

Site visit report for Jamghat- Aangan Day Care Center

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Aangan Day Care Center supports at least 50 children on a day to day basis. Our funding supports rent, salaries of four employees, stationery and art and craft materials for the kids. Approximately 45 kids receive basic informal education in areas such as reading, math, art and theatre. We also pay for 5 kids who are receiving vocational training in areas such as cooking, sewing, beauty school and electrical work depending on their interest. Additionally we pay the school fees for 5 kids who are currently enrolled in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

The salaries that we support are those of the Program Assistant, Senior Coordinator, Counselor and Educator. The Program Assistant is responsible for the overall program, writes proposals as well as reports and prepares the budget. The Program Assistant engages with the parents and volunteers, makes career plans for the kids who are in vocational training, and submits reports to the Child Welfare Committee and has other responsibilities as well. The Coordinator reports to the Program Assistant and helps the teacher in the daily activities. Currently, because of Covid restrictions, a lot of the work is being done offsite in night shelters and in the Jama Masjid area where most of the kids come from. The counselor also delivers ration to the kids and their families. Most of the children come from broken homes and are living on the streets and the Counselor helps out with issues of abuse and addiction. The teacher is the primary educator in areas such as reading and math.

When I had my zoom visit on September 19th 2021, I spoke with Amit Jain who is the founder of Jamghat, Seema who is the Program Assistant, Irfan who is the Coordinator and Prateeksha who is the teacher. Both Amit and Prateeksha were at Aangan and Irfan was at the shelter area with a large group of kids. I got a tour of the new facilities including the learning area which had the tables donated by us and also the library and the kitchen. Irfan let me know that he teaches the kids basic English and Hindi, numbers, does art projects, theater activities and plays with the kids as well. Prateeksha tutors kids in language and math. I spoke with a few kids and we talked about Covid, the vaccination drive, their time table for the day etc. It was sad and touching when towards the end one of the kids asked me to help with opening up Aangan because they liked to study and play in that space and were missing it.