



Association for India's Development

Courage Commitment Change

संघर्ष सेवा निर्माण



An Evening for India

The Association for India's Development (AID), a volunteer movement committed to promoting sustainable, equitable and just development, is organizing a **talk** on its initiatives in Primary Education, at NYU, New York, on Saturday, **July 19th**.

Details

When: 4:30 - 6 PM on Saturday, July 19th 2008

Where: KMEC 3-120, Stern School of Business, New York University, 44 W 4th Street, New York, NY 10012 (**For directions, please see below**)

Speakers: Ravi Kuchimanchi (Founder of AID), Vijay Manghnani (Project Coordinator in the US for Eureka Child Initiative)

This event is Free and open to all

Agenda

4:30 PM - 4:45 PM - Coffee and Introduction

4:45 PM - 5:15 PM - Beginning of AID and Eureka by Ravi Kuchimanchi

5:15 PM - 6:00 PM - Eureka Child Initiative by Vijay Manghnani

After the talk, we will be hosting an informal meetup from **7:00 PM -8.30 pm**. This is open to all and will be a unique opportunity to speak personally with Ravi Kuchimanchi, the Founder of AID, about his experience and learnings of doing development work in India. It will also be a time to learn more about AID and its work in other areas such as livelihoods, natural resources, health, women's empowerment and social justice.

Background

According to India's 2007 Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), out of an estimated 140 million primary school children in the 6-14 years age group, **50% cannot read simple words or do simple arithmetic**.

Since 1997, AID India, through its **Eureka Child initiative**, has focused on creating innovative interventions in the area of Education. Recognizing AID's pioneering work, the Government of Tamil Nadu selected AID, in 2006, to train its teachers and improve the quality of Education. In a short 6 month span, the Eureka Child Initiative reached out to **7300 schools and 450,000 children**. In six months there was **30% improvement** in reading skills.

Please join us as we learn more about this commendable initiative and the impact it is making in the lives of thousands of children in India.





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An Evening for India **Background of Speakers**

Ravi Kuchimanchi, Founder of AID: While a Graduate student at University of Maryland Ravi founded AID, in 1991, with the vision "problems are interconnected, so must be the solution." Ravi has a B.Tech in Civil Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai and a PhD in Physics from University of Maryland. In 1998, after his postdoctoral work in theoretical particle physics, Ravi returned to India with his wife Aravinda, to work with the poor and underprivileged. Demand for alternate energy in the Narmada river valley in western India, led Ravi to forge a collaboration that electrified 12 hamlets of the tribal village Bilgaon (*this inspired the Bollywood movie, Swades*). Recently, Ravi has been interested in Indian democracy's latest achievement -- the Right to Information (RTI) Act, that gives citizens of India access to government documents and increases transparency, and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), which promises 100 days of work to all rural families at an annual budget of \$3 billion.

Vijay Manghnani, Project Coordinator (US), Eureka Child Initiative: Vijay joined the AID Chapter in University of North Carolina when he was a Graduate Student. He has since been a Coordinator for Eureka in the US, raising awareness and funds for the project over the last 6 years. He also has been one of the people responsible for Eureka to receive a **1:3 matching donation of \$800,000** from Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), the largest UK-based children's charity. Vijay has a B.Tech from Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai and a PhD from North Carolina State University.

We look forward to having you join us on Saturday, July 19th. Please RSVP if you plan to attend the talk and/or the dinner.

If you have any questions regarding AID or this event, please contact:

Subbu – 551 998 2886 - subbu.loganathan@db.com

Rishabh – 609 206 0785 - rishabh.mehreja@bms.com

Priyanka – 609 933 1135 – priyanka1@gmail.com

*AID is registered with the US Federal Government as a non-profit charitable corporation under category 501(C)(3). Its federal Tax-ID is 04-3652609.

For more information on the organization, please visit: www.aidindia.org

For more information on the Eureka Child Project, please visit: www.eurekachild.org

