Community Development

For five years, SAPF field staff worked with 533 villages across 12 states of India to help them overcome poverty-related problems within their communities. Villagers formed committees to identify their issues, organize, and plan to solve them, with financial support from SAPF and by accessing local government resources.

5 Year Achievements

- 89,664 people visited medical camps
- 68,741 children accessed educational resources
- 14,989 adults received literacy training
- 257,691 trees were planted
- 138,732 people learned about proper sanitation
- 141,387 people got access to safe drinking water
- More than 580 families were supported to start kitchen gardens
- 47,775 people accessed income generation resources

More than $31 Million was mobilized from the local government and within the communities.

549,578 people benefitted from the activities of the SPED III Program.

Family Development

This year, 1,456 new families were partnered with donors and started their 6 year journey.

The Family Development Program is SAPF’s core program and every year, it partners thousands of impoverished families in 5 states of India with donors to give them the chance to overcome their poverty-related issues. This year, 10,765 families received monthly financial support, as well as training and regular visits from SAPF field staff to help them in achieving their goals.

With guidance from program staff, families also receive assistance in applying for government programs and benefits that are designated to support families struggling with poverty. This year, 2,649 families were able to access resources through the local government, totaling more than $2 million. These resources helped families to build or repair their homes, gain access to health care, and support their children to attend school.

2,681 new Income Generation Projects were started by families in the program.

Thank You

to everyone who supported the SPED III Program and helped to make these amazing changes possible.

Mrs. Usha Babu and her two daughters were living in a small, dilapidated house in Idukki, Kerala. Her husband had abandoned the family and Usha was struggling to make ends meet. Going for daily wage labour was not providing the money they needed to afford nutritious food, access critical medical treatment, make repairs to their home, and keep the girls in school.

The family was selected from within the community to take part in the Family Development Program. With support from the field staff and key community members, Usha was able to gather resources from the local government and other organizations to construct a new, secure house for her family with a latrine. She also started two income generation projects; goat rearing and cultivating bananas and bitter gourds. These small businesses made it possible for her to meet the needs of the family. Her daughters have continued their education and the oldest one is completing her studies in nursing. By participating in the Family Development Program, this family had the opportunity to turn their lives around and look to a brighter future.
SAFP provides funding to additional projects that are special to us and our donors! In 2015-2016, we were able to support the following projects in India:

- Madonna Covent (Visititation Sisters of Don Bosco) – Shillong, Meghalaya
- Don Bosco Valsalya Bhavan – Street Girls Shelter- Palluruthy, Cochin, Kerala
- St. Jude’s Children’s Home, Diocese of Muvatupphuzha, Kerala.
- Don Bosco Valsalya Bhavan – Street Girls Shelter- Palluruthy, Cochin, Kerala
- St. Joseph’s Leprosy Patients Society, Kalasapakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- Perpetual Succour Health Centre, Chamarajanagar District, Karnataka.
- The Guntur Diocese Social Service & Welfare Society, Brodipet, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
- Loreto Convent, Entally, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Lawrence DeSouza Home, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Smile Care, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The Diocese of Chandia, Maharashtra.
- Little Flower Mission, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Diocese of Krishnagar, West Bengal.
- Diocese of Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Perpetual Succour Health Centre, Chamarajanagar District, Karnataka.
- St. Joseph's Leprosy Patients Society, Kalasapakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- Diocese of Nagapattinam – Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Funds used for: Leprosy Relief and Rehabilitation Centre, Nimbhara Khurd, Diocese of Amravati, Maharashtra.
- Loreto Convent, Entally, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Loreto Convent, Entally, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- The Diocese of Chanda, Maharashtra.
- Smile Care, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The Diocese of Chandia, Maharashtra.
- Little Flower Mission, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Perpetual Succour Health Centre, Chamarajanagar District, Karnataka.
- St. Joseph's Leprosy Patients Society, Kalasapakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- Diocese of Nagapattinam – Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Funds used for: Leprosy Relief and Rehabilitation Centre, Nimbhara Khurd, Diocese of Amravati, Maharashtra.
- Rayjon ShareCare Sarna – Empowerment Project – Haiti.
- Emmaus Swiss Leprosy Hospital, Palamaniar, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Guntur Diocese Social Service & Welfare Society, Brodipet, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
- Loreto Convent, Entally, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Lawrence DeSouza Home, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Smile Care, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The Diocese of Chandia, Maharashtra.
- Little Flower Mission, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.
- Diocese of Krishnagar, West Bengal.
- Diocese of Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Over the last year we have celebrated in India and Canada SAFP’s 50 years of “partnering with the poor for a just world.”

We are grateful for SAFP’s successes and recall with pride our deepening understanding of the causes of poverty and its oppression. Most of all, we celebrated the memory of Msgr. Augustine Kandathil (Fr. Gus) and his complete commitment to the poor of his country of India. He led an austere life, challenging us by his very presence. We marveled at his joy filled heart and we were grateful that we had encountered such an extraordinary person who understood the radical call of the gospel and tried to live it with every fibre of his being. Hundreds of thousands of poor people in India have become empowered because Fr. Gus saw their misery and was compelled to do something about it. He attracted many to join with him in the struggle that became “good news”.

With a firm heart filled with gratitude SAFP will continue its wonderful work because you and so many others are committed to follow his example.

You believe in solidarity - you love the poor.

Thank you.

Ms. Lois Beverly Côté - President, Save A Family Plan Canada

A lady names Vij is sitting across my table during my lunch break. I have seen her only a few times in my office. She is thirty-five and looks quite thin. She does not eat enough or she does not eat regularly. She was married at the age of 19 and has a fifteen year old daughter, Aleena, who has just passed school final. She would like to continue in Grade 11 and that would cost a bit of money. The second child, Alan, is in grade 9 that the third one, Anu, is in grade 7. Vij has no house of her own.

After these children were born, the husband simply abandoned her and he is quite alcoholic. He wanders from place to place. Vij wants to get a computer since she would like to work from home. There is a registration office near her rented house and there are many people who would like to get the help of someone who can type when the land registrations are done. She wants to stay and work from home and she would like to be there when the children return from school. She cannot go to a bank to get a loan since she is not formally employed by someone. Save A Family Plan comes to the assistance of many a people like these and brings a ray of hope and joy among them. They need help not only economically but emotionally where we support them and comfort them. We would be sojourners with them, journeying with them convincing them that they can make this exodus from poverty to economic sufficiency, from hopelessness to hope, from a sense of aloneness to the communion of community. We do bring a smile to their face, helping them realize that there is a rainbow in the midst of rain and a calmness even in the midst of heavy winds that shake the very existence of human life.

Save A Family Plan is a movement which celebrates life and I am very happy to be a small part of it. You too are a part of it. You bring a smile to a person who thinks that their way is closed and they have nowhere to go. Are you not bringing light in the midst of darkness? May God bless you all.

Bishop Sebastian Adayanthrath - President, Save A Family Plan India Trust