

ANNUAL REPORT FOR IAHV UK

April 2005 / March 2006



Summary

IAHV (UK) has been in operation for two years since becoming a registered charity in April 2004. Moving on from the laying of foundations for IAHV in the first year (legal, structural, financial), the second year has focused on creating awareness of IAHV within the UK and internationally (particularly in Europe). New partnerships have been formed and consolidated. By the end of the year nearly £89,400 had been fundraised, almost double the previous year. IAHV has now reached the stage where it is necessary to grow nationally to include regions across the UK and to begin to work more strategically with partners internationally.

IAHV's role in the UK is to perform the following functions:

- Raising funds to support the IAHV programmes and Art of Living 'human values' projects worldwide and in the UK.
- Promoting awareness of the importance of Human Values at all levels.
- Providing an official vehicle for Service (SEVA) activities in the UK for suitable projects.

IAHV plans to promote its supporters group to increase membership in 2006/7 in order to increase awareness of and participation in IAHV activities and fundraising.

Activities

In terms of raising awareness IAHV took a stand at the Glastonbury Festival, which is a perfect target audience for the message of IAHV. It was very successful and promoted a lot of interest. Radio interviews were taken and an interview given for a documentary on the festival. Much experience was gained and lessons learned for future promotion.

IAHV UK launched a national website (www.iahv.uk.org) linked to the international IAHV website. Its features include UK activities, a supporters' page and contacts for its regional centres across the UK.

Donations have come from all over the country. Awareness of the role and function of IAHV is increasingly understood generally and more people are coming forward with donations and to participate in and front projects. For much of the year many projects were 'put on the back burner' as the main focus was raising funds for the Art of Living Foundation One World Family fund.

One World Family Fund

Art of Living Foundation's Silver Jubilee celebration in Bangalore from February 17 – 19, witnessed the inauguration of the launch for the largest global humanitarian project ever undertaken, the 'One World Family Fund'. This consolidated fund will be used to support Art of Living and IAHV's internationally acclaimed educational and humanitarian services, and social programmes.

This centralised Fund will enable the Art of Living Foundation and IAHV to develop long-term strategies that will help extend its reach into the community and to respond immediately to global disasters and situations as needed.

IAHV UK is a registered in the United Kingdom (Registered Charity No. 1103261).

A brainchild of His Holiness Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the need for such a fund was born in the wake of the consecutive disasters experienced over the past year or so. As organizations across the globe struggled for resources, Art of Living / IAHV realized that there was valuable time being spent in fund-raising during disaster relief. The fund combats this and through its establishment, AOL will be able to strategically allocate resources to help support and further its voluntary-based engagements within the community.

The North London group headed by Keerti Mathur organised a very impressive benefit concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall with internationally acclaimed artists Kaushiki Chakrabarty and Talvin Singh. The concert raised £31,283.00 of which £6000.00 was put aside for an orphanage in Jaffna, Sri Lanka as part of Art of Living's tsunami relief and rehabilitation efforts. The balance went to the AOL Silver Jubilee Capital fund; an international fund dedicated to international service projects and emergency efforts.

Additional fundraising efforts raised over £24,802 and included a sponsored parachute jump, street collections in London and personal donations.

Euro-a-Day

This programme provides a value-based education and schools for children in the rural and city slum areas of India. IAHV contributes to the support of over 100 schools across the country, the largest being just outside Bangalore, with 1000 pupils. The children are mainly first generation literate and are provided with books, uniform, a good lunch, and transport to school, as well as a good education. IAHV (UK) raised £6,395 from individuals including 15 regular donors. Euro-a-Day brochures, gift aid forms enabling tax relief and promotional CDs have been forwarded to satsang groups around the UK to encourage greater awareness and fundraising.

Tsunami Relief



A further £15,774 was raised for tsunami relief and rehabilitation efforts being carried out by Art of Living and IAHV in the affected areas of Tamil Nadu, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The funds raised have contributed to the building of new homes, orphanages, schools and vocational training for men and women in the tsunami hit regions.

PrisonSMART

This is a course adapted specifically for Prisons using the Art of Living's stress relieving breathing techniques. It has been established worldwide to be very beneficial for both the inmates and the prison staff.

PrisonSMART in Kosovo

IAHV provided the funding to support an extremely successful series of PrisonSMART courses to prison staff and inmates in seven prisons in Kosovo. Over the year the courses were attended by 1500 prisoners, civil and uniformed staff bringing together Albanian, Serbian, Bosnian, Roma and Turkish nationals rebuilding lives, breaking down tensions and barriers and improving lives and both personal and working relationships within the prison service. The courses provided training in the management of difficult emotions and stressful situations unlike any received previously and were very well received.



Ago Kolic, Director of Peja prison stated "Our staff members have been impressed by the effectiveness of this programme. They have reported an experience of deep peace, contentment, self-esteem and empowerment. Their reports show the potential of the PrisonSMART programme to bring positive transformation. The programme brings practical ways to get rid of toxins and to maintain a state of inner well being on a day to day basis."

PrisonSMART in UK

Stress releasing courses have been offered in UK prisons. The first courses took place in Guernsey in 2003 and are regularly conducted there. Prison officers have now started to enrol on courses. Last year PrisonSMART began courses in two huge prisons in Doncaster, Yorks. IAHV has since been invited to teach in three more UK prisons (courses being completed at HMP Lindholme in 2006). Courses have now successfully commenced in HMP High Down. HMP High Down is a 'remand prison' with 736 prisoners in South East London.

Pakistan Earthquake Relief

IAHV has allocated £3,625 to the Pakistan earthquake relief efforts being coordinated by IAHV/ Art of Living. The Guernsey group and Fatima Jiwajee in North London carried out excellent fundraising efforts.

F o r t h c o m i n g p r o j e c t s

The following projects are to be sponsored.

1. Ivory Coast YLTs

IAHV has allocated £5,000 to Youth Leadership Training Programmes in the Ivory Coast. This is an established and successful programme for training and empowering the local youth to improve the standards of living in their impoverished rural communities in the fields of Health, hygiene, homes, human values and the creation of a sense of community. The training, with government approval and support is being led by an experienced team of Art of Living teachers backed by a good team of volunteers. The funds will be spent training 50 young people. The programmes will also take place in Ghana and Cameroon. The project is due to commence in June 2006.

2. Other African Projects

Efforts are underway to strengthen relationships with contacts in Africa and identify appropriate projects in funding.

3. Irish Youth Projects

IAHV UK has been working with the Irish chapter of an international youth organisation called Peace Child International. A peace conference is planned for young people from the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland where there has been much conflict between the Catholic and Protestant communities. IAHV UK will collaborate with PCI to promote youth based and focused projects across Ireland.



4. Kashmir Orphanage

IAHV UK has been approached to fundraise for an orphanage and school in Kashmir set up after the recent earthquake devastated communities in the area.

5. Euro-a-day

Funds raised within the UK under the name of Euro-A-Day will continue to fund the building and equipping of schools, teachers and teaching materials, uniforms, transport, medical and dental care, and cooked meals for disadvantaged children in India.

6. Kosovo

IAHV UK has been funding a series of prison courses in Kosovo over the last few years. This has been very successful with 1500 participants benefiting from the courses. Support is likely to continue with funds being provided for follow up courses in seven prisons in Kosovo over the following year.

Financial overview

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IAHV UK for year ended 5th April 2006	GBP Sterling (£)
Euro-a-Day	4,655.00
Tsunami Relief	13,326.48
<i>One World Family Fund:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Queen Elizabeth Hall Benefit Concert- Parachute jump- Personal donations- London Street collections- London Underground collections	58,778.16
Africa Projects Related Donations	1,920.00
Miscellaneous donations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jaffna contribution from Benefit Concert- Pakistan Earthquake Relief Efforts- Guernsey Street Collection- London Children's Art Competition and Auction	9,847.00
Gift aid payments by the government for tax relief on donations	8,398.36
<i>Total Income</i>	96,925.00
Donations made from above income and funds carried over.	
Euro-a-Day	3,545.00
Tsunami Relief Efforts	24,383.00
Jaffna (Sri Lanka) School	6,000.00
One World Family Fund	50,357.91
Kosovo Prison Programmes	2,988.18
Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts	1,029.00
<i>Total donations</i>	£88,303.10
Charity management costs and purchases	£480.00

Gift Aid Tax reclaims

As a charity we have the opportunity to reclaim 28 pence for every one pound sterling donated from all private UK tax paying donors. We have already received £8,398.36 in gift aid tax reclaims from the Inland Revenue with more to be claimed.

We still need to do much to raise awareness about the importance of reclaiming gift aid from UK tax payers as funds continue to be raised without the submission of gift aid forms. Some monies raised for IAHV projects have been sent directly abroad to the international organisation, thus wasting the opportunity to benefit the donors and the charity with tax advantages. Also cheques are still collected without Gift Aid forms being requested.

An asset of IAHV over other organisations in fundraising is the assurance we can give to donors, that virtually all the money given goes direct to the nominated causes. Nothing is deducted in the UK. Very little is taken in India for overheads and expenses. Those who carry out the jobs are, for the very large part, volunteers.

Trustees and Working Committee

Currently the trustees of IAHV UK are: Sue Hindle, Jenny Pruess, Radhe Chellaram, and Gitanjali Bedi. Sadly, one of our trustees, Manu Makija, passed away in May last year. Manu made a huge contribution to IAHV and the promotion of this work. He is sadly missed. The Working Committee consists of Sue Hindle, Charles Appleby, Gordon Herral and Gitanjali Bedi.

The year ahead

IAHV has a full and challenging year ahead as it continues to build awareness of the importance of human values at all levels of society through its activities nationally and internationally. IAHV must continue to fundraise to support international AOL and IAHV programmes around the world and be ready to respond to disasters such as the tragic events experienced in the last 18 months.

Within the UK, IAHV will continue to strengthen its presence across the country with the establishment of regional centres in Birmingham, Doncaster, Edinburgh, Guernsey, London Leicester, North West England and Norfolk.