



Kotdwarahelp

www.kotdarahelp.org | 2016 Annual Report

The story of our work in Kotdwara, India





We are a not-for-profit charity that provides practical help and hope to people living in poverty in Kotdwara, India.

Kotdwara is a town of almost 40 000 people in the northern Indian state of Uttarakhand, about 200 km northeast of Delhi.

Our work is among people living in slums and nearby jungle villages in the foothills of the Himalayas.



Our Mission

To bring love, hope, dignity and purpose to the poor in Kotdwara.

Our Vision

To focus on education, nutrition, health and human rights, so that individual lives are impacted, empowered and restored. We seek to bring about community change and generational transformation.

Our History

Kotdwara Help (www.kotdwarahelp.org) formally commenced operations in April 2015. Doug Thomas and Amit Samuel, our Project Director in Kotdwara, worked intensively during 2015 to generate the finances and resources necessary to establish three education centres, serving 120 children in total. Sadly, the same year one other centre had to close due to opposition from local villagers. (We hope to reopen this centre in the future.)

In 2015 we also provided funds for the essential medical care of a young man named Aman. Aman was travelling to Delhi monthly for vital treatment and rehabilitation.

In September 2015 Doug first met with the Kotdwara Police anti-human trafficking team, and we subsequently purchased a much-needed printer to assist their work.

Towards the end of the year we opened our fifth education centre in Village Kadarganj. This centre predominantly serves an extended Muslim family living in poverty, approximately 20 kms from Kotdwara.

Our People



Amit Samuel,
Project Officer

The Thomas Family

Daisy Samuel,
Teacher
(6 days per week)



2016 IN REVIEW

2016 was an incredible year for Kotdwara Help. We:

- clarified our vision and core values
- developed a strategic plan
- formalised our governance structures
- generated much-needed financial support.

Our first full year of operation saw current projects gather momentum and new initiatives begin. The core of our work is Kotdwara Help's education centres.

We employ a teacher and a cook at each of our five centres. Our students, aged 4–12, attend classes six days a week for two hours a day. They receive a large healthy meal at the end of the day's lessons. The children at each centre also have a sports and games lesson one day a week.

- Kotdwara Riverside slum with 40 students. Our teacher is Kiran and our cook is Asha.
- Kotdwara City Centre with 35 students. Our teacher is Naomi and our cook is Bano. Also, young women receive technology training at this centre.
- Village Kadarganj (commenced in October 2015) with 35 children. Our teacher is Sunjay and our cook is Masher.
- Village Parmawala with 35 students. Our teacher is Rakhi and our cook is Savitri.
- Village Bagnala with 40 students. Our teacher is Neelam and our cook is Vejyanti Devi.

2016 MILESTONES

- Mission, Vision Statement, Core Values Statement, and Strategic Plan published
- Launched our new website
- With the help of Dr Anil Kumar Singh, we provided a pop-up medical centre to deliver basic medical assistance to 59 slum families
- Purchased three sewing machines for tailoring classes in Village Parmawala
- Constructed a new "outdoor classroom" for Village Bagnala
- May: commenced operations at the City Education Centre in the centre of Kotdwara, including technology classes
- Moved the Riverside education centre to rented premises to allow for all-weather lessons and programs
- Commenced Anti-Human Trafficking Education Programs in local schools and began regular meetings with Kotdwara's anti-human trafficking police team
- Conducted anti-drugs street rally
- Initiated monthly teacher training workshops
- Delivered emergency assistance to slum families: plastic sheeting for shelter during the monsoon season

2016 MILESTONES

- Provided ongoing medical assistance to individuals, such as Sunjay, Krish, Sharafat and Aman
- Supported Kotdwara's Leprosy Mission House
- Supported Sunjay Kumar's law school fees
- September: Held the inaugural Project Help Celebration Function, attended by local politicians, police, community leaders and social workers
- Conducted a Youth Leadership Seminar, presented by Doug Thomas, and launched the "100 Rupee Challenge" community development project
- Distributed preloved footwear donated in Australia
- Distributed a warm sweater as a Christmas gift to each of our 180 children.

GOVERNANCE

In India we are registered as the Panah Foundation, which is also known locally as Project Help. We were registered in 2016 as an NGO with the Indian Government. The Board of Panah Foundation comprises seven men and women, all respected citizens and community leaders from Kotdwara and neighbouring towns. The Board meets four times a year. The address of our office is registered with the Government.

2017 GROWTH & IMPROVEMENT

All donations and funds transferred from Australia will be deposited into a registered FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) account

We are indebted to the many people both in Kotdwara and in Australia who support our work, and whose encouragement and generosity make all that we do possible. Doors are opening and lives are being changed.

Thank you for being such an important part of this story.

EFT DONATIONS TO:

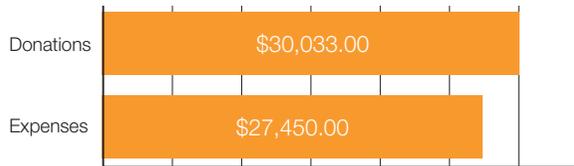
BSB: 812-170
ACC: 1000122703
Account Name: DJ & RM Thomas INDIA

Please include your name in the reference section. At this point in time, we regret that donations are not tax deductible.

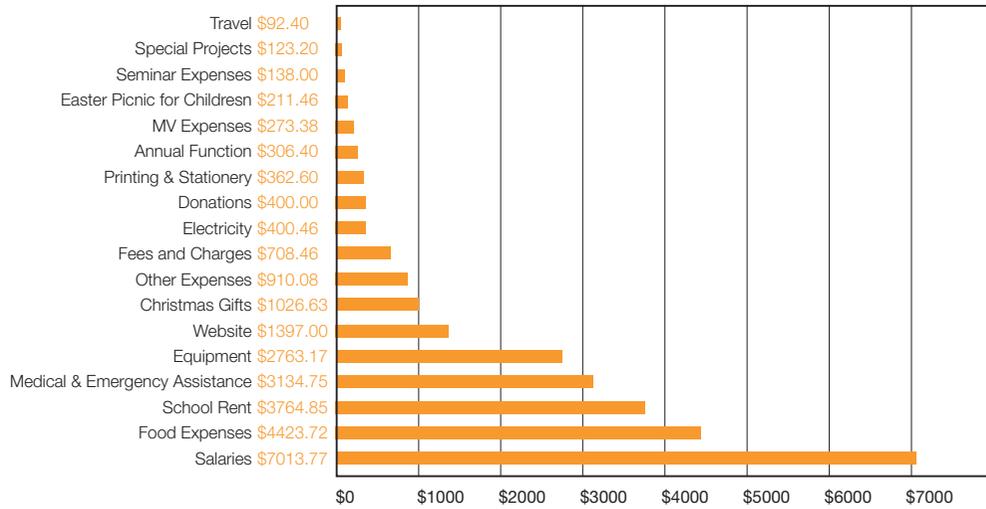
www.kotdwarahelp.org
info@kotdwarahelp.org
Doug Thomas 0434 393233
Rowena Thomas 0405534468



2016 FINANCIALS



Kotdwarahelp 2016 Donations and Expenses



Kotdwarahelp 2016 Expenditure





KotdwaraHelp

