



# MAHARASHTRA FOUNDATION

(NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations)

PO Box 2287, Church Street Station, New York, NY 10008-2287

<http://www.maharashtrafoundation.org>

1-877-MAYTRIN Empowerment Through Dialogue

महाराष्ट्र फाँडेशन

June 2010

## Tax Exemption ID

Under IRS Section 501 (c)(3)  
22-2213611

United Way NY, NJ, CT  
Agency Code 011675

## कार्यकारिणी / Executive Committee

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## सदस्य / Members:

अरुण आद्य - Arun Adya  
Finance committee member

अंजली लिमये - Anjali Limaye  
Fund Raising and Public Relations

सुनंदा माने - Sunanda Mane  
Project Coordinator

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अतुल तुळशीबागवाले - Atul Tulshibagwale  
MF Representative in India

## Greetings!

Winter is finally over and spring is here with beautiful weather and colors all around. Despite the "Great Recession" of 2008, cumbersome foreign contribution restrictions (FCRA) by the Indian Government and hardships faced by many of our members, I am pleased to report that Maharashtra Foundation is doing reasonably well in its various activities. The MF Executive Committee (EC) members have been busy coordinating upcoming events.

Maharashtra Foundation (MF) award ceremony for Marathi Literature and Social services was held on Feb 5th 2010 in Pune at Bal Gandharwa Natyagriha. It was well attended and well received by the discriminating Pune audience.

A hurricane in Maharashtra in November 2009 had destroyed the roof of the MF-built out-patient facility of Khedkar Hospital at Anjanwel. When some of the EC members visited the site they were delighted to note that the dedicated physicians were providing medical services in a temporary building.

Earlier this year, three members of the MF executive committee (EC) and the MF past President visited a dozen charities in India supported by our donors over the years. We are convinced that the charities are doing wonderful work worthy of your encouragement and financial support. We noticed that MF support is a matter of pride, well beyond just the financial value for these charities.

MF's flagship project in USA called "Maytrin" has made tremendous progress. A card bearing Maytrin's phone number (1-877-Maytrin) will be distributed by the American Embassy in Mumbai to all new H 4 visa recipients and also to all US-bound Air India flights. We need the support of all MF donors to make this project financially sustainable.

We are in the process of closing MF-India, since its administrative costs have become prohibitive compared to the benefits.

Finally I would like you to hold the date for our fundraiser this year to be held on Saturday November 13, 2010 at the Ukrainian Church Center, 135 Davidson Avenue in Somerset New Jersey. We did not have a New Jersey fundraiser last year as the costs of these events have increased substantially. However, we are counting on your support to make this year's event a resounding success. Please continue to donate generously, and encourage your friends and colleagues to attend and support MF.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer.

**Dr. Arundhati Vinod**

**President, Maharashtra Foundation**

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**Tax Exemption ID**  
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## Annual General Body Meeting

22-2213611

Dear Maharashtra Foundation Member,

**United Way NY, NJ, CT**  
Agency Code 011675

As required by our constitution, the Annual General Body Meeting will be held on **July 25, 2010**. All members are invited to attend and participate in the meeting. The details of the meeting are as follows:

### Executive Committee

#### President

Arundhati Vinod  
201 568 5976

Date: Sunday July 25, 2010

Time: 2 PM to 4 PM

#### Vice President

Shaila Vidwans  
609-336 7239

Place: Residence of Arundhati Hrishikesh Vinod  
92 Hillside Avenue, Tenafly, NJ 07670  
Telephone: 201-568-5976

#### Secretary

Sharayu Tulpule

### Agenda:

1. Approval of General Body Meeting Minutes 2009
2. President's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Introduction of EC members.
5. On-going Projects' and New Projects' Reports
6. Fundraising event in November 2010
7. Any other item with the permission of the Chair

#### Treasurer

Rajan Marathe

#### Members

Sunanda Mane  
Project Coordinator

Arun Adya

Finance committee  
member

Members are requested to RSVP to MF secretary by email:  
secretary@maharashtrafoundation.org or call: 860-674-8953

Anjali Limaye

Fund Raising and Public  
Relations

It will help us plan the seating and food arrangements.

Yours Sincerely,

Vinata Kulkarni

Newsletter and Website

**Arundhati Vinod ,**

Atul Tulshibagwale

MF Representative in India

**President, Maharashtra Foundation**

### Go Green with your next copy of MF Newsletter in Electronic Format

Please sign up for *email delivery* of future issues of the MF newsletter. Go Green and help MF in implementing cost effective communication tools and technology of today. Please send your email addressed to: Rajan Marathe, MF treasurer, by email to: [treasurer@maharashtrafoundation.org](mailto:treasurer@maharashtrafoundation.org)

Your email address will only be used by MF for communication with you only, and will not be shared with anyone else

- MF Executive Committee

# Maharashtra Foundation

Presents

## Annual Fundraising Day

An evening of inspiration, entertainment, cocktail and dinner

**Saturday, November 13, 2010 at 3:00 PM**

Ukrainian Center, Somerset, New Jersey

**Give and Take - And connect to generation Y**

Special guests:

**Carl Pope** - Chairman of Sierra Club

**Dr. Anand Bang** - Promising young social worker from SEARCH  
(Son of Drs Abhay and Rani Bang)

**Pallavi Amte** - Inspiring young social worker Anandwan  
(Grand daughter-in-law of Baba Amte)

Enjoy " Conversation in Taal " by Kathak dancer **Aditi Bhagwat** and her group  
Be there to support the cause of Maharashtra Foundation

## 2010 Executive Committee Nominations

Nominations are invited for 2 positions from members to serve on the Executive Committee (EC) of Maharashtra foundation (MF) for a three-year term beginning 2010. Only Benefactor, Patron, Life members and 2009 members are eligible to serve on the MF EC. Please send in your written nomination and a brief bio-data to the following address:

Maharashtra Foundation

P. O. Box 2287

Church Street Station, New York, NY 10008-2287.

Or email to [secretary@maharashtrafoundation.org](mailto:secretary@maharashtrafoundation.org)

All nominations must be mailed on or before **June 25th 2010**. Any nominations post-marked later than June 25 will not be valid. All valid nominations will be posted on the MF website by **June 30, 2010**.

EC members are expected to contribute and participate in the volunteer work related to preparation of appeals for donations and brochures, mass mailings, organizing fund-raisers, maintaining accounts, updating mailing lists, etc. It is also expected that EC members attend monthly meetings. Please contact any of the current EC members for additional information.

## Project Highlights 2009

In 2009, the Foundation continued to disburse ear marked funds, and supported MF initiated projects. A brief account: Ear marked donations, \$ 467,533, were disbursed to 74 NGOs in India and amount \$32,000 was disbursed towards following MF sponsored projects:

**Anti Human Trafficking,**  
**Swyamsiddha**(women and youth empowerment),  
**Pure and Safe Drinking Water for school children**  
**Think Maharashtra** - web portal.

**Anti Human Trafficking** - The projects address prevention as well as rehabilitation issue. **People's Institute for Rural Development (PIRD)** works in 30 villages with adolescent girls near Latur. Awareness camps, village libraries, health check-ups, and preventing school drop outs are among the several activities conducted by PIRD. **Save the Children India (STCI)** also works towards prevention. Their strategy is to create a support network for the vulnerable population and offer training. STCI works in Amravati district and has gained reputation among the communities and the government agencies, including the police department. **Apne Aap** focuses on rehabilitation. Their effort is to prevent the prostitutes' daughters from entering into their mothers' profession. Located in the red light district of Mumbai, Apne Aap works with girls as young as six months to adolescents. Educational support, nutrition, and personality development are the kinds of support Apne Aap provides. All the three projects under Anti Human Trafficking initiative completed a three year phase (except STCI) and MF has agreed to continue the support on a yearly basis.

**Swyamsiddha** project mentors the women and youth to make right choices about their future life and career by providing access to education, information and networking opportunities, and micro finance through self-help groups. This project is carried out in 10 villages in the first phase and is now in second year.

**Pure and Safe Drinking Water** project has been a high light of the past two years. "Grant a Smile" foundation was able to quadruple MF's contribution of \$ 8,000 through Rotary Organization. The larger grant enabled installation of the appropriate equipment and peripherals to provide pure and safe drinking water in schools in and around Pune, reaching approximately 10,000 students.

**Khedker Hospital Project** is MF's special status project initiated through the ear marked contribution made by

Late Prince and Nenescha Khedker through their will. This hospital project is taking shape at Anjanvel, the native place of Prince Khedker, in Ratnagiri district. Since the launch of the first phase, the hospital has been providing excellent primary care including running a small maternity ward. This year, a cyclone damaged the entire structure of the health care center causing its operations to be moved to a temporary location. The local staff of the partner organization - Yusuf Meherally- and the local community leaders in Anjanvel did an exceptional job of resuming the services of the hospital within 48 hours. Yusuf Meherally Center is now busy repairing the structures and getting back to the hospital premises.

**Maytrin** is MF US based project. This year the project completed its decade long service. The number of calls received, appreciation from the beneficiaries, their parents, and social support organizations in the US and India are the indicators of its success and continued need. With a meager annual budget of about \$ 4,000 for conducting this support line, MF is impacting several lives. Because of Sunita Dhumale's efforts, **Maytrin** has received support from Air India to spread the word about Maytrin services among the Indian Diaspora.

The MF Executive Committee member, Sunanda Mane, coordinates with the NGOs who implement the above projects. These organizations have been sharing their quarterly / six monthly reports regularly. The funds are disbursed to the NGOs upon signing a memorandum of association, and disbursement is contingent upon satisfactory performance and receipt of the reports. For the Khedker Hospital project, as per the terms of MOU with the Attorney General, NYC, the reports are submitted to his office. Sunanda Mane acts as a coordinator of the program and liaison with the Attorney General's office.

In 2009-10, besides Sunanda Mane, MF members - Sharayu Tulpule, Shaila Vidwans, and the new MF President, Dr. Arundhati Vinod visited several NGO projects in India (Jan- Feb 2010) and got acquainted with the work of NGOs, the fund utilization, and opportunities for future projects.

For more details about MF projects, please contact:

**Sunanda Mane**

Email: [sunanda.mane@yahoo.com](mailto:sunanda.mane@yahoo.com)

## Financial Statements

Financial statements and audited accounts for the year 2009 will be distributed at the General Body Meeting and will also be posted on the web as soon as they become available.

**MF Executive Committee**

### Rural Women's Bachat gats in Maharashtra

Since mid nineties, Jnan Prabodhini (JP) organizes This program began with Maharashtra foundation donations - initially of Rs. 50,000 per year for two years and some in later years. This modest donation has now mushroomed in fairly sizable program that has established 300+ individual bachat gats of rural women with 5,500+ members who save 500,000 rupees per month! In turn, they can have access to additional 1,200,000 rupee bank loans for these bachat gats. It is remarkable work accomplishment by JP achieved through their dedication and management ability. MF should be justly proud of this remarkable work.

**Kamalakar Pendse**

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### Maharashtra Foundation Awards Ceremony - Social Service & Literature Awards

Maharashtra foundation has always believed in and strived to create a socially just and better society. Many people & organizations through their art, literature and social work have spent a lifetime helping to achieve this goal. Fourteen years ago, MF, under the leadership of Mr. Sunil Deshmukh, established awards to acknowledge and appreciate the work of such people. This year's "Awards Ceremony" was held in Bal Gandharva Rang Mandir, Pune on February 2010. It was coordinated by Narendra Dabholkar of Sadhana Trust. Social service Awards were given to Bandyasane, Shrinivas Kulkarni, Yogini Khanolkar, and the Lifetime Achievement award in Social Service to Vyankatanna Randhir. Literature awards were presented to Kumar Ketkar, Chandrakant Patil, Laxminarayan Bolli, Chandrashekar Phansalkar, and Lifetime Achievement award in Literature to G P Deshpande. It was a very well attended dignified event which was prominently covered by the media.



## A unique social venture of The Maharashtra Foundation (USA) in Collaboration with Air India.

**This 30 year old philanthropic organization, based in the USA sponsors a unique service in North America, known as the 1-877-MAYTRIN hotline.** Started in 1999, by Sunita Dhumale, the service over the years has fielded over 4000 calls for assistance. Although the initial intent was to overcome the loneliness and depression following the cultural isolation of emigration, the service now handles calls for all forms of assistance. The philosophy behind the service was to empower the caller through counseling, networking and when possible legal and medical referral.

As the first language based hotline serving a relatively small community, confidentiality of the call was a critical factor. Even today, the caller does not have to reveal her identity or location to receive help and the charges for the call do not appear on the caller's bill, thereby assuring total privacy. The toll free number offers a dialogue for women's empowerment through friendship and support. By learning about others in a similar situation the seemingly insurmountable problems are put into perspective and help the caller in often resolving the issue herself.

The increasing number of calls received each year point to a critical need for this service. The Maharashtra Foundation, in an effort to reach out to the maximum people, approached Air India for assistance, and Air India, understanding the situation and the need, has extended a helping and supporting hand. This information about the availability of the hotline, was accepted by Air India as a "Kavach" (कवच) and they have agreed to distribute informational cards on every flight to North America.

Parents of the newly weds can now breathe a sigh of relief with the knowledge that their daughter is not alone in her new life in a new land.

**Sunita Dhumale**

## Appeal for Your Generous Support to Our Fundraising Projects for NGOs.

Dear Friends of Maharashtra Foundation, The Executive Committee (EC) of Maharashtra Foundation (MF) has worked hard throughout this term to be a part of service to India. Over the past few years, significant changes have been made to MF policies to align strategies with the changing demographics and financial conditions of the donors as well as the recipient groups. The EC attempted to expand Maharashtra Foundation's reach by funding more NGOs and expanding the types of projects funded.

Please note that MF will be holding a fundraiser dinner this year, on November 13, 2010. (Please check details in this regards on page 2 of this newsletter.) We are counting on your generous support to continue funding our recipient NGOs.

To support Maharashtra Foundation, please renew your membership, consider becoming a lifetime or patron member and attend fund raising event too.

Please send checks payable to:

**Maharashtra Foundation**

P.O. Box 2287, Church Street Station,  
New York, NY 10008



▲ Women gathered for health check up camp.  
The occasion is used to address the group about women's health and hygiene



- ▲ Youth group meeting -  
 ▲ young boys and young parents are equally part of the 'preventing early girl child marriages' program.  
 MF supported project in Latur district.



- ▲ Counseling session for adolescent girls in progress. Mr. Gojame and his colleague, NGO representatives

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