



Hindu American Seva Communities

Transforming Our Self, Our Communities, Our Country – Make Seva Your Mantra

PRESS RELEASE

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HASC launches Project Light A Home - Bringing Solar Lanterns to USVI & Puerto Rico -

Washington, D.C. October 19, 2017: Hindu American Seva Communities (HASC) wishes all a Happy and Shubh Deepavali. On this auspicious day, we are pleased to announce the launch of a new seva initiative, [Project Light A Home](#), for homes in need at US Virgin Island and Puerto Rico. Project Light A Home is a partnership with Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing and collaboration with the Sai Center and United Way in the Virgin Islands and the United Clergy Task Force in Puerto Rico.

Today millions of Hindu and Dharmic communities are celebrating the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. As we light the lamps in our homes and our hearts, let us bring light to our communities. Deepavali means a row of lamps and the message is move away from darkness towards light of Jnana (knowledge). The path of service or seva is an important path to achieve this ultimate goal of life. We invite you to journey with us.

We seek your help to provide light this Diwali to homes and families currently without power due to the recent Hurricanes' Irma and Maria. Two weeks after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, [ninety percent](#) of Puerto Rico remains without power. With the island's power grid in shambles, authorities estimate months before full power is restored. On St. John of the Virgin Islands, the island remains without power. St. Thomas has only about [15% of power restored but only in its downtown](#). On St. Thomas and St. Croix, power has returned only to critical facilities such as hospitals, airports, and shelters. Residential areas continue to struggle as restoring power can take months and even a year. As Chirag R. and Ashwin C., two college students and residents of USVI, write in their [Letter of Appeal](#), solar lights can help solve the issue of electricity temporarily without the hassle of finding batteries. We've identified the Solar Helix Bright White Lantern by Solight-Design to assist those without power so that those affected have one less thing to worry about.

Join us in this Light A Home Campaign this Diwali to bring a Solar Lantern to each home. Each Solar Lantern costs \$10 and our goal is to raise \$20,000 to light 1,000 homes in the Virgin Islands and 1,000 in Puerto Rico. After we finish this Phase I of raising these funds, we move to Phase II of distribution to distribute the Solar Lanterns home to home.

All donations will directly go to buying the lantern.

Om. Asato ma sat gamaya
Tamaso ma jyotir gamaya
Mrityor ma amritam gamaya
Om. Shantih, Shantih, Shantih

From Unreal lead me to the Real
From Darkness lead me to Light
From Death lead me to Immortality
Om, Peace, Peace, Peace

Brhadarnyaka Upanishad



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