



2021 Spring Newsletter

Assam Foundation of North America



Donate



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2020 Year in Review

By Sarfaraz Taher

Although 2020 had been a year like never before, AFNA and its volunteers continued to work to serve those in need and that would not be possible without the generous contributions of our donors. Last year, AFNA contributed over \$105,000 through our various programs listed below. This is the most ever we have contributed in a calendar year.

- **COVID-19 Relief in Assam and USA**
- **Flood Relief in Assam**
- **College Scholarships in Assam via our AKADAMICS program**
- **Scholarships for school students in Assam via our Support-A-Child program**
- **Healthcare expenses via our Adopt-A-Grandma program for elderly in Assam**
- **Support for the wildfires in states of California, Washington, and Oregon**
- **Support for infrastructure development in a vocational training school in Assam**
- **Donation to foodbanks during this Thanksgiving**

Our trusted partners in Assam, namely Rural Volunteer Center (RVC), Bhadada Devi Memorial Philanthropic Trust (Seneh), Atma Nirbhar Ek-Challenge and Akshar Foundation, stepped up once again in the midst of the COVID crisis to continue to extend support and care. Without them, our work would not be possible. In the US, AFNA's contributions were made through well-known relief organizations, namely California Firefighters Foundation, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Foundation, American Red Cross (for Washington Fires) and Feeding America Foodbanks. We at AFNA are very grateful to you for your continued support.

In addition to the above, AFNA volunteers successfully ran the Weaving for Care program for the second consecutive year. The volunteers also successfully collaborated to publish the 2021 Annual Calendar. The distribution of the calendar this year has been very challenging. With no community events being held, the calendars had to be mailed or personally distributed. The volunteers gladly took this upon themselves. This year's Calendar Campaign is focused on raising funds for our "Support-A-Disabled Worker" program to support the differently abled workers (in organizations like Atma Nirbhar – Ek Challenge) who have been badly affected by COVID-19. We look forward to your continued support.

**AFNA greatly appreciates the support and contribution of its Patrons, Donors and Volunteers,
Thank You!**

Assam Foundation of North America, Inc. is registered under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code with Tax ID# 61-0994468. Donations to the foundation are tax-deductible in the U.S. to the extent permitted by law. Please consult your tax advisor for specific tax advice

Weaving For Care – 2020

By Kamalakshi Hazarika

In 2020, a second drive was organized for donating handmade items to a charity in New York. The drive ended last year on Nov 7th. On behalf of AFNA, many items were donated to the CARE TO KNIT, Inc. Charity in North Babylon, New York. Gracious donors across North America, donated beautiful scarves, hats, socks, sweaters, and other clothing items. We thank our donors Dr. Archana Chatterjee and Mrs. Malaya Roychowdhury for their generous contribution to the drive.



Contributions to the 2020 Drive

If you would like to contribute to the 2021 program, kindly contact Kamalakshi Hazarika at goodfund@yahoo.com. The drive starts from March 1st and ends by the first week of Nov. You can also find the particulars of this drive in the AFNA homepage at Facebook. Looking forward to more contributions in this year too!

For any queries

Do get in touch with us by sending e-mail to : assamfoundation@yahoo.com

Link to the AFNA website: <http://www.assamfoundation.net/>

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

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Feed America Campaign

by Sarfaraz Taher

Seeing long lines at the food shelters across the United States during Thanksgiving last year, AFNA decided to donate 20,000 meals through the foodbanks across the US. COVID-19 pandemic continued to ravage the world and to see the hardship it has created to the a large number of people is extremely saddening. To raise the funds for this contribution, AFNA initiated a fund raiser called the "Feeding America this Thanksgiving" with a goal to put a hot plate on the table of 20,000 Americans for the Thanksgiving dinner of 2020. AFNA patrons responded very favorably, as they always do, and within a short period of 2 weeks helped raised the necessary funds. We, at AFNA, want to thank all the donors who responded promptly and opened their checkbooks to contribute generously.

Texas Winter Storm Relief

by Sarfaraz Taher

The worst ever winter storm hit the southern USA during the week of Feb 12th through 17th 2021. The storm caused havoc taking down the power grid and affected Texas and the couple of the neighboring states. Texas was the worst hit and over 9 million were subjected to blackouts and without electricity for up to a week. This created major challenges leaving a large population without heat and the energy to cook. Additionally water supply was affected and when the supply was resumed, the government instructed the citizens to consume boiled water for a few days. AFNA swung into action in donating 10,000 meals to foodbanks in Dallas, Houston and Austin. The AFNA donors once again rose to the occasion and promptly responded to the fund raising. Thank you donors for your generous donations towards AFNA's Texas Winter Storm relief.



SUPPORT

TEXAS

RELIEF CAMPAIGN

Given the continued need for relief in the aftermath of the unprecedented winter storm in southern United States, AFNA had contributed 10,000 meals (food and water) through the food banks from various parts of Texas.

We appeal for your generous contributions to enable us to serve more.

Donate via check or online:
<http://assamfoundation.net/give-back/donate>

Assam Foundation of North America | assamfoundation@yahoo.com

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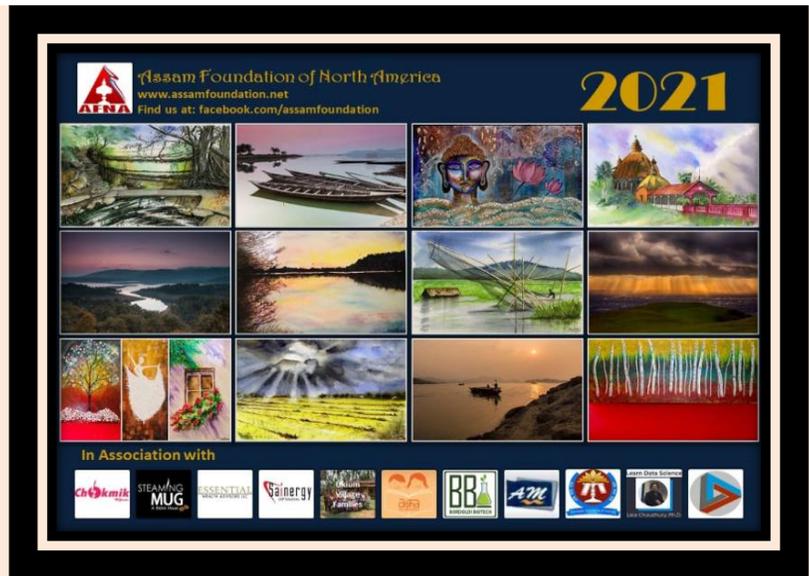


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2021 Calendar Campaign

by Lipika Deka

In the midst of a pandemic the AFNA calendar team worked hard to get the calendar campaign in place. The calendar team had two groups: the design team and the distribution team. The design team was led by Chandan Mazumdar who created the calendar design and worked with Rita Kakati and Debabrata Sarma, who provided valuable feedback through many rounds of proof readings. The beautiful artworks in the calendar were contributed by three Assamese artists from California Bay area, Mausam Hazarika, Reetom Hazarika and Nandana Hazarika. The artwork consists of both paintings drawn and photographs taken by the three artists.



The Assamese calendar dates were calculated by our volunteers Debabrata Sarma and Pallav Saikia who took time to create their own Assamese calendar as the official Assamese calendar doesn't come out until later in the year. The distribution team consists of Niren Choudhury, Lipika Deka, Sarfaraz Taher, Pallav Saikia, Chandan Talukdar and Enakshi Baruah. We are very fortunate to receive more donors for advertisements from across North America and Assam that supported the calendar this year. Niren Choudhury worked hard with a printer in Delhi to get the calendars printed and shipped on time to New Jersey. The whole distribution process got more complicated this year due to the pandemic, but our dedicated local volunteers in various states made it possible. We managed to either deliver by hand contactless or mailed the calendars. This year we started a new tradition of appreciating our donors who have made it possible for AFNA to support our projects with their generous donations. All donors whose donation for the year 2020-2021 was at least \$200 and AFNA has their mailing address were sent a free calendar as a small token of appreciation from us. We hope to continue and grow this tradition. A special thanks to all our calendar campaign donors who made it possible to have another successful calendar campaign.

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2021 Spring Newsletter

Join us for our annual GBM 2021 virtually on June 26, 2021

AFNA is planning our 2021 GBM again virtually on Saturday, June 26, 2021. Please join us to learn about AFNA's projects and initiatives for the year 2020-2021 year. We were very happy with the success of our first 2020 virtual GBM due to Covid-19, but we realized that the virtual format provided an opportunity for more volunteers and donors as well as interested people around the globe to join our GBM. So, we are planning to continue our virtual GBM this year as well. We hope you will join us. Stay tuned for more information and the zoom link.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

You can donate either by check or via online at:

<http://assamfoundation.net/give-back/donate>

You will find all the necessary information about ways to donate in the above link.

Become a volunteer today!

If you would like to join us as a volunteer, there are many ways you can help - steward a project, do fundraising, keep our website updated, raise awareness among your friends about the foundation's efforts, discuss great ideas for new projects and initiatives - the possibilities are limitless. Come join us and make a difference!

How to Donate?

Visit AFNA Website to Donate:

<http://assamfoundation.net/give-back/donate>

or

Support AFNA through our Partners

AmazonSmile and **UnitedWay**

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice
- Your AmazonSmile online purchases could help AFNA every time you shop, at no cost to you
- Shop at smile.amazon.com and choose AFNA

United Way



Support AFNA Projects using United Way charitable Giving at www.unitedway.org

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