



MICHIGAN

AFNA WALK AND RUN 2025

The AFNA Walk and Run is a fun community event that promotes a healthy lifestyle and also raises funds for AFNA's charitable projects. It has brought the Assamese community together over the years for AFNA's cause. It has been a very successful fundraiser for AFNA, bringing new donors and volunteers. The 7th Annual AFNA Walk and Run last year took place in various locations across the US, including San Francisco Bay Area, Houston and Northville, Michigan.



HOUSTON

In this issue

- AFNA Walk and Run
- Obituary
- Parijat Academy Project Update
- Project AKADAMICS Update
- Weaving for Care Update
- Female Hygiene Project Update
- RVC Project Update
- SHED Update
- New Project- Sahayika
- Field Visits by AFNA Volunteers
- Call for Volunteers
- AFNA's Projects and Fund-Raising Goals

Please send your feedback to AFNA at:





HOUSTON, TX

The inaugural Dr. Lohit Datta-Barua Memorial AFNA Houston 5k Walk and Run took place on November 8th, 2025. AFNA was delighted to witness such a fantastic turnout and community spirit from everyone!



BAY AREA, CALIFORNIA



Please check our Facebook page to view the Annual GBM proceedings held on June 20th, 2026 to learn about AFNA's projects for 2025-26 and roadmap for the year 2026-27 Drop by our desk in the 2026 Assam Convention in Bay Area, California



BAY AREA, CALIFORNIA

Join Us for AFNA Walk & Run 2026

October 4th, 2026, Almaden Lake Park, San Jose, CA
Contact us if you want to arrange run in your area

PARIJAT ACADEMY- PROJECT UPDATE

AFNA volunteers have been actively supporting Parijat Academy in Gorchuk, Guwahati, Assam. Parijat Academy (<https://parijatacademy.org/>), one of our oldest and most enduring partners, has faced financial challenges in recent years. Parijat is working to expand its silk handloom production and sales to generate sustainable income for the school in Pamohi. Currently, the revenue from the handloom program is limited and covers only the food expenses for residential students and a portion of the school's operating costs. However, the school continues to face challenges in meeting teachers' salaries.

To help bridge this gap, Parijat is seeking support from AFNA. A contribution of just \$1,000 can fund a teacher's salary for an entire year, making a meaningful difference in the education and future of the students. We commend the efforts of their founder and head, Mr. Uttam Teron, and his team of administrators in successfully garnering support from other organizations as they work towards sustainability.

Join us in our virtual monthly volunteer meeting held on the first Sunday of every month at 12-1:00 p.m. CST.
Email us at info@assamfoundation.net for zoom link

IN LOVING MEMORY OF - ANKUR BORA



ANKUR BORA

The journey of a friendship often has a definitive starting point, but with Ankur, it felt as though we were connected by threads that reached back into our childhood. The first time he called me, he shared a memory that bridged decades: he remembered me from the 6th grade, when we both participated in a table tennis coaching camp in Nagaon. He told me that my unique name had stuck with him all those years. That phone call wasn't just a reintroduction; it was the beginning of a twenty-year partnership that would change both our lives and the lives of countless others.

The Early Days of AFNA 2.0

When Dipu da (Debojit Bora, who was a Michigan resident at that time and a Los Angeles resident now) first introduced Ankur to the Assam Foundation of North America (AFNA) more than two decades ago, the organization was transitioning from its founders to us, the next generation. Back then, there were only a handful of youth volunteers, like Partha Gogoi and Vavani Sarma, to name a couple, and the road ahead felt long. Ankur stepped into that small circle with boundless energy that paved the way for a new version of AFNA, which gained many more new volunteers and well-wishers through his connections. The list is long, but the first five people that come to my mind are Pallav Saikia, Wahid Saleh, Uttam Teron, Pradeep Sharma and Lanu Areng.

Over the years, Ankur and I became much more than friends; we were each other's most trusted partner for most of the philanthropic work that we engaged in. Together, we navigated the complexities of grassroots philanthropy, starting with projects like Aarohan, Parijat Academy, Pragyalaya, SHED, Atma Nirbhar ek Challenge, Seneh etc.

When we worked together for AFNA on Bhabendra Nath Saikia's "Arohan" project, we used to wonder how one person, Bhabendra Nath Saikia, could do so much work in so little time. I guess Ankur was inspired by that, and tried to imbibe that quality in himself. Today, the question that comes to my mind is, how could Ankur manage to do so much in such a short time. Although we worked together on several AFNA projects, those were perhaps not even a quarter of Ankur's total body of work. In addition, he worked for FASS as the founding Vice President, published an annual youth magazine named Friends, maintained a Blog, wrote several articles in Newspapers, organized fund-raisers single-handedly, organized charity walks and other charity events in Assam, and many more.

Our work together, most of which were under the banner of AFNA, spanned decades and continents, culminating in our final collaboration, Shilpi Sewa (led by Krishna Hazarika and Anjana Bordoloi), which we volunteered for, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic to support the artist community in Assam.

A Champion for the Unsung Heroes

Ankur had a unique gift of spotting brilliance in others and a relentless drive to ensure that brilliance was recognized on a global stage. He pioneered a new collaborative effort between AFNA and organizations like FASS (of which he was the founding Vice President) to nominate leaders from Assam for global recognition. Because of his vision and persistence many leaders from Assam or working for Assam got internationally acclaimed awards. Some examples are Dr. Pradip Sarma (founder of the Rickshaw Bank, The Tech Awards in 2011 laureate), Uddabh Bharali (Popular Category Award in the NASA Tech Briefs 2012), Suchismita Majumdar (founder of Swabalambi, Women's World Summit Foundation Prize, 2013.), Peggy Carswell (founder of Fertile Ground, WWSF Prize 2015), Birubala Rabha (Activist against witch hunting, WWSF Prize 2018)

-Cont.

The Power of One

Ankur's commitment was never limited by organizational boundaries. There were times when AFNA, for various reasons, could not provide immediate institutional support, especially when a project needed "seed funding" to kickstart a larger fundraiser. In those moments, Ankur didn't wait for permission or consensus. He would simply lace up his shoes, join a charitable "Run" event, and go it alone to raise those initial funds himself. He was willing to be the first person to step into the gap, showing us all what it meant to lead by example.

A Lasting Legacy

Whenever any ambitious idea came to his mind, he would call me. He would take me into his confidence, just as he did with other confidants like Dipu da, Wahid Saleh da etc. Once he had the moral support of his "friends," he became an unstoppable force. Nothing - no bureaucratic hurdle or logistical challenge - could stop him until his goal was reached.

To know Ankur was to be part of his "inner circle" of dreamers. He was a man who believed that a few dedicated people could truly change the world, and he proved it time and time again.

Ankur, you were the bridge between the memories of a Nagaon table tennis camp and the impact of the Rickshaw Bank. You were a partner who never let a good idea go to waste and a friend who never let a challenge go unanswered. While the projects continue, the phone calls and the shared confidence will be deeply missed.

Rest in peace, my friend. We promise to keep the work going, just as you taught us

-Krishanu Kaushik

IN LOVING MEMORY OF - EVA GOHAIN SARMA



Eva baidew (as many of us addressed her) was a dear baidew/sister to me, we both were born and raised in Nagoan, and she also being a contemporary to my elder sister, there was always a fond brother-sister relation between us. This loving relationship rekindled every time we used to meet at Assam Conventions and catch up with our personal stories. Her generous heart and gracious hospitality welcomed everyone with open arms and would go to any length to ensure her guests felt comfortable, cared for, and at home.

EVA GOHAIN SARMA

She naturally fell into, and effectively played the role of kind-hearted, compassionate schoolteacher who cared for every kid. Before moving to the US in 1978, she was teaching in Nagaon Missionary School followed by her teaching career in Nagaon Baptist Mission School. So, she continued her teaching job in the US too by devoting many years and touched the lives of countless students with patience, compassion, and dedication.

Along with her husband, Dr Atul Sarma, who is one of the founding members of AANA, and especially the most effective person who helped forming AFNA as a charitable org, Atul da was the first AFNA President too. Eva baidew stood by her husband in becoming involved in charitable activities for decades through the Assam Foundation of North America, AFNA.

Eva baidew deeply cherished not only her immediate family but also her extended family and friends. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Atul Sarma, her sons, Anjan and Gaurab wife, Sasmita Behera Sarma), and her beloved grandchildren, Arya and Aidan. Her kindness, compassion, love, and gentle presence will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all of us among her family, friends (the US and India) and community members. May her soul rest in peace!

-Debojit Bora

AKADAMICS provides scholarships to financially disadvantaged students from Assam pursuing higher education. Honoring the legacy of Kaushik Das, the program supports deserving scholars with annual grants to help them build brighter futures for themselves and their families.

Currently the project is in its 13th year of operation. This has been made possible through the continued support from our donors and strong effort and dedication of the AKADAMICS volunteers who spend a large amount of their personal time every year in reviewing the application and performing the due diligence. The applications for the year 2026-2027 have closed on May 31, 2026. The applications are under review and the results are targeted to be announced by the end of August.



ASSAM FOUNDATION OF NORTH AMERICA
Sponsored
AKADAMICS SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS OPEN!!
CLOSES: May 31st, 2026

AMOUNT
Rs. 10,000/yr. for the entire course for B.A., B.Sc., B.Com., B.Ed., B. Pharm., Diploma, B. Homes., etc.
Rs. 30,000/yr. for the entire course for B.E., B.Tech., MBBS

ELIGIBILITY
Students pursuing or seeking to pursue bachelor's degree & Below Poverty Line (BPL)

Scan QR code above to apply
<http://www.assamfoundation.net/projects/1/akademics>

Assam Foundation of North America (AFNA), Inc.
A non-profit organization registered under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS. EIN: 08-0886787. Tax ID # 01-0994488. Email: assamfoundation@yahoo.com

Each scholarship provides an annual amount of Rs. 30,000 for scholars pursuing professional degrees and Rs. 10,000 for those pursuing non-professional degrees. Applicants must be Below Poverty Line. Here is the link to more information- [AKADAMICS](#)

PROJECT WEAVING FOR CARE

Every year, the Weaving-for-Care program starts early in the year and concludes by the end of the year. Under this program participants are requested to make one or more handmade items for charity. AFNA collects all these items and sends them to a non-profit organization called CARE TO KNIT. Inc in New York. The 2025 edition of Weaving-for-Care has successfully concluded. The CARE TO KNIT. Inc received all shipments and has shipped those to hospitals and shelters. On behalf of AFNA, we thank donors for their generous donations for comfort and care of others. Dr. Archana Chatterjee and Srimati Moni Roychowdhury deserve special mention for their significant donations.



WEAVING FOR CARE

The Weaving For Care drive is an AFNA Initiative started over seven years ago. In this program we request adults and children to make items by knitting, crochet or other handwork to donate to charity. The items collected are distributed in places like hospitals, orphanages, senior assisted living homes, shelter homes, and hospice.

The drive starts at the beginning of the year and ends by the winter holiday season. All children who participate receive a certificate for their contribution.



We hope you join us to bring warmth and comfort to those in need. Thank you- The Weaving for Care Team

If you wish to participate, please send an email to Kamalakhshi at: goodfund@yahoo.com

The drive will end on **November 8th, 2026**. All items made must be given then.

THANK YOU!

We encourage young children to participate in this drive as well. If you need to know more about the Weaving for Care program, see here <https://www.assamfoundation.net/events>



AFNA volunteers under the leadership of Mrs. Ranju Sarma translated the book “Moon Time”, a menstrual hygiene book for teenage girls, into Assamese to improve awareness in Assam. Released with IMA Assam and Samagra Shiksha, the initiative educates young women on menstruation. Phase I of this project focused on translation, printing, and distribution. Phase II promotes sustainable practices through reusable and low-cost biodegradable pads for underprivileged girls, especially in remote areas. Several copies of the book has been distributed in different schools in Assam. Due to heavy demand of the book, AFNA recently printed the 2nd edition of Moon Time.

Book distribution details:

IMA(Assam) :75 copies

Parijat Academy: 40 copies

Seneh. : 100 copies

Morigaon school district: 1898 copies

Kamrup school district : 1375 copies

Morigaon school district will work as a repository for the book.



Seneh, a Guwahati based home for destitute elderly women, ensuring their medical well-being is conducting a biodegradable sanitary pad distribution initiative called **Surobhi**. The cost to supply eco-friendly sanitary pads to 15 girls for an entire year ensuring their health and hygiene is \$350. Seneh is requesting \$7,000 to provide sanitary pads for 300 girls.

AFNA launched its hygiene initiative to help reduce Assam’s maternal and child mortality rates by educating adolescent girls before they reach child-bearing age. This effort has been progressing successfully through the **Moon Time** project. The next essential step is to ensure these girls have consistent access to safe and sustainable menstrual hygiene products.

SUPPPORT A GRANDMA

The "Support A Grandma" initiative was launched by AFNA in partnership with Bhabada Devi Philanthropic Trust. This trust runs a facility in Guwahati and Lakshimpur that accomodate senior boarders. This facility aptly named 'Seneh' (meaning selfless love) currently hosts women, all aged 55years and older, who were abandoned by their near and dear ones. AFNA has a fund raising target of \$6000 a year to sponsor Support-A-Grandma program to compensate the medical expenses of the boarders (\$300 per boarder). We welcome donation of any amount that can contribute towards this noble program. Our patrons can adopt one Grandma (boarder) of Seneh by contributing \$300 a year or \$50 a month.

AFNA has helped RVC to kick off a cycle of Rabi crops in flood ridden areas of Dhemaji that would help in the sustainability and livelihood of farmers within that area and the results look encouraging. AFNA has so far sent provided 11.2 Lacs of Rupees (~USD 13k) in 3 installments that was used to help 30 households to cultivate 90 bigha of land with carrots, peas, potatoes.

Cultivation is in progress and initial harvesting and selling in the market is being done. The project is shepherded by long term AFNA member Pallav Saikia. To learn more about project RVC and how AFNA contributes to it, check out the project details here: <https://www.assamfoundation.net/projects-1/rvc>



ASHANEER- FIELD VISIT BY AFNA VOLUNTEER

Ashaneer is a special needs children home, now running at full capacity with an increase from 17 to 25 since last year. Some of the children have also been rehabilitated back to their former home. The category of these children have cerebral palsy , downs syndrome, severe locomotor disability and sensory disability (blindless and deafness). A part time occupational therapist is present in the home who support the developmental and mental needs of the children to adapt to the current environment. The physiotherapist is now available full time which has improved the well-being of the children. Government funds for the home has been now fully suspended so they function solely on donations. There is a doctor who offers his services for free but medical checkups, emergency hospital visits, medicines and other special needs for children with disability always bear an upfront cost.

During his visit, project steward, Nabarun Das was able to have a live session discussion with the staff members and children on the living conditions, infrastructure and general needs to improve the living conditions for the children.



SUPPORT A CHILD THROUGH SAHAYIKA (NEW PROJECT)

Sahayika Child Guidance Centre in Bamunimaidan, Guwahati is a pioneering institution dedicated to supporting the academic, social, emotional, and vocational development of children and young people with special needs, including individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism. AFNA's partnership with Sahayika has the potential to strengthen the school's capacity and provide much-needed support for its students, teachers, and programs. We invite your support to sponsor the education of 10 underprivileged children through Sahayika Sishu Nirdeshan Kendra, an FCRA-certified NGO aligned with AFNA's Education mission. The annual need is Rs. 9.0 lakhs (Rs. 90,000 per child). This is a new project and collaboration that AFNA has undertaken recently. Your contribution can transform lives through the power of education.



SAHAYIKA



KALYANI NIWAS



SHED (SPECIAL HELP FOR EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT)

SHED (Special Help for Education and Development) supports over 60 children with disabilities in Sonapur, Assam, through integrated schooling and rehabilitation training. With specially trained educators and inclusive programs, SHED provides holistic education—often free or low-cost—empowering differently abled children with the skills, confidence, and opportunities to thrive in society. This year, AFNA aims to support SHED by funding one year of essential food, groceries, and rations.



Vidya The Living School, Dhemaji



Silapathar, RVC



AFNA'S PROJECTS AND FUND-RAISING GOALS (2026-27)



HEALTHCARE: GOAL \$30,000

- FEMALE HYGIENCE - \$350 provides biodegradable sanitary pads for 15 girls/year
- KALYANI NIVAS / ASHANEER - \$400 supports 1 girl for 1 year
- ADOPT-A-GRANDMA - \$350 supports one Grandma for 1 year



EDUCATION: GOAL \$30,000

- AKADAMICS - \$350 supports 1 student for 1 year
- SUPPORT-A-CHILD - \$100 supports 1 school student for 1 year
- Sahayika - \$1000 supports 1 child for 1 year



EMPLOYMENT GENERATION: GOAL \$20,000

- Rural Volunteer Center (RVC) - \$500 supports 1 worker for 1 year
- SUPPORT-A-DISABLED WORKER - \$500 supports 1 worker for 1 year



HUMANITARIAN RELIEF: GOAL \$20,000

- WEAVING-FOR-CARE
- FLOOD RELIEF
- HURRICANE & WILDFIRES

DONATE DIRECTLY TO ORGANIZATIONS IN INDIA

Here are some organizations vetted by AFNA

- Parijat Academy
- Kalyani Nivas
- Seneh
- Students Welfare Association/Tapoban, Pathsala:
-Residential School for Differently Aabled Children
- Shanti Niwas Briddhashram, Nalbari:
-Shelter for Old and Helpless and Abandoned Parents

DONOR ADVISED FUND (DAF)

Create your own fund with AFNA to support your charity of choice in Assam. The objectives of the project should align with that of AFNA. AFNA takes care of the fund transfer and accounting & you can avail tax benefit. Amounts are disbursed only upon your advice. An MOU needs to be set up with AFNA.

Datta-Barua Orphan Welfare Fund

Late Habibur Rahman Barua Scholarship Fund

Late Debabrata Sarma Memorial Fund



invites
YOU
to the

**Annual
GBM**
General Body Meeting

Virtual Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 880 0919 6131
Passcode: 548294
<https://tinyurl.com/AFNAGBM2026>

Saturday 20th June
1:00pm - 3:00pm EDT
10:00am - 12:00pm PDT
10:30pm - 12:30am IST

Meet the Speakers



Hiranya Saikia
Society for Health & Educational Development (SHED)
educating and rehabilitating underprivileged differently-abled children



Ipsita Sharma
Sahayika Child Guidance Centre
special education and skills development to children with intellectual disability



Luit Goswami
Rural Volunteers Centre (RVC)
sustainable farming, and building resilience for indigenous communities

- ❖ Volunteer Visit Stories from the Field
- ❖ See your Contributions at Work
- ❖ 2025-2026 In Review | 2026-2027 Roadmap
- ❖ Nomination & Election of New Board & Executive
- ❖ Kickoff to Fundraising Campaign
- ❖ AFNA Anthem and Assam State Song
- ❖ ... and more!

Assam Foundation of North America (AFNA) is a 501(c)(3) organization
Contributions are tax-deductible in the US!
<https://www.assamfoundation.net/support-us>

Please check our Facebook page to view the Annual GBM proceedings held on June 20th, 2026 to learn about AFNA's projects for 2025-26 and roadmap for the year 2026-27

For more information & updates on AFNA projects

Email us at: info@assamfoundation.net

Website: <https://www.assamfoundation.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/assamfoundation>

AFNA Volunteer Round Table Meetup at AC2026

Double Tree by Hilton

2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA, 95110

Meeting Room: Carmel

Date: Saturday 4th July | Time: 10:30am-11:30am

Know more about AFNA Projects and discuss future road map!



The Power Of 3 - Give To AFNA

Your generous donation and support help us continue our mission

COME JOIN US AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

AFNA relies on efforts of its volunteers, to spread the message, raise awareness & funds for the causes we support in Assam and North America. We are seeking volunteers of all ages to help us contribute where it matters, have fun & boost your resume at the same time. Special request to parents of teenagers & young adults to encourage their children to volunteer time for a good cause, we would be able to find work which is suitable for their age & available time.

VOLUNTEERS

- You can choose your project of choice
- You do not have to be members to contribute
- You will have a passionate team to work with
- We are apolitical and not affiliated to any faith

PLEASE BECOME AFNA MEMBER &/OR VOLUNTEER

- Members have voting rights during meetings
- \$25 annual membership fee

AFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Niren Choudhury, NJ
- Ranju Sarma, CA
- Enakshi Barua, IL
- Sangeeta Saikia, TX
- Hiranya Nath, TX
- Sarfaraz Taher, MN
- Chandan Mozumder, CA (Ex-officio)
- Rita Kataki, CA (Ex-officio)
- Violeena Deka, CA (Ex-officio)

AFNA OFFICERS

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General Secretary
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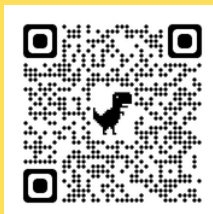
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You can donate either by check or via online at:

<https://assamfoundation.net/support-us>

(donations are eligible corporate matching)



MAXIMIZE
YOUR
DONATIONS
WITH:



Help AFNA earn during the tax season

- Mention AFNA to your H&R Block Tax Consultant
- AFNA earns \$20 for your referral
- There is no cost to you
- AFNA has been earning meaningful amounts via this non-profit referral program