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# Friends of Asha Niketan



## Greetings

A lot of positive feedback and updates have been provided by Asha Niketan. I would like to share them with you since your generous contributions have enabled them to work on many initiatives

## Direct Quotes

"Although it might be hot summer nights with temperature gauge reading 82 degrees Fahrenheit at 2:00 A.M., waking up at such an hour to fetch drinking water, while the rest of the city in deep slumber, is a tedious task even for the most dedicated and ardent assistant of our community. Such has been the case in Asha Niketan. With the monsoon failing to quench the thirst of perched, bone-dry earth for two successive seasons, an assistant had to wake up at that hour every morning to catch the drinking water released for just an hour from water supply board and store it in pots to provide for the day's needs. Now the problem has been solved- thanks to friends of Usha in the U.S.A. Two sumps have been installed to store the water when it flows. When at meetings this particular assistant nods his head we know that is approval rather than him nodding off to sleep".

Sent via email by Gregory

An added bonus! The homes have purchased a water filter system.

## Najim's Accomplishments

Thanks to the kind sponsorship by Mr. Kermit Augustine Najim is still attending special school at the Life Help Center. He has made great progress. From a wild and carefree little kid, he is growing up to a disciplined young man. Such are the benefits of receiving schooling.

Sent via email by Amudha



## *Other Highlights*

Staff and volunteers are doing outreach. Have added seven adults and three children to the day services. Expanding horticultural activities.

An acre of land has been donated to us (travel time from existing homes 1 ½ hours). This presents us with many options to expand.

Information sent by  
President of Asha  
Niketan's governing  
Council.

## *Your Donation Went a Long Way*

Thatched roof in several buildings were replaced and it has provided protection from inclement weather.

Supplies and equipment were purchased to continue and upgrade vocational and habilitative services.

Preventative and emergency medical services were provided.

Community interaction was emphasized. The highlight of the summer was, the residents in two groups took an overnight trip, which also gave a reprieve from unbearable heat.

As friends of Asha Niketan you are all keeping their hopes alive. Looking forward to seeing many of you at this year's luncheon on October 6<sup>th</sup> in Brooklyn. I am certain others will support and be with me in spirit. Sincere thanks to each and every one of you.

Usha Venkataraghavan

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From emails and phone  
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