

SOCIETY FOR EMPOWERMENT, SERVICE, TRAINING AND AWARENESS - AUSTRALIA

Helping the disabled and disadvantaged
Registered charity in Victoria, Australia

INDEPENDENCE, INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION

Annual Review, 2020-21

The year 2020-2021 started in a somewhat positive note. We launched a new initiative to provide financial support to children with cancer for their initial assessment and treatment at the B Barooah Cancer Institute (BBCI), Guwahati. Many children coming to the Institute cannot afford the initial costs of assessment and investigation. Even after diagnosis, due to the cost of chemotherapy and medicines, some parents are forced to stop the treatment of their children even though childhood cancers are highly curable. Few SESTAA members also helped (in their individual capacity) with the Khalsa Centre in Guwahati to construct a community kitchen and storeroom in the premises of the BBCI, Guwahati to help feed the poor families seeking treatment at the hospital.

Two Melbourne –based therapists, Mr Nirav Sanjanwala, Physiotherapist from Go Run Go Physio – Chadstone and Ms. Gauri Sanjanwala, Paediatric Occupational Therapist offered their pro bono services to help the children in Goalpara through distance therapy. By hopping onboard at a critical juncture, the therapists will bring smiles to many children and their parents, and the process has already started in collaboration with Shishu Sarothi, Guwahati. The process started in Dec 2020.

The long-drawn Covid situation and the uncertainty of program activities made us look into our activities with fresh eyes. We focused on the health and wellbeing of our local members and community. For our members' health and wellbeing during the Covid lockdown, SESTAA started a *Social Corner* with our first walkathon cum picnic on 13 December 2020. It was remarkably well received, and our volunteers and supporters got an opportunity to meet each other during the lockdown period, join a social exercise and improve their well-being. The second walk took place on 14 March, but the one planned for June 2021 had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

During lockdown in Melbourne, few SESTAA members joined hands with members of the *Sathya Sai Sansthan*, Melbourne, and promoted social responsibility through blood donation while building friendship and good will in the community. They joined their blood donation Team (Give Hope Give Life) and have been active in donating blood to Red Cross.

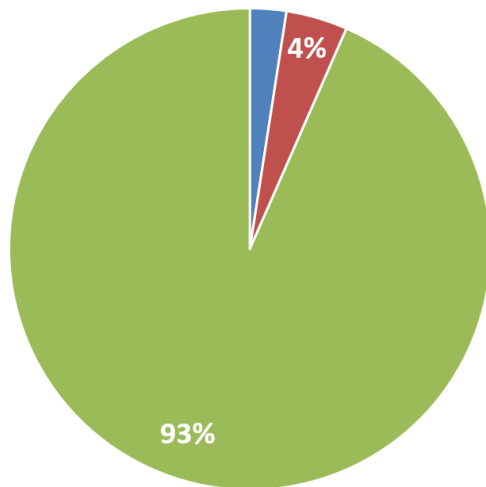
Due to Covid restrictions, we could not hold any fundraising events in the traditional manner. However, our donation drive, two walkathons and Bihu fundraiser were able to raise an impressive amount of \$49,505.21 during the year. We offer our thanks and gratitude to each and everyone for their generous support.

SESTAA had 48 members during the year- 12 Active members, 2 Associate members and 34 Ordinary members; and many more supporters. We look forward to growing our supporter base and our activities in the coming year.

We thank all supporters, donors, volunteers and Committee members for their contribution during the year. Thank you.

2020-21 INCOME

■ Membership Fees ■ Fundraising Activities
■ Donations



2020-21 EXPENSES

■ Project Funding ■ Fundraising Cost
■ Admin Cost

