



# ASHA KIRAN SOCIETY

## ANNUAL REPORT

2017-2018

*It is with gratitude to God that this report of the work of Asha Kiran Society is presented. The progress of the various interventions made through Asha Kiran Society in the last year can be read in this report.*

*Please pray that this movement started by God will continue on its journey of discerning and doing the will of God for this place.*



*Just and compassionate communities,  
choosing and celebrating life*

# ASHA KIRAN HOSPITAL

## Mission statement of AKH

**To be a centre of affordable, ethical, whole person and competent health care that is a model of Christian compassion and comfort, to the marginalized people groups of southern Koraput and the adjoining areas of Malkangiri district and Andhra Pradesh state.**

Asha Kiran Hospital continues to be a beacon of compassionate, caring service. The number of doctors dropped to half with the exit of two junior doctors (for pg coaching classes) and two consultants. However, the remaining doctors aided by Dr. Hansen (junior doctor) valiantly managed to run the hospital with no drop in the levels of care or compassion.

The number of patients in the OPD is increasing every year. This year saw a decrease in the in-patient load. However, the numbers of sick patients accessing the hospital is increasing as is evidenced by the increasing bed occupancy of the HDU/ICU.

Surgical work has been sustained without a full-time anaesthetist. 20 surgical camps (including specialty surgeries) were held last year. We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of so many surgeons and anaesthetists who donated their time and services willingly for the greater good. We can proudly say that some of the surgeries conducted here by these highly experienced and talented surgeons will not find a parallel anywhere in Odisha! Refer Table 1

The addition of physiotherapy services seems to be well appreciated, with 2552 patients accessing services since the department started in April 2017. A bio-medical department has also been started last year.



The laboratory services are being refined with the help of Mr. Vijay More an external consultant who helped set up quality systems. Interns from Martin Luther University, Shillong are presently contributing to the work of the lab while improving their skills and knowledge. Calibration of all blood bank equipment was done.

A new ultra sound machine was purchased in Nov 2017 which was a great blessing as the old machine was showing pictures that were getting increasingly hard to interpret!

The hospital license, PNDT license, drug license and AERB license are in place. We are awaiting renewal of the blood bank license and biomedical waste management license.

**Table - 1**

| Speciality      | No. of camps | No. of cases               |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Ortho           | 4            | 29                         |
| Gen Surgery     | 6            | 94                         |
| Oral surgery    | 2            | 3                          |
| Gynaec          | 3            | 12                         |
| ENT             | 2            | 10                         |
| Urology         | 2            | 12                         |
| Plastic surgery | 1            | 27 (including gen surgery) |

The hospital is working towards getting entry level NABH accreditation.

We look forward to the arrival of Drs. Emil and Nanma who will start work in setting up Orthopaedic and Psychiatric Departments respectively. Work is in progress towards the setting up of an Orthopaedic department and acknowledge the generous contributions of numerous friends including Mr. Emmanuel, Dr. Dileep Isaac and St. Anne's Church, Kew Green, UK to name a few.



We would like to gratefully acknowledge the help we received from CMCH, Vellore; BBH Bangalore; SMH Ranipet and BCMCH Tiruvalla. Exposure visits for staff, visits to AKH by various professionals and technical experts, sponsorships and sending of medical and nursing students for rural exposure are some of the ways we have been working together for a common purpose.

A refurbishment of the present hospital buildings is going on. We plan to expand the hospital in 3 phases over the long term. However, the most pressing need is for a new OPD building and we hope to complete phase-1 by 2020.



## Community Services Unit (CSU)

### CSU AGRICULTURE

#### Adarsh Bagichha or Model Farm – An AKS initiative

The Model Farm project is now 8 years in the running. Although not funded by any project for the past 4 years, farmers now volunteer to join up and work their arid land steads to convert them into model farms with only the assurance of future returns. A ‘farmer to farmer’ approach is used, where new farmers are taken to older model farms and they are encouraged to interact. Agro-forestry, multi-cropping and organic farming with an emphasis on land and water conservation are the main thrusts of the model farm project.



the District Administration. The Collector has now given his approval for converting 500 acres of arid land across Koraput district into Adarsh Bagichha farms under the MGNREGA scheme.

A proposal is being readied for submission to the Malkangiri administration to expand the concept into the neighbouring district.

#### Producer companies

The success of the Adarsh Bagichha model has resulted in better yields for the farmers involved. However, the poor communication and storage systems of this area result in an inability to market the produce for maximum profits. AKS is attempting to work together with two organizations – CYSD and ESAF – who have expertise in the area of producer companies and marketing. Forming clusters of farmer groups with the intention of later merging into a producer company is the dream of the future.

#### Partnership with DHAN Foundation

Millets, a staple crop of this area has received little attention till now. Through a partnership with Dhan foundation, Madurai, an

opportunity was made available to train farmers in SLI method of intensifying millet production. Farmers in the Lamtaput block were invited for the training and given seeds to make a nursery and transplant it.

Capacity building of farmers with Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUATS), High Altitude Research Station(HARS), Pottangi - CSU in association with OUATS,HARS conducted trainings on pepper cultivation and a state level workshop on organic ginger and turmeric cultivation.

#### Farmer spouse training

The CSU felt the need to train the spouse of the farmers as she is the one who usually work in the field along with the farmer. There was a noticeable improvement in the field work following these trainings, particularly in time bound activities.

#### CSU Nursery

To meet the increasing needs of good quality saplings for farmers of Lamtaput Block, saplings of silver oak, pepper, Jaffra, Coffee, cinnamon, jackfruit, papaya, sandalwood etc are prepared for distribution in a nursery built with support from the Dept. of Horticulture, Odisha Govt. Pepper saplings have already been procured by OUAT, Pottangi and various

| Sl no | Year         | No. of farmers | Total | % Increase |
|-------|--------------|----------------|-------|------------|
| 1     | 2009 to 2013 | 28             | 28    | 0          |
| 2     | 2014 to 2015 | 8              | 36    | 28.5       |
| 3     | 2015 to 2016 | 73             | 109   | 203        |
| 4     | 2016 to 2017 | 29             | 134   | 23         |
| 5     | 2017 to 2018 | 132            | 236   | 76.1       |

The CSU has worked out linkages with different departments of the Government to access forest and horticulture saplings, with the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology for trainings and also become part of a learning group with other NGOs of Koraput to share different learning experiences. This NGO group, convinced of the Adarsh Bagichha model of farming, got together to submit a proposal to

places in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh. The remaining saplings will be sold/distributed in the upcoming season to farmers in and around Lamtaput Block.

### CSU HEALTH and DEVELOPMENT

CSU along with the distance education unit of CMC, Vellore has been training lay leaders through conducting of **“Community lay leaders health training certificate” (CLHTC)**.

5 batches of students (150) have completed their training and are making a difference in the health



needs of the areas where they are situated.

CSU conducts a **school health education program** in 10 high schools where health teaching is done on selected health topics. We have begun conducting an Annual Inter block level school

health quiz which was a great success. The ABEO has requested CSU to cover other schools and the PU college within the block with its school health education program.

### Internships in CSU

This year, students from St. Xavier University, Bhubaneswar and San Diego State University, USA came for exposure visits. Two students from XUB volunteered to do a months internship with CSU in the month of May.

## ASHA KIRAN ACADEMY

**AKA** has completed 5 years since its inception in 2013. The school has 170 students from preschool to Class 8, 16 teachers and 3 support staff. We have applied for COR and uploaded our details online as required. School inspection



was done on 20/12/17 by the Programmer (OPEPA). Our teachers have enrolled for the Govt. D EL ED program. We have also allotted 9 seats towards fulfilling the criteria of 25% reservation of RTE for the disadvantaged groups. However, 64% of our children are from the disadvantaged groups of Koraput.

Classes were held regularly. Class tests and end of term evaluations were done on schedule. Students who required extra coaching were given one-on-one help during the holidays. Value education and personality development sessions were taken for the older children. Extra-curricular events and sports were held for all classes. The children were

encouraged to grow vegetables in class plots. A health check-up for all children was carried out. Health education by nurses and a session on child rights and preventing child abuse by the District Child Protection Officer was done.

The students also interacted with schools around but attending exhibitions and participating in football and throwball matches.

Construction work for the new block has begun. Solar panels led were installed last year which were a great boon as the school is not yet connected to the grid.

Parent Teachers meetings and School management Committee meeting were held regularly.



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Asha Kiran Society is involved in various community based education programs since its inception. It is gratifying to note that these programs together have changed the educational profile of the Block with many graduates pursuing higher studies in different streams, some of them on completion have joined the Government as teachers, few have joined Asha Kiran and work in the hospital and in the education program itself. Gaining from the experience of running these programs the novel concept of mother tongue based Multi Lingual Education (MLE) programme was started in two languages in 2004 keeping in view the large scale learning problems among the tribal children due to the language barrier that they face in early education.

**The MLE programme in Desiya language** is presently implemented in 16 speaking villages with 664 students and 51 local teachers and 6 supervisory staff to oversee the regular functioning of the MLE centres.

Along with the regular classes, community mobilisation in the new centres, capacity building of teachers, Cluster Meetings of teachers, Parents & VEC, regular monitoring of MLE centres, term end evaluation of the children, study tour, health check up, summer education camps, and sports events were conducted in the year.

**New initiative** – Two new Desiya MLE centres were started last year. One centre is in a remote village called Balikund, Dural Panchayat, Malkangiri District. Having seen a functioning MLE centre, the villagers here applied to the community department to start one in their village. The other new centre is in Khalguda, a difficult to access village, home to the Didayi tribe, Malkangiri District. The children of this village have begun attending school for the first time. Three teachers were stationed there



initially, and the MLE team made regular supportive visits from the base, which involves a 3 hour trek over rugged hills and valleys. Unfortunately, the teaching was disrupted by some anti-social elements who intimidated the teachers from outside. At present, the school continues to function with just one local teacher.

The Desia MLE Program continues to be supported by ROPE, UK. The CEO, Rope, Mr. Jeremy Hayes visited some centres in January 2018 and expressed satisfaction over the work seen.

**MLE in Bonda language** continues in three Bonda villages (Dumripada, Badapada and Badavel) with 225 students, 11 teachers and a supervisor. Revision of the Bonda MLE teaching materials is in progress.

Formative assessments were introduced last year in the MLE centres to help teachers assess the children's performance and to give support in areas of weakness. Term end evaluations were also carried out.

The AKS Scholarship exam was conducted for std. 5 children in April. Two children were selected to be helped financially in the higher classes.

Two Summer Education Camps were organized for children from all the centres. A total of 315 children from 20 villages attended the camps. We would like to acknowledge the help of teams from Bhubaneswar and Jeypore during these camps. Special classes in different subjects with an emphasis on

Odia and Math were taken during this time along with value based education, sex education classes, art and craft classes, individual counselling, games and outdoor activities.

Teachers trainings are conducted quarterly at the AKS training centre. In the Bonda hills, the teachers get additional training every Saturday in Dumripada on MLE concepts, Odiya, Math and English. A 3 day workshop in 'Recent Trends in MLE' was conducted in February for MLE staff and senior teachers, facilitated by Dr. Troy Bailey.

A hurricane on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May caused a lot of damage to houses in the Bonda hills particularly in Dumripada and Tuseipada villages. Most of the roofs were blown away, the grains stored in the lofts of houses got drenched, trees were uprooted and livestock killed. The Dumripada government school where the MLE program is being run is badly damaged and requires urgent repair. Staff houses were damaged too.

In order to solve a perennial water scarcity problem, a well has been dug in Dumripada with community participation.

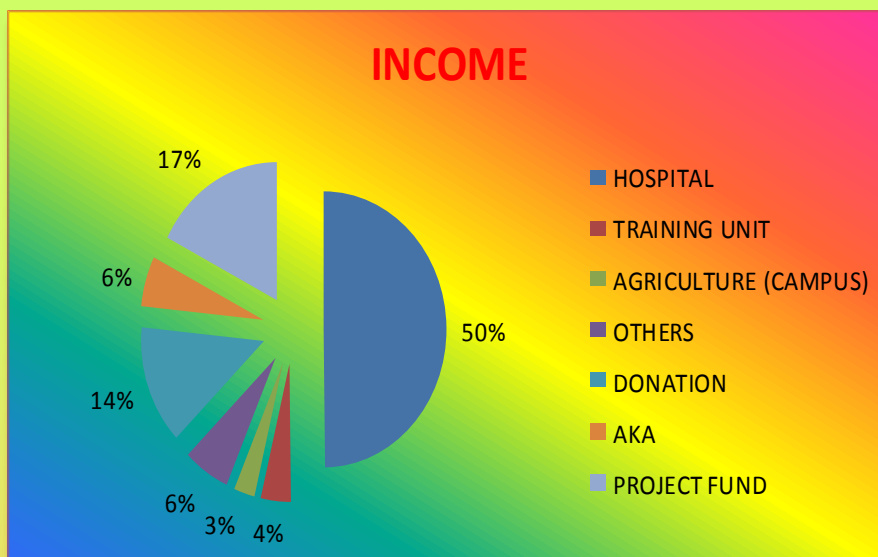
### Supplementary education centre

The SEC in Hanumal caters to students of Bonda, Didayi and Hanumal villages. The students attend the Onakadelly government school and are provided tuition, food and a place to stay for those who require it.

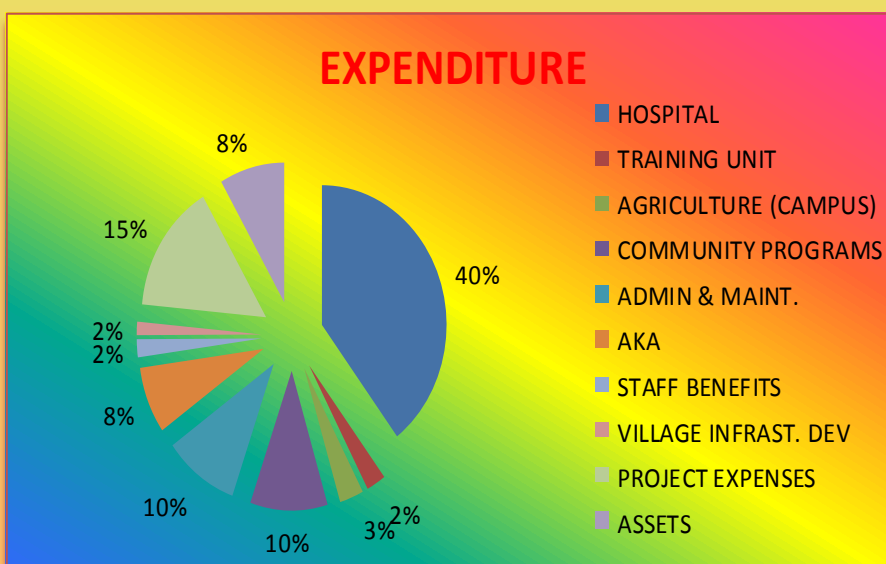
We are grateful to Literacy Initiatives for supporting the Bonda MLE program and SEC for the last two years.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### INCOME



### EXPENDITURE



**Asha Kiran Society**

**Lamtaput**

**Koraput Dist**

**Odisha 764081**

