



2017 Annual Report, San Francisco Chapter



Asha for Education is a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit with 50+ chapters around the world whose mission is to catalyze socio-economic change in India through the education of underprivileged children.

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We help where it counts

About Asha

Asha For Education is a secular non-profit organization catalyzing socio-economic change through the education of underprivileged children in India. Our mission is not only to look at issues concerning access to education, but also to ensure that every child has access to an education that is meaningful.

Asha for Education is a fully volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit, with 50+ chapters around the world, whose mission is to catalyze socio-economic change in India through the education of underprivileged children.

We are a small team of 30-40 volunteers at the San Francisco Chapter. We are constantly motivated by Asha's mission and work together to meet our yearly goals as a part of Asha to help make a difference in childrens' lives in rural India. Get involved with the San Francisco Chapter by volunteering with us. Please visit page 15 to find out more details about how you can get involved.

Year 2017 in Review

The year 2017 has been a wonderful year for Asha For Education, San Francisco Chapter. We funded 10 projects, disbursing a total of \$139,000, which will support over 3400 children and students. We have maintained a perfect score of 100 on Charity Navigator, the highest rating any non profit can get. We have also maintained a good Working Capital Ratio (WCR) of 1.00 by the year end by efficiently distributing funds to projects, which makes us eligible for the general funds distributed by Asha Central. We had a large number of new and repeat volunteers. We appreciate everyone who supported us in this cause. Year after year we have been seeing the impact of our work in children's lives and there is no greater feeling of happiness.

We raised over \$65,000 from Team Asha SF, our half marathon training program, in which 100% of the runners met their fundraising goal. We also raised a record breaking amount of over \$25,000 from SF Holi and other events including Diwali Mela. Every year, we continue to attract volunteers supporting Asha SF Chapter in various capacities, including events, running, project reviews and project stewards.

All these achievements happened due to the commitment and efforts put by our awesome volunteers and donors who deeply care about the cause. This would not have been possible without the due diligence carried out by our project stewards, the SF core team who has actively participated in various activities throughout the year, and not to mention Team Asha runners and coaches. We hope to continue our efforts in 2018 to impact many more children's lives.

Sincerely,
Asha For Education, San Francisco Chapter

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY



Project Steward: Jennifer Fernandes

1. SOCIETY FOR WOMEN IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SWIRD)

Where: Purba Medinipur, Medinipur District West Bengal

Children Served: 400 (Ages 3-5)

Funded: \$85,850 (since Sept 2009) by San Francisco Chapter

A social development NGO working for the last 17 years, run by women especially house-wives who are aware of the distressful situation of women in rural families living below poverty line, to uplift the quality of lives of the downtrodden women and children in remote rural belt of Eastern part of India. Among various projects, SWIRD is running 10 pre-primary schools (Balwadi Centers) to support elementary education for the poor children. Due to financial constraints, they face a lot of difficulties to run those schools. In 1990, many poor families could not arrange even one meal for the members of their family and helpless mothers and kids would starve. One day, a mother committed suicide as she could not arrange food for her children for some consecutive days. A leading NGO, viz. Nabarun Seva Niketan facilitated some community leaders to sit together and discuss about their duties to uplift the condition of the families especially by women themselves. This meeting gave a formation of a group which now runs as an NGO SWIRD.

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY



Project Steward: Shishira Nagesh

2. PNEUMA (PROFESSIONAL NETWORK FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF THE UNDER-PRIVILEGED MASSES)

Where: Madurai, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu

Children served: 300 (Ages 5 - 16)

Funded: \$48,812 since Feb 2010 by San Francisco Chapter

Pneuma (Professional Network for the Emancipation of the Under-Privileged Masses) Trust, is an organization that was created in 2003 with the aims to provide education, social, legal awareness and health services to children whose parents are affected by HIV/AIDS among the poor. Children of HIV/AIDS infected parents were suffering from a lack of proper educational facilities and parental guidance, and they are also exposed to illegal activities & are at risk of being forced into sex trafficking. Pneuma started a home for such children to provide food, clothing & shelter free of cost. The children are also sent to schools to continue regular education, and are given non formal education at the home. They are mostly orphans and semi-orphans of HIV/AIDS infected parents. Currently they only house boys and do not have the resources to accommodate girls. Many children housed in Pneuma are from rural areas of Madurai and nearby districts namely, Theni, Sivaganangai and Thirunelveli, whose parents came to Madurai for treatment.

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY



Project Steward: Namita Gujral



Project Steward: Sindhu Kashyap

3. ETASHA SOCIETY

Where: South District, New Delhi

Children served: 120

Funded: \$126,321 since Aug 2011 by San Francisco Chapter

We have funded 2 projects for Etasha in 2017.

Project Prerna is Etasha's vocational and employability skills training program serving youth from impoverished colonies in New Delhi, India. It teaches relevant employability skills and training to the youth to ultimately get them sustainable and respectable employment in the private sector. They initiative to provide vocational skills and spoken english training to youth from impoverished colonies in New Delhi, India. They adopt practical, experiential, hands-on training methods in their programs.

Project Manzil is Etasha's counseling services program, especially in schools catering to low income communities and slums in neighborhood areas of Delhi. Counseling sessions include life skills workshops, career guidance, teachers orientation workshops to understand issues, presentations for parents to give them overview about importance of counseling, and individual counseling sessions for students. They cover 10 schools for counseling.

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY



4. INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL WORK (ISW)

Where: Kolkata, Kolkata District, West Bengal

Children served: 200

Funded: \$111,553.38 since Apr 2000, \$75881 by San Francisco Chapter

ISW is an initiative to provide better opportunities to underprivileged women and children in the slums of Kolkata's dock area. ISW has been running educational centers by encouraging and inspiring underprivileged children by adopting non-formal and innovative approaches. We have funded 2 projects for ISW in 2017.

Project Kidderpore has 3 main sections: tailoring school for girls, a coaching center for girls of classes 1 to 12, a center for children who have not yet been admitted to school or are school dropouts.

Project Chella has a focus on solving for the inequality of the deprived sections of the society, with special focus on women and children. Apart from education, they also run awareness drives, legal help and protection from domestic violence, health checkups, cultural activities, etc.

ISW is playing a truly commendable role in running these centers and all the teachers in the training centers are extremely motivated and admirably trained.



Project Steward: Nitin Kempanahalli



Project Steward: Sriparna Majumdar

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY



5. ASEEMA CHARITABLE TRUST

Where: Igatpuri, Nashik District Maharashtra

Children served: 200

Funded: \$69,952 since June 2007 by San Francisco Chapter

Aseema is an initiative to provide a holistic education, an interesting and caring learning environment, and help underserved children of tribal people acquire the skills and confidence to succeed in real life. This education center will work with tribal children who currently have little or no access to schools. Aseema covers everything from basic literacy to analytical and emotional skills, physical well-being and vocational training for the children who are from very poor families, many of whose parents are migrant laborers, and mostly eat one square meal a day. The school serves about 200 children of all ages. Aseema conducts medical camps for eyes, dental and general health examination. Teacher training programmes, teaching aids and educational material are being provided. School uniforms and a nutritious mid-day meal is also provided. In order to integrate education and rural development, Aseema is going to build a rainwater harvesting pond to help develop the area agriculturally.

Project Steward: Vidya Kudlingar

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY

7. SAUGAHT FOUNDATION

Where: Daltonganj, Palamu District Jharkhand

Children served: 37

Funded: \$23,524 since Jun 2014

Saugaht Foundation is an initiative that aims to work for the empowerment of local tribal population to ensure that they can become self-dependent and achieve physical, mental and social well-being. Since inception, Saugaht has been engaged in social development for the poor and marginalized tribal community, particularly for the women, children and youth working in education, healthcare, livelihood, environment and so on by touching all the vital aspects of human life. Presently it is working in various fields of health, family welfare, water sanitation, agriculture, SHG formation and women empowerment, Tribal-welfare, various community development program, environmental protection, socioeconomic development, awareness generation on various burning issues. They have an educational center for education including basic literacy of tribal children. This program serves to provide these children a steppingstone of education by a mandatory schooling in the pre-primary level and prepare them for admission in the primary level formal schools.



Project Steward: Abhishek Aggarwal

2017 PROJECTS SUMMARY

8. DIGAMBARPUR ANGIKAR

Where: Patharpratima, South Twenty Four Parganas District West Bengal

Children served: 90 (Ages 3-6)

Funded: \$79,267 since May 2014

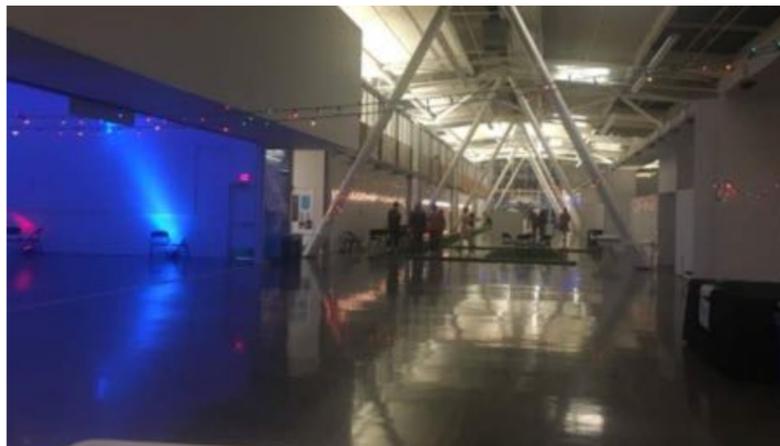
Digambarpur is an initiative run by a group of dedicated social activists of Sundarban region with a view to undertake relief and rehabilitation as well as development initiatives for empowerment of women and children and other vulnerable sections of socio-economically backward SC/ST/OBC/Minority communities. Since inception, the organization has been involved in the rural development and social action programmes for establishing women and child rights, education, health and sanitation, livelihood development and environment conservation in the Sundarban region. Digambarpur aims to reach out to the poorest and underprivileged section of the society for self reliance, to provide ongoing support through efficient and readily available management information system, to empower marginalized communities, disabled, older persons through social and economic development, to create strong awareness among local people to solve problems, to emphasize on women and children empowerment by establishing their rights, and to stop discriminating based on caste, creed, sex, clan and color



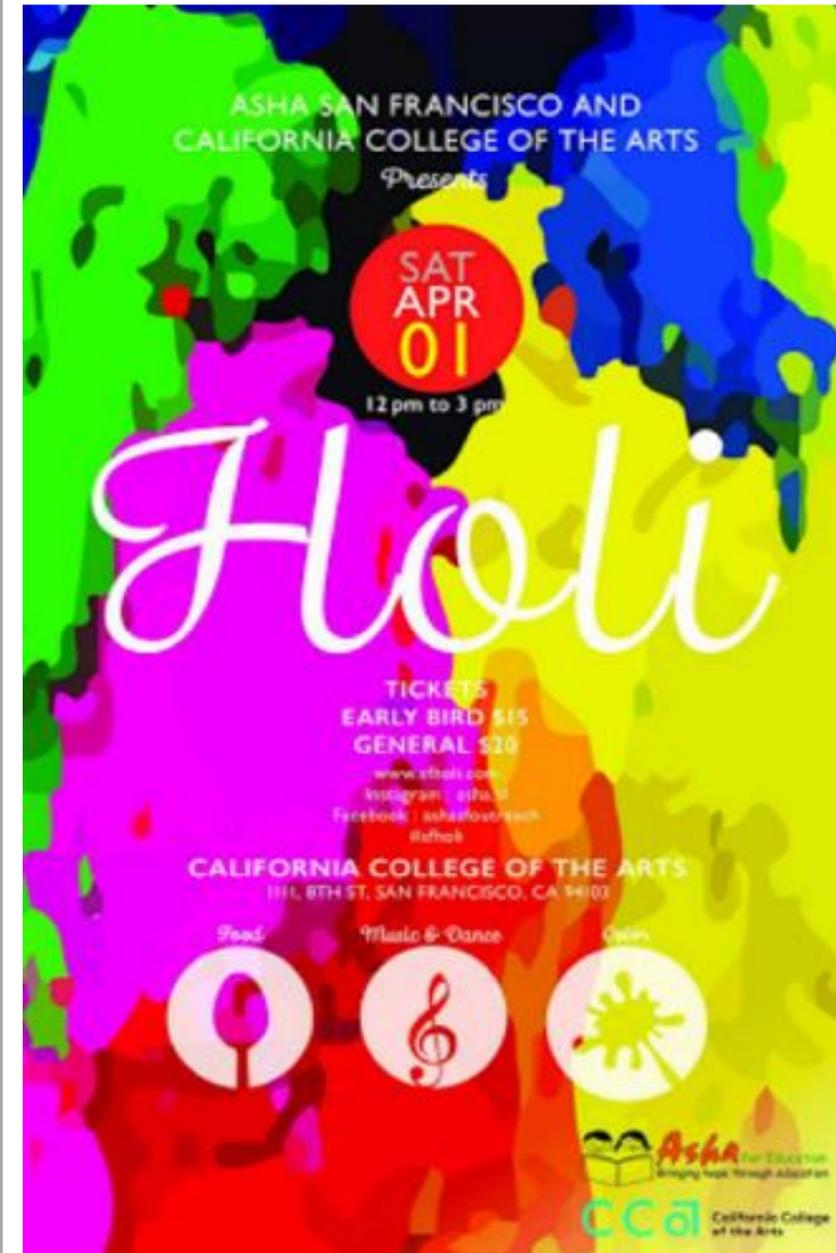
Project Steward: Megha Sharma

2017 EVENTS SUMMARY

Diwali Night, an annual Fall event, was organized in October 2017, in partnership with CCA. We had over 30 volunteers who had put a constant effort over a 2 month period. Ticket prices included food catered from Kasa. Although we did not raise significant amount of funds through the event, it opened up a great partnership opportunity with CCA SF for future events, and it created awareness about Asha.



SF Holi, the Indian festival of colors, was conducted on April 1st 2017 by Asha For Education San Francisco, partnering with CCA SF.



The tickets were SOLD OUT well before the event. We raised a record breaking \$20,000 just through this event. The turnout, the weather and the reviews post Holi were great. We received great help from our awesome volunteers and core team members



2017 EVENTS SUMMARY

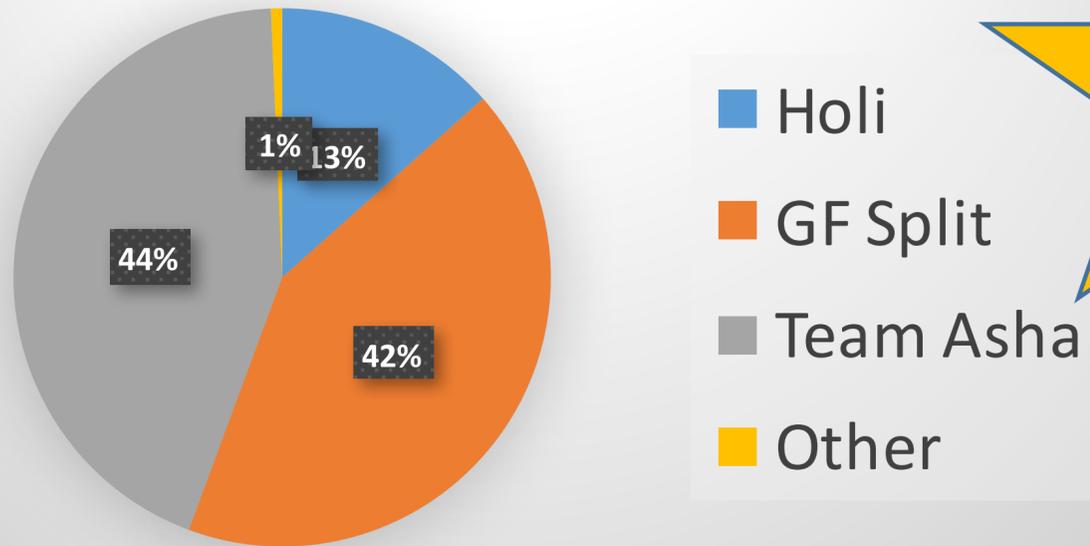
Team Asha, the 9th annual half marathon training program was a grand success like every year. There were 51 registered runners, of which 38 runners recommitted and most of them successfully completed the San Francisco (or other) Half marathons in 2017. The 4 month long training program under the guidance of Coach Balu Vellanki and Coach Sunaad Nataraju started with short runs under 1 mile, slowly progressing to long weekend runs ending in San Francisco half marathon in July. The runners had to raise a minimum of \$1500 (before eligible discounts) and all the money raised went to the projects supported by Asha SF Chapter. This year, a total of over \$65000 was raised including company matching. A lot of repeat runners and first time runners stayed with Asha throughout the year to help out with events and activities. The program has been growing over the years and its success is attributed to the amazing coaches and volunteers who continue to keep up the spirit of Asha and Team Asha.



Team Asha 2017, San Francisco

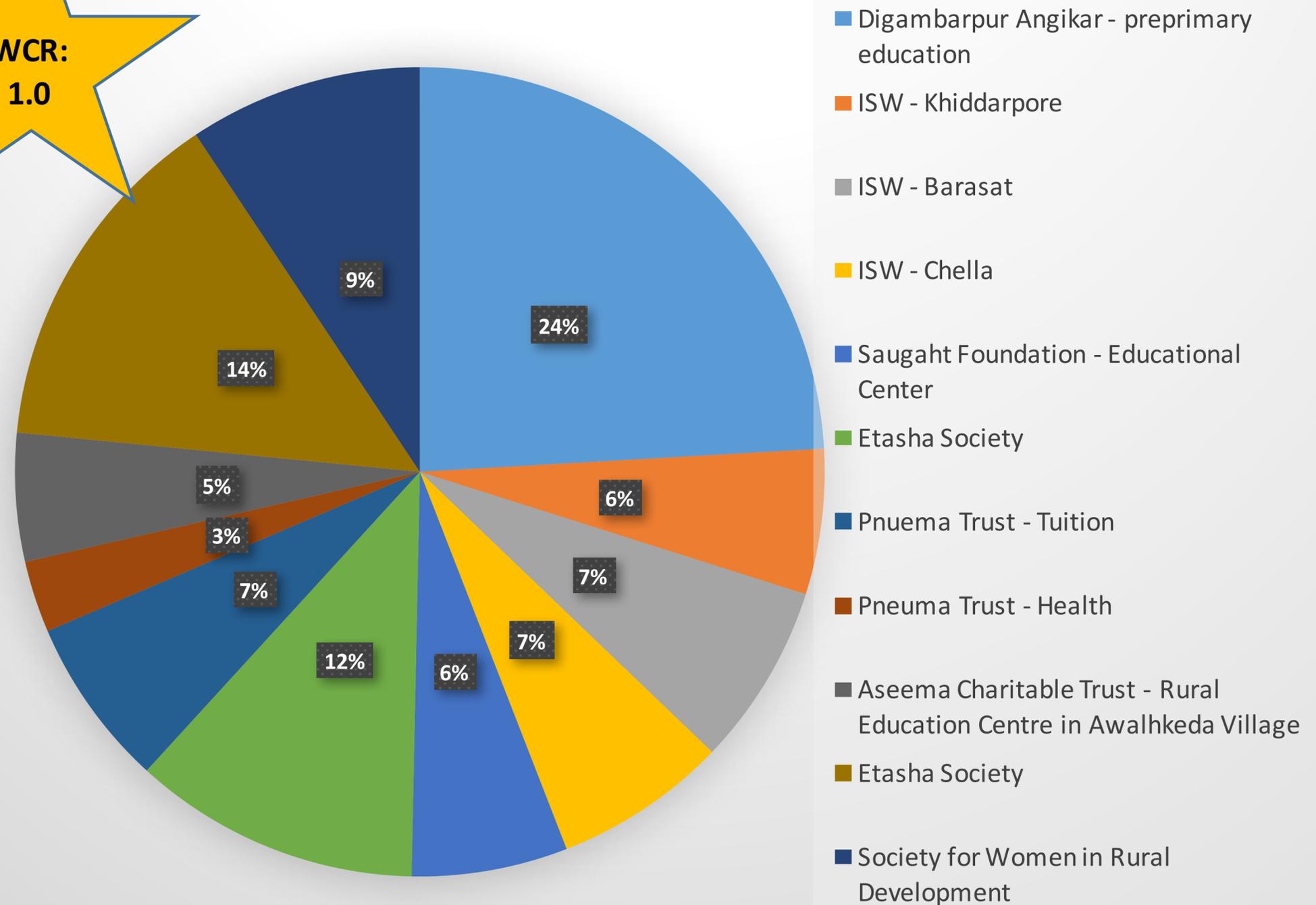
2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total Income in 2017

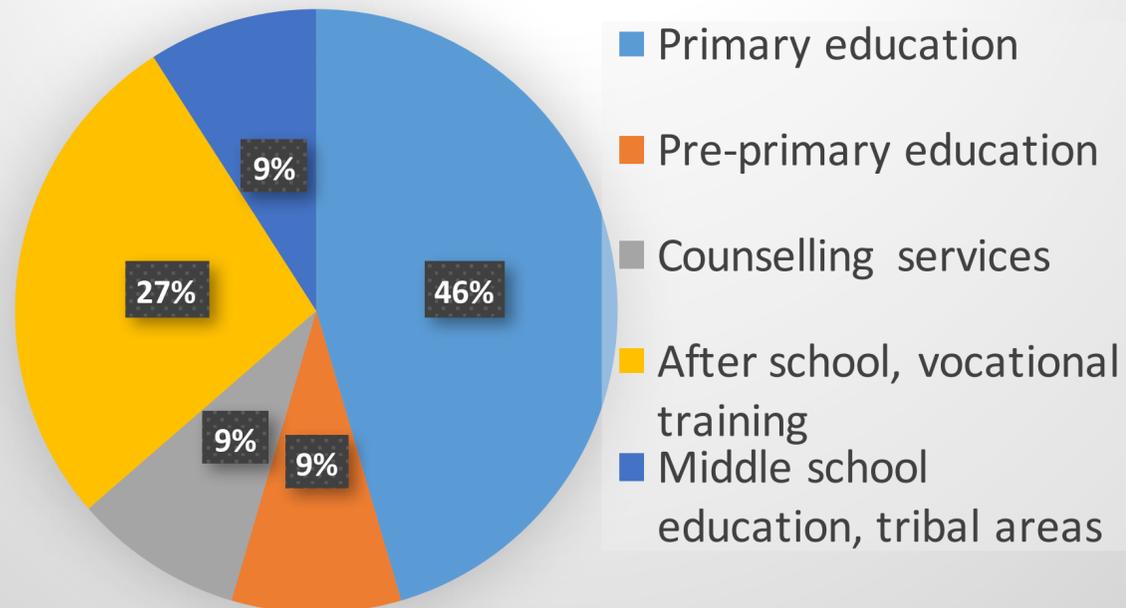


**WCR:
1.0**

2017 Projects disbursal (\$139K)



Project type 2017



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year, Asha San Francisco was filled with a wide range of activities. We have been successful in disbursing money to 10 different projects as well as in raising money through our Diwali Night, Holi and Team Asha events.

Many existing and new volunteers have taken up key responsibilities in the chapter and with their continued effort over the period of one year, they contributed significantly towards Asha goals. We really appreciate volunteers stepping up to take on roles. While we all worked towards the common goal of underprivileged childrens' education, we continued to learn from each other and grew as a team. We also bonded with each other over time and have made the greatest friendships.

We sincerely thank the individual donors, employers of the donors who have matched funds, restaurant sponsors and many other vendors who have supported Asha by donating a good portion of their profits to Asha events.

A majority of the funds raised, as you may have noticed in the financial summary, have come from the runners of Team Asha program who have worked so hard over a period of 4 months and raised money for this wonderful cause. Without them this would not have been possible. We hope to attract new runners every year while retaining the repeat runners.

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for volunteers and assure you that your support and volunteering will indirectly or directly impact children's lives in a positive way.

We have several opportunities for volunteers to get involved, and you can choose to support and help out in whatever capacity you can based on your interests and your time availability (whether it is volunteering for a single day, helping organize one of our events, or committing to support us for an hour or so every month or up to several hours a week). Types of volunteering can vary and can include project reviews, event volunteering, event organizing, running a half marathon, being a mentor (if you are a repeat runner), writing newsletters every quarter and so on (the list can be endless).

Join us by sending an email to sf.volunteer@ashanet.org

If you don't wish you join but just want to donate, you can do so here:
<https://donate.ashanet.org/>

MEET THE 2017 TEAM



Sailaja



Payal



Shishira & Sudeep



Anumeha



Jennifer



Gouri



Chaitanya



Rashi



Vivek



Bhargavi