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Friends of Asha Niketan



2004 fundraiser Luncheon was a Success

One hundred and thirty six people attended the annual luncheon at the Rex Manor in Brooklyn, New York on October 6th. The presence of New York state Assemblyman James Brennan, Council member Yvette Clarke, Former Council member Una Clarke, and Commissioner Thomas Maul was greatly appreciated by everyone in attendance. The honorees' contributions to the developmentally disabled were reviewed and acknowledged

My visit to Asha Niketan Homes in India

On November 24, 04 the residents and staff of Asha Niketan in Madras gave me a traditional welcome at their monthly celebrations. With great enthusiasm they saw the pictures taken at the October event. While opening gifts and munching on chocolates they summarized how the funds sent by Friends of Asha Niketan had improved their quality of life. The residents were grateful for the van, an adequate supply of water, and community outings, which the donations provided for them. The employees are thankful for the outreach services that they are able

to offer for a few families, improved access to medical care and the availability of supplies and equipment that have enhanced and diversified the activities. Following many questions about "Usha's friends" I was asked to convey their sincere thanks to each and every one of you. My other visits were for a variety of meetings and to the Asha Niketan Community in the state of Kerala.

Participation in the National Disability Day

India has designated Dec. 8th as the National Day for the Disabled Individuals. Asha Niketan's residents and employees organized a delightful event with speeches and performance by residents and volunteers. The General Council members (their Board Members) highlighted Friends of Asha Niketan's contributions and its significance



*Your donations
will be used for
the desperately
needed
renovations*



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During my several meetings at various levels it was agreed that the funds recently given will be used to renovate the main residence to provide the basic amenities.

*Tsunami Spares
Asha Niketan
Homes*

"Thank you for your concern regarding the tidal wave that hit our coastline. By God's grace we are all safe. We are sad that many lives have been lost to the fury of nature" This expression of gratitude sums up the sentiments of both residents and staff. I want to convey my sincere appreciation for the e-mails, phone calls and most of all keeping members of Asha Niketan in your thoughts. They are very privileged indeed to have your support.

