Dear Friends of AIF,

Like many of you, AIF has been deeply moved and saddened by recent events in the United States, and we would like to express our empathy and offer our support.

Each one of you is part of the AIF community to drive social and economic change for those who need it most in India. Fundamental to this pursuit is a recognition that the problems of those we serve are in many cases rooted in historic injustices - institutionalized and generationally reinforced marginalisation and discrimination.

These struggles run through the core of the world's largest democracy but are of course not dissimilar to those faced by Black Americans in our own democratic society here in the US. Slavery and centuries of racism have limited Black Americans and, time and time again, we witness the inequality, violence, and injustice they must face (as in the past several weeks).

Today, we remind ourselves that if it were not for the pain, sacrifice, and strength of Black Americans, there would not be an Indian diaspora. Our Black American Brothers and Sisters, through the victories of Civil Rights, paved the way for immigration, ultimately allowing us to create organizations, such as the American India Foundation, that support the Education, Livelihoods, and Public Health of the most vulnerable communities in India.

We, therefore, stand with the Black community and we encourage you to do so as well. Reject racism and implicit biases within ourselves and our social and professional communities. Let us ask ourselves as Indians and Indian Americans, how can we be better?

We encourage you to join us in expressing solidarity, showing support, and fostering community during this critical time.

Thanks!

AIF'S COVID-19 RESPONSE APPROACHES THE 250,000 MARK, AS IT SERVES PEOPLE ACROSS 15 STATES

Thanks to the support of our generous donors, we are now serving close to 250,000 people across India. As the number of #COVID19 cases increases, so do the needs of children and families in India. Despite access restrictions, AIF's teams are working around the clock with 15 state governments and our robust local partner network to support #migrant families with hygiene and ration kits.

In times of crisis, our work is needed more than ever. Help AIF protect and support communities affected by COVID-19.

EVERY DAY COUNTS. SAVE LIVES.

STRENGTHENING LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN OF MIGRANT COMMUNITIES

AIF's Learning and Migration Program (LAMP) works in geographies prone to a very high level of distress migration, to ensure that children from migrating communities are retained in schools. In a multiplier effect, there are significant improvements in learning outcomes and progressive participation of the key stakeholders – parents, teachers, school principals, school management committees, representatives of PRIs and youth volunteers.

This independent evaluation of LAMP's interventions in Odisha establishes positive changes in the learning achievements of children in mathematics (2.89 times), science (2.63 times), and language (1.3 times). Further, the study also found students from Grades 1 & 2 to be more “school-ready”, which means they were better prepared to deal with new school and classroom environment.

Read More

IN UNCERTAIN TIMES, DATA MATTERS

With schools across India closing their doors indefinitely in March 2020, millions of children are bearing the brunt of an unprecedented pause in their education. AIF's Learning, Evaluation, and Impact (LEI) team used the lockdown period to study its implications on families of students from the Digital Equalizer (DE) program.

In this first-of-a-kind study, Anika Badyal Basu, LEI Director, writes about the exciting experiment to bring data that could assist in deriving positive changes for children that shape the future of their education.

Read More.

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