



Asha for Education
Bringing hope through education

Presents

WORK AN HOUR - 2007

What is Work an Hour?

Work an Hour, or WAH, as it is popularly known, is an annual summer-long, online fundraising campaign based on a simple concept: Participants are asked to symbolically Work an Hour towards the cause of children's education by donating an hour's worth or more of their salary. The event begins on July 4 and concludes on September 5, which is celebrated as Teachers' Day in India. By engaging in this simple yet enormously important act – you can help effect positive change for children in India.

This Year's Theme: Better Schools. Better Retention Rates. Decreased Child Labor.

Why Work an Hour?

As India passes 60 years of Independence, millions of children in India still lack adequate access to basic education, thus leading to a continued cycle of poverty, and other social ills such as child labor. **Asha for Education**, a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization, seeks to catalyze socio-economic change in India, primarily through the education of underprivileged children. By participating in *Work an Hour*, you can make a direct and positive impact.

Fast facts:

- 42 million children in the age-group 6-14 years do not attend school in India (UNICEF)
- One-third of the population or nearly 300 million people in the age group 7 years and above are still illiterate in India. (UNICEF)
- An estimated 14% of the child population in India between the ages of 5-14 years of age participates in child labor. (UNICEF)

Where is Work an Hour?

ANYWHERE! – This is a global event, donations can be made anywhere online at: www.workanhour.com!

When is Work an Hour?

NOW!

Who benefits from Work an Hour?

This year, Asha for Education has chosen 11 projects that will receive donations from the Work and Hour campaign. Asha's project partners chosen for WAH support typically require larger sums of money than what a single Asha chapter can raise, in order to facilitate fixed expenditure on items such as infrastructure, construction and other one-time costs and recurring expenses.

All Asha projects are closely monitored by Asha project coordinators to ensure that the funds are being properly utilized and the proposed benefits are actually being realized by the children in the project.

The following paragraphs (continued on the back side) contain brief descriptions of these projects. More information can be found at: www.workanhour.com.

Assam Center for Rural Development (ACRD)

Location: Kampur, Assam

In the 1990's, ACRD opened two schools in the Kampur district to target agricultural child laborers. Both schools tend to the various educational needs of over 370 students. Past Asha for Education support has helped to pay for teachers' salaries and to construct the school buildings

Aralu Belaku

Location: Bidar, Karnataka

Aralu's "Prasanthi Kuthir" is a residential home for about 25 children between the ages of 4 to 10 who may be orphans, abandoned or victims of child labor. Aralu Belaku not only takes the children to a nearby government school but also provides a tutor at the residential home who further helps the children in their studies.

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Who benefits (Continued)

Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha (BTS)

Location: Kultali Islands, West Bengal

BTS is seeking to enroll every child in each of the six island villages of Kultali Islands into its creative and science based school. Founded in 1983, the school currently teaches over 200 children.

Institute of Social Work Primary Education Project (ISW) Location: Kolkata, West Bengal

ISW has two schools – one (Kiddipore) provides vocational training to over 50 destitute girls as well as school dropouts. The other (Barasat), is a transit school that helps over 300 dropouts from government schools reenter the educational system

Khajurdaha Nabankur United Club - LTTO

Location: Hugli, West Bengal

The Learn Together Teach Other program of Khajurdaha Nabankur United Club teaches children of agrarian families living below the poverty line. The project covers an area of 30 villages, and provides for basic education of children to help fight child labor.

Needy Illiterate Children Education (NICE)

Location: Narasaraopet, Andhra Pradesh

In many rural communities in India, government schools often do not offer a proper standard of education or vocational training. NICE provides a residential school around the Mynampadu Village for children who dropout from government schools.

Sankalp Welfare Society

Location: Gurgaon, Haryana

Gurgaon has seen a large influx of migratory workers, who's children often do not receive education. Sankalp created a free, non-formal school that provides education, nutrition, medical facilities and clothing to children of migratory workers.

Team for Education and Action (TEA Trust)

Location: Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu

TEA Trust's school caters to over 150 children from grades 1 to 6, and targets children of nearly 5000 families who migrate to this village to work in the brick kilns.

Timbaktu Collective

Location: Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh

Timbaktu Collective, a voluntary organization, started an alternative education program that targets the school dropout children of poor farmers who help their families tend to farming. The program consists of a day school in each of six villages and a residential school.

To Reach You (TRY)

Location: Chennai, Tamil Nadu

In the burgeoning metropolis of Chennai, commercial sex workers often have to leave their children unattended. Many of these children do not go to school and are left to either on the streets of the slums or they fall victim to child labor. TRY has created a home for 12 of these children and provides counseling and vocational training to the mothers

Vikasana Bridge School for Child Labour Rehabilitation, Location: Shimoga, Karnataka

Vikasana is a bridge school that caters to a cluster of 10 villages in Shimoga district in Karnataka. Many people have migrated to the area for work, and the children often have to work alongside the parents. The Vikasana bridge school helps such children to catch up with their education and transition into formal schools.

An hour is all takes, to start making a difference.

All donations to Asha for Education are 100% tax deductible under IRS code section 501(c)3.

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