2019-2020 Alumni Year in Review

AIF WILLIAM J. CLINTON FELLOWSHIP FOR SERVICE IN INDIA
Letter from the CEO

Dear Alumni,

The past 12 months have been turbulent, to say the least. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down, with the US and India significantly affected. In the US, the racial justice movement picked up a new sense of urgency.

Throughout all of this, you've come together as a community. Last summer, you stepped up as mentors to lend advice to the new cohort, and you hosted events in your regions to build community. This spring and summer, you spoke at our first-ever AIF Instagram Live series and our virtual Endpoint ceremony. You supported our COVID-19 Response campaign, channeling resources where most needed.

Speaking with Alumni and hearing your stories never ceases to inspire awe in me. Whether you were in the inaugural batch in 2001 or in the most current cohort: your choices are a testament to your commitment to building strong US-India ties that transform our communities for the better. On behalf of the entire AIF team, I'd like to thank you for your service as Fellows and your continued support as Alumni.

Wishing you all safety and good health.

In service and gratitude,
Nishant Pandey
This year, AIF hosted 36 events. These events took place across 3 cities in India. We had 205 Alumni join us for these events. We hosted a total of 20 virtual events. These events took place across 6 cities in the US.
Events!

Over the past year, alumni have participated in numerous events around the world.

From the 2018-19 Fellowship Closing Ceremony in June 2019 to the launch of the 2019-20 Fellowship Publications in July 2020, and everything in between.

Take a look back at some of the highlights over the past 12 months.
2018-19 Fellowship Closing Seminar: “Connecting Communities, Bridging Cultures.”

June 28th, 2019
New Delhi

UNESCO "Not Just Art Awards" & Exhibition

November 4th, 2019
UNESCO New Delhi

2019-20 Fellowship Closing Seminar

July 1st, 2020
Online Webinar
"Arts for Good" Forum
February 14th, 2020
New Delhi

Chicago Circle of Hope
September 25th, 2019
Chicago

Publications Launch: "Periods, Period."
July 16th, 2020
Online Webinar
Launch of the **2019-20 Fellowship Yearbook**

July 30th, 2020
Online Webinar

"**Let's Chaat: Stories of Fellowship**" Podcast

July 1st, 2020
Online Webinar

Publications Launch: "**People-Powered Partnerships vol.3 — Intersectionality in Development Practice**"

August 30th, 2020
Online Webinar
NAME: ESMERALDA HERRERA

Esmeralda Herrera, who served as an AIF Fellow with a start-up incubator in rural Bihar in 2017-18, now directs community relations for an incubator in the Bronx, NY.

She was recently featured on TV to talk about the Bronx Social Entrepreneur Pitch Night. Esmeralda found that Bihar and the Bronx have more in common than one might think when it comes to social entrepreneurship.
Mixers & Meet-ups!

WE’VE EATEN TOGETHER, LAUGHED TOGETHER, AND CHATTED TOGETHER.

The relationships our Alumni have made with each other are friendships that last a lifetime.

Over drinks, some tasty treats, and music, AIF Fellowship Alumni have forged special bonds.

Relive some great memories through last year’s (pre-COVID) Summer, Fall, and Winter gatherings; Independence Day celebrations, Holiday parties, welcome home events and send-off salutations.
Summertime Shindigs

New York: Summer Mixer
August 16th, 2019
Central Park

Boston: Summer Mixer
August 22nd, 2019
Cambridge Common
DC: Summer Mixer
August 16th, 2019
Philz Coffee

San Diego: Summer Mixer
September 4th, 2019
Punjabi Tandoor

Bay Area: Summer Mixer
September 7th, 2019
Mad Oak Bar
Fall Get-Togethers

New York: Fellows Send-off Reception
August 29th, 2019
W 79th Street Boat Basin Cafe

Chicago: Mixer
October 4th, 2019
The Drunken Bean

Hyderabad: Alumni Meetup
October 4th, 2019
The Hoppyry
Winter Gatherings

New York: Winter Mixer
December 5th, 2019
Vapiano

Delhi: Alumni Meet
November 17th, 2019
Panchsheel Park
Bay Area: Lata Krishnan & Ajay Shah's Holiday Reception

December 17th, 2020
Los Altos Hills

Delhi: Ugly Sweater Holiday Party

November 30th, 2019
Malviya Nagar

Corona Got Your Career?

June 3rd, 2020
Online Webinar
From Floods to Forests: Environmental Sustainability

Prashant Anand worked in IT before switching to social work. As an AIF Fellow serving in 2017-18, he was placed in a flood-prone region in Assam to develop a disaster-resilient livelihoods model with tribal communities. Inspired by his experience, he launched EdLiv Samanta Foundation, a social enterprise focusing on forest-dwelling communities in the Himalayas.
Furthering the Cause!

Once you were in their shoes. Now you are helping them grow to become leaders.

AIF Alumni play a crucial and important role in the future success of the AIF Clinton Fellowship Program. Through info & recruitment sessions, mentorship, and even through the selection process, Alumni help shape the program for years to come.
US-India Peer Mentoring for MAST Program Pilot 2020

Virtual Exchange

New York Info Session & Recruitment

January 14th, 2020
Online Webinar

Delhi Info Session & Recruitment

December 23rd, 2019
Online Webinar
Alumni were matched up with members from the 2019-20 Fellowship Cohort. Through Slack group chats and monthly mentorship calls, the wealth of knowledge that the class of virtual mentors provided to the Fellows was immensely helpful. Alumni helped the Fellows chart out the year, settle in their placements, and start their projects off on the right foot.
COVID-19 & AIF

IN THE MIDST OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC, ALUMNI STEPPED UP TO SUPPORT AIF.

With an unexpected global health crisis slowing the world down to a standstill, Alumni answered the call and supported AIF’s COVID-19 response.

Through Instagram Live discussions and the “Navigating COVID Series” webinars, Alumni continued their engagement and shared their stories with a global audience.

In total, we raised $677,686 in individual contributions.
Swathi Sekar: COVID-19 & Chronic Illnesses
May 12th, 2020
Instagram Live

Mohit Raj: COVID-19 & New Delhi
May 5th, 2020
Instagram Live

Crysty Skevington: Disaster Response in India & Texas
May 20th, 2020
Instagram Live
"Navigating COVID-19"

How AIF Alumni Are Adapting to the Crisis

May 16th, 2020
Online Webinar

Design Thinking Workshop

May 30th, 2020
Online Webinar

Storytelling, Education, Technology

May 9th, 2020
Online Webinar
"My time as a Fellow... allowed me to build lifelong friendships and professional relationships."

BEN LENZNER, FILMMAKER, '05-'06 ALUM

"NAVIGATING COVID-19" PART 1
Thank you.

WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.

This year has not been easy. Your unwavering supporting, engagement, and passion has been inspiring and immensely helpful.

We wish all of you a safe and healthy rest of the year and we cannot wait to see you in the future, virtual for now, and eventually in-person again.

Please keep in touch with the AIF Clinton Fellowship Program through our Facebook and Instagram, and let us know if you would be interested in hosting events in the future through email at fellowship@aif.org.

WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.