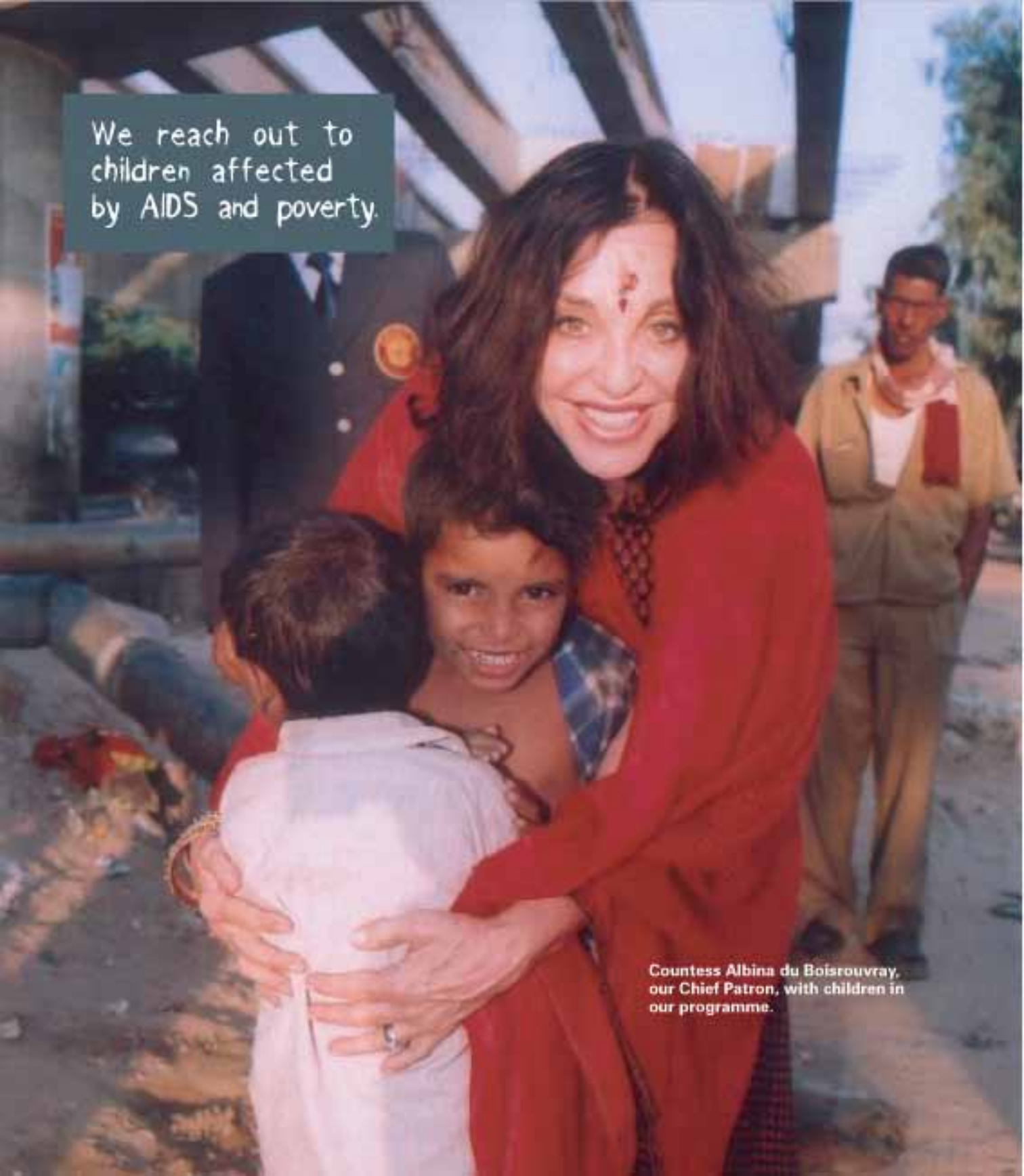




For Children Fighting AIDS and Poverty

Annual Report 2007-2008

A photograph of Countess Albina du Boisrouvray, a woman with long dark hair and a bindi on her forehead, wearing a red shawl. She is smiling and hugging two young children. One child is seen from the back, wearing a white shirt, and the other is a young girl with a blue and white patterned top. They are outdoors in a setting that appears to be a construction site or a developing area, with wooden beams and a man in a uniform in the background.

We reach out to
children affected
by AIDS and poverty.

Countess Albina du Boisrouvray,
our Chief Patron, with children in
our programme.

From Our Chief Patron

"The global strategy of FXB is guided by the principle that every child has the right to opportunities that will enable him or her to reach its full potential. Our mission is to fight AIDS and poverty, and to support the orphans and vulnerable children left in the wake of the pandemic. We believe in providing opportunities to children so they can transcend poverty, achieve dignity and self-sufficiency and become responsible citizens. We offer comprehensive support to the children, their families and communities that care for them.

In India, FXB supported programmes focus on improving the lives of vulnerable children affected by AIDS. We do this by working directly with their families to improve income generation; placing them in a caring, stable home; ensuring access to health care and education; making the care-giving families stable and improving their immediate environment. A significant strength of the FXB villages lie in its long-term investment in the community at a relatively low expense. FXB's strategies in India are unique in their innovation.

FXB Suraksha, in one year, has achieved a commendable feat in taking forward the experience and knowledge we gathered over the years. I look to other potential partners, friends and well wishers to support our humble endeavour to change the lives of many more children."

*-Countess Albina du Boisrouvray
Founder and President, FXB International*

The story behind FXB Suraksha

FXB International is named after François-Xavier Bagnoud, a pilot who died at the young age of 24 while on a helicopter-borne rescue mission in Mali, West Africa. In 1989, his mother, Countess Albina du Boisrouvray, a Swiss national, founded the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud to spread the values of compassion and generosity that he espoused.

In India, FXB started its operations in 1991 focusing on HIV and AIDS and supporting affected children and families. In 2007, FXB Suraksha was registered as an Indian non-profit company.

Today, FXB Suraksha works in all the 32 states and union territories of India. It reaches out to a population of 13.5 million, and directly impacts the lives of 350,000 people.

Our mission

To help AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children through an integrated and sustainable approach: by investing in the human and financial capital of communities, and by providing services that organically link the health of the vulnerable target population with human rights.

Our objectives

- To provide care and support to HIV infected and affected orphans and vulnerable children and their caregivers.
- To undertake communication and awareness activities to disseminate basic information to the general population on risks and safeguards relating to HIV and AIDS.
- Capacity-building and training of various skill groups - school teachers, healthcare providers, paramedical staff, international & local NGOs, construction site workers, etc.
- To undertake community mobilisation, advocacy and networking to project policy issues and to strengthen community solidarity in bringing about change.



Renewing Life

Fourteen-year old Ravi dropped out of school when his father, a lorry driver, left home after falling severely ill with AIDS. His mother, Swati, who also tested positive, was initially depressed. But she gathered courage for the sake of her two children and approached FXB Suraksha in Vishakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. FXB started counselling her, enrolled her in a course on fabric painting, provided nutritional supplements for the family and put her children back in school. Swati now works as a peer educator with FXB and earns Rs 1,000 a month. Ravi, now in Class VIII, wants to be a computer engineer and works hard to improve his math score from 80% in the previous test. The relief is evident in Swati's words – "I am glad I came to FXB. I am confident my children will be looked after well even if I am not there."

All names of people mentioned in stories are changed to protect their identity.

Enabling communities to care FXB-villages

Our FXB-villages at five locations strengthen communities to care for children and families affected by HIV and AIDS. Each village provides 80 to 100 families with a basic package of health, education, psychosocial support and opportunities to earn income. We provide resources and training for earning income to caretakers, healthcare to affected families and education for their children, treatment for opportunistic infections, and help people access Anti-retroviral therapy from government centres.

Our current villages are in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh; Aizawl, Mizoram; Imphal, Manipur; Dhapa-Tangra, West Bengal; and Medinipur, West Bengal.

FXB supports the villages for three years, over which its contribution decreases even as the community's participation grows.

Achievement:
 • **Strengthened communities at five locations and provided care to 400 families affected by HIV and AIDS**

The village provides a model for community-led care at a fraction of the usual cost.

The FXB-village timeline

More than 85% of beneficiaries become self sufficient after 3 years



Caring for vulnerable children and adults

Children in families affected by AIDS face social pressure, economic insecurity, stigma and discrimination. FXB Suraksha works to improve their health, nutrition and education, while providing psychosocial support and reducing stigma. We provide counselling, free books, scholarships, daycare, medical referrals and funds for treatment and nutrition.

We work to inform, educate and persuade groups at high-risk to HIV to change behaviour and adopt healthy practices. We helped with testing and treatment of infected individuals. This group includes commercial sex workers, men who have sex with men, injecting drug users, street children, truck drivers and migrants.

We aim to remove the fatalistic attitude of adults infected by HIV by introducing them to the benefits of anti-retroviral treatment, and educating and counselling them. We also offer curative care and support services under one roof, under the guidance of experienced doctors. With the support of AIDS-ARK, a UK-based charitable organisation, poor people with HIV and AIDS, who are unable to avail services from government centers, receive an integrated package of free anti-retroviral treatment.

Achievement:

- **2,600 AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in remote areas received nutrition, education, healthcare and counselling**
- **2,800 individuals most at risk of contracting HIV and AIDS changed to safe sexual practices**
- **2,400 people living with HIV and AIDS availed of medical help**

A better quality of life prolongs the lifespan of people living with HIV and AIDS, thereby reducing orphans.



Rebuilding her life, stitch by stitch

Ramadevi, 20, was married to a lorry driver five years ago and became pregnant within a year of marriage. While she was at her parental home for the delivery, she heard that her husband had been admitted to a hospital. After the birth of a daughter, she returned home, but found her husband's health steadily deteriorating. Soon, he could not go to work. When she questioned her in-laws about her husband's sickness, they accused her of having infected their son with HIV. Her husband soon died, and her in-laws threw her out of the home with the child. Her in-laws had sold all her gold ornaments and the young widow was left to fend for herself and her child without any resources.

Ramadevi returned to her parents but soon fell ill and was diagnosed to be HIV positive as well. Luckily, her child was not infected. At this critical juncture, she came to FXB India Suraksha. After some counselling and training, FXB India appointed her as a peer educator. Today, Ramadevi is a confident and useful member of her community. She receives medical, psychosocial and nutritional support for her child. FXB is also helping her acquire skills in tailoring that will help her earn a living and support herself and her child in the coming days.

Protecting mothers and their children

Transmission from mother to child is the largest source of HIV infection in children.

FXB Suraksha counsels pregnant women regardless of their HIV status, and educates them to assess their vulnerability to HIV infection and transmission. It works to prevent transmission through a combination of low-cost, single dose drug treatment, safe delivery practices and safe infant-feeding methods. The programme is implemented at government maternity hospitals with full support from the State AIDS Control Societies.

Achievement:

- **9,600 pregnant women received counselling in time to prevent transmission from mother to child**

Every year in India over 100,000 pregnant women with HIV give birth; and about one in three women pass on the infection to the baby.

Promoting safe practices among migrant workers

FXB Suraksha works to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS among migrant workers in industries. We educate migrant labourers on sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS, provide counselling and referral services, offer treatment and encourage the use of condoms.

The Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) partnered with FXB Suraksha to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS at their construction sites in Mumbai, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir and Orissa. We also educated jute and textile mill workers on HIV and AIDS, demonstrated the use of and distributed condoms, and trained peer educators.

Achievement:

- **10,800 workers on HCC sites and 51,000 workers at Kolkata Jute Mills became aware of safe sexual practices**

Parshanth breaks out of his shell

Parshnath, 41, a worker at the Howrah Jute Mills, withdrew into a shell when he was diagnosed with AIDS. Though he had a wife and child back home in Uttar Pradesh, he had been staying alone at Howrah for two years.

Following the diagnosis at a health camp conducted by FXB, Parshnath lost his job. He spent all his time in his room. Through regular counselling, the FXB Suraksha team helped him regain confidence and learnt that he had visited sex workers in Mumbai. FXB Suraksha fought on his behalf and had him reappointed at the Jute Mill. FXB Suraksha also held meetings with other mill workers, following which they accepted him as a co-worker. FXB Suraksha linked him to the Kolkata Medical College Hospital for anti-retroviral treatment. His wife was persuaded to undertake an HIV test. She was also found positive and is under treatment.

Educating people

... in slums

Urban slums have high levels of unemployment, low literacy and poor healthcare, which makes people in slums vulnerable to HIV infection. FXB Suraksha works in urban slums to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS. We educate slum-dwellers, promote the use of condoms, provide treatment and referrals and organise health camps. We also offer training in life skills to adolescents and form youth clubs.

... in schools

School children often have incomplete or no knowledge of sex and sexuality, which makes them vulnerable to risky behaviour. FXB Suraksha educates students on sexual health, with special reference to HIV and AIDS. We also coach representative teachers and guardians and identify and train peer educators.

Achievement:

- **6,600 students learnt about sex, sexuality and HIV and AIDS.**
- Teachers are becoming more open to conducting such programmes.**

A natural leader

Meenu, 14, lives in the Sanjay Camp slum with her sister and mentally-challenged mother. She studies in Class VIII and also works in nearby homes to provide for her family. Meenu approached FXB Suraksha on her own; her desire to learn made her a natural member of the children's support group. She then enrolled in the leadership development programme organised by FXB Suraksha in collaboration with Naz Foundation India Trust. On FXB Suraksha's anniversary in September 2007, she presented a play on STIs and HIV/AIDS which was much appreciated. She also received a certificate for her role as a peer educator. "FXB Surakshahas given me a space where I can freely express my feelings and opinions. Now even if FXB leaves, I will continue to share the knowledge I have gained," she says.



Barbers turn campaigners

FXB Suraksha has a novel strategy to reach out to men with information on HIV infection is transmission and prevention. It does this in a setting that is predominantly masculine – barbers' saloons! Here, men freely talk about issues that are normally taboo – sex, sexual health and HIV/AIDS. FXB India recognises that barbers are potential carriers of sensitive information. We educate barbers on HIV and AIDS and safe sexual practices, besides developing the saloons into a hub where communication materials and condoms are distributed.

Achievement

• **5,500 barbers across the country were educated and in turn carried the message to thousands of their customer**

Our star campaigner

Asif runs Victoria Hair Dressers in Dehradun. When our team approached him seeking to educate his customers on HIV and AIDS, he was completely indifferent. But, the team persisted with the visits and interacted with his clients, but did not discuss the issue with him. Slowly, indifference turned to. Four months later, Asif surprised Sunil*, our peer educator by saying he wanted to have a discussion in private. He looked distraught and embarrassed. Sunil gently encouraged him to talk over a cup of tea. Asif confided that he had casual relationships with sex workers and had symptoms of Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI). Sunil advised him and persuaded him to have his blood tested for HIV. Much to his relief, Asif's blood test at the VCTC was negative. Asif was also advised on safe sexual practices and provided treatment for STI. Today, Asif is a strong supporter of our programme in barber's saloons and welcomes our staff.*

Advocating change...

We believe every child should have the opportunity to grow to its full potential. The AIDS pandemic has seriously limited these opportunities. We, through our advocacy, try to influence public policy initiatives to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS and provide relief to those affected, particularly children.

World AIDS Day

On 1 December 2007, we held events across India to observe the World AIDS Day. Several of these events were held in partnership with the State AIDS Control Societies and highlighted the gravity of the issue.

World AIDS Orphan's Day

Globally, over 15 million children under 18 have lost one or both parents to AIDS. As HIV infections increase among the adults, the number of children orphaned is increasing rapidly. In the year 2002, Countess Albina du Boisrouvray launched a global movement to observe 7 May as World AIDS Orphan's Day to mobilise the attention of governments and communities to the plight of these children. Many countries and communities have since supported and are observing this day. In 2007, all our state units organised events including candlelight march, rallies with youth and school children, radio talk shows, painting competitions, public meetings, sports events and cultural programmes. We were successful in mobilising children, youth, civil society groups, government and media through the events.

Our Board

Mr Gourishankar Ghosh,

Chief Executive Officer and Director has extensive experience working on water and sanitation issues in the global forums such as the WHO, UNICEF and Task force on the MDGs. As a former member of the Indian Administrative Service, he served in senior positions and headed several Government and public sector undertakings. He is a member of several international bodies related to water, poverty and development. He was awarded the silver medal by the President of India for meritorious service.

Mr Javid Chowdhury,

Advisor to the CEO and Director a retired IAS officer has rich experience of over 37 years in various fields of public administration. He is currently a consultant in health and rural development sectors. He holds a degree in development economics from University of Cambridge, UK. He was on the executive board of the World Health Organisation and also served as a consultant on the public health policy. He has also written books on several development issues.

Mr Amal Dhru, Director

an eminent management professional heads his own firm of chartered accountants. An alumnus and visiting faculty of the Indian Institute of Management, he has written extensively on financial and management subjects. Besides auditing, he specialises in project finance and monitoring, mergers and acquisitions.

Our senior management team

Mr Govinda Raju,

Director – Finance and administration has more than 12 years of experience in finance, accounts and administration, out of which 10 years was with international voluntary organisations. A cost accountant by profession, he is currently oversees administration and finance.

Mr Biswajit Panda,

Director – Programmes brings with him over 10 years of experience working in the field of reproductive health and HIV and AIDS. With a Master's in public health, he specialises in programme management, monitoring and evaluation. At FXB Suraksha, he is responsible for overall programme strategy and management.

Mr Shalabh Mittal,

Director - Business development has over 10 years of experience working with various development organisations. He has professional degrees in law and management and a diploma in NGO Management. He has worked across sectors and is familiar with local Government systems and participatory research.

Dr P.S.K.P.Raju,

Medical Director is a qualified medical doctor. He has held many significant positions and is well experienced in HIV and AIDS related work. He also worked with the Government. Apart from a professional medical degree, he has also undergone several courses.

Our senior team

Mr Vijay Sharma,

General Manager – Advocacy & Communications is a skilled development communications professional having varied experience of working with media houses as well as national and international voluntary organisations.

Ms Manisha Pal,

Manager – Programmes has a post graduate degree in Sociology. She has experience of around 9 years working on planning, designing and managing development and training programmes.

Mr Javed Hasan,

Manager – MIS has a professional degree in Health Management and over 5 years experience in the field of HIV and AIDS, social research, monitoring and evaluation.

Ms Sapna Thapa,

Manager – Human resources and public relations holds a post graduate degree in Human Resource Management and has an experience of 4 years handling top level recruitments for companies.

C Lalsang Zuala,

Regional Director – North East is a research scholar and has over 8 years of experience working on the issue of HIV and AIDS. He is also a member of the Child Welfare Committee in Mizoram.

Ms Manidipa Ghosh,

Regional Director – East has a postgraduate degree in Sociology. She has a total experience of 17 years in designing, planning, monitoring and implementation of projects in the voluntary sector.

Our finances

Mr Rama Kant Pathak,

Manager – Rural development has a post-graduate degree in Rural Development. He has over 7 years experience in the project management, participatory research and advocacy.

Dr Ganeshan N,

Senior state coordinator – Pondicherry has a doctoral degree in Sociology and a cumulative experience of 11 years teaching in various health institutes and working in the development sector.

Mr Mathai V D,

Senior state coordinator – Kerala, holds a post-graduate degree in Social Work and has over 15 years experience in project design, monitoring, and social research.

Ms Christina Lalrindiki,

State Coordinator – Mizoram has a post-graduate degree in Psychology. She has over 6 years of experience working on HIV and AIDS and teaching in university.

Mr Khoi Dinesh Singh,

State Coordinator – Manipur has a post-graduate degree in Sociology and more than 10 years' experience in counseling and rehabilitation.

Mr Pankaj Kumar Sinha,

State Coordinator – Bihar has a post graduate degree in Labour and Social Welfare and has more than 8 years of experience working on reproductive health and HIV and AIDS.

Ms Crescy Baptista,

State Coordinator – Goa has a bachelor's degree in Naturopathy and diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy; has more than 6 years of experience working on HIV and AIDS.

Mr Kiran Kumar Guntur,

Senior Coordinator – Andhra Pradesh has a post graduate degree and has more than 8 years experience working with various development organisations.

Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2008

(Amount in Rs Lakh)

Particulars	Current Fin Year	
	Amount	%
Assets		
Fixed assets		
Investments		
Loans disbursed		
Deposits and Advances		
Current assets	39.40	
Income and Expenditure A/c Balance		
Total	39.40	100
Liabilities		
Corpus / Endowment fund (s)		
Earmarked Funds		
Loans / Borrowings		
Current liabilities and provisions		
Income and Expenditure A/c Balance	39.40	
Total	39.40	100

Income and Expenditure as on 31 March 2008

Particulars	Current Fin Year	
	Amount	%
Income		
Self generated income 1	8.72	15
Indian sources 2	27.85	50
International sources 3	19.58	35
Total	56.15	100
Expenditure		
Programme	14.43	86
Public Education for Fundraising	-	
Management	2.32	14
Others	-	
Total	16.75	100
Surplus	39.40	

Note:

- Self generated income is support from corporations for awareness workshops to their workers.
- Indian sources includes support from NGOs and donations from individuals.
- International source is the grant from ILO International. The surplus in this year is because the grant from ILO International was received by end of the financial year.
- During 2007-08, we worked in collaboration with other partners and received Rs. 3.6 crore, which was reflected in this statement.

Our bankers

Axis Bank Ltd.,
02-03, Sector-16, Noida-201301, U.P.

Our auditors

Mahesh Kumar & Co.
662253, Sangreel, Gurbhara Road,
Kandla Dargi, New Delhi – 110 005.

*Detailed audited financial statements are available on request.

Our special thanks to partners and supporters who have made it possible for us make a positive change to the lives of children and families affected by AIDS and poverty.

- AIDS-ARK, UK
- Hindustan Construction Company
- International Health Organisation (IHO)
- Jai Mahal Palace Hotel, Rajasthan
- Population Services International
- Rajasthan Network of Positive People (RNP+)
- State AIDS Control Society, Mizoram
- The Loomba Trust, UK
- The Nabha Foundation, Punjab
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- World Bank State Road Project, Mizoram



"I am inspired and honoured to be part of FXB Suraksha's work with vulnerable children. We as a team are thankful to everyone who has been involved with our work. In our endeavour to steer FXB Suraksha in the right direction to achieve its goals and become self-reliant, we trust you will join us."

- Mr Gourisankar Ghosh, CEO

We would be pleased to have you visit our office or our programmes. Do call to fix a prior appointment.

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