



LOCATED IN: Newport Beach, California

WEBSITE: www.tarsadiafoundation.org

MISSION: The Tarsadia Foundation supports non-profit organizations with programs and projects that provide educational opportunities for the underserved, support health and well-being of the community, and assist to employ the employable through economic empowerment

Who Is Involved:

- ✓ 22 youth between the ages of 0-21 (ages 9+ are invited for all programming)
- ✓ Supported by volunteer family member and Executive Director



Tarsadia Foundation Retreat 2013

History of Youth Engagement:

The Tarsadia Foundation was established in 1999, and to effectively engage each other in the foundation's work, the family worked with a consultant to hold a family planning meeting that established an adult and junior board in 2008. In 2009, they hired a family member as Executive Director, who developed a formal Junior Board. The primary focus is grantmaking, followed by service, as youth wanted to be more involved with the nonprofits they supported. Thus, they created monthly service projects for the adults and youth to meet grantees.

Because a large portion of their grantmaking is international, a service trip to India was organized in 2009, followed by a trip to Peru in 2011. To further ensure family engagement in the foundation, they also hold planning retreats every two years. The Foundation is now experiencing the transition of some from the Junior Board to the adult board!

Current Youth Engagement Strategies:

- ✓ **Junior Board Grants** (1% of grantmaking budget) cycle occurs in the summer. The youth meet to review applications, make grants, and schedule site visits to all grantees.
- ✓ **Service Projects** are done as a family and individually. They are currently focusing on working with one organization to build a deeper relationship and have greater impact.
- ✓ **International Service Trips** are used to visit grantees abroad. These trips are planned by the Foundation, but funded by the family members who participate.
- ✓ **Leadership Development Opportunities** such as having a Public Speaking Coach or attending Youth Philanthropy Connect have encouraged the youth to speak up and share their work with others.



- ✓ **Monthly Meetings** with a Family Circle is an opportunity to talk about what's happening in the family and foundation.

Adult Perspective:

“While the youth have pride and want to do this philanthropic work, sometimes follow through is an issue. For us this has meant working with the parents to be role models for what can be very humbling work, especially internationally as well as making the work fun and engaging.”

—Shirish Dayal, Executive Director

Next Gen Perspective:

“The foundation had been around for two years before I joined, but in that time I noticed the projects the foundation had worked on, and thought they were very rewarding and was eager to be a part of this unique experience. The opportunities that arise from being on my Junior Board, like meeting people from the various foundations or nonprofits we work with, is very rewarding. I like the fact that everyone has an opportunity to voice his or her opinions during the grantmaking process. This is good because it is a collaborative activity and we are giving together, as a board.”

—Sarina Dayal, Junior Board Member
(Senior in high school)

Advice to Others:

1. Involve youth and do so early, especially in the vision for the Foundation. It is much easier to begin at a young age.
2. If you have expectations for specific leadership skills, support youth in developing them. For us, this has meant working on public speaking so family members feel comfortable representing the foundation on their own at site visits.
3. Engage youth in developing technology used by the foundation, like online grants management or the website.

Resources They Have Available to Share:

- ✓ Junior Board process documents
- ✓ International Service Trip Advice

Contact:

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