



# 2020 INDIAN DIASPORA IN ACTION

Tracking The Indian  
American Response  
to COVID-19

Gabrielle W. Trippe, M.P.H.  
Philanthropy Initiatives Manager, Indiaspora



# A historic pandemic. An unprecedented response.

As the COVID-19 virus descended upon the world, activists, volunteers, and philanthropists spurred a remarkable outpouring of support for victims and front-line workers.

The Indian American diaspora has taken a leadership position in relief efforts both in the U.S. and India.

This group of 3.9 million influential Americans has provided emergency support by providing meals, hygiene kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), e-learning platforms, healthcare, and legal resources.

**Indian Diaspora in Action** is an initiative to document the philanthropic impact of the Indian American diaspora on COVID-19 relief.

The report describes the efforts undertaken by more than 58 organizations in the fight to alleviate hunger, mitigate infection, and treat victims of the 2020 pandemic.

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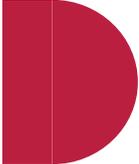




# INTRODUCTION



# The Power of the Indian American Diaspora



The Indian American Diaspora has demonstrated an incredible outpouring of support since the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Their efforts have been and continue to be broad-ranging, across many sectors and including many different communities across the United States and in India.

The diaspora is unique in many ways and is a robust and interlaced community. According to the latest U.S. Census Bureau, there are 3.9 million Indian Americans living in the United States who were either born in India and immigrated to the America or reported Indian ancestry. Research shows that Indian Americans are one of the fastest growing ethnic group in the country with a growth rate of nearly seventy percent.<sup>1</sup>

The Indian American diaspora is recognized as being highly educated and having one of the highest median household incomes of any ethnic community in the United States with an overall median household income of \$100,000.<sup>2</sup>

Over the past several years, the diaspora's philanthropic efforts have had an outsize impact. Not only have aggregate donations reached an impressive \$1 billion per year but the diaspora also volunteers their time at almost twice the rate of the average American.<sup>3</sup>

Taken together, these factors make it not surprising that the diaspora in America has gone to such great efforts to help during this COVID-19 crisis. Yet the sheer magnitude and scope of the response across all sectors of the Indian American community in America is what impressed Indiaspora and prompted researchers to compile this report.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian\\_Americans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Americans)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/fact-sheet/asian-americans-indians-in-the-u-s/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://dalberg.com/our-ideas/indian-americans-donate-time-could-give-more-financially/>



## The Immense Scope of Relief



The pandemic created and exacerbated the needs of Indians and Americans in crisis. Of course, some areas are more pronounced in certain populations than others. In both America and India, the pandemic has only served to further expose the pre-existing inequalities. While there are many types of outreach being implemented, Indiaspora's report documents the efforts of 58 organizations in the following areas.



## Food



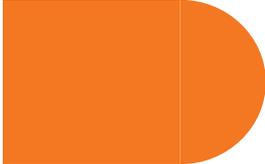
One of the largest efforts is provision of hot meals and dry ration food kits. In America, these are largely being provided through food banks. One of the champions in this movement is the Indian American Council's Hunger Mitao movement. Hunger Mitao teamed up with the Hindu American Foundation for Giving Tuesday Now providing 10,000 meals. Additionally, a community of Indian Americans across North Texas has together provided 20,000 meals to frontline workers in the fight against COVID-19.<sup>4</sup> In India, many organizations are providing both hot meals and dry ration food kits. One area of specific concern across India is also children who depend on their mid-day meals from school who are no longer able to access these meals during the government lockdown. Akshaya Patra is the world's largest NGO school meal program. Since the government lockdown, the organization has ramped up their efforts to make sure not only these children still receive their meals, but also families of the children and migrant workers. So far, the organization has provided 1 crore cooked meals and 5 lakh grocery kits.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2020/05/13/north-texas-hindus-provide-more-than-20000-meals-to-coronavirus-frontline-workers/?fbclid=IwAR38B7eeW8hFGfw85itjnJdYVKt7N1xg6i44nVDfH64XZGM147LGZAchVs>



## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



Another very large area of concern is the lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks and gloves. In both the U.S. and India there has been an extreme lack of PPE for both frontline workers and individual residents of communities attempting to try and stop the spread. Sewa International has been one of the champions in these efforts, helping to get masks to those in need in both India and the U.S. They have 43 chapters engaged in COVID-19 response across the U.S. and thus far have distributed more than 625,000 surgical masks as well as more than 1000 volunteers making homemade protective masks for the community. In India, one of the champions in this area is Vicente Ferrer Foundation which worked with more than 2,000 local seamstresses to make over one million cotton masks for local healthcare workers, government officials, and communities in need.



## Education



Lastly, a large area of need is education for children to continue as the schools are closed in both India and the U.S.. Many organizations have been able to help by setting up e-learning capacity programs for children. In the U.S, one of these organizations is Infosys Foundation. They have expanded their programs to include free access and uploading content for parents, teachers and students. Users can access activities, videos and participate in livestream lessons, with new material uploaded weekly from a variety of content providers. In India, a leader in this area is Pratham. Pratham is providing daily digital lessons and activities to keep students engaged, has created an online digital library, and a free learning app called PraDig.



## Community



A very notable illustration of the unique ways in which the Indian diaspora has come together in response to the COVID-19 pandemic is through all the different community groups that are engaged. One of these is a group called the India Philanthropy Alliance, a coalition of twelve development and humanitarian organizations working together to mobilize resources and build alliances to benefit India. This group has been at the forefront of the crisis since the onset with each organization leveraging its unique capacities to help the most vulnerable populations.



## Healthcare



Another group of key players is the vast number of Indian doctors and healthcare workers. Indian Americans have been at the forefront of this crisis with doctors, nurses, researchers, and other health professionals taking a lead role in the fight against COVID-19. Many of these individuals are continuing to help inform the public as well. Some of these individuals include: Dr. Ashish Jha, Director of the Harvard Global Health Institute, Former U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, and Seema Verma, Administrator of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services under the Trump Administration.



## Youth in Action



One of the most unique groups of participants is the next-generation philanthropists and volunteers as kids and students across the U.S. have been involved in the pandemic response. One example is Jihana Mendu. Jihana is a fourth year student at the University of Chicago who started an organization called masksformedics. The organization is working hard to provide personal protective equipment to the medical doctors and nurses on the front lines of COVID-19. A second example is a group of three ten-year-old Girl Scouts - Sravya Annappareddy, Laila Khan, and Lauren Matney - who donated one hundred boxes of cookies to nurses, firefighters, and doctors with personal greeting card messages. Lastly, one group of children in India that are helping their mothers to sew face masks are the students at the Children's Hope Girl School in Bhopal. Children's Hope India provided the students with instructional videos and the material, motivating them to make more than 1,500 face masks. Since then they have partnered with several other centers and these women and girls have made over 10,000 face masks in Jodhpur, Delhi, and Bopal.



**RELIEF  
PROJECTS BY  
ORGANIZATION**



*360Plus is an organization founded by Indiaspora member, Sridar Iyengar, to bring opportunities of learning to high school students through educational travel. Specifically, 360Plus works to democratize global citizenship and bring opportunities for learning to students who would not otherwise have the chance to engage in such transformational activities.*

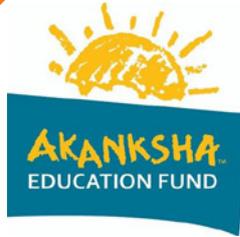
During the COVID-19 crisis, the programs are not able to continue due to current lockdowns across the globe. Therefore, the dedicated team has redirected their efforts to help feed desperate families in North-East Delhi, Shiv Vihar, which was hit very hard by communal riots in addition to the COVID-19 crisis. Most of the 1000 families living in this area are daily wage workers who have no way of feeding their families during the current lockdown. 360Plus is working jointly with the TYCIA Foundation to bring ration kits which will provide food for the families. There are three options to donate to help feed families for two weeks: feed a family of five, a familial cluster family comprised of three families, or a donation that will feed an entire urban block.



*ACUMEN is a well-known organization working across several countries around the globe. The organization works specifically on strategies to tackle poverty through investing in sustainable businesses, leaders, and ideas.*

During COVID-19, Acumen has been working in both India and the United States as they believe there is no time like the present to stand with the poor and most vulnerable populations. In the U.S, Acumen has launched the Acumen America Emergency Facility program which invests in companies that support those living in diverse, low-income areas. These companies are on the frontlines of providing critical services to the communities. In addition, Acumen is providing grants to these companies which will help to expand access to essential services such as food, shelter, job training, and more.

In India, Acumen is working to support small businesses and their local Fellows through their Global Emergency Facility program. This program provides much needed funding to help small businesses expand and stay afloat with the purpose of helping to provide access to essential services. For example, Acumen Fellow Suhani Mohan is repurposing her sanitary napkin making efforts into critical mask making efforts. These masks are being provided to help protect workers on the frontlines. Mohan's company is making 20,000 masks per day.



*Akanksha Education Fund was established to help support initiatives to provide access to high quality education to disadvantaged children across India. The organization believes that education is key to tackling poverty and supporting the building of healthy democracies.*

The Akanksha Fund has ramped up its efforts to fight COVID-19 in three main areas. First, they are supporting their most vulnerable families by providing food and hygiene supplies. So far, they have helped over 3,600 families and are working to provide to at least 5,500 more. Second, they are continuing to provide education through platforms such as Google Classroom and WhatsApp. These e-learning tools include mindfulness teachings and are for both parents and children. Finally, Akanksha is working to ensure students well-being through teachers placing daily check-in phone calls with the students, offering coping support when needed.



*American India Foundation (AIF) is well experienced in strategically managing efforts to assist during crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, the organization was founded during the 2001 Gujarat earthquake to help in relief efforts and has successfully assisted during several other disaster relief efforts since then.*

AIF utilizes a multi-pronged approach in their work including health, education, and livelihoods and are leveraging these approaches during the pandemic to help protect and serve the most vulnerable communities across India.

One of the unique aspects of their work to fight COVID-19 includes their efforts to help these communities emerge strongly even post COVID-19. The organization launched the AIF Preparedness and Response Strategy which consists of three key aspects: behavior change, community preparedness, and the building of long-term resilience of communities. Their behavior change program will include such tactics as providing educational literature (both written and digital), in local languages about the virus and preventative measures. The community preparedness approach includes distribution of hygiene materials and personal protective gear, along with providing instructions on the proper usage. Finally, the building of long-term resilience part of the program strategy will work in the area of livelihood rehabilitation efforts through skill-building, reskilling, entrepreneurship development, and working to create new remote employment opportunities. In addition to their strategy response, the organization has provided one

month's worth of hygiene and ration kits to 25,000 migrant workers, vulnerable families, and the elderly living alone with a plan to distribute even more.



*Akshaya Patra is the world's largest NGO school meal program and serves approximately 1.76 million nutritious meals each day to government school children across India.*

During the Indian Government lockdown, children are not allowed to go to school. This means many children are missing out on the free meals they desperately depend on daily. Akshaya Patra has therefore redefined their mission during this time to not only provide these meals to the children outside of schools, but also to their families. So far, the organization has provided one crore cooked meals and five lakh grocery kits to the most vulnerable. They continue to work tirelessly each day to reach the most vulnerable populations comprising of daily wage workers, migrant laborers, construction site workers, and those in need at old age homes and night shelters. Their recent Virtual Boston Gala raised \$1 million dollars in their efforts to provide relief.



*Apne Aap is an organization working specifically to help victims of sex-trafficking and their children. The organization works to simultaneously tackle both the supply side and the demand side of the situation in these areas.*

Their mission not only includes helping to increase choices for the most marginalized women and girls but also to deter the purchase of sex through social and policy change. During the COVID-19 crisis, Apne Aap is working to serve 1.1 million meals to the 2,500 families they serve in the red-light areas of Delhi, Bihar, and Kolkata. This number of meals provided will allow them to provide 2 meals per day to 10,000 individuals. So far, they have raised more than 250,000 meals for desperate women and children who otherwise would not be able to afford to eat during the government lockdown.



*Arogya World, founded by Indiaspora member Nalini Saligram, is a global health non-profit committed to changing the course of chronic disease. More than 70 million Indians are living with diabetes and the organization aims to prevent non-communicable diseases (NCDs)-diabetes, heart disease, cancer and chronic lung diseases through health education and lifestyle change.*

Arogya World is responding to COVID-19 with efforts specifically geared towards education and mental health awareness. These efforts include webinars each month designed around topics such as: A Health Mind, Boosting Immunity through Eating Right, Returning to Work Strategies, and The Mental Health Fallout from COVID-19. Their aim is to do a seminar a month to bring awareness and coping strategies around COVID-19 physical and mental health to the communities of both Indians and the Indian Diaspora. Furthermore, Arogya World is conducting a large survey on the impacts of working from home regarding the wellbeing of the workforce. They hope to use this information to guide new public and corporate policies of workplaces going forward.



*AWE (Achieving Women Equity) Foundation, is an organization founded by Indiaspora member Seema Chaturvedi. The mission of the foundation is to empower women economically to create multi-dimensional impact on the global economy and achieve gender balance.*

Their COVID-19 response efforts include an eight-part educational series geared towards empowering women entrepreneurs and discusses critical aspects to help women held businesses during the current crisis.



***Bodhala** empowers businesses to analyze, interpret, and optimize outside legal counsel spending efforts. A data-driven legal cost management company co-founded by Indiaspora member Raj Goyle, they believe in transparency, accountability, and control.*

During the COVID-19 crisis, Bodhala has been and continues to work to provide business with the much needed legal resources they may need to stay afloat and survive the crisis. This includes webinars such as Using Data to Strengthen Your Relationship with Law Firms During the COVID-19, articles on handling your law firm payables during COVID-19, and complimentary consultations on bankruptcy filing.



***Bhoomika Trust and Deserving Causes India (DCI)** work together to help victims during times of disaster. Their strategy engages in more than one area as disasters and crises require more than just immediate relief. The three distinct areas of work include: disaster rehabilitation, disaster mitigation and preparedness, and education and empowerment.*

Bhoomika and DCI are working to care for the most vulnerable in India during the COVID-19 crisis through provision of both cooked meals and dry ration kits as well as providing medical supplies and sanitation kits. Their efforts specifically assist migrant and homeless populations to find shelter and provide food to them as these populations continue to become more disadvantaged during the crisis. The organizations are working diligently with local government hospitals to aid in the supply of personal protective equipment and medical supplies.



***Children International** aims to connect people around the world in the fight to end poverty with the goal of building a better future for children and youth. Their work invests in the lives of young people, helping to build healthy environments which will allow them to thrive and empowering them to create lasting change in their own lives and communities.*

Their current strategy in India to help during the COVID-19 crisis involves local staff collaborating with local governments to get sanitation kits and grocery items to families most in need. The organization is also continuing to conduct program activities through various digital platforms.



*ChildFund India, a part of ChildFund International, works to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children living in poverty to gain capacity to become adults, parents, and leaders with a goal of having an impactful and lasting positive change in their communities. The organization's signature programs work with infants, children, and youth.*

Currently the organization is redirecting their efforts during COVID-19 to help children and their families gain access to essential needs and services. They are striving to help over 5 lakh people with their campaign and have to date provided: 19,502 hygiene kits, educational support to 31,911 children, 16,475 food kits, 602 frontline workers' kits, and brought awareness activities to 55,647 people. Their efforts have reached 15 states across India and 186,000 people.



*Children's Hope India (CHI) was founded on the principle that every child counts, working to help children and their families progress from poverty to prosperity. CHI partners with local organizations in India and New York, helping improve access to education, medical care, shelter, social services, and job skills training.*

The core of CHI is their volunteer-led initiative which works tirelessly to ensure to bring any necessary improvements to their holistic approach. To date, the organization has served over 300,000 children, developed twenty-plus projects, and committed twenty-seven years of service. CHI launched their COVID-19 Relief Campaign to benefit their on-the-ground projects as they respond to the most critical needs of vulnerable children and their families. The campaign is working to bring the following: cash grants, meals, remote learning, hygiene supplies, and medical care. The numbers speak for themselves with having provided 10,000 masks, 2000 gloves, 3030 hygiene kits, 2850 immune boosters, 240 minutes of meditation, and more than 275,500 nutritious meals.



***Council of Indian Organizations in Greater Philadelphia (CIO) is a non-profit, non-political, non-sectarian organization, formed primarily for cultural and educational purposes.***

Some of their aims and objectives include: providing civic and political education to the people of Indian origin, encouraging the community to engage more politically, foster friendships between people of Indian origin, and to act as a spokesperson for the Indian community.

CIO has created a COVID-19 Task Force dedicated to bringing informational resources to those in need of assistance during the pandemic. They have a special contact list with six individuals to contact via phone or a general email inquiry if preferred.



***CRY America is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a world in which all children have equal opportunities to reach their full potential and make their goals and dreams a reality. The organization works in three specific areas: education, healthcare, and protection from exploitation and abuse.***

During the COVID-19 pandemic, they are currently reaching more than 350,000 at risk children and their families across India through provision of hygiene kits, e-learning platforms, and dry ration kits. Additionally, many children across India depend on midday meals provided during school and given the current lockdown, CRY is helping to bring meals to these children in need. In the U.S., the organization has partnered with No Kids Go Hungry and Save the Children to help ensure the neediest children do not go hungry.

The logo for Dalberg Advisors, featuring the company name in a purple serif font inside a white circle with an orange border.

*Dalberg Advisors, which Indiaspora patron member Swetha Totapally is an Associate Partner, is a strategic advisory firm working to combine private sector strategy skills and rigorous analytical capabilities with deep knowledge and networks across emerging and frontier markets.*

The firm works across public, private, and philanthropic sectors to increase growth and help their clients achieve their goals.

Dalberg's response to COVID-19 in India has been to create and conduct a survey of poor households with a goal to answer the question of how they can better help the government to understand the effectiveness of their efforts. Now, more than ever, government entitlements are needed. By getting real-time data from on the ground, Dalberg can help the Government of India answer questions such as, "Do we need to increase the amount of cash assistance?", "Do we need to get food to the houses for people who can't leave their homes?", etc. The goal is to get the information this survey provides into the hands of individuals that can use it widely in creating an even more effective strategy to help the poor survive this crisis.

The logo for Design For Change USA, featuring the text "DESIGN for CHANGE" in white and yellow on a red background, with "USA" in black on a yellow background below it.

*Design For Change USA is part of a global organization, Design for Change, that empowers young people to do service projects in their communities while learning 21st century skills such as empathy, creativity and collaboration. In the U.S. the program is operating in thousands of schools across the country.*

An example of an activity the children engage in is to listen to a podcast about a social issue and then create and engage in activities that will help to make lasting impacts of real change.

Due to the current stay-at-home orders, students obviously cannot engage in normal activities and therefore, Design For Change USA launched their #DoGoodFromHome Campaign. The challenge is to turn empathy into action. With support from Hasbro, each act of kindness will be matched with a toy or game donation to child care centers who are serving essential workers, up to 25,000 toys and games. There is a different challenge each day which the kids can choose to participate in such as calling someone who is social distancing by themselves or donating food to neighbors in need.



*Deshpande Foundation, founded by former Indiaspora member Desh Deshpande, is building an ecosystem that nurtures innovation and entrepreneurship.*

The Foundation believes that social entrepreneurship combined with grassroots innovation can work to empower those at the bottom of the pyramid, ultimately bringing positive changes in societies, especially such developing nations as India.

Deshpande Foundation is working hard to leverage collaborations to support COVID-19 relief and rehabilitation services. Some of their efforts include: working with start-ups to build a robust dashboard that provides real-time information of COVID-19 cases, delivering 15,000 face masks by harnessing the efforts of over fifty women micro-entrepreneurs, utilizing 3D printing facilities to create 2,000 face shields for frontline workers, utilizing local staff capacities to spread awareness and deliver food and groceries, and partnering with ACT Grants as an incubator to help distribute funds to start-ups in need.



*Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation aims to bring education to every child in India, especially to those in rural and tribal areas of India. Ekal Vidyalaya is a movement of running one-teacher schools.*

The Foundation takes an integrated and holistic approach working to eradicate illiteracy and grow the concepts of equality and inclusivity across all sections of the society. To date, the movement has become the largest grassroots, non-governmental education and development movement currently operating in remote villages of India and Nepal.

Ekal is working hard in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in several sectors which include distributing food packets, dry ration packets, livestock feed, face masks, and bringing awareness throughout villages. For example, as of May 19, 2020, Ekal has used their health centers to produce 18,43,181 face masks for healthcare and frontline workers and conducted awareness campaigns in 1,070 villages.



*Ek Tara was founded with the vision to help provide quality, holistic education in order to enable and empower community transformation. The organization works across four sectors: education, health and hygiene, nutrition, and community outreach. They now serve 950 children in the West Bengal area.*

Ek Tara has launched a three month relief and rehabilitation program in response to COVID-19 in order to help the 800 families it currently serves in the slums of West Bengal. If the government lockdown is extended, the program will also most likely be extended. The program's relief highlights include: 23,335 kg of grains distributed to families, 11,000 ready meals distributed, 11,00 gloves and masks distributed to sanitation workers, 5000 individuals given food and essential supplies, and 900 children engaged through telephonic classes while schools remain closed.



*Freedom Employability Academy (FEA), founded by Indiaspora member Deepak Chopra, is an educational charity that works to improve the employability skills of youth from low income backgrounds in India. The academy has provided free education to more than 10,000 children. Often, after completing the FEA program, many more than double their incomes.*

During the past 10 years, FEA has been serving free one-pot nutritious meals across five areas of Delhi. Now that people cannot move around as much, FEA has set up micro-kitchens in low-income communities so that the meals are still accessible for those in need. As of the latest data, FEA is now running more than 26 micro-kitchens, with more than 100,000 people fed at a rate of approximately 3000 people per day. Their educational programs have been repurposed to e-learning with teachers and staff staying at home and more than 25,000 students having access to internet or cell phone for these purposes.



FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE

**Foundation For Excellence (FFE)** has a mission to help change the lives of academically brilliant students across India. The organization acts as a catalyst to help students with high potential achieve their scholastic goals by providing financial scholarships that enable them to go to college and develop successful career paths.

The organization works specifically to help students in the areas of technology, engineering, and medical. Furthermore, the students are not only provided with financial support, but also with skill learning to help them achieve success in their careers post college.

In response to the COVID-19 government lockdown, FFE has launched the FFE COVID Scholar Family Fund. FFE Scholars come from families who are daily wage earners and therefore are unable to work during this crisis. The FFE COVID Scholar Family Fund is providing relief packages to each scholar family in need. FFE's target support is \$100,000 which will support approximately 1,500 families.



GABRIEL PROJECT MUMBAI  
गेब्रिएल प्रॉजेक्ट मुंबई

**Gabriel Project Mumbai (GPM)** was founded upon the Jewish Ethos of advancing social justice and alleviating human suffering, with several key Jewish principles having influenced the development of the program. GPM works tirelessly to care for the most vulnerable children and communities in Mumbai.

They believe offering children the best chances to break the cycle of poverty and child labor is through a three prong approach which includes providing educational opportunities combined with access to health care and proper nutrition. GPM works directly with local NGOs as well as business and communal leaders to create supportive and safe community environments for children to break free from poverty.

GPM is currently working in several ways to help in the fight against COVID-19. Their focus is starvation relief as they believe it is the greatest need at the moment. As of April 24, 762 families in the villages and slums of Mumbai had received life-saving groceries to help them for a two week period. The goal is to reach more than one thousand in the following weeks ahead. Additionally, GPM has delivered 887 meals to doctors and nurses working on the frontlines and they have a goal to provide at least 600 more. They have also delivered 8,750 bars of soap throughout the slums and villages, with another 10,000 soon to be delivered. The women's collective of GPM continues to sew reusable face masks and has so

far provided more than 2000. Finally, GPM has distributed 2,400 face masks to medical personnel, police and essential personnel in the slums with a goal of distributing 14,000 more.



*HelpAge USA has a mission to advance the wellbeing and inclusion of older people, ultimately working to reduce poverty and discrimination in the later lives of individuals. They work in four different areas which include emergency response, health systems, livelihoods, and advocacy.*

The organization works at all levels from local communities to advising governments on issues such as health and social issues. HelpAge is currently working with their affiliate GRAVIS to utilize their current medical services to provide dedicated support to older people with symptoms of COVID-19 in several rural areas across India. Some of these initiatives include setting up isolation sites where care, food, and other essential items are provided. Identification of where the individuals in need are located and distribution of supplies is being facilitated through the Older People's Association (OPAs). Furthermore, GRAVIS is disseminating awareness and educational materials about the pandemic in local languages to the aging populations and those with disabilities through the help of Intergenerational Learning Groups (ILGs).

Recently, the Times of India also published an article on HelpAge's efforts in Kerala. HelpAge and She-Taxi have partnered to further help the elderly during the crisis through provision of prescription drug deliveries to their homes. Delivery is free for those living BPL and those living above BPL will pay 50% of the regular cost. They have also partnered to provide toll-free helpline numbers assisting the elderly in getting either on-line transportation or rides to hospitals for consultations.



*Hindu American Foundation (HAF) is a non-profit organization working to promote dignity, mutual respect, and pluralism. Their advocacy efforts are in the areas of education, policy, and community. Their educational efforts focus on educating the public about Hindus and Hinduism.*

While the organization works on several issues, some of them include caste discrimination, LGBT Rights, Women's Rights, and immigration.

HAF partnered with the Hunger Mitao movement for Giving Tuesday Now on May 5 to help provide meals to the millions across America who are desperately in need of food during the COVID-19 crisis. With this crisis, food banks are struggling to be able to provide for all those in need as unemployment levels continue to surge across the nation. HAF also hosted a webinar with Deepak Chopra on April 27, Coping with COVID. This webinar explored how stress and anxiety from the pandemic can impact our wellbeing and how to reset yourself with basic self-care techniques.



**Indian Association of Minnesota (IAM)** *The IAM has been working for over forty years to help represent Indians to the broader society in Minnesota, helping to build a sense of identity and community among people who are of Indian origin or simply have an interest in India. Their mission consists of the three Cs: charity, culture, and connections.*

The organization started small and now consists of more than 40,000 members.

IAM joined community partners and organizations to create the COVID19 Emergency Relief Fund, helping those effected both directly and indirectly by the pandemic. Their goal is to raise \$150,000 dollars. Funds will be distributed as follows: 50% assistance for those who are experiencing food insecurity, 35% to supplying medical equipment and PPE to those in need, 10 % to help the newly unemployed, and 5% to blood banks of Minnesota.



**Indians for Collective Action (ICA)** *is a Bay Area, CA based non-profit organization with the mission to support sustainable development in India by partnering with dedicated non-governmental organizations and individuals. ICA is a collaborative open source platform aimed at empowering the social sector and finding the best ways to reduce poverty.*

ICA has currently raised close to \$400,000 dollars for their Fight COVID-19 fund. ICA selected ten NGOs in both the U.S. and India to help in the response to COVID-19. These NGOs include: Arpan Foundation, Bhoomika, BNGVN, Borderless World Foundation, Goonj, HelpAge India, Janvikas, Lok Biradari Prakalp, Mountain Children's Foundation, and Snehalaya. ICA has also created a series of webinars to connect their non-profits and share best practices. Sharing of best practices during times of crisis can be critical in effectively executing time and resources.



India  
Community  
Center

*India Community Center (ICC) was founded with a mission to promote Indian culture and values by providing social, cultural, recreational, and community programs. The ICC aims to make a positive difference in the community through their activities and fostering a community spirit where family and friends can come together.*

They also work to provide affordable services such as legal, health, and senior support to those who could otherwise not afford it.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the community center has had to close their doors. However, they are continuing to provide many virtual services and activities during this time. This includes virtual summer camps for elementary and preschool children, virtual dance classes, virtual exercise classes, and virtual senior programs. These programs are working to continue to help unite and bring the community together during these difficult times.



Hunger Mitao  
indian american council

*Indian American Council's Hunger Mitao Program was launched by Indiaspora members Raj and Aradhana Asava and have so far enabled 8 million meals across the U.S. Their goal is to wipe out hunger in America as they believe that no one should go hungry. The Asavas contributed the initial funds and launched the Indian American Council to help the North Texas Food Bank.*

Since their launch, the Hunger Mitao movement has expanded into several other cities including Atlanta, New York, New Jersey, Washington, D.C. and Seattle. They believe the Indian American Community should become visible on the front lines and to be seen as participants in the wider community.

When the COVID-19 crisis hit, the couple ramped up their efforts even more as food insecurity became an increasingly nationwide crisis. At the end of May, Seattle's Food Lifeline announced that the IAC's Hunger Mitao program surpassed 1 million meals for the 300 food banks, shelters, and meal programs Food Lifeline serves. IAC Hunger Mitao also partnered with Indiaspora's ChaloGive movement to fight hunger during COVID-19 as well as Hindu America Foundation's Giving Tuesday Now campaign.



*India Center Foundation is a non-profit organization passionate about Indian culture, the Indian American experience, and the relationship between India and the U.S. They seek to give voice to a new generation through dialogues, programs & exhibitions in hopes of building new thinkers, artists and leaders.*

Their programs range from topics on music, film, art, public policy, leadership, and more. They continue to build the bridge of engagement between the U.S. and India.

The India Center has a unique response to the COVID-19 crisis through their South Asian Arts Resiliency Fund. This fund has been set up by the Foundation in direct response to COVID-19 to help support South Asian artisans impacted by the pandemic. The fund distributes project grants of up to \$2000 to assist United States-based artists of South Asian descent in the areas of performing arts, film, visual arts, and/or literature. The Foundation put twenty thousand dollars of their own to help it launch and has two rounds of funding so far with the next one launching the middle of next month.



*Infosys Foundation USA is an organization committed to expanding access to computer science and maker education in K-12 public schools across the United States. They have worked in over 21,000 schools, with over 13,000 teachers, and close to five million students.*

During the COVID-19 crisis, the foundation is expanding their program for alumni teachers to include free access and uploading CS and maker content for parents, teachers and students. Users can access activities, videos and participate in livestream lessons, with new material uploaded weekly from a variety of content providers.



*Janyaa is a non-profit organization founded in 2009 that focuses on helping school children in rural India to develop creative problem solving skills. The vision behind it is that the children educated from these principles will be empowered to make progressive changes in their immediate communities and eventually aid in advancing the socio-economic state of their country.*

Currently Janyaa is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by raising funds to provide face masks for 80,000 children who are to take their board exams starting in June. These board exams will allow them to take the next step in their lives but without the masks, they will be unable to attend the exams.



***Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation** is dedicated to eradicating child labor and child exploitation through education and bringing awareness to the public.*

They mobilize and engage both the public and private sectors around the issue, while building capacity partners on the ground, and advocating for the protection of children through policy making both nationally and internationally. To date, more than 87,000 children have been liberated and brought into successful programs of education and rehabilitation.

The foundation's response to COVID-19 has included efforts across several states in India. The foundation continues to work daily on the ground to provide cooked meals and ration packets, distributing face masks, and monitoring food insecurities and disease. To date, they have provided 75,000 meals and ration packets, 20,000 masks, and are monitoring 32,000 families (including 87,000 children).



***Magic Bus*** is an organization working across twenty two states in India to create a better future for children and youth, bringing them out of poverty through education, skill building, and livelihood creation. The Magic Bus program works to help children from the ages of 12-18 years complete their secondary education and go on to secure careers in organized sectors.

The program has helped many to fend off destabilizers such as child labor and early marriage and become first-generation salary earners.

In response to COVID-19, Magic Bus launched the COV:AID program which works in three areas: to prevent, protect, and preserve. The prevention program brings awareness to the communities through education about the disease and teaching proper hygiene techniques. The protection program works to bring essentials such as food, soaps, and masks to those in need, as well as making sure that they are connected to governmental health provisions. The perseverance program is conducting needs assessments to ensure the most under-resourced communities are reached. To date they have reached over one million people for awareness building and supplied dry ration and food for more than 52,000.



***Milaan Foundation*** is an organization with a purpose to enable girls to become leaders in their communities, envisioning an inclusive and equal world, where every girl has the knowledge and skills to realize her goals and dreams.

Their core program is the Girl Icon Program which works to empower adolescent girls through life skills based training with the goal of having them become agents of change in their communities. Milaan has set up a COVID-19 emergency response program consisting of family support with immediate relief via dry ration kits and direct cash transfers. Their largest response team has been working in the state of Uttar Pradesh, covering thirteen districts. The response team consists of twelve community partners, more than fifty women field workers, and over 200 girl leaders.

The logo for THE/NUDGE, featuring the text 'THE/NUDGE' in a bold, sans-serif font. The word 'THE' is in black, and 'NUDGE' is in black with a white diagonal slash through it.

*Nudge Foundation is a non-profit organization focusing on poverty and unemployment in India. Their goal is to lift ten million people out of poverty by the year 2025. They have three programs working to achieve this goal: The Nudge Center for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, The Nudge Center for Social Innovation, and the Nudge Center for Rural Development.*

Nudge's response to COVID-19 was unique. They hosted a three day event, Charcha 2020, creating a platform for India's development sector, enabling minds to come together and engage about the most pressing current challenges. COVID-19 is wiping away years of development progress in just weeks and the foundation believes all stakeholders need to be involved in order to tackle these issues and find a way forward. Recording of the sessions are now available.

The logo for PEOPLE SHORES, featuring the text 'PEOPLE SHORES' in a bold, sans-serif font. 'PEOPLE' is in blue and 'SHORES' is in red, separated by a red starburst icon. Below the text is the tagline 'Empowerment • Impact Sourcing'.

*PeopleShores, founded by Murali Vullaganti, is an outsourcing technology firm based in Silicon Valley, CA and Clarksdale, MS that works with underserved communities.*

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, PeopleShores has partnered with a Jackson-based business advisory group, Horne CPA, and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) to launch a new program. This program works to help expedite filing and processing of new claims for unemployment. The state of Mississippi has been overwhelmed with unemployment claims given the pandemic has created the highest numbers of unemployment since the Great Depression.



**Pratham USA**

*Pratham USA, with Indiaspora Ambassador member, Deepak Raj as President, is an organization dedicated to universal literacy and believes that every child has a right to a quality education.*

They began their efforts in 1994, working to end the vicious cycle of poverty in the slums of Mumbai through the transformation of the educational landscape by creating preschools and providing remedial education for students

who were falling behind. Today Pratham has reached fifty eight million children across twenty one states of India and has been named one of the top non-governmental organizations dedicated to creating universal literacy.

In response to COVID-19, Pratham has created the Responsive Innovation to Sustain Education (RISE) campaign. The campaign was established to sustain the direct work of the organization in more than 5,000 communities and ensure livelihoods for their 7,000 full-time employees. As of June 1, Pratham has reached 12,000 communities through their efforts which include: health and safety awareness such as translating WHO videos into local languages, daily digital lessons and activities to keep students engaged, an online digital library, a free learning app called PraDigi, and humanitarian efforts by working with the Mumbai Food Project to help deliver free pre-cooked meals to the most vulnerable.



**Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)** is a collaborative model of medical education and care management that aims to empower clinicians to provide better care and treatment to more people despite the areas they may reside in.

The project aims to provide better access to care specifically for populations in rural and underserved communities and those with complex medical conditions such as HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis C, behavioral health issues, and many more. Policymakers are beginning to recognize the potential of the ECHO model to enable the use of existing resources to treat patients in a timelier manner and expand the workforce capacity across the United States and globally.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Project ECHO has been using its award-winning approach to help train health care professionals on essential knowledge and skills to fight the disease. On March 21, its program on ventilator support reached 1,000 participant sites. They have also partnered with the National Institute for Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases to provide essential trainings related to COVID-19. To date, it has hosted 500 COVID-19 related remote training sessions which have benefitted more than 150,000 healthcare professionals across India.



***Pudiyador** is an organization based in Chennai, India that works to eradicate poverty by focusing on education, family support systems, and community development. Their programs focus on disadvantaged communities and start from birth and continue through an entire cycle.*

The four main programs included: cradle health for expectant and new mothers, children's program (5-11 years), early teens program (12-15 years), youth advancement (16-19 years), and an all-inclusive women's empowerment and community development program.

Pudiyador has made tremendous efforts to help those in need since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts include awareness building around the virus and teaching proper hygiene, providing relevant information on the government's systematic lockdown, provision of dry ration and relief kits, supply chain logistics to ensure safe and efficient routes for deliveries, and women communities making and distributing masks. As of May 31st, the organization's Feed Chennai program has distributed 70,080 meals to those in need. Feed Chennai has also collaborated with Chennai Migrant Taskforce to help support migrant workers with essential groceries during the month of June.



***South Asian Bar Association of North America (SABA)** serves as the umbrella organization for regional South Asian Bar Associations and South Asian Legal Association across North America.*

The organization aims to strengthen the South Asian legal community that is rapidly growing through these four goals and objectives: professional growth, diversity and inclusion, civil rights, and access to justice.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, SABA has been committed to providing both legal and informative resources through a series of webinars related to topics effecting the communities due to the pandemic. Some of these include: business immigration, paycheck protection program, the impact of COVID-19 on South Asian Gender- Based Violence Organizations, and several more. Many of these also have video and audio recordings available for use.



**South Asian Journalists Association (SAJA)** is a dynamic journalism organization based in both the U.S. and Canada. They serve as a network for education, inspiration, and training for journalists living in America and covering South Asia as well as those covering the South Asian diaspora. The organization is unique in that it has no paid staff but is run exclusively by volunteers.

They offer three types of membership which helps support the organization: full membership, student membership, and associate membership.

In response to COVID-19, SABA has waived all membership fees for the year 2020. They are also offering all of their membership benefits for free such as their job banks and many coping resources. Their website has a special section on resources to help those being affected by COVID-19 including topics such as financial resources, special funds one can apply to if you are a freelancer or unemployed journalist, and coverage tips for journalists covering the pandemic.



**Sehgal Foundation** works to empower rural India by strengthening community-led development initiatives with the goal of achieving positive social, economic, and environmental changes. The foundation has a six prong approach with includes: good governance, water management, agricultural development, education, research, and community media.

In response to COVID-19, Sehgal launched the digital campaign, #TogetherWeCan COVID-19 Response and Resiliency campaign. The funds donated to this campaign help to stop the virus's spread and give communities on the front lines the much needed resources to be able to act quickly and protect the most vulnerable. Additionally, the foundation is on the ground in rural areas conducting awareness sessions, disseminating personal protective equipment, conducting village sanitation activities to fight the virus, and continuing to help get out key messages from the health departments through the Sehgal Foundation community radio in Haryana.



*Seva Foundation is a global non-profit organization that works with local communities to develop self-sustaining programs that preserve and restore sight. Their work revolves around their vision of a world free of blindness. The organization trains local eye care providers to work specifically with underserved communities, including women and girls and indigenous peoples.*

Seva provides such eye care services such as cataract surgeries, glasses, and medicine to over 40 million people in more than 20 countries.

Seva has a large presence in India and has been working with their partners there to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the areas they are working in is through telemedicine. The foundation is using the WhatsApp platform for patient consultation through a few centralized phone numbers made available for patients to share the problem and a picture of their affected eye. Another area Seva is working in is awareness and community involvement. These efforts include awareness-raising posters, a special outpatient department for coronavirus patients, and establishing a community kitchen for those left without food during the government lockdown. Both LV Prasad Eye Institute and Aravind Eye Care System have released guides for healthcare workers on how to keep themselves and their patients safe, which are helping to make eye care services safer for everyone. Lastly, Seva has created virtual training for eye hospital staff to help prepare them to return to full-scale service with even better skills.



*Sewa International is a Hindu faith-based organization, humanitarian, nonprofit organization that started in India and is now active in twenty countries. They specialize in disaster relief and rehabilitation with development programs that focus on areas such as health, welfare, women empowerment, education, and family services.*

Sewa USA, part of Sewa International has many chapters across the United States. Sewa USA has come together in many ways to help during the COVID-19 pandemic with many local chapters getting heavily involved in the efforts. There are currently ten active non-medical helplines working to provide information and resources as needed such as consultations from doctors and/or lawyers, aiding seniors to get medical advice and meals, international students to find accommodation and meals, etc. Seva is also working to match donors with patients for convalescent plasma therapy. Additionally, Seva continues to make and distribute personal

protective gear such as masks to frontline healthcare workers. In Northern California alone, they have donated 28,000 surgical masks and provided meals to more than 700 families. Their work continues across the U.S. and was recognized for their efforts by congressman George Holding, the co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans.



***Sewa-AIFW (Asian Indian Families Wellness) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting total family wellness for Asian Indians in Minnesota through health initiatives that tackle both physical and mental health needs of the community, programs for women, and senior care and activities.***

Their vision is to create a South Asian Community that is healthy and violence free, with self-determined women and supported elders and families. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sewa-AIFW is working to provide essential services such as meals and assistance to the seniors, vulnerable adults and those who are stranded and alone. They have also provided hygiene and awareness resources on their website and translated these into several local languages.



***Sewa International and South Asian Women Physicians of North America (SAWPNA) are collaborating to help the public during the COVID-19 pandemic.***

Their 1,000+ volunteers set up eight help lines that offer information on travel restrictions, healthcare, visas and visa statuses. They are also making and delivering masks to frontline health workers, and providing food, groceries, and medicines to those in need. SAWPNA is offering key information on the nature of the virus, medical responses on how to deal with the virus if infected, and information on any key advances in the research on response to the virus such as blood plasma therapy.



**SHANTI**  
children's project  
**BHAVAN**

*Shanti Bhavan takes a holistic approach to bring children from generational poverty to a life of dignity and achievement. Their educational model goes beyond the individual student to tackle poverty and works to create positive change in the families and communities of the children as well.*

They work to achieve this through not only providing education and leadership skills, but also by providing the children with food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and community. Every child receives 17 years of educational intervention. Graduates of Shanti Bhavan are successful, often earning more in the first five years of their career than their parents will in a lifetime. The program is extremely unique in that the graduates also give back 50-80% of their salaries to their families and communities creating an impact on thousands.

Shanti Bhavan made the decision at the onset of COVID-19 to allow their students to remain on campus rather than return to their homes. Many children might go home to face uncertain and/or unsafe circumstances such as abuse, lack of essential provisions, or crowded environments. There is also always the chance that the children will not be able to return due to unforeseen circumstances. This decision makes it possible for the children to remain safe, be provided with food and hygiene supplies, and continue to learn. Additionally, Shanti Bhavan is coordinating with their community clinic to support 250 families with the essential provisions they need during the government-mandated lockdown.



*Sukarma Foundation is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization that works in the most remote areas of Madhya Pradesh to improve the lives of rural Indians and focuses specifically on helping to empower and educate women in the community.*

Sukarma focuses on the importance of female hygiene and sexual health, employment opportunities through sustainable businesses, providing telemedicine for those in remote areas, and making basic education available for those in impoverished areas. Sukarma has four main initiatives which help them carry out their objectives which include: sanitary napkin manufacturing, padwoman on the wheel, telemedicine primary health care center, and their school center, Mehragaon.

Since the onset of COVID-19, Sukarma Foundation has

been providing for the most vulnerable. They are working continually to provide families with ration kits which include dry food, sanitizers, masks, and cleaning agents. Since the government mandated lockdown, Sukharma has provided for over 300 families and served across fifty five villages. The Foundation continues to work in these areas to help the neediest even after the lockdown with a goal of reaching 1000 villages



*Sukhi is an organization created to build a bridge between mental wellness and cultural understanding. At their core they were founded to help minority communities to find culturally sensitive wellness solutions*

The organization uses data driven mindfulness programs for companies to help build mental resilience in the workplace. They believe mindfulness is more important now than ever with the onset of COVID-19.

In response to the pandemic, The Sukhi Project launched a meditation app specifically for frontline healthcare workers. The Sukhi Frontline app is available on both Android and Apple devices. The app is free and is designed to help frontline workers before, during, and after their shifts leveraging ancient Indian practices and tantric breathing exercises.



*Sundara was founded in 2013 with a mission to bring health and hygiene to underserved communities. The organization works to educate communities about the importance of hand washing and to bring soap to communities who do not have it through a unique recycling program. Hotel soaps are often used once and discarded.*

Sundara decided to start a program that goes to partner hotels and recycle the partially used bars of soap through the use of an innovative recycling machine. This allowed not only for communities in need to get soap for critical hygiene needs but also created new economic opportunities for women in the communities. Additionally, Sundara has increased rates of hand washing in each of the communities they've worked in.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sundara has teamed up with the Gabriel Project in Mumbai to design a public health campaign to reduce the spread of the virus. Sundara has donated tens of thousands of bars of soap to

the communities they work in and created awareness and educational pamphlets on hand hygiene, social distancing, and proper health etiquette. Additionally, they have worked with a partner organization to help distribute meals to both residents and healthcare workers in need. To illustrate the scale of Sundara's work: in one week alone, they have donated 1,000 face masks to police, essential workers, and residents, 6000 bars of soap, built hand washing stations for two rural hospitals, and delivered 600 healthy meals to frontline healthcare workers. They continue their work and have a GoFundMe campaign with the goal to raise \$15,000 to help in their efforts.



***The Desai Foundation Trust** works to empower women and children through community programs to help elevate health and livelihood in both the United States and India. Their work is a community-based approach and emphasizes inclusivity, sustainability and accountability.*

The programs focus on women and children in three main areas: health and hygiene, livelihoods, and education. Prior to each initiative being launched a test program is set up to ensure its effectiveness and understand the impact it has. The Foundation recently launched the COVID-19 Resiliency Fund which is helping to deliver face masks, surgical masks, free sanitary napkins and food deliveries for the most vulnerable populations.



The  
India  
Center

***The India Center** is an all-volunteer non-profit organization, founded in 2003 and dedicated to promoting traditional Indian Arts among children of the Indian Diaspora.*

In response to the COVID-19 crisis the center set up the Annapurna Project which helps to sponsor meals for frontline workers.



VicenteFerrer

*Vicente Ferrer Foundation (VFF) is dedicated to empowering rural India through creating sustainable solutions to eliminate poverty. Their approach is a holistic one, working on the surface level as well as digging more into deeply rooted mechanisms at play in society.*

The four main program areas the foundation works in are education, rural infrastructure, sustainable agriculture, and health equity. To date VFF's global programs have empowered 3.6 million people to break free from the cycle of poverty.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in India, VFF launched the COVID-19 Relief Fund. Due to the vast number of needs across rural India, VFF chose to contribute in several ways. Some highlights of their work include: production and distribution of more than one million cotton masks to healthcare workers, government staff and communities in need; printing and distribution of flyers, posters and brochures to bring awareness to the most vulnerable communities; preparation and distribution of more than 350,000 meals for migrant families; and distribution of dry food ration kits to 6,346 families in over 900 villages.



VisionSpring

*Vision Spring is a non-profit organization with the goal of reaching and providing affordable, quality glasses to the billions of people worldwide who need them.*

They recognize that eyeglasses are a powerful social and economic development tool, enabling individuals to live their lives more fully through providing access to education, ability to earn an income, and a much more safe and sound way of living. To date, the organization has delivered more than 6.8 million glasses globally.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Vision Spring is repurposing their efforts and supply chains in several ways: to produce personal protective equipment (such as masks, gloves, face shields, and goggles) to ensure frontline healthcare workers have what they need, utilizing their relationships with garment factories and artisan groups to produce re-usable cloth masks for patients of health centers in low-income communities, setting up handwashing stations in public areas associated with Vision Spring's core customer groups, and redeploying their vision camp teams to distribute hygiene and dry ration kits to the most vulnerable.



*Wheels Global Foundation and Kolkata Foundation have partnered together in response to the COVID-19 crisis pledging to help 5000 families stay alive through provision of food ration kits to families across West Bengal. Both of the organizations created fundraisers with a goal of raising \$100,000 each.*

The donations they receive will be combined to help provide dry food ration kits for the families. Kolkata Foundation was founded to create a global platform for Calcuttans to give back in a way that is systematic, synchronized, and therefore able to be truly impactful. To maximize their efforts, Kolkata Foundation chose three NGOs working on the ground in Kolkata to partner with. Together they focus on fighting sex trafficking, healthcare, and education. Wheels Global Foundation is a non-profit organization founded by IIT Alumni to provide innovative technology driven solutions to the challenges effecting the global rural population in these six areas: water, healthcare, energy, education, livelihood, and sustainability.



*WISH Foundation, founded by Indiaspora Founders Circle member, Sunil Wadhvani, is a non-profit organization working to build honest and fair healthcare systems by making quality primary healthcare available and accessible to the world's poorest populations.*

The foundation currently works across five states in India, has over 300 clinics, more than 400 staff in the field, and ten million patient consults. They work to harness the power of innovation, technology, and public-private partnerships to develop solutions addressing alarming primary healthcare issues. From the onset of COVID-19, WISH Foundation began to spread awareness about the disease through awareness campaigns as well as having doctors at each of their clinics provide one-on-one counseling on prevention and treatment. In the state of Madhya Pradesh, where the foundation's technical support unit is located, they began working closely with government officials helping to establish telemedicine centers and training health officials in twenty six of the most affected districts. Furthermore, WISH has provided virtual trainings to their frontline healthcare workers in their clinics and are currently in the process of producing a Standard Training Module relative to COVID-19. This module is to be shared widely with government and private sector healthcare workers. The content provided will be based on CDC, Government of India, and WHO guidelines.



**IMPLICATIONS  
FOR THE FUTURE**



## Committed for the Long Term

The Indian American diaspora has come together in a unique way to show their dedication in assisting those in need during the COVID-19 global pandemic, whether in India or in the United States. It is clear that the diaspora is committed to the relief effort and will continue to provide assistance until it is no longer needed.

## Even Broader Support

While several areas of need and assistance were highlighted in this report, there are actually even more campaigns to provide relief in additional areas, including legal aid, awareness campaigns, non-medical helplines, and mental health resources. While every attempt was made to include all Indian American philanthropic responses to the pandemic, it is possible that some organizations have been overlooked.

## A Dedicated Diaspora

The Indian American organizations delivering COVID-19 relief includes representatives of all ages, religions, communities, industries, and professionals. The diaspora has clearly illustrated how their service, dedication, and communal efforts can serve as a model and inspiration, not only for other diasporas but for individuals and communities as a whole across the globe.



Indiaspora is a nonprofit organization established to transform the success of the Indian diaspora into meaningful impact worldwide. Our members are global leaders from diverse backgrounds and professions that serve as a platform to build stronger communities at home and abroad, with a shared culture of strategic giving and inspiring social change.

Find out more at  
[www.indiaspora.com](http://www.indiaspora.com)