

BSPES

In the town of Jattari, the number of girl children enrolled in school is much less compared to the boys especially in rural areas. The girl child faces discrimination starting at home, and then when she ventures outside. Agriculture is the primary source of income for most residents and they prefer to send their girls to work in the fields. They also worry about the safety of their girl child as they believe any crime on her may bring shame to the family.

Purpose/ Goals

Bhagwati Sarla Paliwal Education Society (BSPES) is a school located in the town of Jattari, U.P. Its main objective is to provide education to marginalized girl children so they can exercise greater choice personally and professionally.

BSPES aims to educate, motivate, and empower these young rural women to grow into proud contributing members.

- They Provide Value Based Education
- They Promote Health and Hygiene
- They Facilitate Wealth Creation through employment

The school has its own school building and a school van that assists students staying far away to travel to and from school. Few students have been provided bicycle to avoid walking 4-5 kms each day.

The school charges a nominal fee ranging from Rs. 70/- for class I and II to Rs. 260/- for class 12. Subsidy in fees is provided to students who have more than 90% attendance in the previous year. The school has 30 teachers whose salaries are much less compared to the salaries in schools run by the government. This is making staff retention difficult for the school.

We are reviewing this project for potential inclusion in the chapter for Boston Asha.

Teaching Technique- A mix of conventional and work based teaching techniques is being followed in the school. Lesson plan based preparation is enforced to provide innovative ideas to students and steer them away from the rote based learning.

Community Initiatives

Few non education related community activities that BSPES is involved in are:

1. Solar Lantern
2. Cycle Bank

3. Health and Hygiene camps
4. Community Awareness
5. Toilet construction

Community Initiative- Awareness and Opportunities

BSPES team conducted village meeting with parents, grandparents and students in Chajjapur village. They discussed the need to maintain 90% or higher attendance of students. They discussed the social and financial needs and the next step for girls. Girls and volunteers also participated in Clean India Initiative by symbolically cleaning the streets to represent the value of hygiene and cleanliness.



Free Health Checkup

In March, 2014 BSPES hosted a Free Health Checkup Examination Camp for 280 students and 40 mothers. This Health Camp has boosted our capabilities of providing the health and hygiene for students and mothers. A team of 13 doctors including general physicians, gynecologist, and dentist from Maulana Azad Medical Collage New Delhi performed the preliminary examination under the leadership of Dr. Jugal Kishor.

Dr. Pallavi, a gynecologist checked on 40 mothers from 7 different villages around Jattari and educated them about the feminine hygiene and its effects on young girls. Dr. Pallavi has also provided basic education on puberty and its affects to 72 girls of 11th grade and 70 girls of 9th grade. The doctors created the awareness about HIV and other transmitted diseases.

The awareness and knowledge was shared with all the students, staff and mothers about cleanliness and related diseases such as malaria, dengue, viral infection etc.



Thoughts:

The low teacher salary has made it difficult for BSPES to retain teachers. The school must increase the salaries to reduce the teacher turnover. My proposal is to focus our funding towards their salary and see how this partnership grows from there.