

## Diksha Disbursement Call

### Meeting Notes

Participants (Diksha): Shibasis (manages projects), Tanya (communications), Mohita (Fundraising and academics), Gautum

Asha Purdue: Sameer, Surabhi, Roopashi, Rajdeep, Pritesh, Jothi, Chanakya

Presentation on project updates (Tanya and Shibasis):

- 1) About KHEL (Knowledge Hub for Education and Learning) – Strength of 150 kids (64 Boys, 82 girls). Focus on life skills, computer literacy, numeracy and literacy, and civic education
- 2) Regular Activities
  - a. Started Khan Academy based courses this year.
  - b. Literacy and Numeracy courses
  - c. Bal Sansad (Children Parliament)
  - d. Club activities – dance, theater, and civic action
  - e. English Action classes
- 3) Diksha completed 12<sup>th</sup> year.
  - a. Celebrated annual day completely planned by the students
- 4) Celebrated Raksha Bandhan
- 5) Achievements
  - a. Extended outreach to 200 students through a new KHEL center in Bihta
  - b. Hema, Aryan, Shrikant, Prince have received many awards in Amity Festival and in National Science Film Festival India
  - c. Were able to receive 50 laptops with the help of Colt Technology
- 6) Challenges
  - a. The student population is outgrowing the current location of the KHEL center. The building is also on sale for a long time and might have issues with the new owner.
    - i. Looking for a new space
  - b. Unavailable Full time English teacher.
  - c. Teacher training – need to expose the teachers to modern teaching methods.
- 7) Way forward for the next 6 months:
  - a. Regular classes and activity
  - b. Life skills – 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, rights and duties, etc...
  - c. Multi-media enabled rooms – smart TVs as teaching aids, digital curriculum
  - d. Rolling out a SEE curriculum

Questions from Asha

- 1) Building has been on sale for a while. The current rent is subsidized, as it belongs to a friends' family. Once it gets sold, the new owner might not continue the subsidized rent which might lead to issues.
  - a. A suggestion was made to maybe shift the center to one of the schools, as it is afterhours and there will be a better access there to a playground. It was mentioned that they're looking to partner with schools to get playground access, they cannot shift the entire center to the schools as the students need a separate space to consider as their own and they also have permanent equipment, such as a library that they cannot put in the school.
- 2) How are you going to fill the need for the English teacher?
  - a. There is an internal ongoing discussion going on regarding this. Some of the managerial staff believe that a part-time teacher for English should be sufficient, and others believe that a full-time teacher is needed. Nonetheless, they are looking to expand the teaching staff to better teach English to the students.
- 3) Chanakya suggested many programs for their library, peer-to-peer teaching (from a local university or a college) to solve Diksha's temporary issue of a lack of an English teacher for advanced English.