



धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः



SAC

SUPPORT A CHILD

Education Builds Strong Nation



ANNUAL REPORT
2018-19



Message from Dr. Abhaya Asthana President – VHPA

World Hindu Council of America's flagship program, "Support a Child" SAC, is a man making movement. It gives us an opportunity to connect with our roots in Bharat and help provide education, boarding, lodging, medical care and values to needy children from different parts of the country. From the time it was started in 1985 it has come a very long way under the leadership of the current SAC team, both in USA and in Bharat. Today we support over 2500 children and the number continues to grow every year. As long as a single child is left with a dream unfulfilled for want of resources, our work is not done!



Message from Nand Lal Lohia All India Secretary – Seva, VHP

Adarniya Smt. Renu Gupta ji

I am glad to know that VHP America is publishing Annual Report on SAC activities.

In Bharat VHP is running 148 Hostels and Kalyan Ashrams (Orphanage) for weaker section of our society. These are located in remote areas amongst schedule cast schedule tribes and other backward classes of our society. Our these unfortunate brethren can not afford to get their children proper education and Sanskar. There are such 8000 children to whom we are serving all over Bharat through our Trusts and Societies. VHPA is helping VHP Bharat to serve these children more effectively. VHP of America supports nearly 2500 children. More is needed.

We expect that more and more NRIs will come forward to help VHPA to support unfortunate brethren of our society in Bharat.

I convey my best wishes for the SAC ANNUAL REPORT and to all our friends and well wishers who are extending their help to VHPA for the noble cause.

We, in the service of our Bharat Mata.



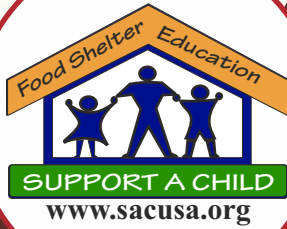
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SAC Report from USA



Support-A-Child (SAC), a Seva program of VHPA, was established in 1985 as an initiative of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA), to help eradicate illiteracy and improve living conditions of children from poor and disadvantaged families in India. A non-profit organization registered in the USA, SAC is run totally by volunteers' efforts, with minimal overhead costs. Today SAC has strong presence in 24 cities of 16 states in US, with dedicated chapter coordinators, and a strong national team. Donors may support a child (or several children) for a year, by donating \$250 per child. This provides for education and living expenses of the child for a year. Donors receive a report card for each sponsored child every year, and are encouraged to visit the SAC supported hostels in India. Please visit sacusa.org to learn more about the initiatives and success stories of SAC.

To ensure "Satpatri Daan", SAC collaborates with various organizations dedicated to serving the poor and needy in India so that help reaches where it is most needed. One such organization is Bharat Kalyan Prathishthan (BKP), which runs several hostels in cities and some in remote villages and tribal regions of India, where poverty and lack of resources prevent youth from getting any education. To address the needs of this neglected populace, schools have been started in remote areas of Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Assam, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. Now we see the presence of BKP Hostels in all the states of Bharat. BKP, a project of VHP, with the help of about 200 associated organizations all over Bharat, is dedicated to jan-kalyan and is an embodiment of the lofty principle of "Nar-seva is Narayan-seva."

While we organize annual fundraiser every year, we also try to promote Indian art and culture with the aim to popularize these in USA. SAC routinely hosts world-class cultural programs in multiple US cities that serve as great fundraisers and help raise awareness about the various projects undertaken by VHPA.

In the year 2016, SAC hosted the dance troupe led by talented Aditi Bhagwat, a kathak dancer par excellence. In 2017, Hindi Hasya Kavi

Sanjay Jhala and Ved Prakash entertained crowds with their witty, tongue in cheek humor.

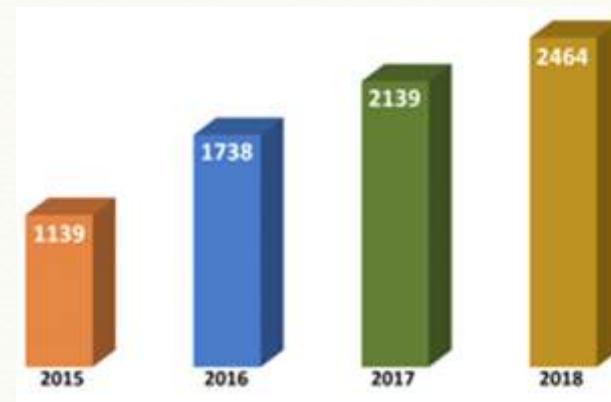
In 2018 Santoor player Pt. Tarun Bhattacharya and Odissi Danseuse Sanchita Bhattacharya enthralled the audiences across US with their music, dance and jugal-bandi.

In 2019 we will be hosting internationally acclaimed Puppeteer and Bharatnatyam artist Anupama Hoskare, and her team from “Dhaatu,” who will be presenting a one of its kind puppet show. A dance and music extravaganza, this show combines puppets with a live Bharatnatyam dancer to tell an endearing romantic comedy, written by none other than the great Sanskrit poet Kalidaas.

Last 5-years SAC statistics at a glance :

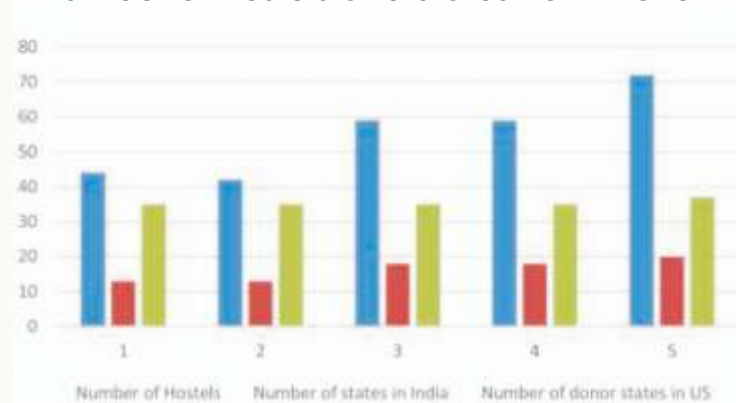
Description	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of Donors	283	276	566	710	867
Number of Hostels	44	42	59	59	72
Number of recipient states in India	13	13	18	18	20
Number of donor states in US	35	35	35	35	37

Number of children supported from USA :

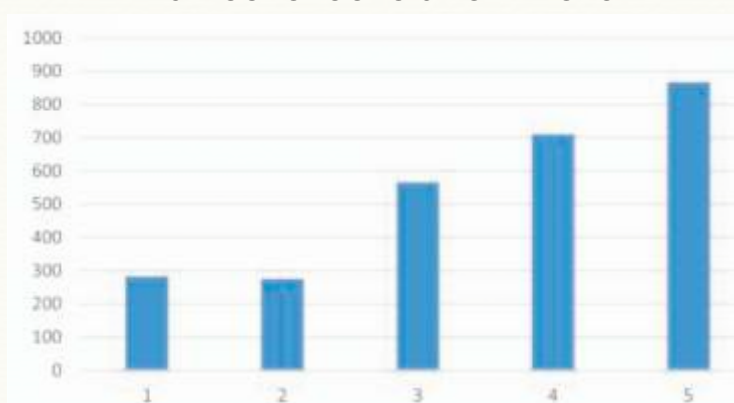


Education is perhaps the most potent tool in eradicating poverty from any society. SAC believes that the social fabric of the society can be strengthened when all members of the society have a chance to reach their full potential. The poor and uneducated youth of Bharat, if given the opportunity and the tools to succeed, can lend a hand to the growth of the country, instead of being a burden on the society. It is often said that charity is but a higher order of self-service. By helping the needy, we indeed enrich our own lives and make the world a better place for all of us.

Number of Hostels and States 2014-2018



Number of donors 2014-2018



Submitted by
Jayant Daftedar
Director – SAC USA



Shri Ashok Singhal Koushal Vikas Kendra Supported by SAC-USA



I am very excited to give you a detailed report on special projects of skill development under the **Support A Child (SAC)** scheme of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America.

The journey of special projects for skill development under **Shri Ashok Singhal Kaushal Vikas Kendra** in **Bharat** began on April 11, 2017, by opening a Tailoring Training Center for women from the poorest of poor families in nearby areas of **Beawar** City, Ajmer District, Rajasthan. In the very first year, at the center at Beawar, 125 women and girls registered for training, out of which 20 students graduated, 4 students got jobs and 15 students were working from their homes by the end of that year. It was our pilot project. The results in the following year are also very encouraging.

After opening the Beawar Tailoring Training Center, we started another Tailoring Training Center at **Banswara** on March 18, 2018, and the third one in **Kota** on May 18, 2018.

Similarly, we opened a Computer training center in Beawar on July 15, 2018, one in Banswara on March 18, 2018, and one in **Kota** on **September 13, 2018**.



Today we are successfully running 3 Tailoring Training Centers and 3 Computer Training Centres under Shri Ashok Singhal Kaushal Vikas Kendra in Rajasthan. We have plans to open 3 more Tailoring Training Centers and 3 more Computer Training Centers in tribal areas of Banswara District. We have already received funds for this purpose from SAC. These 6 centers will be started in the month of April 2019.

So far, in all the Tailoring Training Centers, we have enrolled **470 students** out of which 90 girls graduated, **38 secured jobs** and 47 girls are working from their homes.

Likewise, for the Computer Training Centers, 101 students have registered for training so far out of which 22 students have graduated and are searching for jobs.

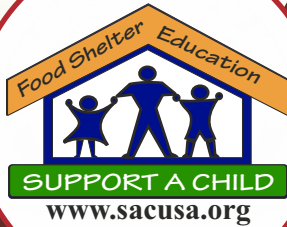
We have also sent a proposal to SAC for their consideration for other skill development centers like **electrician, refrigeration, plumbing, motor winding, and driving training school**. The cost of establishing and running a skills center for three years is approximately \$25,000. A Tailoring Training Center costs \$9,000 while a Computer Training Center costs \$15,000.

These skill development centers serve to provide vocational skills to members of the poorest of poor families in Bharat. More such skill development centers are required in the **NorthEast** parts of Bharat and as such, we have submitted proposals to **SAC**. We hope they will be considered very soon.

We require your kind support under **SAC** for the noble cause of uplifting the living conditions of the poorest of the poor families in Bharat by developing their skills.

Anand Prakash Goyal,
Kendriya Sah-Mantri - Sewa (VHP)





Visiting SAC Hostels



I first got associated with SAC (Support A Child), a project of VHPA (World Hindu Council of America), as a donor in 1996. I took charge of the SAC project in 2012 with a passion and aim of taking this very viable but neglected project to a new altitude. It took the next 3 years to set up a website, and design the logo, some brochures, and other marketing material. We then started organizing annual fundraising events and saw a very promising response.

My husband Arun and I also made a commitment to visit SAC hostels in Bharat every year. **Balika Sadan, Jaipur** was our very first visit to a SAC hostel (in 2013). Balika Sadan, a home for 36 girls, was situated in the heart of Jaipur city. We visited **Sewa Dham Mandoli, Delhi** in the same year. Sewa Dham is home to 300 boys. The boys attend the resident high school. The facility was huge, with big gardens, playgrounds, large halls, and modern technology. The huge kitchen to cook for 300+ boys' every day was amazing. There were boys from different states of Bharat sharing a common room to sleep. I found this arrangement fascinating.

In 2014, we visited **The Matru Chhaya (Haridwar)** hostel for 36+ girls. It was an older building and a new one was under construction. Even though the facility was not up to the standard, it was clean and the girls were happy. The hostel also hosted a Saraswati Shishu Mandir junior high school on its premises, which was attended by local students too.

In 2015, our destination was **Maharishi Valmeeki Ashram, a boys' hostel in Nougharh** a remote tribal belt situated 40 km away from Varanasi. It was a huge compound and home to 87+ boys. The hostel also has a school within its premises. Many students have to walk more than 10 km a day to get to it. Life is tough but colorful with rich nature, lakes, and mountains. The boys gave an amazing performance of bhajan singing along with playing tabla, dholak, and harmonium.

Rajasthan is our home state and we wanted to check out the SAC hostels in Rajasthan. Our visit in 2016 to **Byawar, Jaamdoli, and Tatiyavaas** near Ajmer and Jaipur gave insights into local problems. The experience at Beawar hostel, home to 86+ boys, was a very memorable one. Ajmer/Beawar is the maternal hometown of Prithviraj Chouhan and has a long history of Muslim conversions that tries to project local people as descendants of Muhammad Gouri. The hostel and school at this compound have become the center of Bhartiya revival and provide quality education and sanskaras to students.

In 2017, during a trip to Kerala, we visited **Vivekananda Boys Hostel in Kocchi**. There were 75+ boys staying at the hostel. The language in Kerala was a big problem for us. Mr. Kumar, a local VHP volunteer and businessman was our interpreter. The hostel was full of modern facilities, a computer room, a library and a special room for students to help with homework. We saw many paintings done by the boys in the hostel. Kerala's Hindu community faces many challenges every day everything from Love Jihad to being sidelined. I found that Kerala

volunteers have a great fighting spirit.

In 2018, we visited a **Girls Hostel in Harsool, Nasik**, a remote area of Maharashtra. It is known for the athletic abilities of its residents. The girls are experts in gymnastics. The Harsool hostel is home to 93 girls and has a big rope in the middle of the hostel, where the girls practice rope gymnastics regularly. Kalpana Raout, the commonwealth Olympic medalist is a product of the Harsool hostel. The facilities are decent and hold promise for hundreds of girls from this backward tribal belt.

This year (2019), we visited Northeast Bharat. Our first stop was **Phuloni, Assam** a village about 100 km from Guwahati. This hostel has 22 boys. The hostel is within the compound of a Vidya Bharati School. The hostel has an older building while a new one is under construction. The Vidya Bharati School has 400+ students who come from nearby areas.

Our second stop was “**Shri Shankardev Shishu Niketan**” in **Hozai** a medium size town with 60% Muslim population. This hostel was started by Swami Krishnanand ji in 1986. This is one of the oldest schools with 900+ students and so is the hostel. This hostel is also built with a Vidya Bharati School. The hostel has 32 boys who live in a very simple and moderate hostel cum home setting. The hostel also has a Mandir of Vishnu and Shiv Bhagwan. Since the school is functioning very effectively for a long time, this location with its Mandir and large halls has become a center of Ghar Vapsi (Home-Back) for many marrying couples who want to reconvert to Hindu Dharma.

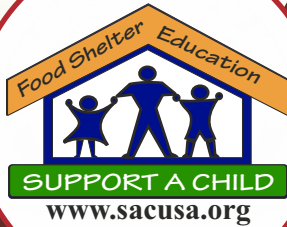
Our third stop was the **Girls Hostel in Haflong**. After driving 125 km from Hozai, going through some rough and risky terrain, we reached a hill station called Haflong. 28 girls were waiting to welcome us. They looked beautiful in their traditional dresses and each dress was different. They gave us a very warm welcome. The girls recited the 12th chapter of the Bhagavad Geeta. The girls weave traditional design scarves in the hostel. We had dinner in the hostel cooked by these girls. These girls study in a nearby Vivekananda English medium school, run by the VHP.

Our fourth stop was the **Mohta Boys Hostel**. We visited this hostel in the morning. The boys' hostel is located on the side of a Vivekananda School. The hostel hosts 35 boys. The hostel is very simple and modern and was built through the donations of local businessmen. We joined the Morning Prayer session at the school. We had the good fortune of meeting Shri Ramnath ji, a very dedicated RSS pracharak from Itawa, UP. He has been serving the Haflong area for the last 45 years, 1500 km away from his home. He had traveled the area in the early years, saw the problems and challenges, and subsequently established two hostels and schools to provide quality education.

Common Finding in SAC hostels: SAC-supported hostels are the future of awakening Bharat, the hope of our next generation and the home for many children who may otherwise have gone on the wrong path. There are many common elements in all the SAC hostels we visited including:

- 1) Run with very strict financial control. Each purchase/expense is recorded. We found financial accounting to be very transparent in each hostel.
 - 2) Clean and well organized beyond our expectation.
 - 3) A few hostels had modern facilities while others had a makeshift kind of arrangement. I am sure with time and support, all the hostels can be equipped with modern facilities.
 - 4) All the boys and girls staying in the hostels were very well behaved, disciplined and cultured. They were respectful and had big dreams for life.
 - 5) We witnessed firsthand the instilling of core human values and the teaching of true knowledge of Dharma and heritage.
 - 6) The students need more attention toward studies. Most of them were average in studies. But considering the background they come from, this is still quite commendable.
 - 7) Students are admitted to the hostel strictly on a financial need basis, or those coming from broken families and hostile or terrorist hit places.
- We plan to continue to visit more and more hostels every year in future trips.
Please come and join us become a part of the SAC movement.

Renu Gupta
VP-Seva, VHPA



Cricket for SAC, Unique way to Raise Funds for SAC



Maryland Cricket League (MCL - www.cricmcl.com; www.MarylandT20.org) is a community based league of 30+ recreational adult cricket teams and 20+ hard ball youth cricket teams for the community and by the community.

How Was Maryland Cricket League born?

In 2012, few cricket enthusiasts got together to raise funds for VHPA initiative Support-A-Child (SAC - www.sacusa.org) project supporting underprivileged children in Bharat to provide basic accommodation and education. Luckily for them they found local business community willing and ready to help and that's how SAC Charity Cricket League was born.

We started with 9 teams organizing 10 overs game spread across 2 weekends in a festive atmosphere. Some of the key supporters included teams from Xerox Corporation, Angarai International Inc, Opnet (later merged with River Bed Technology), Polar IT services, Howard County Heros (made up of local business community) etc. That effort in 2012 helped us raise funds for 9 10 children.

Fast forward 2018-19 and the charity initiative took professional turn rebranding ourselves as Maryland Cricket League (MCL), with underline objective remaining the same. Today we have 2 dedicated cricket grounds, 30+ adult



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teams and 20+ youth hard ball cricket teams. Every year we organize 4 major tournaments - Spring, Fall, Entertainment (7/11) and SAC Charity Youth tournament.

The beauty of this initiative is not only it provides growing cricket community a structured platform to play cricket, but also help raise awareness about SAC Charity program raising funds for 50+ children every year. In addition since 2018 we also initiated Math Tutoring Program to uplift Math Standards in local county schools and also celebrate Christmas at local homeless center providing them dinner party.

Taking a leap further, this year we are introducing our 1st professional 16U youth cricket team at National Youth Cricket League (NYCL).

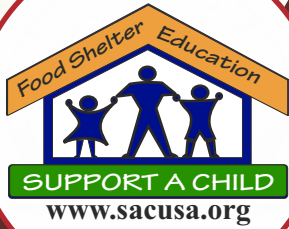
Mahendra Sapa

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www.MarylandT20.org

"Take Risks in your life" if you win, you can lead! if you Lose, You can Guide..





SAC Fund-raising Shows in USA in 2018/2019



SAC routinely hosts world class cultural programs in multiple USA cities as great fund raisers and also to raise awareness about the various projects undertaken by VHPA. In 2018 SAC USA team presented “*Music Meets Bells*” show, an enchanting blend of Odissi Dance, Musical Instruments (Santoor and Tabla) and Jugalbandi by **Odissi soloist Guru Sanchita\ Bhattacharya** and **Santoor Mastero Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya** along with **Jyotirmay Roy chowdhury** and **Trishita Nandi**.

Fund-raising show was done in 18 cities in Sep/Oct 2018 was attended by more than 2000





audiences which included Indians and non-Indians. Audiences were mesmerized by the jugalbandi of dance, santoor and tabla.

For 2019, we will have *“A Puppet and Dance Musical Malavikagnimitram”* in 21 Cities in USA, to raise fund for SAC project.

Neelam Jaiswal
National Coordinator
SAC Event







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