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Houston, TX 77282-1369

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EKAL USA
ANNUAL REPORT
HOLISTIC VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT ROOTED IN PRIMARY EDUCATION
Ekal Global Virtual Conference
The annual US conference this year turned global, thanks to Covid. We were able to invite Ekal volunteers from India, Canada and Australia to join us at the US national conference as it was a virtual event. We had over 750 attendees during the two-day event (September 12/13). The highlight of the conference was a virtual tour of various Ekal projects (Ekal on wheels, Tailoring centers, Computer Training lab, Integrated Village Development and Gramothan Resource centers) spread from Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, UP, Maharashtra, Assam and Telangana. A donor panel discussion session was arranged that provided the donors an opportunity to share their experience with the audience. The technology team presented its roadmap for 2021 providing a detailed insight into the planned activities in bringing digital education (e-Shiksha) and e-health (Arogya) initiatives through a connected platform.

Plans for 2021 and beyond
As part of the future roadmap, in addition to providing continued primary education, the plan clearly outlines the need to focus on integrated Village development (IVD) by establishing training centers in strategic villages to provide computer-based skills training to children and youth from the villages, telemedicine to support e-health initiative, youth employment opportunities through Skill Development Centers and enabling e-commerce portal connecting ekal farmers directly to end-consumers eliminating middlemen. This would help the village community to become a micro economic center and achieve self-sufficiency in five years. Ekal's mission can thus be summarized as having all villages be literate, healthy, empowered, and self-sustaining.

I passionately believe that Ekal Vidyalaya is uniquely positioned to be recognized as the global leader in eradicating illiteracy and developing communities that live in harmony with nature. Our mission is to realize ‘Gram Swarajya’ (Self-sustaining villages) that was a dear dream of Mahatma Gandhi. The true wealth of India lies in its villages and it’s only through its success can India become a shining beacon. We feel blessed to be part of this journey with Ekal.

Best Wishes

Suresh Iyer
President
Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA

Dear Friends of Ekal

Ekal Pranam.

As we all know, this year has been very challenging and all of us have encountered issues that we never thought we would encounter.

This pandemic has created a great deal of adversity, but also has presented many opportunities as well. Since Ekal is a grassroots organization with our strength based on our dedicated volunteers and committed donors, we overcame many of these challenges through virtual meetings to coordinate Ekal activities as well as connecting with our dedicated donors through virtual concerts and virtual gala.

Ekal’s teachers
During this pandemic, most Ekal schools remained closed. Our loyal and dedicated teachers took the lead to educate residents of the village that they serve about Covid-19. This development lead to a remarkable feat that most the villages that had an Ekal school were practically Covid-free due to the efforts of Ekal teachers. In addition, our Women Empowerment Centers produced more than 2 million masks and distributed them to local first responders and neighboring villages to stem the tide of the Covid-19 pandemic in the local areas.

GRANE
We also undertook a very important initiative so that the GRCs can become self-sustaining by establishing the Gramothan AtmaNirbhar Ekal (GRANE) with the help of many young professionals. This will help farmers increase the value of their crops as well as help GRCs to generate critical operating/revenue to ensure self-sustainability. I strongly believe that this initiative will be a game changer for the entire Ekal movement.

I want to offer my most sincere thanks to all of our Regional and Chapter presidents, and all of the dedicated volunteers to make this a very successful and memorable year in the face of countless and unprecedented challenges. This achievement would not have been possible without your efforts. I also want to extend my profound gratitude to all our donors and supporters who have come forward and increased their commitments despite the enormously trying economic circumstances. In closing, having come through 2020 with a strong foundation and organization fully intact, I am very confident that 2021 will witness the continued rise and success of Ekal.

Arun Gupta
Chairman of the Board

Ekal USA has held prominent position for two decades in ushering Ekal into a mode where focus on primary education grew and flourished to comprehensive rural development, through ideas, technology and resources. This support has made it possible for Ekal to scale its vision up and realise it too.

Ekal Growth
Previous year witnessed growth in E Shiksha, the initiative of digital education by tablets in Ekal Vidyalayas, which has now graduated to a project from pilot and the number of such schools increased from 180 to 1,170. Ekal on Wheels, the mobile digital vans, doubled from 19 to 36. Infrastructure for farmers and skills training got a boost by addition of 4 new Gramothan Resource Centres, taking the tally to 15 such centres. Coverage of new areas for Integrated Village Development continued as well as opening up of Skill Centres at 7 new places. The hallmark of the year was operating 9 skill wheels, the mobile digital vans, doubled from 19 to 36. Infrastructure for farmers and skills training got a boost by addition of 4 new Gramothan Resource Centres, taking the tally to 15 such centres. Coverage of new areas for Integrated Village Development continued as well as opening up of Skill Centres at 7 new places. The hallmark of the year was operating 9 skill centres under PMKVY, which required upgrading the infrastructure and better quality of trainers. Health services got boost through consolidation of Tele-Medicine program and addition of a new service, mobile Eye diagnostic van. Most of this growth has been supported by Ekal USA.

COVID & Ekal
Covid coronavirus stuck since beginning of 2020 and affected the operations adversely. The normal field activities came to halt since middle of March and the pandemic presented various kinds of challenges, financial and operational. Ekal responded very swiftly and efficiently to the need of the hour and rendered various community services like making and free distribution of face masks, community feeding in urban areas, spreading awareness in Ekal villages on measures to boost immunity, guarding villages for testing of migrant residents etc.

With new vistas developed during the pandemic in use of technology, fund raising and communication coupled with emphasis on quality as a focus, Ekal is poised to deliver with greater impact looking forward.
### Five Year Analysis & Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>YR 2015</th>
<th>YR 2016</th>
<th>YR 2017</th>
<th>YR 2018</th>
<th>YR 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions ($)</td>
<td>6,131,663</td>
<td>6,809,883</td>
<td>8,030,242</td>
<td>9,267,606</td>
<td>9,171,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Investment ($)</td>
<td>(2,694.00)</td>
<td>(8,191.00)</td>
<td>(1,404.00)</td>
<td>(29,037.00)</td>
<td>75,068.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue ($)</td>
<td>6,128,969</td>
<td>6,801,692</td>
<td>8,028,838</td>
<td>9,296,643</td>
<td>9,246,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Raising - Ticket Income</td>
<td>407,748</td>
<td>432,226</td>
<td>404,707</td>
<td>497,848</td>
<td>473,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Raising Expenses</td>
<td>(832,601)</td>
<td>(814,932)</td>
<td>(996,632)</td>
<td>(1,165,294)</td>
<td>(1,277,204)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Schools supported by EVFUSA.</td>
<td>12,536</td>
<td>16,048</td>
<td>16,997</td>
<td>18,554</td>
<td>14,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Life Time School</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds sent directly to EVFI by US donors in Rupees (Amt converted in $)</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>70,927</td>
<td>187,843</td>
<td>236,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Service - India ($) Schools/Projects</td>
<td>(5,685,375)</td>
<td>(7,366,577)</td>
<td>(7,484,935)</td>
<td>(5,076,051)</td>
<td>(9,179,192) **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General ($)</td>
<td>(210,849)</td>
<td>(212,298)</td>
<td>(179,111)</td>
<td>(233,315)</td>
<td>(187,119)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Fund Raising Expense ($)</td>
<td>(424,853)</td>
<td>(382,706)</td>
<td>(591,925)</td>
<td>(667,446)</td>
<td>(803,671)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>(6,321,077)</td>
<td>(7,961,581)</td>
<td>(8,255,971)</td>
<td>(5,976,812)</td>
<td>(10,169,982)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Total Expenses to Revenue</td>
<td>10.37%</td>
<td>8.75%</td>
<td>9.60%</td>
<td>9.69%</td>
<td>10.72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year 2018 fund of $3,683,721.00 was transferred in year 2019; Net Ending Assets for 2019 : 3,918,632**

All numbers are from audited statements.
EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF USA
Uplifting India, One Village at a time.

BRINGING EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT TO REMOTE RURAL INDIA

After reaching and exceeding our target of 100,000 Ekal schools, we are now adding other services to bring holistic development to the villages.

Digital Literacy, Organic Farming, Telemedicine and Skill Training have been added to list of interventions in the Ekal villages.

The following interventions are provided to ensure a pathway to a self-reliant (Atma Nirbhar) healthy village community:

- **Ekal Vidyalaya (K-3)** Augmented with E-Shiksha - Literacy and Digital Literacy
- **Ekal Arogya** - Health and Hygiene
- **Gramothan** - Skill Development
  - Tailoring Training Centers for Women
  - Computer Training Center - Basic and Advanced Computer Training
  - Other Skill Training as Appropriate for the Region
- **Poshan Vatika** - Provide fruit trees and vegetables seedlings to farmers
  - Work with farmers to improve agricultural yields and income
- In addition, the program works to identify special government programs that can be brought to the villages.

**12 PROJECTS IMPACTING 180000 PEOPLE**

Located at the center of 100 villages

- Provides variety of market aligned skill training programs including tailoring, digital literacy, sustainable farming etc.
- Food processing units to create value-added food products like Turmeric Powder, Moringa Powder etc.
- Market linkages to sell products to premium markets
- **GRANE** - Focused on making the GRC self-sustaining and increasing income for the villagers

**33 HUB CENTERS, 21 SPOKE CENTERS 10,000 WOMEN TRAINED**

**INTEGRATED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT**

Three-month program

- Hub-and-spoke model - Central training centers train women who open satellite training centers in their village
- Graduates can earn up to Rs. 2,000/month
- Self-help group established at the training center to connect women to large-scale market opportunities.

**33 HUB CENTERS, 21 SPOKE CENTERS 10,000 WOMEN TRAINED**

**33 HUB CENTERS, 21 SPOKE CENTERS 10,000 WOMEN TRAINED**

**E-SHIKSHA - TEACHING WITH TABLETS**

- The tablet program is implemented at all centers (group of 30 villages) level
- Each school is given three tablets
- Good curated content from different sources are presented using the tablets
- Teachers are trained effectively on using the tablets in 1200 Ekal schools

**12 PROJECTS IMPACTING 180000 PEOPLE**

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- Provides variety of market aligned skill training programs including tailoring, digital literacy, sustainable farming etc.
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- Market linkages to sell products to premium markets

**16 CENTERS SUPPORTING 1600 VILLAGES**

**TELEMEDICINE**

- Local women are trained to use a mobile phone based telemedicine toolkit
- The toolkit help treat common ailments
- Villagers who need special attention are connected to a doctor using videoconferencing and prescription is provided

**PILOT IN 60 VILLAGES**

**GRAMOTHAN RESOURCE CENTER**

- Located at the center of 100 villages
- Provides variety of market aligned skill training programs including tailoring, digital literacy, sustainable farming etc.
- Food processing units to create value-added food products like Turmeric Powder, Moringa Powder etc.
- Market linkages to sell products to premium markets
- **GRANE** - Focused on making the GRC self-sustaining and increasing income for the villagers

**16 CENTERS SUPPORTING 1600 VILLAGES**
**Leadership**

- **Board of Directors**
  - Arun Gupta: Chairman
  - Vinod Jhunjhunwala: Vice-Chairperson
  - Alok Pandey: Director
  - Jawahar Taunk: Director
  - Kamlesh Shah: Director
  - Pragyakant Manglik: Director
  - Ramesh Shah: Director
  - Subra Dravida: Director
  - Umesh Shukla: Director

- **Executive Committee**
  - Suresh Iyer: President
  - Subra Dravida: Vice President
  - Naren Chavda: Secretary
  - Viral Patel: VP-Technology
  - Vikas Patel: Treasurer
  - Ranjani Saigal: Exec. Director
  - Seema Gupta: Program Manager

- **Regional President**
  - Janakbhai Dalal: Southeast
  - Jyotsna Shah: Central
  - Jyotindra Patel: Mid Atlantic
  - Malti Pandya: Florida
  - Milan Patel: Southwest
  - Pragyakant Manglik: New England/New York
  - Pratibha Goyal: Pacific
  - Shashi Shrivastava: Mid Atlantic
  - Vishakha Manek: Midwest

- **Board of Advisors**
  - Subhash Gupta: Chairman-Advisor
  - Ashok Danda: Advisor
  - Srinarayan Chandak: Advisor
  - Vinod Ambastha: Advisor
  - Yashpal Lakra: Advisor

- **Working Committee Members**
  - **Communication & Marketing**
    - Kalapana Fruitwala
    - Prajna Khisty
    - Prakash Shah
    - Prakash Waghmare
    - Dr. Rakesh Gupta
    - Subhash Gupta
    - Viral Patel
  - **Youth**
  - Event Chair
  - Media
  - Arogya, Chair
  - Operations
  - Web

**GRANE**

Granth Amri Atma Nirbharta for Ekal is a volunteer driven initiative focusing on maximizing the impact of resources being deployed at Gramothan Resource Centers. The purpose is to have all Ekal villages get maximum benefit out of it. The goal of GRANE is to increase the income level of the villagers while making the Gramothan Centers self-sufficient. To achieve this, various projects are initiated to take advantage of market demands and e-commerce tools. Ekal will have more updates about GRANE in summer 2021.
Subjects ranging from Python to Computer Engg to Arts, History, Chess, etc., were covered. EYLs conducted more than 22 virtual workshops and webinars, which were well received and attended by more than 50+ EYLs along with many others. It was also very productive, as EYLs came up with EKAL youth projects and ideas for the year 2020.

Over the years, many EKAL youth leaders (EYLs) have been active in various projects to raise awareness about EKAL, e.g., Fund raising through arrangetram/personal performances, cookie sales, birthday/graduation gifts donation through DIY campaigns, local community service projects like road/park cleaning, food drive, internships, special projects, power of education forums, etc.

This year due to challenges posed by the Pandemic, EYLs could not participate in any outdoor or person activities, however, they turned this challenge into an opportunity by going virtual! Many EYLs chose to conduct virtual workshops (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths — known as STEAM), by offering online tutoring on various subjects ranging from Python to Computer Engg to Arts, History, Chess, Public speaking, Biology, Biotechnology, Java, PSAT/SAT, Math, Robotics, Projects for kids, and while creating awareness about EKAL, raised more than $20k in funds supporting many EKAL projects. Just in last 6 months, EYLs conducted more than 22 virtual workshops and connected with more than 600+ new families.

With creativity & passion, some EYLs also chose to showcase their singing talents by conducting virtual concerts and raised more than $5k for EKAL cause along with spreading awareness about EKAL.

Virtual nature of the activities inspired and brought together EYLs from countries like EKAL USA, Canada & India to participate in some global youth projects like Math Bee competition which attracted more than 500+ youth across the globe. Another such global project is App-a-thon being led by San Diego EYLs & EYLCs.

Inspired by the in person experience of Vanayatra, a group of EYLs also designed the virtual internship program “Reach to teach” which is a 10 day virtual internship to connect and interact with EKAL school students from villages and EYLs.

The intelligent & passionate EYLs in healthcare area, designed a virtual pre-medical internship (PMI) Internship and is being implemented with the help of EKAL India and EKAL USA Aanergya sector volunteers. In Sept 2020, along with ENC, EYLs worked together to plan and successfully execute, the 2 day youth conference- By youth For youth.

It was well received & attended by more than 50+ EYLs along with many EYLs (youth coordinators) from chapters all over the USA, Canada & India. It was also very productive, as EYLs came up with EKAL youth board proposal and constitution. Currently, it is under review by EKAL board and EC.

EYLCs & EYLs meet every week on Wednesday from 8 pm to 8:30 pm EST on Zoom. For more information, please contact at ekal_youth@ekal.org or call Prajna Khisty @(732)762-5464.

Here’s the glimpse at various EKAL Youth led virtual workshops / activities in year 2020.

We thank every one of our supporters for their generous contributions!