

# IDRF

INDIA DEVELOPMENT & RELIEF FUND

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2013







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Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you for empowering the underprivileged people of India and Nepal. Because of your compassion, thousands of people lived better lives in 2013 than they have ever before.

This report features many of the accomplishments that you have made possible. Women who were once trapped in their houses are now community leaders. Sanitation units have saved hundreds of infants from death and illness. When disaster struck Uttarakhand, you responded with an outpouring of generosity, allowing IDRF to start our first disaster rehabilitation program in years.

Thanks to your trust and your passion for development, IDRF raised almost \$1.5 million in 2013. We leveraged your funds to secure local and government co-financing, making your donations go as far as possible. Your reviews made IDRF one of the top-rated nonprofits in the US at GreatNonprofits.com and allowed us to earn a four-out-of-four star rating from Charity Navigator.

I would like to give a special welcome to our 200 new donors and the four new members of our Board of Directors. With your help, IDRF will scale up our most successful programs in 2014. I will work closely with the board to strengthen our management plan, so your dreams for a better India can come true for years to come.

Please read on to meet the people who you have empowered. We could not have helped them without you.

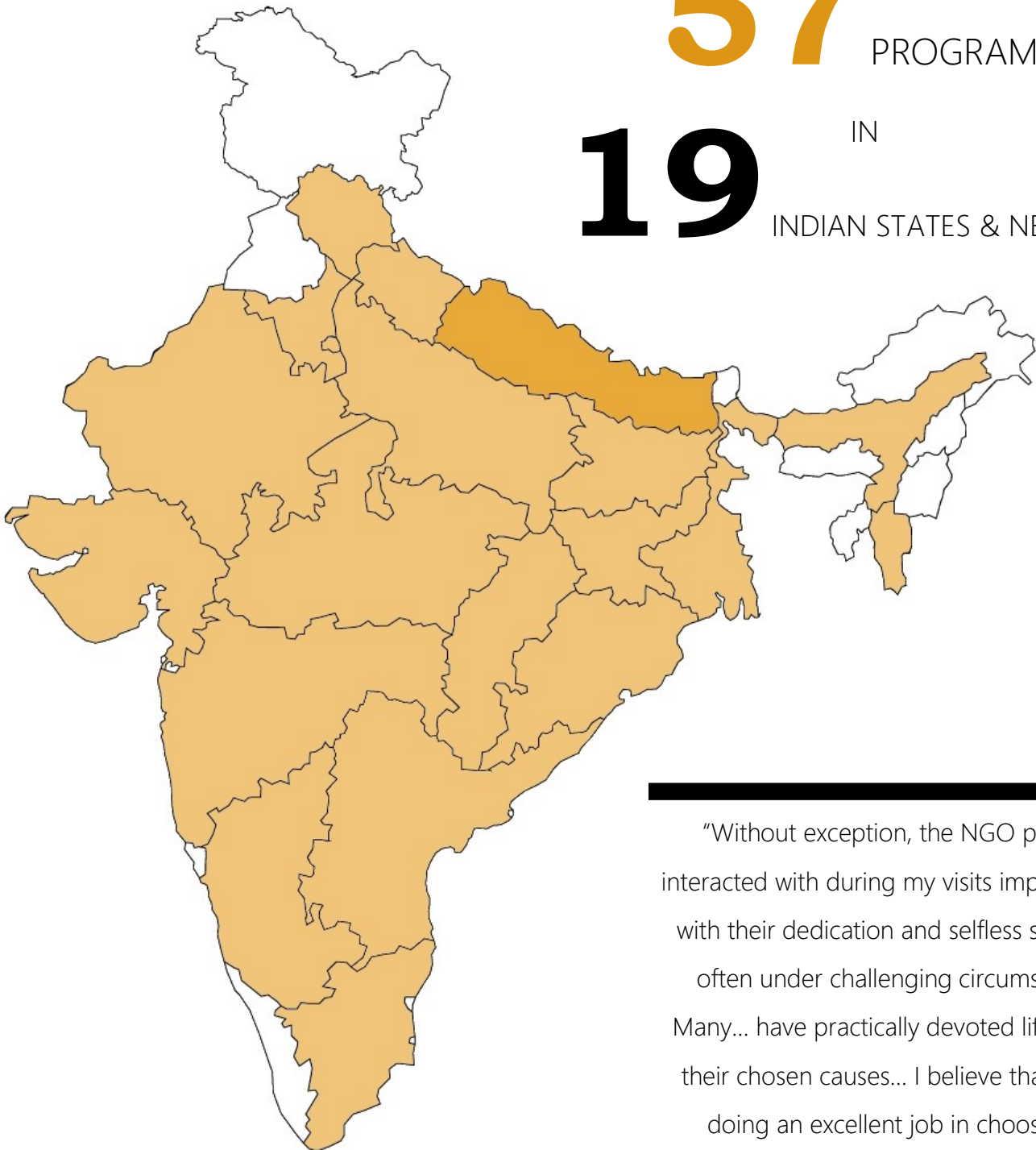
Thank you,

Dr. Vinod Prakash  
Founder and President

IN 2013 IDRF HAD

**57** PROGRAMS

**19** IN  
INDIAN STATES & NEPAL



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“Without exception, the NGO partners I interacted with during my visits impressed me with their dedication and selfless service — often under challenging circumstances. Many... have practically devoted lifetimes to their chosen causes... I believe that IDRF is doing an excellent job in choosing its partners.”

- Prem Garg

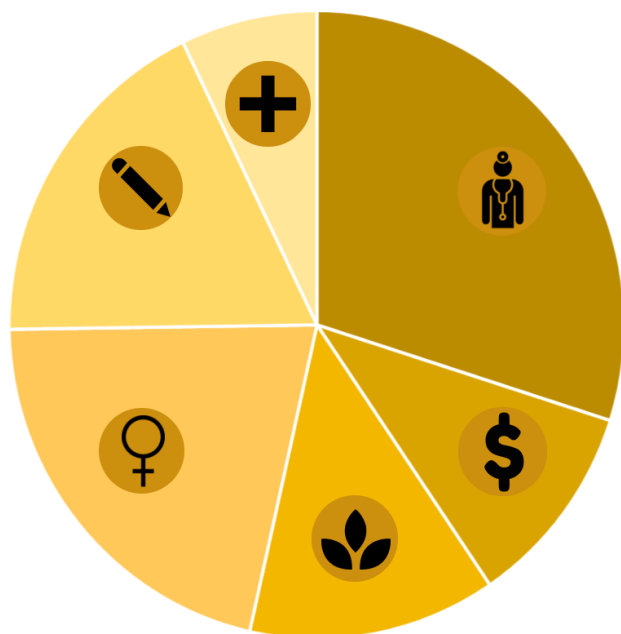
Development Expert & IDRF Donor

Potomac, MD

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# GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY FOCUS AREA



## EDUCATION



PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
Akhil Bharatiya Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram	Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram
Arpana Trust	Delhi
Economic Rural Development Society	West Bengal
Jayarama Educational Society	Andhra Pradesh
Ma Saraswati Trust	Tamil Nadu
Nayantara Memorial Trust	West Bengal
OLE Nepal	Nepal
Rashthrothanna Parishat	Karnataka
Sri Ram Gram Vikas Samiti	Uttar Pradesh
Sivanda Samskrita Veda Agama	Karnataka
Upakar	Virginia, USA
Vanvasi Kalyan Kendra, Ranchi	Jharkhand
Veda Vedanta Gurukula Mahavidyalaya	Andhra Pradesh
VYASA	Karnataka
Yogoda Satsanga Society of India	West Bengal



## HEALTH

PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
Babasaheb Ambedkar Hedgewar Hospital	Maharashtra
Mata Balak Utkarsh Pratishthan	Maharashtra
Sahaj Seva Samsthan	Andhra Pradesh
Samerth Charitable Trust	Gujarat
Saraswati Jain Seva Samiti	Rajasthan
Shri Agasimata Charitable Trust	Gujarat
Shyamprasad Institute for Social Service	Andhra Pradesh
Sree Kasturibai Mahila Samajam	Andhra Pradesh
Sri Ram Grameen Kshetra Vikas Samiti	Uttar Pradesh
Yogoda Satsanga Society of India	West Bengal

## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
AIM for Seva	Madhya Pradesh
Arpana Research & Charitable Trust	Haryana
Economic Rural Development Society	West Bengal
Maharshi Dayanand Mahila Sikshan	Rajasthan
Rajesh Gangadhar Patel Charitable Trust	Gujarat
Sewa Bharti Madhya Bharat	Madhya Pradesh
Shiksha Bharati	Uttar Pradesh
Vatsalya Trust	Maharashtra



## DISASTER REHAB/MISC

PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
HOPE	Odisha
Manav Seva Sansthan	Uttarakhand
SCALE	Uttarakhand
World Teacher Trust	Andhra Pradesh



## ANTI-CORRUPTION

PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
Janaagraha	Karnataka
Transparency International India	Bihar

## ECOFRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT



PARTNER NGO	LOCATION
Animal Care Trust	Karnataka
Dharma Chakra Trust	Karnataka
Magan Sangrahalaya Samiti	Maharashtra
Nayantara Memorial Charitable Trust	West Bengal
Samerth Charitable Trust	Gujarat
Sewa Bharti Madhya Bharat	Madhya Pradesh
Society for Integrated Dev. of Himalayas	Uttar Pradesh
Vikas Bharti	Jharkhand



# EDUCATION

Economic Rural Development Society  
Malda District, West Bengal

## the problem



5/10 WOMEN ILLITERATE



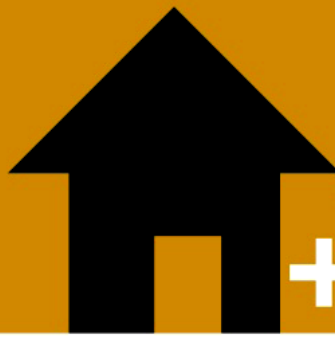
GIRLS MARRIED  
AT AGE 12



CHILDREN START  
WORK BY AGE 7



EXTREME POVERTY  
HIGH SCHOOL FEES



LOCALLY  
TRUSTED  
NGO



NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

181  
STUDENTS

13  
VILLAGES

51%  
GIRLS

IDRF

Solution

## the result







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TOGETHER  
we are

**BREAK-**  
the intergenerational  
**cycle**  
of  
**POVERTY**

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Childhood is a fiction for children in Malda District. By age 12, girls are married off or even sold to men from far-off states. Their impoverished parents, once child laborers themselves, rarely see the value of education.

But thanks to donors like you, that mindset is changing. In 2013, IDRF completed a new building for a primary school run by our partner Economic Rural Development Society. Parents are rushing to enroll their children.

Together, we are breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty. “Now [parents] can ascertain the value of education and what they have missed... they don’t want that same story repeated for their kids,” said Madhu Basu of ERDS, which has worked in this village for decades. Today, the school has 181 students in first to fourth grade. The majority are girls.

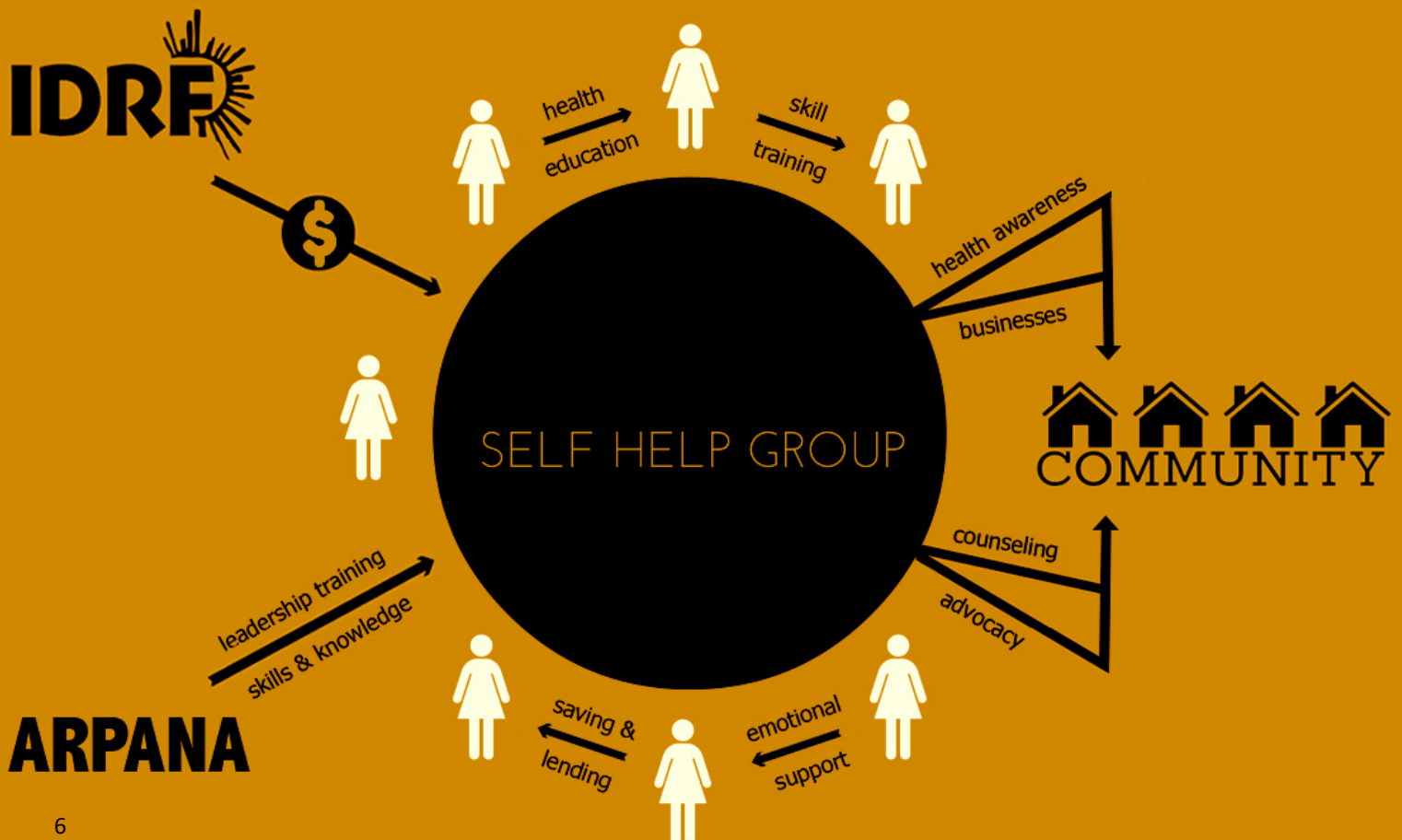
IDRF donors Umesh and Rashmi R, of Novi, MI had visited the village before the project. The locals “had demanded a better school... each one saying, ‘We can pay... tuition for our children.’” Impressed by their resolve, the couple conducted the *bhumi puja* (groundbreaking ceremony) and helped IDRF raise funds. IDRF found another major donor to fund an updated design for the building. The parents, in spite of their minimal income, cover most of the school’s operating costs themselves.





# WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

**Arpana**  
Karnal District, Haryana





# Anita's Story

"My husband and I could barely feed our children," says Anita from Sardarpur village, "but he did not allow me to work or even leave our home."

Anita heard about a women's self-help group program, sponsored by IDRF and donors like you. Self-help groups save and lend collectively, start businesses, and learn about everything from bookkeeping to reproductive health. "I joined [a] group without my husband's knowledge. Slowly I started saving money... I went to the meetings...he only found out when I took my first loan, to help him set up a barber's kiosk!" As his kiosk prospered, he became supportive.

Anita also used loans from her group to set up a dairy. "We have a good income. Our children are all going to school. Our eldest is in a good private school!" She even found a job as a maternal health worker, because "I learned a lot about health in our self-help group meetings."

She was once a prisoner in her own home, but now: "I am confident. I have respect and status in my village. People recognize me and listen to me – all because of my group's support and all I learned as a member ... in each meeting over 7 years!"

This program began in 2004 with simple family planning in 10 villages. But thanks to our strategic expansion and your donations, we've been able to empower thousands of women like Anita!



I AM  
CONFIDENT  
I have  
**RESPECT**  
and  
**STATUS**  
IN MY VILLAGE

## Highlights, FY 2013

**100**  
villages

**9,900**  
women

**2,300**  
businesses

**\$1.4 million**  
women's savings

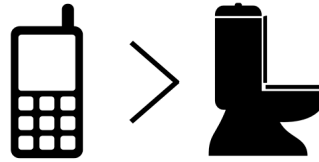


## THE SANITATION PROBLEM



**200,000**  
children die per year

more cell phones  
than toilets



**70%**

of rural Indians  
defecate in the open



Impoverished people in the deserts of Gujarat do not have toilets. From teenage girls to the elderly, they must endure the shame and health risks of defecating in the open. This practice kills thousands of small children each year. But you and IDRF are changing that.

We have provided safety and dignity to these people. IDRF and our partner Samerth have built hundreds of toilets in the most impoverished households in Kutch. These facilities are equipped with running water and septic pits that purify and return wastewater to the environment – a critical consideration in the desert.

Samerth teaches households about hygiene and cleanliness. When our donors visited the villages, women said that they feel much safer with a toilet in the home. Waterborne disease has plummeted, so everyone can go to work or school more regularly. More young women are marrying into these families because they have modern facilities.

IDRF has also made sure your donations go as far as possible. Each family volunteers some labor to build the units. Furthermore, at our suggestion, Samerth secured additional government funding for the program.

Highlights, FY 2013

**391**  
toilets

**2,450**  
people

**30%**  
decline in disease

**1,000**  
women





**Vikas Bharti**  
Gumla District, Jharkhand

## ECOFRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT



Like many tribal farmers, Dhuri Bhagat struggled to feed his family. He wanted to buy better rice seed, but he would have to borrow from an exploitive moneylender.

Then he joined the IDRF seed program. He learned how to produce his own quality seed which yields **TWICE AS MUCH RICE PER ACRE**. He sells the seed to cooperative run by our partner Vikas Bharti. **HIS INCOME HAS TRIPLED**. Dhuri is now able to send his children to good schools.

Vikas Bharti processes and sells the seed at fair prices to tribal farmers across the district. These farmers help meet the huge demand for rice in Jharkhand. They increase their yield without becoming dependent on moneylenders, large chemical inputs or corporate-produced seeds. In a country wracked by farmer suicides, IDRF's intervention has made farmers self-sufficient.

Participating farmers Santosh, Ravi, and Duri Oraon said, "This program has not only changed the quality of our life but also changed the perspective of the farming community... we realize the importance of this precious gold: the seed." The program is so successful that the **STATE GOVERNMENT INVESTED IN ITS EXPANSION**.



# ANTI-CORRUPTION

Transparency International India  
Bihar



You are empowering India's most marginalized people to fight corruption in government schemes. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act scheme (NREGA) guarantees 100 days of employment to rural people. Impoverished workers are hired to build roads, wells, and other desperately-needed infrastructure— but in practice, they are rarely paid.

The people of Nawani *panchayat* in Bihar shocked bureaucrats by organizing a social audit of NREGA under the guidance of our partner Transparency International India. They compared the records to actual wages before an audience of hundreds of villagers, officials and media representatives. They found their local official had included fake people as workers and refused to pay real workers for months. **RATHER THAN RECEIVING WAGES, MANY VILLAGERS HAD TO PAY BRIBES JUST TO HAVE THEIR HOURS RECORDED.**

Shamed by these revelations, senior officials are now working to recover the wages and bring the corrupt to justice. Because of your support, these villagers gained the courage and skills to stand up to corruption. A similar social audit sponsored by IDRF last year **LED TO THE SUSPENSION OF SEVERAL OFFICIALS AND AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ENTIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.** With training from TII, other communities have used social audits to secure funding for *anganwadis* (childcare centers, above).

workers are hired to build  
roads, wells,  
& other

**DESPERATELY**

NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE

but they are rarely

**PAID**



# IDRF DONORS' STORIES



**Chandrika S.**  
Chicago, Illinois

Chandrika S. came from an underprivileged family in Maharashtra: "I was wondering if I would ever be able to complete my Master's degree, even after doing well in my Bachelor's..." Thanks to our partner Lila Poonawalla Foundation, Chandrika earned her degree. She is a client partner at an IT company in the US.

Founded by businesswoman Lila Poonawalla and supported by IDRF, the Foundation awards college scholarships to young women. It trains them in leadership skills, job readiness, and spoken English, too. "Lila Mom has been personally involved in my progress," says Chandrika.

"Being a Lila Fellow is a **MATTER OF PRIDE AND COMMITMENT TO SOCIETY,**" so she decided to donate to the Foundation through IDRF. "After talking with Vinodji, I realized the passion he has to help society as a whole... The transaction was very easy and I also received receipts very promptly. Personally, **IT HAS BEEN A VERY ENRICHING EXPERIENCE.**"



"I believe that **EDUCATION IS A BASIC HUMAN NEED**, like food or shelter," says Ashok Soni. When his friend founded a school in rural Uttar Pradesh, Ashok was eager to help. Over the years, he and his wife Sanjiwan have helped the school grow to a first-class institution with over 1,000 students from 25 villages. "**WE WERE EXTREMELY IMPRESSED WITH THE SCHOOL, AND I'M VERY HAPPY WITH IDRF,**" he says. The students excel in spite of their disadvantaged backgrounds. Five graduates recently won large government scholarships for college.

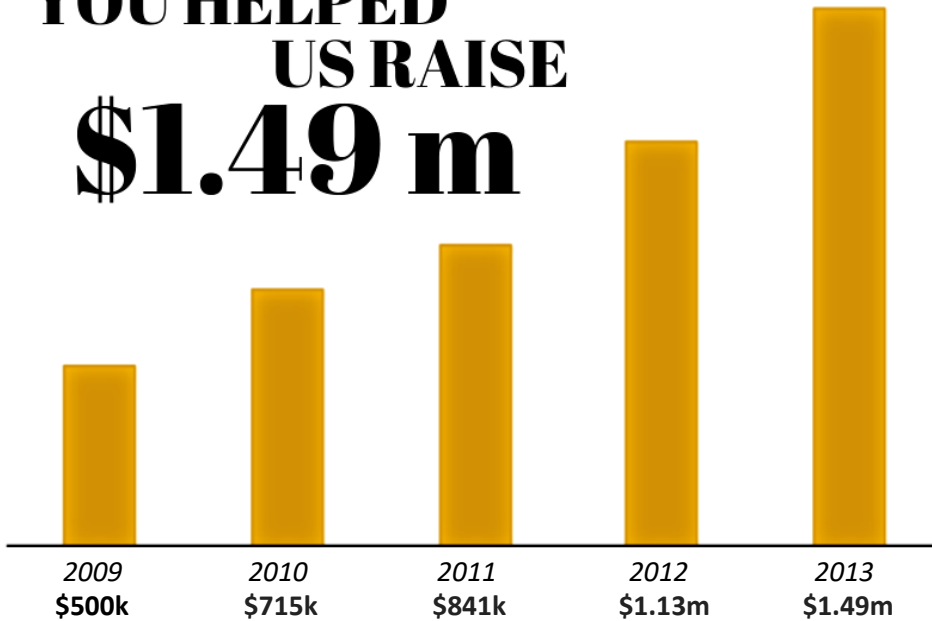
When the Soni family visited the school, "It was very satisfying to see these little children... learning today and becoming leaders, engineers, and doctors, tomorrow...**THE PROJECT HAS MODERNIZED THE ENTIRE VILLAGE.**" Ashok also praised the school management and IDRF's strategy, such as the decision to house teachers on-site: "I think the money is being used in the best way possible. IDRF is doing a great job."



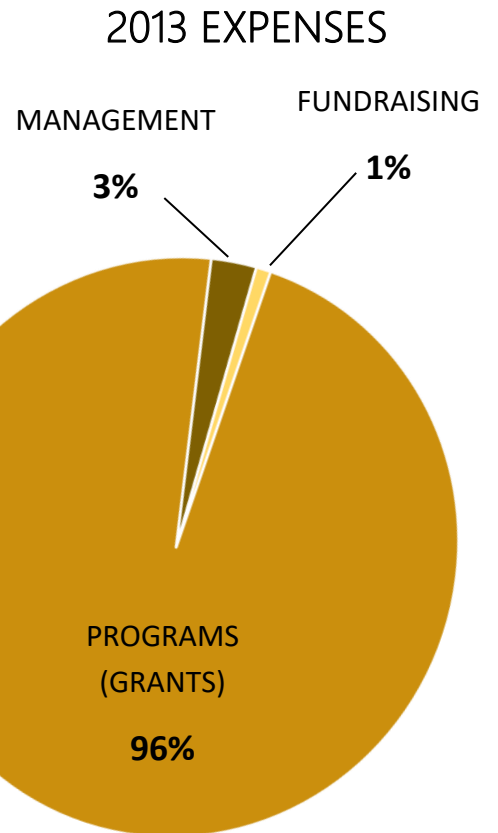
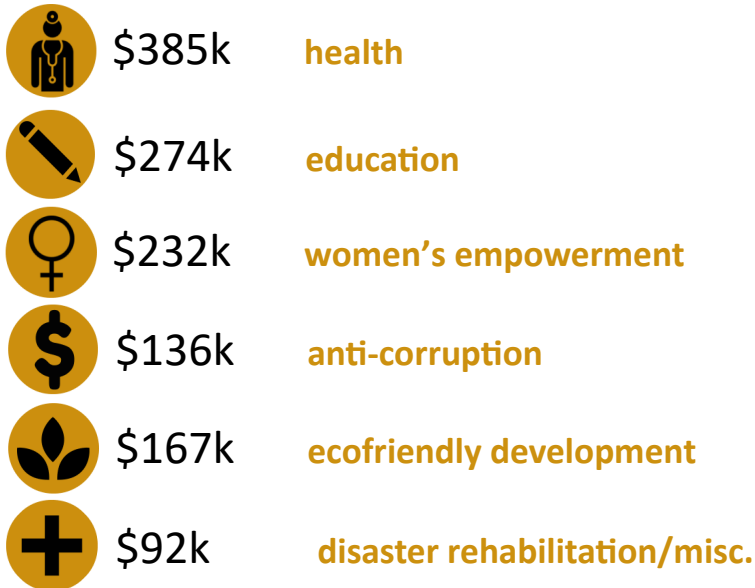
**Ashok & Sanjiwan Soni**  
Blue Bell, Pennsylvania



# YOU HELPED US RAISE \$1.49 m



## 2013 GRANT DISTRIBUTION: \$1.29m



Audited by Desai & Shah, PC, CPAs

## TEAM AS OF DECEMBER 2013

### Board of Directors

Dr. Vinod Prakash  
*President*

Dr. Jaipal Rathi  
*Vice President*

Mr. Hemant Shah  
*Treasurer*

Mr. Dileep Thatte  
*Secretary*

Dr. Sasala Challa

Dr. Neelam Chitre

Mrs. Malati Gopal

Dr. Raghu Korrapati

Dr. G.R. Verma

### Executive Team

Dr. Vinod Prakash  
*CEO*

Ms. Melissa Rice  
*Director of Operations*

### Support Team

Mr. Anurodh Agarwal

Mr. Rajat Arya

Mr. Swarun Buddineni

Mr. Rajesh Gooty

Mr. Adesh Jain

Mrs. Sarla Prakash

Mr. Kalyan Vangapalli

**In India:**

Mr. Navin Prasad

Mr. Rajesh Sinha



# GET INVOLVED

## DONATE

More than 95 cents of every \$1 goes directly to our programs

### ONLINE

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/IDRF>

### CHECK

Please make your check payable to:

“IDRF”

5821 Mossrock Drive

North Bethesda, MD 20852

Please include your email address.

### DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

Ask your company’s HR department if they’ll match your personal donation to IDRF.

### AMAZON SMILE

Support IDRF while you shop—at no extra cost.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1555563>

### EMAIL INFO@IDRF.ORG ABOUT:

Stock Transfer

Used Car Donation

Electronic Funds Transfer

## VOLUNTEER

ORGANIZE A FUNDRAISER

VISIT A PROJECT IN INDIA

WRITE A REVIEW OF IDRF

<https://greatnonprofits.org/org/india-development-and-relief-fund-inc>

## CONNECT



[facebook.com/IDRFUSA](https://facebook.com/IDRFUSA)



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[youtube.com/idrfus](https://youtube.com/idrfus)



[linkedin.com/company/india-development-and-relief-fund](https://linkedin.com/company/india-development-and-relief-fund)

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST: [www.idrf.org/join-our-mailing-list/](https://www.idrf.org/join-our-mailing-list/)



A photograph of three men standing in a lush green rice field. The man on the left is wearing a dark blue shirt and jeans, looking down at the plants. The man in the middle is wearing a purple shirt and holding a white folder or document. The man on the right is wearing a white shirt and looking towards the camera. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky.

**Putting power in the hands of  
the poor in India and Nepal**



5821 Mossrock Drive  
North Bethesda, MD 20852  
(301) 704 - 0032

[www.idrf.org](http://www.idrf.org)