

# UCSD PROJECT RISHI

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RURAL INDIA SOCIAL & HEALTH IMPROVEMENT



# Why is healthcare a problem in India?

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- 350 Million Indians live under the poverty line
- In 2013, India reported over 1,300,000 cases of Malaria
- Every 22 minutes a woman is raped in India. 37% of all women in India have encountered abuse at least once in their life
- Sexual Education and Awareness is often considered a taboo topic to discuss with students in India and hence often ignored

# Who Are We?

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- Non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the sustainable development and growth of rural Indian communities
- Partner with local social enterprises to identify issues central to our target communities and provide the resources necessary to implement solutions through extensive field research and on-campus initiatives
- We work with the Helen Keller Center, San Diego Center for the Blind, The Deaf Community Services for Blind, UCSD Student Health Advocates, and Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention Center



# Our Projects, India Service Trips

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- Throughout the academic year, UCSD Project RISHI designs and plans projects in the fields of healthcare, education and sanitation.
- Annually, students travel to India for 2-3 weeks to implement these projects in rural areas and villages
- 100% of our funds raised are used for our sustainable projects and nothing is subsidized for members of the organization hence allowing us to have a greater impact
- Attending our India trips is a great way to get experience working in health clinics and even obtain hands-on clinical experience which is not possible in the US
- India trips expose students to international philanthropy, rural healthcare, and challenges faced in less developed countries

# Anandwan

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- Rural village in Maharashtra housing over 4000 disabled and leprosy patients.
- The village has two hospitals, a university, an orphanage, and a school for the blind.
- Anandwan “Forest of Joy” acts as a sanctuary providing patients with work and education allowing them to support their families and establish self confidence.
- However, Anandwan receives very little support from the Indian Government and hence often struggles with financial constraints preventing patients from accessing medical, educational and rehabilitative needs.



# Swaranandwan Orchestra

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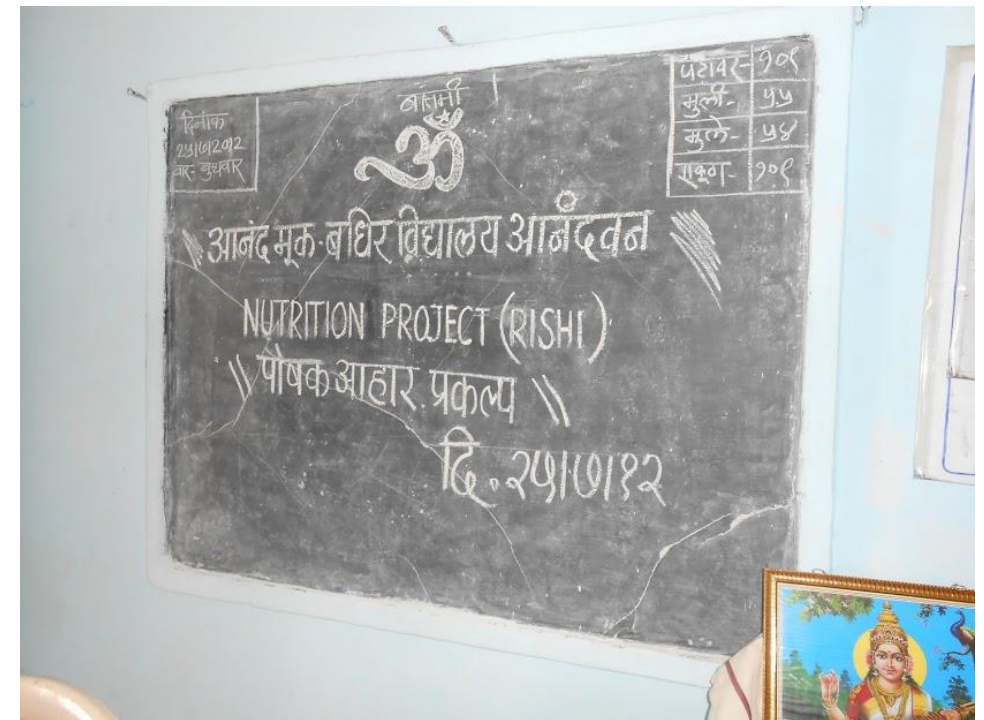
- Music and Dance troupe of Anandwan made up of disabled residents and leprosy patients
- Increases mental, physical and emotional health of both performers and the audience by the means of therapeutic theater
- In the Summer of 2012, UCSD Project RISHI raised and donated \$7000 towards the orchestra to help them develop an online media channel and even set them up to perform internationally





# General and Sexual Health

- Project RISHI works along with doctors to create a program aimed to inform and educate children in rural villages about hygiene, nutrition, and first aid. Project RISHI organizes health education camps every summer in Anandwan for students where they attend seminars and are provided with health kits.
- Children in Anandwan fall victim to sexual abuse due to the lack of sexual education. Project RISHI has developed specific models that can effectively teach the students to recognize sexual advances. Project RISHI aims to empower children with the knowledge required to lead safe, stable lives in society.









# Campus Initiatives

- There is plenty of work to do over the academic year. Not only do we plan projects, but we host marketing, fundraising and sponsorship events.
- Also work with other chapters of Project RISHI in highschools in San Diego. Network with doctors and other health-related professionals who can provide us with advise and guidance.
- We like to get involved with other South Asian organizations such as Sangam & ISA.
- In the past year, we raised \$7000 from fundraising and donations. We want more this year and you can help us out!



# Awards and Recognition

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- UCSD Organization of the Year 2011
- Davis Peace Project: 2013
- Clinton Global Initiative University: 2011-2014

Gained acceptances into these conferences based on our projects. These conferences provide a great opportunity for UCSD Project RISHI members to meet other motivated students, learn about different types of projects, network with like minded individuals, and get informed about all aspects of philanthropy.





# Meet the Board!

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President: Radhika Gulhar

Vice President: Ahish Chitneni

Secretary: Ipsita Praharaj

Finance Chair: Samkit Jain

Marketing Chair: Rohan Bhow

Fundraising Chair: Vaish Sridhar

Sponsorship Chair: Shivani Patel

External Affairs: Arun Singh

Project Planning Chair: Rushil Patel

Webmaster: Sonal Prasad





# We love to have fun also!

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# Thank You

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