More funds are available and talks are on the way to also begin other courses like horticulture, bakery etc.

Asha Toledo is thankful to Toledo Rotary Foundation, Anonymous donor; Rotary Club of Waltair, Dr. Shakila Shaik, National Academy of Construction and many more for their efforts in making this institute a success.

#### **Part II: Vision II**

(Location: Vishakhapatnam-AP)

This project has been taken up in collaboration with *Purdue chapter of Asha for Education*. The first part of the project aims at providing acrylic lenses to increase the vision capacity of more than 65 girls studying at the Government Residential Blind School. Dr. Satapathy of Rotary Netara, has voluntarily performed routine check-ups and has ordered the acrylic lenses which are custom made. During the next month they will be made available to the girls, followed by checkups on a monthly basis for few months and then every six months.



The second part involves making tactile books. So far, these books were hand made and it took about 2 months of meticulous work to make each book. Software for printing tactile books (**DUXBURY and TGD software from Freedom Scientific** ([www.freedomscientific.com](http://www.freedomscientific.com)) is donated by **HSBC bank**. Braille printer and paper is provided by the government. During the next three months, 40 tactile books will be made, and a teacher will be trained for printing these books. Vocational center will be built at a later stage (approx. after 4 months).

**Visit:**  
<http://www.ashanet.org/toledo/confidence.htm>

**Project Coordinator:**  
**Binal S** - binalshah2002@yahoo.com

**Project: Freedom**  
(Location: Thiruvallur, Tamilnadu)

Asha Toledo in collaboration with Bharathi Trust (Chennai) aims at establishing a Child Friendly Center which will serve as prep-School for mainstreaming the children from the

**Confidence**

*In a challenge to eliminate the depression  
Caused by below the line poverty  
And stated negligence by the community  
And realistic discretion by the society  
There comes the light of confidence  
From within the soul of life  
That has the ability to penetrate  
The strongest and obscure situations  
And set the motion of walk in free state.*

*This should be the definition of living  
This should be the term of understanding  
For all those who are in self puzzlement  
About their ability to sail thru the hardships*

**- Srikanth Pilla**

freed bonded laborers' families. At present, there are around 175 such children in Thiruvallur district, Tamilnadu. The prep school intends to basic education like counting, reading alphabets, craft work, etc.

During the month of May, Asha sent \$7000 (donated by Prasad Family Foundation) to start with the construction of school building. Tamilnadu government has provided the land area for prep school. The next phase of this project will involve construction of the building, recruitment of teachers and purchase of necessary books and other educational supplies.

<http://www.ashanet.org/projects/project-view.php?p=591>

**Project Coordinators:**  
**Gayathri Ramasubramanian** – [gayathri.rsharma@yahoo.com](mailto:gayathri.rsharma@yahoo.com)  
**Raj Gosavi**– [raj2ad@yahoo.com](mailto:raj2ad@yahoo.com)

**Performers:**

**Rohan Krishnamurthy & group**– A Rhythmic Exploration (Indian, African & Jazz Music)

**Prasad & group from OSU**– Indo-Western music fusion

**S.V.Krishnan & group**– Traditional Indian music

**Ezhil Nachiappan**- Dance

**Venue:**

**Recital Hall, Centre for Performing arts, The University of Toledo**  
**Date: July 22 at 5:30 pm**



Tickets available at Krishna Groceries, Reddy's, Deepam & Tandoor (or) online: [ashanet.org/toledo/](http://ashanet.org/toledo/)  
Contact: Pallavi (419-283-3025)/ Ganeshj (699-2904)

**Ticket: \$5 for student; \$7 for non-student**

**Sponsors: College of engineering; Department of Theatre, Department of Music & Department of Women and Gender Studies**

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**Valid until July 22, 2006**

**Newsletter Editor:** Preshit Gawade (419-973-3967) **Chapter Coordinator:** Pallavi Kulkarni (419-283-3025)

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