



Presents
Work An Hour (WAH) 2008
July 15 - September 15
WAH 2008 theme: Empowering rural India. One child at a time.

What is Work an Hour?

Each year, people from around the world come together in a demonstration of great human spirit, to help educate underprivileged children in India.

Work an Hour, or WAH, as it is popularly known, is a summer-long, global, 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. This year the event begins on July 15th and concludes on September 15th with Indian Independence on August 15th as a critical milestone.

WAH Facts

The 1st WAH campaign started in 1998 and raised over \$30,000 with close to 700 donors. The 10th WAH campaign in 2007 raised over \$140,000 with close to 2,000 donors world-wide.

WAH Projects

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.

2008 WAH projects were chosen with an emphasis on rural upliftment.

India -With a Population of 1.1 billion

With 70% residing in rural India

A Dream called India lives not in cities but its seven hundred thousand villages

With A dream of a future

A dream for a smile that lives in every child

The following paragraphs contain brief description of the 2008 projects. More information can be obtained by clicking the projects tab on the above-mentioned webpage.

1. Asha Samajik Vidyalaya

Location: Mahe, Samastipur, Bihar.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Philadelphia

Asha Samajik Vidhyalaya was started by Manoj Kumar, an Asha for Education volunteer in 2005 to initiate the process of education amongst the mushar and chamar community in Gonwara. Child labor is dominant in brick kilns in the region with untouchability, exploitation, poverty, illiteracy and consequent lack of awareness plaguing the community. The vision that Manoj brought to the community was to use education as a tool for initiating a social movement whereby empowering such marginalized communities. The center acts as a bridge school to integrate children into the government schools.

Your contribution through WAH: Support the teacher salaries and other education related material including books, uniforms, health camp for children and other reoccurring expenses. **Budget:** \$5,235 USD

2. Balia Gram Unnayan Samity

Location: Hoogly District, West Bengal.

Supporting Asha Chapter: UIUC

Balia Gram Unnayan Samity (BGUS) was formally established in 1979 and is based in Balia village of West Bengal with ten centers in the neighboring villages. It works in diverse spheres encompassing education, health, sanitation, nutrition, income generation, agriculture and environment among the underprivileged in the Haripal Block of Hooghly district.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable funding the construction of the reading room/ computer center and additional money will go into re-construction/ infrastructure development of two pre primary schools.

Budget: \$29,850 USD

Do you want to contribute? You are one click away!!!

www.workanhour.org



3. Gram Vikas Trust - Balwadi Project

Location: Bharuch, Bharuch District, Gujarat.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Dallas

In the drought prone coastal community of Bharuch district, the population is primarily dependent on farming and consequently yearly monsoons. In absence of conducive environmental conditions, the farmers are forced to migrate to nearby areas to work in mines and factories. The direct result is high drop out rates from schools and low literacy rates. This is where Gram Vikas Trust comes into the picture with the goal enhancing self development, action and empowerment through education.

Your contribution through WAH: Help with construction of Balwadi on Lakhigam and provides for basic furniture and education toys for the children. **Budget:** \$11,675 USD

4. Jeevan Gnanodaya

Location: Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Cornell and Atlanta

The focus at Jeevan Gnanodaya is children with hearing impairment. Over the last two decades, the organization has identified children with acute hearing and provided them with hearing aids & other learning materials; the need for formal education at the center is addressed through speech therapy. Currently, through an initiative along the lines of ITI, Jeevan Gnanodaya has helped students graduate with vocational skill set, making them highly competitive & widened their spectrum of choices to include employment in factories with better remuneration.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable funding for furniture at their facility & a van to shuttle their students to the ITI training center. **Budget:** \$15,825 USD

5. Jeevan Sadhana Vidya Niketan, Shanti Sadhana Ashram

Location: Shantivan, Guwahati, Kamrup District, Assam.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Irvine

Jeevan Sadhana Vidya Niketan is the educational wing of Shanti Sadhana Ashram & has been active in the Tribal areas of Assam since 1989. Marginalized as these communities are, poverty is rampant & literacy rate is a paltry 20% or less. Most people in this area migrate for employment. Children in particular become embroiled in an undesirable situation, are forced into labor and in time, it becomes difficult to extricate them from this mire since they miss school for extended duration & get left behind by their peers in formal schools.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable construction of the two schools in Uloni and Dikchak. **Budget:** \$8,895.00 USD

6. Kaorakhali Jana Sevashram

Location: South Twenty Four Parganas District, West Bengal.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Minnesota

Kaorakhali Jana Sevashram (KJSA) was established with a view to providing education to the children of the village Kaorakhali. The schools run by KJSA provide pre-primary education without which a number of children would find entrance to government primary schools an insurmountable task. Pre-primary education instills a love for learning in the children and provides them with an introduction to reading, writing and arithmetic. KJSA are the only such institution available in that area.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable funding for ongoing efforts in fulfilling the organization's short term and long term goals. **Budget:** \$12,000 USD

7. Mandra Lions Club

Location: Puruliya District, West Bengal.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Stanford

Mandra Lions Club (MLC) was a youth group that has been involved in many projects related to the betterment of socio-economic issues faced by the community, education of children in remote and rural. MLC had become a representative of the West Bengal Education Network (WBEN) as well as National Alliance for the Fundamental Rights to Education (NAFRE).

Your contribution through WAH: Enable funding for ongoing efforts in fulfilling the organization's short term and long term goals. **Budget:** \$10,630 USD

8. Mukti

Location: Sundarbans, West Bengal.

Supporting Asha Chapter: NYC/NJ

For Sundarban, crippling economic hardship is their primary hurdle for neither do the communities reap more than one crop a year nor do they find accessible markets for their produce. Obvious side effects of being financially challenged such as absence of any health care facilities within a 3 to 4 hour radius & access to education are quite evident. This is where Mukti (Freedom) comes into play.

Your contribution through WAH: Provide a much needed library to house the book bank. This building will also serve as a place for students to study and provide resources for adults in health & agriculture. **Budget:** \$15,625 USD



9. Ratanmani Vidyalaya

Location: South Tripura District, Tripura.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Canada

Ratanmani Vidyalaya provides non-formal education for the dropout and non-school going children in and around Baishnabpur, Sabroom Subdivision of South District of Tripura. This school was recognized by the state government as a formal primary education school.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable construction of an additional building for the school and further expansion of hostel facilities for the children. **Budget:** \$9,050USD

10. Sanatan Rishikul Ashram Seva Trust (SRISHTI)

Location: Sambalpur, Sambalpur District, ORISSA, Tripura.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Cleveland

SRISHTI serves the underprivileged Kissan, Munda and Oram tribes living within reserve forest area. SRISHTI established the first high school in the gram panchayat, environmental awareness program and brought the much needed health program to the community where malaria, tuberculosis and leprosy are rampant due to malnutrition and lack of hygiene.

Your contribution through WAH: Support the salaries, midday meals and other reoccurring expenses.

Budget: \$11,150USD

11. Shristi Special Academy

Location: Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Austin

Shristi Special Academy enables independence among the mentally challenged, developmentally delayed, and those with autism and attention deficit hyperactive disorders of all ages. Shristi's programs are characterized by personalized individual interventions for each child and a holistic approach, which includes all areas of growth and development.

Your contribution through WAH: Support the ongoing and new efforts of Shristi at the Autism Unit.

Budget: \$17,500 USD

12. Srividyaashram Nursery and Private School

Location: Papanasam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Central NJ

Srividyaashram Nursery and Private School brings quality, modern and value-based education to the much neglected rural area. The small hamlet nestles on the left bank of the River Cauvery, 21 kms from Kumbakonam on the bus route to

Thiruvaiyaru inhabited predominantly by agricultural laborers with seasonal work.

Your contribution through WAH: Enable another classroom construction. **Budget:** \$9,000 USD

13. SVYM-VTCL (Viveka Tribal Centre for Learning)

Location: Heggadadevanakote, Mysore District, Karnataka.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Boston MIT

SVYM provides health care and education to the tribals.

Your contribution through WAH: Fund the Mobile Science Lab initiative at Viveka Tribal Training Center.

Budget: \$9,823USD

14. SVYM- VTTRC (Vivekananda Teacher's Training and Research Center)

Location: Heggadadevanakote, Mysore District, Karnataka.

Supporting Asha Chapter: San Diego

SVYM provides health care and education to the tribals

Your contribution through WAH: Fund 20 Teacher Training at Vivekananda Teacher Training and Research center.

Budget: \$6,500USD

15. Vigyan Ashram - Center of Science and Technology

Location: Pabal, Pune District, Maharashtra.

Supporting Asha Chapter: Seattle

Vigyan Ashram was established on the principle of Rural Development through Education Systems (RDES) and eventually into Introduction to Basic Technology (IBT) as a means of enabling technology transfer through education. The model is currently implemented in more than 25 schools across Maharashtra.

Your contribution through WAH: This residential school needs up-gradation of its hostel facility in addition to support for teachers' remuneration & other recurring expenses for this year. **Budget:** \$34,537.80USD