

SOCIETY FOR EMPOWERMENT, SERVICE, TRAINING AND AWARENESS - AUSTRALIA

Helping the disabled and disadvantaged
Registered charity in Victoria, Australia

INDEPENDENCE, INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

Annual Review, 2021-22:

The year 2021-22 did not start in a happy note due to the ongoing Covid pandemic. *Shishu Sarothi* sustained their work in Goalpara despite the difficult times that they had to go through. They continued to stay in touch with the Goalpara families through tele-rehabilitation services, arranged to distribute relief materials and assistive devices to some of the needy children's families. Despite poor network connectivity and lack of smartphones, many families made the extra effort to avail of the tele-rehabilitation services.

The Early Intervention Centre in Goalpara functioned in a sporadic manner. During 2020-21, they were able to make only 16 trips to Goalpara and then suspended due to the second wave of the pandemic. They resumed the outreach visits again in November 2021 and had to be cautious again in January, 2022 when the Omicron wave hit the country. The visits resumed cautiously again in April 2022. Follow ups were done with 231 children and 439 rehabilitation sessions were held between April 2021 and March 2022.

We are proud to have been able to help B. Barooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati at a time when they were having financial crunch. They have since then been able to secure financial help of for the treatment of the needy and underprivileged children receiving cancer treatment in the Institute from the HT Parekh Foundation, India. This means that the funds sent by us have been used to fulfil other gaps in the treatment of the children and have gone a long way in covering their services. They were used for initial investigations, initial treatment, Emergency life-saving medicines and treatment of needy patients not eligible for other schemes.

Due to lockdown and difficulties faced by SESTAA's members, not much fundraising or member welfare activities took place during the year. The June and September walks could not take place due to Covid restrictions. From our Bihu attendees, we got a generous donation of \$599.75 and other donations throughout the year came to \$4628.18 which is very impressive. We are very grateful to all our supporters who have continued to support us and thereby acknowledging the good work being done by us.

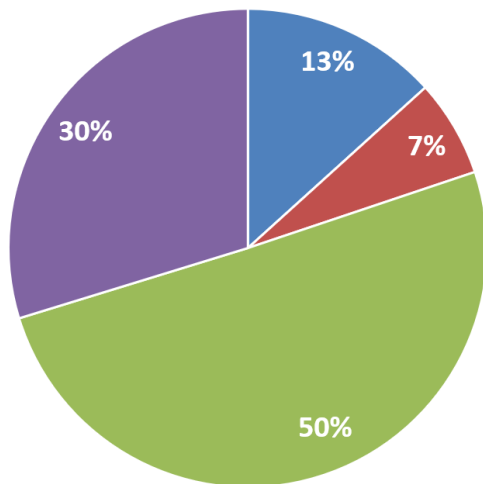
In the coming year, we would like to focus on preventative vaccines for cancer, such as the HPV vaccine, which can prevent cancers in young girls to a great extent. This vaccine has very low coverage in Assam compared to other States in India and there is a need to raise people's

awareness about its availability and usefulness. This will be in addition to our existing projects and the upcoming Performing Arts Evening by People with Disabilities in May, 2023.

SESTAA had 48 members during the year- 12 Active members, 1 Associate member and 35 Ordinary members. I thank all supporters, donors, volunteers and Committee members for their contribution during the year. Thank you.

2021-22 INCOME

■ Fees ■ Fundraising ■ Donation ■ Other



2021-22 EXPENSES

■ Admin expense

