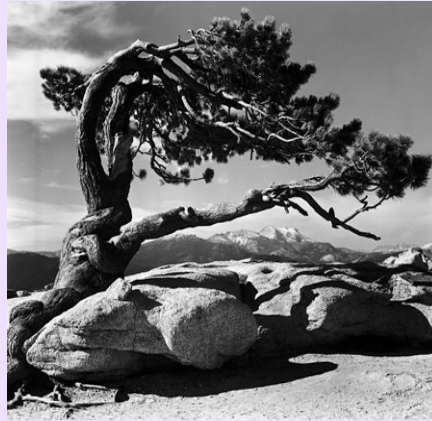


# ASHRAYA



Non-Profit Organization  
 Hey Took! The pine tree is  
 providing Assistance to the  
 Physically Challenged in  
 Over the rocks like a frail old  
 man, blessing  
 A burly child with his stick.  
 D-1004, Laburnum Block,  
 Brigade Millennium,  
 JP Nagar 7th Phase, sun whips its  
 back Bangalore 560078, INDIA  
 Phone: +50-390-1117 (US)  
 +91 997 203 1318 (India)  
 www.ashraya.net  
 Shaking off crumbled leafs of  
 shade

## ASHRAYA ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2008

It gives me immense pleasure to present you our annual report for FY 2008.

### I. SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY 2008

1. Our biggest accomplishment this year by far is the long-term project we have undertaken to develop specific skills in rural primary schools in one of the poorest districts in Karnataka state. Even though this does not fit our normal goal of supporting all types of physical challenges, we feel that rural poverty is as much a challenge as any other form of disability. Further, this area is of utmost importance in the development of India and has potential of being deployed in other geographical areas as well if proven successful.
2. We identified one new beneficiary organization, AASHAYEIN Foundation based in Bangalore. It is run by a set of dedicated young IT professionals who are focused on education and social development. We have taken up the rural skill development project mentioned above in collaboration with AASHAYEIN.
3. ASHRAYA raised funds from its donor base totaling \$9,815, of which 100% were project-specific contributions (as opposed to pass-through contributions). This is ~2% higher than the total funds raised in FY 2007 (\$9,622) mainly due to increase in contributions from non-founding members and chief patron by over 22% (up from \$3121 last year).
4. We are very proud to have six new contributing donors. We would like to welcome them to ASHRAYA and here's hoping that they support us for many years to come.
5. We directly funded 5 projects worth \$10,079, which is a 9% decrease in the funds disbursed last year; but we however continued to trend in the \$10K range in spite of downturns in the global economy. 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 2008. **Please note that \$1,289 of these disbursements have been used towards next year (2009) on behalf of Skill Development Project in Hanur Taluk.**
6. We continued our focus on projects related to vocational training and income generation. We worked actively with our beneficiary organizations in defining the goals, modalities and success metrics for such projects. We funded a unique project this year dealing with setting up a music band for gifted blind youth that has the potential of generating income as well as promote skills.
7. We would like to thank Ariba Inc. for having provided us a matching contribution worth \$1,500 for the

second year in a row. We would also like to thank our Chief Patron Mr. Ashwin Rangan for his continued support and encouragement.

8. We have started our search for partner donor organizations in the US such as Vijay Amrithraj Foundation since this will help us in considering larger, scalable and more long-term projects this coming year.
9. We personally visited all beneficiary organizations and monitored the progress of projects we funded last year. Site visit and project monitoring reports can be found on our website [www.ashraya-usa.org](http://www.ashraya-usa.org)
10. We revamped our website and brought it up-to-date with the latest content. This was long overdue (for almost 2 years now). The website now contains all annual reports, the total disbursements done to date since inception, a revised document introducing ASHRAYA, latest projects we are funding and project monitoring reports. We will continue to keep it current going forward.

## II. PROJECTS FUNDED IN FY 2008

### 1. **Brethren Institute for Rural Development, Bestavarpur, Prakasam District, AP: Vocational Training in Tailoring (\$3,600 Total Funding) – Phase I**

- a. **Organization Context:** Brethren Institute for Rural Development, i.e. BIRD (Prashanthi Nilayam, Valmiki Nagar, Bestavarpur-523 334, Prakasam District, AP) is a non-political & secular NGO organization started in 1989 by a group of volunteers. Its main objective is to uplift women, children and disabled irrespective of caste and creed. BIRD's operational area is spread over to 70 villages mainly in 4 Mandals of Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh. BIRD is planning to extend the Dalit women Empowerment through organization activities in 115 (70+45) villages; and CBR for PWDs in 178 Villages in Bestavarpur, Cumbum, Ardhaveedu and Komarole Mandals of Prakasam District. BIRD has a total staff of 33 with 5 focusing on CBR for PWDs, and the remaining on Dalit & Women Empowerment. It currently serves 2,628 PWDs in 4 Mandals of Prakasam District. Its annual operating budget is Rs. 23 Lakhs. The main contact person is Mr. Pilli Solomon, Exec Secretary (Ph: 08406-237582, Email: [birdl234@rediffmail.com](mailto:birdl234@rediffmail.com)).
- b. **Project Context:** The current proposal is an outcome of series of discussions and consultations that BIRD had at the community level involving community members, community leaders, sangham leaders, local panchayats (elected representatives). They also had consultations with the local officials and sought their suggestions which they incorporated into the proposal. Their field staff made intensive visits to the villages and held meetings with the community leaders, parents of persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities. Their issues and concerns were discussed in all the village level meetings and their feedback and suggestions were critical and important for planning and implementation. These efforts will contribute towards strengthening the CBR program through food and sustainable livelihood activities in future. BIRD is proposing to conduct the Training cum self-employment and livelihood units for 30 women with disabilities in our target villages. In this regard, they have proposed to help 30 WWD's (**Women with Disabilities**) to acquire daily earnings after completion of 10 months Vocational training at BIRD-Bestavarpur. After completion of the training WWD's will start setting up and running the livelihood units in their respective villages. These proposed livelihoods and self-employment units will give assured daily income for the WWDs and they will get monthly earning @ Rs.2000/- to Rs.3,000/- through this project support.
- c. **Project Objectives:** The goal is to organize the long-term training – cum - alternative livelihood options for 30 WWDs. The key objectives are
  - i. To promote alternative sustainable livelihood options among 30 PWDs (Persons with disabilities) in 102 villages of three mandals
  - ii. To promote a sense of self – respects and dignity among the PWDs to lead a life with dignity,

- .iii To organize and strengthen 90 PWDs SHGs and Sanghams (PWDS collectives) in 102 villages of 3 mandals.

The Key activities are

- .iv Promote vocational training among selected 30 PWDs for self-employment and alternative employment opportunities through job placement.
- .v Facilitate necessary linkages with the Banks/Government/ other NGOs for promoting alternative livelihood opportunities and self employment units among the PWDs,
- .vi Facilitation, organization and strengthening of 90 PWDs SHGs (Self Help Groups) among 1508 PWDs of 102 villages of 3 mandals.
- .vii Sensitize the parents, PWDs, key stakeholders in village, elected representatives and community members to access to and control over local resources for the purpose of livelihoods among PWDs

.d **Project Expenditure:**

<b>Dollar to Rupee Conversion</b>		<b>48.50</b>			
#	Items	Rate	# Of	Months	Amt, Rs
<b>I. Non-Recurring Expenses</b>					
1	Sewing machines	5,000	3		15,000
2	Embroidery Machines	10,000	2		20,000
3	Work Tables	3,000	3		9,000
4	Chairs	400	5		2,000
5	Stools	300	5		1,500
6	White Board	8,000	0.5		4,000
7	Beruva	5,000	0.5		2,500
<b>Total Rs/-</b>					<b>54,000</b>
<b>II. Raw Materials</b>					
1	Scissors, T-Scales	200	5		1,000
2	Treads Colours	50	15	6	4,500
3	White Treads	17	15	6	1,500
4	Oil, Powder, Trace Papers, Cotton	17	15	6	1,500
5	Cloth	150	15	6	13,500
6	Repairs and Maintenance	1,200		6	7,200
<b>Total Rs/-</b>					<b>29,200</b>
<b>III Salaries</b>					
1	Instructors	8,000	1	6	48,000
2	Office Assistants	2,000	1	10	20,000
<b>Total Rs/-</b>					<b>68,000</b>
<b>IV Administration</b>					
1	Trainees one side T.A. Expenses	260	15	6	23,400
2	Rent for Building	2,000			
3	Electricity, Water and other maintenance expenses	1,000			
4	Marker Pens	300			
5	Stationery, Records, Reports preparation etc.	500			
6	Audit Fees	300			
7	Unforeseen Expenses	1,000			
<b>Total Rs/-</b>					<b>23,400</b>
<b>BUDGET ABSTRACT FOR ONE YEAR</b>					
I	Non-Recurring Expenses				54,000
II	Raw Materials				29,200
III	Salaries				68,000
IV	Administration				23,400
<b>Total Rs/-</b>					<b>174,600</b>
<b>Total Dollars</b>					<b>3,600</b>

. e **Impact Summary:**

30 WWDs in every 10 months (training period) will

- Acquire necessary knowledge and skills in Tailoring, embroidery and dressmaking
- Start earning income and become self-reliant by securing economic independence at the household level
- Set up and run independent and self employment ventures to earn alternative livelihoods by individual units or collective units
- Can lead a life with dignity and self respect by gaining self reliance
- Will be equipped to challenge discrimination, social exclusion and domestic violence with in the household and at the community level by enhancing their quality of life.
- Enabled to stand on their own feet and become models to other PWDs in the society.
- Enabled to start home-based self-employment on their own to earn their livelihoods
- Will earn Rs 2,000 to Rs 3000 /- per month through livelihood units.
- Will gain respect in the family and at the community level

. f **Key Monitoring Indicators:**

- No of WWDs successfully completing 10 months intensive vocational course in tailoring, embroidery and dress making.
- No of WWDs setting up and running their independent and self –employed Income generating unit.
- No of women leading a life with dignity and equal status with in the family and community at large,
- No of WWDs getting financial assistance from Banks and other financial institutions,
- No of WWDs who have improved their knowledge and skills in the areas of micro-business plans,
- Increased levels of self confidence among the WWDs,
- Increased levels of income earnings
- Increased levels of participation in house level decision making process,
- Increased levels of assertion against discrimination and violence on PWDs at the household level and community level at large

2. **ASHADEEPA School for the Blind, Bidar, Karnataka: Music Band for Exceptional Blind Students - \$1,760 – Phase I**

- . a **Organizational Context:** Jeevan Prakash Education Society (R) (JPES) is a non-profit, secular NGO based in Bidar district, Karnataka State. Mr.Sanju Kumar Executive Director, did his graduation in Agricultural Sciences (B.Sc. Agri) from University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. Mr.Dilip Kumar (President of the organization), his younger brother, and Ms. Shobha, his younger sister are blind by birth. Mr. Dilip Kumar's own disability also motivated him to serve other disabled in this region. This situation has motivated both brothers (Sanju and Dilip) to serve the community in general and children in particular. As a result, JPES got its registration under K.S.R Act, 1960 in the year 2003. The focus group of the organization includes persons with visually challenges. ASHADEEPA has 6 employees and 8 volunteers associated and involved in rehabilitation and education of visually challenged children within the age group of 4 -15 years. The major activities are rehabilitation & education for children with disabilities, income generation training, life skills, mobility training, computer training, self-help groups & healthcare programs. Through its rehabilitation activities, the organization has rehabilitated about 35 disabled blind children from the villages of Bidar district. Major funds came from ASHA (USA) in the year 2006-

07 for its activities. The total annual budget for the last fiscal year was Rs. 3 Lakhs, **80%** of which has been funded by ASHA – USA and 20% from individual contributions. 70% of its funds are used for rehabilitation & education services with the remaining going towards salaries, administrative expenditure and rent.

- . b **Project Context:** Through their in depth knowledge in music, thanks to Louise Braille's innovation, the visually challenged children in Asha Deepa are making best use of available knowledge and skills. To further enhance their musical skills and enable them to earn their living, Asha Deepa has established a musical group by name Louie Braille Musical (Band) Group. Ten blind adults are part of this group. The group started giving small musical programs with limited instruments available at the institution at various functions including marriage parties. Currently, the group charges Rs. 2000 to 3000 per event. This can be increased to Rs. 15K to 20K per event, if the group is equipped with all necessary musical instruments. The main aim of the project is to establish a professional musical band made up of visually challenged youth so as to enable them to earn their daily bread & train new children of Asha Deepa & other adults in music.

. c **Project Objectives:**

- . i To establish a professional musical band consisting of visually challenged adults.
- . ii To train the visually challenged (Asha Deepa students as well as other youths) in music skills so as to increase self employment opportunity.
- . iii To create an opportunity for self sustenance

The project will have two phases which run hand in hand; **a music band & training school**. The project will help 20 visually challenged youth over a period of two years. Asha Deepa has already started a musical band with 10 blind youth who have talent in music with limited musical instruments. Once the band is equipped with the minimum required musical instruments through this project, the group can perform in school functions, marriage parties, government organized programs such as inaugurations, farewell parties, national festivals and other privately organized programs. Asha Deepa has a training facility & an already integrated musical training program in its day to day school curriculum. Visually challenged children & adults will undergo a rigorous training over a period of time. The blind children or youth trained at Asha Deepa Music School will be provided special skills such as soft skills, body language & techniques for stage performances so as to enable them to join the Louie Braille Musical Band. There will be a professional music trainer who will teach classical music to these blind youth. Since Asha Deepa has a school facility, the same shall be used to train both school children & other youth from outside the school. Once these members, both from Asha Deepa School & from outside the school are trained, they will be made to join the band. Over a period of time, as the group size increases, it will be divided into multiple bands. The 'reserve fund' set up by the primary band will be used to purchase additional minimum musical instruments for the second group, so that they can start a separate band (but under the same brand name, i.e. Louie Braille Musical Band Group).

. d **Project Expenditure:**

Sl.No	Name of the Instrument	No. of Units	Cost per unit	Total Cost
1	Rhythm Pad (Electronic)	One	Rs. 35,000	Rs. 35,000
2	Amplifier with Mixture	One	Rs.20,000	Rs.20,000
3	Eco Chamber	One	Rs.7000	Rs.7,000
4	Mic (Male, Female & normal)	Seven	Rs.5000	Rs.5,000
5	Sound Box with Monitor	One	Rs.18,000	Rs.18,000

<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 85,000</b>
	<b>\$ 1,760</b>

e. **Impact Summary:** The project is to support selective visually challenged adults from poor & socio-economically weaker sections. These members usually come from rural villages of Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur districts. The project will support these adults to market their talents and thereby generate income for their livelihood.

Average No. of Program per year	30 program/year
Average Cost per event	Rs.20,000
Total Income	Rs.6,00,000
Contribution to <i>Reserve Fund</i> (10%) from band	Rs. 60,000
Net income after Contribution	Rs.5,40,000
Net Income per member per year	Rs. 54,000
Net Earning per member per month	Rs.4,500 **

**Note:** Travelling & other overhands such as lodging & boarding will be taken care by Asha Deepa. Therefore the event cost is an absolute income to the band.

The fund requested for this project is a one time investment to establish a full fledged professional musical band consisting of 10 blind youth. The band which will benefit from the project will contribute 10% of their income towards a “**Reserve Fund**”. This fund will help project to become self sustainable.

- To buy new instruments to support new groups/bands that would come up from the school after undergoing training
- **To provide honorarium to the part time professional music trainer.**
- To meet any other emergency needs which will help the band perform at their events.

It is estimated that even if the band performs three programs in a month by charging Rs.20K per event, than the reserve fund would be Rs. 48K by end of one year. This will make the project self sustainable by end of Year 1.

3. **Hanur Taluk Higher Primary Schools, Karnataka: Model School Development in Hanur Taluk, Karnataka. - \$894– Phase I.**
4. **Hanur Taluk Higher Primary Schools, Karnataka: Skill Development in Hanur Taluk, Karnataka. - \$2578 – Phase I.**

a. **Project Context:** The state governments in India have done a lot for primary schools (1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> standard) in rural parts of the country over the last few years, pouring in investments in school buildings, trained teachers, text books etc. The state government in Karnataka has already invested the following in each rural school (other than school buildings and teacher salaries)

1. Mid-day meals for every school child
2. 500 rupees per teacher for teaching aids and materials
3. 45,000 rupees per school for maintenance
4. Text books for every child
5. 3 note books and school bag for each SC/ST child
6. Daily newspapers

7. 2,800 books for the library
8. Bicycles for 8<sup>th</sup> standard students
9. Geometry boxes in 7th standard
10. Radio & TV to run educational programs aired by the government daily

However, children passing out of these schools have deficiencies in many areas such as handwriting and math skills. These deficiencies get worse as you go into more rural parts of every state (i.e. farther away from the main cities). The following are the identified areas of deficiency along with interventions that could help reduce each of these deficiencies.

Area	Deficiency	Suggested Intervention Mechanisms
Basic Amenities		Plates and glasses for midday meals
		Benches and desks in the classroom
Skills	Handwriting	Copywriting Books, Pencils, Erasers, Stencil Sets
	Indigenous Knowledge	Silk Rearing Models, Books on Sericulture, Industry Visits
	Sports Education	Football, Cricket Set, Etc
	Creative Arts	Coloring Books, Origami books, Crayons, Paints
	General Knowledge	Encyclopedia, GK Books, Atlas, Globe, Charts
	Debating/ Quizzing	Competition Conducted by Volunteers and Teachers <sup>1</sup>
	Science and Math Skills	Science and Math Kits, Nature Models
	Health Education	First Aid Kit, Health Charts
	Water Hygiene	Water Filters
	Experimental Science	Lab Equipment, Chemicals
	Music	Music Equipment
	Peer Learning	Consultant Based Training
	Leadership Training	Consultant Based Training
	Communication Skills	Consultant Based Training
	Computer Training	Computers
	Competitive Spirit	Gift Book Sets
	Fun Days	Picnic, Movie Day
	Adventure	Summer Camps like Trekking, Industrial Visits

The aim of this project is to provide supplementary materials that could enhance the skill sets of children passing out of these schools (into high school). We selected Hanur Taluk (sub-division of Chamarajanagar District in Karnataka State) for the following reasons:

- Primarily rural (200 Kms away from Bangalore) and remote mountainous terrain (please note that other organizations such as SHIKSHANA currently run similar intervention programs in areas closer to Bangalore).
- Considered to be one of the more backward Taluks in the state
- Have a high % of tribals in the Taluk
- Bigger average student strength per school than other Taluks (180 vs. 100 in other Taluks)



indicating lesser government support per school

Hanur Taluk has 3 Hoblis (sub-divisions of a Taluk which in turn are sub-divisions of a district) with the following higher primary schools, i.e. schools with 1st to 7th standard classes (HPS) and student populations:

Hanur Taluk Sub-Division ("Hobli")	Number of Higher Primary Schools (HPS)	Total Number of Students	Average Students per School
Hanur	17	3,043	179
Lokkanahalli	14	2,168	156
Ramapura	46	7,151	155
<b>Totals</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>12,362</b>	<b>160</b>

b. **Project Objectives:**

We surveyed (through extensive interviews with all teachers in each school) 10 higher primary schools (HPS) in Hanur Taluk to understand their specific needs and map their needs to their skill deficiencies. We scored each skill in terms of current deficiency and perceived impact (i.e. value of that skill to the overall development of the students). We also had extensive conversations and meetings with the Block Education Officer (BEO) of Hanur Taluk, Mr. Lingaraj Urs, who has been extremely cooperative with us and helpful during this initial planning phase. Based on these surveys and interviews, we concluded the following:

- a) Handwriting and creativity are the main skills we should be focusing on (they scored highest of perceived deficiency AND impact).
- b) All schools do not have exhibit the same level of current performance in spite of equal levels of interventions from the government. A few schools (2 out of 10 we surveyed) exhibited better performance/environment on the following fronts
  - a. Dedicated and motivated set of teachers
  - b. Displayed proficiency in at least one area (e.g. Kannur village school's Kho Kho team has been placed 3rd at national level competition for 10 years in a row)
  - c. High teacher to student ratio (not more than 15 students per teacher)
  - d. Clean and pleasing school infrastructure and study environment
  - e. School teachers expressed interest and desire to do better (for themselves and for the students) and have already taken initiatives to do creative things with their limited budget (e.g. building paper models for science projects)

Based on the above findings, our approach is twofold:

**1. Create Model Schools**

- a) Select schools that have exhibited better performance than average to date (as per the criteria described in Section 4 above). We feel that a 1:10 ratio will be appropriate in selecting potential candidates for model schools. With 77 total schools in Hanur Taluk, that would lead to a potential for creating ~8 model schools.
- b) Identify specific gaps they have in terms of materials covering basic amenities and ALL skills
- c) Administer standard tests to ALL students across ALL skills and measure average scores at school level
- d) Supply materials identified to fill gaps as per (b) above
- e) Follow-up and administer tests after 6 months and 12 months to register



- improvement in all skills at the school level
- f) Give awards to teachers of these model schools if the entire school shows a significant improvement in overall performance and promote these schools amongst all other schools in Hanur Taluk so as to foster positive competition
  - g) Deploy the program in phases, i.e. we would select one candidate through surveys and interviews using a desired 1:10 ratio. Once we prove the success of this approach, we would continue promoting model schools across the entire Hanur Taluk in the same 1:10 ratio.

## 2. Improve Select Skills Across All Schools

- a) Work with the BEO of Hanur Taluk to identify materials needed (common to all schools, not specific) to improve the selected skills, i.e. handwriting and creativity.
  - b) Supply materials to all schools in a single Hobli identified to fill gaps as per (a) above
  - c) Follow-up and administer tests after 6 months and 12 months to register improvement in all skills at the school and Hobli levels
  - d) Deploy the program in phases, i.e. we would start with one skill for schools in one Hobli of Hanur Taluk and then expand the program across both skills and other Hoblis and measure average scores at the school and Hobli levels.
  - e) Give awards to schools, teachers and students who have shown the best improvement across all the 77 schools.
- c. **Deployment Plan:** The chart below shows how we plan to cover all schools within Hanur Taluk over the next 2 years in the two programs over 4 equal phases. Our plan is designed to have appropriate check points to measure program effectiveness along the way and minimize risks of future investments. Please note that we have already started execution of Phase I of this long-term plan.

	Phase I Feb to Sep '09	Phase II Sep '09 to Feb '10	Phase III Mar to Aug '10	Phase IV Sep '10 to Jan '11
<b>1. Create Model Schools</b>	School in Kannur Village	2 TBD Schools	2 TBD Schools	3 TBD Schools
<b>2. Improve Select Skills across all Schools</b>	Handwriting for all Schools in Hanur Hobli	Handwriting for all Schools in Lokkanhalli and Ramapura Hoblis	Creativity in Hanur Hobli	Creativity in Lokkanhalli and Ramapura Hoblis

We have identified a local social worker based in Hanur town (Mr. Revappa who is currently employed on part-time basis at PMSR in Kollegal Taluk, an NGO working in the area of rehabilitation of lower caste women). Mr. Revappa has already helped us in the surveys and interviews we conducted while we were planning out the details of Phase I. He identified the schools and their locations as well as set up a meeting for us with Mr. Lingaraj Urs, the BEO. We will engage Mr. Revappa to monitor the progress of the project through school visits on a monthly

basis. He will continue to work for PMSR but will monitor progress of our project on a part-time basis. The volunteers of AASHAYEIN will also assist in program monitoring as described in the next section.

- d. **Project Expenditure (Phase I Only):** The tables below show the detailed expenditures of both programs ("Create Model Schools" and "Improve Select Skills in all Schools") for Phase I. The total expenditure for Phase I is Rs. 1.78 Lakh. As already stated above, we have already released funds and started distributing materials for Phase I. For the "Create Model Schools" program, we have selected Kannur Village School as the pilot candidate for Phase I.

### 1. Create Model Schools

Number of Schools	1	<i>Kanur Village HPS in Hanur Hobli</i>		
Student Strength in School	350			
Intervention Mechanisms	Impacted Area	Per Unit Price, Rupees	Number of Students	Amount (Rupees)
Benches	Basic Amenities	500	0	0
Schools bags for non SC/ST students	Basic Amenities	100	88	8,750
Plates and glasses for all children	Basic Amenities	30	350	10,500
White board with markers	Basic Amenities	1,000	1	1,000
Rollup back boards	Basic Amenities	80	10	800
Crayons	Creativity	10	219	2,188
Coloring books	Creativity	20	219	4,375
Slates for 1st and 2nd standard students	Handwriting	15	88	1,313
Side drum	Music	800	2	1,600
Base drum	Music	800	1	800
Bugle	Music	800	3	2,400
Band uniforms	Music	300	12	3,600
Science encyclopedias for teachers	Science Skills	1,000	2	2,000
Math kit	Math Skills	500	2	1,000
Track shirts for Kho Kho team	Sports	150	12	1,800
Track shirts for Kho Kho team	Sports	100	12	1,200
<b>Totals</b>			<b>Rupees</b>	<b>43,325</b>

### 2. Improve Select Skills Across All Schools

Number of Schools	17					
Average Student Strength	179					
Total Students Supported	3,043					
Intervention Mechanisms	Impacted Area	Per Unit Price, Rupees	Quant. Per Student	# of Students	Total Quant	Amt (Rs)
Copywriting books for 1 to 5 Std	Handwriting	15.0	2	1,902	3,804	57,056
Reams of paper for 6 to 8 Std	Handwriting	8.0	2	1,141	2,282	18,258
Pencils	Handwriting	1.5	6	3,043	18,258	27,387
Erasers	Handwriting	2.0	2	3,043	6,086	12,172
Sharpeners	Handwriting	3.0	1	3,043	3,043	9,129
<b>Totals</b>					<b>Rupees</b>	<b>124,002</b>

### 3. Other Common Charges

Parameter	Per Unit Price, Rupees	Quantity	Amount (Rupees )
Transportation of Materials from Bangalore	9.0	300	2,700
Monitoring Fees for Local Social Worker	150.0	54	8,100
<b>Totals</b>		<b>Rupees</b>	<b>10,800</b>

<b>Project Total</b>	<b>Rupees</b>	<b>178,127</b>	<b>\$3,472</b>
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- e. **Impact Summary & Monitoring:** By the end of Phase III, this project has the potential of affecting 77 schools and 12,362 students, with 8 schools being developed into “model schools”. We will be developing 2 skills (handwriting and creative arts) in all students, and 7 other skills (math, science, sports, music, general knowledge, indigenous knowledge, debating/quizzing) in 8 model schools.

#### Key Monitoring Tools

- Project status reports to be generated by ASHRAYA and AASHAYEIN every 3 months
- Conduct tests

#### 1. Create Model Schools

- Administer standard tests to ALL students across ALL skills and measure average scores at school level for each skill and overall. Tests will be conducted 3 times: The first test before intervention, the second at the end of 3 months after materials have been distributed and the final test at end of 6 months.

#### 2. Improve Select Skill Sets across All Schools

- Administer standard tests to ALL students in ALL schools in the selected skill(s) only and measure average skill scores at school level and overall. Tests will be conducted 3 times: The first test before intervention, the second at the end of 3 months after materials have been distributed and the final test at end of 6 months.
- Local social worker (in Hanur Town) hired by ASHRAYA and AASHAYEIN to visit each selected school once every two months for 6 months and provide status updates to ASHRAYA which will be used in the project status reports every 3 months
- BEO of Hanur taluk to provide certificates of accomplishment based on progress made.

#### 5. MATHRU School for the Blind, Bangalore, Karnataka – Income Generation in Offset Printing and Other Activities (\$1,247 Total Funding)

- a. **Organizational Context:** MATHRU Educational Public Charitable Trust for the Blind is a non-profitable, non-governmental voluntary organization set up to provide fundamental confidence and economic stability to the people living in dark, through education, skill development, training, placement etc. To reach this goal, MATHRU has started a free residential school for the blind. The school is duly registered under the Department of Welfare for the Disabled, working under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. MATHRU has its own building with all infrastructure constructed in the year 2006 with the support of Asha for Education, Central New Jersey Chapter, USA and also with the support of many philanthropists and educational institutions of Bangalore. MATHRU has given placement to 7 blind persons who are working as resource teachers, computer instructors, Braille instructors and mobility/physical instructors. Besides, it has provided job

opportunities to one blind and two destitute women. MATHRU is also giving free food, accommodation and education to 10 orphan children who do not have parental support. These children are going to Public School and studying in different grades. MATHRU is a registered Trust under section 12 A of Income tax Act and it avails the benefit of 80 G exemption and foreign contributions are permitted under FCRA bearing No.094421195. Trustees of MATHRU are Ms. Gubbi R. Muktha and Mr. S.Shankarappa who are advocates by profession; and Mrs. Gnaneshwari Tejashwini. MATHRU is running all its activities with the support of public and so far it has not received any support by the Central or State Government. MATHRU school is duly registered and follows the prescribe syllabus of the state Government. Besides teaching prescribed syllabus, MATHRU also teaches its students daily living skills, mobility orientation, craft, fine arts, communication skill, computer, dance, drama, music, instrumental music, knitting , yoga, physical exercise, sports etc. At present, MATHRU is providing free education to 51 blind children studying from 1st to 7th grade with an increasing of one grade every year till 10th grade. MATHRU is exemplarily run by MS. GUBBI R. MUKTHA and is located at CA SITES 14, 6TH A CROSS, 5TH PHASE, NEW TOWN, YELAHANKA, BANGALORE, KARNATAKA STATE, INDIA (PH.28463992-98860-32632, email: MATHRU\_india@yahoo.co.in, website: www.MATHRUblindschool.org )

- b. **Project Context:** One of the objectives of the Trust is to provide training and skill development for the economic gain of the disabled. This year, MATHRU will start a vocational training center to provide training to 15 blind adults in knitting, book binding, screen printing, plumbing and electrical engineering. These trainings are being given based on the individual interest. Apart from the training, training will be provided on technical guidance, marketing management, financial management, computer basic skills and accounting. The trainee will hence be best equipped after the training to create his/her own self-employment or work elsewhere for economic gain. During the period of the training, MATHRU will provide free food and accommodation.

- c. **Project Objectives:** To provide training in the following areas:

1. **Screen Printing:** Training will be given on letter pads making, visiting cards, envelope printing, designing and printing invitations, etc. Since in the rural areas, provisions for printing is less, this can provide self-employment opportunities
2. **Knitting:** Training will be given on making sweaters, shawls, caps etc on machines. This helps the trainees to get jobs in the textile industries and garment industries; as well as provide self-employment opportunities.

Even though, ASHRAYA is funding only the above activities, the vocational center will provide training to trainees on many other activities such as book binding, plumbing and electrical engineering, depending upon the level of visual impairment.

- d. **Project Expenditure:**

Training Area	Item	Per Unit Price, Rupees	Quantity/ Months	Amount (Rupees)	Total
Screen Printing	Screen Printing Unit	15,000	1	15,000	29,000
	Training Material	5,000	1	5,000	
	Recurring Salary	5,000	1.5	7,500	
	Conveyance	1,000	1.5	1,500	
Knitting	Knitting Unit	7,000	3	21,000	30,840
	Training Material	300	10	3,000	
	Recurring Salary	3,000	1.5	4,500	
	Conveyance	1,000	1.5	1,500	
	Miscellaneous Expenses	560	1.5	840	
<b>Totals</b>					<b>59,840</b> <b>1,247</b>

- e. **Impact Summary:** 15 blind adults will be trained on all activities during a 45 day training program after which they will be helped to get employment in the surrounding industries, or to go back to their home towns and gain employment there. These training sessions will be interspersed with regular school sessions; i.e. the training will be provided to blind adults who are not part of the school when the school is on break in summer and winter (2 sessions per year). During the rest of the year when school is in session, the same centers will be used to provide training to the elder school students (age 15+) as part of their curriculum so that they can use this training to get jobs when they graduate from school.

### III. FY 2008 REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The table below shows ASHRAYA's revenues and expenditures for FY 2008. We raised funds worth \$9,815 (up 2% from last year), out of which organization specific contributions totaled \$9,815 (100%). We disbursed funds worth \$10,079, down 9% from last year. The balance at end of the year is at \$130 (after all disbursements are cleared).

Parameter			Value (\$)
Starting Balances	2007 Year End-Balance		395
	2006 Year-End Balance		395
2008 Donations	Founders <sup>1</sup>		4,833
	Chief Patron		1,001
	Other Donors & Patrons		3,981
	Pass-through Donations (Organization-Specific)		0
	Total Donations		9,815
2008 Direct Disbursements	Brethren Institute for Rural Development, Bestavarpet, Prakasam District, AP	Vocational Training in Tailoring	3,600
	ASHADEEPA School for the Blind, Bidar, Karnataka	Music Band for Exceptional Blind Students	1,760
	MATHRU School for the Blind, Bangalore, Karnataka	Income Generation in Offset Printing and Other Activities	1,247
	Aashayein Foundation, Bangalore	Model School in Hannur Taluk	Hannur Taluk Higher Primary Schools
	Aashayein Foundation, Bangalore	Handwriting & Creative Skills Enhancement Project for 75 S Hannur Taluk	
	Total Direct Disbursements		Hanur Taluk Higher Primary Schools
Overhead Expenses (Absorbed by Founders)	Ready Hosting		--
	PNC Bank Service Charges		12
	Site Visits		0
	Total Overhead Expenses		111
Pass-Through Disbursements			0
	Total Pass-Through Disbursements		0
Final 2008 Balance			130

1 - Includes \$1,500 matching contribution from Ariba

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### IV. THE YEAR AHEAD: Projects under Consideration for Funding

1. ASHADEEPA School for the Blind, Bidar, Karnataka: Music School for the Blind – Phase II
2. Relief Organization for Handicapped, Hindupur, AP: Silk Weaving Vocation Training Center - Phase II

3. Brethren Institute for Rural Development, Bestavarpeta, AP: Vocational Training & Income Generation (Phase II) – In Leather Making
4. AASHAYEIN Foundation, Bangalore: Model School and Skill Development in Rural Primary Schools in Hannur Taluk – Phases II and III.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued patronage, and here's hoping we will continue in FY 2009 from where we left off at the end of FY 2008.

Regards and Cheers,

Vasuki Subbarao  
President, ASHRAYA

**APPENDIX 1: ASHRAYA Supported Beneficiary Organizations**

Name of Organization	Location	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"> <li>Education (Residential, Integrated and CBR)</li> <li>Rehabilitation</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> <li>Hostel facilities</li> </ul>	380	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential: 226</li> <li>Education: 980</li> <li>CBR: 5750</li> <li>Talking Books: 250</li> </ul>	226
Mobility India	Bangalore, Karnataka	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation</li> <li>Income Generation</li> <li>Bridge Schools</li> </ul>	337	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation: 10,000</li> <li>Bridge Schools: 200</li> <li>Income Gen: 20</li> </ul>	None
Madhya Pradesh Blind Welfare Association	Indore, Madhya Pradesh	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education</li> <li>Rehabilitation</li> <li>Training &amp; Employment</li> <li>Low Vision Care</li> </ul>	124	172	160
Shakuntala Foundation	Kolar, Karnataka	Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical Camps</li> <li>Special Education</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> </ul>	5	25	25
Vidnyanvahini	Pune, Maharashtra	Rural Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Science Education through Mobile Lab</li> </ul>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural HS Students: 10,000</li> </ul>	None
NAB-Gujarat Branch	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated education</li> <li>Placement &amp; Employment</li> <li>Braille Book Production</li> </ul>	90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education: 1000</li> <li>Braille Books: 5,800</li> <li>Employment Placement: 120</li> </ul>	None
Grameena Abhyudaya Seva Samasthe (GASS)	Doddaballapur	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Rehab and Therapy</li> </ul>	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community-based; 430</li> </ul>	None
Rehabilitation Aids Workshop for Women with Disability (RAWWD)	Bangalore, Karnataka	Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manufacture of Prosthetic Aids for Physically Disabled by Disabled Women</li> </ul>	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8844 to date</li> </ul>	None
Relief Organization for the Handicapped (ROH)	Hindpur, AP	Mobility Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Based Rehabilitation</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> </ul>	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>650</li> </ul>	None
Asha Deepa School for the Blind	Bidar, Karnataka	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential School</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> </ul>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35</li> </ul>	35
MATHRU School for the Blind	Bangalore, Karnataka	Blind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential School</li> <li>Orphanage</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> </ul>	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>63</li> </ul>	63
AASHAYEIN Foundation	Bangalore, Karnataka	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skill Development</li> <li>Breakfast Program</li> <li>Book Distribution</li> <li>School Scholarships</li> </ul>	6	Various	0