

Rishi Valley



ANNUAL UPDATE FOR 2013

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2/28/13

Rural Education Center Mission



1. Be a school free of fear, full of color and joy inside, and green and beautiful outside;
2. Have a learning-ladder, made up of small learning steps, that enables self-paced individual learning;
3. Promote cooperative learning through peer support;
 - a. stress on activity-based experiential learning through craft, games, song and drama;
4. Practise multi-grade, multi level teaching-learning which enables the teacher to give individual attention to a child when he/she needs it most;
5. Integrate local culture and values of conservation into the curriculum;
6. Encourage teachers to design creative teaching-learning material and share it with other teachers.

Health Center Mission



1. 1. To provide primary level diagnostic and curative health services.
2. 2.To provide a comprehensive Eye care Program.
3. 3.To provide education on various aspects of health - infectious disease, AIDS, substance abuse (esp alcoholism) and the importance of nourishment to mothers and their children.
4. 4.To train community health workers who would be able to provide basic first-aid and monitor the health of those undergoing treatment and report serious illnesses.

Development Project Mission



1. Collection of seeds / saplings of these local species. The seeds / saplings may be sourced from (i) the surrounding Reserve Forests using the assistance of the local community and the Forest Department (ii) Keystone Foundation (iii) Kaigal Environmental Education Programme (iv) Palani Conservation Council and any other appropriate sources.
2. Establishing a water source and associated distribution system including drip / sprinkler systems;
3. Establishing a local nursery to raise saplings;
4. Creating soil moisture conservation structures, where necessary, in the proposed project site;
5. Planting the saplings and where required dibbling the seeds of the selected species;
6. Fencing and protecting the project site from encroachment;
7. Maintenance of the Biodiversity Park;
8. Developing a system for sustainable harvesting of material (including seeds/saplings, fruit, leaves, roots etc.) from the Park;
9. Developing the Park as an educational centre both for the community and other educational institutions.
10. Creating child-friendly guides to the flora and fauna of the Park for students.

History Rural Education Center



Rishi Valley School (RVS) is located about 10 km from the town of Madanapalle, in Chittoor Dist, Andhra Pradesh. Rishi Valley School was founded by thinker and philosopher J. Krishnamurti in 1935. The education program of the school is based on these teachings of J. Krishnamurthi, including non-hierarchic learning, respect for nature and the environment and learning without fear.

In 1988, after years of experimentation, RVS came up with an innovative approach to educate children from the local villages; this approach has been called a “school in a box”. It is a multi-level, single teacher, single room approach in to achieving literacy. In 1993, *RishiValleySchool in a Box*, first edition, in Telugu. Language Kit for Class I-V and Math Kit for Class I-III, with teaching aids and Ladder of Learning, known as the RIVER curriculum, was published

History Rural Health Center



BACKGROUND: The Rishi Valley Education Centre, has in the past, been providing minimal health services to the nearest villages for several decades, ever since the position of a medical doctor was created for the residential school on campus. There was a need to design a health programme, which would provide affordable, quality primary level health care for the rural poor. This health programme started in July 1999.

This outreach activity took root in January 2001, with the training of an optometrist and setting up of an eye care programme. Over the years the Rural Health Centre (RHC) has added other programmes and facilities besides collaborating in research in the field of Public Health.

The RHC provides primary level health care to about 200,000 BPL (Below Poverty Line) people. 90% of the patients who access the RHC have income levels below Rs 24000 pa. On an average 16,000 patients access the RHC Annually. The RHC has, over the years, established a deep trust with the rural poor, who have minimal or no access to health care.

Development Project History



More than twenty years of water harvesting from the seventies to the nineties saw the Centre donate land for the construction of seven percolation tanks at the edge of the campus and on hillsides. A once barren hillside adjacent to the school is now part scrubland and part forest. For the local village community the regenerated hillside means fodder for its animal population and fuel wood; the space is a kind of insurance against long periods of drought. Beginning in 1988 the Rishi Valley Education Center, under a grant from the Wasteland Development Board, the Centre built small check dams and bunds along the contours of 800-hectares of hillside, surrounding the campus. This meant persuading villagers to donate labour and allow construction of bunds across their small holdings. Custard Apples, which goats avoid, were planted along the bunds to hold in soil. In 1997 they set up an Institute for Bird Studies and Natural History, which monitors bird populations in the vicinity and runs a Home Studies Course in Ornithology. Because of a significant reduction in the average rainfall during the past ten years, RVEC is now studying the feasibility of working towards an integrated water conservation plan for the entire valley, an area covering 21 hamlets and villages spread over 16 square kilometers.

the Government of Andhra Pradesh undertook a singular step to declare Rishi Valley and its surrounding area a Special Development Area (RVSDA) and constitute the Rishi Valley Special Development Authority (RVDA) in January 2008 vide G.O. (Government Order) Ms No. 97 MA.

Rishi Valley Organizational Structure



All three projects exist under the umbrella of the Rishi Valley Education Center, which is in turn run by the Krishnamurti Foundation of India.

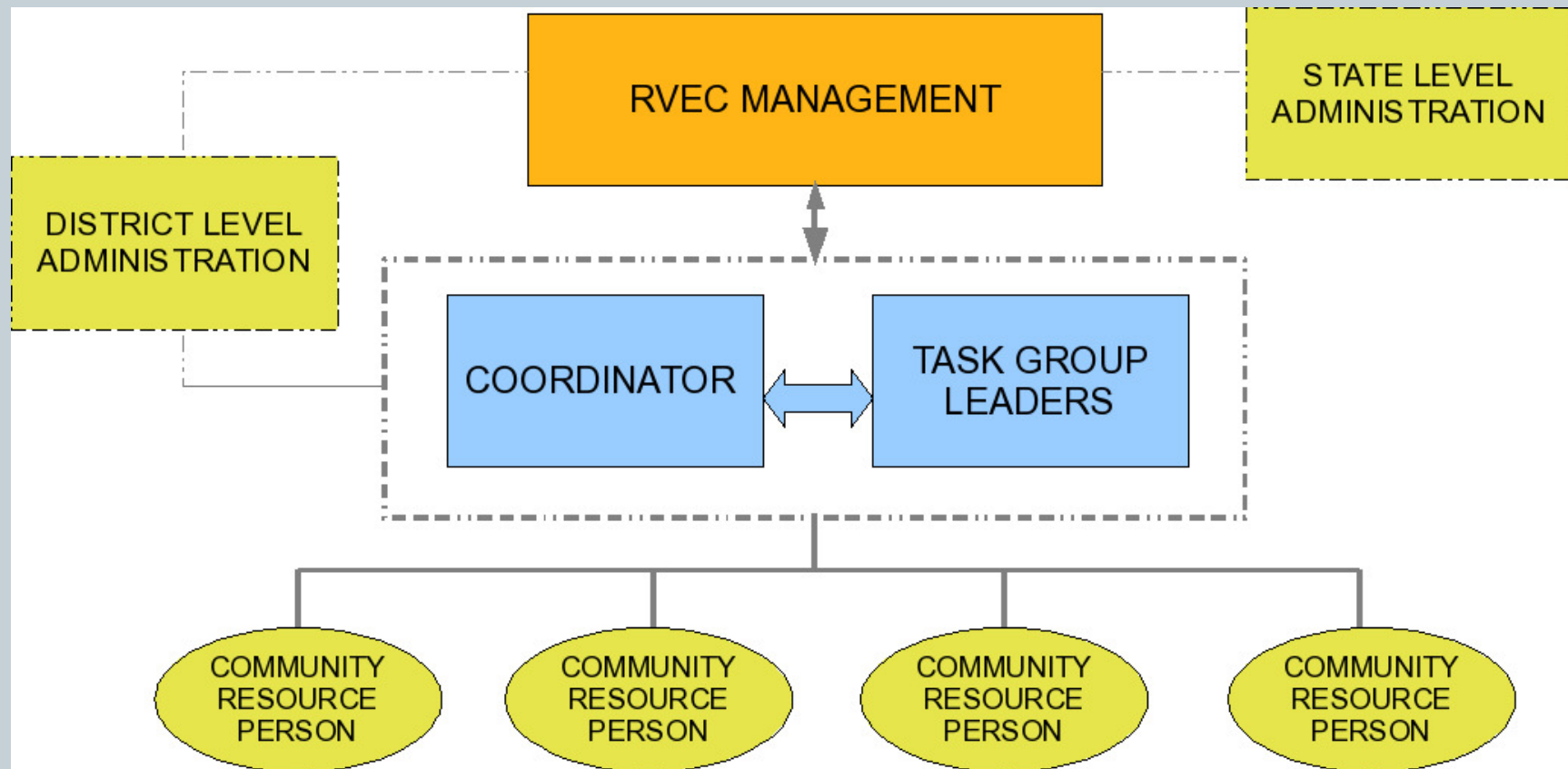
The Rural Education project and RIVER curriculum were originally run by two individuals, Y. A. Padmanabha Rao and Rama Rao. M.S. Sailendran manages the organization's' finances. Sri Madipalli is instrumental in running the rural school.

The Rishi Valley Rural Center was founded and is run by Dr Kartik Kalyanram, MD (Av Med), along with 2 other doctors, Dr Kamakshi Kartik, MD (Path), Dr G Ramesh, DCH. They have 6 paramedical staff and 4 administrative personnel.

The Rishi Valley Special Development Authority is closely coordinated between the Andhra Pradesh government and the Rishi Valley Education Center, as depicted in the following chart.

More details can be found at <http://www.rishivalley.org/overview/overview.htm>

RV Special Dev. Organizational Structure



All community resource persons are volunteers drawn from the surrounding hamlets who can be trained over a period of time on the job or if necessary through special sessions with NGOs like FES, Anthra etc. Their honorarium / fee should be built into proposals being submitted to DWMA or Collector.

Organization Structure



- **Include the following information.**

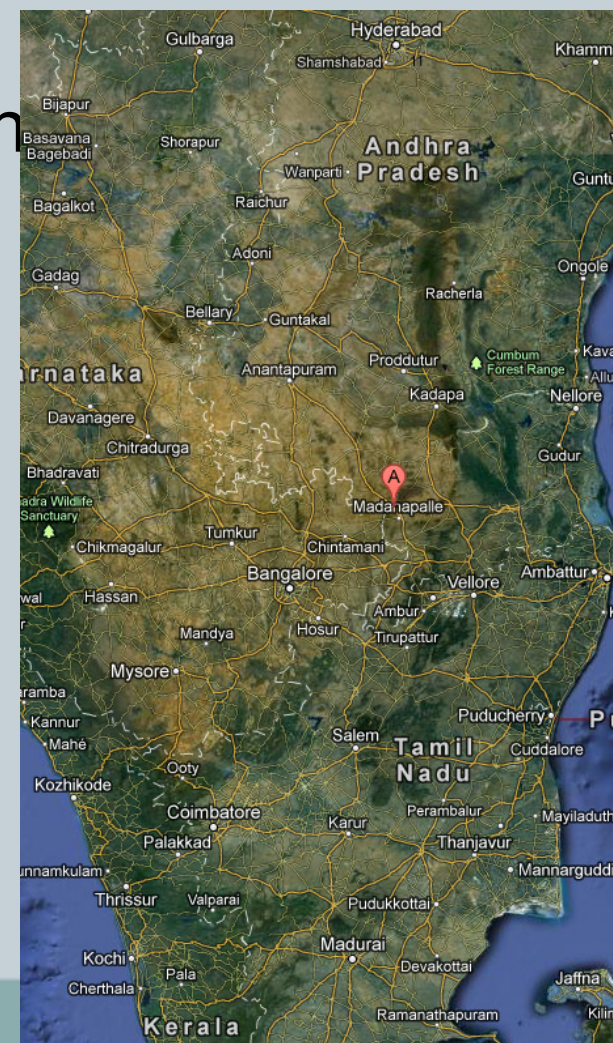
- Describe the org structure.
- The primary person who runs the organization.
- If paid positions exist within the org, how many and what are they.
- If the organization has an executive board, describe the board structure.

Location



- In Chittoor District, near Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh

517352



Rural School Activities



- **New Girls Hostel** A new girl's hostel was constructed and inaugurated in the month of November. The old dormitory had several repairs and leakage problems. Financial support was provided by Shishukunj, an organization from UK. Residential boys are now requesting for a new hostel as they are currently sleeping in the dining hall.
- **New School building** A new school building was constructed for Mithravanam Satellite School in the village Nayanavari palli. Land for the building was donated by Mr. Chandra Reddy. Students are much more comfortable in the new spacious building with a nice roof. Future proposal is to renovate all Satellite Schools buildings as they are quite old and originally built with mud, bricks and white cement.
- **The students of classes 6 and 7** started a small kitchen garden on a small plot near the dining hall. Waste water from the dining hall is being used to grow vegetables and a few trees. The children have worked with great enthusiasm and initiative in the garden. Green vegetables harvested in the garden have been used in the midday meal.
- **A new activity based Science curriculum** has been introduced in the Middle School. Students of class 6 are curious and enthusiastic about doing experiments and observing nature as part of learning science.
- **5th Class students** from all Satellite schools participated in a one day workshop and created about 60 story books using old magazines and news paper cuttings. Students came up with their original stories with great imagination. All students gathered in our main campus and shared their stories with other schools.
- **Annual Sports** -The annual REC sports meet was organised on 27th and 28th of January, 2011. Around 460 students from 12 Satellite Schools, 200 ex-students and 500 parents and local people attended this sports meet and participated eagerly. Students took part in several track and field events on this 3 day occasion.

Health Center Activities



- Over 19,000 patients accessed the health center this year, all on total expenditures of under \$80,000. Programs in eye care, natal care, tuberculosis, and care for children and senior citizens continue with great impact.
- The dental care unit is doing well, after dealing with problems with the compressor and the plumbing. Various grants support programs to bring children to hospitals, provide under 15s clinics, and provide other care.
- The laboratory is serving well - about 26,000 examinations were performed - and the new Semi Auto Analyzer has proved to be very helpful. They are dealing with a massive influx of patients with "Non Communicable Diseases," especially hypertension and diabetes. They are trying to find some way to deal with the numbers and subsidize the economic burden of these diseases on the rural poor.
- Dr Kartik has been researching diabetes, with a fellowship from the CMC Vellore, winning a prize for the project presented in a paper on "Possible Risk Factors in Epidemiology of Diabetes in Rural Communities" at the Conference of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine. Researchers at the Monash University in Melbourne have been collaborating with the RHC for research on Hypertension that is scheduled to last to the end of 2014 and lead to designs over the several following years for appropriate lifestyle and dietary interventions to ease the burden of these Non Communicable diseases in the rural poor. Drs Kartik, Radha Gopalan and Kamakshi have also been writing a chapter on the tensions in rural livelihoods.

Development Project Activities



Social mobilisation was extended to cover 12 hamlets during the reporting year to (I) understand issues relating to livestock, agriculture, education and other livelihoods related activities (II) educate the community on its rights in the context of MGNREGS, Forest Rights Act, 2006, land holdings, animal healthcare and schemes available for BPL cardholders. Three *sanghas* of goatherds/shepherds and one Farmers Club supported by NABARD have been established. RVEC's partner Anthra continues to support the social mobilisation activities extensively.

RVSDA is part of a “mega-watershed” and sanctions were received during the reporting year for watershed development under the Central Government supported IWMP programme (Integrated Watershed Management Programme). RVEC participates in the sanitation awareness programmes together with Panchayat officials.

Rural Education Center Finances



Total Income: INR 87,01,198.00 (158491.45 USD)

Donations including Sponsorships - 26,06,282.00

Plan India Grant - 42,44,940.00

Inter Unit Contribution (Rishi Valley Center & School) - 17,49,500.00

Other Income - 1,00,476.00

Total Expenditures: INR 90,78,900.00 (165371.26 USD)

Salaries (Teaching, non teaching staff) - 34,01,238.00

School Activities (food, material, extra curricular activities) - 48,53,161.00

Administration - 2,68,278.00

Depreciation - (3,77,702.00)

Shishukunj, an organization from UK supported the girls' hostel

Health Center Finances



Total Income: INR 3,970,467.11 (72321.66 USD)

Donation- 1,467,390.00

Contribution - 20,000.00

Grant - 464,558.11

Vascular Diseases Project Grant - 276,697.00

Other Income - 1,722,946

Total Expenditures: INR 4,128,865.04 (75206.86 USD)

Clinic - 1,543,906.69

Laboratory - 836,309.65

X Ray - 53,254.70

Dental - 14,814.00

Administrative Expenses - 617,499.00

Depreciation - 786,384.00

Dental - 14,814.00

Development Project Finances



- Dedicated funding for the RVSDA has not yet been sanctioned by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. All participating departments have been requested to include development programmes and plans as part of their annual budget. Following formal notification of the RVSDA and enforcement of the zoning regulations, budget is expected to be allocated by the State Government.
- RVEC's initiatives are being supported by individual donations. The programme is coordinated by an RVEC staff member designated as the RVSDA Coordinator for RVEC.

Asha, Seattle Involvement



Asha, Seattle Involvement



- Give a comprehensive/detailed picture of Asha, Seattle's involvement with the project. Add more slides if necessary. The following checklist has a few basic items which apply to most projects. Elaborate on the following items.

Sl. No.	Item
1	How is Asha, Seattle planning to support the overall mission and objectives of the organization?
2	Since when is the project with Asha, Seattle?
3	Were/are other Asha chapters involved in the project? If yes, in what capacity and for how long?
4	Key project contacts and how they fit into the overall org. structure.

Asha, Seattle Involvement



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Sl. No.	Item
1	How is Asha, Seattle planning to support the overall mission and objectives of the organization? \$\$\$\$\$
2	Since when is the project with Asha, Seattle? 2005, 2011
3	Were/are other Asha chapters involved in the project? If yes, in what capacity and for how long? No
4	Key project contacts and how they fit into the overall org. structure.

Asha, Seattle Involvement Contd.



•Checklist contd.

Sl. No.	Item
5	If the organization runs out of multiple locations, which locations does Asha, Seattle support? One location
6	List all the activities supported by Asha, Seattle. Budget, salaries, upkeep
7	Relate all the activities supported by Asha, Seattle to the overall activities of the organization. Money good. Money do all.
8	If individuals are supported, how many are supported? What age group? Little children.
9	Annual budget (amount only) that has been approved by Asha, Seattle. \$240,000 combined
10	Percentage of orgs total budget which is supported by Asha, Seattle. 4.1 %

Asha, Seattle Involvement Contd.



•Checklist contd.

Sl. No.	Item
5	If the organization runs out of multiple locations, which locations does Asha, Seattle support?
6	List all the activities supported by Asha, Seattle.
7	Relate all the activities supported by Asha, Seattle to the overall activities of the organization.
8	If individuals are supported, how many are supported? What age group?
9	Annual budget (amount only) that has been approved by Asha, Seattle.
10	Percentage of orgs total budget which is supported by Asha, Seattle

Asha, Seattle Budget



Item	Amount Current Fiscal Year (Rs)	Amount Previous Fiscal Year (Rs)
Item A	1000	1200
Item B	4000	4000
Item C	3000	2500
Item D
Item E
Item F
Total

Updates for <year/period>



General Partner Updates



- Give a brief update of the news/activities of the partner. If you can, exclude Asha, Seattle supported activities from this slide. They will be covered in the next slide.
- Share success stories, achievements, and noteworthy items.
- Issues/problems being faced.

Education General Partner Updates



•Jindal Award -

Rishi Valley Education Centre won the Jindal Award in the month of March. A corpus fund to help the schools has been set up with the prize money of one crore.

RIVER has been ranked among the top 100 NGO's in the world by a magazine.

Here is the link:

<http://theglobaljournal.net/top100NGOs/>

A new girl's hostel was constructed and inaugurated in the month of November.

The old dormitory had several repairs and leakage problems. A total of Rs.28 Lakhs was invested in building the girl's hostel. Financial support was provided by Shishukunj, an organization from UK. Residential boys are now requesting for a new hostel as they are currently sleeping in the dining hall. We hope to raise enough funds to build the boys hostel soon.

Rural Health Partner Updates



- **1. Dr Kartik presented a paper “A Preliminary Study on Possible Risk Factors in Epidemiology of Diabetes” at the 51st Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine in Bengaluru, December 2011.**

1. Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (Drs Amanda Thrift, Dr Roger Evans and Dr Srikanth as Principal Investigators) in conjunction with the RHC (Drs Kartik and Kamakshi as PIs) have been working on the Epidemiology of Hypertension in rural populations. The screening phase has been completed and from Mid August 2012, participants will be invited to the Medical Research Unit for a detailed questionnaire and examination, including various blood tests and ECG. This study is scheduled to run till end 2014.

2. A recent proposal, under the aegis of Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD), to screen 30,000 adults for Non Communicable Diseases, has been approved by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Australia. This study, after approvals by various ethics committees and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), will simultaneously be conducted at Trivandrum (Sri Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology) and Northern AP (Georges Institute, Sydney). Monash University, RVRHC and CMC Vellore form the group to run the study at Rishi Valley and surrounding areas.

It is expected that this study will start from January 2013 and run for three years. With this study we hope to design appropriate lifestyle and dietary interventions to ease the burden of Non Communicable Diseases amongst the rural poor.

Development Project Updates



- **The Director of Town & Country Planning, Andhra Pradesh was charged with the responsibility of preparing a draft Master Plan. A draft Master Plan was prepared in close cooperation with RVEC, presented at a public hearing in Madanapalle by the Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) and made available for public comment per statutory requirements. Following this, the RVDA will be created and the zoning regulations enforced in the area.**

Updates for Asha, Seattle



-
- Since the last report, \$8350 were raised for the health center, and \$9450, this is the equivalent of supporting about 19 students (as well as the development of materials) and a month of the clinics operations, serving about 2000 patients.

Site Visit Report



- Go over the latest site visit report.

Audit Report



- Indian law requires all partners to have an audit report every year. Highlights from last years audit report (Form 10B). A sample audit report, from a project, can be found at <http://www.ashanet.org/projects-new/documents/745/auditreport2008.pdf>.

Survey Results



- Include the results of the annual survey.

Process Checks



Item	Status
Approved Budget	<Amount>
Approval Type	one-time
Amount(s) disbursed last fiscal year (cumulative accross projects)	\$9,450.00
Amount Utilized by the project last fiscal year	\$9,450.00
Last Site Visit	12/26/13
Current Primary Steward	Kavi Duvvoori
Current Secondary Stewards	Sumana Reddy
Status of the web page	Up to Date / Not updated
Status of the yahoo databases	Up to Date / Not up to date

Pictures



Resources



- Links to news paper articles, or other items of interest.

RIVER has been ranked among the top 100 NGO's in the world by a magazine.

Here is the link:

<http://theglobaljournal.net/top100NGOs/>

Questions?



FAQs



•Some FAQs at Asha, Seattle meetings.

- How many rs are we spending per kid per year? 19316
- Does the amount being spent on infrastructure items (building schools, repairing roofs, etc.) look reasonable?
- Where exactly is the partner located? (especially for remote projects. Be ready to locate the project area on a map)
- What is the graduation rate of the school?
- What is the student to teacher ratio in class rooms? 35
- What is the girl to boy ratio in the school? 233 / 237
- What are the line items in the budget?
- Why is the partner asking for more funding for line item N? (You will be asked this if there are changes in the budget line items)
- Community opinion of the project.
- What went well, what didn't go as expected, what can be done differently.