

# MSSO NEWS 2017



## Annual News Letter of Maharashtra Seva Samiti Organization (MSSO)



**September 10, 1934 - May 5, 2017**

### **Homage to Dr. Jagannath Wani**

Our founding member and mentor passed away May 5, 2017.

Overcoming many personal adversities, Dr. Wani, Wani kaka to many of us, relentlessly worked, here and in India, to build an organization to advance the cause of the poor and disadvantaged hard-working people, who want to advance themselves and obtain their basic rights to have food, shelter and education.

Since the founding of MSSO, a charitable organization in Canada 28 years ago, MSSO has supported over 30 major projects, mainly in Maharashtra, India. Wani kaka identified projects and project teams that have an outlook consistent with MSSO's aims. He guided them to develop sustainable projects and he raised funds to support them. Wani kaka has left us, but his

work must continue. Our homage to him will be to ensure that the MSSO projects continue to grow and serve the people in need.

### **MSSO Vision**

- To promote sustainable development, economic as well as social, for people in need

### **MSSO Mission**

- To create long term partnerships between Canadian donors and hardworking, selfless, grass root workers in India to build the future
- To build an ability for responding promptly to emergencies
- To enhance the value of donations through careful selection of N G O partners and effective management of development projects
- To empower women to participate as equal partners in achievement of social justice and equitable development
- To promote a balance between development and environment.

### **Projects we supported in 2017**

MSSO raised over \$5,00,000 through your donations and matching grants from the governments of Alberta and Canada. These funds were sent to various N G O's

working for the projects in Maharashtra and Goa, India.

Here are some of the projects MSSO supported in 2017,

- **Blindness Prevention Program for school children and adults in Dhule**

The Canadian Government supported with matching donations over 360,000 vision-care screenings which were given to school children in rural areas of Dhule district. This 5-year project has surpassed its target, by almost 10-fold. Over 8,000 prescription glasses were distributed and over 1800 corrective surgeries, such as for cataract and squints were performed to help children and old people from villages.

**MSSO Supported Mobile Vision care clinic**



**Boy with childhood Cataract**



The Govt. of Canada funding support for this project has come to an end, however MSSO endeavors to continue its support for 2018 and hopefully, beyond.

- **AVANI Projects for the educational support of children of migrant workers in Kolhapur,**

There are many migrant and seasonal workers who come to Kolhapur to work in brickyards and sugarcane fields. They must live in huts where they work. In the past, their children have had no access to education and eventually start work as child labourers. AVANI operates a residential facility for children who want education and cannot live with their parents AVANI also operates over 26 schools for migrant workers pre-school children and provides health and nutritional support.

**MSSO supported AVANI residential facility for 150 children nearing completion  
Pre-school for the children of migrant workers**



**Mohit Dilip Bagul (Burzad) (Ptosis)**



**Before**

**After**





- **AVANI Zero-Waste project**

This project is sometimes referred to as the "Rag-pickers" project. All urban areas are facing mounting garbage Problems. Some of the most disadvantaged women work at the dumps to salvage recyclable materials to earn a living. They work without any protection, in the most hazardous foul environment. AVANI has organized these "rag-pickers". They are given IDs, uniforms, safety equipment and a small remuneration. They work in areas assigned to them in a safer and dignified work environment.

- **Waste Collection .....**  
**Clean neighbourhoods**



**Recycle and Save the Environment**



- **Schizophrenia Awareness Association (SAA), Pune,**

SAA is dedicated to serving and advocating people with various levels of disability such as bi polar disorder or schizophrenia. At their facility in Pune, programs are offered to school children and adults who need support in coping with their disability.

**Programs for adults and children with disability**



**Maiboli, School for Deaf and Mute Children, Samata Pratisthan, Yeola**

This residential school is attended by over 110 deaf and mute children and run by Samata Pratisthan in Yeola. The students are provided with educational programs and the vocational training. Building

construction for a new school facility which was supported by MSSO, is nearing completion. Samata Pratisthan provides valuable services to Children with disability.

- **SethuTrust, Goa,**

The Sethu Trust organization provides support for children afflicted with developmental, behavioural, emotional and educational challenges. Sethu also provides valuable help to children's families. Sethu trust is planning to move to a permanent facility at a convenient location. MSSO is actively supporting this project.

- **Help**

MSSO has contributed to the projects executed by "Health and Education for Less Privileged" (HELP) society based in Calgary and founded by DR. Wani. HELP has supported the Samta Pratisthan Project in Yeola in 2017.

### **Fundraising activities we undertook in 2017**

- **MSSO holds biennial Casino**

Krishan Chawla, who has been our Casino Chairperson for the past six years with assistance from Ramesh Aggarwal, Rohit Desai and Jivan Kayande arranged for over 30 volunteers to work at The Casino Edmonton. This fundraising event took place on September 6th and 7th 2017 which raised over \$75,000. The money raised went to support the "Vision" project in Dhule District.

- **MSSO 12th annual Charity dinner**

Margaret Joshi Archana Bapat and over 20 volunteers organized this successful annual event on April 29, to raise funds for the AVANI project in Kolhapur and the Vision project in Dhule. Over 120 people were in attendance. Everyone enjoyed and raised money for good causes.

Our thanks to following volunteers who worked for MSSO Casino Night:

Kumud Acharya, Sachin Ahuja, Amar Bhasin, Monica Bhasin, Vicky Chand, Krishan Chawla, Jagdish Dalal, Kusum Dalal, Rohit Desai, Dilip Dasmahopatra, Balwant Gandhi, Ramesh Khullar, Kamlesh Khullar, Jivan Kayande, Prem Kharbhanda, Subhash Lele, Renu Narang, Ramnathan Nageswaran, Ram Punjabi, Mitesh Patel, Nitin Patel, Rajv Ranjan, Sunil Ranjekar, Dinesh Rai, Pramod Shah, Ashok Sharma, Subhash Sikka, Vishal Sharma, M.P.Sharma, Sam Sambshivam, Renu Sharma, Ishwar Thaleshwar, Hansa Thaleshwar, Sarvesh Thuse,

### **About US:**

Donations to MSSO are eligible for tax credit. Charity registration No: 10765 4410 RR 0001. You may make a donate online via PayPal or by a check made to MSSO and send it to,

### **MSSO Alberta:**

Jivan Kayande, 68 Prestwick Acres Lane SE, Calgary, Alberta, T2Z 3Y1, PH: 403-720-3377

### **MSSO Ontario:**

Ajit Bapat, 257 Burbank Drive, North York, Ontario, M2K 2S4, PH: 416-226-1350



Maharashtra Seva Samiti Organization:

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

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