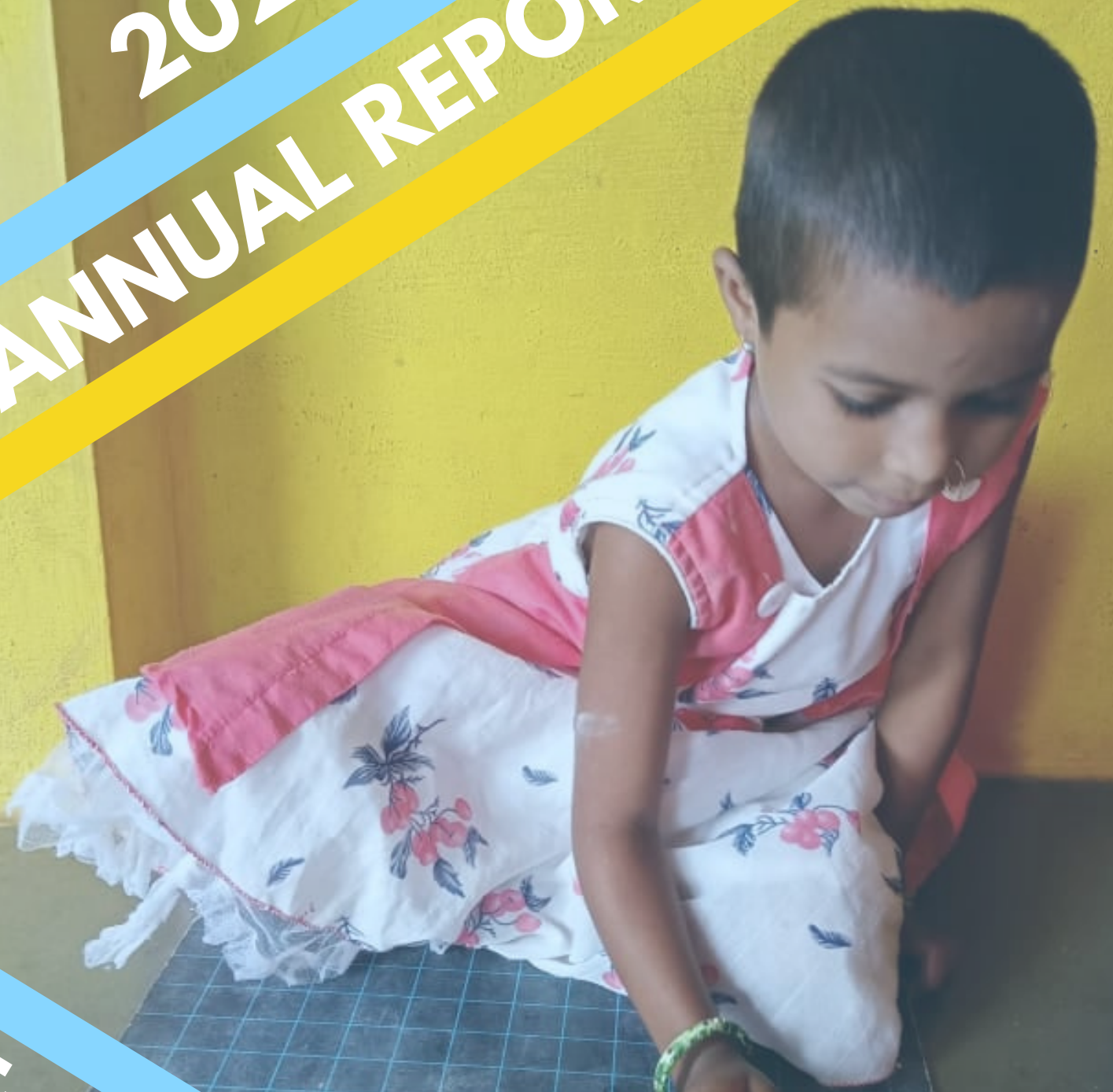


2021

ANNUAL REPORT



Friends of Aseema

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Thank you for making possible our second full year of operations. In the U.S., 2021 began with major disruptions from the pandemic before things opened up and looked quite hopeful, only to end with Omicron sweeping through the nation.

And yet ...

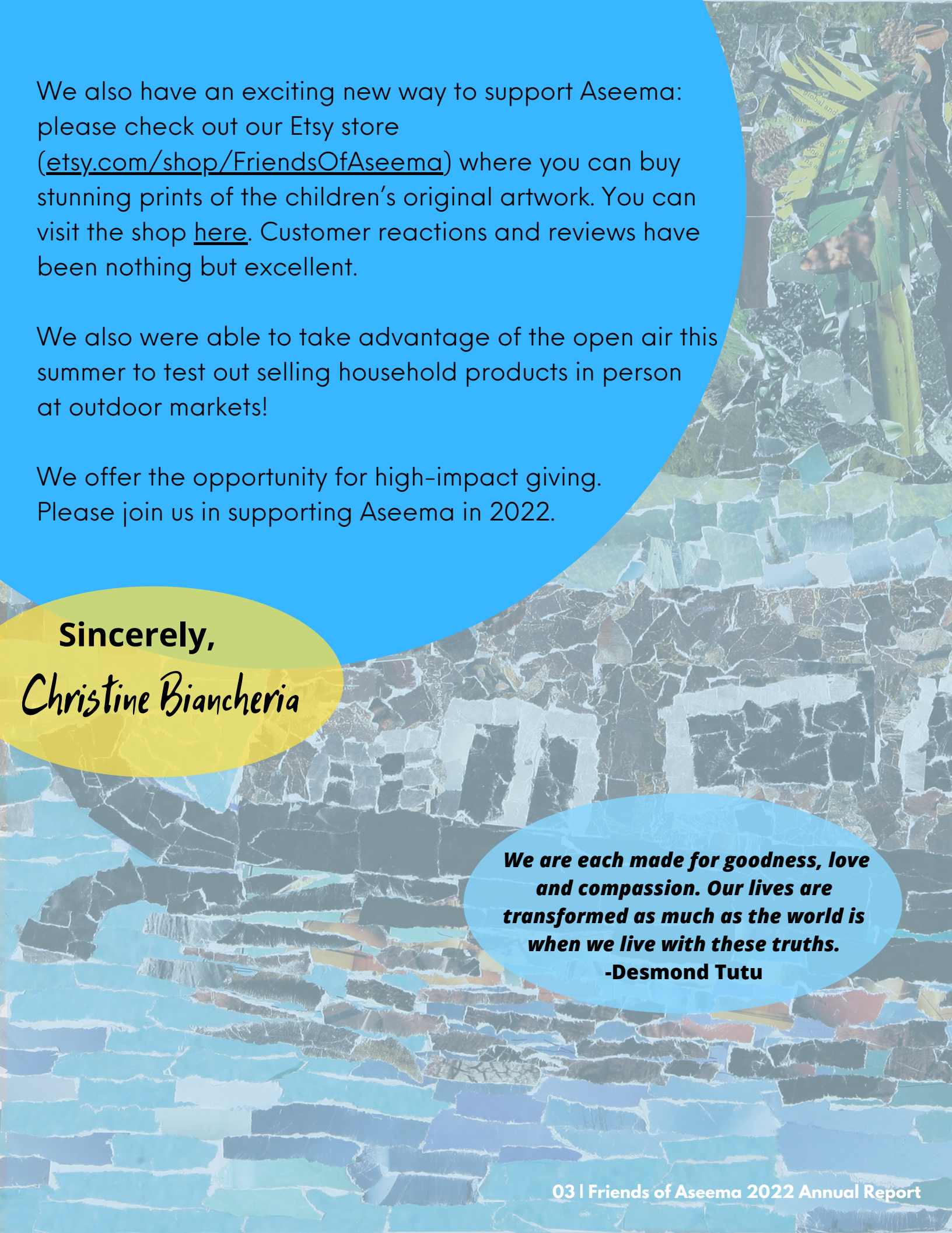
Despite the unknowns of 2021, donors like you helped Aseema launch its 25th year of providing secular, high-quality, value-based education and medical care to thousands of extremely marginalized slum children in Mumbai, and in a remote tribal region around Igatpuri.

You enabled us to send approximately \$134,000 in grants to the Aseema Charitable Trust. Your money supported programs such as combatting malnutrition, distributing clothing, and providing salaries to Aseema's amazing teachers and staff.

We operate through a grantmaking process, where grant requests made by Aseema are reviewed by our independent board of directors. This means that while we cannot take earmarked donations, your donations are sure to go directly to Aseema's greatest needs.



Aseema staff celebrating 25 amazing years!



We also have an exciting new way to support Aseema: please check out our Etsy store (etsy.com/shop/FriendsOfAseema) where you can buy stunning prints of the children's original artwork. You can visit the shop [here](#). Customer reactions and reviews have been nothing but excellent.

We also were able to take advantage of the open air this summer to test out selling household products in person at outdoor markets!

We offer the opportunity for high-impact giving. Please join us in supporting Aseema in 2022.

Sincerely,
Christine Biancheria

We are each made for goodness, love and compassion. Our lives are transformed as much as the world is when we live with these truths.
-Desmond Tutu

2021

At A Glance

Total Raised

\$105,000*

Total Sent to Aseema in Grants

\$135,000*



Raised Through:

Your Individual & Recurring Donations

Sale of Aseema Products Bearing Children's Art

House Parties, Facebook & Employer Matching Programs

4.5%* Overhead thanks to our all-volunteer efforts

***Figures are rounded and approximated**

The official registration and financial information of Friends of Aseema, Inc., may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



YOUR DONATIONS



WERE USED TO:



Provide clothing to students

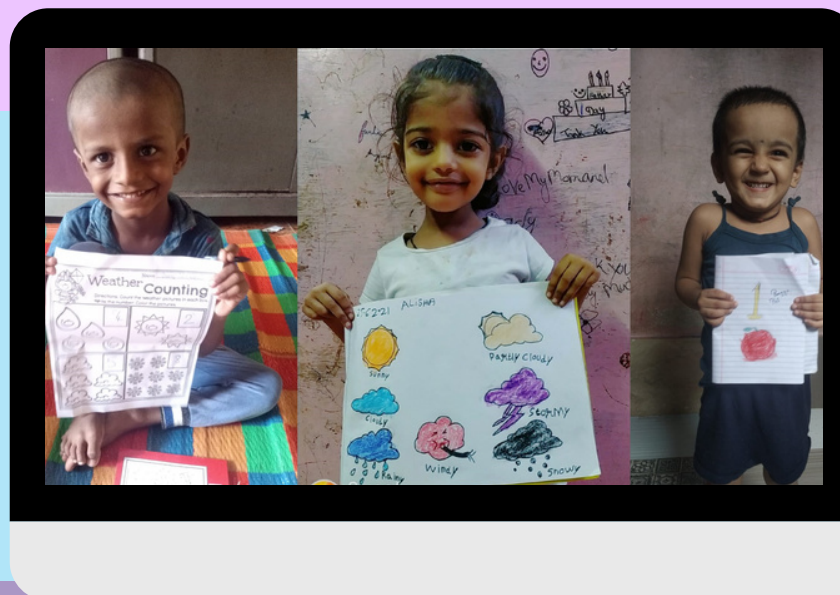
Aseema students have limited clothing, and your money helped fund clothing for students in the tribal region during very difficult times.

Provide remedial education

You helped give those children who need just a little extra attention the opportunity to move forward with their peers.

Facilitate remote learning

COVID-19 hit India hard, disproportionately affecting economically vulnerable families, such as those of Aseema students.



You helped Aseema adapt, pioneering remote learning to marginalized children by providing remote-learning devices.

YOUR DONATIONS



WERE USED TO:

Deliver nutritional aid to children

Families of Aseema students have been particularly hard-hit during the pandemic, experiencing limited opportunities for income and sustenance.

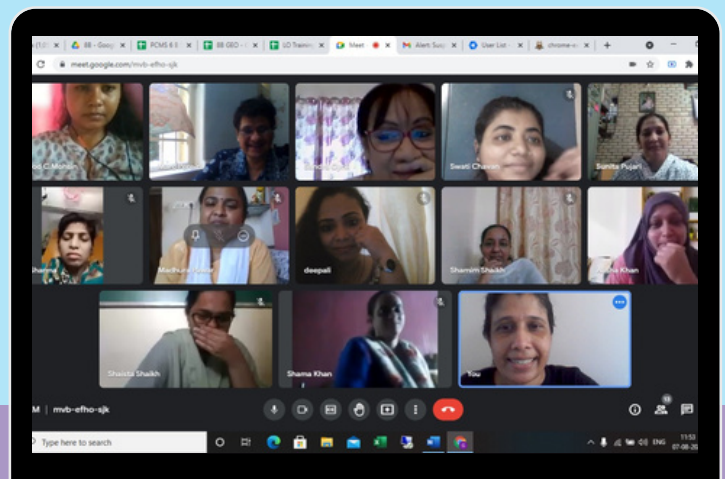


Using height and weight measurements and through contact with parents, Aseema identified children suffering from malnutrition. With your help, supplements such as protein powders were delivered to those children.

Support teacher & staff salaries & educational kits

Without Aseema's amazing teachers and staff, there would be no Aseema.

Donations allowed them to make ends meet while suffering the pandemic's effects. Their perseverance provided a model for the children and their families and allowed the children to continue learning.



VALUE-BASED EDUCATION

The goal of Aseema is to take more children and make their life better.

So, I am... I am not rich. I'm not from a good family also. But the teacher said that family doesn't matter...

It's upon you, that you have to work hard.

And the teachers are helping me. The school is helping me, so I can become a good person in life.



- Huzef Momin

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tb_SEiwjYU0

Pen Pal Project

Eight students from Aseema exchanged letters throughout the year with eight students from the USA. This cultural exchange built language and writing skills while forming connections across the world, sharing artwork and experiences.

This was especially important because students on both ends were on lockdown due to the pandemic.

Check out our  page!



We carry high quality prints of
Aseema student artwork



"Autumn Tree"
Ganesh Achari, Age 14



"Lighthouse"
Balakrishanan Arundhudyar, Age 17

[Visit it here!](#)



"Merman"
Manmohan Halwai, Age 14



"The Road Less Travelled"
Mukesh Prajapati, Age 14

ASEEMA SUCCESSIONS

Even in challenging times, Aseema students achieved a 100% pass rate on their SSC exams once again!



A CHAPTER OF ASEEMA HISTORY



In 2003, with a budget of under \$800, Aseema began an animation project to educate people on child labor.

The project transformed into a half-hour animated film that went on to win India's national award for Best Animation Film.

The award winning film remains as relevant today as ever, and speaks to challenges addressed by Aseema.

Check it out on the [Friends of Aseema youtube page](#)



Aseema's Chairperson receiving an award from the then-president of India

IN THEIR WORDS....

A Mumbai Aseema Parent

"My daughter studies at the Kherwadi Municipal School run by Aseema Charitable Trust. Since the last two months our family is suffering a lot due the unexpected nationwide lockdown. My husband was a salesman but he has lost his job. We live in a rented house and the home owner has been kind enough to waive off the rent for initial two months of the pandemic. Although this has given us some relief, there are other household expenses for which we do not have money. Due to our poor financial condition, I was unable to feed my children or even buy milk for them. I was worried that if my children do not eat nutritious food, their immunity would drop and they may become susceptible to a host of illnesses. But thanks to Aseema, we have received ration and stationery kits. I am now able to cook healthy food for my family. The ration kits have been very helpful and I am grateful to Aseema for their support."



A Mumbai Aseema Student

"Learning was always fun for me and I liked to study but due to this pandemic I felt I would not get an opportunity to learn further but, my school made it possible for me. They began online classes through WhatsApp and later through google meet. They also taught us how to use google forms. Online learning was also fun. I missed my school not fully because I got to see my teachers through live teaching on google meet. Every day before the class starts, teachers play meditation music which helps my mind to relax & I feel refreshed as I love music. I like to help my mummy in the kitchen with the help of Work experience class I was able to prepare healthy snacks with biscuits and bread. I would like to thank all my teachers for helping me & clarifying my doubts. I would also like to thank my school for helping me to enhance my knowledge."



THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

COUNT ON ME, \$2,500+

Nancy Bernstein
Ramona Fararo
Monish Gangwani
Moez and Marissa Kassam
Anonymous Donors (2)

Christine Biancheria in honor of Veronica Richards, who helped me get back onto my feet and path

Patricia Garber in honor of Chris Biancheria, Ian Pillar and Claire Pillar
Veronica Richards in memory of Deb Maliver

BEST FRIENDS, \$1,000 to \$2,499

Lynne E. Brown and Elizabeth Stokes
Susan Frietsche
Steven and Linda Pedlow
Rachel Myers
Aruna, Manasa and Ravi Sundaram
Anonymous Donors (3)

John J. O'Reilly in memory of Deborah Maliver
One in honor of Tony Soltis
One in honor of Mary Ashton

THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

FAST FRIENDS, \$250 to \$999

Jeffrey and Christine Bacher

Suzanne Badoux

Mark Belz

Judith Benstein

Mary Ann Benkoski

Nate Hirshberg

Ryan Hopkins

Nancy A. Hubley

M. Tyler Gillett

Carol Krupski

Gary D'Orso

John Paul MacDuffie

Sean Eaton Miller

Richard Pollack and Gabriela Vizcaino

Leila Richards

Aahana Anne Robin

Charles F. Singer III

Haresh Thakkar

Rhonda Wasserman

Levent Yarar

Anonymous Donors (6)

Judy Aqua in honor of Christine Biancheria

Barbara Ginn in memory of Mom/Bev/Nana

Judith M. Compher in memory of Jane Feuer

Shenu Lawrence Gupta in memory of Rama Rani Gupta

Ginny Hildebrand in honor of Jan Neffke

Cathy Raphael in honor of Christine Biancheria and

Susan Frietsche

One in honor of Jeffrey and Christine Bacher

THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

FRIENDS IN NEED UP TO \$250

Joe Adler	Margaret M. Cassidy & Paul Amato	Meg Frattare
Terry Aiello	Cynthia Chandler-Snell	Francois Furstenberg
Rosemary and Mike Alley	Lauren Charles	Helen Gallagher
Saumil Annegiri	Krishna Charukuri	Leon Ginn
Erik and Beth Arneson	Hitu Chawla	Satish Gupta
Kate Azar	Varad Chemburkar	Debra Hamilton
Laura Bacher	James Cole	Beverly Harris-Schenz
Linda Bacher	Stephanie C. Cooper	Jamison Henninger
Madhubanti Basu	Andrew Culbertson	Su Hirshberg
Martha Begley	Jackie Dempsey	Injae Hwang
John Biancheria	Kenneth M. Drake	Samit Jhaveri
Abby Block	Judy Ede	Candace Hirsch Johnson
Ute Bockstegers	Jodie Eakin	Alison Julien
Aneel Bole	Lesley Echols	Sadrija Kalezic
Theressa Bonne-Annee	Karen Edwards	Michael Khoury
Doug Brown	Karen Engro	Maneesha Kumar-Cleetus
Lisa Buckingham	John Ewing	Aarthi Madhana Kumar
Lucia Campbell	Sarah Fetterman	Francine Larson
Teresa Candori	Josiah Fiscus & the Fiscus Family	Mary Nora Leer
Rob Caron		Warren and Sharon Madden
		Ravi Marwaha

THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

FRIENDS IN NEED UP TO \$250, CONT'D

Rohan Mathur	Nancy Reese	Susan Smith
Mark Mauermann	Helen Renshaw	Anand Sooriamurthi
Jeffrey Micher	Carla Roehner	Santosh Sooriamurthi
Erin Miller	Avery Rothman	Amrita Sumal
Mindful Leadership	Schweta Sanghvi	Naga Surendran
Victor Mizrahi	Colleen E. Sari	Clifford Swackhammer
Rebecca Morse	Kathleen Schneider	Chris Tandlmayer
David Orenstein	Lori Schuneman	Kelly Theobald
Bernadette Paolo	Moneal Shah	Shylu Venkatesh
Tara Pfeifer	Ravi Sharma	Jeannie Wagner
Phyllis Ellis Popper	Alicia Slade	Beth Wray
Sourabh Pabhakar	Sasha Shapiro	Eileen Yacknin and Kipp Dawson
Ellie Price	Alan and Jennifer Shuckrow	Nathanial Yap
Pilla's Purpose	Brian Smith	Anonymous Donors (9)

Beverly Curtis in honor of Chris Biancheria

Jonathan Degann in honor of Chris Biancheria

Pooja K. in memory of Jagdish Konjier

Mark Kenny in honor of Sandy Waters' Facebook Fundraiser

Anne Kirchmier in honor of Christine Biancheria

Andrea London in honor of Chris Biancheria

Madhuri Murlikrishnan in memory of Murlikrishnan

Sandy Waters in honor of Beany Azar

One in honor of Sujatha E. and Viswalingam

One in memory of Lalitha Balakrishnan

One in honor of Sandy Waters

THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

STARS

Someone once said, “Good friends are like stars. You don’t always see them, but you know they’re always there.”

We would like to thank the many Microsoft employees who donated through a drive there, only a few of whose names appear in the list above.

A special thanks to Amazon for the Amazon Smile program as well.