

**A MESSAGE FROM
BISHOP SEBASTIAN ADYANTHRATH**
President of SAFP India



The other day I met a man who had just retired from a primary school as its headmaster. While we were talking he noticed a picture of a priest on the wall of my office. I explained that it was a photo of Monsignor Augustine Kandathil, the founder of Save A Family Plan. At this moment, he began to cry. It wasn't until later that he shared with me that he comes from a family of seven children who grew up in desperate poverty. He was the eldest child and remembered that they were one of the first families who were supported through Save A Family Plan, 47 years ago. He shared with me his memories of how at each month, the money his family received was used to buy books, uniforms, food and umbrellas for the monsoon season. This money is what made it possible to educate all the seven children, most of them are employed now in various states across India. None of them are extremely wealthy, but they are healthy, their basic needs are met, they made it through life and now their children have received a good education.

Pope Paul VI in the *Populorum Progressio* on the "development of peoples" said to the church that: the hungry nations of the world cry out to the peoples blessed with abundance. The church responded to this cry and asks that each and every person to listen and hear their sister's or brother's plea and answer it lovingly. I am deeply grateful to all the partners of Save A Family Plan who has lovingly responded to the call of the brothers and sisters in India and for the office of Save A Family Plan for facilitating this concern most meaningfully.

During my travels around many of the different states of India over the last eleven years I have met thousands of local staff and volunteers of Save A Family Plan. These people are working closely with the poor families and communities at the grassroots level. I strongly feel that they are the salt of the earth and light of the world. They understand the cry of the poor as the call of God inviting us to share in the building of a new world where everyone has enough food to eat, clothes to wear and a place to lay their head. I am lucky to be associated with this program and I would consider my participation with Save A Family Plan as the greatest gift God has given in my life. God comes to us in the most crucified people of our history and poverty is one form of crucifixion.

Save A Family Plan would like to give a special thank-you to all of our volunteers and partners. The success of our programs would not be possible without your dedication and commitment.



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Save A Family Plan

If you have questions, would like to make a donation, or inquire about booking a presentation, please contact us!

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100% of your donation reaches the poor

FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In 2012-2013, Save A Family Plan partnered with **11,642** families through **43** Diocesan Social Service Societies, in **5** States of India (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu) in implementing the Family Development Program. Local community self-help groups selected **2,046** deserving participants and partnered them with contributors through SAFP to begin their six year program cycle. Within six years many significant changes can occur in the lives of these families. This year:



- Participants were able to build their capacity and skills through trainings that increased their awareness about poverty related issues and their ability to prioritize their goals. **87%** of all participants in the program were able to receive regional level trainings on topics such as: financial planning and economic growth, food security, health and sanitation, education, environmental sustainability, gender related issues and good governance.

- In total, participants utilized **\$1,816,880** from their SAFP savings accounts on projects related to basic human infrastructure (housing, latrines, wells, etc.), education, debt and loan repayment, natural resource management, health and sanitation and the promotion of their small businesses.
- \$650,758** was used by participants to initiate and improve on small businesses (income generation projects), as a source of income for families.
- 1,594** participants in the program successfully completed their six years. These families are now self-reliant, and have the skills, capacity and resources to be participants and take ownership of their own development.



Janacki from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu completed the program in March 2013. She shared with us the impact the last six years has had on her and her family: *"I lost my husband and was left with two children. I was uneducated so did not know anything of the outside world. Through this program I gained more confidence...I started a small snack shop, and took up tailoring and stitching clothing. I expanded my small shop by selling milk and tea. With this earning I was able to give a good education to my sons. My elder son is employed with a good company and my younger son is doing his Masters in Business Management. This was only possible through the income I gained through my shop. This program has given me the ability to lead my family."*



SAFP is committed to seeking justice and working with the marginalized and poor of India, regardless of caste, creed, gender, or political affiliation.

A MESSAGE FROM MS. LOIS CÔTÉ

President of SAFF Canada



We are reminded daily of many evils - wars, terrorism, suicide bombers, domestic violence, gang rapes, natural disasters, poverty, etc. We can become emotionally paralyzed by all of this or we can choose to do what we can in solidarity with those who suffer so much.

Save A Family Plan is a sign of hope and belief that we can make and do make a significant change in the lives of hundreds of thousands of our brothers and sisters in India.

We continue to work with our Indian partners providing trainings, programs and organization which ultimately gives support to thousands of families and communities in their struggle to come out of poverty.

It is worth noting that thousands of volunteers in India and Canada generously give of their time and talent to support these families and communities. They are part of the building of communities in a quiet and hidden way. We salute and thank them.

Our benefactors' financial support is inestimable and essential. We take this opportunity to thank them for their support, good will, and loving compassion. Let us with confidence continue to be a force for good. Thank you.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Sustainability through Participation, Empowerment, and Decentralization (SPED) III - 2010-2016

SAFF is currently working with **29** local NGOs in partnership with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to implement the SPED III Program in **580** villages across India. This unique initiative aims to develop the capacity of communities across **12** states (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh) to address their poverty-related issues in a sustainable way by themselves. Each village has the chance to identify and address one key issue each year by thinking critically about the problems, identifying their own strengths and assets, and mobilizing local resources, including the many schemes and programs offered by the government. By repeating this process each year and reflecting on their learning, the communities will develop the capacity to address their issues on their own in the future.

In Year 2 of this five year program, communities improved their ability to plan solutions to their problems, collaborate with the local government and other organizations, and access the necessary resources to solve their issues. Collectively, the communities were able to mobilize approximately **\$8,384,670** (Canadian) to support their planned initiatives. This is almost 11 times the amount provided to the communities by SAFF/CIDA.

In addition to capacity development, communities have taken concrete steps to improve their quality of life in a variety of areas through the unique and issue-specific initiatives undertaken at the village level this year. The following are examples of some of their achievements:

- 31,407 people gained access to safe drinking water
- 11,458 people gained access to new eco-friendly farming practices
- 19,556 children gained access to educational resources
- 10,263 people gained access to income generation project resources
- 27,923 people gained access to medical camps
- 42,474 people gained access to improved transportation facilities
- 69,275 trees were planted

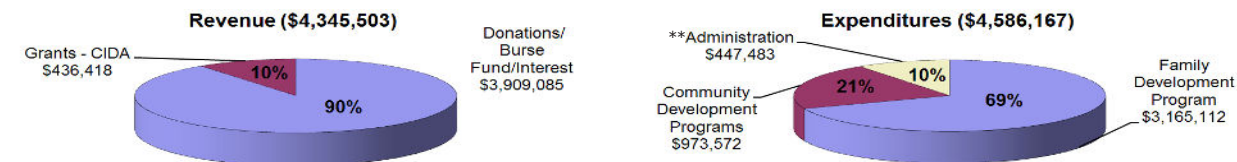


 Canadian International Development Agency  Agence canadienne de développement international

In *Ulippu village, near Belthangady, Karnataka*, lack of availability of safe drinking water was selected as the issue for Year 2. The people came together to submit a memorandum to the local government and they participated in the local public forums to bring their issue forward. As a result, a well was constructed through the support of the local Panchayat and SAFF/CIDA. Some of the villagers received wages from the government to help with the construction. Water pipes were added to provide a tap connection to each home and some families were given water meters to help them raise their awareness about water usage and encourage them to conserve. Through this process, the people of Ulippu got access to water, while developing a relationship with the local government and learning about environmentally friendly practices.

SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES 2012-2013

(from Financial Statements prepared by Hyatt Lassaline, LLP - Chartered Accountants, and approved by SAFFC Board of Directors on June 20, 2013) ** A portion of our administration cost is covered by the Canadian International Development Agency and the interest from socially responsible investments



Audited statements available on request

SPECIAL PROJECTS

SAFF continues to support many small rights/issue based approached projects that are designed to address specific and unique regional needs. This past year, **44** partners from **10** states (Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) undertook **47** initiatives. These covered many sectors including: housing, water, sanitation, health and hygiene (including HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria programs), income generation (entrepreneurial development), natural resource management and conservation practices (including drinking water systems/water wells and rainwater harvesting, watersheds, organic farming, waste management, pollution control, renewable energy/biogas and solar energy), capacity building (training), good governance and human rights, education, human migration and trafficking, violence against women, child labour, and micro-credit.

One unique project that SAFF has been supporting in partnership with the Camillians (the Order of the Ministries to the Sick) is *Snehakiran*, an HIV/AIDS community care and rehabilitation centre located in Madal district of Andhra Pradesh. This centre looks after the needs of approximately 50 patients including children, youth and adults. Cases referred to this centre include complicated cases that need long-term treatment and rejected admissions from other hospitals. Since 2008, it has been providing holistic treatment (including out-patient/in-patient services; medical management; diagnostic services; counseling; nutritional support; home-based care; palliative care; and support of affected family members especially children) free of cost to hundreds of patients from the poverty-stricken families of the Lambadi tribe and many destitute from neighbouring urban slums and suburbs. At Snehakiran, 70% of the staff are HIV/AIDS positive and believe that *"leading by example, they are able to provide care based on their own experiences"*.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SAFF is placing special focus on engaging youth in social justice issues and global citizenship through school presentations and youth engagement activities. During this year, **21** public engagement presentations and trainings were done for a variety of community groups and schools. We also facilitated an experiential learning trip for 14 staff and students of St. Edmund Campion Secondary School in Brampton, Ontario. One presentation, which was done for Grade 10 students of John Paul II Secondary School in London, Ontario, was particularly inspiring due to the cross-cultural insights that were gained. The students gained new awareness of the situation of the poor in India and around the world and were challenged and empowered to take small actions in their own communities and around the world to work for change. A student who is part of the English as a Second Language program at the school had this to say:

"After seeing the presentation, I feel 'rich'. I came from El Salvador, and I don't have a lot, but when I look at the poor in the world, I have so much and I need to thank God for what I have. I liked when she said that, 'those with the least will teach us the most'. I have to remember those words in my life." - ESL student at John Paul II

SAFF continues to increase its presence online through updating our blog (www.savefamilyplan.me) and Facebook with recent photos and stories of our program in India. To date we have received **7,333** views on our blog and have **177** people following us on Facebook.

