



Anchal + Forix Foundation Final Report
August 31, 2015

Project Summary

Anchal Project sought the grant from Forix Foundation to create a sustainable program run by and for commercial sex workers through leadership opportunities and the prospect of career advancement with our textile initiative. More specifically, we aimed to provide the proper training and wages for four project assistants for one year, who could then guide and train 90 Anchal artisans.

The project assistants received training by a professional tailor in measurement, sewing and cutting techniques as well as instruction on suitable color and print pairings. The project assistants then taught the 90 artisans techniques, assist in quilt design and oversee operations.

Staffing

Colleen Clines, Co-founder and Executive Director

Responsible for overall strategic and operational planning for Anchal's staff, partners, programs, expansion & execution of it's mission. For this project, Colleen created new, practical and innovative designs. In India she interviewed & hired the tailor, communicated the new designs with the team, assisted in teaching & oversaw daily lessons.

Maggie Clines, Creative Director

Responsible for maintaining Anchal's design aesthetic & unique brand in website content, marketing, and strategic planning. For this Project, Maggie created new designs and accompanying lesson plans that would ensure effective communication & understanding.

Tess O'Keefe, Development Coordinator

Responsible for sharing Anchal's story through grant administration, community outreach & partnerships. For this Project, Tess recorded the progress of this project on the ground through written, photo & video journalism.

Impact

Anchal's project assistants – Nazia, Shakuntela, Gulshan & Shama – represent the hope of self-sufficiency and the prospect of career advancement. The seed funding granted by the Forix Foundation empowered all of our 107 artisans through unity, trust and the vision of greater opportunities.

Basic Skills

Starting in December of 2014, four project assistants received training by a professional tailor in general skills such as suitable color combinations and print pairings, measuring and cutting techniques. They spent December 2014 & January 2015 learning and mastering these practices - using basic math, measuring tape, rulers and tailor's chalk.

Advanced Skills/ Design

They learned quickly and were inspired to learn more. Once they were comfortable with foundational skills, the tailor taught them more complicated techniques – such as how to assemble new patterns, hand and machine sew uniquely textured materials, and how to add hardware like zippers and handles.

When the Anchal team was there to monitor progress in February and March of 2015, we were so proud to discover them coming up with their own original ideas – such as lap top cases, embroidered borders on decorative pillows & cross-body purses with a special cell phone pocket.

Their creativity confirmed that Anchal artisans are not just seamstresses, they are designers with the education and training needed to sustain a career in tailoring – a prestigious career in India primarily held by men.

Self-Sufficiency

The four project assistants learned a variety of new skills that have furthered their economic opportunities and personal empowerment. They are dignified leaders in their communities who serve as role models to their families and the other Anchal artisans.

“Look at the difference we can make together. We’re doing it.” – Shama

Project assistant Nazia is leaving at the end of this year. Though we were initially saddened by her decision, we are overjoyed for her. The overarching goal of our program is to give women the opportunity, training and tools to sustain themselves through safe and dignified employment. Though we will miss her, Nazia is indicative of Anchal’s success.

She has motivated others through the prospect of career advancement and has inspired them to create positive changes in their lives. Promoting Nazia to project assistant was the inaugural step to her sustaining another career. We couldn’t have done it without the help of Forix Foundation, thank you!

Challenges

A major challenge was finding a qualified tailor who had both the technical skills and the ability to teach the artisans. This delayed the start of our proposed project by three months but made room in the budget to hire one more project assistant and cover additional materials.

Budget

Our budget has remained on track since the original adjustments based on the challenge mentioned above.

Month	Training Cost for Professional Tailor	Artisan Wages (4 @ \$100.00)	Monthly Total	Completed
September 2015	0	0	0	n/a
October 2015	0	0	0	n/a
November 2015	0	0	0	n/a
December 2014	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
January 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
February 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
March 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
April 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
May 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
June 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
July 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes
August 2015	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	Yes



PHOTO: Project Assistant Nazia learning new designs



PHOTO: Project Assistants Shakuntela & Gulshan cutting a pillow cover.



PHOTO: Project Assistant Gulshan practicing on the machine.

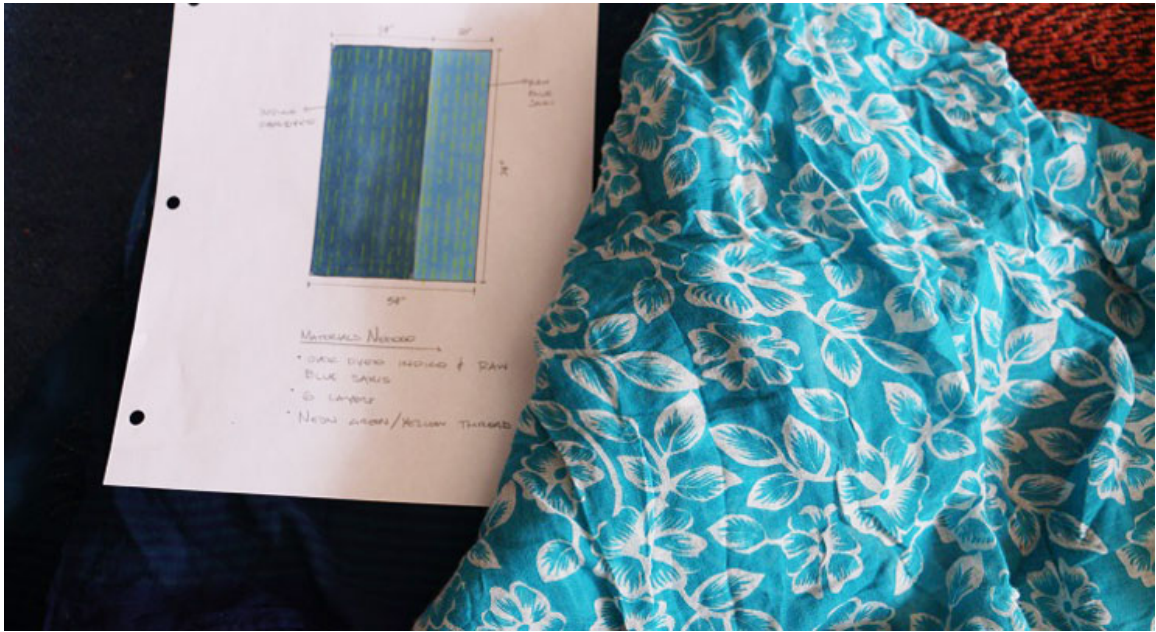


PHOTO: Project Assistants are introduced to new, more complex designs.



PHOTO: Master Tailor teaching Shakuntela and Nazia new patterns.



PHOTO: Project Assistants learning the new design patterns and measurements.



PHOTO: Project Assistants celebrating completion of training.



PHOTO: Project Assistant Shakuntela measuring fabric before cutting.



PHOTO: Anchal artisan group



PHOTO: Nazia making new design patterns

