

## Focus Area: Community Involvement, Disaster Response and Ecology preservation

### Tree Planting Mission with Bridgewater Township, NJ

AFNA celebrated Arbor Day on Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in the township of Bridgewater, NJ by performing community planting of trees. The tree planting ceremony was performed in honor of Padmashree Jadav Payeng, the Forest Man of India. The Mayor of Bridgewater Township also planted a tree and dedicated a plaque in Jadav's honor. It was a big step forward to honor Jadav Payeng and build awareness about the soil erosion and flood problem in Majuli, Assam and his single handed effort to reverse deforestation.

The tree planting and its maintenance is a sustainable effort done with the cooperation of the township of Bridgewater in New Jersey, USA. As part of continued partnership, AFNA participated in the Bridgewater Township's Eco-Blast Sustainability fair in May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to reiterate our message about sustainability and efforts towards reforestation.



### Disaster Relief: Nepal & Italy Earthquakes

AFNA has pulled up resources from the small Assamese community and donated \$1000 to Italian American Relief Org towards rebuilding efforts in Italy after the Earthquake in Aug 25, 2016. Similarly, right after the devastating earthquake in Nepal, in April, 2015, AFNA raised \$1676 from our volunteers and community members and donated to Save The Children. Save The Children was working directly in Nepal for the relief and rehabilitation work.

This is in line with our strategy to extend humanitarian relief for disasters across the globe. AFNA in the past has extended similar help for tsunami & typhoon victims in Japan and Phillipines, tornado victims in midwest USA.



Assam Foundation of North America

#### Contact Us:

[info@assamfoundation.net](mailto:info@assamfoundation.net)  
[facebook.com/assamfoundation](https://facebook.com/assamfoundation)

AFNA is a US-based non-profit organization with a thirty four year history of volunteer-driven support of social development projects in Assam, a north-eastern state of India, and helping with charitable work in the US and abroad.

Our volunteers currently drive support for several projects covering education, employment generation, healthcare, and disaster relief.

Financial support from the donors is crucial for AFNA to support deserving projects in Assam. We are a very low overhead organization with operating expenses of less than 2% of our annual receipts. Due to our 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, donations in the US are eligible for tax deductions. Please donate generously for our projects. Thank you.

#### DONATION OPTIONS

By check made  
out to AFNA

Mailing address  
SARFARAZ TAHER,  
TREASURER, AFNA  
4391 MCMENEMY St  
VADNAIS HEIGHTS  
MN 55127

Online using Paypal  
In our website

Or scan this QR code  
using your smartphone



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**Assam Foundation of North America**

[www.assamfoundation.net](http://www.assamfoundation.net)

### Our current projects

This booklet contains short summaries of some of our recent project work. Each project is led by a small team of AFNA volunteers, typically 2-3, who work closely with a partner NGO in Assam. AFNA's success is based on the dedication of these small volunteer teams and their trusted relationships with the NGO's in Assam.

We hope you will come forward to volunteer at AFNA to serve these and other projects in Assam. There are many deserving projects that need a helping hand.

#### Get Involved:

##### Monthly volunteer call:

First Sunday, every month, 10am - 11am PT

##### Volunteer Email DL:

[afna-vols@freelists.org](mailto:afna-vols@freelists.org)

Subscribe here: [freelists.org/list/afna-vols](https://freelists.org/list/afna-vols)

Send mail to: [info@assamfoundation.net](mailto:info@assamfoundation.net)

**Join us. Together we can.**

## Focus Area: Education (General)

### AKADAMICS Program

**Challenge:** Academically capable students in Assam were unable to start or continue their college education due to poverty

**Action taken:** AFNA initiated AKADAMICS program to identify college going students and support their college education and provide mentoring. The students (both boys and girls) were carefully selected by a respected selection board based on detailed written applications.

**Impact:** AFNA has expanded from 27 scholarship. The scholarships of those 27 students are assured by AFNA for the duration of their degree programs to ensure completion



### Support A Child (SAC) Program

**Challenge:** Children were at risk of dropping out of school due to family poverty

**Action taken:** Under this flagship project of AFNA, financial assistance has been provided to 75 students in 2016. Depending on the need, the amount varied with a general budget of around \$100 per student per year.

**Impact:** The stipends helped SHED to support 23 residential students with disabilities and provide food and shelter. It also helped Tapoban to arrange for regular physiotherapy sessions for the 30 residential students with disabilities. Additional 25 children were provided with stipends to enable and encourage them to continue school education.

## Focus Area: Education (Special)

### SHED integrated school

**Challenge:** SHED, a school for disabled children outside Guwahati needed to move to a permanent location with better facilities

**Action taken:** Over the years, AFNA raised funds for more than \$10000 to help SHED procure land and build infrastructure. Additional ongoing assistance provided through AFNA's SAC program

**Impact:** SHED moved to its own land and is slowly building the infrastructure for its integrated school. Currently it is hosting 23 residential students and serves a total 63 students.



### Shishu Sarothi

**Challenge:** Children with special needs does not have adequate avenues of learning. Shishu Sarothi that runs a day training center for such kids needed special chairs for students with Cerebral Palsy

**Action taken:** AFNA matched donation from its general fund with a donation from one of our anchor donors, and provided Shishu Sarothi a grant of \$1000 to procure such chairs.

**Impact:** Centre for Special Education at Shishu Sarothi procured 8 such chairs that helped them to accommodate 8 more kids on top of their existing 22 seats.



## Focus Area: Employment Generation

### Atma Nirbhar Ek Challenge (ANeC) & Support a Disabled Worker (SADW)

**Challenge:** ANeC in Guwahati needed help with their work to provide financial security to disabled adults to work and live productive lives

**Action taken:** As in prior years, AFNA donated \$2800 to ANeC to help support its workers who do packaging of tea and other food items

**Impact:** ANeC was able to continue supporting 39 disabled adults with customized work in packaging to lead dignified lives



### Swabalambi & Training Artisans with Disabilities

**Challenge:** Disabled master artisans could not travel from their homes to teach their skills to other disabled adults in Dimoria block in Kamrup district

**Action taken:** 8 physically handicapped master artisans were given a stipend by Swabalambi with \$4800 donated by AFNA

**Impact:** Over 50 other disabled artisans were able to get regular training from these master artisans so that they can learn crucial skills necessary to ensure livelihood.

