

AIM for Seva Bay Area Annual Report

October 2017



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AIM for Seva, a registered public charitable trust, ensures that children go to school and stay in school. Through our successful model of Free Student Hostels we have been able to educate and empower the lives of over 30,000 children from rural India since our inception in 2000.

Spread across 16 states in India, we have 97 Free Student Hostels which provide complete care to children during the critical phase of their mental and physical growth, from Class 4 to Class 12. Nurturing environment, value education, academic coaching, nutrition, health and hygiene awareness, and much more that contribute to student's growth.

Impact

School dropout rate has been reduced by 90%

90% of our students pass the 12-grade public exams

In 2016, from our FSH, 113 students went onto pursue college education. 44 students enrolled for diploma courses

“
I want to make
my country proud
of me by being
a good and
responsible
citizen
when I
grow up.”



Krishna Hanji, 11 years old



AIM for Seva has qualified for “**Champion Level- GuideStar India Platinum**” Certification for 2017 -2018. GuideStar India’s Platinum Certification is the Champion Level Certification which indicates that comprehensive transparency, accountability and good governance procedures are adopted by AIM for Seva with exemplary level of public disclosure.

Free Student Hostels Supported by Bay Area

Bay Area has been assigned six (6) FSHs for annual support consisting a total of 196 children.

FSH	State	# of Students	Amount	Detailed Documents
Amboli (Boys)	Maharashtra	42	\$18,900	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Amboli.pdf
Chunchunakatte (Boys)	Karnataka	40	\$18,000	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Mysore-Chunchunakatte.pdf
Dharmapuri (Boys)	Tamil Nadu	36	\$16,200	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Dhamapuri.pdf
Pedapadu (Girls)	Andhra Pradesh	28	\$12,600	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Pedappadu.pdf
Sheikhpura (Boys)	Bihar	26	\$11,700	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Sheikpura.pdf
Solan (Boys)	Himachal Pradesh	24	\$10,800	http://www.aimforsevausa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Solan.pdf

1. Bagepalli Girls FSH is built with support from the donors of Bay Area, Boston Chapter would also like to support this girls hostel.
2. Because of practical operational conditions, Masood FSH has been replaced by Amboli, now supported by Bay Area.
3. Our total student counts has increased from 3422 students in 2016 to 3619 students in 2017 in all of the 97 FSHs in India.
4. Team USA have taken up the goal of supporting 1812 students in 2017 in 52 FSHs compared to 1509 students in 2016 in 50 FSHs.

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Where Your Dollar Goes?

AIM for Seva's administration costs are remarkably low, less than 10% of the operating costs. AIM for Seva owns and manages projects using a direct delivery model, which ensures that donor funding is more effectively used for programs and running student hostels.



Amboli (Boys)



Dear Team San Francisco Bay Area,

I attend the Divine Touch English Medium School in Amboli. I like going to this school. It's very big, and very clean. There is a big sports playground and here I play cricket with my friends. Back in the village, the school was not this good. I am happy to be here. Thank you.

Aditya Petule Kailash, 12 years

*AIM for Seva Free Student Hostel for Boys
Amboli*

*Sindhudurg
Maharashtra*

Chunchunakatte (Boys)

**Sponsored by
Smt. Kaveri Rangaraj
of Bay Area**



Interview with Kaveri Rangaraj

Kaveri Rangaraj grew up in the Mysore-Coorg area and they used to visit this area and the banks of the Kaveri river (The Ganges of the South) as she was growing up. Chunchunakatte is located on the Banks of Shri Kaveri. Kaveri attended the college nearby. Her parents were Government officers and education was very important to them and same was inculcated in their children and family.

1) What prompted you to sponsor a FSH?

Kaveri: I grew up observing children who were smart but unfortunate because they were poor and did not have the means to get an education and lift themselves and their families out of the cycle of poverty and petty labor jobs. These children were intelligent and I wanted to help them and do something for them. I didn't have a channel to do that before, because one needs a trusted channel that uses the money wisely, has low overhead and the intended recipients get the benefit of the donation. I am a product of India and was given the means of education. I wanted to give back to my motherland and give back to the region where I grew up. I felt that it was like "*pouring oil/ghee into a lamp to light the flame*", the flame of education. It was a quick decision for me. I feel that the return is for generations and is long lasting in that it will provide education to the children for years to come.

2) How much were you involved in the tactical construction of the FSH?

Kaveri: I was not involved much. I was sent the drawings of the new FSH etc. I preferred to leave the work and decisions on-the-ground to the professional engineers, architects and others, physically present in the region and with much more detailed information and oversight of the project. The location had already been picked by AIMS and there was an existing FSH at the location, but it need to be expanded and refurbished and modernized. This is a boys FSH, with 40 students there now. Ms. Gayatri, is the preset manager of the FSH and she was quite involved in the refurbishment of the FSH and has been in contact with me all along.

3) What is your involvement now that the FSH has been completed and is functional?

Kaveri: I am planning to visit the FSH in December and meet the children staying there and the manager, Ms. Gayatri. My family was invited and they visited the FSH for the inaugural puja ceremony, which was very well done and my family was very happy with the hostel, the quality of the construction and to meet the students staying there.

4) What are the future plans for the FSH?

Kaveri: I am funding a water cooler and water purifier for the FSH, so the students can have a clean supply of drinking water available. They are also in the process of installing a solar water heater and solar panels for electricity. I would like to visit the hostel and may be also visit an all girls FSH in Yelahanka in Bangalore, as the Swamini running that FSH visited the Chunchunakatte FSH during inauguration and had invited me to visit the all girls FSH.

5) Did the project meet your expectations?

Kaveri: Yes, so far. I haven't personally visited the FSH. But in terms of being on budget and finishing on time, it did meet the targets.

In summary, Kaveri wanted to give back to India, her motherland, from where she got so much, her education, means to earn a good living, opportunity to come to the US and make a good life for herself and her family. The best way to give she felt, was to give a gift of education to the underprivileged children, so they have the means to uplift themselves. This is a gift to benefit the future generations and is long lasting. Again, she would like to use the analogy of "*pouring ghee into a lamp, to light it and give light to all around it*".

Dear Team San Francisco Bay Area,

I love animals - spending time with them, playing with them and looking after them. I don't have parents and the hostel has opened up a new world for me. There are cows in the hostel and I help in looking after them. When I complete my education, I want to buy some cows and start my own dairy.

Chandrashekara, 15 years

*AIM For Seva Sri Kaveri
Free Student Hostel For Boys
Chunchunakatte
Mysore
Karnataka*



Dharmapuri (Boys)



Dear Team San Francisco,

"Thank You for Everything!"

*Boys from AIM for Seva Free Student Hostel
Karagur Village,
Palacode Taluk,
Dharmapuri District,
Tamil Nadu.*

Pedapadu (Girls)



Dear Team San Francisco,

"Thank You for Everthing!"

*Girls from AIM for Seva
Free Student Hostel in Pata Pedapadu,
West Godavari District,
Andhra Pradesh*



Sheikhpura (Boys)



Dear Team San Francisco Bay Area,

Thank you for making a difference!

*Boys from Sumitra Surma AIM for Seva
Free Student Hostel*

Maur

Sheikhpura

Bihar

Solan (Boys)

Thank you San Francisco Bay Area!

*You've made such a big difference in our
lives!*

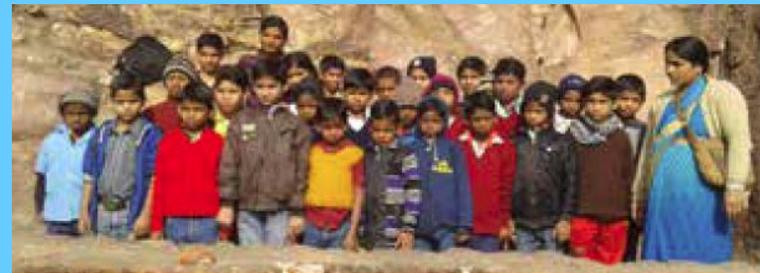
Regards,

*Boys from Seva Niketan AIM for Seva
Free Student Hostel for Boys*

Lawi Khurd

Solan District

Himachal Pradesh



Computer Centre sponsored by Aria and Siana Kapoor



Aria and Siana Kapoor raised USD \$5000 to setup a computer centre for the boys living in AIM for Seva's Free Student Hostel in Udaipur, Rajasthan. Aria (11 years old) created a website to promote the cause and to raise funds did a 'Swim-a-thon' where she swam 70 laps. Her sister Siana (10 years old) performed an 'Adavu-a-thon' where she presented a one hour classical dance. The girls flew down from the USA with their family and inaugurated the computer centre in February 2017. The centre has 7 Lenovo computers, a printer and a trainer to teach the children.

Let's hear from them how they did it all

How did you come up with this idea of doing an adavu-thon and a swim-a thon?

We have participated in many walk-a-thons to raise money for our school and have also made cards for veterans. This time we thought of taking the dance and swim way.

Siana: I have been involved with Indian classical dance for 5 years.

Aria: And I have been swimming for 6 years. I also participated in COOL (Community Outreach Organization and Leadership) at school. We collected and donated socks to a homeless shelter and Halloween candy to US troops.

Did they do some kind of a preparation before the event?

Siana: Our parents and grandfather helped us to create a website to describe AIM for Seva.

Aria: Papa's friend helped us create a link for funds raised to go directly to AIM for Seva. We also made a poster to display at the events.

Do you have any other hobbies?

Siana: I enjoy reading Harry Potter, choir, musicals, guitar, tennis and golf. Siana is a student of Vishwa Shanti Dance Academy, an institute of Shreelata Suresh.

Aria: I enjoy musicals, choir, piano, diving and creative writing

How was your experience in India?

Siana: This was our first trip to India. We really enjoyed it. It was a really unique experience. One of our favorite memories was visiting the Udaipur FSH. We played games with our new friends in Udaipur.

Aria: Even though we didn't speak a common language, we found it easy to interact. We loved the performances the kids had prepared.

Would you like to do such events in future?

Siana: We definitely want to do more events like this one. We hope to visit the FSH again in the future and perhaps visit another one in South India





thank you!

Jugal and Bimla Kishor



Announcing a \$500,000 gift to AIM for Seva by Sri Jugal and Smt Bimla Kishor

It gives us great pleasure in announcing one of the largest individual donations to AIM for Seva.

Jugal and Bimla Kishor, from Pleasanton California have committed to \$500,000 to complete the first phase of the ambitious school and Free Student Hostel (FSH) complex located in the Petlawadi town in Jhabua district in the state of Madhya Pradesh

The sheer size of the donation is impressive in itself. But what makes this extra special is that it is the fulfillment of a long-term guiding vision of Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. The basic plan of AIM for Seva is to build FSHs near existing schools. However, in Swamiji's village of Manjakudi in Tamil Nadu, this plan has blossomed to a remarkable degree, transforming the entire area around it. From a small, agricultural village, Manjakudi now has: Tamil medium High School - 1,400 students, 50% girls, English medium High School - 400 students, 50% girls, Arts and Science College up to Masters degree - 1,200 students, 70% girls, four Free Student Hostels, two for girls and two for boys, WIPRO back office - 150 engineers, 50% recruitment from local college, computer labs, Veda Pathashala, Organic Garden, Large Auditorium, and more. Plus, a bus system to transport 6,000 people in and out of Manjukudi every day!

Pujya Swamiji wanted to duplicate this mega-facility in other parts of the country, preferably in North India. Land was acquired some time back under the leadership of Swami Aishvaryananda. Right up to taking mahasamadhi, Swamiji kept inquiring into the status of this complex. But no one had come forward to make the commitment, until now. Sri and Smt Kishor had been thinking of starting a FSH for some time now. Just in the last few weeks, our US CEO, Srini Raman, went over the significance of this project with the Kishors in great detail. This area in western Madhya Pradesh, bordering Gujarat is full of adivasis and forest dwellers. There is very little by way of school infrastructure, making communities constant targets for conversions.

As Jugal and Bimla started to grasp the enormity of potential, they made the decision: let us do it. The proposal to initially build school with 17 classrooms, plus a 2-story Free Student Hostel for girls came to \$500,000. They signed off 2 weeks back. We are happy to report that architectural work has already started. Bhumi Puja is also scheduled for January 25 at Petlawadi. We invite you to kindly

participate on this auspicious occasion.

We are enormously grateful for the Kishors' vision and generosity. Our hope is that over time many of us can coalesce our support for this potentially huge undertaking such that Petlawadi in MP transforms the whole area around it, becoming another Manjakudi, in fulfilling the vision of the founder of AIM for Seva, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati.

