



ASHA FOR EDUCATION, SILICON VALLEY ACTIVITY REPORT APR- DEC 2023



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DOOR STEP SCHOOL – ASHA FOR EDUCATION, SILICON VALLEY

ACTIVITY UPDATE (APR 23– DEC 23)

1. The Society of Door Step School is grateful to Asha for Education, the Silicon Valley chapter for giving us the opportunity to spread the basic education to children of labours working at construction sites. This report presents details of activities conducted at the Education Activity Centers(EACs) funded by Asha for Education Silicon Vally Chapter. 1065 unique children were reached during the period Apr to Dec 2023. The objective of the Education Activity Centers (EAC) established at the is to provide education-related assistance to the children and parents belonging to the marginalized population. At present we are running classes at the following thirteen construction sites/ schools:–

Site Name	Area
Kumar Palm Spring	Undri
Kumar Infinia	Phursungi
Kumar Prospera	Hadapsar
SRA Project	Hadapsar
Venkatesh Graffiti	Keshavnagar Mudhava
Ashthavinayak City	Phursungi
Unique Youtopia	Kharadi
Que 914	Keshavnagar Mudhava
Aadarsh Prathmik Vidyalay	Keshavnagar Mudhava
Zilla Parishad School	Keshavnagar Mudhava
Mahatma Gandhi School Hindi Medium	Dehuroad Kivale
Mahatma Gandhi Marathi Medium	Dehuroad Kivale
Mahatma Gandhi Urdu Medium	Dehuroad Kivale

2. Program Objectives

- (a) Preparing children for formal education by running pre-school programs.
- (b) Enrol children in mainstream schools.
- (c) Provide study support and a motivating environment to enable continued education, coping with the school environment, and reducing school dropouts.
- (d) Tracking children post-migration to ensure continued education.
- (e) Creating awareness about the importance of a child's education amongst parents and motivating them to own the responsibility of their child's education by getting actively involved.

Total Reach:

Type of class	Boy	Girl	Grand Total	Continued	Dropped out	Migrated
Crèche	130	127	257	117		140
Balwadi	114	119	233	93		140
Literacy Class	3	1	4	1		3
Study Class	258	289	547	428	1	118
Reference Class	14	10	24	6	1	17
	519	546	1065	645	2	418

3. **Primary Activities**

- 3.1 **Balwadi** Balwadi Classes are held for children in the pre-primary school age group of 3-5 years. The focus of this group is to get these children ready for school. Innovative teaching aids are used to teach children and to sustain their interest all throughout the day. While teaching them or while conducting any activity we need to take in to consideration various development milestones. We teach them through Project method, where a project such as fruits, vegetable, seasons etc is assigned to each month in a year. These topics are taught through various artifacts, hands on workshops, drawings, crafts. For example, while teaching vegetables, children are encouraged to grow vegetables from seeds. Seeing the plant grow and bearing a fruit is very exciting for the children and they also learn various different types of vegetables. Focus is on overall development of the child. The teacher also narrates stories and teaches songs for language development of these children. Craft activities in the preschool group help develop motor skills in the children and encourage creativity. It also helps in increasing interaction among the children and improves their social skills.



3.2 Study Class Study classes cater to the school going children and are specially meant for children of Std. I and II who need extra inputs to cope with their regular studies being the first-generation learners in their families. In accordance with Right to Education (RTE) Act, children are enrolled directly into school in the standards appropriate to their ages. After school, all of these children come back to the EAC at their construction site and attend our study classes where they get help and guidance to cope with teaching at schools.

For study classes, the teacher needs to plan activities for all children considering their individual levels of literacy and ability to learn. All children attending school are taught at the study class and efforts are made to see that children do learn the basic language skills as early as possible (as per the schedule). The goal is that they should be able to write and read all Marathi alphabets and composite letters within 120 days.

Normally children attend school either in the morning or in the afternoon. Those attending school in the morning attend the study class in the afternoon till evening. Those who attend school in the afternoon come to the study class at 9.30 a.m. and proceed to school from the study class by about 11:30 am.

Based on our experience we have worked out the number of days required for achieving a particular level while learning to read and write. Each child should be able to read simple sentences with composite letters in 120 days. This could be further split into the following: learning letters in 50 days, learning Matras in 40 days and eventually composite letters in 30 days. In other words, after 120 days the child should be able to read the newspaper. The progress achieved so far in the past 3 months of children of Study Class :-

Levels / Attendance	Learning Alphabets	Learning Matras	Learning Jodakshare	Composite Word	Grand Total
1 to 50	148	154	42	31	375
51 to 90	18	62	60	16	156
91 to 120		1	5	9	15
Above 120			1	4	5
	166	217	108	60	551



- 3.3 **School enrolments** (6 to 14 years) One of the key objectives of DSS is to enrol children into mainstream education. While maximum efforts are taken by the DSS staff at respective centres towards this aspect, the parents involvement is equally essential for future continuance of children education. With sustained efforts it is a satisfying picture that is emerging as All Students' admission process were undertaken by the parents indicating their initiative and acceptance of importance of education for their children. Parents took keen initiative in drawing the Leaving certificates/ necessary documents from the old schools and deposit the same in new schools. The grade-wise enrolment is as following:

Std	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	Total
Total Children	7	3	4	2	4	3	2	1	-	26

- 3.4. **Tracking of Migrated children**. A total of 138 children migrated during this quarter year. DSS could track all of them and we are glad to confirm that all of them are regular attendees of school at the new places.
- 3.5. **Parents Meet**. Parents meets were organized on a monthly basis wherein parents attendance was very encouraging. The parents were informed about the school admissions, the necessary documents and the importance of regular attendance of the children. The parents are also briefed upon the health care precautionary measures. They were also advised to make transport arrangements for their children.

Month	Expected Parents	Present Parents	Home Visit	Subject
Apr 23	135	121	-	Care to be taken in summer
May 23	124	114	10	Good Teach & Bad Teach
Jun 23	128	126	2	Care to be taken in Rains Information about RTE.
Jul 23	144	139	5	Involvement of parents in children education
Aug 23	149	143	3	Children's safety
Sep 23	143	138	6	Physical and psychological changes in adolescent age
Oct 23	154	144	10	Children's preparation for examination
Nov 23	148	135	13	Diet and Health ,Care to be taken in winter
Dec 23	119	111	5	Women's Health, Family Planning



4. **Support Activities**. Support activities undertaken at all the sites for the children include the following –

- (a) Running Creches.
- (b) Science Project Activities.
- (c) Seasonal Project activities.
- (d) Celebrating Festivals and Important Days.

4.1 **Creche** At the labor camp, mothers are unable to provide their infants proper care, mostly because both the parents work at the construction site. Unlike parents from slum communities who may have extended families available for help, these parents do not have that facility. Therefore, the responsibility of taking care of younger siblings land on elder children in the family, thereby making it difficult for them to attend school. EACs at the construction sites provide a facility for crèche of children. Mothers can leave their children while they are at work and also visit them during feeding times; this is required especially for the nursing mothers.

Children at the Educational Centers up to the age of 3 years are classified to be enrolled in crèche facility and are kept in a separate group. Care should be taken to provide safe and hygienic conditions for these children at the centre. Innovative development tools and programs are designed for the children of this age group to help their development in various categories such as:

- Physical and motor development
- Emotional development
- Social development
- Cognitive development.

The key features of Creche are Cradle for below 1 yr old children. Different types of toys as per their developmental need and rhymes and stories for children above 2 yr old children.

4.2. **Science Project Activities.** The children of all the sites are exposed to a few science projects through experiments. The aims of conducting these experiments is three fold, firstly to give the children scientific explanation of things we observe on a day to day basis, secondly to induce interest about Science as a subject and thirdly to change their perspective about science. During the said period the following experiments were carried out :-

Ser No	Month	Project Name	No of Beneficiaries
(a)	Apr 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottle Garden • Soil Erosion 	78
(b)	May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Cycle, • Density of Liquid 	90
(c)	Jun 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottle Fountain, • Balloon rocket, • Beam Balance (Addition & Subtraction) 	101
(d)	Jul 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fun with Eggs, • Density Measurement, • Beam Balance (Multiplication) 	79
(e)	Aug 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Lens • Box Camera • Shapes using Straw 	81
(f)	Sep 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing with a magnet • Identifying the magnetic field • Maths based games 	75
(g)	Oct 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running water • A flower that blooms automatically • Beam Balance 	42
(h)	Nov 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing with magnets • Electromagnet • The puzzle of color association 	41
(j)	Dec 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floating and Drowning • Need of oxygen for burning • Tan gram 	37



All the activities and experiments witnessed active participation from the children. At most of the centres it was found that children conduct the experiments at their homes and explain the same

to their parents. The conduct of these activities has resulted increased inquisitiveness and the ability of co-relating the experiments with day-to-day activities and happenings in the surrounding.

4.3. **Seasonal / Monthly Projects.** Each month the children are exposed to various subjects based on our surroundings like animals, birds, flowers, fruits, insects and fish etc. Based on the current seasons certain projects are organised for Health care, precautionary measures etc e.g. Summers, Monsoons and winter. A few topics of informational values like joint family and separated family, various festivals and Our Helpers etc are also conducted. The summary of such projects undertaken during the year is as under:-

Ser No	Month	Project Name	No of beneficiaries
(a)	Apr 22	Summer	160
(b)	May 22	Revision	126
(c)	Jun 22	Raining	145
(d)	Jul 22	Agriculture & Vegetables	160
(e)	Aug 22	Animal & House	166
(f)	Sep 22	Festival & Family	139
(g)	Oct 23	Flower/ Fruits	160
(h)	Nov 23	Revision	163
(j)	Dec 23	Birds	152



Educational visit

In the month of October children were taken to the Impress Garden at Hadapsar. There the children were told the information and uses of different flowers. Children also asked different queries.



Bird Show A bird exhibition was organized in line with the project.



4.4. **Celebrations.** Children from all the centres celebrated the following festivals and important days:-

Ser No	Month	Project Name	No of beneficiaries
(a)	Apr 23	World Health Day, Ambedkar Jayanti,	141
(b)	May 23	Maharashtra Day	162
(c)	Jun 23	World Environment Day, Yoga Day, Palkhi Ceremony	165
(d)	Jul 23	Doctor day, Guru Pornima,	127
(e)	Aug 23	Independence Day	192
(f)	Sep 23	Ganpati Utsav	134
(g)	Oct 23	Gandhi <i>Jayanti</i> , Dusshera	104
(h)	Nov 23	Diwali	183
(j)	Dec 23	Christmas	97

4.5 Volunteer Engagements Volunteers play a significant role for the children as they exposed to various subjects and fun activities. The children are always enthusiastic to receive and display an admirable conduct to the visitors. Some of the important volunteer visits are as listed below:-

Month	Volunteer Name / Company Name	Total Children	Activity
Apr	• Disha & Riya	14	Basic English
May	• 11 Persons from KPMG	36	Hobby Class Activity
Jun	• 10 Persons from KPMG • Disha & Riya • Swati (Agastya Foundation)	28 20 12	Made things from clay and paper Basic English Science experiment
Jul	• 14 Persons from Deloitte • Disha • Trupti & Shreya Palekar	25 15 33	Celebrating Yoga day Basic Maths Song ,Story & Games
Aug	• Disha • Trupti & Shreya	15 29	Basic English Song ,Story & Games
Sep	• Riya	15	Basic English
Oct	• Riya	15	Basic English
Nov	• Riya	15	Basic English
Dec	• Riya	15	Basic English

4.6 Special Mentions

Parents Perception change

Parents' attitude towards children education is changing. Unlike yesteryears parents now have a fair degree of awareness of RTE and that of the importance of educating their children. Most of the parents while getting their family and children from their villages, get the School Leaving Certificate on their own and take initiative in school admissions at the new location. Also, they arrange transport for children to go to school and are ready to spend upto pay RS 800 to 900 per child per month.

Positive approach of the Builder/ contractor.

We also notice a change in the attitude of Builders/ contractors. We now share weekly updates on Whatsapp to the concerned authorities which is well appreciated. The regular communication enables a healthy environment amongst the stakeholders- builders, parents, DSS staff.

CONCLUSION

The Door Step School Foundation is indeed grateful to the overwhelming support extended by Asha for Education Silicon Valley chapter. It is only due to this wholehearted support and assistance by your entire team that we are able to reach to the children deprived of basic education. We strive to continue working hard with your able support in the future as well.