

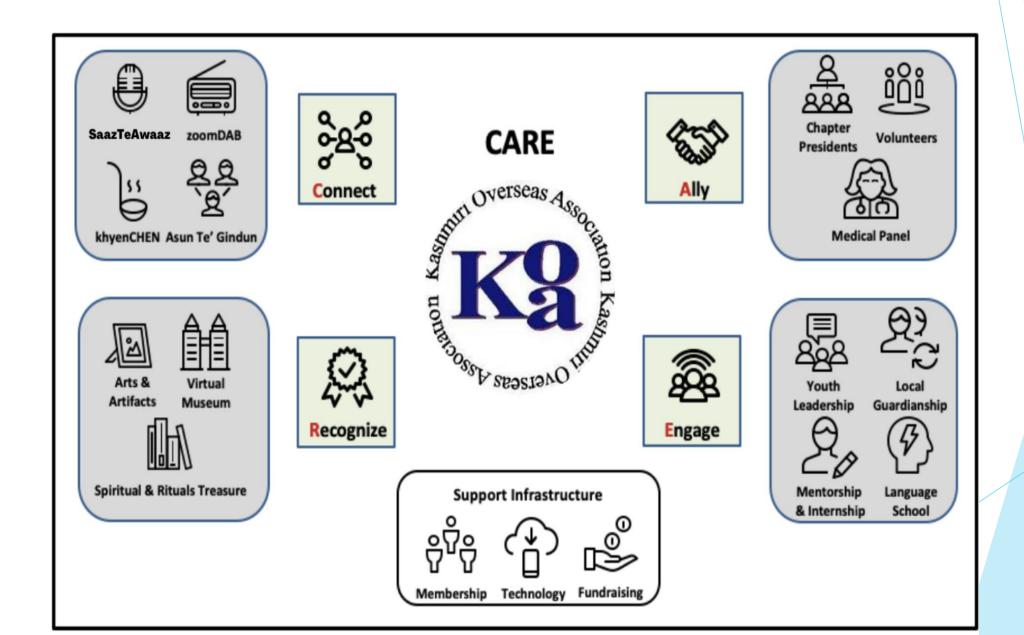
Kashmiri Overseas Association

2021 Annual Report

https://koausa.org/site/

"We Heal In Community And Not In Isolation"

CARE VISION



KOA Annual Report - 2021

MEDICAL PROGRAM :

- So far covered 14 medical cases
- Spent over \$50,000 till date

COVID-19 RELIEF:

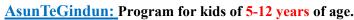
- The overall dollar amount spent on COVID Relief: 300,000 USD.
- 240 Oxygen Concentrators sent to India
- **1000** Covid Kits distributed across India
- 200 PPE Kits distributed in Jammu and NCR
- 500 Pulse Oximeters Distributed to families in need
- **1100** meals sent to affected families
- 5 BiPap machines sent to medical center in Jammu and NCR \geq
- Rs. 31500/- spend on rice and other food items for needy families in J&K
- Notebooks and school supplies sent to children of affected families
- Collaborated with 30 KP Sabhas across 15 cities in India \mathbf{b}

Family Sustenance Program (FSP):

- **Financial Assistance to 22 families** \geq
- Each family, upon verification, gets 1,000-3,000 USD. Total Spent: \$29,000
- The children of such families are also enrolled in our SAC/EAP programs \geq

Kitchen Sustenance Program:

- 47 families were assisted for 3 months with ration-kits
- Total Kitchen sustenance Spent- \$3800.00 \geq



- facilitated around 20 intriguing sessions throughout the year \geq
- **BOD-DOH** series incorporated lessons on the Tithi calendar, Herath, Navreh etc Fun activity series like the Vedic Math, Show and Tell, Puppet & Fashion Shows, Baking, storytelling/craft activities etc.

SaazTeAwaaz: The Cultural & Performing Arts Program

- COVID Benefit Fundraising Event that raised around 270,000 USD
- Artists like Padmashri Maestro Sh. Bhajan Sopori, Padmashri Sh. Kailash Kher, Smt. Kailash \geq Mehra, Smt. Arti Kaul, Smt. Archana Jalali, Smt. Neerja Pandit, Sh. Anurag Harsh, Sh. Abhay Sopori, Dr. Sapna Kachru, and young and budding artists from Athrot students of Jagati (Jammu) and from US, Canada, UK, Dubai, Australia and India performed in various events

ZoomDub: platform to bring together our experts on critical issues and call out the proposed action plans and awareness strategies



- > 3 sessions so far, recordings of which will also be available on the KOA YouTube Channel.
- KOA Youth Programs: Extended the program to KOATeens in 2021
- KOAY social media forums and Newsletter \geq
- \geq Social Justice engagement
- **Global Social Events and Competitions**
- **Community Outreach Events and Family Game Nights**
- H.O.P.E. a project started to catalogue the stories of our lives back in Kashmir that will serve as a repository of recorded history of Kashmiri Pandits based on facts and eyewitness accounts

KhyenChyen: The program started in 2020 and has grown from 9 to 170 members.

- \triangleright over 15 scrumptious sessions this year alone (~35 in total)
- > Hosted Chef Sandeep Pandit from Australia during the Annual Camp

Support-A-Child (SAC):

- Raised \$125,850 to sponsor 450 beneficiaries (includes carry-over from previous year: \$4564)
- Supported 33 beneficiaries from Kashmir Valley
- Introduced "Aptitude Testing & Career Guidance" for 9th + 12th grade students
- Total Donors in 2021: 186 (45 new donors a 24% increase from previous year)
- Largest Single donor: \$8250 (Supported 30 kids)

Education Assistance Program (EAP) :

- > 157 students covered so far, still open for 2021 owing to COVID-19 delays
- > Sponsored Sports Tournament for youth in Jagati to be held in January 2022. Donated INR 1.5L **Annual Camp:**
- > 3-day Camp activities with global participation in numerous cultural activities for all age groups, Zonal competitions, celebrity interviews, Award ceremonies etc.
- ~ \$5,500 raised through Art Auction donations











KOA Programs (COVID related)

'EMPOWER, INSPIRE, CONNECT, ENTERTAIN'

MEDICAL PROGRAM –added a new dimension to KOA initiatives, much thanks to the <u>efforts of the Medical Team of</u> <u>esteemed physicians</u>. This year has been very difficult for our families in Jammu and the Valley; many have had to make difficult financial decisions due to the sickness of their loved ones. Round the clock tireless efforts and coordination of our Medical Team resulted in a huge and positive impact in the lives within our community.

- covered 14 medical cases
- spent over \$50,000 so far

<u>COVID-19 RELIEF</u> - As most of you are aware, a significant part of this year was influenced by the COVID relief activities in India. The virus had a devastating impact on our community, resulting in more than 800 deaths in less than 2 months. April-May 2021 saw our community go through yet another period of desolation. KOA wasted no time and mobilized the resources on a war footing, to send the life-essential equipment to India which resulted in saving lives. The impact of the work done by KOA for COVID Relief has been applauded by our community here, in India, as well as globally. Be it the medical equipment, relief kits, medications, free meals for the most impacted, KOA left no stone unturned. We continue to send help to families who have been impacted by COVID in any manner.

> <u>The overall dollar amount spent on COVID Relief sent to India approximated 300,000 USD</u>.

We thank all the generous donors who made it possible for us to undertake this herculean task for the humanitarian cause. My special thanks to Sh. Rattan and Smt. Bharti Khosa who were our biggest donors in this effort.

In order to bring health care assistance to our community, we have also collaborated with <u>Shirya Bhatt Clinic.</u> The objective is to provide services by reopening the clinic, provide Telehealth consultations with the US based Medical Team.

Program Director – Dr. Rajiv Pandit

KOA Programs (COVID related)

'EMPOWER, INSPIRE, CONNECT, ENTERTAIN'

Family Sustenance Program (FSP) – It was started after the COVID-19 crisis of April 2021.

> 22 families have been assisted financially in India this year

- Criteria to provide financial assistance to families affected by COVID-19 (death of bread earner, job loss or wage reduction)
- Each family, upon verification, gets 1,000-3,000 USD, depending on the financial status of the family
- > The children of such families are also enrolled in our SAC/EAP programs

<u>Kitchen Sustenance –</u>

- 47 families were assisted for 3 months, each family was provided ration-kits for 3 months, items sourced from Srinagar and distributed to 5 centers across the Valley.
- Donations Collected \$25,000
- Funds Disbursed (FSP) \$29000.00
- Kitchen sustenance disbursement \$3800.00

Program Director – **Dr. Praduman Tickoo**

KOA Signature Programs (existing)

'EMPOWER, INSPIRE, CONNECT, ENTERTAIN'

Support-A-Child (SAC) – now stands stronger than ever, thanks to hard work put by our program directors and our Jammu team.

- **Raised \$125,850 to sponsor 450 beneficiaries** (*includes carry-over from previous year: \$4564*)
- Supported 33 beneficiaries from Kashmir Valley
- Introduced "Aptitude Testing & Career Guidance" for 9th 12th grade students. We have engaged a top tier company in India for the project and are in the process of executing the pilot program with 32 kids

-Company Website: https://idreamcareer.com/

2021 Donor Profile :

- ✤ Total donors : 186
- ✤ Total New donors : 45 (24%)
- ✤ Largest Single donor: \$8250 (Supported 30 kids)
- ✤ Donors supporting 4 or more kids (\$1100 or more): 27 (18%)

Education Assistance Program (EAP) – 157 students covered so far, still open for 2021 owing to COVID-19 delays

<u>Sponsorship of the Sports Tournament –</u> This pilot project was undertaken to boost the morale and self-esteem of the youth in Jagati. Donated INR 1.5L towards this initiative.

Program Directors – - Mr. Praveen Raina (SAC) - Dr. Tej Kaul (EAP)

KOA Signature Programs (New)

'EMPOWER, INSPIRE, CONNECT, ENTERTAIN'

<u>AsunTeGindun</u> - Program for kids of 5-12 years of age was started with the goal of engaging kids in activities introducing Kashmiri culture and traditions at an early age.

The **BOD-DOH** series incorporated lessons on the <u>Tithi calendar</u>, **storytelling/craft activities** around Herath, Navreh, GanTsodah, Holi, <u>Rakhi, Pann, Diwali, etc. Kids were also engaged in fun activity series like the Vedic Math, Show and Tell, Puppet shows, Fashion</u> <u>Shows, Baking, and much more.</u>

<u>Our remarkable AsunTeGindun Leads</u> facilitated around 20 intriguing sessions throughout the year which will be available on the KOA YouTube Channel for our posterity.

<u>SaazTeAwaaz</u> – The Cultural Performing Arts Program was started to bring artists of all genres and age groups together globally. The various Virtual Cultural Events this year were graced by our most celebrated and legendary artists like <u>Padmashri Maestro Sh.</u> <u>Bhajan Sopori, Smt. Kailash Mehra, Smt. Arti Kaul, Smt. Archana Jalali, Smt. Neerja Pandit, Sh. Anurag Harsh, Sh. Abhay</u> <u>Sopori, Dr. Sapna Kachru, and more</u>. The program also showcased an array of phenomenal budding artists, ranging from <u>Athrot</u> <u>students of Jagati (Jammu) to promising artists within the US, Canada, UK, Dubai, Australia and India, encompassing the fields of</u> <u>music, painting, dance and poetry.</u>

The Cultural Team went above and beyond with the much-needed COVID Benefit Fundraising Event that raised around 270,000
USD with the help of world renowned artist Padmashri Kailash Kher and the gracious donors

AsunTeGindun Leads:

- Mrs. Nymphy Vashisht
- Mrs. Niyanta Muku
- Mrs. Sunita Razdan
- Mrs. Havvisha Karihaloo
- Mrs. Priyanka Sadhu
- Mrs. Aditi Raina
- Mrs. Nimeesha Mattoo

SaazTeAwaaz Team:

- Mr. Sumit Parimoo,
- Cultural Dir.
- Mrs. Nymphy Vashisht
- Mrs. Minali Razdan

KOA Signature Programs (new)

'EMPOWER, INSPIRE, CONNECT, ENTERTAIN'

KhyenChyen – Program continued to engage the Culinary Gurus. The program started in 2020 and <u>has grown from 9 to 170</u> <u>members</u>. The Program has evolved into a global platform to revive our <u>forgotten Kashmiri delicacies</u>, keep in touch with our unique <u>Wazwaan and Kanderwaan</u>, encourage <u>healthy/quick meals for the younger generation</u>, as well as <u>embrace popular non-Kashmiri</u> <u>cuisines</u>, thanks to our member volunteers. We had the opportunity to host **Chef Sandeep Pandit** from Australia during the Annual Camp this year.

over 15 scrumptious sessions this year alone (~35 in total), that included fireside chats, music, comedy and beyond, recordings of which will also be available on the KOA YouTube Channel.

ZoomDub_ – program provided a platform to bring together our experts on critical issues and help call out the proposed action plans and awareness strategies, be it for the Medical panel insight during the peak of COVID-19, Global Meet for the Condemnation of minority killings in Kashmir, Commemorations and Rallies for global awareness, etc. This program will continue to have insightful conversations with the pride of our community who have made a niche in areas like Entertainment, Science, Kashmiri Heritage, Entrepreneurship, Sports, Journalism, and beyond.

3 sessions so far, recordings of which will also be available on the KOA YouTube Channel.

<u>KhyenChyen Leads:</u> - Mrs. Meenakshi Fotedar

- Mrs. Geetha Ganju

<u>ZoomDub Lead:</u> - Mr. Sanjay Kaul

KOA YOUTH Programs

KOAYouth - **extended membership to KOATeens this year** to be a part of the amazing Youth group, receive mentorship from our youth leaders, and volunteer for various initiatives. These teens will gradually grow into assuming an enormous role as our regional influencers and leaders for their respective projects. The highlighted programs facilitated by KOAY this year include:

- **KOAY social media forums and Newsletter** one-stop shop to stay updated with all the major KOA Youth events
- Social Justice engagement To build awareness around KP killings this year
- > Global Social Events and Competitions Promote Art, Youth Artists and International Networking
- Community Outreach Events -Educational Workshops, Kashmiri Language classes, Mentor/Mentee program for teenagers, KOAY Talkies
- Family Game Nights KOA Camp Events, Weekend get-togethers, 'Family Feud', 'Among Us'
- H.O.P.E. a project started to catalogue the stories of our lives back in Kashmir that will serve as a repository of recorded history of Kashmiri Pandits based on facts and eyewitness accounts.

<u>Youth Co-Directors:</u> -Roshni Koul - Shubhankar Peshin

3-DAY ANNUAL CAMP

2021 Virtual ANNUAL CAMP was facilitated with global participation in numerous cultural activities for all age groups

> <u>3-Day Activities included the following and much more :</u>

- Kids' programs Sharda Peth competition, Art/Craft competitions + Cultural storytelling + Puppet Shows
- Performing Arts events involving legendary Kashmiri artists of yesteryears + Athrot/Jagati kids + budding artists of US/India presenting dance, music, poetry, etc.
- ✤ Patriotic Day Celebrations included GLOBAL presentations from UK, UAE, India, U.S.
- * Award ceremonies Lifetime Achievement awards , Youth Achievement Awards
- * Donor appreciation
- *Zonal competitions Antakshari*, *Talent show*
- Celebrity interviews Ankita Raina, Chef Sandeep Pandit, Mr. Rattan Khosa, Mr. Amitabh Mattoo, etc.
- ✤ Fund-raisers Live Zonal Fund-raisers for SAC/EAP and beyond

> ~ <u>\$5,500</u> raised through Art Auction donations

INDIA VISIT- Oct 22-Nov 5, 2021

I visited India with a special purpose in mind –

- to connect with all the partners who helped deliver the KOA COVID Relief to the impacted community members in the worst healthcare crisis of this century

- to thank the affiliates who have historically partnered with KOA on various programs like SAC, EAP, MEDICAL-FUNDS, benefitting our displaced community since 1990.

ALL KP Leaders' Meet -

met with the leadership of AIKS, KMECT, Sharika Foundation, Vitasta Hospital, KPV Volunteer team, Kashmiri Sabha of
 Amphala, KSS Faridabad, Helpline Humanity Team, Global Solace Team, and numerous prominent KP leaders across Jammu and
 Delhi. The trip was facilitated by AIKS President Dr. Romesh Raina. My immense thanks to Mr. Aryan Ramesh who made the trip a success by helping arrange all the meetings in a short period of time. The goal of the discussions was to brainstorm an action plan for the upliftment of our folks still struggling in the Jammu Camps.

AIKS / KSS / KPV meets -

- On Oct 24th, I was honored to be the international guest speaker at the AIKS seminar in Delhi on 'Minority Killings and A Way
 Forward', discussing the latest terrorist activities and its repercussions on our minute population left behind in the Valley.
- It was a pleasure to celebrate Diwali with friends at KSS Faridabad and an honor to spend some with Padmashri Sh. Sudhir Sopori.
- I was also invited to inaugurate the new KPV Office and felicitate the Newly formed KPV Board, headed by Sh. Vikram Koul



Letter of Thanks

Dr Achana Kakroo Ji President KOA Dear Respected Madam,

It gives us immence pleasure to convey to you that Helpline Humanity which is tirelessly working from day one in this pandemic like previous year by providing covid kits, oxymeter, oxygen cylinders, dry rice, doctors consultation with patients in order to save lives of people who have suffered by covid 19. In Jagti and Nagrota where majority of population of Kashmiri Pandits reside too suffered because of unhealthy living condition of people and less space available around. To overcome these crises and increase in covid cases our Volunteers Start mass Awareness programme, making announcement through loudspeakers about this pandemic and safety measures taken which yields positive results. Team Helpline Hummity owe you a big thanks and tremendous gratitude for donating 24 oxymeter and 50 Covid Kits which helped us to serve patients in a better way at their door step. Your Continous support will help us in moving ahead under all circumstances in future as well for the welfare of community in exile.

Thanks once again With regards Library Team & Helpline Humanity Tea

PAN NO :- AAATH 3839A

OFFICE:- Helpline Humanity

lata Sarswati Pustakalaya A Digital LIBRARY, Book Bank, Computerized Reading Room unselling Centre & Employment Bureau Jagti Iane no 20 near J & K Bank Jagti Township mmu J & K India 181221 Mobile No 9419891815, 9419186088 email: <u>h]plichumanifruego@gmail.com</u> www.hetpline.tumanify.org



INDIA VISIT- Oct 22-Nov 5, 2021 (contd.)

<u> Shirya Bhatt Clinic –</u>

<u>-</u> On Oct. 31st, as we heard about the demise of Dr. K.L. Chowdhury, it was overwhelming to be a part of the <u>Tribute Meet</u> the next day at the iconic <u>Shirya Bhatt Clinic</u>, founded by Dr. Chowdhary, the guiding torch who tirelessly served our community in various capacities post-Exodus.

<u>Sharika Foundation</u> –

Spent an evening with the KOA sponsored children in Sharika Foundation. It was the best part of the trip sitting and connecting with those amazing children. It gave me immense pleasure to observe how kindly they are being mentored and guided by
 Sh. Sunil ji Thusoo and Sh. Sanjay Dhar, who inculcate the essence of Dharma and Samskara in these kids.
 Jagati/Muthi Camps, Helpline Humanity, Jagati Hospital - My visit to Jagati was very humbling and revealing.

- Over 4000 families of our community still live in these small tenements created by the government, deficient in facilities in terms of healthcare, education and job opportunities for our youth. It must be our top priority to provide the basic opportunities to the kids living in the camps and to uplift these families.

<u>Vitasta Hospital, Jammu –</u>

- The tour of Vitasta Hospital facility was very encouraging, the hospital holds great promise in providing health care services to our community in Jammu.

<u>Narayana Group of Hospitals</u> –

- My meeting with the <u>Northern Command of the Narayana Hospitals</u>, <u>Mr. Navneet Bali</u>, facilitated by **Cmdr. Sanjay Kaul**, was focused on <u>KOA's collaboration in the ongoing vaccination drives for COVID-19 in Delhi and Jammu</u> to supplement the Government efforts.







Kashmiri Overseas Association

lease join us for the Global condemnation o the minority killings in Kashmir

Moderated by Jyotsna Sharma

Esteemed panelists

Dr. Archana Kokroo, President KOA USA Dr. Vijay Sazawal, US Dr. Romesh Raina, India Mr. Mohan Wanchoo, US Mr. Ashoke Pandit, India Mrs. Suhag Shukla, US Mrs. Krishna Bhan, UK Mr. Sanjay Peshin, UK Mr. Anil Misri, UAE Mr. Ashok Koul, Canada Mr. Shudh Prakash Singh, U

Oct 16th, Saturday, 1:00 pm EST Watch this event LIVE on KOA Facebook facebook.com/koausaorg



Proud Creations Of Our KOA Volunteers



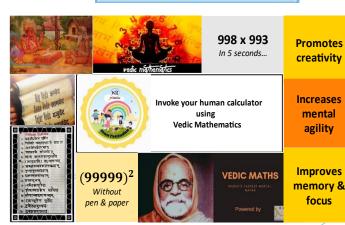


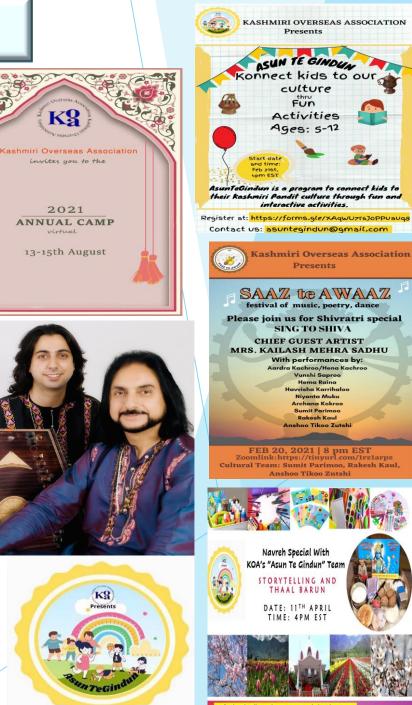
OMDU



KOA'S ANNUAL CAMP PRESENT AUCTION ~ HEALING AND HOPE~

Virtual Camp this year is from August 13th-15th and we are looking for KP Artists willing to send in their artwork for bidding by JULY 30TH, 2021! SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK USING OUR FORM! tinyurl.com/KOACAMP





For further details reach us at: asuntegindun@koausa.org

WE HAVE A LOT MORE TO DO...

Projects in Pipeline for 2022

- KOA is in the final stages of the development of a Progressive web application which the members can download on their mobile devices that will have multiple user-friendly functionalities. Announcement for the launch of the application to be made soon.
- Work on increasing membership.
- Enhance and extend the KOA Medical Program globally for improving the health care to our community in Jammu.
- Medical Camps in Jammu.
- Increase Chapter Presidencies in various Zones and increase engagement.
- Create a blueprint for the Virtual Heritage Project.

Thank you