

Mission & Vision

Apne Aap Women's Collective's (AAWC) aims to provide a support network which helps the women, girls, and children in the Red Light district of Mumbai, India.

The root issue that this organization aims to resolve is intergenerational prostitution. AAWC seeks to achieve this through promoting academic success, professional success, and societal reintegration. For the women in this community, AAWC helps deconstruct the effects of intergenerational prostitution through financial security, physical and emotional healing, along with societal reintegration.

Our Accomplishments

In our first semester we created educational modules to help the beneficiaries of Apne Aap with skills such as communication, self-confidence, interpersonal relationships, conflict management, etc. For the second semester our group developed a short film depicting positive conflict resolution in a situation the beneficiaries of Apne Aap are likely to encounter in their daily lives.

Collaborative Group 4

"Ann Arbor 49ers"



AAWC

Dana Bisher, Susan Cheng, Lucy Clarke, Aisling Comerford, Maleny Crespo, Drue Daley, Hugo He, Yi Liu, Sarah Oguntomilade, Dhroov Patel

Background

AAWC was founded in 1998, and they have served more than 2,800 women and children with their programs. They help women who have been trafficked in Kamathipura (the red light district of Mumbai) and their children by empowering them and breaking the intergenerational cycle.

Reflection

Adjusting our perspectives and increasing our technical skills helped us serve the beneficiaries at AAWC in working with conflict management, developing self-confidence, and communication. Working with young members impacted by trafficking in the Red Light District in Mumbai increased our awareness of the different needs in our world.

Skills Gained

We learned professional communication across time zone and cultural boundaries, graphic design, to be adaptable, and conflict management. We gained skills in research, time management, responsiveness to constructive criticism, and interpersonal communication.

Meet the Team



Dana S. Bisher

Major: Undeclared Poli Sci & Organizational Studies

Hellooo Apne Aap! I'm Dana, an Egyptian-American transfer junior at U-M. I have plans to continue to law school to study International Law. I am really looking forward to working with your team and making impactful changes in women and children's lives in Mumbai.



Susan Cheng

Major: Information (User Experience Track)

Hey Apne Aap! I am Suzie, a second generation Chinese-American student. I am very passionate about women's rights so after hearing about your organization's goals, I knew I wanted to help out in any way. A big focus in my major is accessibility in technology. I hope I am able to use my skills to make a positive change.



Lucy Clarke

Major: Political Science & Philosophy

Hello Apne Aap! I am a junior in college and I have plans to pursue a career in law in the near future. Women's rights and issues have always been a passion of mine so I'm very grateful to have been paired with you and to have the opportunity to help you in your mission.



Aisling Comerford

Major: Health & Performance Science

Hi Apne Aap! I'm Aisling, a study abroad student from Ireland at university of Michigan for this term. I'm a sophomore from the school of kinesiology. I am so excited to be working with your organization, as I have always cared about women's rights. I really respect the work you are doing, and can't wait to get involved and learn more!



Maleny Crespo

Major: Sociology & Organizational Studies

I am excited to work with Apne Aap to further the mission of advocating for women, girls, and children. My professional goals are project management with a concentration in social responsibility. I look forward to collaborating with organizational leaders and community members of AAWC.



Drue Daley

Major: Linguistics & Cognitive Science

Hi Apne Aap! I'm Drue, a sophomore and first-generation student with an interest in Cognitive Science and Linguistics. My professional goals include working with children to improve their quality of life. I am so excited to work with your organization, as I have always been passionate about the rights of women and youths.



Hugo He

Major: Environment Minor: Computer Science

Hello Apne Aap! I am Hugo and I am from China. I am interested in sustainability and social justice which began with my own struggles with social inequality. I really respect what your organization has done in helping women in the red light district of Mumbai. I hope that I am able to help you guys!



Yi Liu

Major: Mathematics

Hi, I am a member of CG4 and currently a sophomore student in USA. It is an honor for me to be able to assist girls and women in their daily lives. I am interested in both women's rights and child care. Hoping to gain more insight into those aspects.



Sarah Oguntomilade

Major: International Studies (Political Econ/Development) & Education

Hello Apne Aap! I'm Sarah, a first generation Nigerian American who calls Mozambique home. I am super passionate about International Development and Education! I plan to someday return to Mozambique and teach History one day. I am very eager to work with as well as learn from your organization!



Dhroov Patel

Major: Data Science

Hey Apne Aap! I'm Dhroov, a second generation Canadian-Indian junior at U-M. My family is Gujarati so I've been to India (including Mumbai) many times and am well-versed in Indian culture and traditions. My passions include philosophy, government, politics, and community service so I'm excited to help support the cause!