COVID-19

śankalpa patra

https://sewausa.org/sewasankalpa/
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sewa International is a 501(c)(3) leading Hindu faith-based, humanitarian, nonprofit service organization. Sewa is providing non-medical advice, support, and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic across the United States.

To fight against this pandemic, Sewa is channelizing resources collectively from over 1,000 Dharma and Sewa (service) community organizations across the US. Let us stand with each other in solidarity by committing to a three-pronged approach through Sankalpa Patra or ‘Pledge for Service.’

SANKALPA PATRA - GOALS

01
Build confidence amongst community members to follow safety measures, take all precautions, and observe utmost restraint in personal lives (sanyam) to protect the health of our family and community

Enable Community Organizations to encourage and foster co-operation (sahākar) amongst members to create a support system for the wellbeing of all

03
Facilitate Community Organizations to collaborate (sahayog) with other organizations in this fight against COVID-19
Sewa International is a leading volunteer-driven Hindu faith-based nonprofit established in 2003 with a mission to serve humanity in distress, aid local communities, run developmental projects for the underserved, and assist people in transformational change through the power of innovation by mobilizing partners, donors, and volunteers.

With extensive experience in disaster recovery (rescue, relief, and rehabilitation), Sewa has responded to over 25 disasters in the US and abroad.

Sewa International has been recognized by Charity Navigator – the premier nonprofit rating agency – as number five among the “10 Highly Rated Charities Relying on Private Contributions.”

For the last three consecutive years, Sewa has scored the topmost-rated 4-star from Charity Navigator. In addition, Sewa has earned perfect scores in Financial Health, and Accountability & Transparency categories – one of the only handful 11 in the international category of over 23,000 NGOs in the US.

Our 43 chapters, in cities across the US, have dedicated teams of volunteers and experienced community leaders who are ready and prepared to offer their services in this difficult time of the novel COVID-19 virus pandemic.

We believe in the Dharmic principles of 'Serving Humanity is Serving Divinity' and 'Unity in Diversity.' We respect the dignity of every human being, consider 'Humanity as One Family,' while serving all, regardless of race, color, religion, nationality, gender, and sexual orientation.
Background

COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our lives in unprecedented ways. The situation is dynamic. While long term consequences on societies, nations, and economies are sure to lead us to a new normal, in the short-term we are all experiencing great disruption.

We are reaching out to all Dharma and Sewa (service) community organizations in the US to pool ideas, collaborate and build confidence in our community.

Sewa Sankalpa - What and Why

Sewa Sankalpa is a pledge for service that your organization will undertake to provide support to the community.

Each organization would sign this ‘Sewa Sankalpa’, and, can publish on its own social media, website or email its members.

Sewa's Offer in Return

Sewa International will assist interested community organizations build capacity for Non-Medical COVID-19 support setup in the following areas:

- Communication Channels -- reach members through multiple channels
- Helpline -- local / national
- Case Management Services -- support families in distress requiring complex care solutions
- Direct Service Areas -- other services that can be offered to members:
  - Informational Webinars -- Topics of community interest
  - Elderly Assistance -- help for home delivery (food, groceries and meds), or other needs
  - International Students -- Provide visa information, boarding and lodging etc. to the stranded
  - Local Resource List -- Compile and provide information on needed services (eg., Physicians, Attorneys, etc.)

Click here to take a ‘Sankalpa’ together to serve our community effectively
Sankalpa Patra

(Pledge for Service)

May all be happy! May all be free from illness!

With the intent of ensuring wellness for all humanity, we as a community organization, pledge to serve in all possible manner to overcome the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic that poses a great danger to humanity.

During these uncertain times, our community members might face various challenges – physical and emotional afflictions, family medical emergencies, financial difficulties, children’s education, etc. The nature of challenges may vary in coming times.

To fight this threat, it is important to channel our resources collectively and stand with each other in solidarity. As a responsible community organization, we take a pledge (sankalpa) of:

- **Sanyam (Restraint)**: We will urge our community members to follow safety measures, take all precautions, and observe utmost restraint in personal lives to protect the health of our family and community.

- **Sahakar (Cooperation)**: Our community organization will encourage and foster co-operation amongst members to create a support system for the wellbeing of all.

- **Sahyog (Collaboration)**: Our community organization will collaborate with other organizations in this fight against COVID-19.

Consequently, we wish happiness for all:

May all see what is auspicious! May no one suffer!
Om! Peace, Peace, Peace.

_________________________  _________________________
Name of the Organization       Signatory
DISASTER RELIEF TRACK RECORD

HURRICANE HARVEY 2017
- 700 people rescued
- 4,023 people helped with basic needs
- 125 houses rebuilt
- 50+ partner organizations
- 2,050 cases managed
- $5,000,000 invested in cash and kind for Harvey

COLORADO FLOODS 2013
- 2005
- Hurricane Katrina
- Hurricane Ike 2008
- Hurricane Irma & Maria 2017
- Hurricane Florence 2018
- California Fires 2018

Tiny Homes

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COVID-19 HELPLINES
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EAST COAST
(302) 330-SEWA
SOUTH WEST
(281) 909-SEWA
MID WEST
(708) 872-SEWA

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