



# Sahaya International

## ANNUAL REPORT

January-December 2014

### Officers

1. Ramin Yazdani, *President*
2. Dr. Koen Van Rompay  
*Secretary & Treasurer*

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- Leslie Anastassatos
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- Danielle Newberry
- Mary Philip
- Elisabeth Sherwin
- Ida-Maria Skavhaug
- Chung Truong
- Cincin Young
- Paulina Zielinska

**Website:** [www.sahaya.org](http://www.sahaya.org)

Sahaya International Inc. is a 501(c)3 organization.

### Mailing address:

Sahaya International  
c/o Koen Van Rompay  
1504 Portola Street  
Davis, CA 95616  
[koen@sahaya.org](mailto:koen@sahaya.org)



Dear friends,

I am delighted to present you our 2014 annual report highlighting our activities and accomplishments. My sincere thanks to all of you for your continued support. Together we make a big difference in the lives of many people in developing countries. It is my hope that in 2015 and the coming years, we can continue our efforts and inspire more people across the globe to join our efforts.

Sincerely,

*Koen Van Rompay (Founder/Secretary)*



# Sahaya International

## overview of activities

### READ (Rural Education & Action Development)- Tamil Nadu, India



READ is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), active in rural areas of Tamil Nadu (India). READ has been our primary partner since the inception of Sahaya International.

For a more detailed description of the many activities of READ, including copies of their annual reports, please visit [www.readindia.in](http://www.readindia.in).

#### General support of READ's programs

Through its general fundraising activities (including the sale of embroidered cards and solicitation of contributions), Sahaya International continues to provide general assistance to many of READ's programs, including:

- Two kindergarten/elementary schools: the Mother Teresa School in Periyakrishnapuram (144 students, from lower kindergarten to Vth standard ) and the Jawahar Matriculation school in Andimadam (163 students, from lower kindergarten to 5th standard). Both schools were constructed with funds raised by Sahaya International and Sahaya.eu. In 2014, the 2nd level on the Mother Teresa school was constructed.
- Three schools for mentally disabled children: two in Perambalur and one in Andimadam.
- Skill-training programs for youth and disabled people (including card-making, sewing, type-writing, computer training, book-binding) at the READ Community Resource Center.
- Women and men self-help groups that READ has previously organized. Currently approximately 1,000 groups are active. READ assists them via a micro-finance program with loans for income-generating activities.
- General support to READ's Community Resource Center (RCRC) for rural disabled people.

#### Child sponsorship program

Sahaya International and READ have an orphan sponsorship program. For a monthly contribution of \$30, the children receive basic necessities such as nutrition, clothing, and school expenses. Some donors provide extra funds to cover additional expenses of their sponsor-child. During this fiscal year, the number of sponsored children has grown to approximately 230. The sponsors receive regular letters and photographs.

As the years have gone by, more of these children have excelled in high school and aspired to higher education at technical schools, nursing schools and universities. Rather than drop them from our program, several years ago we took the challenge upon us to continue investing in their future by supporting their higher education. At the end of 2014, 66 youth were pursuing higher education, poised to become the next generation of leaders. While some sponsors can cover the increased costs of college, other students are being helped by having a 2nd sponsor, or via funds contributed to the "Vasanthi fund".

#### Sahaya Walks Davis

Since 2007, Sahaya International has collaborated with Global Strategies for HIV Prevention to organize four consecutive annual Hope Walks Davis events. The proceeds of this event are sent to READ to cover extra medical, travel and nutritional expenses for HIV-infected children in READ's programs and provide general assistance to uninfected children who were in dire needs. In 2011, we changed the name to Sahaya Walks. On October 12, 2014, we had the 4th Sahaya Walks Davis and raised approximately \$9,000. See page 14 for more information, or visit [www.sahayawalks.org](http://www.sahayawalks.org).

#### HIV/AIDS care and support services & HIV awareness programs

READ had previously started a HIV-positive





*At the end of 2014, approximately 230 children were part of our orphan sponsorship program in India.*

network named “Malarum Mottukal” (meaning “blossoming flower”) to assist persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV). The network meets monthly and provides counseling, medical assistance and referrals. The network has currently 178 PLHIV members. Most of them arrive in very destitute situations. Approximately 80-90% of the members are usually able to attend the monthly meetings. During the previous years, the activities of this network were largely supported by consecutive grants of Gilead Sciences, Inc.

Thanks to continued grant support from Gilead Sciences, Inc., a number of activities have been implemented during 2014:

**- Support services to PLHIV:**

Network members were given a monthly stipend of Rs 300 (approx. \$5) to cover their monthly travel expenses (to pick up medications) and some food expenses on those travel days. This has had a major impact, as most of them are currently taking antiretrovirals, which improve and stabilize their health.

On August 23, 2014, a one-day training on home-based care for HIV was provided to 30 PLHIV who had recently joined the network. A previously

developed training curriculum was used, and at the end booklets with simple information on HIV/AIDS were provided to all participants. The training included a pre- and post-test questionnaire, which for illiterate people was administered with the help of READ staff.

***Gilead Health & Counseling Center***

The Gilead Health & Counseling Center was started in 2010, and is located in the READ Community Resource Center. Every month the health nurse checks the height and weight of the network members, sometimes checks their blood pressure, provides first aid, and provides health advice. The health center also distributes condoms, and the staff gives condom demonstrations.

In the counseling center, the members are given individual and family counseling, conflict resolution, legal advice and aid depending upon their family circumstances. In 2014, 75 PLHIV members and their families have been making use of this counseling center on a regular basis. In addition, the part-time counselor also visits PLHIV at their home to provide counseling and assist with conflict resolution.



## Construction of 2nd level of Mother Teresa School - India

In 2008, we completed the first level of the school. As the number of students kept increasing, there was the need for more classrooms. Thanks to fundraising by Sahaya, our partner organization READ was able to complete construction of the 2nd level. The inauguration, with performances of the students, was celebrated on January 9, 2015.







(From top left clockwise): HIV awareness rally; the HIV network celebrates social Pongal festival together; the monthly meeting; training on home-based care.

**- READ(Y) made shop.**

The so called “READ(Y) MADE” shop was started thanks to grant support from the Gilead Foundation. The shop opened officially on September 5th, 2014, with the goal of generating income for the PLHIV programs. Products sold include assorted fancy items (cosmetics, cheap jewelry, etc), stationery, small toys, hygiene items, snacks and cold drinks. It also sells a variety of notebooks that are produced by the READ vocational training bookbinding unit,

**- HIV/AIDS awareness program**

Every year, December 1st is commemorated as World AIDS Day, with various activities organized by many governmental and non-governmental organizations to promote HIV/AIDS awareness among people. Also this year, READ conducted a

special HIV/AIDS awareness rally in Andimadam and surrounding villages. More than 700 people participated in this rally. The participants consisted of members of the PLHIV network (“Malarum Mottukal”), leaders and members of the local women self-help groups, the children and youth of our orphan sponsorship program, and READ staff. They carried banners, chanted slogans and distributed freely more than 1200 of the cartoon-based HIV education booklets that we had previously made (see <http://sahaya.org/iec-materials.html>).

**Lamling Vista (Nagaland, India)**

2014 marked the sixth year of providing education to the kids of Yongam Village, with an approximate enrollment of 150 students, 8 teachers (who, for the

first time, are all college graduates) and 1 janitor. It was the first school year when students had a dedicated computer class with 4 desktop computers and a specialized computer teacher. It has been very exciting for the kids to learn basic computer skills which will be instrumental in helping them keep up with the advancements in technology.

The school board raised the concern that the school property and kids should be protected by enclosing the school grounds with a fence. So with funds raised via Sahaya International, a metal fence was erected in September 2014.

Exciting news is that the Indian government in the state of Nagaland is developing an interest in this private school and is considering that, if a kitchen is available at the school, to to have the Lamling Vista become a government recognized school. This would mean that they could provide math and science teachers and pay their salaries.

## HIV Awareness of the Deaf (Kenya)

This program is managed by our partner organization “Sahaya Deaf Kenya”, and led by

program coordinator Jacquelyn Odwesso. This program, originally funded by a 2004 grant from the World Bank, created a Peer Education Network to teach deaf youth and adults about sexual health & hygiene, puberty, relationships, and HIV/AIDS. In 2007, we published and distributed “The Deaf Peer’s Education Manual - A training manual with interactive-based activities for basic understanding of sexual health, HIV and AIDS” (to download, visit [www.sahaya.org/deaf/index.html](http://www.sahaya.org/deaf/index.html)).

During 2014, thanks to continued grant support from Gilead Sciences, the staff of Sahaya Deaf undertook to make a 1st film on Deaf awareness to generally enlighten service providers such as nurses, doctors, children’s rights officers, paramedics, lawyers, police, education officers, teachers, bankers, hoteliers etc, on who the Deaf person/child is. The goal is to reduce communication barriers, promoting the Deaf community’s access to professional services, positively impacting the community members’ health, rights, education, and social and economic status. The movie can be viewed at [www.vimeo.com/126270157](http://www.vimeo.com/126270157). Plans are in progress to develop additional movies.



*HIV Awareness of the Deaf (Kenya). Part 1 of the short film captures what deafness is, who a Deaf person is, mode of communication, and culture. Above are a few screenshots of the video ([www.vimeo.com/126270157](http://www.vimeo.com/126270157)).*



## Orphan and School Programs in Kenya

Sahaya International has been providing support to three orphan and school programs in Kenya. All these programs run a combination of school programs and orphan support, where some children stay permanently at the organization, while others still live with their families or guardians, but in dire situations, and therefore are provided with support such as school supplies, clothing or nutrition.

The Rehema Daycare, School and Orphan program in the Korogocho slums of Nairobi has been a partner of Sahaya since 2001. Rehema currently feeds and educates approximately 600 children. Approximately fifty of the children have no place to go to, and stay permanently at the Center. Challenges this past year include that the wife of Fr. Erastus developed a very serious leg infection which required her to be hospitalized for many months. Thanks to generous donors, we were able to cover her medical bills and she was able to return home to take care of the children who stay at the center. Another challenge is that the government decided to build a road through the slums, which led to the loss of several classrooms. In addition, the construction work, which was very slow, made it very difficult for students, especially the youngest ones, to reach the school. After the rains, the ditches of the construction work also became dirty ponds that became a source of mosquitoes with various vector-borne diseases such as malaria.

During the past year, we have adopted several more programs, including the Candlelight Program and Rafiki Caring Home.

The Candlelight program, run by Fred and Alice Afwai, started to receive support from Sahaya since 2013. Fred had been a longterm collaborator and friend of Sahaya. Candlelight runs a school that currently has approximately 390 students; approximately 23 students stay permanently at Candlelight. Candlelight also operates an income-generating tailoring unit.

Rafiki Caring home currently takes care of approximately 100 children. In addition, they run 2 schools, one at Nakuru (with 65 children), one at Ibencho (with 185 children).

To help facilitate these programs and distribute the

funds raised by Sahaya to these several organizations, we work closely with Fred Afwai, who has been a long-term friend and collaborator of Sahaya International.

## Sahaya Vietnam program

This program was initiated by Sahaya director, Chung Truong, in close collaboration with the Buu Son Monastery. It provides much needed support services to very poor families in the rural area of Kien Giang, including the construction of simple homes (at \$1,000 per house) and educational scholarships for children. During 2014, funds were raised to construct 39 houses, and to support 162 needy students, including 6 college students.

In 2014, Sahaya International's Vietnam program received generous grant support by the Ping and Amy Chao Family Foundation and the Transparent Fish Fund. The grant also allowed rebuilding of a damage bridge. The new bridge was inaugurated as the "Sahaya and Transparent Fish Fund Friendship Bridge".

For more information on all these programs, see page 9, and visit [www.sahayavietnam.org](http://www.sahayavietnam.org).



While Sahaya International was registered in the USA, we have also sister organizations that are registered in their respective countries, that share the same goals and causes, particularly our program in India:

- **Netherlands:**

Sahaya International was recognized in 2009 by the government of the Netherlands as ANBI. Donations are now tax-deductible. For more information, visit [www.sahaya.eu/nl.html](http://www.sahaya.eu/nl.html).

- **Belgium:**

In July 2009, a core team of volunteers in Belgium registered the non-profit organization Sahaya International.eu ("Sahaya.eu"). For more information, visit [www.sahaya.eu](http://www.sahaya.eu).



## Orphan and school programs in Kenya



*The orphan and school programs in Kenya that are supported by Sahaya International consist of the Candlelight program, Rafiki Caring Home, and the Rehema Daycare, School and Orphan program. Their activities also include medical camps (Rafiki) and a library (Rehema).*



# Sahaya Vietnam program





This program, which is coordinated by Sahaya International board member Cincin Young, focuses on combating Dengue fever in the Philippines through a combination of activities, including information drives, mosquito control (via ovitraps and Bti mosquito dunks), surveillance and monitoring of mosquito populations. For more information, visit [www.mdfa.shutterfly.com](http://www.mdfa.shutterfly.com).



*Seminar on making ovitraps.*



*Monitoring of mosquito larvae.*



*Students of Xavier University making ovitraps.*



*The MDFA Officers and Board Members. From left: Dr. Menelo Navarro (President), Mr. Danilo Gualberto (Technical Director), Mr. Alex Tito Besinga (Chair DMCT), Dr. Cincin Young (Executive Director), Dr. Dulce Dawang (VP & Treasurer), Mr. Jessie Co (Project Coordinator) and Mr. John Gualberto (Administrative Asst.)*



# Sahaya International Events

We thank the many individuals and organizations that dedicated their time, resources and talents to organize these events, which spread awareness about our work and helped us to raise funds.

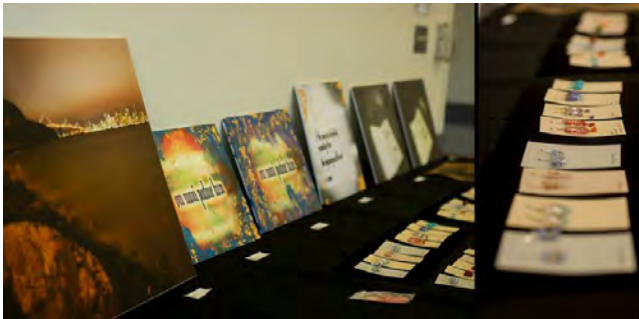
## Colors of Divine Love: A Musical Journey with Poet-Saints of India

On February 15, 2014, Jayanti Sahasrabudde accompanied by fellow musicians, did a benefit concert for Sahaya International at International House Davis. Snacks were provided by Preethi Indian cuisine.



## Sahaya Art Charity Event.

On April 27, an art event was organized by Sahaya board member Chung Truong and his friends in San Jose, to raise funds for the Sahaya Vietnam programs.



## “Sorta Like Heaven” music event.

On September 26, a music party was organized to celebrate the music of the 80’s with Yolo County’s premiere Cure cover band, Sorta Like Heaven. Donations were collected at the door to support Sahaya’s orphan programs.



## Sahaya Walks Davis - 2014

On October 12, the 4th Sahaya Walks took place. This is an educational and fun(d)-raising event that provides an opportunity for children, along with family members and friends to make a difference in the lives of orphans and vulnerable children by providing health-care, education, shelter and food.

**DID YOU  
KNOW...**



We have now 2 Sahaya songs. The first one was written by Elizabeth Bush and Joab Maldonado. In 2014, Sandeep Khurana wrote the song “Let’s go Sahaya” for the occasion of our Sahaya Walks event. To check them out, visit <http://sahaya.org/song.html>





To take Sahaya International to the next level, reach a larger audience and widen our ripple effect of “making a difference,” we started in 2010 a collaboration with ReelAid ([www.reelaid.org](http://www.reelaid.org)), a Hollywood-based organization started by film maker/ actor Andy Lauer, to make a cutting-edge promotional video that would highlight our activities. In 2013, the documentary was completed. Narration was provided by Academy Award winner Jeremy Irons and the theme song “May it be” was provided by Enya.

Since then, the documentary has already been shown at 6 film festivals, and has received 2 awards. For more information, visit [www.sahayagoingbeyond.org](http://www.sahayagoingbeyond.org). In 2014, our partner organization Sahaya International.eu organized a successful movie premiere event in Antwerp.



# Sahaya International in the news



- Interview Koen Van Rompay (Dierenartsenwereld, March 2014, p. 30-33).
- “Annual Davis Walk helps HIV-affected children in India. Davis Enterprise, October 7, 2014



**SAAA-எஸ்எஎ** (GILEAD FOUNDATION)  
**READ(Y)MADE PRODUCTS SALES CENTER.**  
**ரீடு நிறுவனத்தின் உற்பத்தி பொருட்கள் விற்பனை மையம்.**

- நோட்டு புத்தகங்கள் - NOTE BOOKS
- வாழ்த்து அட்டைகள் - GREETING CARDS
- அலுவலக பொருட்கள் - OFFICE STATIONERIES
- அலங்கார பொருட்கள் - FANCY MATERIALS
- நகல் எடுத்தல் - XEROX
- லேமினேஷன் - LAMINATION

**ரீடு-ரிசல்வம்**  
 READ (Y) MADE PRODUCTS SALES CENTER  
 திருவள்ளூர் நகராட்சி நிர்வாகம்



The so called “READ(Y) MADE” shop was started thanks to grant support from the Gilead Foundation. The shop opened officially on September 5th, 2014, with the goal of generating income for the PLHIV programs. Products sold include assorted fancy items (cosmetics, cheap jewelry, etc), stationery, small toys, hygiene items, snacks and cold drinks. It also sells a variety of notebooks that are produced by the READ vocational training bookbinding unit,





Sunday,  
October 12, 2014  
1 to 4 pm

Because we care for HIV-affected children in India

Many people in Davis showed that we truly care about HIV-affected children in India. We walked, played games, ate snacks, drank lemonade, watched Indian performers, wrote letters, and raised approximately \$9,000 to provide the infected children in our programs in India with hope for a future.

We want to thank all participants and the amazing team of volunteers and partner organizations that made Sahaya Walks a success.

We also thank our partners: International House Davis, First Baptist Church, Global Strategies for HIV Prevention, University Covenant Church, Davis Community Church, United Methodist

Church Davis, Unitarian Universalist Church, India Association of Davis, Davis Sunset Rotary Club, Visions UC-Davis, the Key Club and CSF club of Davis High School, and American Association of University Women.





# Sahaya International

## financial summaries

### Statement of Activities (Jan. - Dec. 2014)

#### Income

Contributions & Grants	242,310
Other income	3
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$242,313</b>

#### Expenses

Grants	239,133
Fundraising & Administration	6,240
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$245,373</b>

**Net Income** -\$3,060

### Statement of Financial Position (Dec. 31, 2014)

#### Assets

Cash and Equivalents	20,244
Contributions receivable	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$20,244</b>

#### Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0
Other Liabilities	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Total Assets & Liabilities** \$20,244

Net assets, January 1, 2013 \$23,304

Net income -3,060

**Net assets, December 31, 2014** \$20,244