Asha for Education
Bringing hope through education
San Francisco Chapter
Website: www.ashanet.org/sf
Email: sf@ashanet.org

Dear prospective partner,

Thank you for expressing interest in partnering with Asha San Francisco in an effort to collaboratively support your work and mission for socioeconomic change in India.

To qualify and apply for funding, we require Indian partners to meet certain criteria. We shortlist partners who fulfill such criteria in three sequential rounds – Rounds 1, 2 and 3.

Please find below Round 1 questions. Please complete this form and return to:

Namita Gujral
Projects Coordinator – Asha for Education San Francisco
mailto: sf.projects@ashanet.org

We will assess whether your project/organization fulfills our Round 1 criteria, and will accordingly invite you to Round 2. Proposals and applications made to us during Round 2 are required to be submitted latest by Nov 30, 2013. Please do complete and return Round 1 questionnaire at your earliest convenience.

Thanks again for reaching out to Asha San Francisco.

Best wishes,
Namita Gujral

New Project/Partner Round 1 questionnaire
(For CY 2014 grants)

Q1. **Basic Information**

a) NGO/Organization name and website (if any)-
Vijay Foundation Trust (Also known as Aarti Home)
http://www.aartiforgirls.org

b) When was the NGO/Organization established?
1992

c) Is organization registered as an NGO in India (Yes/No) – Yes

d) When was the organization registered as an NGO (if applicable)? March 23rd, 1992

e) Project name (if any) (project that you intend to apply for funding for) –

Aarti Home Orphanage and Innovative Education Programs

f) Contact person details (Name, Email address, Phone no., Fax no)
India Contact:
Name: Sandhya Puchalapalli
Email: pvsandhya@gmail.com
Phone # +91 9440280111

US Project Coordinating contact
Name: Sudha Reddy
Email: sudhareddy.m@gmail.com
Phone # 415-678-8492

g) Does your NGO/Organization have FCRA approval (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act)?
(Yes/No) YES
*Please note that since we are an international funding organization, we are legally allowed to fund **only** Indian organizations with FCRA clearance*

h) Has your NGO/Organization in the past or present been funded by any chapter of Asha (Yes/No)? If yes, please provide more details. NO

Q2. Does your group/organization/NGO have any religious or political affiliations? (Yes/No; if yes, provide more details) NO

Q3. Briefly describe the work of your organization? What education-related activities do you undertake?

Aarti Home was started by Sandhya Puchalapalli when she came across 4 abandoned girls in 1992, in Kadapa, a drought prone region of South India. Over the last 20 years, its been a home to about 100 children, 90% of whom are girls. Through our work, it soon became clear that orphaned and abandoned girls were not an isolated problem, but a symptom of a greater issue, that girls are not wanted right from the time they are in the wombs of their mothers and saw rampant sex determined abortions. Behind every abandoned child and aborted fetus, there was a mother who was not equipped to protect her girl child. This understanding made us reimagine our approach. From addressing the symptoms, we began to look at solving the issues that lay beneath them. We have since been working in a unique holistic manner to combat society's attitudes towards girl child and women. While addressing the immediate concern of abandonment, through home, school and scholarship for underprivileged girls, Aarti home also works towards shifting of attitudes by making women more confident. The core purpose of Aarti Home is to ensure that women survive and are empowered to exercise choices over their lives. Over the years Aarti Home has provided a home for more than 300 children, saved 800 girls from trafficking and made more than 5000 women independent.

Today, Aarti works with both girls and mothers – Shelter, Training, Livelihood and Awareness programs with mothers so that they have the economic and emotional independence to make their own choices. Aarti works to restore this cycle of life between mother and girl-child.

Aarti School currently has 300 kids. All the Aarti home kids go to school for free but the remaining children pay fees to get a quality education. We ensure to teach all kids from a young age to treat everyone equally. By providing access to the best teachers and schooling in the area, we not only benefit Aarti kids but also kids around the remote town. Within the next year or so, we hope for the school to become self-sustainable.

Over the last 20 years, we have seen the power of a holistic approach take root in Kadapa, have seen women become agents of change, from being partners in crime. This is what gives us the energy to keep working for the cause:

For more information on impact of Aarti Home check
http://www.aartiforgirls.org/brochure.pdf
http://www.aartiforgirls.org/Impact.html

Q4. With regard to the ***specific*** project (Q1.e. above) that you would like funding for, please highlight:

   a)   Approximately how much annual funding are you looking for (for Calendar Year 2014)?
   - Aarti School Experiential Learning Programs: $10,000

   b)   What education-related activities do you propose to undertake?

Aarti School currently has 300 kids in all classes from kindergarden to 10th grade. We are starting new innovative education programs in 2014 that teach kids, both boys and girls through experiential projects that not only prepare them for the real world and also instill in them a sense of confidence.

The innovative programs would include setting up labs for Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Math, Computers and Sustainability.

   c)   How much do education-related activities comprise your overall project?

   - In terms of project time (e.g. 40% of total time, 80% of total time etc)
        i.   Aarti School Experiential Learning Programs: 100%
   - In terms of project budget (e.g. 40% of total budget, 80% of total budget etc)
        i.   Aarti School Experiential Learning Programs: 100%

Date : 1 Nov 2013

Project Name: **Science & Computer Labs for Aarti School**

	PROJECT CONTACT	ASHA CONTACT
Name	**Mrs. P.V. SANDHYA**	
Address	**AARTI HOME** **VIJAY FOUNDATION TRUST (ASSN)** H.No.: 20/539, Opp. Municipal Stadium, Kadapa – 516 004 Y.S.R District Andhra Pradesh, India	
Phone(s)	Tel: +91 - 8562 - 247 106	
Fax		
E-mail	vftrust@gmail.com	

Part I: Information about your group/organisation

Please feel free to attach any additional sheets and/or information such as Brochures, Press Reports etc.

1. Name of the group/organisation requesting funds.

Aarti - VIJAY FOUNDATION TRUST (ASSN).

2. When was the group established?

27-March, 1992

3. Briefly describe the motivation for starting this group.

Aarti Home started in 1992 when Sandhya, the founder of Aarti Home found Radhika, a three year old who was abandoned on the streets of Kadapa after her mother was killed in what would typically be called a case of domestic abuse and dowry harassment. A few friends came together and formed Aarti home to take care of children like Radhika. Radhika and Aarti Home were the humble start to Vijay Foundation Trust, which can be best described as a silent crusade against injustice to women and children, a crusade that has got stronger over the last twenty one years and has impacted over 100,000 women and children across the district.

Over the last two decades there have been many changes. Seeds of what is to come have been sown, and they show hope for a better future for lakhs of women.

Over the years Aarti has started Aarti Home, Aarti School, Aarti Education, Lalitha Women's Centre and Lalitha Advocacy under the aegis of Vijay Foundation Trust. In addition Aarti has built tremendous external linkages with governmental and non-governmental agencies across the world to bring funds, focus and awareness for the issue of girl child.

4. Briefly describe the aims of your group.

1.   Overview of current programs and accomplishments.

Our programs are based on a four-pronged approach in an effort to address the issues arising, as follows:

Shelter: We shelter abandoned girl children in Aarti Home. More than 300 long-term residents have lived here, and 100 are living here at present. They are given a loving home and supported till they finish their education and settle down in their careers. Over the years we have also had around 700 children rescued from traffickers who have stayed temporarily until they were rehabilitated.

Education: We provide support for education through:

• Aarti School for 375 underprivileged children in the area.

• Financial assistance to bright and needy students in the area to support

  further education.

• Bridge schooling to bring older children to schools for over 200 children.

Livelihood: We train and counsel destitute women and impart income-generating skills. Around 10,000 women are now financially independent thanks to our tailoring,

embroidery, beautician & petty coat & saree fall making courses. We support them by marketing their products through corporate/personal orders and exhibitions in various cities in India and abroad.

<u>Awareness</u>: We run outreach programs in an effort to educate the Community. Some examples of our work:

• We run a program called **WOMEN's LEADERSHIP TRAINING**. This involves "identifying women who have the potential to become change leaders and training them via workshops." These women then spread the knowledge – of their rights and opportunities as well as skills that they thus acquire in their communities.

• We have run numerous camps in collaboration with the **<u>National Commission of Women's Rights</u>** in colleges and villages and areas to spread awareness about the legal rights of women. We also run camps to provide information on medical and gynecological issues. More than 1,00,000 women in all have attended these camps and benefitted from them.

• Another example is the celebration of the **NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY** where we ran competitions like elocution and essay-writing in 1500 schools in the region, covering roughly 15,00,000 school children – all revolving around the girl child, in an effort to spread awareness.

• Additionally, awareness has also been spread indirectly. Gousenagar, a village once known for illiteracy and child labour, now sends all its children to school, a fact that amounts to the education of around 1000 children. This change can be attributed to the fact that most of the women from this village have attended the workshops and counseling sessions organized by Aarti. These women, recognizing the value of education, and specifically that of the girl child, advocated for the education of the children in their village.

2.   We also undertake special projects like:

• **Mobile Computer Project** – This project is aimed at taking computer education to rural India. We have already trained around 1200 school children in computer basics in villages in Kadapa district.

• **Women's Education Programme (WEP)** – This is an ongoing programme that we have undertaken in the current year wherein our school children are taught various extra-curricular activities and taken for hospital visits and field trips.

• We conduct workshops, seminars and group discussions on -

   a) Health care – Importance of Nutrition, physical and emotional health and sex education.
   b) Environment – Global Warming, Bio-diversity, Conservation of water and Cleanliness.
   c) Career Guidance – Workshops on goat setting, Decision Making & Planning.
   d) Summer Camp – Painting, Clay modelling, Drama, Dance, Story telling & etc.

5. Does your group have any religious or political affiliations? If yes, please describe the type of affiliation and the reason for it.

NO

6. What non education-related community development activities is your group involved in?

a). We have trained over 10000 women in various skills ranging from tailoring to health worker. 90% of the trainees have utilized the training either in jobs or in small businesses.

b). We have helped create selfhelp groups and cooperatives and market goods both online and through exhibitions.

c). We have worked in 250 villages and communities to create local leaders who become change agents in the society. Over the years, we have worked with local administration to rescue and rehabilitate 800 women from trafficking.

As you might be aware, the girl child ratios in India are slipping and have gone from 988 to 1000 boys to 920 to 1000 boys in just 10 years. In the geographical areas

where Aarti has been working the girl child ratios have remained stable. We believe our work has been instrumental in bringing slow but steady change in attitudes towards women, albeit in a limited geography.

Part II: Details about your educational projects

7. List the school/s run by your group, and their locations. If you are requesting funds for only a few of several schools, please specify which one/s.

AARI ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL

8. Location of school/s   ☐ Urban   ☐ Rural   ☑ Other Semi-Urban

9. Specify the type of eduational provided (e.g. basic literacy, vocational training etc.)
   a. Basic Education as per the Board of Secondary School Education of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, India.
   b. Special Vocational Training in computers and communication skills development.

10. Please tell us about your teaching techniques (Conventional vs. Alternative).
Conventional as well as Alternative.

Our methods range from oral learning methods, conducting spelling bees, painting and quiz competitions. After setting the physics and chemistry labs, we hope to teach kids through several practical experiments to check their own blood group, design small motor equipments to learn about physics laws etc and use chemistry in every day life. At end of each year we plan to conduct an open conference inviting locals to get their blood group tested, talk to villagers about their nutrition and several such projects.

11. What is the literacy rate in the local community?
67 %

12. Describe the socio-economic background of the children and their parents (e.g. education, occupational). If any of your students are employed, please tell us abou that as well.

a. Orphaned and abandoned children.
b. Children of daily labourers and construction workers.
c. Children of street vendors and petty business people like tea shops.

13. In additiona to education, does your group provide any other services to the children in your schools (e.g food, health care, clothing etc.)?
a. Food
b. Health Care
c. Clothing: we provide school uniforms to 72 orphan children of Aarti Home and 18 orphans of another orphanage.
d. Travel
e. Books & Stationary

14. Does you school have:
Its own building(s)   Yes ☑   No ☐ _____

Number and type of classroom (e.g. pukka): 13 Pukka rooms & 5 sheds covered with asbestas sheets.

	Yes	No		Yes	No		Yes	No
Toilets	☑	☐	Playground	☑	☐	Toys	☑	☐
Chairs & Tables	☐	☑	Blackboard	☑	☐	Library	☑	☐
Drinking water	☑	☐	Electricity	☑	☐	Computers	☐	☑
Laboratory	☐	☑	Teaching aids (e.g. books/slates)				☑	☐

15. How many children are currently enrolled in your school(s)?
Male 113 Female 262 Age Range 4 Years to 15 Years.

16. How many staff are employed at your schools?
Teachers 23   Minimum Qualifications BACHELOR's DEGREE IN EDUCATION

Other staff <u>5</u>

17. Average distance the children travel to attend your school
<u>2.5 Km</u>.

18. How many children have gone through your program in the past five years and what are they doing currently? Please tell us about their future education and employment possibilities.

It is a little difficult for us to keep a tab on the whereabouts of our ex-students, in view of their economic & social background.

19. Do you help your students with their future education efforts after they have passed out of your school?

   a. Financial assistance by paying for college fees and books.
   b. Training in Computer Education (MS-Office & Internet Concepts) and Communication Skills Development.
   c. Help in job search and Interview Skills Development.

20. Are there any other schools (Kindergarten/Balwadi, Elementary School, High school) in the area? If so, please list the schools and the range of classes each of them offers.
   a. Vidyamandir English Medium School
   b. Mother India English Medium School
   c. Vidyadhari English Medium School
   d. Shantiniketan English Medium School

All of them have classes from 1-10th.

21. Is your program different from that provided at these schools? Please explain.
   a. Students are from very poor Economic families, who cannot pay the high fees of the other schools
   b. We help worthy students with their further higher education.
   c. We conduct regular interschool competitions in some specific events like spell bee, painting, poems recitation, quiz to give the students knowledge, skills and the most to develop confidence in them.

22. Why are the children in your school/s not attending government/other schools in the local area?
    a. In Government schools, children do not get proper care and individual attention.
    b. In private schools, the cost of education is very high, so most of our students cannot afford to go there.

23. Do you try to involve the parents of the children in the running of the school (e.g. in setting the syllabus etc.)? Please specify.

We conduct parent meetings 3 times a year and discuss.

    a. The child's educational progress.
    b. Specific problems of the child or where he/she is weak at where he needs.
    c. What kind of special care.

24. What are the expansion plans for the future (e.g. adding more classes or schools)?

We definitely aim to add more classes but funding & additional space is always a constraint. We want to add more experiential classes such as gardening, welding, cooking and sewing classes etc to give children the confidence and improve their overall quality of life. We hope to make boys and girls feel equal with such classes too.

25. Do you have any suggestions on how Asha can be positive influence in changing the education scenario in India?

Asha can help tremendously by arranging for funding.

26. If possible, please provide us with the contact information of two individuals from your community who can describe the impact of your program.
    We can certainly provide these details at a later stage.

1	NAME		2	NAME	
	ADDRESS			ADDRESS	
	PHONE			PHONE	

27. Asha for Education requires reports from its projects every six months to continue funding. Please provide the contact information for the person from your group who will be responsible for these reports.

NAME	Mrs. Bhagya Mure
ADDRESS	**AARTI HOME** **VIJAY FOUNDATION TRUST (ASSN)** H.No.: 20/539, Opp. Municipal Stadium, Kadapa – 516 004 Y.S.R District Andhra Pradesh, India Bhagya Mure <bhagya.mure@gmail.com>
PHONE	Tel: +91 - 8562 - 247 106

Part III: Details about your educational projects

Please feel free to attach any information such as annual reports, budget etc.
We can certainly provide these details at a later stage.

28. What sources found your group's activities are present? List the sources and the current and future funding from each of them. If these funds are meant for a specific part of your group's activities, please describe those restrictions.

We receive funding from private citizens & organizations from India, USA, UK & other countries.

29. Please provide us with details of your projected budget for the next 3 years.

YEARS	RECURRING COSTS (Aarti School)	FIXED COSTS
2013-14	Total Costs – Rs. 3.06 M	
2014-15	Total Costs – Rs. 3.37 M	
2015-16	Total Costs – Rs. 3.70 M	

30. Salary expenditure details:

	NUMBER	SALARY RANGE (per month)
TEACHERS	23	5,000-00 to 12,000-00
Administrative STAFF	5	5,000-00 to 12,000-00
VOLUNTEER STAFF		Not Regular

31. Please provide details of the fixed costs of your school/s for the next three years.

2013 – 14 – Rs 2.24 M

2014 – 15 – Rs 2.46 M

2015 – 16 – Rs 2.71 M

32. How many of your students pay school fees? Please provide details.

50% of the students pay the minimum fees of Rs. 250/- per month. We collect these fees for the involvement and commitment of the parents.

33. What amount are you requesting from Asha, and for what specific purpose?

ITEMS	AMOUNT (Rs)	ONE TIME/ANNUAL
Physics Lab Equipment	47440	One Time
Chemistry Lab Equipment		
Chemicals	47000	Annual
Glass-ware	17500	One Time
Botany Lab Equipment	14200	One Time
Zoology Lab Equipment	18000	One Time
Mathematics	6000	One Time
Computer Lab		
Computers – 10 No(s)	250000	One Time
LCD Projector – 1 No(s)	60000	One Time

New Project/Partner Form B
(For CY 2014 grants)

1. **If approved, when does the project need the funds in 2014? Please mention starting date and ending date of project.**
   1st Installment -1 May 2014 / 31 May 2014 &
   2nd Installment – 1 Nov 2014 / 30 Nov 2014
   Please note that:
   a) Our chapter's evaluation/due diligence of your project/organization will begin in Quarter 1 of Calendar Year (CY) 2014, and final decision on funding will be communicated to you latest by March 31, 2013. Hence, if project is approved, we encourage you to expect earliest credit of funds in April 2014
   b) As a policy, Asha San Francisco sends annual funds in two equal installments, at an interval of 6 months. If the project demonstrates need for higher or lower funds in any particular 6-month cycle, we may be able to make an exception to the above rule on a case by case basis. We reserve the right to verify such need at any time through means such as Asha site visit, and/or documentations/other proof to be submitted by the project/NGO

2. **If project is approved for certain cost items and not others, will the project/NGO still be interested in receiving such funds?**

   YES.

   Please note that:
   - *Answering "yes" implies that the project (or components of it) will be able to start/operate with the funds you receive from us, even if such funds are less than the total budget. For the remaining amounts, you reserve the right to raise them from other sources and/or not implement the components not funded by Asha SF. You will inform us (via email) as soon as you have information about this, or in the 6-month progress report, whichever comes earlier.*
   - *Answering "yes" implies that the project (or components of it) will start on the starting date mentioned by you in Q1 or on the date you receive funds from us, whichever is later*
   - *If the project cannot be started without the entire budget supported by us, please answer "no" to this question*
   - *If you answer "yes", then while submitting the budget (below) mention every line item's priority ranking in column E. A ranking of 1 means the most important cost item, 2 means second most important and so forth. If funding is approved only for a certain amount of the budget, it will apply to cost items in order of their ranking*

3. **Has the project/NGO applied to any other nonprofit, organization, corporation, individual etc or any other Asha chapter, for funding of this particular proposal and budget (raised to Asha SF)? If yes, please provide more details.**
   NO

   Please note that if any other source makes a decision to fund this same proposal/project/NGO (or any part of this proposal) while it is being reviewed by Asha San Francisco, you will inform us immediately.

4. *Is this project a new initiative by your NGO/organization (Yes/No)?*
   YES

5. *If answer to Q4 is "No", then who is currently, and has previously funded this project (entire or parts of)? Please provide reasons why they are not continuing with the funding?*

6. Please replicate your annual budget from **"Form A_Proposal Application_Standard Form (Question 33)"** onto the table below and also provide additional information in columns A, E and F

Note:

Column E - Mention every line item's priority ranking. A ranking of 1 means the most important cost item, 2 means second most important and so forth. If funding is approved only for a certain amount of the budget, it will apply to cost items in order of their ranking

Column F - As a policy, Asha San Francisco sends annual funds in two equal installments, at an interval of 6 months. If the project demonstrates need for higher or lower funds in any particular 6-month cycle, we may be able to make an exception to the above rule on a case by case basis. Use column F **ONLY if** the line item's funding is needed in any particular half-year cycle (state "Installment 1" or "Installment 2")

Project Name (if any): Science & Computer Labs for Aarti School
Total no. of people (children/youth/other) served: 375
Age/Age Group of people served: 4 – 15 years
Girl/Boy ratio: 70 / 30

Column					
A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**
S. No.	**Item**	**Amount (Rs)**	**One Time/ Annual**	**Ranking**	**Other comments**
1	**Physics Lab Equipment**	47440	One Time	1	
2	**Chemistry Lab Equipment** **Chemicals** **Glass-ware**	47000 17500	One Time Annual	2	
3	**Botany Lab Equipment**	14200	One Time	3	
4	**Zoology Lab Equipment**	18000	One Time	4	
5	**Mathematics**	6000	One Time	6	
6	**Computer Lab** Computers – 10 No(s) LCD Projector – 1 No(s)	250000 60000	One Time One Time	5	
	TOTAL	4,06,140			