

# "HOPE" NEWS

**AGNES KUNZE SOCIETY**

An ISO 9001 : 2008 Certified Charity/NGO

October 2012

Volume 1, Issue 3

## Mission

Agnes Kunze Society 'Hope Project' wants to support children & community with little or no chance of a dignified existence as fellow human being, since as a Non-Governmental Organization, we find **Sr. Agnes Kunze's** notion of love being the leading principle in relations between people.

## Vision

Agnes Kunze Society 'Hope Project' assistance will be focused on children & community in India, specially in the state of Uttarakhand, faced with personal circumstances of poverty, discrimination and on children & community who became victims of calamities. This help will give children & community a chance to build their lives, freed from poverty. Agnes Kunze Society 'Hope Project' supports children & community in need, independent of their background, gender, caste, color, and creed

## A WORD FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR.....

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings to all our supporters and friends who will be receiving this quarterly e-newsletter.

It gives me great joy to see that AKS is doing such incredible work through the 33 projects that are currently being implemented in the Dehradun district. We still need to do much more in these areas and at the same time be open to learning from each other in order to improve in our areas of work.

The dedication with which the AKS staff has been working on a daily basis is commendable and each one of them finds personal satisfaction at the end of the day because they are using their talents and abilities to bring about changes in the lives of the community that they are serving. I believe that every individual in the community would be able to grow in their life loving, caring & respecting each other & being a good citizen of the Country.

Our dream is to see these communities as not only the ones cared for but also caring for each other and living as responsible members of mainstream society. We also want to see many children educated and well settled.

My best wishes and prayers for the entire AKS family and gratitude to all our supporters, friends and well wishers. We look forward to greater success in the future— touching many lives, changing communities and educating children to bring about real transformation in society.

*Manju Lawrence*

**Read on to find out  
about:**

### AKS HOPE ACADEMY



### HOPE SAMVEDNA PROJECT



### HOPE TARGET TUBERCULOSIS



### MEET THE STAFF



## FOCUS AREAS...

\* EDUCATION \* HEALTH CARE \* LIVELIHOOD \* ENVIRONMENT \* ADVOCACY \* EMPOWERMENT

# AKS HOPE ACADEMY



Parent Teacher Meeting

The start of a fresh academic session is always an exciting time for the children. With new books, stationery, uniforms, a new class, and a big smile, a total of 172 children were enrolled in the new session, which began in April 2012. The school is growing every year and children are very eager to come and learn. The children are provided with mid day meals.

Regular parent teacher meetings are held every month to keep the parents informed about the progress of their child.

The Managing Director, along with the Project Coordinator and the Head Mistress meet with the staff on a regular basis to discuss about the progress, new plans, achievements and appreciations.

In this quarter, a number of international visitors visited the school. They were appreciative of the progress made and encouraged the staff and the management to keep up the good work. Mr. Twan from Netherlands took a session with the Academy staff on how to tackle difficult situations in the school. Mr. Joe Sieben, Mr. Leo, Mr. Taees and Mr. Hein from Netherlands and Cecilia from Germany spent time teaching new skills to the staff and children. They were all very pleased to see the enthusiasm and dedication of the staff and the wonderful support and guidance of the management in the functioning of the school.



New Academic Session



Independence Day Celebrations



Higher Education Classes



Hope Mini Bank



Visitors taking sessions with staff

## MEET ANITA BIST



Ms. Anita Bist joined Agnes Kunze Society on November 7, 2005. She has 7 years teaching experience in a public school. This is her first experience working with children at risk. The job is a very challenging one but she is willing to accept this challenge because she wants to work among children "who do not get proper education and guidance".

While teaching at Hope Academy, she has also completed her NTT and B.Ed. Education in order to be a more effective teacher. She is very thankful for a very co-operative staff who work as a team and are humble and helpful. She is extremely grateful to the management for giving their full support and guidance, especially in pursuing further studies thus qualifying as a senior teacher at the school.

She finds it a joy to teach these underprivileged children and has seen how the school has grown in strength over these past ten years. Her best wishes are always with the Management, Staff and children of Agnes Kunze Academy, Hope Project for the future.



# AKS HOPE SAMVEDNA PROJECT

Samvedna Project started in December 2011 and has grown at a fast pace in these past ten months. Presently there are 15 children who come to the center. They are learning self-help skills like brushing their teeth, washing their face and hands, bathing, eating, dusting etc. They are also involved in different activities to improve their fine motor and gross motor skills. The activities include colouring, paper folding, clay work, beads work, block games which help them to improve their balance.

The children are also improving academically. They are learning numbers from 1 to 10, English and Hindi alphabets and pre-concept skills. A few children are being prepared to be sent to primary schools. A variety of teaching aids such as picture matching, puzzles, charts, and other visual aids are used to teach the children. Tamana, a hearing impaired girl, is learning number and names of common objects with the help of finger spelling and common sign language.

Vocational skill training is being imparted to the older children. They are taught to cut lemon grass, dry them and make small packets to sell.

Regular physiotherapy is provided to the children at Samvedna. Once a week a team from Raphael Home comes to conduct the physiotherapy. On other days, the staff and volunteers help the children with regular exercises. This has helped the children to a great extent. Arayan is walking by himself. Anush, Sufiyahan, Neha, Luxmi and Nargis are doing regular exercises at the centre.



## SAMVEDNA PROJECT ACTIVITIES



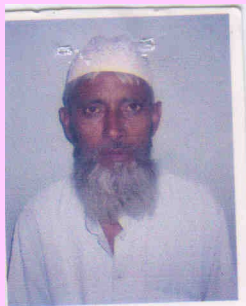
### FOCUS AREAS...

\* EDUCATION \* HEALTH CARE \* LIVELIHOOD \* ENVIRONMENT \* ADVOCACY \* EMPOWERMENT

# AKS HOPE TARGET TUBERCULOSIS PROJECT

The AKS Hope Target TB Team, Dehradun, has achieved great success during the months of June to August 2012. Regular Awareness Camps, Review meetings, Patients follow-up, House Visiting, Comprehensive Counselling, Training to DOTS Provider, HIV Testing and Counselling for TB Patients, Screening of PLHA for TB, Provision of ART for co-infected TB Patients, Orphans Care, etc. are some of the activities that have been carried out by the team in different areas of Dehradun thus achieving the target that was set for this quarter. The TB Health Mela conducted in Doiwala, Dist. Dehradun was very successful. 400 people benefitted from this program. One to one counseling and referral of 175 suspected cases of TB to DOTS Center was done. The activities in this mela included exhibition, skit show, film show, counseling of TB patients and suspected TB cases and distribution of IEC material.

## SUCCESS STORY



My name is Abdul. I am 50 years old and I come from Hakumatpur, Saharanpur. I am an MDR-TB patient. I am married and have 6 children. I used to be a very famous wrestler of my village.

When I came to know that I am suffering from TB, I did not have know anything about the disease as to how serious it can be.

I did not get any treatment done. Due to this, I suffered from MDR-TB. I became very thin and I was not able to do any work for two years as I became very weak. We have our own dairy but I was not able to do anything.

Through AKS 'Hope' Target TB Project, I received more information on the disease, its treatment and cure. I also received proper nutrition and medicines from them and I feel much better now. I have also gained weight and my health is improving. I am also able to do my work now. At the same time, I take the opportunity to create awareness in my village about TB by telling the people about its symptoms and treatment.

I am very much thankful to Hope Target TB Project for giving me medicines, nutrition and tonic regularly and also for good counseling and encouragement, which has helped me tremendously. My health is improving day by day and my life has become good. My family is also supporting me. All this would not have been possible for me if Hope project had not supported me.

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# My Experience at Hope



My name is Saumya, I am 15 years old. I am doing my study at Hope Home. I came to the Home when I was 9 years old. When I first time came to Hope Home, there was a big function that day. Many people came and there was a big lunch with varieties of food. We had new clothes to wear and I was very happy. Every thing was new, clothes, bedding, cupboards, etc. The beginning days were a big struggle for us because of new environment but slowly I got used to it. I changed my habits, my way of speaking, living, eating, behaving, etc. I got a good environment to develop good habits and life. I took every opportunity to learn something new. Every facility was provided at Hope Home for a child to grow. Before coming to the Hope Home I was studying at Hope Academy at Ma-

drasi Colony. At that time I was in 5<sup>th</sup> standard along with two other girls and five boys. At present we all are at Hope Home. I used to be sick most of the time; my family condition was not good. While studying in the school, we were told about the hostel construction. So I was very eager to go to the hostel and study there. Our family condition and surrounding were not good. Going to Hope hotel was a better environment for us to study and to do something. So it happened that I came to Hope Home and everything was good. Study is good,. Attention is given to each child for the proper growth. I am very happy here. Staff is good we have all things which are needed for us to grow. On 28<sup>th</sup> march 2008 we came to a new hostel. All the children were very happy even I was very happy too. We had nice good two story building, huge ground to play, greenery all around and plenty of place and space. I would really like to thank Hope for the privileges which they have given to us and have brought hope in our lives.

Hope Home is a good atmosphere for me to grow intellectually, morally, hygienically, physically etc. I was 10 years old when I came to Hope Home. Now I am 16 and studying in 10<sup>th</sup> standard. Coming to Hope was a good opportunity for me to study, My family condition was not good. They did not have enough money to educate me and support me. Hope has brought change in my life in all areas. Here I got good family environment, loving and caring staff and cool atmosphere to study. Often volunteers are coming and helping us in all areas. I would like to thank Hope for the work which they are doing. I want to say to all my readers especially boys, when you get a chance do not let it go; time is precious make use of it. I would like to thank Hope once again for the opportunity which they have given to me to study at Hope Home.

**Mohit**



# AKS HOPE HIV/AIDS PROJECT

Mukesh Kumar is 35 years old and has 3 children. His wife's name is Anita. She is a housewife and Mukesh works as a labourer. When he found out that his wife, one of his sons and he are HIV+, he was shocked and very much depressed. His health started deteriorating and due to his sickness, he lost his job. It was very difficult for him to pay his house rent and also support his family.

One day he met Mr. Lawrence Singh from Agnes Kunze Society at the ART Center. He shared his problem with him and he decided to help Mukesh by giving him a loan from the SHG Group so that he could continue his work. He helped him set up a small vegetable shop so that he could earn a living and support his family. The AKS Hope Project staff also provided Mukesh with medicines for his wife and son and counseled them from time to time to take the medicines regularly. This has helped them so much as Mukesh is able to support his family and his children are also continuing their education.

Mukesh is so grateful to AKS Hope Project for their support and help even though they knew that he was an HIV+ patient. They have given him new hope and sustenance for his family. This project is supporting so many others like

**SUCCESS  
STORY**



**HIV/AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAM**



**CCC CENTRE**



## FOCUS AREAS...

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# MEET THE STAFF

I have been working with Agnes Kunze Society as the Office Coordinator since 2003. I have been a part of the organization since its beginning. We began with a school of 5 children and today by God's grace and blessings, there are 33 projects running under the Society.

In the past decade, I have seen and learnt a lot through my occasional visits and involvement in the various projects, which has helped me grow tremendously. I am also encouraged to see how the management has made it possible for the development of the different project staff by arranging and sending them for different training, workshops, etc. from time to time. This has helped the staff to grow and improve in the specified areas of work.

I am really happy to work with such a cooperative team of workers and management that is always encouraging and ready to work hard to bring about effective transformation in the community. I am positive that in the coming years, due to the dedication of the staff and the good work of all who are involved with AKS, we will see a lot of fruit and bring about a **difference** in the lives of the communities at risk.



**Stephen Masih**

An Interview with Mr. Ganesh Kumar



- 1. When did you join AKS 'Hope' Project?**  
In January 2004.
- 2. How did you know about 'Hope' Project?**  
I came to know about the 'Hope' Project through a friend of mine who had worked with AKS Hope in the beginning.
- 3. Where did you work before joining AKS Hope Project?**  
I was working as a Computer Operator at a Printing Press.
- 4. When did you start working at the AKS 'Hope' Home?**  
In 2010.
- 5. What is the difference between working at Hope Academy and Hope Home?**  
At the Academy, we are concentrating more on the academics and performance of children, whereas at the Home, besides academics, I am also involved in the overall development of the children. Besides working with children, I also take care of some office work and assist in maintaining day to day events. I really enjoy my work.
- 6. Any message that you would like to share?**  
First of all, I would like to say thanks to the management of AKS Hope for giving me a chance to work and also to develop my skills. I would like to convey to every one that we must use our talents and abilities to help others. In doing so, we also gain knowledge and experience. Life is a gift for each one and we must make the most of it.



## AKS HOPE PROJECT

### Chief Functionary

#### Agnes Kunze Society

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**Certification Number : 53615 – UDEM (ISO 9001:2008)**  
**Society Registration No. 1104/2001-2002 (Uttarakhand State)**  
**Society Registration Renewal – 589/2006-2007 (Uttarakhand State)**  
**Society Registration Renewal – 342/2011 – 2012 (Uttarakhand State)**  
**FCRA Registration No. 347900096 (Home Ministry, Govt. of India)**  
**PAN No. AABTA2133K (Income Tax PAN Services Unit, Govt. of India)**  
**TAN No. MRTA02152D (Uttarakhand State Tax Dept.)**  
**12A Registration Certificate, Dated 09-02-2007 (Charity Status -Tax Dept.)**  
**80G Registration Certificate, Dated 18-11-2008 (Tax Exemption - Tax Dept.)**  
**AABTA2133KSD001, Dated 03/03/2011 (Service Tax Registration No.)**

### AKS GETS INVOLVED IN UTTARKASHI RELIEF

1. Agnes Kunze Academy (*Hope Community School*)
2. Hope Vocational Training Program (*a Training Program for Livelihood cum sustainability*)
3. Hope Home Project (*Residential Care Centre for underprivileged Children*)
4. Hope Adult Literacy (*a project for women empowerment*)
5. Hope Handloom Project (*a Project for Fund Raising & Sustainability*)
6. Hope Middy meal Program (*school Health & Hygiene, Nutrition Program*)
7. Hope Evening School/Tuition/Remedial Classes (*After School help for the underprivileged children*)
8. Hope Evening Cooked Food Program (*school Health & Hygiene, Nutrition Program*)
9. Hope Community Health, Development & HIV/ AIDS Awareness program (*Target Intervention projects for underprivileged community*)
10. Hope Target Tuberculosis (TB/DOTS & ACSM Project)
11. Hope Counseling Centre for Drug Addicts & Alcoholics
12. Hope Awareness Program (*Public Legal Rights, Environment, Health & Hygiene, Mother & Child Care, Family Planning Etc.*)
13. Hope Relief Program (*Responding to any Disasters & Emergencies*)
14. Hope Self help Group (*Income Generation Program*)
15. Hope C-Grade Nursing Training Program (*for Women*)
16. Hope Free Medical Camp (*for underprivileged community*)
17. Hope NOS Coaching Centre (*a Centre for School – dropouts*)
18. Hope Community Care Centre/ HIV/AIDS – Care, Support & Treatment Program)
19. Hope Higher Education Sponsorship Program (*Education after 5<sup>th</sup> Standard for underprivileged children*)
20. Hope Goat Project (*Income Generation program for differently abled communities*)
21. Hope Learning Centre & Hope Outreach Program (*a CBR activities*)
22. Hope ‘Asha Ki Kiran’ Project (*responding to the needs of HIV infected & affected children & community*)
23. Hope Non-Communicable Chronic Disease Awareness Program (*in Partnership with Chronic Care Foundation – INDIA*)
24. Hope Samvedna Project (*A Day Care Centre Project jointly run by HOPE & KHW-INDIA for Differently Abled Children & Community*)
25. Hope Mini Bank (*Children Saving Bank*)
26. Hope Call Centre Calling Project (*A project for Fund Raising in Partnership with HGS*)
27. Hope ICTC Project (*Integrated Counseling and Testing Centre for HIV Testing in PPP Mode with USACS*)
28. Hope Teen & Adolescent Health (*School Health Program*)
29. Hope Tobacco Awareness & Cessation Program (*School & Community based program*)
30. Hope Dairy Farming & Milk Co-operative Project (*Livelihood cum sustainability*)
31. Hope Solar Light Project (*Alternative power- supported by Barefoot Solar*)
32. Hope Night Shelter for Home-Less (*In partnership with Municipal Administration, Dehradun*)
33. Hope Trekking & Camping (*a project for Fund Raising*)

In Uttarkashi district localized heavy rains in the early hours of 4th August, 2012 in the catchment of the tributaries of Bhagirathi river, particularly Asi Ganga and Swari Gad, caused the waters of Bhagirathi to rise as much as 4 meters above the danger level at Uttarkashi. Water level thus rose to 1127 meters above mean sea level as against danger the level of 1123 meters. This caused widespread devastation in the district and even the district headquarter was not spared. Heavy rains and resulting flash floods resulted in washing off of a great number of vehicular and pedestrian bridges including motor bridge at Gangori on the Rishikesh – Gangotri National Highway. The entire area ahead of Gangori was physically cut off from the outside world. In the Asi Ganga valley many stretches of Gangori – Sangam Chatti motor road were washed away as was the motor bridge over Asi Ganga near Kaphnaul. A number of stretches of the Rishikesh – Gangotri National Highway and numerous other connecting roads were also washed away. Connectivity to as many as 85 villages was disrupted. The disaster caused widespread devastation in the area. Besides this there was huge damage to infrastructure, residences and agricultural land.

AKS Hope was part of the Cluster Disaster Response Team (CDRT) which met regularly at the KHW office in Dehradun and assisted in the distribution of dry rations to 600 families from five remote villages of Bhatwari block Of Uttarkashi. In the second phase of relief and in consultation with IAG, NGOs and Disaster Mitigation and Management Centre of Uttarakhand it is decided to provide solar lamps possibly with mobile chargers. 100 bare foot solar lamps have already been procured. Discussions are on with CII and UREDA for solar lighting as well. The aim is to provide a solar light to each family in eight villages of the Sangamchatti area. This will be approximately 1000 lights. As the lead NGO for Barefoot solar AKS Hope project will be coordinating the acquisition of the solar lights.



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