

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2025 Review | Upcoming Year | Temple Expansion

Coming in 2026!

Balvihar for young children

Plan is afoot to restart Balvihar for children in the Sioux Falls area. Stay tuned for announcements.

Weekly yoga sessions

You asked and it is in the works. Details to come soon.

Sanâtan Dharma Mantra Recital Program (Spring and Fall)



With a generous donation from Bharat & Shubhra Foundation, HTOS plans to host Mantra Recitation Contests twice a year. In 2026, the spring event will actually be January and will adjust to Fall and Spring schedules later in 2026 and beyond.



What a year!

- Aarti Anand, EC President.

2025 was an outstanding year for our temple with significant participation and patronage from the Sioux Falls Area Hindu community. We celebrated key festivals and organized new opportunities like Varamahalakshmi Varatham and Navaratri for the community to directly participate in the rituals. Garba Night and Diwali Utsav not only were a major gathering event for the community, it also served as a key fund-raiser for the temple.

In 2025 we also revamped and streamlined our website, activity planning and communications.



Sanâtan Dharma Mantra Recital Program (contd.)

The contest is an outstanding opportunity for young participants from the community to not only win scholarships, but also an initiative to understand, practice and benefit from Sanâtan Dharma. More than likely, parents working and helping their children with the contest preparations might find appreciating and practicing Sanâtan Dharma themselves.

Kalyanotsavam

A new beginning. A new tradition.

Starting with 2025 New Year, Shree Bhu Nela Sametha Venkateshwara Kalyanotsavam (Celebration of Celestial Wedding) was instituted as a standing event to celebrate and obtain His blessings for a prosperous year. The event was sponsored by families from the community with a large gathering to dance, exchange garlands, carry the God and Goddesses and tie Mangal Sootra - effectively recreating the celestial wedding.

Grand Festivals

In 2025, the temple observed and celebrated Maha Shivaratri, Rath Yatra, Janmashtami, ten days of Ganesh Chaturthi and nine days of Navaratri in a grand manner.

The grand celebrations were made possible by generous donations from our Grand Event Sponsors and other sponsors. The events brought a large part of the community together in performing the religious rituals and poojas, followed by organized and sometimes locally prepared food to share.



Calling all volunteers!

Temple always needs help of volunteer with various needs:

- Pooja and temple prep support
- Kitchen, prasad and cleanup after events
- Sit-in during temple operating hours
- Monthly inventory for plates, utensils, garbage bags etc for operating the temple

Signup here: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/volunteer>



HTOS Volunteer

Devotee Performed Poojas

The temple formally organized events where the community could sign up and participate in performing the pooja themselves.

For Mahavaralaksmi Vratha in the Hindu month of Shravana, devotees signed up to perform the Lakshmi pooja at the temple with the guidance of our priest Sri. Darshan Ji.

Similarly for Navratri, the temple organized Kum Kum pooja on every day of Navratri. Devotees signed up for the pooja and performed it themselves as they followed the chanting by our priest. Some signed up for a single day pooja while others signed up to perform pooja on all 9-days of Navratri.

Grand Galas

Garba Night and Diwali Utsav.

2025 saw a tremendous response and participation at our grand ticketed events at Multi Cultural Center in Sioux Falls. These events brought out both the religious significance and the community spirit. In 2025, Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken graced our Diwali Utsav celebrations.

The grand events also serve as an important fund raiser for the general needs of HTOS. 2025 events were successful thanks to the community's enthusiastic response and participation.

Typical of our community, several large donors took to the podium and pledged their special donations towards the expansion of the temple in 2026 and beyond.



2026 Temple Calendar

The 2026 calendar as per Hindu Panchang specifically for Sioux Falls, SD area is now available for download. Download your calendar here:

<https://hindutempleofsd.org/2026-htos-calendar>

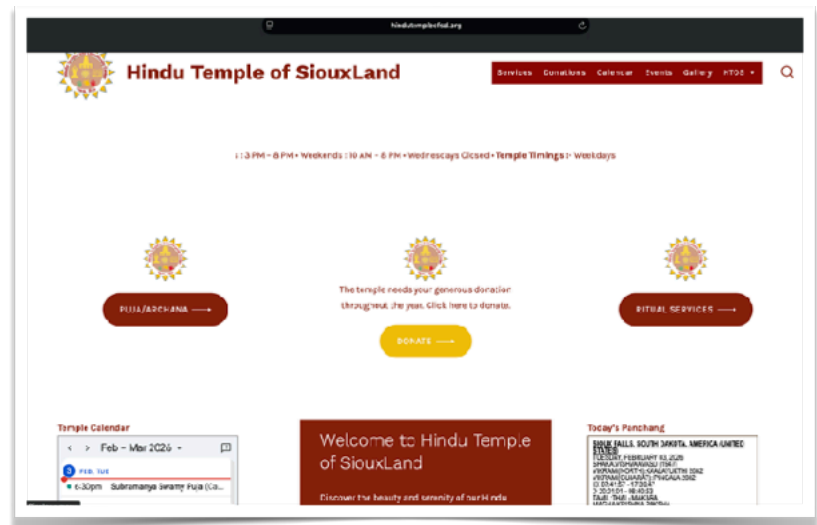


2026 HTOS Calendar

Technology & Operational

In 2025, the focus was on streamlining the website and the tech behind donations, services and communications. The website (<https://hindutempofsd.org>) is now on a permanent address and is actively maintained and updated. All donations and payments for services were moved to a new provider Zeffy to ensure that every cent of community's donations go to the temple. Finally, communications through WhatsApp, Website, Facebook and EMails were made consistent, frequent and relevant.

Operationally, the EC team behind HTOS has improved the cadence of meetings, streamlining discussions and decisions. Consistent tracking of incomes and expenses throughout the year should pay dividends in financial planning and reporting for 2025 and beyond.



Numbers to care about!

- Usha Parmar, EC Treasurer.
2025 Average Monthly Temple Expenses including Utilities, Services and Payroll: \$5,545

2025 Average Current Monthly Fixed Donations: \$1,155

Your periodic donations are thus very critical. If you haven't already, please consider signing up at the link below:

<https://hindutempleofsd.org/donations>



[Donate to the temple!](https://hindutempleofsd.org/donations)

2025 Financial Summary

Financially, 2025 was a well managed year. Excluding one time charges and donations for temple expansion, and including one time contributions and Hundi contributions from the community, the temple was close in terms of balancing expenses with income.

The donations overall have helped with temple operations costs. A huge thanks to the community for keeping our temple in your minds, hearts and helping with your wallets throughout 2025. 🙏

A significant percentage of income came from one time donations. See the side bar "Numbers to care about" to see what we can do.

The cultural events have been a success thanks to the tremendous participation from the community. The community participated through advertisements, sponsorships, tickets and general donations. The cultural events were an occasion to bring the people together to celebrate and at the same time help us raise funds for the temple. The events definitely helped HTOS to end the year on a positive note financially.

2026 Financial Plan

For 2026, we expect the operating costs to rise from 2025 levels. The temple's goal are as follows:

1. Increase consistent and periodic contributions so there is less dependency on one time contributions
2. Organize, publish and communicate consistent opportunities for devotees to utilize the services offered at the temple and devotee's home
3. Develop new community engagement events and enhance our existing cultural events to increase participation further.

The temple expansion efforts will be an additional focus area that will be driven by expansion specific campaigns and expense management in 2026.

Looking forward to your continued support and expanded patronage in 2026!

Follow the temple expansion



Temple Expansion Updates

<https://hindutempleofsd.org/temple-expansion>

Bookmark HTOS

Various quick easy links:

Start here: <https://hindutempleofsd.org>

Temple Calendar: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/temple-calendar>

2026 Calendar: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/2026-htos-calendar>

Events: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/events>

Services: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/services>

Donations: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/donations>

Volunteer: <https://hindutempleofsd.org/volunteer>



Temple Expansion

- Shraddha Thakkar, On Behalf Of The BOT.

We are excited to share that progress continues on our Temple Expansion Project. Many thoughtful discussions, planning efforts, and important steps are underway behind the scenes.

We truly appreciate your continued support, patience, and enthusiasm as we move forward together. Your encouragement and involvement mean so much to our temple family.

A detailed update will be shared very soon. Please stay tuned for more information on the next phase of this important journey for our community.

With gratitude,
Hindu Temple of Siouxland.
Board Of Trustees