

25
YEARS
OF COMMUNITY



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

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Mondays to Fridays 10am – 6pm

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ANNUAL REPORT

2014
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CARING ABOUT HIV AIDS & IN OUR COMMUNITIES

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 Men's Outreach Coordinator
 Volunteer & Community Development Coordinator
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 Women's Support Coordinator
 Women's Sexual Health Coordinator (Current)
 Youth Health and Communications Coordinator
 Program Assistant

Suruthi Ragulan

Women's Sexual Health Coordinator (On Leave)

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VOLUNTEERS

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VISION

Our vision is a world where South Asian communities have the access and means to determine their health and well-being.

MISSION

ASAAP is committed to providing health promotion, care, and support for self-identifying South Asians living with, at risk of, or affected by HIV/AIDS.

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

1. We work within an anti-oppression framework to promote social justice and equity.
2. We strive to reduce the impact of racism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, ageism, classism, and other forms of discrimination on South Asians communities.
3. We approach our work recognizing the social, economic and cultural factors that determine individual health.
4. We are committed to the Greater and Meaningful Involvement of People living with HIV/AIDS (GIPA/MIPA) in all aspects of our work.
5. We adopt a holistic view of health that includes mind, body, spirit and relationship to community.
6. We respect the confidentiality and privacy of the people we serve.
7. We strive to be transparent and accountable to all our stakeholders.
8. We work to maintain sex-positive, queer-positive and trans-inclusive environments.

03 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend and Partners

2014 has been a truly special year for ASAAP.

Taking stock in our collective achievements, learning and growth over the last 25 years has been a deeply humbling experience. We remain amazed by the commitment and compassion that our members, staff, board, volunteers and partners have offered in support of the HIV/AIDS movement and are proud to be a part of ASAAP's story.

We marked our 25th anniversary with a beautiful event in April that celebrated our evolution enabled ASAAP to evolve into an impactful and effective hub for HIV/AIDS work within South Asian communities. Milestones of this journey were featured in a visual gallery now housed at our office where it continues to inspire. While we recognized our achievements we also recognized 25 Champions for ASAAP's 25 years (see insert), all of whom have played critical and complementary roles in moving our work forward. As a highlight to the night, much deserved accolades were awarded to Asif Kamal, recipient of the 2013 Kalpesh Oza Award and to our 2014 recipients, ASAAP's founding members, represented by Karim Ladak, Zamil Janmohamed, Sharmini Fernando and Alnoor Wissanji.

This year, ASAAP continued to build on its momentum of growth and you will find our achievements in abundance.

Community-Based Research

For the first time in our history we are leading two (2) Community-Based Research programs; the AIM study exploring sexual health knowledge among South Asian queer-identified men; and, Story-Sharing for Sexual Health, exploring health intervention models for South Asian women. Building our research capacity is well-aligned with our current strategic goals and works to generate relevant evidence upon which we can inform our programs and partnerships. Most importantly, we are committed to ensuring that the knowledge we gain from research translates into action. This commitment is fittingly demonstrated in the Brown N Proud (BNP) campaign; catalyzed by research, the campaign sparked valuable community dialogue. (pg 08)

New Programming

In keeping with our commitment to culturally relevant HIV and AIDS support services ASAAP launched a heartfelt project this year titled 'More Than Fiction'. Initiated by South Asian women living with HIV, 'More Than Fiction' is a pioneering and powerful collection of stories that speak to family, well-being, disclosure, stigma, strength and above all, love. Generously supported by MAC AIDS Foundation and the AIDS Bureau, these stories represent women whose voices are largely absent in current HIV/AIDS literature. We urge you to join us in sharing this voice with those who will read, listen and engage.

This year also marked the implementation of ASAAP's first formalized international internship with the Interagency Coalition for AIDS and Development (ICAD), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Bangladeshi Women's Health Coalition in Dhaka. This internship allowed us to gain from partners in the South and facilitate fruitful exchange around sexual health resources for newcomers in Toronto.

04 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Visibility and Education

In 2013-14, we launched a unique community-led HIV Testing PSA in collaboration with the Hassle Free Clinic (pg 07). Our arts-based model of youth engagement exemplified by the Tease program also launched an incredible collection of youth works on sexual health and social justice (pg 10). Tease along with Lassi (a space for young South Asian queer-identified men), Brownkiss (an online resource for South Asian women), and Dosti and Snehithan (men's sexual health programs), were presented at the Ontario HIV Treatment Conference; the Youth and Sexuality Conference; the World Pride Human Rights Conference; and, the International AIDS Conference in Melbourne, Australia.

Finally, World Pride took centre stage in June as we welcomed South Asian queer rights activists from India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and the Fiji Islands. Together we participated in community inspired programming and represented at the Trans Rally, Dyke March and Pride Parade.

As the Board and staff effectively meet the goals of our strategic plan, we acknowledge the combined energy, enthusiasm and dedication brought to our work. These efforts have resulted in a 6.5% increase in our organizational budget and renewed commitments to fund development. For the first time in 2013, ASAAP participated in the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon and raised over \$7,000! We also launched our 25/25 monthly giving campaign—another first—and we thank those “early adopters” who became donors the evening of the launch. Our funding partnerships continue to thrive through formal grants and community supports such as Rangeela's Bollywood dance party that raised \$3000 towards our client financial assistance programs.

We thank the unstoppable team of members, staff, board, volunteers and partners for making ASAAP a truly special place of belonging and community. Thank you for your boundless energy!

As we edge forward into a new year we invite you to join us in creating opportunities that can shape our future together.

Vijaya Chikermane

Vijaya Chikermane
Executive Director



Rupal Shah

Rupal Shah
Chair of the Board

05 SUPPORT SERVICES

CONNECTING TO CARE (C2C)

PHA Support Coordinator: Shazia Islam

Peer Navigator: Sudin Sherchan

Funder: Public Health Agency of Canada, AIDS Community Action Program (PHAC-ACAP)



ASAAP's Connecting to Care (C2C) program meets the needs of South Asians living and aging with HIV/AIDS with meaningful resources and supportive peer networks. Services include peer counselling; case management; the facilitation of monthly support spaces and health-information workshops; multilingual health resources; and, training opportunities.

In 2013-14 C2C developed health bulletins on 'Brain Health and Cognition', 'Depression' and 'Common Tests as We Age' in English, Hindi, and Tamil. Workshops included topics on Mental Health, Cognitive Health, Hep C/HIV \co-infection, financial planning and criminalization of HIV non-disclosure. Program addresses systemic challenges faced by South Asians living with HIV/AIDS. This project has made a significant positive

The Peer Navigator component of the C2C impact on ASAAP's client community by facilitating referrals and connect clients to essential services for health and well-being. In 2014, we launched "Communicating with Medical Professionals", a useful resource for people living with HIV/AIDS that provides tips on how to prepare for medical appointments with healthcare providers.

With generous support from PHAC, the C2C program has been extended and is scheduled to continue through to 2017. We look forward to fostering greater community collaboration with our partners and to meeting the diverse needs of the communities we serve.

**COMMUNICATING
with MEDICAL
PROFESSIONALS**



DEPRESSION



**COMMON
TESTS
As We Age**

Welcome to the sixth edition of a series of culturally relevant health bulletins for South Asians living and aging with HIV/AIDS. This bulletin aims to share some information on the different medical screening tests you might anticipate as you turn 50.



06 SUPPORT SERVICES

ELAN, WOMEN'S SUPPORT PROGRAM

Women's Support Coordinator: Chhiring Doka Sherpa

Funder: AIDS Bureau, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care



ELAN (Empowerment Love And Networking) is ASAAP's women's health and support program. Recognizing that women face unique challenges, ELAN creates safe spaces where clients can explore relationships, culture, aging with HIV and menopause, reproductive health, pregnancy planning, mental health, sex and disclosure.

We provide peer counselling case management, to South Asian and health clients who identify as female. ELAN had a busy year in 2013-14 as we continued fostering active engagement among client members in the planning and implementation of the program. Highlights include "Cook, Eat, Talk" – our popular cooking workshop, "A Healthy Valentine's Learning Social" – a workshop on how to read food labels with Hannah Gao from Toronto Public Health, "NIA Dance Therapy" workshop with dance instructor Jennifer Hicks from Joy of Dance, and "How to make your own Essential Oil" with Devan Nambiar.

ELAN continues to grow with evolving interest and input from its clients and in the upcoming year, we aim to strengthen strategies to ensure that the challenges of South Asian female identified PHAs addressed.



MORE THAN FICTION ANTHOLOGY: POZ WOMEN SHARE STORIES OF STRENGTH

Project Coordinator: Shazia Islam

KTE Coordinator: Suruthi Ragulan

Funder: MAC AIDS Foundation



In 2014 ASAAP launched the "More Than Fiction" anthology project that offered an exciting opportunity for South Asian female identified PHAs to share their stories through creative non-fiction and photo voice. Initiated by women of ELAN, the project involved consultations with an advisory committee, participants, and facilitators. 12 POZ women penned powerful stories that comprise this amazing collection.

The collection covers issues related to HIV disclosure, treatment adherence, support networks, education, family, sex and sexuality, gender identity, and spirituality. Its aim is to inform service providers on some of the complex and unique issues that South Asian women face.

The anthology was launched at a small and inspiring community gathering in September of this year. Copies are now available for distribution!





25 CHAMPIONS

As we mark 25 years of work in the HIV movement we also recognize some of the people that have made ASAAP's growth possible. Meet our 25 amazing champions who have made invaluable contributions to our communities and who continue to support ASAAP in doing critical work.



01 Anthony Mohamed

Anthony, ASAAP's first Program Coordinator and subsequent Executive Director was instrumental in laying the foundation for our growth over the last 25 years. He pioneered outreach efforts on Gerrard Street's India Bazaar; participated and acted in ASAAP's first video documentary "Bolo Bolo" on HIV and sexuality; and, authored numerous articles for ethno-specific media. He continues to be involved and supported our 2012-2015 strategic plan and presented the first ever Kalpesh Oza Award in 2012.

02 Amita Handa

Amita has been involved with ASAAP for close to 20 years and held multiple roles in governance, front-line work and as a community partner and donor. As a past HIV Prevention Coordinator she initiated the memorable "Chillin' in Your Brown Skin" collective of four agencies that tackled HIV through an intersectional lens. Amita is also a member of the Besharam collective, which supported ASAAP as a monthly donor.

03 Zavare Tengra

Zavare was ASAAP's MSM Prevention Coordinator for over 7 years during which time he was the driving force behind the inception of Dosti, the longest running social support space for South Asian queer identified men in Canada. He is also a part of the Besharam Collective, a past monthly donor, and continues to be actively involved as part of our MSM research team and as a participant of our 2014 HIV testing video in collaboration with Hassle Free Clinic.

04 Umbreen Inayet

While at ASAAP Umbreen organized major fundraising events titled Stimulasian that increased visibility bringing new connections and volunteers to ASAAP. As the co-producer, writer and director of 'Meri Kahani: My Story', a play about survivor narratives of family violence, she coordinated joint events for ASAAP to fundraise through screenings of her production.

05 Haran Vijayanathan

Haran is a long-standing champion in the HIV and queer rights movement and has been a strong supporter of ASAAP for close to 13 years. He has volunteered for multiple safer sex campaigns including Discover with a Cover in 2004, Dosti, Snehithan, and the Colour Me Queer campaign in 2012. As the founder of 'My House', York Region's first LGBT Resource Centre, and a AIM research team member, Haran continues to be an integral advocate for South Asian queer identified men.

06 Karima Khamali

Karima was ASAAP's Board Chair during our foundational years and worked alongside many of ASAAP's founding members. She played a key role in organizing ASAAP's first ever Annual General Meeting in 1995 paving the way for our engagement and accountability to the communities we serve.

07 Rahim Thawer

Rahim is an active community member in the HIV and queer rights movement and a Clinical Counsellor at an accredited youth mental health agency in Toronto. As the past MSM Outreach Worker at ASAAP Rahim created safe, anti-oppressive, social support spaces for queer identified South Asian men and in 2009 participated in ASAAP's 'Brown Like Me' documentary. Rahim is also on the Board of Salaam: Queer Muslim Community and with Ismaili Queers: Advocates for Pluralism.

08 **Nadia Junaid**

Nadia has been a sexual health service provider for over 15 years in Toronto and while at ASAAP she helped solidify the women's prevention project. She is often credited with going above and beyond the scope of her position with very little resources. Nadia also lent her expertise to the board, helping to shape the agency on a governance level.

09 **Krishan Mehta**

Krishan was the Chair of the Board from 2004 to 2006 and shaped many of our governance policies and practices; he has been a key community advocate and partner for close to 10 years. As a professional fundraiser and leader with the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)'s Inclusive Giving Program, he has and continues to connect ASAAP to a unique and valued network of supporters with whom we can share our important work.

10 **Richard Coutinho**

Richard has been a strong ambassador for ASAAP for over seven (7) years and recently completed a full 6-year term on the Board. He was involved in the development of two strategic plans and helped usher the agency in a new direction. Richard supported ASAAP as Chair of the Board Development and Recruitment committee; member of team ASAAP at our first ever Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon; and was the first community member to sign on to our 25 for 25 donor campaign!

11 **Shivalee Paliwal**

Shivalee was the Chair of the board for nearly four years from 2010 to 2013 bringing her expertise, passion for community work, and boundless energy to the team. Her incredible leadership helped move the agency forward during a time of great change. Shivalee was pivotal in creating the 2012-2015 strategic plan and in its subsequent implementation.

12 **Vijay Saravanamuthu**

Vijay has held multiple roles at ASAAP as volunteer, staff and partner. He was the first Provincial Gay Men's Health strategy worker and in 2005, co-founded Snehithan, the first social support group for Tamil and queer identified men in Canada. In 2009 he supported the development of Brown Like Me, a documentary on queer, brown narratives and in his current role at Taibu CHC, Vijay continues connect us to multiple outreach and education opportunities in East Scarborough.

13 **Narina Nagra**

Narina was the Chair of the Board in the early 2000's and has supported the organization in governance, as the Volunteer Coordinator in 2005 and as a community partner and consultant. She has been involved with ASAAP in these multiple roles for close to 15 years. In 2011 Narina volunteered to support our 2012-2015 Strategic Plan and in her current role at Mt Sinai Hospital, she continues to connect us to important events.

14 **Devan Nambiar**

Devan was one of the earliest members of ASAAP, an instrumental community advocate in the HIV/AIDS movement, and the 2006 recipient of the Canadian AIDS Society Leadership Award. As one of the few openly queer PHAs in the community, he helped shape the agency's early directions while on the Board. Devan recently provided ASAAP with valuable data on South Asian PHAs and Complementary and Alternative Medicines for PHAs on HAART as part of his MSc. research study.

15 Annie Giga

Annie has been a strong, dedicated supporter of ASAAP for over 20 years and an important voice in the South Asian community. Annie has served on ASAAP's Board of Directors, participated on numerous advisory committees and has directly supported newcomer South Asians living with HIV to settle their lives and families in new environments. Annie was the first ever recipient of ASAAP's Kalpesh Oza Award in 2012.

16 Siva Gunaratnam

Siva joined ASAAP as a volunteer and was one of Snehithan's earliest members in 2005. He subsequently worked as the Tamil Outreach and MSM Outreach Coordinator and remains a strong supporter for the agency on multiple levels. Siva is an active volunteer and is a regular supporter of Snehithan, ASAAP's fundraisers, including the Scotiabank Waterfront Marathon, community campaigns and AGMs.

17 Ratna Chaudhary

Ratna is a committed and long-term volunteer and standing contributor to our AGMs, monthly condom stuffing events and fundraising activities. She has supported ASAAP's resource development efforts as a volunteer peer reviewer providing translation from English to Hindi. She was instrumental in translating components of our website and the PHA Program Client Satisfaction Forms.

18 Nasreen Latheef

Nasreen is a dedicated and committed volunteer who has contributed her time and expertise to numerous events, committees and programs. She is a volunteer for the ELAN (Empowerment, Love and Networking) program with South Asian female-identified PHAs and has facilitated arts-based activities on an ongoing basis. Nasreen has also been a past member of the Research Working Group, the 25 year Working Group and is the newest member on the Board!



19 **Rounak Khan**

Rounak was ASAAP's PHA Support Coordinator from 2004-2007 and made foundational and memorable impacts on ASAAP's support programming. She was instrumental in planning for the 2006 International AIDS Conference in Toronto and presented research on South Asian PHA experiences of Depression, Isolation and Resiliencies. Rounak volunteered for multiple campaigns including the infamous 'Wrap it Right' and authored articles for ethno-specific media. In her current role with the Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC) she continues to connect ASAAP to trainings, programs and resources.

20 **Anita Balakrishna**

Anita was ASAAP's Board Chair from 2006 to 2008 and has been a tremendous support over the years. During her time on the Board she re-vamped the organizations governance policy package and by-laws. As a staff lawyer with the South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO), Anita was a committed partner and collaborated on HIV Prevention workshops, forums and resources to demonstrate the intersections between precarious immigration status, policies and HIV risk.

21 **Waseem Shek**

Waseem was the driving force behind one of ASAAP's most successful HIV testing campaigns titled 'Protect Your Love'. PYL was a video campaign that received over 13,000 views in less than three weeks and sparked multiple online conversations about South Asian queer communities, relationships and sexual health. Waseem is also an organizing member for Rangeela, the largest queer South Asian party in North America that donates generously to ASAAP every year during Pride.

22 **Derek Yee**

Derek is a well-respected artist and advocate in the HIV movement in Toronto who has worked with ASAAP and a number of our key partners including Asian Community AIDS Services (ACAS) and the Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment (CAAT). Derek has facilitated numerous arts-based health and wellness workshops for racialized PHAs and has been an active and engaged facilitator at many of ASAAP's client retreats.

23 **Calvin Pereira**

Calvin is a long time supporter for ASAAP. In 2006 Calvin joined ASAAP's Board and donated an immense amount of time and energy in support of governance practices. Calvin was a key supporter and participant of ASAAP's programming at the International AIDS Conference in 2006 and helped to increase the visibility of South Asian HIV programming to a global community.

24 **Raj Maharaj**

Raj has been an avid collaborator in the HIV/AIDS movement for close to 20 years and has been a constant advocate for ASAAP. Raj was an author and contributor to ASAAP's Forward Looking publication produced in 1999 that captured the organization's growth in its first 10 years. His work with Sunnybrook Hospital and the Research Ethics Policy and Advisory Committee makes Raj a key partner in ASAAP's efforts to increase its capacities in Community Based Research.

25 **Nelson Carvahlo**

Nelson is one of the founding members of Khush, the queer activist group that played a critical role in making ASAAP happen in 1989 and through the early 90s. Recognizing Khush as part of ASAAP's growth is key to us recognizing our history. Nelson continues to be a supporter, volunteer, donor and well-wisher advising our future fundraising and development activities.



**THANK
YOU**

ASAAP 25 YEARS OF SERVICE IN OUR COMMUNITIES



07 PREVENTION SERVICES

MEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Project Coordinator: Ramraajh Sharvendiran

Peer Educator: Amila Piyathilake

Funder: Toronto Urban Health Fund,



ASAAP is leading the way in culturally relevant HIV prevention services and support for South Asian men who like men in Toronto. In addition to traditional outreach at bathhouses, cultural festivals and online outreach, we also offer three (3) distinct support groups (Dosti, Snehithan and Lassi) and execute a strong media strategy to connect people to sexual health messages.

In 2013-14 the program achieved many successes. We released '**How to Get Tested**', a PSA created for and with community peers and volunteers to raise awareness around HIV testing among South Asian men. The video was developed in collaboration with Hassle Free Clinic and since received over 800 views our strong and strategies to reach men were presented at the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) conference in 2013 and during World Pride 2014 resulting in new partnerships in the making.

2014 was also a milestone year for the Lassi project as it celebrated its one year anniversary! Launched as a pilot project in 2013 for young South Asian gay, bisexual and trans men, Lassi has since

built strong trust relationships to provide safe, peer-led spaces where youth who struggle with sexuality, transition from education to work, and racialized and cultural identities can engage with community and sexual health information. In 2013-14 Lassi programmed a summer play and picnic in Scarborough, documentary movie nights and a half-day sex talk forum on pleasure, boundaries and sex toys with support from The Stag Shop on Church street and community member Rahim Thawar. More than 90 individuals have accessed services through monthly Lassi events, one to one meetings, referrals and online outreaches. Next year Lassi plans to have a stronger presence in Scarborough, where so many South Asians communities reside.

In 2014 the men's sexual health program underwent changes alongside the newly structured Toronto Urban Health Fund and is now well supported with three-year funding.



08 PREVENTION SERVICES

MEN'S OUTREACH PROGRAM

Project: Coordinator: Shazad Hai
Funder: AIDS Bureau, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care



As part of a strong provincial strategy to support HIV prevention and outreach to Gay, Bi, Trans and other Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) in Ontario, the Men's Outreach Coordinator with.. service providers and provincial partners to reach South Asian queer identified men. We provide outreach and host a monthly South Asian bathhouse night titled 'Kotha', facilitate education workshops, develop campaigns and manage an online resource titled Dosti which features a weekly blog, events calendar, message board, and monthly newsletters. Member subscriptions has seen a 12% increase since last year.

In 2013-14 we launched the exciting Brown N Proud campaign inspired by gay/bi, South Asian community members, voicing their discontent with misrepresentation, sexual racism and low self-esteem. These sentiments, validated by the Imagine Men's Health Study formed the basis for the campaign. With the help of the amazingly talented artist Eric Kostiuk Williams and an advisory committee, 4 illustrated images were created mirroring online dating/cruising profiles. Using humour, each profile celebrates the uniqueness of queer brown men while creatively referencing and challenging the ignorance experienced in the gay community. The campaign has received tremendous positive reaction and has been featured in various sites including the GMSH's Our Agenda platform.

2013-14 also saw the birth of DostiGTA. With support from My House in York region, the Peel HIV/AIDS Network (PHAN) and other partners, Dosti meetings are being held across the GTA where high populations of South Asians reside enabling visibility and access of queer spaces.

During World Pride 2014 we presented at the World Pride Human Rights Conference, held community art exhibits and pride socials, and also welcomed South Asian queer activists from India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan to share work, ideas and formulate new partnerships.

In 2013/14 ASAAP's men's program have participated as a pilot site for a Motivational Interviewing (MI) project in partnership with the Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance (GMSH) with successful outcomes.



09 PREVENTION SERVICES

WOMEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Project Coordinator: Jaspreet Soor
Funder: Toronto Urban Health Fund



In 2014 the Women's Sexual Health Program was reinvigorated and strengthened as a full-time, three year funded program. SAWS (South Asian Women for Sexual Health) produces culturally tailored sexual health promotion activities, multilingual resources, and invests in the capacity of young female-identified peers.

Our storytelling model of engagement is culturally informed and has been successful in engaging women through the Brownkiss website. This model was presented at the 2013 Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) conference and presented as a poster titled: 'Brownkiss: A Storytelling Model for Engagement' at the 2014 International AIDS Conference in Melbourne, Australia.

The Filling in The Gaps–Part II forum was also held in 2014 with impressive community engagement from close to 40 members. The forum highlighted partnerships with Springtide Resources, Outburst!, and the White Ribbon Campaign to construct discussions around gender roles in sexual health and identify solutions to service delivery within our community. This discussion was also shared through a article featured in the Huffington Post during International Women's Day 2014.

Looking ahead, our new three year SAWS project has a number of exciting developments in the works to increase visibility and awareness of sexual health in the community in a way that supports and recognizes women's challenges and strengths.



10 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Project Coordinator: Shriya Hari

Funder: Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care



Volunteerism and Community development are key programming areas at ASAAP that provide critical and ongoing support for our work. We are focused on building partnerships, volunteer capacity and knowledge in our communities so we can effectively respond to HIV/AIDS.

In 2013-14 we recruited 30 engaged new volunteers grow the capacity and visibility of our programs and services. We offered two (2) Core Skills Training sessions on principles of HIV education, the importance of confidentiality, anti-oppression frameworks and facilitation skills. This year we hosted Amrit Cheema as a placement student from George Brown College and will continue to provide student opportunities with Humber College for the 2014-15 year. New partnerships for this year include OPIRG, Sexual Education Centre at University of Toronto, Take Back the Night (TBTN) and the Ryerson Student Union.

Between the Lines, ASAAP's community library is also growing with 148 titles, 124 of which are books, and 24 are new research-focused reports and publications. With over 50 members, the library is fast becoming a hub for ideas and information on sexual health and social justice in the community.

TEASE PROGRAM

Project Coordinator: Nedal Sulaiman

Funder: The Trillium Foundation



The Tease Program has completed its second year with three (3) workshop cycles, 30 training sessions and 59 youth participants. Conducted in Crescent Town and Thorncliffe neighbourhoods, Tease is an arts-based sexual health project for South Asian youth in Toronto's East End. We aim to provide a space for youth to learn about healthy sexuality, develop artistic skills, and lead a sexual health campaign.

In neighbourhoods that are underserved, the Tease Project provides an innovative approach to sexual health promotion. In 2013-14 we launched a compilation of artwork called The Collection, which received over 127 requests of print copies.

Dialogue on arts based health interventions was the focus of the project's exhibits at events such as the Ontario HIV Treatment Network's (OHTN) 2013 Conference, the University of Toronto's Youth Sexuality Research Symposium and the Dare to Stand Out Summit. The project has also been the subject of two (2) published articles in TamilCulture and PositiveLite and has received over 5000 hits for the online artwork. Look out for our youth-led campaign to be released in the next year!



11 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY BASED-RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Access Men and Identity (AIM) Research Study
Research Coordinator: Samir Durrani
Funder: The Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN)



One of ASAAP's five strategic directions outlined in our 2012-2015 Strategic Plan is to "Conduct and use research to inform our work and influence public policy". In keeping with this direction, ASAAP is leading a research study entitled the "Access, Identity, and Men (AIM)" study to fill a gap in knowledge and evidence on the sexual health patterns of South Asian men who have sex with men (MSM). ASAAP is invested in ensuring that its programs are based on evidence, are as impactful as possible, and that our communities are visible and well-supported. In order to do this, we require sound research that identifies HIV risk factors for South Asian MSM and how they navigate sex, relationships and supports.

This project is funded by the Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN) and is conducted in collaboration with Ryerson University. The study follows a community-based research model in order to ensure that the research being carried out directly benefits the broader South Asian MSM community. We hope to have results presented in creative and meaningful ways to the community by 2015.



STORY-SHARING FOR SEXUAL HEALTH

Research Coordinator: Shriya Hari
Funder: Women's Xchange, Women's College Research Institute



The Story-Sharing study is an exciting project that explores our current storytelling model as a culturally relevant intervention to promote South Asian women's capacity in HIV and STI education. In partnership with an amazing research team and with Ryerson University, work on this project has recently begun with results and implications expected in 2015.



12

SNAPSHOT OF SERVICE 2013-2014

Service Stats:



Languages Spoken by People we Serve:

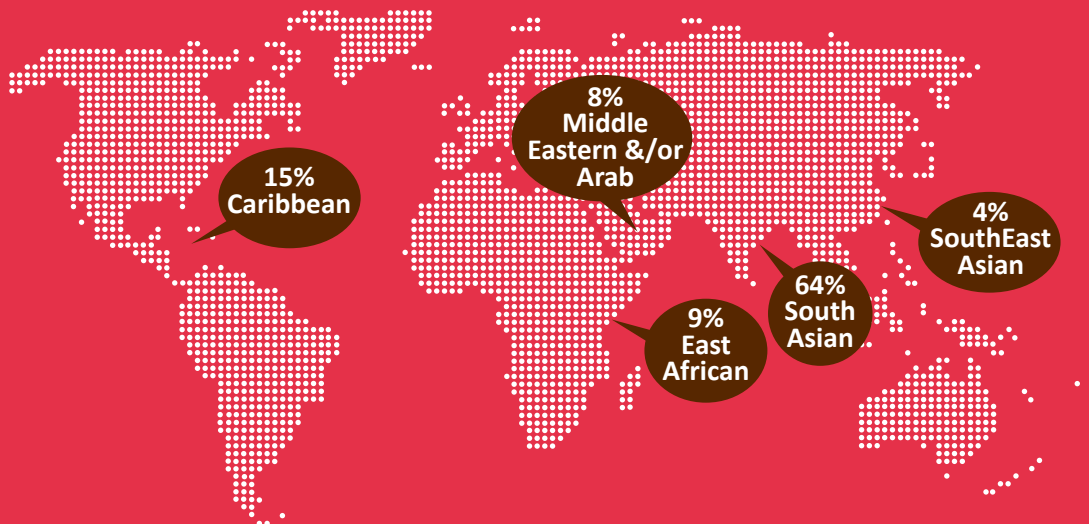


Breakdown of Ethnicity:

Who is South Asian?

'South Asian' is a broad term referring to people who migrated, or with ancestry from countries in the region of Southern Asia such as Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and more. This included South Asian diasporas from East Africa, the Caribbean and Fiji Islands.

We live with realities that enable and at times force people to move across both visible and invisible borders where identities cannot be neatly defined. ASAAP offers services to all those who self-identify as South Asian.



13

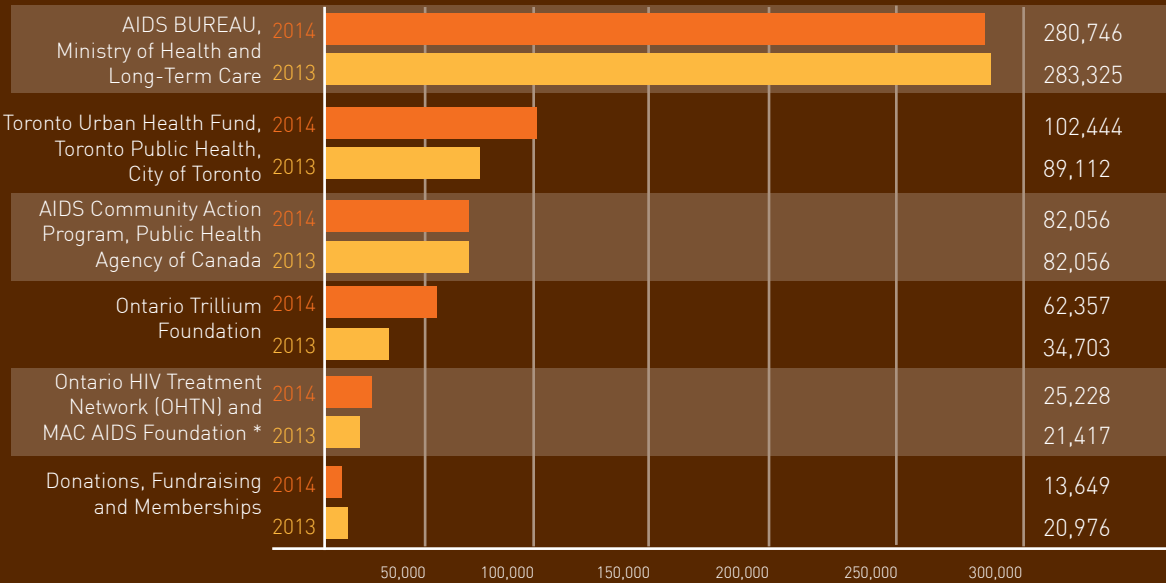
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUES 2014

Total \$566,480

REVENUES 2013

Total \$531,590



*In January 2014, a grant from OHTN amounting to \$ 24,967 was received for the research project entitled: "Access, Identity and Men: A Study exploring sexual health among South Asian MSM (the AIM study)". A portion of the grant is stated here while the rest will be included in the year 2014-2015 report.

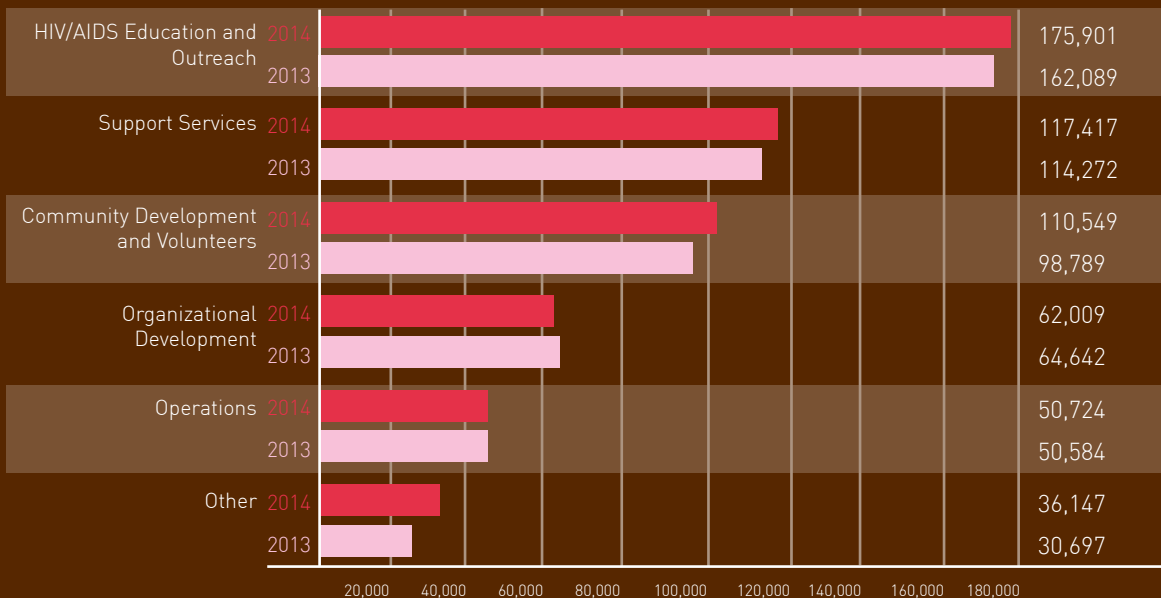
*ASAAP also received a grant from MAC AIDS Foundation amounting to \$30,000 for the project: "More than Fiction: South Asian PO2 Women Share their Stories of Strength. A portion of the grant is stated here while the rest will be included in the 2014-2015 report.

EXPENSES 2014

Total \$552,747

EXPENSES 2013

Total \$521,073



14 FUNDERS & DONORS

FUNDERS

- AIDS Bureau, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- AIDS Community Action Program (ACAP), Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
- MAC AIDS Foundation
- Ontario HIV Treatment Network
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Toronto Urban Health Fund, Toronto Public Health, City of Toronto
- Women`s Xchange, Women`s College Research Institute

DONORS

We sincerely thank all our committed donors this year including the 130 who sponsored ASAAP during the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon. While we cannot list all these names due to privacy reasons, we want to acknowledge the tremendous impact your donations have made to our PHA Financial Assistance Fund.

- Amardeep Khosla
- Andrew Ackloo
- Asif Kamal
- Cindy Blancer
- David Demchuk
- Din Ladak
- Doug Kerr
- Dunstan Egbert
- Fabian Nelson Carvalho
- Feaz Rahim
- Francois Tremblay
- Gavin Brimer
- Gregg Stolinski
- Haresh Daswani
- Il Ju Lee
- Joel Rotstein
- Karim Ladak
- Khalid Khan
- Kulsum Shariff
- Loretta Herrnstein
- Mohamed Khaki
- Mohini Datta-Ray
- Nasreen Latheef
- Radha Bhardwaj
- Rahim Chunara
- Rajendra Shah
- Ram Venkataramani
- Rangeela
- Ronnie Varghese
- Remy Ramos
- Richard Coutinho
- Rupal Shah
- Saba Khan
- Suchita Jain
- Tanuja Mkhedhar
- Tariq Remtulla
- Tyson Dodge
- Vijaya Chikermame
- Zamil Janmohamed
- Zeenat Ladak
- Zulfikar Gulamhusein
- Bell Canada
- Petra Solutions Inc.
- Royal Bank of Canada
- Spa Excess
- Sterile Dirt Publishing
- Tham Surveying Limited

15 PARTNERS

PARTNERS

- Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services
- Africans in Partnership Against AIDS
- AIDS Committee of Toronto
- AIDS Committee of York Region
- Asian Community AIDS Services
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Bangladeshi Women's Health Coalition
- Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
- Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention
- Bridge Point Health
- Brampton General Hospital
- Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange
- Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
- Canadian Tamil Congress
- Canadian Tamil Youth Developmnet
- Canadian University Research Alliance
- Casey House
- Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment
- Council of Agencies Serving South Asians
- Dignitas Youth at UTSC
- East Mississauga Community Health Centre
- ESSU – Equity Studies Students' Union
- Ethno-Racial Treatment Support Network
- Etobicoke General Hospital
- Flemington Health Centre
- Fife House Foundation
- Family Service Toronto
- Gay Men's Sexual Health Alliance
- Griffin Centre – Reachout Newcomer Network
- Hassle Free Clinic
- Humber College
- HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic of Ontario
- Jane & Finch Community Health Centre
- LGBT Giving Network
- LGBT Youth Line
- Maytree Foundation
- Men2Men Network
- Malvern Family Resource Centre
- McEwan House
- My House
- Naz Foundation
- Network of Agencies Against Forced Marriages
- Newcomer Women's Group
- Ontario AIDS Network
- Ontario HIV Treatment Network
- Ontario Women's Study
- Ontario Organizational Development Program
- Outburst!
- Parkdale Community Health Centre
- PASAN
- Peel HIV/AIDS Network
- Peel Sexual Assault And Rape Crisis
- Planned Parenthood Toronto
- Punjabi Community Health Services
- Queen West Community Health Centre
- Rangeela
- Regent Park Community Health Centre
- Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre
- Ryerson HIV-Preveniton Lab
- Scarborough Centre for Alternative Studies
- Sherbourne Health Centre
- Springtide Resources
- South Asian Alliance
- South Asian Generation Next
- Settlement and Family Support Services
- South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario
- South Asian Women's Centre
- South Asian Women's Rights Organization
- South Asian Women's Action Collective
- Spa Excess
- St. Christopher House
- St. Michael's Hospital
- Steamworks
- Tam O'shanter Public School–Immigrant Women's Conversation Circle
- Tamil Culture
- Tamil Eelam Society
- Tamil Service Provider Coalition
- Tamil Youth Collective Forum
- The Besharam Collective
- The Bridge Youth Settlement Services
- The CHIWOS Study
- The Humsafar Trust
- The Ripple Effect Wellness Organization
- The White Ribbon Campaign
- The 519 Community Centre
- Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office
- Toronto People With AIDS Foundation
- Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape
- Warden Woods Community Centre
- Wellesley Institute
- Women's College Hospital and Research Institue
- Women's Health In Women's Hand
- York University

