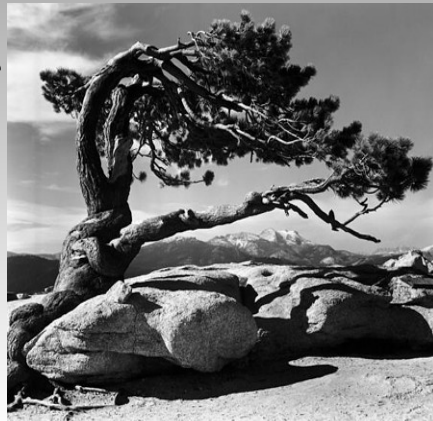


ASHRAYA

Non-Profit Organization
providing Assistance to the
Physically Challenged in
India for Education and
Income Generation



*Hey Look! The pine tree is
bending
Over the rocks like a frail old
man blessing
A burly child with his stick.*

*The 259 Anchorage Drive, whips its
back,
Aurora, IL 60504, U.S.A.
Phone: 630-851-3478
And the heat smacks its
www.ashraya.net
ashraya@ashraya.net
Shaking off crumbled leafs of
shade*

ASHRAYA ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2005

It gives me immense pleasure to present you our annual report for FY 2005, which improved upon our performance last year with a 17% increase in total funding disbursements as we continued our relationship with AIF. In addition, we also arranged for ~\$62,000 contributions towards Tsunami Relief.

I. SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY 2005

5. ASHRAYA raised funds from its donor base worth \$21,696, of which \$15,734 were project-specific contributions (as opposed to pass-through contributions). This is ~17% higher than the total funds raised in FY 2004 (\$18,522). In addition, we also received matching contributions of \$18,522 from America India Foundation on projects we funded jointly leading to a total leveraged fund raising worth \$40,218.
5. We directly funded 5 projects worth \$32,469, which is a 22% increase in the funds disbursed last year, mainly made possible by continued joint funding contributions from AIF on large scale projects. Please see Section II for details on projects funded this year; and APPENDIX 1 for the organizations we support right now as well as organizations we intend to support in FY 2006.
5. We collaborated with ARIBA (where I am employed) and AIF for a double matching program for Tsunami Disaster Relief. We also worked with ARIBA to nominate AIF as one of the four recipients of ARIBA's Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund; and with AIF to ensure that they would also match ARIBA's contribution dollar for dollar; thus effectuating 4:1 contribution leverage. ***Please note that this initiative was already in progress at the time of the FY04 annual report, but was not completed by FY 2004 year-end.*** As part of this arrangement, ARIBA contributed \$31,000 towards Tsunami Disaster Relief in March 2005 (1/4th of its employees' contributions + 100% match). With AIF's matching contribution, this led to a total contribution of \$62,000 towards Tsunami Relief; in addition to the \$6,952 we had raised on our own and donated to AIF in FY04.
5. We continued our focus on projects related to vocational training and income generation, since the latter are more sustainable and have long-lasting value. We worked actively with our beneficiary organizations in defining the goals, modalities and success metrics for such projects. We also identified and funded unique and innovative projects that did not necessarily meet our charter on helping people with disabilities, such as the Mobile Science Lab run by VidnyanVahini and VidnyanPrasarini to provide education on scientific experimentation to rural students.

5. We would like to thank Mr. D.P. Ahuja from America India Foundation (AIF) who has continued to be our patron and well-wisher. We would also like to thank Dr. Annapoorna who provide us valuable help in identifying new organizations for funding (RAWWD and GASS) and also helped us with a site visit to conduct due diligence on another new organization we funded this year (SRTISEC).

II. PROJECTS FUNDED IN FY 2005

1. **Rehabilitation Aids Workshop for Women with Disability (RAWWD), Bangalore, INDIA: Upgrading Machinery and Tools for Prosthetic Aid Production Workshop Operated by Physically Disabled Women (\$3,440):**

RAWWD's mission is to promote equality for women with disabilities. The organization seeks to provide mobility for persons with disability by producing appropriate rehabilitation devices. RAWWD was established in 1997 as an offshoot of MOBILITY INDIA, one of the largest NGOs in India focused on providing aids for people with physical disabilities. RAWWD employs 8 people (disabled women who are trained on production of prosthetic devices) with an annual budget of Rs.14.5 lakhs. The total number of beneficiaries' services to date is 8,844 persons with disabilities (6,524 males and 2,360 females) from lower economic groups.

This project involved upgrading existing machinery and tools in the Rehabilitation Aids Production Workshop that were being used in the production of prosthetic aids. The existing tools and machinery were very old and needed replacement/upgrade as soon as possible to be functional. We also added new computer technology to help run the organization effectively (maintaining accounts, managing sales and inventory, etc.). Equipment purchased included machinery for Rs. 72,373 (\$1,592), tools for Rs. 41,720 (\$918) and IT Hardware – Rs. 42,300 (\$931). The main objectives of the project were to

- a. Create self sufficiency through employment generation for trained workers (disabled women)
 - b. To provide vocational training to trainees (disabled women) to facilitate them setting up their own small prosthetic device production shops, or gain employment in organizations such as RAWWD and MOBILITY INDIA that manufacture prosthetic devices on a large scale
 - c. Provide prosthetic devices to the disabled at market prices
 - d. Provide prosthetic devices to disabled from poor economic backgrounds at or below cost
2. **Grameena Abhyudaya Seva Samasthe (GASS), Doddaballapur, Karnataka: Capital and Running Expenditure for Physical Disability Therapy & Device Repair Unit (\$3,727).**

Grameena Abhyudaya Seva Samasthe (GASS) identifies and rehabilitates persons with all types of disabilities based in rural areas and integrate them into the mainstream of life. GASS was set up in 1996 to ensure that persons with disabilities lead a meaningful and qualitative life with dignity. The major activities/services of GASS include (1) Home based program to provide therapeutic intervention and training on daily living skills for persons with various disabilities (e.g. physical, mental, speech & hearing), as well as conduct surveys to identify new persons with disabilities; (2) Corrective surgeries for people with physical disabilities; (3) Medical assessment and rehabilitation device camps for people with physical and speech & hearing disabilities; and (4) Integrated education programs for the children with disability. The organization provides the above services in over 200 villages in Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore District; 67 villages in Gowribidanur Taluk, Kolar District; and 60 villages in Koratigere Taluka, Tumkur District.

This project involved purchasing new equipment needed for the newly set up therapy and repair unit. The main objectives of the project were to

- a. Establish a therapy and prosthetic devices repair unit for people with physical disabilities
 - b. Provide regular therapy to people with physical disabilities from areas of geographical coverage described above, so as to avoid extensive corrective surgeries
 - c. Provide repair and backup maintenance services for prosthetic aids and appliances, so as to avoid purchase of new devices
 - d. Continue supporting the Self-Aid groups that have been created in this region
3. **Blind Persons' Association, Ahmedabad: Vocational Training and Income Generation in Physiotherapy for the Blind (\$22,522).**

Blind Person's Association (BPA), based in Vastrapur, Ahmedabad is one of the largest NGOs in India focused on education, rehabilitation and vocational training of the blind and people with other disabilities. It was started in 1954 to provide education and rehabilitation services for the blind, and has since then expanded to provide similar services to people with other disabilities. BPA is actively supported by the Lalbhai Group, and has 228 fulltime employees, with an annual budget of Rs. 380 Lakhs. 226 beneficiaries live on premises and receive residential education. 980 beneficiaries receive integrated education; 5,750 beneficiaries receive community-based rehabilitation; 250 beneficiaries use the talking book library; and 35,000 beneficiaries annually receive assistive devices manufactured on premises by the residential inmates.

The role of physiotherapy in society is increasing day by day owing to increasing life expectancy and awareness for fitness in the larger community; leading to mushrooming growth in the number of fitness centers, nursing homes and rehab clinics. This provides increasing job opportunities for the blind since the relevant skills are not predicated on sight, and also because blind physiotherapists are more willing to serve in rural areas. BPA started its own School of Physiotherapy for the blind in 1982. It runs a two-year certificate course and one-year advance diploma course, which are recognized by the Dept. of Education, Gujarat. The course curriculum was developed on the pattern followed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, UK. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment provided the initial support for purchase of the PT equipments. 15 to 20 students per year are admitted to the certificate course that are granted the certificates by Secondary Education Board, Gujarat and are recognized by many state governments, for employment in Govt. hospitals. 300 students have graduated from this program to date and are employed beneficially. The school employs 3 permanent staff and 8 visiting faculty from reputed hospitals and schools. The PT school intends to train 15 to 20 blind/low vision candidates per year for a two year certificate course, and 20 blind/low vision candidates per year for a one year diploma course.

The physiotherapy equipment being used by the PT school was outmoded both in terms of technology and effectiveness. The recent developments and research in physiotherapy has given rise to new generation equipments, which are more customer- friendly, more effective, and auto- programmable for various patients' needs. The main objectives of the project were to

- a. To upgrade outmoded equipment with state-of-the-art PT technology; and enhance quality of education
- b. To empower blind physiotherapy candidates with better skills and increase their earning capacity (by around 25%)
- c. To facilitate employment for blind physiotherapists in government hospitals and reputed private clinics
- d. Provide physical therapy to disabled persons onsite

The project involved purchasing equipment for the PT training center worth \$19,557 and recurring (running) expenditure for 2 years worth \$2,965 (salaries for teachers and overheads). Within two years, the center is intended to breakeven by earning revenues from providing PT services through the training center. This project was jointly funded with America India Foundation (AIF) with AIF contributing \$18,522 and ASHRAYA contributing \$4,000 towards capital expenditure.

4. **Vidnyanvahini, Pune: Mobile Science Lab for rural High School Students (\$1,015).**

Most rural secondary schools have grossly inadequate science laboratories. Students often learn science without performing or even observing a single experiment. The concept of the Mobile Science Lab was pioneered by Vidnyanvahini which was started by Dr. Madhukar Deshpande, a professor in chemistry from University of Wisconsin upon retirement and return to India. Vidnyanvahini reaches out to rural school children and offers them a means of learning science through laboratory experiments. To accomplish their objective, they started a Mobile Science Lab (MSL) in 1995 and have been successfully running it since then in districts surrounding Pune. Vidnyanvahini emphasizes to students that in general, things should not be accepted as facts just because they are stated in a book. Instead, they should be verified by observations and rational conclusions drawn from such observations. The MSL conducts science experiments and displays educational videos for high school children already enrolled in rural schools. The MSL van stops at scheduled locations throughout the year to provide this complementary educational service. About 10,000 high school students and 100 teachers benefit from MSL's visits and workshops per year.

ASHRAYA supported Vidnyanvahini last year in a project in which we had purchased 3 educational video series titled "World of Chemistry", "Cycles of Life" and "Mechanical Universe", and got them dubbed into Marathi using the services of a video production agency in Mumbai. These videos are currently being used by Vidnyanvahini in its MSL operations. In FY 2005, we continued Phase II of our funding to VidnyanVahini in which we purchased 3 more series of videos from PBS and got them dubbed and recorded in Marathi.

5. **Swami Ramanand Teerth Institute for Socio-Economic Change (SRTISEC), Gulbarga, Karnataka: Mobile Science Lab for Rural High School Students (\$1,765).**

SRTISEC was recommended to us by Dr. Madhukar Deshpande from VidnyanVahini who helped the former in its inception. SRTISEC with its headquarters in Hyderabad was established in 1972 with a focus on research work and spreading scientific outlook amongst students studying in rural high schools. It has three independent units running in the three areas of Karnataka, Marathwada and Telangana of former Hyderabad state. The Karnataka branch based in Gulbarga has been functioning for 15 years. It started the Vidnyan Prasarini project in Gulbarga (Karnataka) in 2001 with the intention of running a Mobile Science Lab (MSL) that provides complementary lab-based education to rural high school students. During 2003-04, Vidnyan Prasarini covered 110 rural high schools benefiting 16,375 students, in the districts of Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, and Koppal. It has 15 employees (out of which 5 are dedicated to Vidnyan Prasarini) and an annual budget of Rs. 2 Lakhs.

ASHRAYA intends to help replicate the MSL model started by VidnyanVahini in other rural areas in India by funding MSLs run by organizations such as SRTISEC. Vidnyan Prasarini is expanding its scope which would necessitate capital expenditure on equipment and higher annual operational expenditure. This project involved purchasing equipment to upgrade the MSL (lab experiments), dubbing science videos into Kannada and supporting annual operating expenditure for the upgraded lab for 1 year. At the end of the one year, SRTISEC will start getting funds from local sources to support their annual operating expenditure.

III. FY 2005 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The table below shows ASHRAYA's revenues and expenditures for FY 2005. We raised funds worth \$21,696 (up 17% from last year), out of which organization specific contributions totaled \$3,962. We disbursed funds worth \$32,469 (up 22% from last year) towards specific projects; out of which \$18,522 (up 17% from last year) were joint funds provided by AIF.

Parameter	Value
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		(\$)
Starting Balances	2004 Year End-Balance	1,346
	Deductions for 2003 Overheads Paid for Previously by Founders	563
	2004 Year-End Balance	783
2005 Donations	Founders	8,100
	Chief Patron (2004 & 2005)	4,001
	Other Donors & Patrons	3,633
	Pass-through Donations (Organization-Specific)	5,962
	Total Donations	21,696
Match from AIF on Joint Projects	BPA - Physiotherapy Vocational Training Unit	18,522
	Total Matching Contributions	18,522
Direct Disbursements	RAWWD - Prosthetics Aids Unit	3,440
	BPA - Physiotherapy Vocational Training Unit	22,522
	GASS - Rehab Therapy Unit	3,727
	Vidnyanvahini - Mobile Science Lab Phase II	1,015
	SRTISR - Mobile Science Lab	1,765
	Total Direct Disbursements	32,469
Overhead Expenses	NJ Tax Filing 2004	50
	Ready Hosting	99
	PNC Bank Service Charges	12
	Site Visit to SRTISR (Dr. Annapoorna)	91
	Total Overhead Expenses	252
Pass-Through Disbursements	Praful Tijoriwala (to BPA)	3,962
	Uma Sridharan	2,000
	Total Pass-Through Disbursements	5,962
Final 2005 Balance		2,318

IV. THE YEAR AHEAD: Projects under Consideration for Funding

1. Vocational Training and Income Generation for the Physically Disabled on Vinyl Cutting Machines, Blind Persons Association, Ahmedabad (\$10,510)
2. Vocational Training and Income Generation for the Blind on Physical Therapy, Madhya Pradesh Blind Welfare Association, Indore (\$6,370)
3. Vocational Training and Income Generation for the Physically Disabled on Sericulture and Power Tailoring (\$4,776)

4. Vocational Training and Income Generation for the Physically Disabled on Computers and Data Processing, New Horizons Trust, Bangalore (TBD)
5. Orthotic & Prosthetics Aids Workshop for Rehabilitation of the Physically Disabled at Brethren Institute for Rural Development, Bestavarpur, AP (\$9,984)

I would like to thank all of you for your continued contributions and patronage, and here's hoping we will continue from where we left off at the end of FY 2005.

Regards and Cheers,

Vasuki Subbarao
President, ASHRAYA

APPENDIX 1: ASHRAYA Supported Beneficiary Organizations

Name of Organization	Location	Beneficiary Focus	Program Focus	Annual Budget, Rs. Lakh	Number of Beneficiaries	
					Total	On Site
Blind People's Association	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education (Residential, Integrated and CBR) Rehabilitation Vocational Training Hostel facilities 	380	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential: 226 Education: 980 CBR: 5750 Talking Books: 250 	226
Mobility India	Bangalore, Karnataka	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation Income Generation Bridge Schools 	337	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rehabilitation: 10,000 Bridge Schools: 200 Income Gen: 20 	None
Madhya Pradesh Blind Welfare Association	Indore, Madhya Pradesh	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Rehabilitation Training & Employment Low Vision Care 	124	172	160
Shakuntala Foundation	Kolar, Karnataka	Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical Camps Special Education Vocational Training 	5	25	25
Vidnyanvahini	Pune, Maharashtra	Rural Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Education through Mobile Lab 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural HS Students: 10,000 	None
NAB-Gujarat Branch	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated education Placement & Employment Braille Book Production 	90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education: 1000 Braille Books: 5,800 Employment Placement: 120 	None
Grameena Abhyudaya Seva Samasthe (GASS)	Doddaballapur	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Rehab and Therapy 	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based; 430 	None
Rehabilitation Aids Workshop for Women with Disability (RAWWD)	Bangalore, Karnataka	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manufacture of Prosthetic Aids for Physically Disabled by Disabled Women 	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8844 to date 	None
New Horizon Trust	Bangalore, Karnataka	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Training for the Physically Disabled Handicrafts made by Physically Disabled Women 	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD 	None