



Impact Report

2022

Friends of
Asee a

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Learn more about Friends of Aseema, or contact us, at friendsofaseema.org

Friends of Aseema is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation organized under Pennsylvania law. 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.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

This year, Aseema celebrated its 25th year of providing secular, high-quality education and medical care to thousands of children living in poverty in Mumbai and Igatpuri, a remote tribal region. The children of Aseema wrote and recorded this [this song](#) to celebrate!

We at Friends of Aseema are proud to join hands to help this effort through opportunities for high-impact giving and cross-cultural friendship. This past year, we were able to help Aseema in several ways through our grants, which will enhance student learning, expand Aseema's reach, and improve school facilities. Read more about these opportunities on page 6.

After hard (and often fun) work throughout 2022 by volunteers and Friends of Aseema officers, we are pleased to announce that we have a special board game coming soon to stores near you. Learn more about it on pages 8-9!

Many people showed interest this year in a new entry to our "Aseema Stories" series all about the history of Aseema's school serving one of India's tribal regions around Igatpuri. If you missed it, [here](#) is the article.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Friends of Aseema, thank you for opening your hearts to our mission in supporting the work of the Aseema Charitable Trust.



Friends of Aseema President Christine Biancheria (left), traveling to India in 2022 to visit Aseema schools, students, and staff, such as Asmita Kakade, from Aseema's products division

Christine Biancheria
President, Friends of Aseema

OUR STORY SO FAR



OUR SUCCESS

Established in 2019, Friends of Aseema, a 501(c)(3) US non-profit corporation, was developed to raise funds and awareness to help support Aseema Charitable Trust's schools for severely marginalized children. Through donors like you, we've been able to send over more than \$275,000 to Aseema's schools!

Aseema schools provide Montessori education to some of the world's most vulnerable children, providing them with safety, scholarship, medical care, and hope for a brighter future.

With your donations we have been able to directly fund:

- Computer Labs
- Food and Medicine During Covid
- Clothing and Family Support
- Building Restoration and Repair
- Educational Materials
- Transportation to Schools
- Educational Technology
- Health Insurance to Teachers and Staff

These are only a few ways we have been able to support Aseema students.

We believe wholeheartedly in the limitless potential of every child. The education we fund is a model for the world, demonstrating that education infused with understanding and flexibility of thought can permit a child to rise above even the direst of circumstances.



\$275,000+

DISTRIBUTED BY GRANTS
TO ASEEMA SCHOOLS
THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.
THANK YOU!

2022

At A Glance

Total Raised

\$104,000



Total Sent to Aseema in Grants

\$70,000



Reallocation of funds (at Aseema's Request)

\$27,000

Your support in 2022 helped fund education and support for **2,951 students directly** and another **3,188 students indirectly!**

Fees & Expenses

~6%

Why mention fees & expenses?

While we are a volunteer organization, and none of our officers, board members, or volunteers receive any payment, like any organization, there are costs associated with running Friends of Aseema, such as corporate insurance, accounting fees, and donation vendor fees.

*Figures are rounded and approximated

Funded Projects in 2022



\$21,000 went to provide sponsorship of two grades at two different schools and upgrades to a computer lab for students.



\$50,000 went to medical insurance for staff and an endowment to support sustainability for Aseema.

\$27,000 went to refurbishing a new school that was allocated to Aseema to accommodate a growing student enrollment, and which will open soon. The building was in need of urgent repairs before it would be safe for students to attend.



25 YEARS OF ASEEMA

2022 marked Aseema Charitable Trust's 25th year in providing high quality, holistic education to children from marginalized communities.

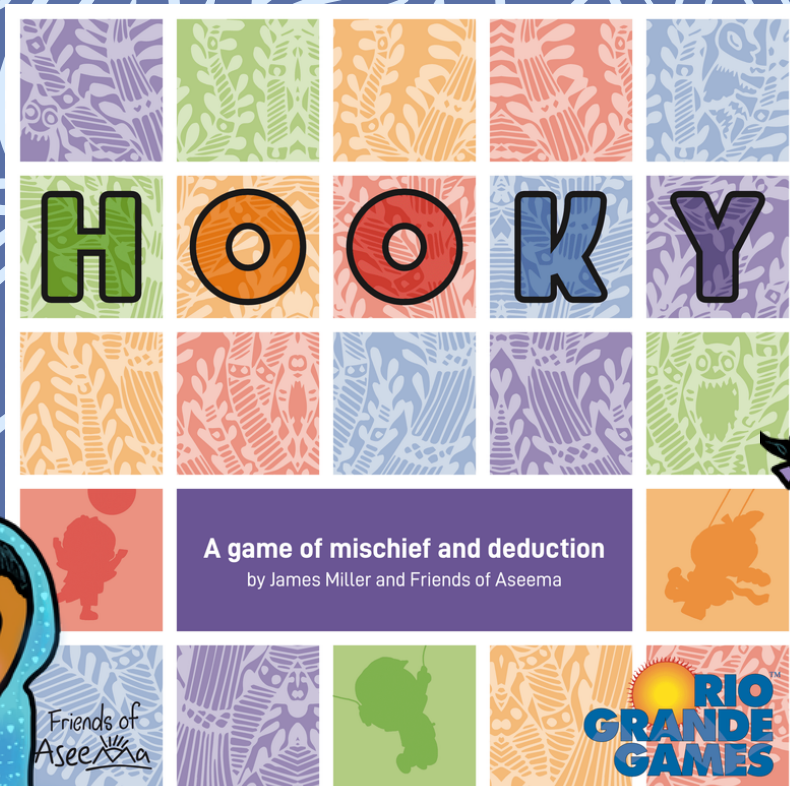


Students, teachers, and the community celebrated this amazing milestone.



You can check out the celebration [here](#), which includes dances by the students themselves!

A New Way to Raise Awareness – a Board Game!



Several years ago, our President Christine Biancheria was chatting with her friend James Miller, with whom she shared a passion for board games. He was also one of Friends of Aseema's earliest supporters.

"Maybe Friends of Aseema could design a game to raise funds and awareness," said Christine.

"Take mine," said James. It turned out that James had already sketched out the concept for a board game—and he thought it would be a perfect fit.

Though James died in 2020, his dream of creating a board game continued through the dedication of Friends of Aseema volunteers.





In 2022, Hooky, the game based on James's concept, came to colorful life.

Volunteer Tessa Samuelson created the illustrations, using photos of real Aseema students engaged in school and extracurriculars as inspiration for the characters—and who you can see decorating this annual report! Additional imagery used in the game was designed by Aseema's own students.

Volunteers created a prototype of the game and worked for more than a year to test it, tweak it, and finish it.

We are happy to announce that after many hours of hard work (and quite a bit of fun), Hooky will be published in 2023 by [Rio Grande Games](#), and proceeds benefit Friends of Aseema! Keep an eye out for more information soon.



What is Hooky?

It is morning before school starts, and in the chaos, your job as a homeroom teacher is to figure out which three are missing. The aim of this game is to use word clues to deduce which of the students are missing from school today.

THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

COUNT ON ME, \$2,500+

**A special recognition of Moez and Marissa Kassam
for extraordinary generosity over \$20,000 - Thank you!**

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Aruna & Ravi Sundaram

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Patricia Garber in honor of Christine Biancheria
Veronica Richards in memory of Deborah S. Maliver
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THANK YOU: LIST OF DONORS

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