

ASHA FOUNDATION

Annual Report for the period – April 2008 to March 2009

This report is for the period April 2008 to March 2009. The following projects were continued during this financial year.

1. The AIDS Helpline and Telephone Counseling service.
2. The Terre Des Hommes /KTDHL project
3. Adolescent Sexual Health Education Project
4. The KNH-PMTCT Project.
5. The UNICEF Project till Dec 2008
6. Miscellaneous – CAF & KC Projects.

1.The AIDS Helpline and Telephone Counseling Service:

Since April 2007 this project is supported by individual donor Mr. Krishna Chivukula. Prior to this it has been funded by the Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society for the last eight years. This year this project has completed 11 years.

Automated toll free no-1097-The toll free HIV/AIDS help line number 1097 received a total of 4843 calls from April 2008 to March 2009. The number of calls have considerably decreased on 1097 in the past two years in spite of publicizing the help line number. From the date of inception in 1998 this help line has received a total of 3, 87,175 calls.

Manual telephone no.2354333-The number of calls on the direct telephone counseling number 23543333 has remained almost the same. In the previous year we had received a total of 1544 calls and this year we have received a total of 1503 calls, which shows a decrease of 41 calls. Since inception in the year 2000, the total number of calls that we have received is 10,395 calls.

E-mail queries - Since January 2008 we have started receiving queries online on our email ID.

In the current year (April 2008 to March 2009) we have received 36 email queries. Most of the calls are related to persons with risk.

Training programs-The staff under this project attended two training programs out of which one was a half a day workshop on ART Update and

the resource persons were Dr. Pablo Tebas, Dr. O.C. Abraham, Dr. Glory Alexander and Dr. Sanjay. The other workshop was on International Management of Volunteers which was held over a span of two days in Bangalore in the month of October 2008.

I-volunteers program-A total of 15 new volunteers were trained in imparting information on HIV infection in the past one year taking the overall total to 40. A total of 8 awareness programs were conducted for people from different strata of society such as general public, garment employees, BMTc bus drivers and conductors, women who are a part of a self help group in Doddaballapur, people living in a semi-urban slum in Bangalore and to BSF Jawans . The response that we have received from all of these events have been very positive and encouraging.

In the past one year with the help of the volunteers we have managed to raise an amount of approximately Rs. 20,000

Awareness programs-ASHA Foundation-Ivolunteers

1.	14-Jun-08	AIDS Awareness for BMTc employees	Men	BMTc Bus Depot No.11, Yalahanka, Bangalore	150
2.	15-Jun-08	AIDS Awareness Street Play	General Public	Jagruthi Cycle Rally, Cubbon Park, Bangalore	150
3.	21-Jun-08	AIDS Awareness for BMTc employees	Men	BMTc Bus Depot No.5, Jayanagar, Bangalore	100
4.	28-Jun-08	AIDS Awareness for Self Help Groups	Rural Women	Mahila Dakshata Samiti, Doddaballapur	100
5.	28-Jun-08	AIDS Awareness for Garment Workers	Women	Fabritex Exports,Hosur Road,Bangalore	150
6.	Oct-18-2008	HIV/AIDS awareness event held at Geddalhalli	Women	Geddalhalli,Bangalore	150
7.	21 Feb 2009	HIV/AIDS awareness for BSF Jawans	Men	Border Security Force,Yelahanka ,Bangalore	250
8.	7 March 2009	HIV/AIDS awareness for Garment Workers	Women	Arvind Mills,Mahadevapura Unit ,Bangalore	250

2.The Terre Des homes Project/KTDHL project :

TDH Netherlands, had supported this project since May 2001.They have altered their policy recently as a result of which this partnership had to be discontinued as of September 2008 with much regret on both sides. From October 2008 to March 2009, this project was supported by Mr. Krishna and as of 1.4.2009 this project is supported by Kindernoithilfe , Germany till 2012.

The four sub projects are:

- Integrated counseling and testing center(ICTC)
- HIV AIDS clinic
- Focus on children
- Focus on women

1.ICTC- 492 persons were tested for HIV- 235 men, 236 women and 21 children.288 were counseled at ICTC and the remaining by UNICEF counselor.74 (15%) were HIV positive- 31 men, 35 women and 8 children.343 persons were tested free of cost.

Till date we have counseled a total of 2769 people. (March 2009).

2. HIV AIDS Clinic: There were 154 clinic days in this financial year. 814 HIV positive people were already registered and 107 new patients were added bringing the total to 921.105 patients are receiving HAART- (82 Adults and 23 Children.)We are caring for 51 Positive Children presently.33 patients received treatment for TB . 21 completed treatment and 12 are continuing the treatment. 9 positive pregnant mothers received PMTCT services. Since the clinic has now been shifted here , we have an understanding with Baptist Hospital and investigations are being done there. There is a credit system established and the bills are paid on a monthly basis by ASHA Foundation for those patients who cannot afford treatment.

3. Focus on children: 116 children received support for education.

Description-Education	No.of children
Total number of children enrolled	116
Male	50
Female	66
ELC	19

Primary	44
Secondary	43
Vocational Training (Higher Education)	10

50 children received nutritional support.

40 families received dry rations(8 kg rice,1ltr oil,1/2 kg Dhal,1/2kg green gram, 2 kg wheat,1/2kg moong dhal.)

4.Focus on women:

SHG groups : Four SHG are formed(Srusti, Trupthi, Preethi and Prakruthi.)There are 15-20 members in each group.

Each group has saved-

Srusti- Rs.20,955.

Trupthi-Rs.25,410.

Preethi -Rs.10,065.

Prakruthi-Rs.3570.

They meet on 3rd Sunday of every month. Ten women have also taken loans from their respective SHGs.

During this year 6 people received interest free loans to start their own business. The details are as follows :

	Names	Loan	Balance	Purpose
1	Vasantha	10,000	7,000	Petty Shop
2	Laveena luthar	7,000	4,200	Sari Business
3	Gangadhar	30,000	21,100	Auto rickshaw
4	Padma Benny	30,000	21,500	Auto rickshaw
5	Vinodha	15,000	8,150	tailoring machine, sari business
6	Kalavathi	10,000	8,000	Sari Business

3. Adolescent Sexual Health Education Project:

Workshops- Three teachers training workshops were held during this period.

- 1 31st May – 1st June & 28th June –Project life, Venue : Christ college
Bangalore -Participants 12
- 2 11th -13th June 2008 - Pune - participants 53
- 3 14th -16th August 2008 - Pune -participants 52.

Items	Upto 2008	2008 - 2009	Total
Workshops	31 Workshops	3 workshops	34
Teachers	1765	117	1882
Schools	306	30 schools in Pune 9 schools in Mumbai, 22 schools in B'lore 24 schools in Visak	85 schools 41 old schools
Students	About 50,000 completed in Karnataka. 30,000 were doing the program	4547 students in Pune. 993 students in Mumbai 5000 students in B'lore 5000 students in Vizak	15,540

Alumni Meeting: One Alumni meeting was held during this period in Pune. 14 schools of the 30 schools/NGOs were represented and 20 participants attended the meeting. A good feedback in terms of implementation was received.

Follow up:The outstanding feature of the follow up in Pune is that all the schools that attended the workshop have implemented the program. Those who represented NGO's have either implemented the program or networked with us to further the prevention education program.

Follow up in Karnataka took place as and when time permitted through correspondence and telephone calls for posting the book "Mapping the Future" and research data collection. Project Life volunteers are following up the 22

Catholic Schools in Bangalore. They are reaching out to 5,000 children in these schools.

Seminars & Other meetings: Conducted by ASHA staff-two

1.25th June “ Light a Lamp” seminar for people who convey children from home to school and back (Treating the girl child with honor)

2.13th Dec 2008 – AIDS Awareness for Youth by Rotary Club, Diamond dist. Bangalore

ASHA Staff attended - 2

3.3rd - 5th Nov 2008- Schools that care “ Venue Indian Institute of Advanced studies. Bangalore: Mrs. Joyce attended.

4.17th & 18th March 2009 Ecumenical Solidarity for HIV & AIDs competent Churches in India (ESHA) , CISRS House, Delhi: Mrs. Joyce Davis attended.

Needs Assessment Meetings – 2

5.Stakeholders meeting for Needs Assessment in Mumbai. 15 nodal people attended. Dr. Glory Alexander and Mrs. Joyce were the resource persons.

7.Stakeholders Meeting for Needs Assessment in Nagpur. 15 Nodal people attended. Mrs. Joyce Davis was the resource person.

Writing of Resource Manual:Writing of Resource Material for Prevention Education in Schools. The curriculum consists of 5 Units. The first draft is ready for most of the lessons. Work is on to complete the lessons and improve those that have been written.

The resource material is meant for teachers, for Students, for Parents.

Field testing of Material in three schools. Two schools, St. Joseph’s Boys’ High School, St. Francis Xavier Girls’ High School have started use of the material

Funding:Curriculum development funding by Stewardship Foundation ended in April. The balance was sanctioned by the foundation to complete the work. This projected is co funded by Bread for the World who have left the funding open ended to complete the project.

Mumbai and Pune project was funded by Geneva Global. The funding ended in Dec 2008. The balance was sanctioned to continue the project till June 2009.

4.The KNH-PMTCT Project: The KNH-PMTCT Project was started in January 2007 and is funded through Kindernothilfe, a funding agency based in Germany and the funds come through its partner organization, Christian Council for Child and Youth Care (CCCYC). ASHA Foundation has initiated PMTCT services in 24 mission hospitals in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The first three institutions which were supported under Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, which need support only for care of HIV positive pregnant women identified, have also been included with the 21 active hospitals, making a total of 24 hospitals currently partnered by ASHA Foundation for PMTCT.

The partner hospitals are :

1. Bethesda Leprosy Hospital, Narasapur-AP
2. CSI Campbell Hospital, Jammalamadagu-AP
3. Salvation Army Evangeline Booth Hospital, Nidubrolu-AP
4. Womens Hospital Ambajipeta-AP
5. St.Joseph's Hospital- Guntur-AP
6. Christa Mitra Ashram Hospital, Ankola-Kar
7. Hope Medical center-Kolar-Kar
8. ETCM Hospital, Kolar-Kar
9. Lombard Memorial Hospital, Udupi-Kar
10. Seventh Day Adventist Hospital, Bangalore-Kar
11. Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Bangalore-Kar
12. CSI Mission Hospital, Bangalore-Kar
13. Snehalaya Hospital, Solur-Kar
14. CSI Mission Hospital, Codacal-Kerala
15. Rural Health Training Centre, Kazhakuttom-Kerala
16. Somervell Memorial CSI Hospital, Karakonam-Kerala
17. LMS brigade Hospital-Kollam-Kerala
18. Seventh Day Adventist Hospital, Ottapallam-Kerala
19. Bethesda Hospital, Ambur-TN
20. Bishop Walsh Memorial Hospital, Coimbatore-TN
21. Christian Fellowship Hospital, Oddanchatram-TN
22. CSI Hospital, Kancheepuram-TN

23.Gnananadurai Hospital, Sivakasi-TN

24.Salvation Army Catherine Booth Hospital,Nagercoil-TN

Item	Apr '08 - Mar '09 (from 21 active hospitals)	Apr '09 - Jun '09 (from 24 active hospitals)	Cumulative from Jan '03– Jun '09 EGPAF+KNH
Total no. of deliveries	17,461	4,964	52,775
Total no. of ANC women	13,593	3,874	45,037
Total no. of women counseled	19,495	4,700	57,681
Total no. of women tested	17,301	4,543	54,371
Total no. of antenatal women identified HIV positive	91	17	338
No. of liveborns	78	6	256
Eligible women treated	94.8%	100%	92.1%
No. of babies treated	76	6	247
PCRs or ELISAs done	60	11	183
Positive PCR	2	0	4
Negative PCR/ELISA	58	11	179
Transmission rate	3.3%	0%	2.1%
% of reduction in transmission from 30%	88.8%	100%	93%

The record of training conducted from Apr'08 to Mar'09 by ASHA Staff is as follows:

1.	No. of counselors trained in HIV/AIDS and PMTCT from Aug 08 to Mar 09	19
2.	No. of doctors sensitized	19
3.	No of. nurses sensitized	103
4.	No. of nursing students sensitized	286
5.	No. of administrators sensitized	1
6.	No. of paramedics sensitized	4
7.	No. of attenders and ward aides sensitized.	9
8	Others	0

	TOTAL	441
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The record of training conducted from Apr'08 to Mar'09 by counsellors who were trained by ASHA is as follows:

1.	No. of nurses sensitized	231
2.	No. of nursing students sensitized	451
3.	No. of paramedics sensitized	18
4.	No. of attenders and ward aides sensitized.	61
5	No. in community & others	825
	TOTAL	1586

Four workshops were conducted during this period

1. Counsellors workshop-12th-22nd August 2008-18 counselors from 12 hospitals
2. Counselors workshop-26th-27th November 2008-27 participants from 16 hospitals
3. Counselors workshop-23rd Feb -6th March 2009- 4 counselors from 3 hospitals
4. Doctors workshop-28th November 2008-20 doctors and 3 administrators from 17 hospitals

Three staff attended a workshop conducted by EGPAF on March 20th 2009.

A total of 28 site visits were made during the year to the various hospitals.

5.The UNICEF Project: The UNICEF project was a new project that was started in May- June 2006 and concluded in Dec.2008 This was collaboration between six NGOs based in Karnataka, 3 of whom are from Bangalore. The leadership and management support is provided through an NGO called CARDTS through its Management Support Team, Karnataka (MST-K). This project involved using the concept of peer education to reach out to youth in the age group of 15-25 years in 13 slums in zone 4 of Bangalore urban district. The staff under the project consisted of a project coordinator, 2 training officers, one counselor and a part-time accountant. Under this project, a total of 7,000 youth were to be reached through training of 140 peer educators. Each of these peer educators would be trained through 4 level of training and each peer educators would reach out to 50 peers on a 1:1 basis. The youth were divided into 3 groups-MARA (most at Risk Adolescent), EVA (especially Vulnerable Adolescent) and AYNMAR (Adolescent Youth Not at

Risk). The peer educators were selected from all the three groups. The following programs have been conducted to date:

Sl.no	Particulars	Cumulative
1	Total number of peers reached	9533
2	Total number of peer educators trained	293
3	Number of condom distributed	10362
4	Number of VCT	835
5	Number of STI	256

This project concluded in Dec 2008.

6. Miscellaneous ,CAF India and KC projects.

CAF India supported 20 women on free ART for the last 3 years. This project ended in October 2008 after three years. The women have been shifted to the Krishna project. CAF-India still sends us small sums of money through their GAYE program and a total of Rs.17,000 has been received thus far.

Mr. Krishna Chivukula has regularly supported ASHA Foundation through the last year also. The funds supported the AIDS helpline and telephone counseling service, free and subsidized ART for our patients and drugs for opportunistic infections. When the TDH project ended in Sept. 2008, Mr. Krishna gave ASHA Foundation a lump sum of Rs. 6 lakhs to continue the project from Oct.2008 to March 2009. Since then KNH-Germany is supporting this project.

The Overseas Womens' Club has supported ASHA Foundation over the years for needs that are not supported under project costs , such as computers and UPS which has been of great help to the organization and ASHA Foundation would like to place on record its gratitude to OWC.

7.Research: Dr. Sundar Rao has continued to help ASHA Foundation with research work . T

The new developments have been that that a Research Advisory Board has been formed with seven members. They are

1. Dr. Sundar Rao Chairman of the Board.
2. Dr. Glory Alexander Director, ASHA Foundation
3. Dr. I.M. Thomas Chair Person IEC Consultants
4. Dr. A. Nandakumar Officer-in-charge, (ICMR)
National Cancer registry Programme
5. Dr. Mannam Ebenezer Director, SLRTC, Karigiri
6. Mrs. Joyce Davis Education Coordinator, ASHA
7. Rev. Dr. K.C. Abraham Doctor of Theology.

ASHA Foundation has also received recognition as a Scientific and Industrial research organization(SIRO) with Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of India for a period of two years from April 2009 to March 2011. We thank Dr. Sundar Rao for helping us in this effort.

Currently ASHA Foundation working on the following research projects

1. Use of Patients' demographic and sexual historical data on Prediction of Antenatal Patients at Risk for HIV infection
2. Growth and development of HIV positive children
3. A study on the effectiveness of Adolescent Health Education on pre adolescents and adolescents in Maharashtra-
4. Professional development of teachers co-relating with response of high school students to AHE
5. A descriptive study of telephone users of HIV helpline

6.Importance of Pre –test counseling among people at risk for HIV infection.

Two research papers have been completed and sent for publication

1. **Prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV/AIDS- our experience in South India-** This was sent to the Indian Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.Present status is that it has passed the peer review and is now with the Editorial Board.
2. **Response of Indian School students to Adolescent health Education-**This has been sent to the New Frontiers of Education.

A booklet has been published by ASHA Foundation called-**Mapping the Future- Response of students to AHE.**

ASHA Foundation would like to place on record its gratitude to Dr.Sundar Rao for all the help rendered in working on research and his commitment to the organization.

During this year five staff resigned from ASHA Foundation and four new staff joined the organization.

Mr. Krishna Chivakula has continued to support ASHA regularly and also in times of extreme need and for this we are very grateful.

Finally, our gratitude to the Members of the Board for all the input received and for their commitment to ASHA Foundation.