

hope

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02 Director's Message

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the remarkable journey we've embarked on over the past three decades, I am filled with gratitude and pride for the incredible achievements we've accomplished together. From humble beginnings to transformative milestones, our collective efforts have brought hope and change to countless lives in the slum communities we serve.

The last five years have been momentous, marked by victories and challenges. We celebrated establishing partnerships with three Australian universities, opening doors of opportunity for our brightest students to pursue international education. We confronted the unprecedented challenges posed by a global pandemic that threatened the very fabric of our communities.

At the core of Asha's mission lies our commitment to transforming lives through our holistic programmatic interventions. Our three-tier Healthcare system has been a beacon of hope for thousands of slum residents, providing essential services and saving countless lives. From training Community Health Volunteers to running primary care programs and polyclinic, we have made tremendous success in improving access to quality healthcare in underserved communities. The other components- Empowerment, Higher Education, Financial Inclusion, Community Infrastructures Development and Environment have played a critical role in this transformation.

I am immensely proud of our dedicated team, volunteers, and supporters who have stood by us through thick and thin. Your commitment and compassion have been the driving force behind our success.

As we look to the future, I am filled with optimism and excitement. Despite the challenges that lie ahead, I am confident that our outstanding team and their determination will continue to make a profound impact on the lives of those we serve.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for being part of the Asha family. Together, let us continue to spread hope and transform lives.

With Regards,



Dr Kiran



03 Tribute to the Founder & Director by Ayesha Seymour– Senior Programme Manager

I lift up my heart to pay tribute to our beloved leader, Dr Kiran, who, as a young doctor, just 29 years old, sat between an open dirty drain and dilapidated shanties everywhere and brought Asha into being 35 years ago.

Rarely does one encounter an individual with such an abundance of admirable qualities. To me, her love for us all, from each team member to each person living in poverty in the slums, is like a pure and lovely flowing river, bringing life and flourishing wherever it goes, quenching thirst and filling hearts.

As a visionary leader, she is such a wonderful beacon of inspiration to us all. She understands that talent and skill are important, but more important than that are authenticity, character and personal substance, the way we live and how we serve. Through mentoring and empowering hundreds of people, she has created innumerable leaders in the Asha family, all of whom have been taught by her to serve with love and compassion, thereby lifting people up and giving them life.



When we ourselves, as leaders, sometimes feel disappointed or betrayed, she explains that this is part of the leadership reality, to be embraced and not run away from. We know we have her unwavering support, and this gives us great courage and makes us resilient.

Dr Kiran is a strategic risk-taker who is never afraid to take bold steps to do what is right and just. During the Delta Wave of COVID-19, she fearlessly led the team into every Asha community, saving countless lives at a time when there was death everywhere, and crematoriums were full. And the result? Only one Covid death among 700,000 people! When, during her early years, slum lords locked her up in her clinic because she was trying to empower illiterate slum women and give them a voice, she handled the situation calmly and later became friends with them through her peacemaking methods, and her understanding of the need to be non-judgmental. I could go on giving countless examples.

Her Model of Excellence in Community Health and Development in slums has been recognized in some of the world's best academic institutions. Her vision is clear, sharp, and focused, and she communicates it equally clearly and powerfully. Not everyone may know that at its centre lie the Asha values and the Asha Way of Life that she has instilled in every member of the team and communities. These values illuminate our journey and remove any shades of darkness and negativity.

We love being in her presence because she radiates so much positivity, and there is much fun and laughter while discussing important matters at the same time.

When asked where she gets her strength and energy from, she always says, through prayer, for an extravagant love that flows through me, infinite wisdom, and boundless strength.

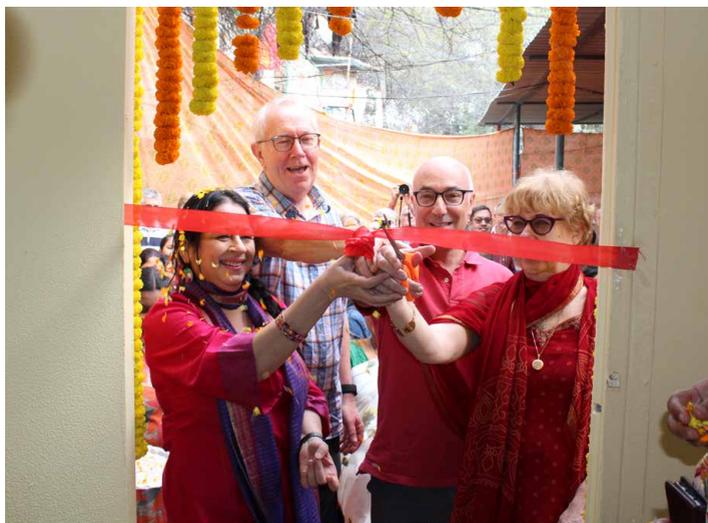
To a woman who washes the feet of her team, washes the feet of the poor, who makes each one of us feel greatly cherished, I dedicate this tribute today on behalf of the entire Asha family.

04 Capturing Moments of Week-long Celebration through Photographs

Reception at the British High Commissioner's Residence



Inauguration of Asha Centre at Vivekananda Slum Community



05

Celebration at Mayapuri Slum Community



Grand Finale of Our Celebrations at Sai Auditorium



06 Messages from Global Friends & Supporters of Asha on the Occasion of 35 Years Celebration



HE Alex Ellis, British High Commissioner to India

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to each of you for this momentous occasion of 35th Anniversary, and especially to Dr Kiran for the incredible work Asha does. It has been a privilege to support this cause in any way I can. Working with Asha and mentoring these amazing individuals has been a truly enriching experience. India's human potential is boundless, and witnessing it unfold through the efforts of Asha and its people fills me with inspiration. Thank you to Dr. Kiran and everyone at Asha for making such a positive impact and for showcasing the brilliance of this country.



Alex Chernov AC QC, Former Governor of Victoria and Founding Patron, Australian Friends of Asha

Over the past 35 years, Dr Kiran and the Asha team have not only transformed the lives of thousands of slum dwellers in Delhi but have also inspired people from all walks of life to join their journey. From providing healthcare, clean water, sanitation, and power to empowering slum dwellers with financial security and self-esteem, their impact is undeniable. Kiran, your dedication and achievements are truly commendable.

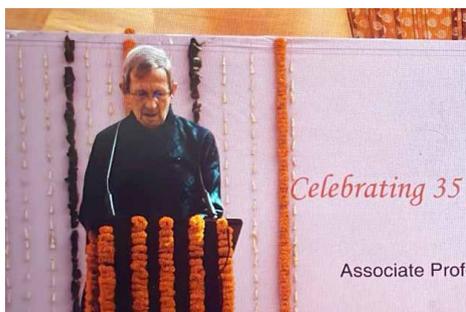


Dr David Finch, Chair of Friends of Asha Great Britain

Congratulations. What great achievements! I feel privileged to have shared some of this time with you all; here's to many new years of friendship, support and Love.

Robert Johanson, Chair, Australian Friends of Asha

Congratulations to you and all the Asha team on 35 years of serving the people in Delhi. Your work and achievements have been an inspiration for us all and we look forward to continue to work with you for many years. All the best from Australia.



Dr John Peteet, a Senior Psychiatrist at Dana Farber Cancer Research Hospital in Boston and a long-time supporter, Friends of Asha USA

Asha's mission and legacy inspire me for being so open-handed in spirit, comprehensive in scope, inclusive in practice, and empowering both individuals and the community. It's a privilege being a part of Asha's 35th Anniversary Celebrations. The Inauguration of the new Vivekananda centre symbolizes the breakdown of barriers that Asha has led towards a society based not on divisions of race, place or privilege.

07



Loanne Hempton, National Coordinator, Friends of Asha USA

Witnessing the potential of the global Asha family is truly inspiring. Together, we demonstrate what can be achieved through unity. Let's carry this inspiration forward, spreading the values our world desperately needs. Thank you for being our partners in this transformative journey. Let's continue strengthening our bonds and showcasing the possibilities when we work and learn from each other.

Prof David Hempton, Professor and Former Dean of Harvard Divinity School, USA

Reflecting on the profound impact of our longstanding partnership with Asha fills us with gratitude. Their unwavering commitment to values such as love, respect and empowerment resonates deeply with us. Witnessing countless lives transformed through health, education, and opportunity is truly inspiring. Let's continue to uphold these universal values and collectively strive towards a more harmonious world.



Dr Richard Hogben, National Coordinator, Friends of Asha Great Britain

Witnessing Asha's remarkable journey over 17 years is truly remarkable. From providing basic amenities to offering computer training, English lessons, university education, and medical care for chronic diseases, Asha's progress is undeniable. Heartfelt gratitude to the communities, dedicated staff, and supporters worldwide for their beautiful, courageous, and generous contributions to Asha's mission.



Richard Leader, National Coordinator, Australian Friends of Asha

Despite challenges like COVID-19, Asha's spirit of sharing, caring, and teaching shines through, transforming countless lives. Your efforts are beautiful, courageous, and generous. Congratulations on your achievements, and thank you for inspiring us all.

Victoria Thampi, National Coordinator, Friends of Asha Ireland

I will never forget the day I met you in Wallace High School, 12 years ago, when you spoke to us about your incredible work with such passion and heart.

I was also amazed by your vision, and how people were empowered from the very first day you started the work, to seek transformation in their communities and I had no hesitation in saying yes to the first trip from the Wallace High School in 2014 to Mayapuri.

Thank you for encouraging us to join you in your vision and for giving us the opportunity to be part of the incredible journey of transformation.



08 Transforming lives

Support our cause

£50 – will provide basic health education for 1,000 slum dwellers for a month

£75 – will provide Antenatal care for five pregnant women for a month

£150 – will provide books for one child for a year

£250 – will provide geriatric health care and Love and Lunch for five elderly for a month

£500 – will provide medical care for ten chronically ill patients for a month

£550 – will support 30 high school students for their college preparation

£600 – will cover university tuition fees for one student for a year

£1000 – will cover university expenses for one student for a year

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Friends of Asha (Great Britain)

If you would like to contribute to the lives of poor slum dwellers in Delhi, then you can become a Friend of Asha. Friends of Asha (Great Britain) aids our activities through donations, fundraising events, volunteering opportunities and raising awareness of the work we do.

For more information, contact:

**Dr Richard Hogben, National Coordinator,
Friends of Asha GB**
foasha.richardhogben@gmail.com

Donations

If you would like to make a donation to Asha, and you are a UK taxpayer, you can Gift Aid your donation. Download a form from the website or request one from the Coordinator. Friends of Asha GB (Charity Registration No. 1085071) can collect an extra 25p for every pound you donate.

1. To donate online directly from your Bank Make a payment to
The Lloyds Bank account of Friends of Asha (GB)
Sort Code 30-96-31; A/c No. 01899891

2. To donate online

Send your contribution to Asha by visiting our website at
<https://asha-india.org/get-involved/donate/great-britain-donations/>

3. To donate by cheque:

Make your cheque payable to
“Friends of Asha (GB)” and mail to
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