

EKAL USA  
**2021**



**HOLISTIC VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT ROOTED IN PRIMARY EDUCATION**



## From the desk of the President, Suresh Iyer

It gives me great pleasure to provide the annual report of Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA for the year 2021 and share with you some of the incredible accomplishments Ekal has been able to achieve during the continued challenges due to the Covid crisis globally.

At the outset, I want to extend our sincere thanks to our donors and volunteers for their continued support of our efforts during the testing times. Ekal is blessed with such a wide pool of donors and volunteers alike who have made it possible for Ekal USA to continue providing the much-needed support in managing the crisis due to covid second wave that hit Ekal villages quite hard. As most of the activities in India came to a standstill, Ekal USA used this time to bring in several technology improvements to benefit internal as well as external communication with our donors and volunteers. Ekal now has built a digital platform enabling us to scale quickly and provide an opportunity in the coming days to expand our services in the rural and tribal villages rapidly. A communication to this effect will be reaching our donors in the coming months.

Here is the brief highlight of the year 2021 for Ekal USA:

### Covid (Second Wave) and Ekal

The year 2021 started off great for Ekal with multiple activities early on. However, with the onset of the second wave of covid and rapid spread in Ekal villages, the US team worked with other non-profit organizations such as Sewa International, Private foundations to procure and ship the much-needed Oxygen concentrators, Oximeters and digital thermometers that was direly in need to quickly diagnose and isolate those who were affected. We are thankful to our volunteers and donors who overwhelmingly supported us during these trying times and help us stem the tide of spread within our villages.

A brief highlight on the herculean efforts provided by volunteers of Ekal(India) in curbing the spread of Second wave in the villages Ekal serves:

- Setup a toll-free hotline for remote diagnosis with volunteer physicians.
- Converting EKAL Gramothan Resource Centers (GRC) to isolation centers equipped with adequate beds, Oxygen concentrators, supplies, paramedics and health workers to monitor affected patients, stabilize the O2 levels and transport to nearest primary health centers for further care.
- Spreading awareness in all Ekal villages about the benefit of vaccination to counter misinformation about vaccination leading to hesitancy in getting vaccinated.
- Train Ekal teachers along with health workers to provide preventive care in each village.

As a combined result of above measures, Ekal was successful in managing the second wave in Ekal villages. With the subsiding of the pandemic and gradual lifting of curbs, effective July 1, 2021 most of the activities have slowly been restarted and hope to gain full momentum to pre-covid levels before the end of this year.

### Plans for 2022-2025

While the Covid crisis took its toll, it also gave the Ekal USA and India teams the necessary 'down time' to start planning the five-year future road map and identify the necessary areas where impactful support can be provided to our villages to make it economically self-sustaining. In addition to providing continued primary education, the plan clearly outlines the need to focus on bringing digital education in all of the 100,000 Ekal supported villages, Provide Telemedicine enhanced Health services in 36,000 villages, establish Integrated Village Development (IVD) projects in 100 sanch (Cluster of 30 villages) with Skill development centers to provide computer-based skills training to youth providing employment opportunities and establishment of 100 women empowerment centers imparting tailoring training. This would help the village community to become a micro economic center and achieve self-sufficiency in five years.

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 and hope to gain your continued support in making this a reality.

Best Wishes

Suresh Iyer

President

Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA



## From the desk of the Chairman, Arun Gupta

Dear friends of Ekal,

We are truly indebted to each and everyone of you for your steadfast support of Ekal through the challenging times brought forth by the pandemic. The last year and the first part of this year have been truly challenging for the United States and India. Despite the challenges, we had very successful fundraising programs where so many of you provided support not just for the schools but also for all the initiatives to combat covid. The fundraising efforts had to be done through virtual musical concerts and galas. The success of these efforts was due to the support of the donors and the hard work put in by all the Ekal USA team and volunteers. In India Ekal volunteers on the ground worked hard to ensure that Ekal continues to flourish and thrive despite the new normal imposed by Covid. Making Ekal Atmanirbhar or self reliant has

always been our goal. The Gramothan Atmanirbharta for Ekal project that we initiated last year under the leadership of our supporter Vivek Sharma, who led a team of young volunteers is now fully functional. The project that works to create value-added products and connect the farmers to the market is now making and selling Haldi (turmeric). Based on the success of this experiment, we plan to expand to other areas.

Ekal's strength was tested during the pandemic and we have emerged stronger than before. I look forward to working with you to take Ekal to new heights.

Arun Gupta

Chairman, Board of Directors

अन्नदानं परं दानं विद्यादानमतः परम् ।  
अन्नेन क्षणिका तृप्तिर्यावज्जीवं च विद्यया ॥

*annadānaṃ pārāmdānāṃ vidyādānamataḥ param ।  
annena kṣaṇikā trptiḥ yāvajjīvañca vidyayā ॥*

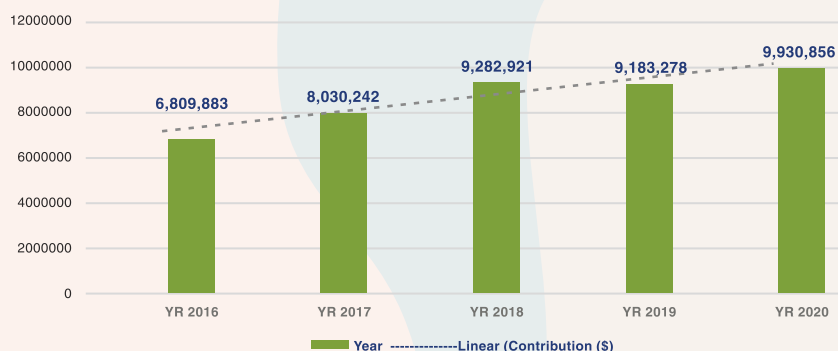
Giving food to a person is a great deed, but giving vidyā (education) is even better.  
The satisfaction (obtained) from food is momentary, but that (obtained) from vidyā lasts a lifetime.

## Five Year Analysis & Comparison

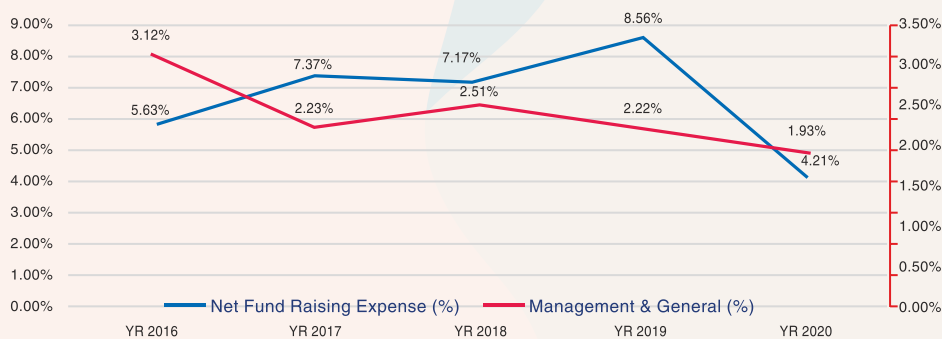
Year	YR 2016	YR 2017	YR 2018	YR 2019	YR 2020
Contributions (\$)	6,809,883	8,030,242	9,267,606	9,171,405	9,930,856
Income from Investment (\$)	(8,191.00)	(1,404.00)	29,037.00	75,068.00	(3,602.00)
Total Revenue (\$)	6,801,692	8,028,838	9,296,643	9,246,473	9,927,254
Fund Raising - Ticket Income	4,32,226	4,04,707	4,97,848	4,73,533	72,158
Fund Raising Expenses	(814,932)	(996,632)	(1,165,294)	(1,277,204)	(490,125)
Number of Schools supported by EVFUSA.	16,048	16,997	18,554	14,088	18,418
Number of Life Time School	18	43	56	38	25
Funds sent directly to EVFI by US donors in Rupees (Amt converted in \$)	20,000	70,927	187,843	236,839	63,391
Expense					
Program Service - India (\$) Schools/Projects	(7,366,577)	(7,484,935)	(5,076,051)	(9,179,192)**	(3,460,898)
Management & General (\$)	(212,298)	(179,111)	(233,315)	(205,160)	(192,035)
Net Fund Raising Expense (\$)	(382,706)	(591,925)	(667,446)	(792,103)	(417,967)
Total Expense	(7,961,581)	(8,255,971)	(5,976,812)	(10,176,455)	(4,070,900)
Management & General (%)	3.12%	2.23%	2.51%	2.02%	1.93%
Net Fund Raising Expense (%)	5.63%	7.37%	7.18%	8.69%	4.21%
% Total Expenses to Revenue	8.75%	9.60%	9.69%	10.77%	6.14%

All numbers are from audited statements.

### Contribution Trend



### % Total Expenses to Revenue







LITERACY 79,747 Schools  
2.2 Million Children \*  
(Target for 2025 - 102,000)



DIGITAL LITERACY  
36 Ekal on Wheels (EOW)  
(Mobile Computer Labs)  
14,770 - Beneficiaries  
(Target for 2025 - 60)



DIGITAL LITERACY  
E-Shiksha in - 1170 Ekal Schools  
36,000 Children  
(Target for 2025 - 3,300)



HEALTH  
Arogya With Telemedicine - 1200  
Villages impacting 1.7 Million People  
(Target for 2025 - 36,000)



LIVELIHOODS  
Tailoring Training Center -  
41 Centers, 10,268 Beneficiaries  
(Target for 2025 - 150)



LIVELIHOODS  
Computer Training Center  
32 Centers, 4410 - Beneficiaries



Integrated Village Development (IVD)  
Literacy, Digital Literacy, Health,  
Livelihoods - 24 Centers ,  
3.6 Million People (Target for 2025 - 36)



Gramothan Resource Center (GRC)  
Livelihoods - 16 Centers,  
1.6 Million Impacted (Target for 2025 - 30)

\*\*During the COVID pandemic we had to close approximately 20,000 schools. We are working on reopening the schools and we hope to get to the 102,000 school number soon.

	2021	2025
Ekal Vidyalayas (Schools)	79,747*	102,000
E-Shiksha/Tablet (Schools)	1,170	102,000
Arogya/Telemedicine (Villages)	1,200	36,000
Ekal on Wheels (EOW)	36	60
Tailoring Centers (WEC)	41	150
Integrated Village Development Center (IVD)	24	36
Gramothan Resource Center	16	30

\*As of Dec. 5, 2021





## GRANE : Making Ekal Atmanirbhar

GRANE, GRamothan Atmanirbharta for Ekal is a volunteer driven initiative focusing on maximizing the impact of resources being deployed at Gramothan Resource Centers. The purpose of GRANE is to make sure that the farmers and their families, women in villages and the Ekal support staff are getting the maximum value from the donor resources and the volunteer time that is being invested in these projects. Through GRANE, farmers and tailors can sell their products to wide audiences under Ekal's brand, Ekal Upaj.

- First, entrepreneurs sell their products to Ekal, which buys them above market price.
- Next, Ekal creates value-added products, like turmeric powder and black pepper, to sell to mainstream markets.
- Finally, profits are recycled into the GRC, creating a self-sustaining system.



Arogya or Health has been an important vertical under the Ekal umbrella. Several initiatives have been undertaken under Arogya to keep the villagers healthy and safe, especially during the COVID pandemic. The following activities are undertaken by Arogya

- **Health and Hygiene Awareness** - Arogya workers provide information on hygiene and nutrition through wall writing, prabhat pheris (parades) and other awareness building campaigns.
- **Planting Nutrition Gardens** - Villagers are given saplings of fruits and vegetables to plant around their homes to encourage them to eat nutritious food. They are also encouraged to grow and use herbs that can boost immunity and help address some basic ailments.
- **Creating Soak Pits and Waste Pits** - Villagers are taught to build waste pits to safely dispose of solid waste and soak pits to prevent stagnant water pools that become mosquito breeding centers.
- **Telemedicine** - In partnership with Intelhealth ([intelehealth.org](http://intelehealth.org)), telemedicine services are being provided in the villages by the Arogya Sevikas.

## 25 Covid Isolation Centers (with beds & oxygen concentrators)

During the pandemic, Ekal worked tirelessly to help contain the impact of the pandemic in the villages and support those who have been affected by the pandemic. Telehealth life line provided health consultations to villagers. The skill training centers were converted to Covid isolation centers equipped with beds and oxygen concentrators to support patients who could not get to a hospital. Other efforts included

- Distribution of masks
- Combating vaccine hesitancy
- Providing Oximeters and Thermometers to Healthcare workers
- Providing information through wall writing, pamphlets and mobile phones

## Swastya Sampark - Supporting Post Covid Patients

Ekal's Arogya wing received a Rs 8,50,000 USAID funded grant from JHPIEGO to provide Post COVID-19 care to patients in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh using the Intelhealth Telemedicine platform. The project, done in collaboration with the State Governments, provided physical and mental health care for over a thousand patients who had suffered from COVID.



# EFFORTS TO DATE

## DEFEAT COVID-19

Covid 19



### ***Ekal's Relief Efforts***



**6394**

people helped through  
our telemedicine lifeline



**25**

COVID care centers  
set up w/ 210 beds



**299,610**

masks manufactured  
& 33,500 distributed



**86,339**

informational Messages  
through Wall Writing



**10,000**

oximeters & digital  
thermometers issued



**2**

vaccination centers  
established

While 2020 started with in-person events featuring Ekal kalakars, keeping with the special pandemic situation 2020 and 2021 featured several spectacular virtual music programs. The following events were held in 2020, 2021

- In-Person Shows

Ekal Kalakar Show

Power of Education, 2020

- Online Events

15 Musical Events, 2020 and 2021

Power of Education, 2021

Future of India Gala, 2020 and 2021

Sankalp

IndiArt 2020

Regional and Chapter Led Events



# Future of India Gala

Co-Chairs : Kamlesh Shah and Mohan Wanchoo

The Future of India galas held in 2020 and 2021 featured several distinguished speakers. The list included educationists, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, politicians, entertainers and sports people who shared deep insights on how to grow Ekal and make it more impactful.

## Distinguished Speakers 2021



Kiran Mazumdar Shaw  
Founder and CEO, Biocon



Renu Khator  
President and Chancellor  
of University of Houston



Niren Chaudhary  
CEO Panera Bread

## Distinguished Speakers 2020



Ajay Piramal  
Chairman of the Piramal Group



Piyush Goyal  
Cabinet Minister,  
Government of India



Kapil Dev  
Cricketer



Vivek Oberoi  
Ekal Ambassador  
Bollywood Star, Philanthropist



Sonu Nigam  
Playback Singer



Ekal Youth Leaders (EYLs) hosted several events to raise awareness and funds for Ekal. They raised over \$33,000 for Ekal. EYLs conducted more than 33 virtual workshops and connected with more than 1200 new families globally.

- Do-It-Yourself Campaigns
- Math Bee
- App-A-Thon
- Geo Bee
- Hack-A-Thon
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math Workshops
- Python, Computer Engineering, Visual Arts, History, French, Spanish, Biology, Biotechnology, Java, PSAT/SAT, Math, Robotics, Projects 4 kids, Mental Health & Awareness, Sustainable Nutrition, Chess, Public Speaking, Express Yourself
- Musical Concerts

For more information on Ekal Youth Leadership program please send an email to [ekalyouth@ekal.org](mailto:ekalyouth@ekal.org) or call Prajna Khisty at (732)762-5464



## 2020 Global Ekal Math Bee!

Held Dec 19-20 by Kathir Meyyappan and Karthik Seetharaman from Ekal NE, 300+ participants from 9 countries





**2020**

**EKAL AROGYA  
VIRTUAL PRE-MED  
INTERNSHIP**



Fill out this interest  
google form!

## Virtual Internship

Inspired by the in person experience of Vanayatra, a group of EYs Ajay Paranshu from Chicago and Sam Kadaba from Los Angeles conducted a virtual internship program "Reach to teach". The 10 day virtual internship enabled youth in the USA to interact with Ekal school students and villagers.

Ekal Youth Leader from Chicago, Tanya Seth conducted a virtual pre-medical internship where college students from the USA were able to learn about the Arogya activities in India. Dr. Hasmukh Shah from the US and Dr. Mukul Bhatia from India mentored the students.



**A REACH TO TEACH**

**Virtual Internship**

**VISIT AN EKAL IVD**

Learn how EKAL makes an impact on the ground by virtually "living" in the Integrated Village Development Center! Be inspired to start your own special project, interact with students in the villages, and learn from EKAL Volunteers "in-person"!

Dates: December 20, 2020 - December 29, 2020

Cost: \$250

To reserve your spot and find more information today, visit:

<https://bit.ly/2IMvz9q>

For more information on  
Ekal Virtual Internship contact

Dr Hasmukh Shah  
(815) 499-9819  
hptampico@gmail.com

Seema Gupta  
(949) 394-4727  
seema.gupta@ekal.org



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