

Akshay Gomatam Narayanan

Cambridge, MA, USA • www.akshaynarayanan.com • akshaygn@hsph.harvard.edu • linkedin.com/in/akshaygrn

Education

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Cambridge, MA
Master of Public Health, Health & Social Behavior (GPA: 3.8/4.0) Aug 2024 – Dec 2025
Coursework: Analytical Frameworks for Policy, Health Modeling & Priority Setting, Program Evaluation, Data Visualization, Quantitative & Qualitative Data Analysis

Christ University Bengaluru, India
BSc Biotechnology, Chemistry & Zoology (GPA: 3.8/4.0) Jun 2015 – May 2018

Experience

Raising Voices & Coalition for Good Schools Remote
Consultant Mar 2026 – Present

- Designing a fellowship for young founders to scale interventions that tackle violence in under-resourced schools

Ambitious Impact (incubator for impactful and cost-effective charities) Remote
Strategy & Evaluation Intern Jun 2025 – Aug 2025

- Profiled 300+ founder networks from the Charity Entrepreneurship Incubation Program to identify talent hotspots for future founder recruitment
- Benchmarked 15+ AI headhunting tools on cost-to-conversion, accuracy, and ease of adoption to improve founder sourcing efficiency
- Analyzed social media engagement metrics across 13 peer organizations and developed a data dashboard to refresh the organization's LinkedIn strategy

Guardians of Dreams (a non-profit start-up focused on child protection) Bengaluru, India
Manager, Impact Programs Jun 2023 – Jun 2024

- Led the design and execution of a Test phase of a \$850K accelerator to improve care quality in Child Care Institutions, overseeing change management in 5 grantee organizations
- Delivered 2-3× improvement in the average evaluation scores of grantees in health, safety, care, and education by implementing an integrated performance management system that linked field data to strategic priorities
- Managed a \$150K grant portfolio for pilot projects, overseeing the end-to-end grant management lifecycle from disbursement and milestone tracking to final donor reporting, aligning outcomes with project expectations and rigorous M&E frameworks
- Coached grantee leadership teams to adopt stronger management practices, resulting in >80% adoption of weekly planning routines, staff meetings, and formal reviews
- Coordinated due diligence and assessments of 250+ Child Care Institutions, identifying high-potential grantees for the scale cohort

Senior Associate, Impact Programs Dec 2021 – Jul 2023

- Facilitated 10+ multi-city trainings for workforce improvement, developing curriculum and delivering sessions for childcare institutions on sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, first-aid, and mental health
- Developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and technical manuals to create easy-to-use field guides that simplified program implementation and data reporting for on-field teams.
- Led a 10-member research team to publish a national landscape study of Child Care Institutions; identified gaps in resource allocation and program effectiveness to inform funding priorities
- Brokered 11 partnerships with subject-matter experts to co-create 40+ learning modules for grantees; mapped expertise to curriculum needs, negotiated contracts, and ensured timely delivery

Fundraising & Communications Lead Jun 2018 – Mar 2022

- Raised \$290K in funding through offline and digital fundraising campaigns targeting corporate and retail donors
- Produced all quarterly donor reports, newsletters, and communication decks for a 2,500+ person stakeholder base, translating complex program data into compelling narratives
- Modeled donor data and segmentation trends to develop retention and incentive strategies that maintained <5% attrition among 3000+ retail donors
- Conducted market research across 11 countries to advise the legal and operational setup of the organization's U.S. entity

Research & Academic Positions

Harvard Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Dept. of Anthropology Cambridge, MA
Graduate Teaching Fellow Jan 2026 – May 2026

- Leading weekly writing sections on storytelling in ethnographic research methods

Massachusetts General Hospital Boston, MA
Researcher Jun 2025 – Present

- Coordinating study design and qualitative data analysis for a psychoeducation intervention to improve retention rates in treatment for opioid use disorders

Conference Abstracts:

- “Exploring the Perspectives of Opioid Use Disorder, Medications for Opioid Use Disorder, and HIV Care amongst Caregivers of Adolescents and Young Adults with Opioid Use Disorder in India” — Pediatric Academic Societies 2026 Meeting
- “Exploring the Impact of Youth Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) on Caregiver Burden and Family Functioning in India” — CPDD 2026 Scientific Meeting

India Health Systems Project (Harvard / Gates Foundation) Boston, MA
Graduate Research Assistant Apr 2025 – Mar 2026

- Developed state-level briefs on health financing and delivery for capacity building workshops in the Ministry of Health in India
- Modeled patterns of financial-risk protection by analyzing national survey data for the Lancet Citizens' Commission on Reimagining India's Health System

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Boston, MA / Remote
Graduate Research Assistant, Ramanadhan Lab Dec 2024 – Mar 2026

- Leading a literature review on how Indian community-based health organizations innovate in response to regulatory and donor pressures.

Fellowships & Awards

- Frédéric Bastiat Fellow, Mercatus Center (2025–Present): fellowship in political economy and governance at the George Mason University
- Child Protection Fellow, Harvard FXB Center for Health and Human Rights (2024–Present): fellowship in child protection research and practice supported by UNICEF
- Karuna Majumdar Fellow, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (2024): merit-based fellowship supporting graduate study in public health.
- J.N. Tata Endowment Scholar (2024): competitive scholarship for Indian graduate students.
- Endowed Gold Medal, Birla Sanskrit Trust & Christ University (2018)
- First Rank Holder, Christ University (2018)

Tools: R, Dedoose, NVivo

Activities: Panel Manager at Harvard India Conference (2025, 2026); Fundraising Volunteer at Trans Health HQ

Writing: Published in Global Health Connect, Harvard Crimson, Gaysi, Takshashila Policy Corner