

Design and Edit: Neera Mallick and Shalmali Patkar

Contributions: Neera Mallick, Samyuktha Muralidharan Sharma, Doris Hofer, Indranil Bhattacharya and Pratyush Das Kanungo

Asha Zurich is a chapter of Asha for Education, a world- wide organisation that works dedicatedly to catalyze socio-economic change through education of underprivileged children in India. We have no paid staff, no office rent and hence run on very low overheads, typically covered through contributions from volunteers. This is a key factor that distinguishes us from many other organizations. In 2014 Asha Zurich is sending more than 1,000 underprivileged children to school with an annual budget of more than CHF 35,000.

TEAM ASHA IN ZURICH MARATHON

On 6 April, 31 runners ran in the Zurich Marathon, Team Run and City Run to raise awareness and funds for Asha Zurich's projects on education of underprivileged children in India. This year, the fundraising target was set at CHF 20,000. Friends and colleagues of the runners as well as many well-wishers of Asha sponsored the runs by donating to Asha. As of 15 April, more than CHF 19,000 was pledged. Donations are still being accepted. If you would like to donate, please take a look at www.asha-zurich.ch/marathon/



UPCOMING EVENTS (APRIL - JUNE)

Chat with Chaat

Passion for Indian snacks
(% is donated to education of underprivileged)
Contact: kirtimalni03@gmail.com



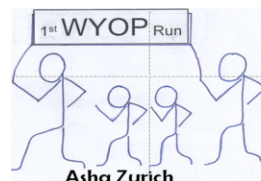
ASHA-CHAT WITH CHAAT FOOD STAND

14 June at the cafeteria of
Gemeinschaftszentrum Oerlikon

Asha collaborates with the Zurich-based Indian street food-brand Chat with Chaat to have a food stand serving you finger-licking Indian snacks. The entire profit from food sales will go to Asha's projects.

WYOP-ASHA RUN

22 June at Sportanlage Fronwald,
Fronwaldstrasse 115, 8046
Zurich-Affoltern



Asha collaborates with the Zurich-based running club Write Your Own Prescription (WYOP) to organize a fun running event. There will be an individual run of 5 km as well as a family run of 1.6 km where the entire family can run together.

More information about the events will soon appear on the Asha website and facebook page.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings! I would like to thank all of you for being with Asha Zurich. We are launching our quarterly newsletter from this year. In the following, we are highlighting our activities, events and updates from our projects in India that took place in the last three months. We are very grateful to our generous donors, passionate volunteers and wonderful strategic partners who have always extended their helping hands to us. Therefore, we wish to let you all know the progress we are making in a timely fashion, through the newsletters. I thank Neera for the editing, Shalmali for the design and Samyukhta, Doris and Indranil for their contributions. Enjoy reading!

Pratyush (Prat) Das Kanungo
President, Asha Zurich

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2014

President: Pratyush Das Kanungo
General Secretary: Akshata Rao
Treasurer : Sachin Mehta
Project Co-ordinators:
Kirtimalini Gadre (SACSAS),
Samyuktha Muralidharan Sharma (VMS),
Umesh Ganoo (LBP)
Editor: Neera Mallick
Webmaster : Rajesh Varadarajan

FUNDRAISERS IN FIRST QUARTER, 2014

INDIAN COOKING COURSE AT MALABAR RESTAURANT



On 2 February, the newly-opened, fine-dining Indian restaurant Malabar organized an Indian cooking course. Asha volunteers helped to publicize the course and promoted Asha's ideology to the participants.

Asha received a generous donation of about CHF 800 from Malabar from the profit and would like to thank the owners of the restaurant, Madhu Padmanabhan and Andrea Ries for the collaboration and our prominent volunteer, Doris Hofer for initiating it.

CHAT WITH CHAAT FOOD STAND AT GZ OERLIKON



On 8 March, Asha Zurich jointly organized a food stand with Chat with Chaat, an Indian street-food brand started by Asha Zurich's long-time volunteer Kirtimalini Gadre. Volunteers helped in cooking and serving the food, as well as in promoting Asha. The event was attended by more than a hundred people and helped us raise about CHF 2,000 for our projects. Wonderful team work!

OUR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

1. LOK BIRADARI PRAKALP

The project was started by Dr. Prakash and his wife Mandakini Amte. Through this, Asha Zurich supports 100 tribal children in Hemalkasa village, Maharashtra.

The funds sent are used to provide

- Uniforms, books and other stationary items for the students.
- Sports equipment.
- Healthy food three times a day.
- Accommodation in a student dormitory.

Project Status:

- Asha Zurich has approved a budget of about CHF 15,700 for 2014.



Last Site Visit: January, 2014 by Prat.

2. SAVE CHILDREN SAVE SOCIETY

Asha Zurich became a part of this project in 2010 to fund 50% of the recurring costs comprising of:

- Salary of the teachers
- Uniforms and scholarships for students,
- Text books and other study tools
- School maintenance and scholarships of 164 children in Manipur.

Project Status:

Asha Zurich has approved a budget of about CHF 5,700 for 2014.



Last Site Visit: July, 2013 by Shantikumar.

3. VISHWAMANDAL SEVASHRAM (VMS – PALAS SCHOOLS)

This project (Palas schools) supports the education of the children of the Bhil tribe in Dulhe district (Maharashtra). Asha Zürich has been associated with the VMS project since 2005 and supports about 981 tribal children.

The funds sent, are spent in providing:

- Salaries of teachers, supervisors and on-site coordinators.
- Educational material for the students.

Project Status:

Asha Zürich has approved a budget of about CHF 15,000 for 2014.

Last Site Visit: December, 2013 by Anup Mehta.

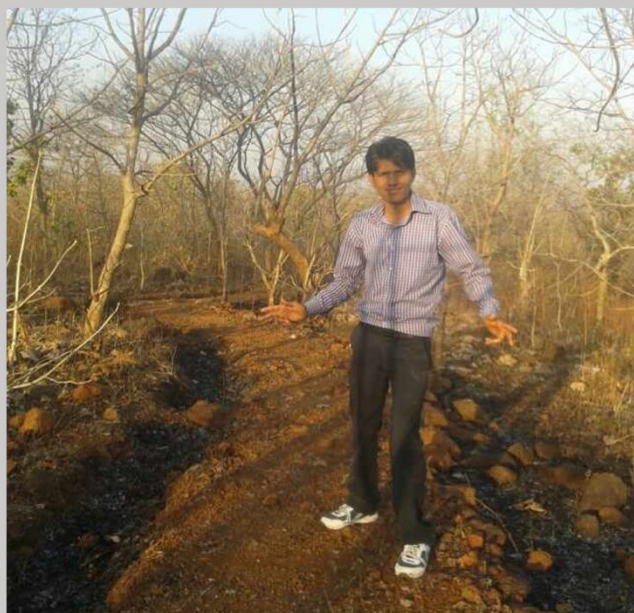
SUCCESS STORY FROM VMS-PALAS

In the past there have been many instances of students who have successfully integrated into the formal educational system.

The most recent example is that of Vinod who has completed his MBBS (undergraduate medical training) in Maharashtra. His father gave an interview to the on - site coordinator in which he credited VMS –PALAS for Vinod's achievement.

"My Son is a Doctor, thanks to VMS."

Vinod began his journey into education in a Palas class. He then moved from non-formal classes to formal schooling, thanks to the Palas initiative.



Vol nteer

Asha Zürich needs yoU

The core of this organization is volunteerism. The incredible spirit of its selfless and dedicated volunteers and their friends has helped Asha to attain its goal.

What motivates someone to join Asha?

Let us hear it in the words of Rajdeep Deb, the latest volunteer to join our "Asha Family", as we like to call it.

"I had heard about Asha Zürich some time ago but came to know about it in detail from Pratyush recently. Then I decided to attend one of its meetings and I was thrilled to see how much good work is going on in the group. I always wanted to contribute in some way to child education and I found this group a perfect platform to do my little effort in this regard."

Want to join Asha?

Register yourself with us today at asha_zurich@yahoo.com.

GIVING TO ASHA

Asha Zürich team selects educational projects for underprivileged children in India through a rigorous review process involving a site visit by a volunteer. Funds for the project are raised by direct donation and charity events.

Even small, regular donations count. Asha encourages its well-wishers to take part in the Charity As Your Hobby program.



With as little as CHF 20 per month, one can sponsor the monthly cost of education, food and accommodation of a child.

PLEASE MAKE A DONATION!

Bank	UBS Zürich
	In favor of Asha Zürich
Account Number	206-259021.40Q
IBAN	CH29 0020 6206 2590 2140 Q