

2016-17

ANNUAL REPORT



GRAM CHETNA KENDRA

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FROM THE DESK OF SECRETARY



I am pleased to share the Annual Report of Gram Chetna Kendra for the year 2016-2017. Detailed information about GCK's efforts, programs, targets, goals, achievements, lessons learnt and activities for the year were included in the Annual Report. This report is a valuable tool in evaluating our actions, reviewing our efforts and learning about what our organization is committed to and how we had implemented our programs in the past year.

We are incredibly grateful to our board members, who have worked tirelessly on all of our activities and goals and making them a reality. Empowered by their confidence and efforts, we look ahead to the future and move forward to create an overall better community environment. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated board members, volunteers, and staff as our team that provide their own unique experiences and visions to help our organization grow. Their efforts have allowed us to strengthen our internal organization and promoted a better understanding of issues in our community.

On behalf of the board and staff of GCK, we wish to express our most sincere appreciation for our funding partners, ChildFund India, Give India, Lilliane Fond, FVTRS and Embassy of Japan, The Government of Rajasthan and The Government of India for their commitment and support to our mission and vision. Our gratitude is also extended to our individual, local, national and international NGOs and partners for their helpful contributions as well. We are indebted to these individuals and organizations for their professional and financial assistance that has helped move GCK forward.

However, my greatest thanks and appreciation must go to my entire staff and those in the project area and the community with whom we work every day. GCK is committed to an all-around more developed community that works towards sustained socio-economic development and an improved quality of life. We work as an agent of social change by implementing community-based projects that are present in rural and marginalized areas. Our projects consist of a combination of developmental strategies that aim to improve living conditions of villagers, increase community participation and encourage women's accessibility to decision making skills and other opportunities.

In the coming year, GCK hopes to improve on all of our programs and projects and achieve our goals using new and fresh strategies. We look forward to very promising prospects in the following year and hope that, with the support of our funding partners, community, staff team and board members; we will again have a very successful year filled with new accomplishments and goals that are just as great as the last.

Om Prakash Sharma
Founder & Secretary
Gram Chetna Kendra

GRAM CHETNA KENDRA : AN OVERVIEW

Recognizing the immense needs that the rural poor in Rajasthan had, a group of socially conscious individuals formed the organization, Gram Chetna Kendra in 1986. Under the leadership of Mr. Om Prakash Sharma, these individuals combined their unique talents, knowledge, skills and experiences to address the pressing issues that the communities of Rajasthan faced. Gram Chetna Kendra, which translates to Village Awareness Center, was registered as a voluntary, non-government organization under the Societies Registration Act and began formal operations from their premises located at the village of Khedi Milak, which is in the heart of the project area. Khedi Milak is located approximately 55km away from Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, in the Sambhar Block of the Jaipur District.

Prior to GCK's work in the area, it had remained virtually untouched by any mainstream development efforts, neither national nor international sources. Throughout the years, GCK has sustained a range of various activities through funding and support. Initially, the projects were solely focused on improving the welfare of the rural poor through providing them with basic needs, but the organization has since grown and evolved. Now, their mission is to focus on capacity building of the community so that they can help people help themselves. Their goal has become human resource development, improving on peoples' abilities to recognize their potential and to do this in a way that works hand in hand with their natural environment.

As very familiar to the immense needs of Rajasthan's rural poor, this group decided to combine their unique knowledge, talents, skills and experience to address the pressing issues that individuals face. Started with 2 villages of Sambhar Lake area, the organization has been grown up and working in 4 districts of Rajasthan, namely Jaipur, Tonk, Nagour and Sikar.

OUR VISION

We intend for unrelenting efforts for a catalytically initiation of people-based development intervention to ensure just and equal opportunities, minimum basic essentials to all with a dignified and higher quality of life for rural masses.

OUR MISSION

To bring awareness to the rural populace through democratic means so as to empower them and help them in gaining control over all factors that affect their individual lives and the community at large.

OUR GOAL

Initiation of catalytic interventions for ensuring partner and community-need based socio-economic self-reliance for the deprived and poverty-stricken rural masses.

OUR BELIEF

It is the belief of GCK that the rural population has enormous potential to develop their skills and knowledge and take advantage of their available local resources. Thus, we feel that it is in the best interest of the community to provide them with the necessary information and initial tools to begin the process of social integration, education, and economic development. However, in order for the improvement of lives to really take effect, it is essential for the population to accept responsibility and take initiative in developing their communities further

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

GCK has an active board which plays an important role in the governance of the organization by providing direction and guidance to the management and staff, while also supervising all its operations. List of Board Members with a brief profile is as follows:

NAME	AGE	DESIGNATION	NO. OF YEARS WITH THE ORGANIZATION	HIGHEST EDUCATION QUALIFICATION
<i>Mr. Narinder Verma</i>	58	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>15 years</i>	<i>M.S.W</i>
<i>Mr. Bajrang Singh</i>	48	<i>Vice- Chairman</i>	<i>25 years</i>	<i>BA</i>
<i>Mr. Om Prakash Sharma</i>	52	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>25 years</i>	<i>M.S.W</i>
<i>Ms. Neelam Yadav</i>	32	<i>Member</i>	<i>10 years</i>	<i>M.S.W</i>
<i>Mr. Giroar Singh Rathore</i>	47	<i>Member</i>	<i>10 years</i>	<i>BA</i>
<i>Mr. Subhash Joshi</i>	43	<i>Member</i>	<i>6 years</i>	<i>BA</i>
<i>Ms. Surekha Devi Sharma</i>	32	<i>Member</i>	<i>1 Year</i>	<i>12th</i>

MAJOR AREAS OF CONCERN

Sambhar, which translates to salt, is India's largest saline lake, stretching across the districts of Jaipur, Ajmer and Nagaur. Its salt production goes back 1500 years and has made Rajasthan the third largest salt producer in the nation. The life of a saltpan worker is hard and hazardous. They are forced to work in harsh conditions, sometimes working barefoot in the mines for hours at a time. This causes skin diseases, rashes, joint pains, bone deformities and TB and blindness from the sun. Many of the problems faced by the communities are due to the irregular and infrequent rainfall that causes drought, shortages of drinking water and fluctuations in agriculture and livestock production. These factors expose people to high risks and uncertainties. . Women and children are especially at high risk here due to discrimination and violations of Child Labor laws. They must endure the same conditions as men, but they receive less pay for their work. Children suffer the most in these situations as they have a higher risk of contracting diseases from the contaminated water. Due to lack of health facilities in the area, many problems that can be easily treated, turn into life threatening diseases such as diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria, cholera, tuberculosis and worms. Almost 80% of the children who work on the salt mining are girls; they are first to abandon their education and the last ones to receive medical attention when the family income sees large dips. Child marriage is a common practice in these communities and the source of lot of stress, both physically and emotionally for the children. Young girls remain at the mercy of their husbands and often suffer physical abuse from him and his family. Early marriage often leads to early pregnancy which causes severe health problems for both the mother and child and further continues the cycle of poverty and distress.

FAMILY HELPER PROJECT-1219

Gram Chetna Kendra is implementing Family Helper project in 20 selected villages and associated hamlets of Phulera Tehsil of Jaipur District covering approximately 25525 persons which includes 12372 female and 13153 male populations in collaboration with Child Fund India. Family Helper Project is a sponsorship based program benefitting individual children, their entire family and community. The project aims to address the needs of the community through an integrated plan of distinct components. The actions of the project are focused on children and their families, developing people to their potential, education and unifying the community on issues and ways to solve issues faced by the community. Our year's long partnership in 20 villages of Phulera Tehsil of Jaipur District has changed the lives of most vulnerable 1562 families through direct sponsorship programs. Another 3090 non sponsored families of the project villages covering more than 17000 rural populations also got benefited through Child Fund India supported Family Helper Project interventions.



HEALTHY & SECURED INFANTS

In Family Helper Project we address the poor attendance of 3-5 age group children in ECCD centers in 20 villages of Sambhar Block of Jaipur, Rajasthan. The Project reach to preschool children (3-5 years) in 20 villages ensuring through improvements in quality of ECD services provided by preschool with a combine strategy of strengthening AMC/BMC and skill training of preschool teachers. The Parents and caregivers are sensitized for healthy secured infants and children.

key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- reduced malnutrition among under-5 years children up to 70% of its present status
- improved immunization of children up to 80 % of its present status
- reduce death and the frequency of severity of illness and disability among infants
- Engaged 400 children in pre-school education through Balwadi and Anganwadi and advocate for supplementary nutrition of children in the age group of 06 months to 3 years.
- Improved maternal health services as well as ensure institutional delivery to 92 % pregnant women registered in the project area.



EDUCATED AND CONFIDENT CHILDREN

Education is a human right and primary education for all children should be free and compulsory. It should be consistent with human rights, equal respect for culture, religion and language and accessible to all children and inclusive for all. The scenario of education in the area seems to be characterized by the persistence of illiteracy, low level of enrolment in formal education and high dropouts, specifically for girls. Education is the sole entity that will break the cycle of poverty and move the community forward. The main goal of the

education program is to provide quality education to children through community participation and encouraging mainstream education systems into the villages.

In order to facilitate a greater change and have effective dent on the core issues, Project envisages adopting the strategy in collusion with children, community and key stakeholder. The project will focus on children in the age group 6-14 as core Programme intervention. In line with the problem statement the project will focus on minimizing the gender gaps in education and promote access, retention quality education. In congruency to the mission of the Child fund organization we have the mandate to epicenter towards our activities towards children well-being and promote the overall child friendly activities where the children participate for greater good.

key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- 358 children received quality education Through Remedial class
- Protective environment for children is created for 60% children in the area
- 75% Children participate in extracurricular activities.
- 40% Community members are sensitized on child rights and related issues.
- 60% Increased in number of children who are enjoying improved health status in schools of project area

YOUTH INVOLVED IN QUALITY LEARNING & SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The prime focus of the project to promote youth participation in different program cycle in the project area. Skill Trainings was provided to youth leaders. Youth learned about youth organisation, their objectives and role in villages for speed up the development. The meetings are organised with Youth and Women for identifying skills gaps as well as their skills up-gradation needs and accordingly planning and designing skill courses for them.

Youth, aged 15-24 years would be targeted in the 20 project villages of Sambhar block of Jaipur district, Rajasthan for having decent family income, good health status and also contributing for the development of their community. The project strategy has 5 components: Youth are capacitated to involve in dairy activities and getting decent earnings, provide vocational training to educated youth & employed with decent wages, increase in accessibility of youth and their families for taking benefits of Govt. social security schemes & entitlements, sensitization of youth for having hygienic practices and taking preventive measures for RTI, STI, MCH, RCH, HIV/AIDS , Capacity building of youth clubs to actively involve on community development issues.



key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- 45% youth of the project area competing their higher education and employed.
- 50% increase in the no. of youth and teenagers improve their life skills in the project area
- 70% Increase in number of youth who are enjoying improved reproductive health status in project area
- 45 families are fodder development in 10 villages to increase their income for their sustainable livelihood
- Skill development training were conducted in Computer for 45 candidates to generate income for their livelihood

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM:

A large portion of the work GCK does is through sponsors. Children in the area receive sponsors who send them money for schooling and other living expenses. We invest a great deal of time to ensure this is implemented through personal visits with the families, weight and height checks, letters for sponsors and photographs. We try to keep the sponsor and child in close contact with each other by sending them letters of their progress, daily lives, families, education and various activities they do throughout the year. We hold training sessions with children as well as staff on proper and appropriate sponsor communication. We also teach children on the importance of their sponsors and how they and their families are receiving benefits from them. Currently, there are **733 sponsored children and 819 enrolled children.**



key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- Communication of Sponsored children with their respective sponsors will be value loaded and more fruitful
- Sponsored Families and siblings of sponsored children are getting involved in mainstream programme and thereby reducing vulnerability towards local issues
- Sponsor Day Celebration (all children from all villages)
- Letter exchange and display sponsor mail/gifts between 819 sponsored and non sponsored children
- Workshop with 200 enrolled children (11 & above age group) for creative and innovative letter writing
- Periodic orientation with 819 enrolled children or parents for sponsorship program and its importance.

GRAM CHETNA ADARSH MAHILA BAHUUDHESHIYA SAHAKARI SAMITI LTD:

In the form of the federation, women feel motivated and capable enough to live life with full dignity and independence. The financial stability among the women brings sense of economic strength and empowers them to take strong decisions. GCK has formed 1 women federation for livelihood activities. Leadership development trainings were provided to the Federation members. SHGs have been promoted and it is easier to have a group of people helping each other rather than trying to reach out to every person. Financial assistance is being provided by disbursement of loans to small business.

key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- We had strengthened 91 SHGs with more than 1300 members. The loan recovery rate is almost 100%. Income generation activities like – goat rearing, buffalo are being provided to the SHG women. The group members mainly prefer to opt for internal loaning.
- 1.92 Cr. Bank Loan provided for 69 SHGs (1035 women's)
- 29 SHGS Groups linked with different livelihood opportunities (435 women's)

GIVE INDIA DONATION AND OPTION PROGRAM

Gram Chetna Kendra is also affiliated with Give India. It is a donation program through which the organization was able to generate donations from Indian and International donors. All the donations were very specific to the economically backward and poor people. This program covers the educational support for poor girl and poor boy; financial support for construction of toilets and water tanks to help out the needy people of the community. The core objective of this program is to create awareness and support to the BPL family's children in Education & health and conservation of rain water for drinking and cooking purpose and sanitation to the BPL and needy people.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TO POOR GIRL/POOR BOY

Under this section, with the support of Give India we help support young, aged **6-14**; continue their education by providing them with materials and supplies to motivate them towards schooling. Young folks from poor families are chosen and they receive items that would help further their interest in education as well as maintain proper hygiene. Each young chosen receives: 1 solar lamp, 1 school bag, 10 notebooks, 1 geometry box, 1 colored pencil box, 5 pens, 1 packet of pencils, 1 ruler, 5 erasers, 2 sharpeners, 2 sets of uniforms, 2 pairs of footwear, 2 hair oil bottles, 2 toothpastes, 2 toothbrushes, 1 nail cutter, a pair of towels and combs, 6 bathing soaps and 10 washing soaps. The number of beneficiaries covered this year is **52**.

WATER TANKS STRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR POOR FAMILIES:

The project villages in which GCK operates are dry, drought-prone area where the scarcity of rainfall causes the scarcity of water and the levels of fluoride content increases. Families must walk 1-3 km to fetch water for drinking and other basic needs. The non availability of safe drinking water in the village is also a major problem which has a bad effect on health. So GCK with the support of Give India provide finance for construction of underground tank of dimension 8' x 10' (7000 litre capacity) in their premises of home. The underground water level is very low and chance of getting source of safe drinking water is very less so rain water is collected from the roof to the underground tank through the pipe. The first rain



water is discharged outside the underground tank since the roof of the house is very dirty and the rain water get contaminated so clean rain water is collected in the underground tank and used for cooking and drinking. Through Give India, we have been able to construct ground water storage tanks. In order to maintain these structures, we educated them on roof water harvesting during the summer months and how the tanks function. This year, we were able to fund construction of **48** tanks for families in the area and provided safe drinking water and security to families.

TOILET CONSTRUCTIONS:

This very head of the Give India program ensures availability of hygienic toilets for sanitation; safeguarding women and young girls and keeping village environment and surroundings neat and clean. This aspect of the project consists of 2 different parts. One part is to raise awareness on proper sanitation while the other is the actual construction of toilets for families. Throughout the year, GCK receives funds to construct low-cost toilets for very poor families. This year, families were educated on proper sanitation and hygienic practices and **22** families received benefit for construction of toilets at their houses.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE VULNERABLE, MARGINALIZED AND SCHOOL DROPOUT YOUTH OF SAMBHAR BLOCK IN THE JAIPUR DISTRICT OF RAJASTHAN STATE SUPPORTED BY FVTRS



The project is proposed to be implemented for the poor and deprived unemployed youth of Sambhar Block of Jaipur District in Rajasthan. Employment opportunities for youth (both male & female) in the proposed area are miserable. For getting daily wages, youth are traveling to Jaipur (the only place to get a wage) every day and spending a major part of their income in travel. But for female youth, there are no options left for getting livelihood opportunities. Consequently, the Project is formulated for the Youth and the women of the area, with the purpose of providing the vocational trainings to them in different trades for their livelihood promotion.

key outcomes of the year are as follows:

- 147 Drop out Youth trained in different trades
- 145 Drop out Youth got EDP Training
- 92% youths employed/self employed

JAN VIKAS SAMITI: INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN & YOUNGSTERS WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM

GCK is fortunate to have a partnership with JanVikas Samiti. It seeks to provide sponsorship support for the rehabilitation of disabled children in Sambhar block, jaipur. GCK have done an assessment of the project area and identified Children with disability and started Day Care Center with the helping hand of Jan Vikas Samiti. This DCC was started for rehabilitation of Children with disability. In Day Care Centre, Children Rehabilitation Activities like academic; activities of daily life; social activity; cultural & general activity; and physiotherapy & yoga are regularly conducted to bring them to the mainstream of the society. Every month, social workers visit disabled children and offer services, such as: special communication lessons for deaf children, teaching and learning materials, special chairs, wheelchairs for those have mobility challenges, special education and regular health check-ups. While there is no permanent solution to the challenges that disabled children face, it is the hope of both Jan Vikas Samiti and GCK that these children can lead a happier, better and more fulfilling life with the services, support and help provided to them.



key outcomes of the year are as follows:

This year, **150 children** have been covered out of which **72 children are enrolled while remaining are non-enrolled** are linked to the project from Sambhar Block. So far, **66** beneficiaries received "disability certificate; **60** are getting pensions; **13** became eligible for scholarships; **22** received assisted equipment; **53** got the benefit of regular physiotherapies & yoga; **65** are enrolled with educational institutions; **13** have got bus passes; and **23** are now connected with SHGs.

Networking

GCK has been a part of the following networks:

- ❖ *Rajasthan Voluntary Health Association, Jaipur (RVHA)*
- ❖ *Association for Rural Advancement through Voluntary Action and Local Involvement, Jaipur (ARAVALI)*
- ❖ *Center for Community Economics and Development Consultants, Jaipur (CECOEDECON)*
- ❖ *Voluntary Health Association of India, Delhi (VHAI)*
- ❖ *The Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI)*

Lok Munch

GCK has formed a network known as Lok Munch, which brings together 20 organizations from Jaipur, Alwar, Nagaur and Ajmer who are working on women and child development issues. In addition to this, GCK has also created partnerships with the following organizations:

- ❖ *Gramin Ekta Bal Shiksha Samiti, Khandel*
- ❖ *Sugam Sansthan, Bichoon*
- ❖ *Kheti Evam Gaon Vikas Sansthan*
- ❖ *Uagriyabas Jagariti Kendra*
- ❖ *Lokarpan Sansthan, Kishangarh*
- ❖ *ATMA, Jagmalpura*
- ❖ *Marwad Seva Sansthan, Govindi*
- ❖ *Gramin Vikas Sansthan*
- ❖ *Gramin Mahila Vikas Sansthan*
- ❖ *Manav Kalyan Vidhyapith Sansthan*
- ❖ *Rural Development and Children Welfare Society*
- ❖ *Sahara Sansthan, Majipura*
- ❖ *ASHA Sansthan, Malyawas*
- ❖ *Samajik Chetna Evam Takniki Sansthan*
- ❖ *Jan Sewa Samiti*
- ❖ *Lok Vikas Sansthan, Sarwad*
- ❖ *Gramin Manav Kalyan Shikshan Sansthan*
- ❖ *Sangharsh Sansthan Dhandholi*

Funding Partners

Gram Chetna Kendra would like to express their sincere gratitude to the following organizations that have provided financial as well as technical support for our activities:

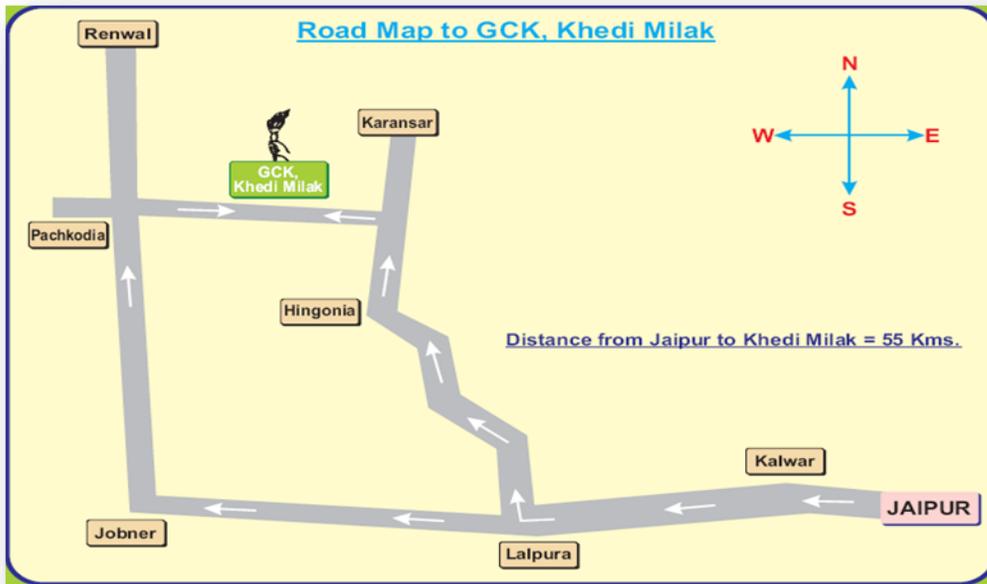
- ❖ *ChildFund India, Bangalore*
- ❖ *UNICEF, Rajasthan*
- ❖ *Give India, Mumbai*
- ❖ *Liliane Fonds, The Netherlands*
- ❖ *NABARD, Jaipur*
- ❖ *Embassy of Japan, New Delhi*
- ❖ *CASA, Udaipur*
- ❖ *Indo-Global Social Service Society, New Delhi*
- ❖ *Ministry of Forest & Environment Govt. of India*
- ❖ *AFPROM Udaipur*
- ❖ *FVTRS : Function Vocational Training and Research Society*
- ❖ *Janvikas, Ahmadabad*
- ❖ *NEG, New Delhi*
- ❖ *Sambhaav, Ahmadabad*
- ❖ *Govt. of Rajasthan*
- ❖ *Rajasthan Voluntary Health Association, Jaipur*
- ❖ *District Health Society, GoR, Jaipur*
- ❖ *Rural Non-Farm Development Agency (RUDA), Jaipur*
- ❖ *Jaipur Development Authority, Jaipur*

Staff Detail

Sr. No.	Name	Designation	Qualification	Years of Experience
1	Mahendra kumar Sain	Program Coordinator	BA. Bed	7 Years
2	Banshi lal meena	Accountant cum Social worker	B. COM.	25 Years
3	Braham Chand Sharma	Social worker	Secondary	20 Years
4	Siyaram Bairagee	Program Coordinator	M.A	9 Years
5	Bheem Singh Yadav	Social Worker	M.A.	10 years
6	Abhay Kumar	VTC Incharge	B.Tech	3 Years
7	Mukesh kumawat	SR Assistant	M.A. , DCA	5 Years
8	Amit Sharma	Program Coordinator	BSW,MSW	11 Years
9	Prahalad Sahay Yadav	Accountant	MCOM & CA INTER	2 Years
10	Nagmani Chouhan	Program Coordinator	B.Tech	2 Years
11	Rizwan Khan	Program Coordinator	B.A,	4 Years
12	Syed fejan	CBR WORKER	B.A.	6 Years
13	Pawan Singh Rathore	Social worker	Secondary	1 Year
14	Akash Gehlot	Dairy Facilitator	MBA	1 Year
15	Birju Singh	Driver	Primary	1 Year
16	Santosh Verma	Care taker	Primary	1 Year
17	Ramswaroop meena	Office attendant	Primary	5 Years
18	Lala ram mehra	Night Watchman	Primary	18 Years

STAFF SUMMARY

CATEGORY OF STAFF	NO. OF PERSONS
Regular Full Time	18
Regular Part Time	14
Full Time Contract Staff	0
Part Time Contract Staff	3
Consultant (service rendered as per need)	5
Other Paid Volunteers	0
Unpaid Volunteers	28



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