

**Annual Report
2009-10**

Message from Chairman

Dear Friends

This year the Joining Hands team continues creating awareness on volunteering by presentations, workshops, training and networking. More and more colleges are exposing their students to the social development sector by involving them with NGOs working towards achieving Millennium Development Goals

Volunteering by individuals in India is an old tradition but volunteering in a formal and structured way is now gaining popularity. Not only local Indian volunteers but also volunteers from all over the world connect through us for volunteering engagements with our partner NGOs. Joining Hands has now more than 45 partner NGOs and our network is growing continuously.

Our corporate volunteering program was expanded by offering wider employee volunteering opportunities. Such initiatives help bridge the distance between the development sector and the corporate sector, as they sensitize prospective corporate employees towards the social sector.

I would like to thank all volunteers for giving their invaluable contribution to the social sector, our NGO partners, corporations and all those who believe and support our work, and most of all the dedicated members of the Joining Hands team

Yours Sincerely

Ardeshir B K Dubash

Chairman

Vision

To influence positive social change

Mission

The **mission** of Joining Hands is 'to bridge the distance between people by providing opportunities to individuals to influence positive social change through an exchange of ideas, knowledge, skills and learning by facilitating volunteering in India's social development sector'.

Introduction

Joining Hands, a non-profit organization was established in Nov 2006 with an aim to provide qualitative input for making volunteering more credible and accountable. We work on creating an alignment between the volunteers and NGOs. Joining Hands sensitizes and facilitates volunteering/internships of individuals/students from colleges and universities across the world; collaborates with Corporations to encourage corporate employees to volunteer with NGO's working on social development projects, which could benefit from their support and expertise.



Joining Hands addresses the need of NGOs to access unaffordable but much required skills and professional talent, as well as the aspiration of a section of people who believe in social change and want to contribute their time, skills and talent for the benefit of the community, but are uncertain about the approach and methods to be adopted. We act as an interface between our partner NGO's and the aspiring individual or corporate to come together on issues which engage them to work towards a common cause.

To ensure a meaningful contribution we make sure that our volunteers get the opportunity to work in NGOs committed to social change and to support millennium development goals, in rural and urban India; in programs that best match their skills, area of interest, expertise, and time availability. These organizations work at the grassroots level with diverse communities on varied social issues and positively impact the lives of people. We aim at a win-win situation in which not only the NGO, but also the volunteer benefits from the collaboration. This kind of active input to the development sector can mean enrichment for both parties.

Our well-structured processes ensure that one is participating in a program designed to deliver optimum results.

Programs

1 Volunteer Management:

2 Voluntourism

3 Workshops and Training

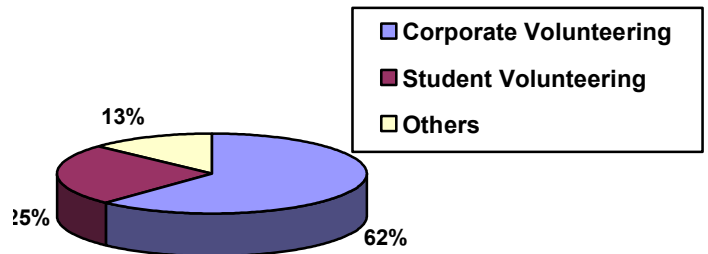
Fact file

A very important tool in our volunteer management program's growth has been our website. Timely updating of volunteering opportunities on our website has attracted more professionals, homemakers and retired personnel who have made meaningful contributions by volunteering with our partner NGOs.

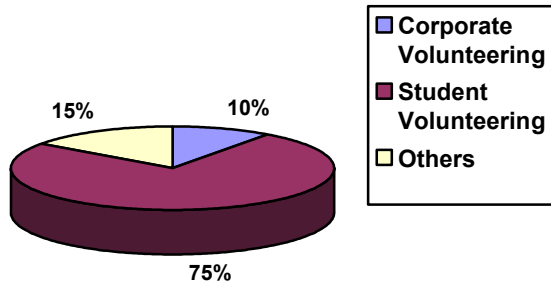
1. Volunteer management

In 2009 –2010 Joining Hands has facilitated 5291 hrs. of volunteering with our partner NGOs that work at the grassroots level on a variety of social issues like education, health, equal rights, environment, social interaction and rural development and have already positively impacted the lives of hundreds of people living in socially deprived circumstances. Many women have been helped by programs defending equal rights, many children of all ages have had chances to develop through literacy programs and other educational activities, many lives have been improved by well-developed health and awareness programs.

To involve more and more student groups, Joining Hands gave presentations to college students from Lal Bahadur Shastri College of Management, New Delhi; Army Institute of Education, New Delhi; School of Inspired Leadership, Gurgaon; Tata Institute of Social Science, Guwahati; Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi; to name a few. Our ongoing investment in our volunteering program will enable us to effectively and positively keep on impacting the lives of many of India's most disadvantaged people.



2009 -10 has been an exciting and challenging year for Joining Hands. In undertaking to develop a firm base for the expansion of its Volunteering Management program, we have while maintaining levels achieved earlier for placement of volunteers, enhanced corporate participation by 47%.



Volunteer hrs. 2009 -10

Student Volunteering

In 2009-10, 25% student volunteering resulted in 75% of total volunteering hrs. Translating them into tangible numbers, students volunteered for 3978 hours, out of a total of 5291 volunteering hours, facilitated by Joining Hands. This benefited not only communities through Joining Hands partner NGOs but the NGOs themselves, e.g-

- Websites and other promotional material were developed for NGO's where none existed
- Impact and evaluations of NGO run projects were undertaken in order to improve upon and enhance their functioning
- MIS developments were carried out.

Student groups are involved with Joining Hands for social initiatives and social innovation programs. Our Indian student volunteers come from institutes like BITS Pilani, Delhi University, JNU, and IIIT, to name a few. We are associated with IIFT (Indian

Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi) and SOIL (School of Inspired Leadership, Gurgaon). The students bring in their classroom learning and innovative ideas, subject knowledge and assist with strategies connected to capacity building, branding and networking.

College students from all over the world get a chance to do their internship in an evaluated and trustworthy NGO through us.

It is not always easy to find credible NGOs when you are in another country. Joining Hands tries to fill in this gap and makes sure that the Interns' profile, expectations, skills and time are well matched with the NGO. The interns/volunteers get a chance to use their skills and knowledge in a different, more challenging cultural environment and also develop new skills like flexibility, empathy etc. Students from International Universities have completed their internships through Joining Hands on different issues like health, education and also been connected to organizations that work to promote gender equality and women empowerment. In the process of their internship/volunteering, they become highly involved. Often their enthusiasm and active participation leads to highlighting more vital issues and creation of new projects.

Corporate Volunteering



Our perspective on CSR



Corporate volunteering not only makes corporate philanthropy more effective, it gives a company an edge over others in recruiting and retaining employees. Besides motivating

employees to greater commitment and facilitating team spirit, corporate volunteering also benefits the corporate, as employees become adept at working in varied environments thereby enhancing their ability to provide solutions.

Fact file



Intern Ieva Lace from Netherlands came to Joining Hands to conduct her research on Corporate Social Responsibility. Ieva found Joining Hands a good platform not only for her thesis but also got a chance to explore project planning and execution when, as part of a study tour to Sidhbari in Himachal Pradesh she planned a project called "Smile Connects". She also raised funds, coordinated and executed the project with the support of Joining Hands Team and fifteen volunteers (including professional doctor, two theater teachers, and international students in Delhi). The project was executed in Kapashera, New Delhi, where 100 slum children were taught basic health and hygiene.

Fact file

An interesting fall out of corporate volunteering that came about through presentations is that, WNS a leading BPO, while volunteering through Joining Hands retained us for one of their CSR project planning and its related fund management in Delhi.

2. Voluntourism

In the past few years, sustainability has gained more and more attention in general life, and also in the tourism sector. Many travelers are starting to discover the concept of sustainable tourism and feel the need to maximize their stay and make it a meaningful one. The answer to this growing need is voluntourism, combining as it does vacation travel with volunteering at the destination visited. It integrates the best of

tourism – culture, nature, art and recreation - with the opportunity to serve and enhance the destination – its people and its milieu. Joining Hands offers a variety of voluntourist opportunities to contribute to a local community like visit, interact and exchange information with underprivileged children or get involved in workshops like pottery, fabric dyeing, making lac jewelry etc.



Fact File-

First voluntourism activity-April 2009

Joining Hands was happy to receive its first voluntourists in April 2009. Some tourists from America (who were part of 'Global Scavengers Hunt') visited us to get engaged in a voluntourist activity. They were engaged in teaching basic hygiene to children of our partner NGO

September 2009

The first activity motivated them to come back and teach the same set of children about interesting and colourful life present underwater.

Benefit to the NGO and children- Donation of digital camera for documentation purpose, Tools of basic hygiene and exposure and understanding of fascinating underwater world.

In their own words-

"We were sent to a school in basically the slum area of Delhi. We had students there from ages 3-16. We helped out with the English class for the older students. We also bought toothbrushes for the students and I gave them a demonstration on brushing their teeth and told them how important it was to do it twice a day. The little ones sang songs for us. Read us their essays and just had as much fun I think, as we did- Bev and Buz.

3. Workshop and Training

Joining Hands conducts capacity-building workshops with youth, corporations and NGOs in 'Development of volunteers' and 'Effective utilization of volunteers'



Volunteering Week by Joining Hands (Nov 29- Dec 6, 2009)



Fact file

Training workshop was organized in September 2009. Members from 12 NGOs participated in the workshop.

Some views are

"Learnt to use the abilities and strengths of volunteers more effectively in specific time bound action plan." Uzma, Coordinator, Aastha

"Learnt importance of fixing Key Result Areas for volunteers and systematic approach towards volunteering" Piali Bhattacharya, Breakthrough

"Case studies and talk by invitee volunteers made us see with clarity and transparency, the perspective of both the sides, Volunteer and NGO" Bhanu Seth, Can Support

'Volunteer to make a difference and join hands to influence positive social change'

To commemorate International Volunteer Day and reach a wider audience for spreading our message, we celebrated volunteering week from November 29-December 6, 2009. As part of the initiative, we invited corporations to join and involve with us in our efforts to influence and motivate more people to volunteer, by reaching out to the community during this period. Philips and WNS came on board with us by volunteering with our partner NGOs Divya Chaya, Literacy India and Sai Kripa



What Philips had to say:

"Had it not been for this wonderful initiative by Joining Hands (JH), we would have missed this opportunity of meeting the next generation of our country. JH was most supportive, understanding and helpful. The program management was laudable. Their behind the scene efforts made it all seem seamless. They helped us reach the corners where our little gesture made a positive difference in someone's life. 3 cheers to the entire team of JH. It was a pleasure holding a quiz for such bright minds, their enthusiasm was commendable and their laughter contagious. It was wonderful to meet a dedicated group of people at Literacy India who are nurturing the future of our country. I came back filled with hope and happiness. What touched my heart was the genuine bond of affection between the teachers and the students. The toddlers were all sharp and smart, no doubt for the time and efforts by the members of Divya Chaya. It is appreciable what Divya Chaya is doing for these children"- **Swapnil, Philips**

"It was great to interact with the children in Palam Vihar. They surprised us with their rather good general knowledge and their enthusiasm was infectious. They seemed eager to win and yet compete in the right spirit, having fun at the same time. It was good to be back in school too! All in all, an enriching experience." **Ritwik**

December 2 and 4, 2009

Quiz contests for children in Delhi and Gurgaon were one of the events proposed by Joining Hands. Philips India sponsored the events on 2nd December at Divya Chaya Trust and on 4th December at Literacy India, including gifts for all the children, prizes and snacks. It was a very interactive session and a fun way to encourage and promote learning amongst the students and also brought refreshing change and much joy to the children.

December 6, 2009

A monument walk to Qutub Minar was organized on 6th December 2009 for the children of our partner NGO Sai Kripa. Employees of WNS, India spent a day with the children. The children were also treated to food of their choice at a MacDonalD Restaurant. It was a great outing for the children and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience



What some of the volunteers from WNS have to say about the experience with the children:

JASPAL SINGH: It was a great trip. I felt like a child again. I would love to be a part of such a wonderful experience again. Those children were very sweet and innocent. I am thankful to the organizers for such a wonderful trip.

RAHUL JAIN: It was an exhilarating trip. The activities with those children was more like a picnic, it was totally fun filled. That entire event made our day.

POONAM RAWAT: It was a very nice experience being with those children. Make them smile; make them learn, it was all great fun. Looking forward for such events in future too.

SWATI SAHNI: It was a wonderful experience to be a part of such a noble cause. It is beautiful to feel that our presence and time spent with them brought smile and memorable moments in their lives. Hope to see them again and be a part of this noble cause. Thanks to everyone who made it possible for us to join.

VISHWANATH: It was great to be a part of such a wonderful experience being with children. Really like the way the trip was planned. The children were really nice, enjoyable and fun filled. Told about the trip to my friends and they are also very excited about that. Look forward for such a trip in the near future. I am thankful to the organizers for their plan, execution and support.

SaiKripa

Anjina Rajagopal, Executive Director (Saikripa):

We highly appreciate the volunteers and would like to thank Joining Hands for facilitating the visit to Qutub Minar for the children of Balkutir

Volunteer Highlights

Education



Smita Lamba, an English teacher by profession is a long term volunteer at Bal Kutir, shelter home for children at NOIDA. Thanks to her efforts, children have shown remarkable improvement in English both spoken as well as written, which has also visibly resulted in these children exhibiting more self-confidence.

Aruna Keswan, MSC Physics and Maths, taught intensive maths and science to class X board students. Her efforts were highly appreciated by Literacy India.



16 year old Eshan Gupta from Dubai American Academy, Dubai used interesting techniques to teach computers to children at Jamghat's Lado Sarai home for boys.



Kritika Govil pursuing an undergrad degree from USA, taught Science, English and Social Studies under the Summer Training program at Greater Noida home for girls, Udayan Care.



Isha Chawla a theatre person and a very committed volunteer from Mumbai worked with differently abled children at Khusboo Welfare Society, Gurgaon and helped them stage a play. She also developed the props for the play.

Income Generation



Yati Sahae from California taught Umang, Ranikhet, Uttarakhand easy ways to make delectable marmalade as part of their income generating activity.



Koen, an Intern from HUB Brussels, Belgium provided invaluable inputs to Jan Kala Sahitya

Manch Sansthan, Jaipur, and Rajasthan on Fair Trade practices. He researched on fair trade; its minimum requirements, policies and procedures to help the NGO get enrolled with Fair Trade Forum.

Anil Sood, an IT professional volunteered to help with IT related support and also helped in getting DOEACC accreditation for the Computer center at Literacy India.

Health

Aarti Manchanda, MBBS, who is now in US for further studies took Health and Hygiene sessions for teachers and student at Literacy India's Neb Sarai Centre.. She made a power point presentation which the centre uses to train staff and students

Communication

Interns from IIFT under their 'Social Responsibility Awareness Program' were successful in getting two companies to sponsor designing and printing of Joining Hands brochures.

Corporate Volunteering



WNS corporate volunteering and sponsorships for Sai Kripa benefited the children of Bal Kutir (shelter

home) through special workshops on Aloha way of learning Maths, Art & Craft and Personality Development that were conducted through the year.



The main objective behind the workshops was to enhance children's ideas and creativity through learning, play way methods as well as inculcate confidence-building life skills in them. The emphasis was also on imparting basic painting skills and assistance to design and create innovative products through craft.

Joining Hands Participations

July 2009

A two day Blue Ocean Strategy Workshop was attended at School of Inspired Leadership. Prof. George Eapen led the workshop.

January 2010

Attended two day conference at SOIL on the topic 'Open Space' facilitated by Anne Stadler

February 2010

Attended two days National Convention organized by VANI- Voluntary Action Network India.

Acknowledgments

Joining Hands would like to thank WNS, our corporate partner for their continued support. Oil India for a donation that helped us organize workshops for volunteers and NGOs; Great Escape Foundation and Indian Institute of Foreign Trade for supporting our programs; Wall communications for designing, and Design Concepts for printing Joining Hands brochures; our partner NGOs for their support and individual donors who have helped us in our endeavours.

Support us

You can contribute to our efforts by donating to Joining Hands. Your donations will help us support our programs. Cheques can be made payable to 'Joining Hands'.

Registration details

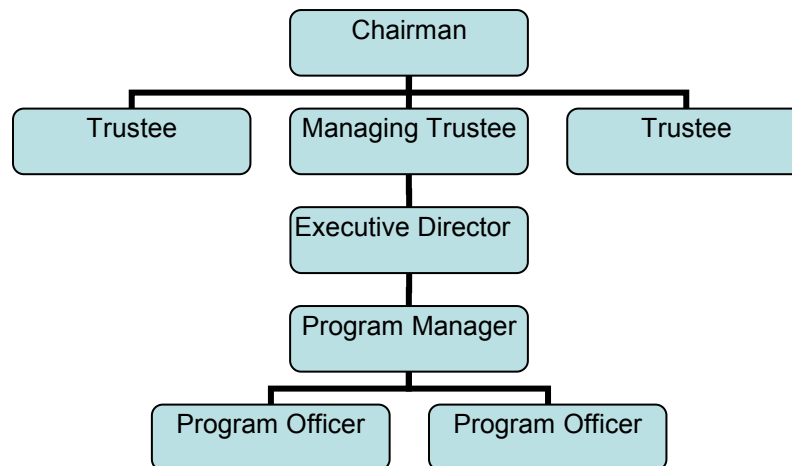
Joining Hands is registered under The Indian Trust Act of 1882.

Joining Hands is registered with Income Tax Department under section 12A.

No. DIT (E) 2006-2007/J0756/1642 dated 01- 03 -2007

All contributions to Joining Hands are exempt under Section 80 (G) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 No. DIT (E) 2008 – 2009/J-756/2332 valid from 01-04-2008 to 31-03-2011

Organizational structure



Board of Trustees

Mr. Ardeshir B K. Dubash	-Chairman
Ms. Mohini Mubayi	-Managing Trustee
Mr. Shivinder M. Singh	-Trustee
Ms. Rachna Bery	-Trustee

Team Joining Hands

Sumedha Nair	- Executive Director
Amita Dahiya	- Program Manager
Bhavna Singh	- Program Officer

Funding

Joining Hands is the recipient of funds from individuals, corporations and trusts.

Address

Registered office address:

A -52, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar IV
New Delhi –110024, India

Administrative office address

C-63, 1st Floor, Defence Colony
New Delhi – 110 024, India
Telephone number:+91 11 46562485

E-mail: info@joininghandsindia.org

Website: <http://www.joininghandsindia.org>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Abridged Audited Income & Expenditure Account
For the Year Ended 31st March 2010

Particulars		Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)
Accumulated Income Brought Over		
Opening Balance		7.17
Current Year Income		
Donation Received	13.27	
Bank Interest	0.23	13.50
Current Expenditures		
Expenses for Objects of the Trust	11.91	
Administrative Expenses	2.33	
Depreciation	0.04	14.28
Accumulated Income Carried Over		
Closing Balance		6.39

Abridged Audited Balance Sheet
As on 31st March 2010

Particulars		Amount (Rs. In Lakhs)
Liabilities		
Corpus Fund		0.01
Accumulated Income		6.39
Total		6.40
Assets		
Fixed Assets		0.08
Working Capital		
Current Assets	6.46	
Less: Current Liabilities	0.14	6.32
Total		6.40

Summarised from Financial Statements audited by
M/s U.K.Goenka & Co., Chartered Accountants
Dated: 26th August 2010 at New Delhi