## INDIA HOME ANNUAL REPORT 2011

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF SENIORS IN A CULTURALLY SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

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## YEAR IN REVIEW

October 14, 2011

Dear Friends & Supporters,

Indeed, it has been an exciting year for India Home. Consistent with the pace of our growth since our inception, we have made significant strides in 2011 as well. Much of our focus in the initial years was to spread the word about India Home and the need for this work to be done. We were very successful in these endeavors as demonstrated by the extensive coverage and support we received from nonprofits, community members, and the media. This year, we turned to our programmatic aspects and strengthened our already robust core.

For the first time since the inauguration of India Home at Sunnyside Community Services (SCS), we have launched a new program in partnership with SCS. Our new Caregivers Support Program, funded partially by the State of New York/Department for the Aging, focuses on helping those who help our seniors: their families, support networks, and friends. Caring for the elderly often takes a toll on the physical, financial, and emotional wellbeing of caregivers. Caregiver support is extremely important to sustain the comfort caregivers provide.

With the hire of the new Caregiver Support Program Coordinator, we have brought our total staff members to three. In addition to our new employee, we have also had a record number – over ten – of youth volunteers who perform a number of administrative and events related tasks. This massive increase in our capacity is reflective of the increase in services and care we have been able to and hope to continue to provide.

To support these exciting expansions, we have been blessed to receive two new generous funding streams. The first is a four-year grant of \$25,000 per year from our founding donors, The Doshi Family Foundation. Secondly, in two years, India Home has managed to increase its government funding six times from an initial \$5,000 from Councilmember Gennaro to a total of \$30,000 from Councilmembers Weprin, Dromm, Gennaro, van Bremer and Comrie during 2011-2012.

It is from these positive experiences and support that we forge ahead into the coming year. We are constantly inspired by and motivated to serve because of the happiness we see at India Home. We are incredibly thankful to everyone who is a part of making this process happen: our seniors, our staff, and our supporters. Thank you!

Vasundhara D. Kalasapudi, M.D.

Valnordhandun

President & Co-Founder

## ABOUT US

## **Our Story**

The idea for India Home came to us when we were experiencing difficulties in caring for our parents. Dr. Kalasapudi's father was experiencing severe vascular dementia in their small hometown in India. Despite extensive research, Dr. Kalasapudi was not able find a culturally sensitive facility to place him in. Her peers, on the other hand, were able to bring their parents over. However, it was not without difficulty. Because there existed no such culturally sensitive facilities to house their parents, both Dr. Sood and Dr. Dave had to care for their ailing parents at home. This required extensive household help and financial resources. Realizing that this was not a practical way to care for their parents, especially for those in the Indian community who may not be as privileged, the three doctors and their friends came together to form India Home.

Registered as a nonprofit in 2007, India Home became operational in early 2008. Initially, India Home implemented a senior center day program in Queens and Long Island, meeting once a week in Sai Mandir, a temple in Baldwin, Long Island on Fridays and Services Now for Adult Persons (SNAP) in Bellerose, Queens on Wednesdays. Within a year, India Home expanded to two more centers: the Kerala Center, a Malayalee community center in Elmont, Long Island, on Thursdays and Sunnyside Community Services in Sunnyside, Queens on Mondays. With the initiation of weekly trips, Age in Action, to various sites of interest in the tri-state area on Tuesdays, India Home became the only fully functional three-day a week program serving the elderly Indian population.

### **Current Programs**

Sunnyside Program	<b>SNAP Program</b>	Kerala Center Program
Mondays	Wednesdays	Thursdays
43-31 39 <sup>th</sup> Street	80-45 Winchester Blvd.	1824 Fairfax Street
Sunnyside, NY 11104	Bldg #4, CBU #29	Elmont, NY 11003
-	Queens Village, NY 11427	

#### Board

Vasundhara Kalasapudi, M.D. <i>President</i>	Shanti Mudumba <i>Treasurer</i>	Board Members at Large Swarna Chanduri, M.D.
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Gnanendra Sinha, M.S.W. Secretary	Paulose Arikupurathu Public Relations	Kamla Motihar Mahendra Solanki

#### Staff

Joel Palma, Transportation Supervisor Sujatha Mikkilineni, Program Coordinator Rachit Magnani, Caregiver Support Program Coordinator

## **OUR ACTIVITIES**

#### Research Collaborations

In keeping with its tradition and innovation of collaboration to provide the best possible services to the elderly, India Home has started a number of new collaborations while maintaining many of the earlier ones. Recently, we have focused our collaborations with prestigious academic institutions to create a profile of the population we're serving and build relationships with university resources to better provide care to our elderly.

South Asian Practice Partnership for Health Improvement and Research (SAPPHIRE) *Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University* 

As the data for the pilot project with the Brown University research team is finishing up and data analysis begins, we are starting collaboration with the SAPPHIRE network to clearly elucidate the health needs and disparities in our community. In addition to the research the SAPPHIRE team is conducting, they will aid us in continuing our health literacy education and help us produce health information in different languages.

Research Project: Computer Usage, Cognitive Functioning and the Elderly *Dr. Sudershan Pasupuleti Associate Professor, University of Toledo*As we enter a preliminary discussion with Dr. Pasupuleti, a Ph.D. in Social Work, there are a number of topics we are excited to explore with regards to our seniors: how can technology impact the quality of life? What are barriers to technology use and how can we overcome them? These are questions we hope to research and apply the resulting best practices to our programs.

## **Programs Updates**

In our constant expansion, we are always creating new programs and improving old ones. Apart from the formal programs that we are working to implement, there are a number of activities our seniors partake in such as dance lessons and acting workshops that we don't mention here. Here, we will only showcase our major program highlights and exciting new projects.

#### *India Home Television Segments*

One of India Home's short-term goals is to showcase our seniors' creativity. We have two half hour TV programs on ITV, a news channel serving South Asians, and on Queens Public Television (QPTV). Seniors present music, dancing, drama, and panel discussions. This is an opportunity for seniors to creatively express themselves and be recognized by thousands of viewers for their talents. It is truly a "by seniors for seniors program."

#### Senior Center Day Program Expansion

We are inaugurating a new senior center day program at the Buddhist Vihar in Eastern Queens in the Fall of 2011. Running programs in diverse locations would allow us to serve the many diverse populations of South Asia. We would launch our regular senior center day program as well as the new Caregivers Support Program. We are looking to extend our Sunnyside program from one day a week to three days a week. These expansions would greatly help us serve our community with our increasing capacity.

## HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

## **Intergenerational Cruise Series**

The highlight and most enjoyable program this year for our members and supporters alike was the Intergenerational Cruise series we co-organized with the National Indo-American Association for Senior Citizens (NIAASC) in July and September. Wildly popular, over 1,100 people attended all three cruises. These cruises made a scenic New York City cruise tour affordable and fun for our members, their families and India Home supporters. New friendships were made, old friendships were strengthened and most importantly, everyone enjoyed themselves.



"For me, it was an exultant family get together and peaceful time too. Moreover, it provided with an opportunity to be with people from different cultures."

- Jaya Patel

"It not only provided amusement to seniors and youth but every age had their interest there. It seems like we are one big family." - Sudarshan Kaur





"It was a privilege to be a part of such lovely intergenerational experience and would like to see it more often."

- Kiran Kher

## INDIA HOME FAMILY

### **India Home Members Speak**

"I don't like to stay home. If I stay home, maybe I go to the bed early. I want to...maintain my work and maintain my health."

"I've been coming here 6 months."

"I like India Home. It's a very good activity for the Indian people and for senior people. I like it."

"We are the same community, so we talk in our community language...Here, we are introduced to the new people every week."





"We feel good here. We feel good and we feel...we are doing all activities here, so we feel happy."

"I have made friends here and I'm telling so many peoples in neighborhood and my friends to come here."

"For senior citizens, we can expose ourselves and we know everything here. We can get knowledge about how to survive: if you have low income - how to get help from government. Here, so many programs are coming...they are explaining about so many disease, about cancer and so many disease."

"I work for India Home, a senior care center for seniors of Indian origin. They really enjoy coming to the centers, as it is a pleasant getaway from the routine, lonely life and boredom. For them, a typical day at the center is never ordinary: it is always a new day of discovering themselves. Seniors learn various activities for the body, mind and soul whether it is yoga or arts and crafts. India Home is a place where seniors are loved and respected for who they are on the inside. My relationship with them is beyond that of a coordinator.

I am glad I am working where am loved so dearly. It's a wonderful feeling that I just cannot explain! I see India Home having better and bigger services over the years and hopefully I will have many great stories to tell. I have learnt a lot from their life experiences and now I feel I am growing into a better person. The seniors, too, enjoy a young soul around and know that life has to still go a long way healthy and happy!"

- Bhavita Mamilla, Former Program Coordinator

- Bhavita Mahima, i offici i fogram Coordinate

## **India Home Inc.**

## Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year Ended December 31, 2010

(with summarized financial information for the year ended December 31, 2009)

	2010		 2009	
Revenue and other support:				
Contributions	\$	91,171	\$ 47,483	
Fundraising revenue		30,660	\$ 	
Total revenue and other support		121,831	\$ 47,483	
Expenses:				
Program services	\$	122,839	\$ 124,094	
Support services	\$	11,178	\$ 5,713	
Fundraising expenses		5,327	\$ -	
Total expenses	\$	139,344	\$ 129,807	
Decrease in net assets		(17,513)	\$ (82,324)	
Net assets at the beginning of the year		(64,191)	\$ 18,133	
Net assets at the end of the year		(81,704)	\$ (64,191)	

## India Home Inc.

#### Balance Sheet December 31, 2010

(with comparative financial information as of December 31, 2009)

	2010		2009	
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	55	\$	9,940
Fixed assets (see note 3)	\$	21,442	\$	30,631
Other assets	\$	408	\$	6,308
Total assets	\$	21,905	\$	46,879
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS  Liabilities				
Loans (see note 4)	\$	90,000	\$	94,212
Other payables & liabilities	\$	13,609	\$	16,858
Total liabilities	\$	103,609	\$	111,070
Net assets				
Net assets	\$	(81,704)	\$	(64,191)
Total net assets	\$	(81,704)	\$	(64,191)
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	21,905	\$	46,879

## We are grateful to our supporters whose generosity and compassion has sustained our work.

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Email: indiahomeusa@gmail.com Website: www.indiahome.org

Tax ID: 20-8747291

"From the track record established by India Home in its short span of existence, it is bound to make a huge impact on the lives and future of seniors not just in New York City but across the entire United States."

—The Indian Express