



### Did you hear?

We **successfully stopped** an anti-India Kashmir bill from advancing in Congress by mobilizing over 3,300 emails to Congress.

### HAF in the news!

We were **featured** in CNN's Travel Section "[\*Stop Shaking Hands: Do This Instead\*](#)" and Los Angeles Times "[\*Joined palms, hands on hearts, Vulcan salutes: Saying hello in a no-handshake era.\*](#)"

### Did you know?

Thanks to our supporters, we raised \$18,000 in COVID-19 [\*emergency relief aid\*](#) for Hindus in Pakistan and Pakistani Hindu refugees in Jodhpur.

Namaste HAF Donor Circles!

And a hearty welcome to our newest members! Your generous Donor Circle contribution demonstrates one of the **highest levels of commitment** to Hindu American advocacy. As a member of our Donor Circle family, we want to ensure you have insight and access to what happens at HAF.

First, we are thrilled to report we hosted our first ever [\*This Dharmic Life: National Virtual Gala\*](#) on June 5, 2020! You may have heard we had to cancel all 2020 in-person galas. Through this new virtual gala format, we **conducted a live fireside chat** with grammy-nominated artist and humanitarian Chandrika Tandon and featured a stunning performance by Leela Dance Collective. With over 1,000 registrants across the globe, we **attracted many new people** and those who cannot otherwise attend live events. We even received a surprise \$100,000 match challenge from Mrs. Chandrika Tandon. Thanks to all our attendees, sponsors, and your pledges, we **more than quadrupled** the match challenge!

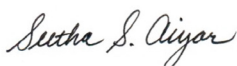
Second, hopefully you registered for our **Virtual Trivia Night** on August 9th! Stay tuned for upcoming policy training and 2020 Advocacy Forum event information.

Third, are you interested in **getting more involved** with HAF? You can help [\*promote our events\*](#) through your network. Don't forget to like us on Facebook and Instagram. Follow us on Twitter, too! If you want to help us raise funds, consider [\*starting a Facebook fundraiser\*](#) to benefit HAF on your birthday or in honor of your favorite graduate.

Finally, HAF's National Team will assemble this summer to review annual goals and two, five and ten-year **benchmarks in order to measure progress** towards broader objectives.

Please take a moment to **see what your dollars accomplished** during the first half of 2020.

Sincerely,



Seetha S. Aiyar  
Sr. Director of Philanthropic Partnerships  
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# Your Dollars in Action!

## Education



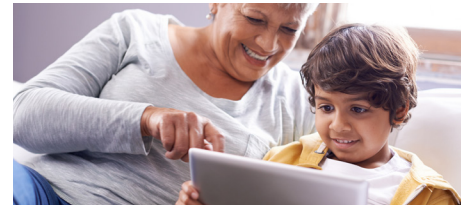
- › Launched “[That’s So Hindu](#)” Podcast - Season 2
- › Collaborated with Facebook to ensure “Avatars” accurately represent Hindu religious markers and cultural features
- › Conducted a Hinduism and cultural proficiency training for D.C. Attorney General’s office during AAPI Month
- › Created a unique explainer on [Vaisakhi](#) (a multifaceted Hindu holiday)
- › Released high school student lesson plan [Working Towards Peace: Understanding the Kashmir Conflict](#)
- › Addressed [COVID-19 and the Rise of Cyberbullying](#) during an HAF webinar
- › Launched a Tuesday Tidbit and Friday Fact Instagram campaign to target younger audiences with educational information about Hindu teachings and practices

## Policy



- › Built out a new [advocacy center](#) to empower grassroots action on crucial issues affecting Hindu Americans and launched a series of Advocacy Training programs
- › Stopped an anti-India Kashmir bill from advancing by mobilizing over 3,300 emails to Congress and generated 12,000 letters in response to a [deeply flawed and error-laden resolution](#) against India’s CAA proposed by the St. Paul City Council
- › Successfully pushed to [secure](#) refuge for Afghan Sikhs and Hindus
- › Published [Hinduism and the Environment](#) and [Ethical Treatment of Animals](#) policy briefs
- › Supported hate crimes legislation at the state (CA and FL) and federal level to ensure better tracking and protection for Hindu Americans

## Community



- › Published timely piece “[Dharma Demands Us To Fight For Racial Justice](#)”
- › Served thousands through HAF’s Coping with COVID [virtual series](#)
- › Organized commemorative [30th anniversary of Kashmiri Pandit Exodus](#) Day events
- › Trained hundreds of new [Dharma Ambassadors](#) to promote an authentic narrative
- › Facilitated a discussion on Kashmiri Hindus for high school juniors enrolled at the School for Ethics and Global Leadership in Washington D.C.
- › Highlighted Hindu American [efforts](#) in COVID-19 relief and services
- › Spoke during various International Yoga Day, interfaith, and National Day of Prayer with the Mayor events across the country

# Your Dollars in Action!

## Philanthropy



- › Achieved a record-high of annual philanthropy dollars raised in 2019
- › Hosted 1st ever HAF National Virtual [Gala](#) with over 1,000 registrants and over a half million dollars pledged
- › Received a generous [cyberbullying sponsorship grant](#) from Nellie Mae Education Foundation
- › Partnered with Raj & Anna Asava's HungerMitao movement to [raise funds](#) for HAF's advocacy work with proceeds benefiting [foodbanknyc.org](#)
- › Issued a timely grant to 501(c)(3) NAACP Empowerment Programs, Inc. for disadvantaged youth
- › Raised \$18,000 in COVID-19 [emergency relief aid](#) for Hindus in Pakistan and Pakistani Hindu refugees in Jodhpur

## Leadership



- › Launched our [new website](#) stemming from extensive data on user habits
- › Hired our [12th full-time staff member](#) whose sole focus is content writing and educating the general public about Hinduism beliefs and practice
- › Expanded [national team](#) to 46 leaders through a new Board of Advisors and recruitment of additional National Leadership Council members
- › Focused HAF's annual staff retreat on teaming for high performing organizations
- › Renewed our commitment to transparency achieving Platinum status on [Guidestar](#)
- › Featured in [Giving Tomorrow Magazine](#) for a legacy giving acronym submission

## HAF Inspires Me Because...

*"It is a sign of a great civilization waking up and finally learning to speak for itself."*

**Sham Sharma**  
HAF Board of Advisors

*"I want my children to grow up in a community of classmates, teachers, and elected leaders who understand and respect their Hindu heritage."*

**Anjali Prakash, J.D.**  
HAF Board of Advisors

*"We love HAF because they advocate for us and they give us a voice."*

**Jeffery D. Long, Ph.D**  
HAF Board of Advisors  
& Mahua Bhattacharya